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**EIGHTH SESSION**



**TENTH LOK SABHA**

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**

**NEW DELHI**

## CONTENTS

No. 9, *XVI, Session 1993/1915 (Saka)*  
13, 1993/Agrahayana 22, 1915 (Saka)

COLUMNS

Oral Answers to Questions: 4-28

\*Starred Questions Nos. 141,143 to 145  
and 152-160

Written Answers to Questions: 28-578

Starred Questions Nos. 142,147 to 151 and  
153 to 160

Unstarred Questions Nos. 1500 to 1730

Business Papers Laid on the Table 578-590

Statements by Ministers 590-600

(i) Barhwaake in Maharashtra and  
Adjoining Areas

Shri Balram Jakhar 590-596

(ii) Unmanned Level Crossing Gate accident  
involving 7304 Bahyadri Express and a  
bus on Mijar-Pune BG Single line section  
of South Central Railway on 11.12.1993

Shri G.K. Jaffer Sharief 596-600

Matter under Rule 377 600-604

(i) Need to improve the standard of portrayal  
of public figures in films

Shri Sarat Pattnayak 600-601

Construction of a railway bridge  
at Mauluddin chack in Patna  
constituency, Bihar

Shri Ram Kripal Yadav 601-602

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

- (iii) Need to release special grants for construction of two subways at ke mpegowda road in Bangalore

Shri C.P. Mudala Giriappa

602

- (iv) Need for conversion of metere guage railway line between Talaguppa and Shimoga Karnataka into broad guage

Shri K G Shivappa

603

- (v) Need to take steps to solve power crisis in Assam

Shri Uddhab Barman

603-604

- (vi) Need to start a 900 H.W. pumped storage power project over Kistabazar river near Purulla town, West Bengal

Shri Bir Singh Mahato

604

President's Emotuments and Pension (Amendment) Bill

605-607

Motion to Consider

Shri P.M. Sayeed

605

Clauses 2 and 1

606

Motion to Pass

Shri P.M. Sayeed

607

Statutory Resolution Re: Disapproval of the Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Amendment Ordinance:

607-693

and

Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Condition of Service) Amendment Bill

Motion to Consider

Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee

607-608

Shri H.R. Bhardwaj

608-610  
683-693

Shri Saifuddin Choudhury	612-618
Shri Sharad Dighe	618-623
Shri Nitish Kumar	623-629
Shri V.S. Vijayaraghavan	629-630
Shri M.R. Kadambur Janarthanan	630-633
Shri Kamla Mishra Madhukar	633-635
Dr. Debi Prosad Pal	635-639
Shri Somnath Chatterjee	639-648
Shri Hari Kishore Singh	648-650
Shri Umrao Singh	650-657
Shri Vijaya Kumar Yadav	657-659
Shri Syed Shababuddin	659-664
Shri P.C. Chacko	664-670
Shri Bhogender Jha	670-672
Dr. Kartikeswar Patra	672-675
Shri Tej Narayan Singh	675-576
Shri Sriballav Panigrahi	576-679
Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh	679-680
Shri Sharad Yadav	681-682
Statutory Resolution Re: Disapproval of Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Amendment Ordinance - <i>withdrawn</i>	693
Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissions (Conditions of Services) Amendment Bill Motion to consider	



(iv)

COLUMNS

**Motion to Pass**

**Shri H. R. Bhardwaj**

**693**

**Arrest of Member**

**611**

**Statutory Resolution Re: Disapproval of  
Marchant Shipping (Amendment) Ordinance:**

**693-704**

**Motion to consider**

**Shri Basudeb Acharia**

**693-704**

## LOK SABHA DEBATES

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### LOK SABHA

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Monday, December 13, 1993,  
Agrahayana 22, 1915 (Saka)

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The Lok Sabha met at Six minutes past  
Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (AONLA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, how serious is the government in its working is evident from the fact that there is no quorum in the House even during the Question Hour and the bell has to be rung to complete the quorum. It is the responsibility of the Congress Party to maintain the quorum. You have seen that the Congress Party was not able to complete the quorum and how long you have to wait... (Interruptions)...

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (KOTA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the manner in which the leaders of the opposition party Shri L. K. Advani and Shri M. M. Joshi have been implicated in false and fabricated cases and detained in police custody, is deplorable. It is not proper to conduct the business of the House in their absence. I urge upon you to direct the Government to withdraw the false cases registered against them by the CBI and these leaders should be released... (Interruptions) ....

DR. LAXINARAYAN PANDEYA (MANDSAUR) : Mr. Speaker, Sir the manner in which our honourable leaders have been implicated in false cases and held in police custody is very deplorable. First they were taken to Lucknow, then to Mata Tilla and from there they have been sifted to Sone Bhadra. And now they are being detained separately. Who knows how these leaders are being treated. We are really concerned. We request that the false cases against them should be withdrawn they should be released and should be called back in the House. It is not proper to conduct the business of the House in the absence of these leaders, stand of the government... (Interruptions) should be clarified.

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the arrest of these leaders is a matter of concern for the whole nation. They should be released immediately.... (Interruptions)....

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) : Sir, I have already indicated in the House that we are exploring all possibilities of releasing these leaders on legal grounds. We cannot go out of law to take any action. We have consulted all the legal experts. (Interruptions) We are willing to release them immediately provided they follow the legal course which is laid down by law of India. (Interruptions) All legal

remedies are available. (*Interruptions*) The CBI Counsel has reported to us. (*Interruptions*) We have suggested various things. (*Interruptions*) Without giving a personal bond, without giving a bail, they can still come out of this custody provided they follow the procedure laid down by law. If they follow the procedure laid down by law, they can be released immediately. We do not want to hold them in custody. But we cannot violate the law. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Withdraw the false cases.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : The statement of the honourable minister is unsatisfactory. The situation is becoming quite confusing. Therefore, we are staging a walk out... (*Interruptions*).

11.12 hrs.

**At this stage DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA and some other hon. Members left the House**

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government is concerned about Mr. Advani, but is not concerned about Shri V. P. Singh, who for the sake of getting the recommendations of the Mandal Commission implemented has left Delhi on 22nd September last year. The Government has already approved Mandal Commission report and if the Government is really serious about the implementation of recommendations then V. P. Singh too should be brought back to Delhi. Since 22nd September he has not attended the House. His membership is about to lapse. The Government should give a reply on this.

[*English*]

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : We

have taken a firm decision on implementation of Mandal Commission report which has been approved by this House. That decision of the Government will be implemented in a manner in which it has been decided by the Government and by this House.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (BANKURA) : It is not being implemented.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : We are very sorry that Mr. V. P. Singh has taken this kind of attitude which, in our opinion, is an unhealthy attitude to take. But we are totally committed to the Mandal Commission Report as we have accepted and as directed by the Supreme Court. We shall do it in the manner which is laid down in the Government memorandum.

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#### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

#### Production of Steel

\*141. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of steel plants in public and private sector in the country; and

(b) the total production of steel during the last year, in private and public sector, separately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL : (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) There are six integrated steel plants in the public sector and one in private sector. Besides, there are 178 commissioned electronic area furnace units and a large number of induction furnace units in the country who also produce saleable steel.

(b) In 19-92 total production of saleable steel was 14.68 million tonnes of which 5.52

million tonnes was in Private Sector and 9.16 million tonnes in Public Sector.

[Translation]

**SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply given by the hon'ble Minister has caused concern to the entire nation and if you also go through it you too would be concerned. The production of six units of Public Sector is stated to be of 9.16 million tonnes and whereas the production a single unit in the private sector is stated to be of 5.52 million tonnes. The people are concerned because a large part of their capital is invested in the public sector. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, whether there has been a decline in the estimated profit tax of the saleable steel produced by the public sector. And whether this shortfall has occurred only after the decontrol of steel? If you say it is not so then I would like to know about the amount of profit earned before, and after the decontrol of steel? And the difference between both the amounts and the details thereof.

[English]

**SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :** Sir, the fear which the hon. Member has expressed is not correct. Probably, he thought that 5.52 million tonnes is the production of TISCO which is a private sector unit but the real position is that there are 178 electric arc furnaces producing 2.2 million tonnes; about 800 induction arc furnaces producing 1.2 million tonnes and TISCO is producing 2.1 million tonnes. So, this is the break-up of 5.52 million tonnes production in the private sector. In public sector, we are having the figure of 9.16 and in fact, public sector is producing about 88 to 90 per cent of their installed capacity. There is no such recession in the steel sector because of decontrol of steel. On the contrary, after the decontrol of steel, many of the private sector units are coming forward and putting up steel plants

and in the total production, there is a fall of one per cent only upto November 1993 compared to last year's production. In steel plants, it is not a serious matter. This production failure is due to various reasons including Bharat Bandh strike by truck owners and also erratic supply of raw materials from various other organisations which are not captive. I am sure that we will be able to overcome it and the SAIL is earning a good profit and has given dividend also. So, there is nothing to be afraid about the performance of SAIL. Rather, I do agree with the hon. Member that we should improve our performance; we are at it: our workers have done good work; I congratulate them and I am sure they will keep it up.

[Translation]

**SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :** I had asked about the amount of the profit earned before and after the decontrol of steel was announced, what is the difference between the two? My question has not been replied.

**MR. SPEAKER :** He will sent the information in writing.

**SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :** I would like to submit the ideology of our Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru has received a blow on account of the present policy. How far his ideology in respect of Public Sector has been honoured because at that time we had put it on a high pedestal. But as a result of the new economic and industrial policy today the public sector has reached this stage.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Questions relating to policy cannot be discussed during the Question Hour. Raise small questions.

**SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :** We are here to decide the policy only.

**MR. SPEAKER :** No, this must not

happen.

**SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, what I want to submit is that the total production of six units of Public Sector has been stated as 9.16 million tonne whereas the production by Tata's is stated to be of 5.2 million tonnes. Why such a big gap ? Under such a situation, due to the financial mismanagement all these factories are facing problems. This is inefficiency. We would like the minister to ensure that the money invested in the public sector is used judiciously so that the public sector remains ahead of the private sector in terms of work efficiency.

**MR. SPEAKER :** How will the efficiency improve ?

[*English*]

**SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :** It is unfortunate that despite my giving definite information, the hon. Member still says that TISCO is producing 5.2 million tonnes. As I said already, that is not correct. The correct position is that TISCO is producing only 2.1 million tonnes. As regards the hon. Member's other questions, I do not agree with him; neither do the statistics give indication that the public sector steel has not done well. Rather, it has done extremely well have given Rs. 72 crore as dividend. The increase in the first six months was four per cent. What the hon. Member is stating is not correct and by saying such things, we would be sending a wrong message.

As regards his other contention, as you rightly said, it is a policy decision of the Government that there will be no more steel plants in public sector. We shall upgrade and modernise the existing ones. Government's priority is now to give more importance for rural development, where 80 per cent of our people live. That is why money is diverted for rural development. For steel plants, money

will come from private sector and there will be many more installations of steel plants in the private sector. In the public sector, we shall concentrate on the existing plants for their upgradation and modernization.

**SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT :** Mr. Speaker Sir, just now the Minister has stated that the public sector steel plants are utilising their capacity up to 90 per cent. Recently, Government have taken a decision to disinvest five per cent shares of the public sector steel plants. Will this investment increase their production capacity over and above the existing 90 per cent capacity utilisation ? If not, why was the decision to disinvest taken ?

**SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :** Decision in respect of disinvestment is a policy of the Government. It has nothing to do with the production sector. In order to cover the deficit in the budget and because of the money that has been spent already on the public sector, the Government is disinvesting to some extent. It will not in any way affect the efficiency of any public sector undertakings. Rather, they will be answerable not only to Government but also to the public who buy the shares. Those who buy the shares can attend the Annual General Meetings and they will be able to question about the performance of the public sector. In this way, disinvestment will rather encourage more performance oriented approach and accountability. I think this is a good decision production will go up which will help it to recover its lost position.

In Rourkela, the three packages are complete and other package including those with the foreign collaboration area in progress. We hop that this will be completed as per the target date. The production as such will not get a boost because this plant needed modernisation long before. Unfortunately, this plant was neglected.

Unless we take these particular steps to modernise it, which we are taking, it will go down. By these efforts which we are making, there will be a marginal increase of production. The upgradation in Rourkela is done mainly to maintain this plant.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Swadeshi and self-reliance are old principles of our country. But our country is still lacking in these things and many goods are being imported from other countries. There has been a long standing demand of a Steel plant in Orissa and it was announced that a Steel plant would be set up at Daitari. Then there was a proposal to hand it over to private sector but that was not done. Now Chinese are coming there who are foreigners and not Indians. There is a dearth of capital and technology in our country and that is why we cannot do anything. Now Chinese are coming and they will set up one-two plants.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : What is your question please ?

[*Translation*]

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : I would like to know the progress made in Daitari project in Orissa and the time by when it would be completed. What steps are being taken by the Government to complete this project at the earliest ?

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : It does not come out of this question. However, if you want to reply, you can.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : In Daitari two Steel plants are likely to come in private sector; one is Mid East, which is with the Chinese collaboration and the other in Kalinga Industries, which is in collaboration with the caparo Groups of Swaraj Paul. At present, the work on Mid East is in progress. This project is of half-a-million Capacity. About the other Project, that is the Kalinga, discussions are going on with the Financial institutions. The Foreign Investment Board of the Government of India has already cleared it for the foreign investment. The money, that has been offered by Swaraj Paul is also available. They are only waiting for the Financial Institutions' response. Both the groups are sincere and we hope that it will come up in due time.

[*English*]

#### **Power from Co-generation**

\*143. SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for tapping of vast potential offered by co-generation in industries like sugar, fertilizers and textiles as an additional source for producing power as is being done in USA:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYANAIDU) : (a) to (c). A Statement is attached.

#### **STATEMENT**

(a) to (c). Government of India is aware

of the potential of co-generation of electricity in various industries. Eleven proposals for co-generation in process industries such as fertilizers, petro-chemicals, sugar etc. have been accorded techno-economic clearance since 1985 by the Central Electricity Authority. With a view to further encouraging this practice which, inter-alia, helps in Energy Conservation besides accorded certain fiscal benefits to the concerned industry, the Ministry of Power has set up a task force to assess the additional potential of co-generation and suggest effective ways & means to harness it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, many countries of the world have changed their modes of conventional energy production and have increased the production capacity to a large extent. According to the latest information USA has increased co-generation of electricity by 76,000 MW during last three years besides its conventional energy sources, which is equivalent or more than the total power production of India. According to a survey it can be said that with bagasse India can co-generate electricity and electricity production can be increased by 3500 MW and which can be added to the national grid. As has been stated by the hon. Minister in his reply that since 1985, only 11 proposals for co-generation have been accorded techno-economic clearance. I would like to know whether the Government have so far received proposals from these 11 industries only? If only 11 proposals were received and they have been accorded techno-economic clearance, I would like to know whether these units have since started their production. If so, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the total electricity production being done by these units?

[*English*]

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : Mr.

Speaker, Sir, I agree with the hon. Member that the concept of co-generation had been exploited to a great extent in some of the developed countries. We, in India, are also encouraging this concept for about eight to ten years. Prior to 1985 also, there were some captive power plants that had not been included in the list but these eleven projects were shown in the list as they have been cleared on the basis of co-generation. They are, now, producing power in respective industries. Four more proposals are now pending with the CEA, they are, Gujrat State Fertilizers Corporation, Mangalore Refineries and Petro-Chemicals, Haldia Petro-Chemicals and Tata Fertilizers Complex.

I hope, they will be cleared very soon. The total potential that had been projected in these six sectors viz. sugar, fertilizers, cement, petro-chemicals, paper and steel are ...

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, the question is very simple and short. How much electricity had been produced in these eleven units? If you have figures with you now, you can give them, otherwise, you can send them later on.

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : I have got the figures here. I will total them up and give them to him. I will reply to him.

MR. SPEAKER : You can give him those figures later on.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, under economic liberalisation the Government has taken approval of the Parliament that if any multinational company wants to set up industry particularly in the field of electricity generation there will be no problem for them in getting licence, land or money. So I would like to know from the hon. Minister that when sugar, cement and textile

industries are prepared to set up captive plants for generation of electricity from non-conventional sources, why the Government is imposing so much restrictions on them like asking them to get licence and keeping their proposal pending for such a long time. What is the intention of the Government behind imposing such restrictions? Secondly, the hon. Minister was just now talking about the taskforce, so I would like to know whether the Government would take initiative on its own so that these units may generate more and more electricity. Thirdly the main complaint of the producers is that State Electricity Boards are not prepared to purchase electricity from these units. Therefore, I would like to know whether the Government is prepared to include the electricity generated by such power captive plants in the national grid so that one hinderance could be removed?

[English]

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : We have not delayed any clearance for these projects. We are clearing them as soon as possible, but some of the projects require techno-economic review only to help the industries in setting up these units. We give them in a way technical advice rather than either clearing it or rejecting it. As I have already said, it is an energy conservation method and more such projects are welcome.

As regards his other question, we have issued instructions to the State Government that whenever any such proposal comes up, they should permit them to use the power in their own industries or purchase the power at an agreed rate just as they would do so in the case of any private generating company and feed the grid with that power. There should not be any difficulty. I think it is only a question negotiations between the generating company and the State Government.

MR. SPEAKER : We shall have to see whether they are cost effective or not.

[English]

### UN Security Council

\*144. SHRI K. G. SHIVAPPA :  
SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given Unstarred Question No. 153 on July 26, 1993 and state :

(a) whether the UN Secretary General has submitted his report during the 48th UNGA Session.

(b) if so the salient features thereof;

(c) the further steps taken by the Government during the last four months for the reconstitution, democratisation, expansion of UN Security Council and to improve its representative character;

(d) whether some other countries have also agreed with India to work together in this direction;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government propose to take any initiative for the permanent membership of India to the Council; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) (a) The U. N. Secretary General Submitted his report on a possible review of the membership of the Security Council during the 48th UNGA Session.



(b) The Secretary General's report is a compilation of comments received from the member states on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership at the Security Council.

(c) to (g). The Government of India together with other countries have been actively participating in the deliberations on possible review of membership of the Security Council. The 48th Session of the UN General Assembly has adopted a consensus resolution to establish an open-ended Working Group to consider all aspects of the Question of increase in the membership of the Council, and other related matters. The discussion of the Working Group will include the question of increase in permanent membership of the Council. Specific candidacy for different countries is not being discussed at this stage. India has been playing a leading role in the discussions.

SHRI K. G. SHIVAPPA: In recent years the world is afraid of the nuclear weapon States; they invariably want that only nuclear weapon State should become permanent members of the Security Council.

Now even smaller countries like South Korea, North Korea, Japan and others are being considered for the permanent membership at the cost of India.

The geographical and strategical locations of countries like India are being ignored. In such circumstance, does the Government of India contemplate any thorough changes in the foreign policy to counteract and dispel such an attitude in the international arena and to assert ourselves to become a permanent member of the Security Council? I want to know whether it is a fact that India has served the United Nations Security Council as a non-permanent member for many more years than any other country.

MR. SPEAKER: You have to ask a question. You cannot read it in this fashion.

SHRI K. G. SHIVAPPA: I want to know whether the Government of India, in these circumstances, is contemplating any change in the foreign policy to counteract and dispel such attitudes and to assert ourselves to become a permanent member of the U. N. Security Council.

SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED: As I have already said, India is playing a leading role in the process of discussion on the reforms in the United Nations system and the expansion of the Security Council. India is at present using its persuasive powers to ensure that the right norms giving representation across the board to different countries of the globe in different regions looking at the population, contribution to the U.N. system, size of the economy etc., are adopted so that the selection can be done on an objective basis. We have, as I said, not been discussing at this time specific names for inclusion in the expanded Security Council.

SHRI K. G. SHIVAPPA: Is it a fact that India has served as a non-permanent member for many years, more than any other country?

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not read it out. Why do you not ask the essence of the question?

SHRI K. G. SHIVAPPA: I want to know what steps are being proposed by the hon. Minister to counter this move and to put forward our case to become a permanent member of the Security Council.

MR. SPEAKER: That has been answered just now. The hon. Minister can repeat the reply, if he likes.

**SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED :** We have no reason to believe that there is any hostile atmosphere against India for inclusion in the Security Council. When the time comes, I am sure, we will have enough support. We have informal information that many countries want to propose India's name for inclusion in the expanded Security Council.

**SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH :** With the disintegration of the Soviet Union the world has become unipolar and there is supremacy of one super power in the world and that super power is the new dominant force in the world. Therefore, in this New World order it has a dominant voice and it is not willing for any kind of restructuring of the U.N. system. I would therefore like to know whether the Government is under the impression that any restructuring of the United Nations Security Council with the induction of new members with special veto rights, has been resisted by that super power and if so what steps has the Government taken to rectify it ?

**SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED :** The hon. Member has not identified the super power. I believe that he meant the United States. There is, in fact, in this whole discussion a proposal from the United States for enhancing the membership of the Security Council. They have even suggested two names for inclusion, Japan and Germany. But as I said, the discussions are still incomplete, they are just beginning and therefore it is too early to say what decision each country will take.

**SHRI E. AHAMED :** It is true that no specific candidacy has emerged so far. But the report submitted by the Secretary General has clearly indicated a restructuring of the United Nations, especially with respect to the expansion of the Security Council. The hon. Minister has just mentioned the view of the United States that they have mentioned

two names, one of Germany and the other of Japan. Even at present out of five permanent members of the Security Council there are three European countries, Britain, France and the Russian Republics. If Germany also comes they will be four. Japan as an economic power will have a right claim to be a Permanent Member of the Security Council.

But, Sir, there is a consensus, as far as I understand, among the nations in the Latin American countries and they are making a claim for Brazil; among African countries, they may be making a claim for Nigeria. India also will have its own place. I would like to know how far this discussion has reached and also the result of the interaction that we have had with other countries in the Comity of Nations. Could the Minister be please to share this information ?

**SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED :** Sir, it is true that informal discussions have taken place between friendly countries. India does not wish to foreclose its option of ensuring the right choice at the right moment. At this time, we believe that exercising any indication of which country would be preferred from which region might lead to difficulty in arriving at objective norms. And, therefore, we have concentrated and given priority to arriving at objective norms rather than specific names of the countries which are to be selected.

**SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply given by the hon. Minister refers to the report of the Secretary-General, which is said to be a compilation of comments received from the member States. I would like to know first whether the hon. Minister has analysed the report of the Secretary-General. Will he like to share the information as to how many Member States have expressed themselves in favour of the expansion of the Security Council and how many of them have committed themselves to the idea that there ought to be an equitable

distribution of various geographical regions? I would also like to know whether the Ministry has compared the comments conveyed by the member States to the Secretary-General with the utterances made by various member States on various occasions, such as bilateral visits, on this subject. And as a corollary to that, since the U.N. General Assembly has decided to form a Working Group. Of course, that Working Group is open ended. Is it also open ended in time? Does it have a time limit or not?

**SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED:** Sir, according to our latest information, about 65 countries had responded to the letter of the Secretary-General and, therefore, compilation of the report includes the views of 65 countries. Our information is also that overwhelmingly countries support the views that there should be restructuring of the United Nations and the expansion of the Security Council. The specific numbers and the exact positions are constantly under scrutiny and study. But, if the hon. Member wishes us to give him specific number of people, who are at present committed to restructuring and the expansion of the Security Council, I will be very happy to write to the hon. Member.

As far as the discussions that are taking place in the open ended Working Group are concerned, there is no fixed schedule that has been given. One assumes that everybody would like to work towards the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations. But there is no fixed schedule.

**SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:** The Fiftieth Anniversary is two years from now.

**SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED:** Well, the Fiftieth Anniversary is two years from now.

[*English*]

### **Commonwealth Heads of Governments Meet**

\*145 **SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH**  
**SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL :**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the issues discussed at the Summit of the Commonwealth Heads of Governments held at Cyprus recently and the outcome thereof .

(b) the role played by the Indian delegation in the deliberations of the Summit; and

(c) the issues put forward by India at the Summit and the response of the other member countries to each of these issues ?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) (a) to (c) : A Statement is attached

### **STATEMENT**

The Summit meeting of Commonwealth Heads of Government at Cyprus considered issues related to global political and economic developments since the Harare Summit of October 1991 with special focus on South Africa, multilateral trade issues and the Uruguay Round, and Commonwealth Functional Cooperation. The Summit adopted the Cyprus Communiqué and the Limassol Declaration on the Uruguay Round.

The Indian delegation made an active

contribution to the deliberations of the Summit and the outcome. The delegation stressed that the Commonwealth should continue to focus on promotion of developmental cooperation and should maintain the balance reflected the Harare Declaration between its social and developmental activities and the promotion of its fundamental political values relating to democracy, respect for human rights, good governance etc. The delegation pointed out the threat posed by terrorism to democracy and human rights and emphasized that a successful and balanced outcome of the Uruguay Round must pay adequate attention to the problems of developing countries.

Other Commonwealth countries reacted positively to the issues raised by India which are reflected appropriately in the Cyprus Communiqué.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been stated in the reply that political and economic issues were discussed at the summit with special focus on South Africa and multilateral trade issues. Besides that the delegation pointed out the threat posed by terrorism to democracy and human rights. Now-a-days not our country alone but the entire world is facing threats posed by terrorism. Because of this terrorism we are all terrified. Even when we people come to the Parliament we remain fear stricken. Will the hon. Minister state the resolution moved by the Indian delegation in the deliberation in this regard? What was the resolution adopted by the summit and what benefits India is going to get from this resolution.

SHRI R. L. BHATIA : The Indian delegation have discussed this issue in the summit and the commonwealth countries have accepted it and included in the form of communiqué. I read it out for you.

[English]

"Heads of the Government reaffirmed their strong condemnation of terrorism in all its forms, including the taking of hostages, as one of the most dangerous and pernicious threats to stability and to human rights. They reiterated their determination to combat terrorism whether perpetrated by individuals, groups or States, by every means possible, through bilateral and multilateral co-operation."

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has expressed sentiments that there is threat from terrorism. We all are aware of these threats but it has not been stated as to what steps have been to check it. You have left it by expressing you sentiments only. Who is not aware of the threats of terrorism. The hon. Minister has stated that we have realised it that ...

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask the question.

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : No concrete result has come out from the reply given by the hon. Minister. My second question is regarding economic issues discussed in the summit. I would like to know the economic resolution moved by the Indian delegation and what economic resolution was adopted by the summit of commonwealth countries ?

SHRI R. L. BHATIA : The Indian delegations also discussed this issue. It was stated by our Finance Minister while speaking on this issue that;

[English]

"He pointed out that norms and mechanisms for assertive multilateralism must be devised with a great deal of caution

and structures for conflict resolution must be built around the principles of the UN Charter, respect for national sovereignty territorial integrity and sovereign equality of States. The pointed out that the Harare balance must be maintained, as emphasis on role of law and human rights had to be tempered with the recognition that human rights could not flourish in a social and economic vacuum. The Finance Minister also stressed the need for the Commonwealth to consider ways to create conditions for sustained global recovery and growth." This print was emphasised.

**SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIAL :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, It is clear that now the Commonwealth Heads of States Conference has become a mere ritual. Nothing concrete comes out of it. On the one hand, India continues to make active contribution while some members are withdrawing their membership and pulling out of the Commonwealth and on the other hand the European Economic Community and the South South Co-operation and so many other economic bodies have come up. The hon. Minister has replied regarding the economic contribution. I would like to know what kind of contribution is going to be there by the Commonwealth countries or will it be a mere extension of Harare communication and Cyprus communication? What concrete steps are you going to take in respect of trade in view of the Dunkel proposals and other economic recession all over the world? India and other developing countries have specific problems. What type of co-operation are you going to give to the developing countries in this respect ?

**SHRI R. L. BHATIA :** The Commonwealth is a useful organisation firstly because the Heads of the States meet there and discuss the common problem faced by the world. They talk bilateral as well as multilateral issues. It is a good occasion to

have exchange of views. Secondly, this is a useful organisation in the sense that Commonwealth student stipends are given and apart from that the economic issues facing the members are also discussed over there.

There has been a discussion about the Uruguay Round of talks ... (*Interruptions*).

**SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL :** There are rich countries and there are poor countries which are members. So, what is the extent to which they can be helped ?

**SHRI R. L. BHATIA:** Sir, this point was raised by us. Our Finance Minister very pointedly raised a point with regard to this that an assertive multilateralism must be devised by this association so that we can have talks in the Uruguay Round and in other fora. So, this point was discussed and the consensus was that we should collectively approach our problems.

**SHRI A. CHARLES:** Sir, it is seen that a number of issues of bilateral and unilateral interests have been discussed in this forum. I am glad to see that the Commonwealth countries have reacted positively to the issues raised by India. Today's papers show that the GATT Agreement is in a crisis and even the United States and the EC have not come to any agreement ... (*Interruptions*).

**MR. SPEAKER :** This question is about Commonwealth, not about G-15.

**SHRI A. CHARLES :** My question is specific, Sir, because Uruguay Round has been discussed. So, may I know from the hon. Minister whether the two major problems faced by our country in the GATT negotiations, that is, problems in respect of textiles and patents, will be specifically placed before the Commonwealth and their

cooperation sought, so that we any get our hands strengthend and the developed countries gain out of it? This is a major area and I want a specific answer to this.

SHRI R. L. BHATIA : Sir, as I mentioned earlier, this point was discussed and India placed strongly before the Commonwealth that a balanced outcome of the Uruguay Round must pay adequate attention to the problems of developing countries. This point was discussed.

[Translation]

### **Indo-French Cooperation**

\*152. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:  
SHRIMATI SHEELA  
GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state : (a) the areas of bilateral cooperation with France in the spheres of science, technology, trade and other related subjects :

(b) whether any new areas of mutual cooperation have been identified and :

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED) (a) to (c) . A Statement is attached.

### **STATEMENT**

India enjoys an extensive relationship with France in the fields of science & technology, trade and economic cooperation and other related areas.

2. In addition to Cooperation in the field of Culture, Science and Technology conducted under an Agreement signed with France in 1978, scientific organisations such as CSIR, ICAR and the Indian National Science Academy are also cooperating with their counterparts in France. Academy are also cooperating with their counterparts in France. An Indo-French Centre for the Promotion of Advanced Research has been established in New Delhi, jointly funded by India and France. Under the aegis of the Centre, collaborative research projects in various scientific fields have been undertaken.
3. Under an agreement for cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space between ISRO and the French National Space Agency, CNES, the two countries have been cooperating in several areas related to space research and applications.
4. Economic and commercial relations between India and France have expanded significantly over the last few years. The Indo-French Joint Committee for Economic Cooperation provides a bilateral forum for promotion of economic and technical cooperation. A joint Business Council has also been set up. 16 bilateral MOUs/Protocols have been concluded with France on cooperation in different sectors including mines, coal, agriculture, energy, ocean science and technology, petro-chemicals, fertilizers, drugs, environment, water management and railways.
5. Prospects for the diversification and enhancement of bilateral economic cooperation have been given further

impetus by the favourable climate generated by India's economic reforms.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know whether the Government has conducted any survey of the countries for technology cooperation. If so, the name of countries agreed to the proposal and the areas which have been identified for mutual cooperation ?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER Please do understand that the question is limited to cooperation between France and India. External Affairs Minister may not be having the information about all other countries. You limit your question to France.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR : I am asking about France. The MOU was signed between India and France in the field of mines and coals, so I would like to know the safety measures being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for mine workers because thousands of mine workers lost their lives in mine accidents ?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Do you have that information with you ?

SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED : Sir, this is a specific question relating to safety in mines. It could be more appropriately put to the Minister of Mines who was present here. We have several collaboration agreements in the field of science and technology, in the field of space and nuclear energy and in the field of economic and commercial relations.

If the hon. Member is interested in them we shall be happy to give details about all these.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there were many spheres of cooperation discussed with France and agriculture was one of them. I would like to know the total expenditure likely to be incurred on agriculture in Bihar ?

MR. SPEAKER : No. question cannot be asked like this. The Minister can tell you whether some of the technology, which is being acquired from France, is being given to Bihar or not.

[English]

SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED : Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member that in future whenever the discussions take place, we will keep Bihar in mind... (Interruptions)..

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTION

[English]

#### Indo -Thai Joint Commission

\*142 SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :  
SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Thailand have agreed to sign an extradition treaty to check international terrorism and smuggling of narcotics;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether Indo-Thai Joint Commission meeting was held at New Delhi recently ;

(d) if so, the items discussed therein and the outcome thereof; and

(e) the follow up action taken by the Government to implement the decisions taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) (a) and (b). India and Thailand have in principle agreed to enter into discussions on an Extradition Treaty to check international terrorism. A draft is presently under finalisation by the Ministry of External Affairs.

(c) Yes, Sir. The India-Thailand Joint Commission meeting took place on the 4th and 5th of November, 1993.

(d) Discussions covered political, trade and economic, cultural, scientific & technological and consular matters with particular focus on agriculture and fisheries. There is a much better understanding of each others perceptions as a result of the talks.

(e) Concerted efforts are being made with all concerned Departments to follow up on the targeted areas, before the next meeting of the Joint Commission in 1994.

**Mining Sector**

\*146. SHRI BOLLA BULLI  
RAMAIAH :  
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA  
RAO :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Australia and several multinational companies have shown keen interest in the indian mining sector following

the announcement of a new national policy on mining;

(b) whether the Government also propose to involve domestic private sector promoters and foreign agencies in exploration and exploitation of mines; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the agreements signed by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SING HYADAV) (a) to (c) : The National Mineral Policy placed before this House on 5.3.1993 permits private sector exploitation of all such non-atomic and non-fuel minerals which had hitherto being reserved for exclusive exploitation by the public sector. This, in turn, has generated interest in the mineral sector amongst private sector companies both in India and abroad. Under the law all mineral concessions are granted by the concerned State Governments. There is no need or occasion for the Central Government to enter into any agreement on this subject.

[English]

**External Publicity on Kashmir**

\*147 SHRI DATTATRAYA  
BANDARU :  
PROF. PREM DHUMAL :

Will the the MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the external publicity on Kashmir by the Government has not proved to be effective in creating an impact on other countries including Muslim countries as compared to efforts of Pakistan in this regard;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the concrete steps taken by the Government



in this regard:

(c) whether the Government have sent any delegation to foreign countries for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the names of the countries visited by this delegation and the results achieved by it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) and (b). Countering anti Indian propaganda by Pakistan in foreign countries, including Muslim countries, is an on-going process. Government successfully continues to rebut false Pakistani allegations and disinformation. Steps taken include the following :

- (i) Frequent and continuing interaction with other Governments where the opportunity is availed of to provide correct information on the situation.
- (ii) Preparation of publications on the factual situation in Kashmir and

their distribution through our Missions abroad, to politicians, officials, Press, and other opinion-makers.

- (iii) Preparation and similar distribution of audio-visual material, to depict the true facts and project our point of view.
- (iv) Regular briefing of Indian and foreign journalists here as well as in other countries through our Missions.
- (v) Dissemination, on regular basis, of information to our Missions enabling them to take swift and effective corrective action with all relevant target audiences.

(c) while no special delegation has been sent for the purpose, foreign Governments and other opinion-makers are regularly briefed by Indian Ministers, parliamentarians and official delegations travelling abroad.

(d) Does not arise.

## STATEMENT - I

The list of ongoing AIR schemes for setting up new transmitters and to augment the existing ones in the States of MAHARASHTRA, GUJARAT and MADHYA PRADESH.

Sl. No.	Place	Scheme	Status
1	2	3	4
<b>MAHARASHTRA</b>			
1.	Dhule	2x3 KW FM transmitter with multi-purpose studio and staff quarters.	Technically ready
2.	Nasik	-do-	Technically ready
3.	Osmanabad	-do-	Installation nearing completion.
4.	Bombay	50 KW SW transmitter in place of 10 KW SW Trans	Installation completed.
5.	Parbhani	Type I @ studios	Technically ready.
6.	Sangli	20 KW MW Transmitter in place of 20 KW MW Transmitter.	Civil works in progress.
7.	Parbhani	20 KW MW Transmitter in place of 10 KW MW Transmitter.	Civil works in progress.

Sl. No.	Place	Scheme	Status
1	2	3	4
8.	Bombay (Stereo)	2x5 KW MW Transmitter	Transmitter available, works in progress.
9.	Bombay (N.C.)	2x5 KW FM Transmitter	Orders for the equipments have been placed.
GUJARAT			
10.	Ahwa	1 KW MW Transmitter with Multi-purpose studio and staff quarters.	Installation completed.
11.	Ahmedabad (VB)	2x5 Transmitter in place of 1 KW MW Transmitter	Transmitter order placed.
12.	Junagadh (N.C.)	2x3 KW FM Transmitter	Drawings are under preparation.
13.	Vadodara	2x3 KW FM Transmitter with multi-purpose studio	P/N & Drawings are under preparation.
MADHYA PRADESH			
14.	Bhopal	10 KW MW Transmitter in place of 1 KW MW Transmitter.	Transmitter defective being replaced.
15.	Bhopal	50 KW SW Transmitter in place of 10 KW SW Transmitter.	Installation completed.

Sl. No.	Place	Scheme	Status
1	2	3	4
16.	Jabalpur	Type I(R) Studios	Installation completed.
17.	Jagadapur	100 KW MW Transmitter in place of 20 KW MW Transmitter.	Transmitter order placed.
18.	Gwalior	20 KW MW Transmitter in place of 10 KW MW Transmitter.	Transmitter order placed.
19.	Jabalpur (VB/CBS)	2x5 KW FM Transmitter	Transmitter order placed.

Legend.

VB : Vividh Bharathi

CBS : Commercial Broadcasting service

NC : National Channel

## STATEMENT-II

The list of ongoing Doordarshan schemes for setting up new transmitters and to augment the existing ones in the States of MAHARASHTRA, GUJARAT and MADHYA PRADESH.

Project	Sl.No.	Location	Status
1	2	3	4
<b>MAHARASHTRA</b>			
HPT	1.	Hathikhamba/Ratnagiri.	Site being identified. Scheme to be approved.
	2.	Jalgaon/Akola	-do-
	3.	Chanarapur	-do-
LPT	4.	Hinganghat	Ready for commissioning.
	5.	Akluj	Under implementation.
	6.	Kankauli	-do-
	7.	Acot	-do-
	8.	Washim	-do-
	9.	Chikaldhara	Scheme to be approved.

Sl No.	Place	Scheme	Status
1	2	3	4
10.	Chiplun		Under implementation.
11.	Umerga		-do-
12.	Sangamner		-do-
13.	Shirpur		Scheme to be approved.
14.	Mahekar		-do-
15.	Morshi		-do-
16.	Wani		-do-
17.	Deorukh		-do-
18.	Junnar		Under implementation.
19.	Adhyaltekki		-do-
20.	Khed		Scheme to be approved.
21.	Karjal		-do-

Sl. No.	Place	Scheme	Status
1	2	3	4
22.	Rajapur		-do-
23.	Chikkali		-do-
GUJARAT			
HPT	24.	Bhuj	Interim set-up at 1 KW ready. Permanent set-up is in progress.
	25.	Surat	Site finalised. Scheme to be approved.
	26.	Vadodara	-do-
	27.	Palitana	Scheme to be approved.
LPT	28.	Khambhat	Ready for commissioning.
	29.	Morbi	Under implementation.
	30.	Dharangadra	-do-
	31.	Mahuva	-do-
	GUJARAT (Contd.)		
LPT	32.	Naktarana	Under implementation.

Sl. No.	Place	Scheme	Status
1	2	3	4
33.	Rapar		-do-
34.	Mangrol		-do-
35.	Idar		-do-
36.	Deesa		Scheme to be approved.
37.	Palitana		-do-
38.	Rajula		-do-
39.	Sanjeli		-do-
40.	Khambaila		-do-
41.	Amrod		-do-
42.	Thagadia		-do-
43.	Devgadhi Baria		-do-



Sl No	Place	Scheme	Status
1	2	3	4
	44	Nerrang	-do-
	45	Mangrol (Surat)	-do-
	MADHYA PRADESH		
	46	Jabalpur (Augmentation to 10 KW)	Ready for commissioning.
	47	Ambikapur	Site being identified.
	48	Shahdol	-do-
	49		-do-
	50	Kukhri (LPT:VLPT)	Under implementation
	51	Alirajpur (LPT:VLPT)	-do-
	52	Datia	-do-
	53	Jaora	-do-

Sl. No.	Place	Scheme	Status
1	2	3	4
54.	Gardarwaia		-do-
55.	Sironj		-do-
56.	Ashoknagar		Scheme to be approved.
57.	Khurai		-do-
58.	Mehar		-do-
59.	Jashpurmagar		-do-
60.	Bijaypur		-do-
61.	Lahar		-do-
62.	Bhandar		-do-
63.	Iklehra		-do-
64.	Jhabua		-do-

Sl. No.	Place	Scheme	Status
1	2	3	4
65.	Kalaras		-do-
66.	Pakhanjore		-do-
67.	mandla		-do-
68.	Parasia		Under implementation
69.	Shingrauli		Scheme to be approved
70.	Kondagaon		-do-
71.	Budani		-do-

[English]

**New AIR/Doordarshan Kendras**

\*148 SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the schemes of All India Radio and Doordarshan for setting up new transmitters and to augment the existing ones in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the present stage of each of the scheme ;

(c) whether there is also a proposal for installation of a high power transmitter at Sholapur;

(d) if so, the allocations earmarked thereof; and

(e) the steps taken so far to implement these schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO)  
(a) (b) and (e) : There are 19 ongoing schemes of AIR and 71 schemes of Doordarshan for setting up new transmitters and to augment the existing ones in the States of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. The present status of each scheme is given in the enclosed Annexures I & Statement II respectively.

(c) No, Sir

(d) Question does not arise.

**US Foreign Affairs Sub-Committee  
Report on Kashmir**

\*149 MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Will the

Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the recent reports regarding observations made on Kashmir by the latest draft report of the US Foreign Affairs Sub-Committee for Asia and the Pacific;

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

(c) whether the Government have made/proposed to make any efforts to lobby India's views in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) (a) to (d) The US House Foreign Affairs Sub-committee on Asia and Pacific in its report of June 1, 1993 containing recommendations on the Foreign Aid Authorisation Bill for fiscal year 1994, stated in the Chapter on India that "India faces a full-blown, largely indigenous insurgency in Jammu and Kashmir and few signs suggest that either the militants in J&K or the Government of India is tiring of the struggle." The Sub-committee Members were inclined to believe that "the UN resolutions calling for a plebiscite in Kashmir have been overtaken by history ... While a plebiscite might remain the most desirable means of allowing the Kashmiris to express their own views, it is almost impossible to imagine a situation where both Delhi and Islamabad would agree to such a vote. Sub-committee Members believe that any policy that is premised on the holding of a plebiscite throughout the entire pre-partition state of J&K is doomed to failure". The report supports the US under taking a more active effort in Kashmir "only if all the parties to the dispute display a genuine desire for US help". The Sub-committee Members expressed the conviction that a

vigorous partnership between the US and India is in the interest of both and went on record to endorse efforts aimed at promoting "ever-closer Indo-American ties."

2 Government immediately obtained details as to the observations of the Foreign Affairs Sub-committee for Asia and Pacific. Government continue to monitor all developments having a bearing on India's security and territorial unity and integrity. Government have maintained a continuous dialogue with the US Congress at various levels, and conveyed forcefully India's views and concerns on all issues, including India's position on the Kashmir issue. Government have highlighted the situation of a "proxy war" being waged by Pakistan in Jammu & Kashmir as a result of the continuous and unabated support to terrorism by that country.

3 Government have followed a multi-pronged approach towards projecting India's point of view in the US. This approach has taken note of the increasing emphasis placed by the Clinton Administration on issues such as human rights, non-proliferation, trade etc. as also the role of the US Congress, the American media, key opinion makers in the American polity and the presence of a million strong Indian-American community in the U.S. These sections of opinion makers are being targeted assiduously by our Missions in the US through letters, personal meetings, briefings and dissemination of regular updates on events in and on issues of concern to India. Government have also taken a decision in principle to engage a professional lobbying firm registered in the US to

supplement our on-going efforts.

### **Leasing Policy for Mines**

\*150 SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :  
SHRI DILEEPBHAI  
SANGHANI :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have issued directions to the Government of Gujarat to review the policy of leasing out mines of bauxite, lignite and granite;

(b) if so, the reaction of the State Government in this regard;

(c) the number of proposals for grant of mining lease in Gujarat received and pending with the Union Government; and

(d) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to boost the export of bauxite, lignite and granite?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM  
SINGH YADAV) (a) . No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The position of proposals of the State Government of Gujarat seeking prior approval under the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 for last 2 years is given below :-

	1992	1993 (upto 10.12.1993)
No. of proposals received	55	51
No. of proposals disposed off	45	30
Pending proposals	10	21

(d) Incentives for export from the country are available to exporters of Minerals also.

(d) if so, the details thereof and the criteria adopted for this selection; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken for effective lobbying in this regard ?

**Appointment of Lobbyists in US**

\*151 SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR  
MANDAL :

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRI R. L. BHATIA)

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE  
TABLE OF THE HOUSE IN REPLY TO LOK  
SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 151  
FOR ANSWER ON 13TH DECEMBER, 1993  
REGARDING APPOINTMENT OF  
LOBBYISTS IN US.

(a) whether the Government are aware of the appointment of a firm of lobbyists by Pakistan to represent it in the US :

(a) to (e) Government are aware that the Government of Pakistan as well as some other Pakistani organisations have appointed US firms as lobbyists to represent their interests in the US. The details are as follows :

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have selected some firms to project our views in that country;

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Embassy of Pakistan	-	Van Kloberg and Associates Ltd.
Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan	-	Neill & Co., Inc. White & Case.
Pakistan International Airlines	-	Zuckert, Scoutt and Rasenberger
Pakistan Manufactures and Exporters Association	-	International Development Systems, Inc.
Pakistan People's Party	-	Mark A. Siegal & Associates

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2. Government have decided, in principle, to hire a firm in the US, whose functions would include the provision of legal assistance to our Mission and Posts in the USA and facilitation in projecting India's view point on a wide range of issues to the U.S. establishment governmental and nongovernmental. A final decision in this

regard will depend on the outcome of negotiations with the several firms which have been shortlisted. Such a final decision will take into account the cost factor, the level of access in the legislative and executive branches of the United States Government, the size of the firm so as to ensure individual attention as well as an assessment of the

reputation and effectiveness of the firm.

3. The efforts of our Mission and Posts in the USA, to project the Indian point of view on various issues of concern to us, have met with considerable success as was evident during the deliberations in the US Congress on the Foreign Aid Appropriation Bill for fiscal year 1994. These efforts include mobilising support for India among US leaders, Congressmen and leading opinion makers. This is done through the medium of letters, personal meetings, and the dissemination of information of information through regular news letters, audio-visual publicity material and India updates. The efforts of the approximately one million strong Indo-American community, towards this end, is also noteworthy.

[*Translation*]

#### **New Steel Plants**

153. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN :  
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up new steel plants in the country before 2000 A.D.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of places identified for the establishment of these plants ;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether different State Governments have submitted some representations in this regard;

(e) the names of States where steel plants are proposed to be set up by private sector companies; and

(f) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHANDEV) (a) to (f): There is no proposal to set up new steel plants in the public sector during the Eighth Five Year Plan. Government had earlier proposed to set up steel plants at Daitari in Orissa and Vijayanagar in Karnataka. However, due to resource constraints, it has not been possible to implement these projects. The State Government of Orissa and Karnataka have proposed transfer of the Central Government shareholding in Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited and Vijayanagar Steel Limited to the Companies which were set up to implement the projects at Daitari and Vijayanagar respectively, to the respective State Governments to facilitate their efforts to set up steel plants at these locations. These proposals have been accepted by the Central Government.

A large number of private entrepreneurs have proposals to set up steel plants of large capacities given in the statement attached.

## STATEMENT

## DETAILS OF PROPOSED STEEL PROJECTS

State	Name of the Unit	Location	Estimated capacity (Liquid steel) in lakh tonnes/year
Andhra Pradesh	M/s. ARM Steel	Sitanagaram	22.0 (in phases)
Bihar	M/s. Punjab Steel Products Ltd.	Indranagar	10.5 (in phase)
Gujarat	M/s. Essar Gujarat Ltd.	Hazira	17.60 (under implementation)
Karnataka	M/s. Zuari Agro Ltd. (Vijayanagar)	Thorangal, Bellary Dist.	11.0
	M/s. Jindal Iron & Steel Ltd.	Thorangal, Bellary Dist.	12.90



State	Name of the Unit	Location	Estimated capacity (Liquid steel) in lakh tonnes/year
	M/s. Jaiprakash Engg. & Steel Co. Ltd.	Mangalore	12.0 (in phases)
Maharashtra	M/s. Nippon Denro Ispat Ltd.	Raigad	13.20
	M/s. Lloyds Steel Industries Ltd.	Wardha	4.40 (under implementation)
Madhya Pradesh	M/s. Mukand Ltd.	Manganpur Bastar Distt.	12.00
	M/s. J.K. Industries Ltd.	Siltara Raipur	6.00
	M/s. Jindal Strips Ltd.	Kharsia, Raigarh Distt.	5.50 (under implementation)
Orissa	M/s. Kalinga Steels (India) Ltd	Daitari	16.50
	M/s. Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd.	Daitari	10.50

State	Name of the Unit	Location	Estimated capacity (Liquid steel) in lakh tonnes/year
	M/s. Orind Steels Ltd.	Khuntapani, Keonjhar Distt.	11.50
Uttar Pradesh	M/s. Malvika Steel products Ltd.	Jagdishpur	5.75 (in phases)
West Bengal	M/s. Birta Technical Services	Belur	8.00
TOTAL :			179.35

[English]

**Hooghly Channel Dredging Contract**

\*154 SHRI ANIL BASU :  
SHRI AJOY  
MUKHOPADHYAY :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hooghly channel dredging contract has been cancelled;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to execute the project by awarding it to some other agencies, foreign or Indian; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The contract has been terminated due to non-performance by the foreign contractor.

(c) and (d) : No decision has so far been taken in this regard.

**Hydro-Electric Power Generation**

\*155 DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :  
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have chalked out a long term plan for generation of hydro-electric power in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the States identified to be

covered under this plan ; and

(d) the target set for power generation in the plan ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE) (a) to (d) : The Eighth Five Year Plan had noted that besides making special efforts to achieve targetted hydel capacity during the Eighth Plan, development of hydel capacity additions should be accelerated to achieve a 40% share of hydel capacity in the total installed generation capacity by the end of the Ninth Plan. Ways and means of achieving this goal continue to be identified.

[Translation]

**Production of Aluminium**

\*156. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of Aluminium in the country has not reached the target fixed therefor;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to achieve the target ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) (a) : A Statement is attached.

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

(a) The targets fixed by the Ministry of Mines in respect of two Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry for production of aluminium during the year 1993-94, cumulative monthly targets upto November, 1993 and Actual production till then are given below :

(figures in tonnes)

<i>Name of the Company</i>	<i>Target for 1993-94</i>	<i>Cumulative target from April, 1993 upto Nov., 1993</i>	<i>Actual Production from April, 1993 upto Nov., 1993</i>
Bhaat aluminium Company Limited (BALCO)	90,000	60,000	59,950
National Aluminium Company Limited (NALOC)	1,95,000	1,30,200	1,34,123
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,05,000</b>	<b>1,90,200</b>	<b>1,94,073</b>

[English]

**Seminar on Information Technology**

\*157. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a seminar of thirteen countries was held in New Delhi in September, 1993 on application of information technology in small industries;

(b) if so, the names of the countries that participated in the seminar;

(c) the outcome of the discussions held; and

(d) the decisions taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) to (d) No such seminar was organised under the auspices of Department of Telecommunications. However, it is learnt that Manufacturers Association of Information

Technology (MAIT) had organised a series of Seminars related to Information Technology during September, 1993. It is learnt that there was no seminar on Application of Information Technology in small industries.

**Remarks of US President on Kashmir**

\*158 SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH :  
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the US President made any reference to Kashmir during his recent Address to the UN General Assembly;

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

(c) whether the Government have taken up this matter with the US; and

(d) if so, the response of the US thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) (a) to (d) In his speech to the UN General Assembly on September 27, 1993 President Clinton said, ... as we marvel at this era's promise of new peace, we must also recognise that serious threats remain. Bloody ethnic, religious and civil wars rage from Angola to the Caucasus to Kashmir".

(2) On September 29, 1993 in response to a query on reference to Kashmir by the US President in his address to the United Nations General Assembly, the Official Spokesman stated that "we have noted his reference to Kashmir and the whole of his speech and are studying its implications". Government made enquiries regarding the circumstances in which such a reference was included and conveyed its concern about its inappropriateness.

3. The US State Department Official Spokesman said later that the US President's reference to Kashmir "was only a rhetorical device to highlight the trouble spots in the world. At best we can say it was a mischaracterisation".

4. This matter was taken up by Government with the US Authorities who explained that the US President's reference to Kashmir was in the context of touching upon various situations wherein a peaceful solution should be supported. The US Government also stressed the importance of a bilateral dialogue with Pakistan to resolve the issue.

[Translation]

#### **Losses in power Sector**

\*159 SHRI KHELAN RAM  
JANGDE :  
SHRI ANAND RATNA  
MAURYA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the transmission and distribution losses are very high in India in comparison to other countries ;

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

(c) the effective steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to minimise these losses ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE) (a) to (c) .The average T&D losses in the country are of the order of around 23% as against the T&D losses in other advanced countries of the world ranging between 6-11%. The reasons for high T&D losses in India are, inter alia, low investment in sub-transmission and distribution system, large scale rural electrification programme involving long lines of LT network, low power factor of operation, too many transformation stages, improper load management measures, pilferage and theft of energy.

To enable the power utilities to take corrective measures in a planned way, comprehensive guidelines have been issued to the power utilities for reducing T&D losses. These include, inter-alia, conducting of the energy audit for identifying the system elements responsible for excessive losses, installing capacitors to improve the voltage profile, preparation of system improvement schemes for strengthening and improvement of their transmission and distribution systems, installing tamper proof meter boxes to check theft of energy.

The theft of energy has been made a cognizable offence from August, 1986 under the provisions of Section 39 of Indian Electricity Act, 1910.

To motivate the State Electricity Boards, and their employees to reduce T&D losses, an incentive scheme in the form of

cash awards/shields was introduced by the Government of India from the year 1987, which has subsequently been revised in 1993.

In the Power Minister's Conference held in January 8/9 1993 a resolution has been passed to bring down T&D losses by 1% per annum with a target of 5% reduction during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

[English]

**Idukki Hydro-Electric Project**

\*160. SHRI K. M. MATHEW : Will be Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any foreign investment proposals for the construction and operation of Idukki Stage-III hydro-electric project in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have any time-bound plan for implementation of this project ;

(b) if so the details thereof; and

(e) if no, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE) (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e). A scheme titled Idukki Stage-III envisaging augmentation of Idukki Reservoir by diversion of waters to yield additional energy of 376 Million Units annually at Idukki Power Station was approved in March, 1975 and work commenced on this project. The works on this project have been completed and diversion effected. Additional energy benefits have been available since April, 1990.

**Road Traffic Pollution in Delhi**

1500 SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of pollution per day released by two-wheelers, three-wheelers, DTC, Redline, Chartered buses and Trucks from January to November, 1993 in Delhi, month-wise;

(b) the reasons for increase in pollution level; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to check the pollution ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) The vehicular emission generate 808.9 tonnes per day of Carbon Monoxide, 12.74 tonnes per day of particulate matter, 157.04 tonnes per day of Oxides of Nitrogen, 3.05 tonnes per day of Hydro-Carbons, 7.47 tonnes per day of sulphur dioxide . It has been estimated that Carbon Monoxide and Oxides of Nitrogen constitute 76 and 66 per cent of the total air pollution load generated in Delhi .

(b) Growth in vehicle population especially of personalised vehicles, and absence of Mass Rapid Transit System are the main reasons .

(c) Central Government have issued Notification prescribing mass emission standards for petrol and diesel driven vehicles . These norms will be made stricter w.e.f. 1.4.1996 .

(2) Transport Department, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has been implementing a Plan Scheme "Control of Air Pollution from the Exhaust of Motor Vehicles" .

(3) 23.23 lakh vehicles have been checked for pollution level by the Transport

Department and its authorised centres between March, 1990 and October, 1993. Out of which 4.20 lakh vehicles have been found polluting beyond the prescribed standards.

(4) Regular checking is being carried out by the Department against the vehicles polluting beyond prescribed standards. So far 31,422 numbers of vehicles have been challanaded between April, 1990 and November, 1993. In addition Certificate of Fitness/Pollution Control Chack Certificate of 94,277 number of vehicles have been cancelled during the same period.

(5) To strengthen the public transport system and to discourage personalised vehicles the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have introduced 3000 Stage Carriage Permits to private operators.

(6) Ministry of Urban Development have formulated a project for Mass Rapid Transit System for Delhi in consultation with RITES.

(7) The steps taken by DTC to control pollution are given in the statement attached.

#### STATEMENT

All the DTC vehicles have been got passed from STA, Delhi and 'Pollution Under Control Certificate' also being renewed after every three months to bring the pollution level of DTC vehicles within the permissible limit i.e. 65 H. S. V.

All the DTC vehicles are being checked at the Depot gate by a skilled workmen for emission of smoke at the time of outshedding. In case any vehicle is found emitting excessive smoke, the same is sent

back to work-shop and only after proper rectification the vehicle is allowed to go on line.

DTC vehicles are also being checked on line by the STA-DTC joint checking groups. The vehicles found emitting excessive smoke are being attended on priority by the unit concerned and got passed from STA-Delhi.

Speed limiting brackets have been fitted on engine blocks of all the vehicles for ensuring that the vehicle does not run beyond the pre-determined speed, resulting therein the reduction of air-pollution.

Regular inspection of various preventive maintenance tasks particularly responsible for excessive smoke emission are carried out in the units under the supervision of Sr. Manager (PC) to ensure that all the tasks are completed as per desired quality level. Deficiencies observed, if any, during inspection, are communicated to the Depots for corrective action.

A pollution control Cell has been established in DTC. This Cell has been provided with Mobile smoke checking van equipped with 'HARTRIDGE' smoke meter. The telephone numbers of the Pollution Control Cell have been printed in all buses for convenience of the public to report excessively smoking vehicles to the Pollution Control Cell. Public participation has also been requested in this regard through Press, T.V. etc.

Through public participation, vehicular pollution of DTC buses is also being controlled. As and when any member of public complaints about emission of excessive smoke by the DTC vehicles, the same is attended on priority. The vehicle is sent on line only after getting a fresh Pollution Under Control Certificate from STA-Delhi.

Six vehicles using CNG diesel dual fuel mode have started operating from OD-1 of DTC. It is reported that the CNG diesel mode vehicles conserves energy besides reduction in smoke level. In case the trial is found satisfactory, the other vehicles would be taken for conversion into the above system.

All the above measures are planned for maintaining pollution free environment in DTC's operational areas. Pollution control steps are further planned to be intensified by adding a few more hartridge type smoke meters. Further, any upgraded vehicle technology introduced by vehicle manufacturers for pollution control is also planned to be adopted by DTC as and when available.

[Translation]

### Exploration of Minerals

1501. SHRI N. J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sought any foreign assistance during the last two years for the exploration and development of mines in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAMSING YADAV) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.



## STATEMENT-1

DETAILS OF TOTAL NUMBER OF POST OFFICES FUNCTIONING IN ANDHRA PRADESH AT PRESENT DISTRICT-WISE AND CATEGORY-WISE.

S.No.	Name of District.	Offices		sub post offices		branch post offices.		Total
		Head Post	Sub Post	Extra Depttl.	Extra Depttl.			
1.	Adilabad	2	63	1	449	-	515	
2.	Anantapur	4	124	4	813		945	
3.	Chittoor	7	122	5	762		895	
4.	Cuddapah	4	103	-	721		828	
5.	East Godavari	8	148	12	694		862	
6.	Guntur	8	156	4	602		760	
7.	Hyderabad	5	158	3	14		180	
8.	Karimnagar	4	92	-	648		744	
9.	Khammam	3	76	1	520		600	
10.	Krishna	6	166	5	645		822	

S.No.	Name of District.	Head Post Offices	Sub Post Offices	Extra Deptl. sub post offices	Extra Deptl. branch post offices.	Total
11.	Kurnool	4	138	3	877	1022
12.	Mahabubnagar	4	78	1	761	844
13.	Medak	4	87	1	497	589
14.	Nalgonda	4	65	-	660	729
15.	Nellore	4	100	1	676	781
16.	Nizamabad	3	62	-	411	476
17.	Prakasam	4	93	-	552	649
18.	Ranga Reddt	2	79	6	343	430
19.	Srikakulam	3	72	1	481	557
20.	Visakhapatnam	5	108	1	562	676
21.	Vizianगरम	3	70	-	622	695
22.	Warangal	5	86	3	665	759
23.	West Bengal	8	141	8	597	754

## STATEMENT-II

Sl. No.	Name of District Extra Depttl. branch offices.	Sanctioned		Proposed to be sanctioned.	
		Depttl/sub post office	Extra Depttl branch post offices.	Extra Depttl post offices.	Depttl. sub post offices.
1.	Adilabad	2	-	-	-
2.	East Godavari	2	-	-	-
3.	Hyderabad	-	1	-	2
4.	Karimnagar	1	-	-	-
5.	Khammam	2	-	-	-
6.	Nizamabad	1	-	-	-
7.	Srikakulam	1	-	-	-
8.	Visakhapatnam	2	-	-	-
9.	West Godavari	1	-	-	-
Total:		12	1	-	4

[English]

**New Post Offices In Andhra Pradesh**

1502. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Post Offices/ Sub-Post Offices presently functioning in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to open more post offices/Sub post offices/ branch post offices during 1993-94 and 1994-95 in various districts of Andhra Pradesh, particularly in Warrangal district; and

(c) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS/SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) District-wise details of post offices functioning at present in Andhra Pradesh is given in the ATTACHED STATEMENT I.

(b) and (c) : Yes, Sir. The present target is to open 12 Extra Departmental branch post offices and 5 departmental sub post offices in Andhra Pradesh during 1993-94. Of these, 12 extra departmental branch post offices and 1 departmental sub post office have already been sanctioned, district-wise details of which are given in the attached statement II. There is no proposal for opening a post office at Warrangal district in the

current year. No target for opening of post offices has been fixed as yet for 1994-95.

[Translation]

**Requirement of Power in Rajasthan**

1503. PROF. RASASINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state (a) the present production of power in Rajasthan, plant-wise;

(b) the total requirement of power in the State and the places from where it meets its requirement and the expenditure being incurred thereon;

(c) the names of new power projects proposed to be set-up in the State during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(d) the time by which these projects are likely to be cleared and how the funds for the purpose are proposed to be mobilised; and

(e) the number of villages proposed to be electrified in Rajasthan during the above plan period and the amount propose to the provided for the purpose on adhoc basis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) : The present generation of power in Rajasthan, plant-wise is as under :

	<i>Station</i>	<i>Power Generated (MU) April, 1993-November, 1993</i>
1.	Kota Thermal Power Station	2794
2.	R. P. Sagar	18
3.	Jawahar Sagar	158
4.	Mahi Bajaj	249

	<i>Station</i>	<i>Power Generated (MU) April, 1993-November, 1993</i>
5.	Anoopgarh	1
6.	Suratgarh	0
7.	Mangrol	0
8.	Anta (GT)	1570
9.	Rajasthan Atomic Power Station	901
	<b>Total</b>	<b>5795</b>

(b) : The requirement of power in Rajasthan during 1993-94 is expected to be 15400 MUs. Rajasthan meets its power requirement from its own sources, its share in joint power stations (Bhakra Beas Management Board, Chambal and Satpura complex) and allocations from various Central Sector Power Stations. For the month of

September, 1993, the energy import bill of Rajasthan was Rs. 43 crores approximately.

(a) and (d) : The names of power projects which are envisaged to be commissioned during the 8th Five Year Plan in Rajasthan are given below :

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Project/Unit State Sector</i>	<i>Capacity (MW)</i>
1.	Ramgarh (GT)	3
2.	Kota Unit-V	210
3.	Ramgarh GT Extn.	35.5
<b>CENTRAL SECTOR</b>		
1.	Barsingsar Lignite (Thermal)	240
2.	RAPP Extn. I (Nuclear)	220

The funds would be mobilised through internal accruals, external assistance, rationalisation of tariff and Central assistance to State.

(e) During the 8th Plan, 3500 villages are proposed to be electrified in Rajasthan. An outlay of Rs. 348 crores is provided during 8th Plan for Rural Electrification

Programme.

[English]

**Advertisement on Foreign T.V. Networks**

1504. SHRI R. DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased TO STATE :

(a) whether the Government have prohibited advertisements of Indian products on foreign T. V. network; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGHDEO)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Multinational Companies in Fishery**

1505. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision formally to Uropein the multinational companies in the food processing industries like fishery for commercial exploitation of a range of fish-by-products which have been developed in various Government run laboratories;

(b) if so, the by-products that are going to be developed in the near future for commercial purposes; and

(c) the investment likely to be made by the multinational companies in this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING

INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) (a) No, Sir,

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

[Translation]

**Theft of Parcels in Madhya Pradesh**

+  
1506. SHRI VISHWESHWAR BHAGAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether several parcels have been stolen from General Post Office in Madhya Pradesh;

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

(c) the number of foreign parcels out of them;

(d) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) to (e) . The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[English]

**Hindi Officers in Indian Mission**

1507. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Indian Missions where post of Hindi Officer has been created during the last one year and the Missions where the post already exist as well as the names of the Indian Missions where office work is done in Hindi ; and

(b) the details of the duties assigned to these Hindi Officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) No post of Hindi Officer has been created has been in any of the Indian Mission abroad during the last one year.

The post of Hindi Officers exist in Indian Missions in Indian Missions in Maurittius, Trinidad & Tobago, UK, Guyana, Suriname and Nepal. All Indian Missions are equipped to do work in Hindi and are encouraged to do so to the extent functionally possible.

(b) The details of duties assigned to these Officers are : (i) Propagation of Hindi abroad; (ii) Assistance to the Missions in implementing Government orders on Official Language (iii) Arrangement off cultural programmes; (iv) Exploration of possibilities of exchange of emient Hindi scholars; (v) Giving of aid and advice to Universities to start classes in Hindi. Indian languages and Indology; (vi) Preparation of speeches for vising VIPs from India; (vii) Bringing out of new bulletins in Hindi; and (viii) Assistance in arranging Hindi classes and managing libraries.

They also assist the organisation of

World/International Hindi conferences, which have been held in recent past in Mauritius, UK, Trinidad & Tobago and Suriname.

[*Translation*]

### **Declaration of National Highways**

1508. SHRI GOVIND RAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether some State Governments have submitted their proposals to declare certain roads as National Highways;

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

(c) the decision taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is annexed.

(c) Owing to meagre allocation earmarked under the Central Sector Roads programme in the 8th Five Year Plan, it will be difficult to make further addition to the National Highway grid in any State for the present.

## STATEMENT

S. No.	State	No. of Proposals received.	Length (in Km) Remarks
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9	4812
2.	Assam	1	178
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	400
4.	Bihar	5	1180
5.	Gujarat	2	342
6.	Goa	3	101
7.	Haryana	2	932
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2	618
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	400
10.	Karnataka	14	4810
11.	Kerala	8	1301
12.	Manipur	1	190
13.	Meghalaya	1	133



S. No.	State	No. of Proposals received.	Length (in Km) Remarks
14.	Mizoram	3	441
15.	Madhya Pradesh	13	6193
16.	Maharashtra	11	4792
17.	Nagaland	1	220
18.	Orissa	4	837
19.	Pondicherry	2	65
20.	Punjab	5	980
21.	Rajasthan	5	1709
22.	Sikkim	1	30
23.	Tripura	1	135
24.	Tamil Nadu	16	3355
25.	Uttar Pradesh	4	1891
26.	West Bengal	6	423
	Total	125	36468

[Translation]

56, 445 villages in Bihar without post offices.

**Post Office in Bihar**

1509. SHRI LAL BABUR RAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages in Bihar without post offices by the end of 1992-93;

(b) the number of villages still without this facility;

(c) the number of villages having this facility;

(d) the details of the post offices proposed to be set up in future, district-wise and category-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) As on 31.3.93, there were

(b) As on 30.9.93, there were 56,418 villages without post office district-wise details of which are given on the attached Statement-I.

(c) As on 30.9.93, there are 11,003 villages having post offices, district-wise and category-wise details are given in the attached Statement - II

(d) Post Offices are progressively opened taking into consideration the various prescribed norms as well as availability of resources. State-wise targets are being fixed annually. During 1993-94, it is targeted to open 8 departmental sub post offices and 90 extra departmental branch post offices. District-wise details of the 27 extra departmental branch post offices opened as on 30.9.93 are given in the attached Statement-III.

**STATEMENT-I**

S. No.	Name of District	No. of Villages without Post Offices.
1.	Araria	590
2.	Aurangabad	1872
3.	Banka	114
4.	Begusarai	866
5.	Bhabhua	145
6.	Bhagalpur	1270
7.	Bhojpur	713
8.	B. S. City	523
9.	Buxar	638
10.	Chaitra	782
11.	Daibhanga	726

S. No.	Name of District	No. of Villages without Post Offices.
12.	Dhanbad	877
13.	Deoghar	2520
14.	Dumka	3099
15.	Garhwa	835
16.	Gaya	1518
17.	Giridih	2581
18.	Godda	2451
19.	Gopalganj	1438
20.	Gumla	1094
21.	Hazaribagh	2762
22.	Jehanabad	1112

*No. of Villages without Post Offices.**Name of District**S. No.*

23.	Jamui	482
24.	Katihar	1296
25.	Khagaria	434
26.	Kishanganj	627
27.	Lohardaga	331
28.	Madhepura	251
29.	Madhubani	607
30.	Munger	668
31.	Muzaffarpur	771
32.	Nalanda	996
33.	Nawada	1111
34.	Palamu	2436

S. No.	Name of District	No. of Villages without Post Offices.
35.	Patna	941
36.	Rohtas	357
37.	Ranchi	1632
38.	Saharsa	309
39.	Sahibganj	2781
40.	Samastipur	706
41.	Saran	1431
42.	Supaul	320
43.	Singbhum (E)	256
44.	Singbhum (W)	315
45.	Sitamarhi	660

S. No.	Name of District	No. of Villages without Post Offices.
46.	Sitamarhi	1053
47.	Siwan	
48.	Vaishali	1426
49.	East Champaran	2202
50.	West Champaran	2400
	Grand Total	56,418

## STATEMENT-I

S. No.	Name of District	No. of villages having post offices	Head Post Office	Departmental Sub Post Offices	Extra Departmental Sub Offices.	Departmental Post Offices	Extra Departmental Post Offices
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Araria	154	-	8	3	146	
2.	Aurangabad	257	-	13	3	241	
3.	Banka	168	-	10	12	146	
4.	Begusarai	213	-	15	4	194	
5.	Bhabhua	126	-	10	-	116	
6.	Bhagalpur	228	-	15	11	202	
7.	Bhojpur	273	-	27	3	243	
8.	B. S. City	115	-	6	-	109	
9.	Buxar	176	-	21	1	154	
10.	Chattri	80	-	4	2	74	



S. No.	Name of District	No. of villages having post offices	Head Post Office	Departmental Sub Post Offices	Extra Departmental Sub Offices.	Departmental Branch Post Offices
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11.	Dhanbad	128	-	-	5	123
12.	Darbhanga	322	-	24	1	297
13.	Deoghar	148	-	8	-	140
14.	Dumka	242	-	15	4	223
15.	Garhwa	83	-	5	-	78
16.	Gaya	360	-	21	-	339
17.	Giridih	177	-	11	-	166
18.	Godda	135	-	6	-	129
19.	Gopalganj	193	-	14	-	179
20.	Gumla	208	-	11	-	107
21.	Hazaribagh	239	-	30	7	202

S. No.	Name of District	No. of villages having post offices	Head Post Office	Departmental Sub Post Offices		Extra Departmental Sub Offices.		Departmental Branch Post Offices
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		7
22.	Jehanabad	165	-	16	3			146
23.	Jamui	140	-	9	-			131
24.	Katihar	176	-	12	-			164
25.	Khagaria	133	-	9	1			123
26.	Kishanganj	84	-	3	-			81
27.	Lohardaga	78	-	2	3			73
28.	Madhipura	214	-	10	-			204
29.	Madhubani	416	-	28	1			387
30.	Munger	267	-	10	3			254
31.	Muzaffarpur	386	-	28	16			342
32.	Nalanda	303	-	15	4			284

S. No.	Name of District	No. of villages having post offices	Head Post Office	Departmental Sub Post Offices	Extra Departmental Sub Offices.	Departmental Post Offices	Extra Departmental Post Offices
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	7
33.	Nawada	193	-	17	4	172	
34.	Palamu	249	-	22	1	226	
35.	Patna	328	-	24	9	295	
36.	Purnea	169	-	9	-	160	
37.	Rohtas	241	-	12	-	229	
38.	Ranchi	309	-	9	6	294	
39.	Saharsa	146	-	5	-	141	
40.	Sahibganj	184	-	11	-	173	
41.	Saran	363	1	40	4	318	
42.	Sarnastipur	381	-	33	5	343	
43.	Supaul	171	-	15	-	156	

S. No.	Name of District	No. of villages having post offices	Head Post Office	Departmental Sub Post Offices	Extra Departmental Sub Offices.	Departmental Post Offices	Extra Departmental Post Offices
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	7
44.	Singhbum (East)	160	-	11	1	148	
45.	Singhbum (West)	189	-	22	1	165	
46.	Sitamarhi	309	-	16	1	292	
47.	Siwan	311	-	30	-	281	
48.	Vaishali	237	-	22	4	211	
49.	East Champaran	407	-	35	1	371	
50.	West Champaran	289	-	13	2	254	
	Grandtotal	11603	1	782	123	10,117	

**STATEMENT-III****DISTRICT-WISE DETAILS OF EXTRA DEPARTMENTAL BRANCH POST OFFICES OPENED IN BIHAR CIRCLES ON 30.9.93**

S. No.	Name of District	No. of extra Departmental branch post offices opened
1.	Araria	1
2.	Bhubbua	1
3.	Daibhanga	1
4.	Gaya	1
5.	Giridih	1
6.	Godda	1
7.	Jamui	1
8.	Khagaria	2
9.	Madhepura	1
10.	Nachubani	1
11.	Munger	1

S. No.	Name of District	No. of extra Departmental branch post offices opened
12.	Muzaffarpur	4
13.	Purnea	1
14.	Saharsa	2
15.	Samastipur	3
16.	Saran	1
17.	Supaul	1
18.	Siwan	1
19.	East Champaran	1
20.	West Champaran	1
Total		27

[English]

**Mortgage of Ships**

1510 SHRI B. DEVARAJAN :  
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR.  
SHRI PARASRAM:  
BHARDWAJ :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to allow the Indian Shipping Companies to secure loans from the foreign sources by mortgaging their ships:

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) the terms and conditions under which the shipping industry will be allowed to secure such loans ; and

(d) the estimated loan proposed to be secured by the Shipping industry

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) and (b) The Indian shipping companies are already availing of loans offered by Foreign Financial Institutions for acquisition of ships against mortgage of Indian ships.

(c) Based on the credibility and financial status of the individual shipping company, the Indian shipping companies are negotiating the terms and conditions of loans with foreign financial institutions.

(d) No firm estimate can be made at this stage.

**Use of Factory Wastes**

1511. DR. SUDHIR RAY : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has started to utilise factory wastes;

(b) if so, the amount of profit during the current year, earned therefrom; and

(c) whether fly-ash bricks prepared from factory wastes have become popular in market ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL-(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Sale of Granulated Slag during 1992-93 fetched Rs. 34.56 crores. sales upto 30.9.1993. (first six months of 1993-94) were of the order of Rs. 15.31 crores. Bhilai Steel Plant has also been given a trial order for supply of dry fly ash to a cement plant.

(c) Not yet, Sir.

**Merger of Bombay Dock Labour Board With Bombay Port**

1512. SHRI RAMCHANDRA GHANGARE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to merge the Bombay Dock Labour Board with Bombay Port;

(b) whether similar decisions have been taken for any other major ports also;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) the reasons for such a merger?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) to (d). Yes Sir. Merger of Dock Labour Boards with

respective Port Trusts has been suggested by the Major Ports Reforms Committee in all ports. This is to obtain optimal use of labour and, therefore, more efficient port operations. However, the merger can be achieved only after discussions have been held between the ports and the labour unions and all outstanding issues have been finalised at the port level. All Port Trusts/Dock Labour Boards have been instructed to pursue this policy.

**Foreign Investment/Collaboration in Food Processing Industry**

1513. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of foreign investment and collaboration in Food Processing Sector at present, products-wise and State-Wise;

(b) the break-up of foreign

investment, Country-wise; and

(c) the likely impact of this investment/collaboration on employment generation and development of Food Processing Industries in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) to (c). The approximate quantum of foreign investment envisaged in the proposals approved since 1991-92 till November, 1993 product sector-wise, State-wise, and country-wise is given in the attached statements-I, II and III respectively. These proposals with a total investment of over Rs. 5000 crores, when implemented, will have beneficial effect on employment as it will generate employment of over one lakh of people. Besides, these will, inter-alia, bring in better technology, expand market, enhance export and create demand for produce of agriculture and allied activities.



**STATEMENT-I**

Statement indicating the foreign investment envisaged in the proposals approved since 91-92 till November, 1993 Product Sector Wise.

S. No.	Sub-Sector	Approximate Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Fruit and Vegetable Processing.	6259
2.	Cereal Processing	10400
3.	Deep Sea Fishing	6672
4.	Fish Processing	45823
5.	Milk Processing	608
6.	Meat and Poultry Processing.	16486
7.	Consumer Industry	32618
8.	Fermented Foods.	17385
Total		136251

**STATEMENT-I**

*Statement indicating Foreign Investment envisaged in the proposals approved 91-92 Nov. 93 - Statewise.*

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name of the State</b>	<b>Foreign Investment envisaged Approx. (Rs. in lakhs)</b>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8584.00
2.	Assam	-
3.	Bihar	-
4.	Gujarat	7169.00
5.	Haryana	1712.00
6.	Himachal Pradesh	10420.00
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	-
8.	Karnataka	1245.00
9.	Kerala	4965.00
10.	Madhya Pradesh	832.00
11.	Maharashtra	29003.00

S. No.	Name of the State	Foreign Investment envisaged Approx. (Rs. in lakhs)
12.	Manipur	-
13.	Meghalaya	-
14.	Nagaland	-
15.	Orissa	-
16.	Punjab	-
17.	Rajasthan	496.00
18.	Sikkim	-
19.	Tamil Nadu	40354.00
20.	Tripura	-
21.	Uttar Pradesh	704.00
22.	West Bengal	702.00
23.	Andaman Nikhobnar	99.00
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	-

S. No.	Name of the State	Foreign Investment envisaged Approx. (Rs. in lakhs)
25.	Chandigarh	-
26.	Dadar & nagar Haveli	-
27.	Delhi	-
28.	Goa, Daman & Diu	-
29.	Mizoram	-
30.	Pondicherry	50.00
31	lakshadweep	18503.00
32.	Others	18503.00
Total		136251.00

**STATEMENT-I**

*Statement indicating foreign investment envisaged in the proposals approved since 91-92 till nov. 93-*

Sl. No.	Name of the Country	Approximate Amount (Rs. in laksh)
1.	Japan	7523
2.	Germany	13353
3.	Finland	308
4.	U.K.	4994
5.	U.A.E.	300
6.	Denmark	4614
7.	Brazil	612
8.	U.S.A.	52001
9.	Singapore	• 2400
10.	Saudi Arabia	568
11.	Italy	1904

Approximate Amount (Rs. in laksh)

Sl. No. Name of the Country

12.	Thailand	36113
13.	Taiwan	282
14.	Spain	950
15.	Malaysia	95
16.	South Korea	367
17.	Iceland	500
18.	Switzerland	521
19.	North Korea	17
20.	Russia	314
21.	Ukraine	28
22.	Estonia	700
23.	France	222
24.	China	3

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Country</i>	<i>Approximate Amount (Rs. in laksh)</i>
25.	Netherland	605
26.	Belgium	45
27.	Hongkong	726
28.	Afghanistan	100
29.	Dubai	6
30	Canada	2500
31	Australia	536
32.	Oman	1338
33.	Others (NRI)	1702
	Total	136251

[*Translation*]

**Correspondence with State Governments in Hindi Language**

1514. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry are doing correspondence in Hindi Language with the Hindi Speaking States as per Rule 3 of the Official Language Act, 1976. and

(b) If no, the steps taken to ensure the implementation of this Rule ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO)

(a) Correspondence with Hindi speaking States by the Ministry to a large extent, is being done in Hindi. Position in this regard is periodically reviewed in the meetings of the Hindi Salahakar Samiti and the Departmental Official Language Implementation Committee with a view to increasing it still further.

(b) Does no arise.

[*English*]

**EC Direction for the Telecast of Films**

1515 SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received instructions from the Election Commission to stop any T.V. Serial or programme featuring film stars who are involved in the politics or any issue that could be used to Political advantage ;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Doordarshan has followed the instructions issued by the Election Commission; and

(d) if no, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO)

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the scheme of broadcast over Akashwani and Doordarshan by the recognised political parties during elections to Lok Sabha/State Assemblies, exhibition of films on or after the date of issue of notification under Section 30 of Representative of People's Act, 1951 and the date (s) of poll projecting the image of cine actors and actresses who have joined politics is not permitted.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Death of Indians Abroad**

1516 SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAM CHANDRAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any deaths of Indian Nationals abroad have reported during 1993;

(b) the number of bodies of Indian citizens who died abroad, brought to India during this year ;

(c) whether the Government are informed of any reports regarding killing of Indian drivers in any of the European countries ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI



R. L. BHATIA (a) Yes Sir.

84.40%.

(b) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(d) Government has evolved a policy to encourage private participation in generation as well as distribution of electricity.

[*Translation*]

(e) Details of the policy to encourage private investment in the power sector are given in the attached Statement.

### **Privatisation of Electrification Process**

### **STATEMENT**

1517. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

*Details of the policy to encourage greater private investments in power generation and distribution to tap additionality of resources.*

(a) the percentage of electrification during the year 1992-93 in the country as a whole ;

(b) the approximate amount spent thereon;

(c) the ratio in which the rural and urban areas have been electrified separately;

(d) whether the Government propose to privatise the process of electrification in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

The following are the details of the scheme to encourage greater private sector participation in the electricity generating supply and distribution;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYANAI DU) (a) For the year 1992-93, 4240 villages were targeted for electrification on All-India basis. Against these targets, 3726 villages (provisional) constituting 87.9% were declared as electrified. Cumulatively, 84.4% villages have been declared as electrified by the end of March, 1993 on All-India basis.

- The Indian Electricity Act, 1910 and the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 have been amended to bring about a new legal, administrative and financial environment for private enterprises in the Electricity Sector.

- Private sector can set up thermal projects (coal/gas) and hydel projects and wind/solar energy project of any size.

- Electricity Projects where the total outlay does not exceed Rs. 25 crores need not be submitted to the Central Electricity Authority for concurrence.

- Private sector companies can set up enterprises to operate either as licenses or as generating companies.

(b) The allocation for the year 1992-93 for rural electrification programme was Rs. 596.72 crores.

- All private companies entering the Electricity Sector hereafter will be allowed a debt-equity ratio upto 4:1

(c) While most of the urban areas are already electrified, the level of village electrification by the end of March, 1993 was

- A minimum of 20% of the total outlay should be the equity component.
- Promoter's contribution should be at least 11% of the total outlay.
- Not more than 40% of the total outlay can come from Indian Public Financial Institutions.
- To ensure that private entrepreneurs bring in additionality of resources to the sector, not less than 60% of the total outlay for the project must come from sources other than Public Financial Institutions.
- Upto hundred per cent (100%) foreign equity participation can be permitted for projects set up by foreign private investors.
- The condition of dividend balancing by export earnings which is normally being applied to cases of foreign investment upto 51% equity will not be applicable to foreign investments in the power sector.
- The rates for depreciation in respect of assets have been liberalised.
- With the approval of the Government, import of equipment for power projects will also be permitted in cases where foreign supplier(s) or agency (ies) extend concessional credit.
- The customs duty for import of power equipment has been reduced to 20% and this rate has also been extended to machinery required for modernisation and renovation of

power plants.

A five year tax holiday has been allowed in respect of profits and gains of new industrial undertakings set up anywhere in India for either generation or generation and distribution of power. The five year tax holiday will begin from the year of generation of power.

The excise duty on a large number of capital goods and instruments in the power sector has been reduced to a uniform lower rate of 5%.

**For generating companies the following incentives are offered :-**

Normative parameters under which generating companies will operate have been notified which inter alia provide for 16% rate of return on the paid up and subscribed equity.

Generating companies operating coal based, gas based and hydro projects can sell power on the basis of a suitably structured two part tariff.

Government of India may consider extending a counter guarantee for the payment obligations of State Electricity Boards to the private companies on the specific request of the concerned state Government.

**The specific incentives for licensees are :**

Licences of longer duration of 30 years in the first instance and subsequent renewals of 20 years instead of 20 and 10 years respectively as it was before.

- Higher rate of return of 5% in place of the previous 2% above the RBI rate.
- Capitalisation of Interest during Construction (IDC) at actual cost (for expansion projects also) as against 1% over RBI rate as it was before.
- Special appropriations to meet debt redemption obligations.
- An Investment Promotion Cell has been set up in the Ministry of Power to provide information and assistance to prospective entrepreneurs in the electricity sector and take timely action for time bound clearances of the proposals.

English;

#### Construction of Ships

1518 SHRISANDIPANBHAGWAN THORAT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of ships manufactured indigenously per year, shipyard-wise, during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) the actual cost of production and losses suffered or profit earned per vessel-shipyard-wise;
- (c) the steps taken/to be taken to reduce the cost and modernise the shipyards

and make them commercially viable during the Eighth Plan period;

(d) the outlay for development of shipping industry in Maharashtra, project-wise during the Eighth plan period; and

(e) the present status of the projects, project-wise vis-a-vis targets fixed therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (e) .The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Traffic Density, Metropolitan Cities

1519. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

- (a) the growth in the traffic density in the four Metropolitan Cities during the last three decades;
- (b) whether congestion of traffic in these four cities is creating a great problem;
- (c) if so, the details of the projects taken up to dilute the traffic density; and
- (d) the steps being taken to implement the same expeditiously ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) The figures in respect of Delhi are as follows :-

	<i>No. of vehicles per 100 Kms. of road length.</i>	<i>Annual; compound growth rate during the decade (%)</i>
1971	2463	4.58
1981	3855	
1991	8981	8.75

Information in respect of other metropolitan cities is not readily available.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). To tackle the problem of congestion of traffic in the city the following steps have been initiated by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi :-

- (i) To minimise the use of private vehicles public transport services in the city has been increased.
- (ii) A number of fly overs have been constructed over various busy roads/intersections.
- (iii) New roads have been constructed and the existing roads have been widened.

The Ministry of Urban Development have formulated a project for Mass Rapid Transit System for Delhi. The Bombay Urban Transport Project-II (BUTP-II) has been prepared by the Bombay Metropolitan Region Development Authority (BMRDA) which includes provision of additional fly-overs, roads and improvement in the existing road new-work, amngmention of esistig sub-Urban railway lines and provision of additional sub-urban railway lines.

In Calcutta and Madras, Ministry of Railways have taken up sub-urban/urban railway projects for reducing the traffic congestion in the cities.

As the above projects are highly capital intensive in nature, it is not possible to indicate any time frame for completion of these projects.

[*Translation*]

#### **Diplomatic Relations with Bosnia Herzegovina**

1520. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has established diplomatic relations with Bosnia Herzegovina after the recognition of that country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of employees working in the Indian Embassy in that country;

(c) whether Bosnia Herzegovina has also opened its mission in India: and

(d) if not, the place from where Bosnia Herzegovina mission is running its activities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) No, Sir. No Indian diplomatic mission has yet been accredited to Bosnia Herzegovina pending a political settlement in that country.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No concurrent accreditation to India from elsewhere has yet been proposed.

[*English*]

#### **Power Tariff Boards**

1521. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal to set up National and Regional Power Tariff Boards is pending for a long time ;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay ;

(c) the present status of the proposal ; and

(d) the time by which the final decision

is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYANAIDU) : (a) : Government had published a Resolution in the Govt. of India Gazette on 20.7.1992 for setting up a National Power Tariff Board and 5 Regional Power Tariff Boards .

(b) and (c). A Working group with Chairman of five State Electricity Boards was appointed in April 1993 to recommend the measures required to vest the proposed Tariff Boards with necessary powers and authorities . The Working Group has submitted its recommendation in Oct., 1993, which is under scrutiny .

(d) The final decision is likely to be taken after the NDC Committee on power submits its recommendations.

#### **Electronic Boards in Telephone Exchanges in Orissa**

1522. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the number of electronic boards commissioned in telephone exchanges in Orissa particularly at Bhadrak during 1992-93 and 1993-94.

(b) whether new electronic boards set up in Bhadrak have not yet commissioned;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be commissioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) (i) Number of electronic exchanges (net boards) commissioned in Orissa during 1992-93 and 1993-94 is 268 and 15 respectively.

(ii) The work of installation of an electronic exchange at Bhadrak is in

progress.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The work of installation of electronic exchange (net boards) at Bhadrak has been undertaken and construction of engine room is in progress .

(d) The new electronic exchange at Bhadrak is likely to be commissioned during the current financial year .

#### **Automatic Telephone Exchanges in Orissa**

1523. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to provide better telecommunications facilities to the people during Eighth Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the number of automatic telephone exchanges functioning in Orissa, district-wise alongwith location thereof ;

(d) the details of such exchanges proposed to be set up in the State during 1993-94 ; and

(e) the amount allocated therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir .

(b) The 8th Plan envisages provision of better Telecom. facilities through :

(1) Induction of modern equipment in the network .

(2) Automatisation of the exchanges .

(3) Replacement of life expired and worn out switches, strogher MAX-III and linefinder type MAX-II exchanges.

- (4) Ducting of cables .
- (5) Computerisation of support services .
- (6) Modernisation of fault repair services .
- (7) Extension of STD facility to all exchanges
- (8) Increase in availability of Telephone by gradually reducing waiting list .
- (9) Increase in accessibility by providing phone facility in gram panchayats and installing PCOs .
- (10) Provision of new services .
- (11) Modernisation of Telegraph services .

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

(d) The exchanges proposed to be set up in the state during 93-94 are placed in the attached statement

(e) Rs. 5.72 crores .

### STATEMENT

*List of Exchanges to be Commissioned from 1.4.93 to 31.3.94 Districtwise.*

#### Balasore

1. Anantapur
2. Rajgat
3. Nauda

#### Bolangir

Tukula

#### Cuttack:

1. Nandipur

2. Biribati
3. Puran

4. Arilopatna

5. Kalan

6. Purunahat

#### Dhenkanal:

1. Talamula

2. Dingua

3. Jarapada

4. Goibandh

5. Guneibil

6. Mathakargoia

#### Ganjam:

1. Chhatrapati Tarpara

2. Siula

3. Guma

#### Kalahandi:

1. Mukhiguda

2. Lanjigarh Road.

#### Keonjhar:

1. Jotipur

2. Janghira

3. Bansapal

#### Koraput:

1. Khatiguda

2. Mathili

3. Kundra

4. Jagannathpur

5. Sunki

6. Kodinga

7. Raighaar

8. Chandaahandi

**Mayurbhnj**

1. Manitri

2. Kuamara

3. Purana Baaripada

4. Gourmahisani

5. Kuchai

**Phulbani:**

1. Dhalpur

2. Dasingibadi

**Puri:**

1. Sarada

2. Mahipur

3. Bajapur

4. Mayakhana

5. Baliput

6. Kuhudi

7. Sisupaalgarh

**Sambalpur:**

1. Laumunda

2. Gosala

3. Subalaya

4. Bhijpur

5. Barkot

6. Khasimal

**Sundergarh:**

1. Gurandia

2. Majapada

**NHPC Pact with U.K. firm**

1524.DR. Y. S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY  
:Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with MOH. MacDonald Ltd. (MML) of U. K. ;

(b) if so, the fields in which both the firms have agreed to collaborate, and broad details of the MOU ; and

(c) the extent to which the pact will be useful for India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) and (b). The National hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with M/s. Mott MacDonald Ltd. (MML) of U. K. to mutually collaborate for providing consultancy and management services for execution of hydro power plants and associated structures in India and other countries. Specific agreements for cooperation will however be signed on case to case basis depending on the nature of the job .

(c) The association of NHPC with the U. K. firm is expected to be useful to India in view of the expertise/exposure to the State

of the Art Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) technology for construction of large diameter long tunnels for future hydroelectric projects.

[*Translation*]

**Satellite T.V.**

1525. SHRI S. M. LAL JAN BASHA:  
SHRI PARASRAM  
BHARDWAJ :  
SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE :  
SHRI MANIK RAO HODLYA  
GOWIT :  
SHRI SURENDRA PAL  
PATHAK :  
SHRI HARADHAN ROY :

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

(a) whether the cultural heritage of India based on unity in diversity is under peril on account of Satellite T. V. transmission

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to introduce any scheme in order to combat the effect of satellite T.V. transmission;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO):

(a) Apprehensions Voiced in different quarters on this account have to Government's notice .

(b) to (d). While the contents of the programme of foreign television networks do not come within the ambit of the regulations of the Government of India, a number of changes in the programme of Doordarshan's satellite channels have been carried out to provide a wholesome fare of programming that is predominantly Indian including the introduction of a regional language service in ten regional languages, any increase in the number of fiction based programmes etc.

[*English*]

**T.V. Studio at Vijayawada**

1526. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state: (a) whether the land has been acquired for construction of T.V. Studio at Vijayawada ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether machinery also has been ordered for the said T.V. Studio and if so, the details thereof ;

(d) the reasons for the delay in starting construction of T.V. Studio work at Vijayawada ; and

(e) by when the construction work is likely to state ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The site for the proposed TV Studio Centre at Vijayawada has been taken over and orders for the supply of equipment of long delivery schedule, have been placed on the manufacturers and part of it has also been received .

(d) and (e) . The civil works at site is expected to start after the scheme is formally approved by the competent authority .

**Upgradation of Post Offices in Kerala**

1527. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose for upgradation of Post Offices in Kerala ; and

(b) if so, the details of post offices proposed to be upgraded during 1993-94 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir .



(b) It is proposed to open/upgrade 3 departmental sub post offices during 1993-94. The details are as under :-

<i>Name of District</i>	<i>No. of post offices</i>
(i) Kasaragod	1
(ii) Malappuram	1
(iii) Pathanamthitta	1

#### **Calcutta and Haldia Ports**

1528. SHRI SATYAGOPALMISRA:  
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the depth/shift the drift of river Hooghly with a view to improve the workability of Calcutta and Haldia ports ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b). Yes Sir. A comprehensive scheme for improvement of draught in the Hooghly Estuary has been completed in June, 1992 at a cost of Rs. 46.52 crores .

#### **Sanction of Std/ISD Pcos in States**

1529. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM :  
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the number of applications

pending for sanction of STD/ISD P.C.O. facility in the country, State-wise ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House .

#### **Power Projects**

1530. SHRI GOPINATHGAJAPATHI :  
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) the Power projects in Central Sector completed during 1992-93 and 1993-94, so far ;

(b) the total power generation capacity in MW of each of these projects ;

(c) whether these projects have started commercial production ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V.RANGAYYANAIDU) : (a) and (b). Details of power projects in Central Sector completed during 1992-93 and 1993-94 (till November 1993) are given below : -

S. No.	Name of the Project	Total Installed Capacity (MW)	Units Commissioned during the period Apr. - 1993 to Nov. 1993 & No. of units (s)	Capacity added in MW
1992-93				
1.	NCTPP at Dadri (U.P./NTPC) - Th-Coal	3x210=630	2 (2 and 3)	420
2.	Dadri CCGT (U.P./NTPC)	4x131=524	2 (3 and 4)	262
3.	Kawas CCGT (Gujarat/NTPC)-	4x106 + 2x110=644	5 (2,3,4,5&6)	530
4.	Farakka STPS (W.B/NTPC)	3x200 + 1x500 = 1100	1 (4)	500
5.	Bokaro 'B' (Bihar/DVC) -	3x210 = 630	1 (3)	210
6.	Salal St. II (J&K/NHPC)	3x115=345	1 (1)	115
7.	Kakrapar Nuclear (Guj/NPC)	2x220 = 440	1 (1)	220
8.	Neyveli Second Mine Cut	7x210=1470	1 (6)	210
(1993-94 (Till Novemeber 1993)				
1.	Neyveli Second Mine Cut (Tamil Nadu/NLC)	7x210=1470	1 (7)	210
Total				2475

(c) to (e). The projects commissioned during the period 1992-93 and 1993-94 (till November, 1993) which are yet to go in for commercial operation are as under:

S.No.	Name of the Project	Installed Capacity not yet in commercial operation	Reasons for not going into commercial operation
1.	Farakka-4	500MW	Work connected with putting the units in commercial operation are in progress
2.	NCTPP (Th-Coel) at Dadri	420 MW	Coal handling system not completely ready
3.	Kawas CCGT	221 MW	Trial operations are on.

**Allocation for Power Sector**

1531. SHRI S. B. SIADNAL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry as submitted a proposal for seeking hike in the Central plan allocation for infrastructural development in the power sector in the country ;

(b) if so, the main points of the proposal ;

(c) whether the Government have taken any decision in this regard ; and

(d) the extent to which it is likely to help in meeting the shortage of power in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAID) : (a) to (d) . With a view to expediting the completion of various on-going projects and to ensure that these projects do not slip further for want of additional financial resources, the Ministry of Power had proposed hiking the outlay for the central power sector in the Eighth Five Year Plan by Rs. 4000 crores .

**Extradition of LTTE Leaders**

1532. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2227 on August 9, 1993 and to state the progress made in securing the extradition of LTTE leaders from Sri Lanka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : All relevant aspects of making a formal request to the Government of Sri Lanka for the extradition of LTTE leaders accused in the case of assassination of the late Prime Minister Sri Rajive Gandhi remain under consideration of the relevant agencies of the Government of India .

**UN Sanctions on Yugoslavia**

1533. PROF. M. KAMSON :  
SHRI B.  
DEVARAJAN :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Yugoslavia has urged India and other non-aligned countries to exert pressure on the United Nations to lift economic sanctions against that country ; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the reaction of Indian Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE, MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir .

The issue was discussed during the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY)'s Foreign Minister's visit to India in November 1993. India is sympathetic to the plight of the Yugoslav people. It is hoped that conditions will be created in former Yugoslavia which will enable the UN to lift the current sanctions on the FRY.

**Agitation by M.T.N.L. employees**

1534. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA :  
SHRI PARASRAM  
BHARDWAJ :  
DR. R. MALLU :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the middle level employees of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited in Delhi have been agitating against the increasing corruption and indiscipline among the linemen & regular mazdoors ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(d) the steps taken or proposed by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Telecommunication Engineering Service Association (TESA) and Junior Telecom Officers' Association (JTOA) - Delhi Units had given notice to MTNL, New Delhi, to launch an agitation against indiscipline by a certain section of staff of Janakpuri Telephone Exchange. There was no specific allegation of corruption against linemen/regular mazdoors .

(b) The details of demands contained in the notices dated 13.10.93 and 19.10.93 are given as under : -

- (i) Immediate punishment to the miscreant elements of the staff who were recently suspended by the field officers at Janakpuri
- (ii) Immediate cancellation of the transfer orders of the officers who were declared unwanted .
- (iii) Immediate withdrawal of fabricated cases against JTOs of Hauz Khas exchange .
- (iv) Immediate implementation/ settlement of the issues pertaining to the JTOs/AEs/DEs pending with the administration since long .

(c) The MTNL Administration discussed the demands referred in (b) above with the representative of TESA/JTOA as a result of which the agitation was called off on 2.11.93.

MTNL, New Delhi has a Vigilance Cell working under the charge of a senior officer . All complaints of corruption are duly enquired into and action as contemplated under the rules is taken in all such cases .

#### **Anti-India Propaganda by Pak in UK**

1535. SHRI S. B. SIGNAL :  
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA  
RAO :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pak has engaged public relation agencies to churn out anti India propaganda material on Kashmir in the British Media ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether this matter was taken up during the visit of Minister of External affairs to the UK ;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof ;

(e) whether several British newspapers have been carrying articles on Kashmir in the recent months ; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which the effect of Pak propaganda ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) According to some sources, it is understood that Pakistan may be utilizing the services of public relation agencies for this purpose .

(b) No details are available .

(c) and (d). The External Affairs Minister took up with the British authorities our concern about anti-India activities by Pakistan in order to counter-act Pakistan's hostile and false propaganda .

(e) Yes, Sir. Negative articles pertaining to the situation in Jammu & Kashmir appeared in newspapers like, The Times ,and, The Independent .

(f) Letters to the Editors of concerned newspapers were sent by the High Commission clarifying in details and explaining the true facts behind Pakistan's false and malicious campaign against India, and its support of terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir .

[*Translation*]**Indian Delegation's Visit to Mauritius**

1536. SHRI CHETAN P. S.  
CHAUHAN :  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN  
PANDEYA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have sent any official delegation to Mauritius on the invitation of Government of Mauritius recently ;

(b) if so, the composition of the delegation alongwith the criteria adopted for their selection

(c) whether the Union Government have received any complaints about the delegation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) Government had sent a delegation to Mauritius to attend the International Conference on India Diaspora at the invitation of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute, Mauritius .

(b) The delegation consisted of (i) Shri Dhanik Lal Mandal, Governor of Hayana - Leader, (ii) Shri Abhay Pratap Singh, M.P. (iii) Shri Mahachander Prasad Singh, MLC, Bihar, (iv) Shri Valmiki Choudhary, Ex-MP and Secretary to the former President Dr. Rajendra Prasad , (v) Ms. Poonam Sahi, Covenor, AICC Grievances Cell and (vi) Vaid Devendra Triguna . The selection of a representative delegation was made Keeping in mind the theme of the conference .

(c) and (d). A letter has been received referring to the late arrival of the leader of the delegation and the inadequate nature of participation by the members . The substance

of the letter has been brought to the attention of those concerned .

[*English*]**Prime Minister's talks with various leaders of foreign Countries**

1537. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :  
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Prime Minister held talks with various heads of States and Governments and other dignitaries in India and abroad during September, 1, 1993 to November 11, 1993 ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of each of such meetings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) (a) : Yes, Sir .

(b) (i) During his visit to China, from September 6-9, 1993, the Prime Minister met the Chinese leadership, including President Juang Zemin and premier Li Peng

(ii) The Prime Minister, during his official visit to Republic of Korea from September 9-11, 1993, had a wide ranging exchange of views with the leadership of that country, including President Kim Young Sam.

(iii) The Prime Minister, during his visit to Iran from September 20-22, 1993, had wide-ranging exchange of views with the Iranian leadership including President Rafsanjani.

(iv) The President of Ireland , Mrs. Mary Robinson, during her State visit to India from September 27—October 3, 1993, had a meeting with the Prime Minister on 27th September, 1993 .

- (v) During his visit to India, the Omani Minister of Petroleum & Minerals, Mr. Said Bin Ahmed Bin Sai Al-sbanfari, called on the Prime Minister on 30th September, 1993
- (vi) During his official visit to India from October 4-8, 1993, the Minister of Justice of Maldives, Mr. Mohd. Rasheed-Ibrahim called on the Prime Minister on 7th October, 1993
- (vii) The Prime Minister met President of Zambia, Mr. Frederick J. Chiluba, during his visit to India from October 5-8, 1993.
- (viii) The Prime Minister called on the King of Sweden, Carl XVI Gustaf and his wife on 11th October, 1993. The King was on a visit to India .
- (ix) Visiting Foreign Minister of Estonia, Mr. Trivmi Velliste called on Prime Minister on October 15, 1993 .
- (x) Minister for Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation called on Prime Minister on 8th October 1993.
- (xi) The Prime Minister. of Netherlands, R.F.M Lubbers, during his visit to India from October 26-28, 1993 met the Prime Minister on 27th October, 1993.
- (xii) the Thai Foreign Minister, Sqo. Ldr. Prasong Soonsiri, during his visit to Delhi in connection with the India-Thailand Joint Commission Meeting o November 4-5, 1993 called on the Prime Minister also .

The outcome in each case was greater mutual understanding and cooperation .

#### **Denomination of Power Tariff in dollars**

1538. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal to denominate the power rates in Dollar terms for private sector as reported in the 'Economic Times' dated September 17, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the benefits likely to accrue to the Government by this system ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWEER (SHRI P.V.RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) to (d). A foreign investor setting up a private power project, based on foreign funding, will have certain foreig exchange liabilities . To service these obligations incurred in foriegn exchange, the policy allows protection to the promoter from foreign exchange fluctuation. Without this protections it may not be possible to attract foreign investment .

#### **Publication of journal Yojana**

1539. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the languages in which the journal "Yojana" is being published ;

(b) whether the Government propose to publish the same in Oriya ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF IMFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGHDEO) : (a) to (c) . The journal "Yojana" is being published in 13 languages namely, English Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi, Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Kanada, Malayalam, Marathi, Tamil, Telugu and Oriya . The Oriya edition of Yojana was launched on 2nd October, 1993.

#### **Indian peace keeping forces to Somalia and Cambodia**

1540. SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indian forces deployed in Somalia for peace keeping operations under the U.N. ; and

(b) the total number of Indian forces presently serving in Cambodia for peace keeping operations under the U.N. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) India has contributed a brigade for the UN Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM-II) consisting of 4937 personnel all ranks and 41 head quarters staff personnel, thus totalling 4978 personnel .

(b) There are a total of only 2 Indian Army personnel currently deployed with UN Peace keeping Operation in Cambodia .

**Power projects**

1541. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish in Bihar power projects with advanced technology during the Eighth Five Year Plan ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) to (c) . The Eighth Five Year Plan envisaged that the following projects would yield benefits in Bihar during the Plan period .



S.No.	Name of the Project (Capacity in MW)	Type of the Project	Benefits during 1992-97
<b>STATE SECTOR</b>			
1.	Eastern Gandak Canal (3x5)	Hydel	15.0
2.	Sone WLC (4x1.65)	Hydel	6.6
3.	Sone ELC (2x1.65)	Hydel	3.3
4.	North Koel (2x12)	Hydel	24.0
5.	Chandil (2x4)	Hydel	8.0
6.	Tenughet U-1&2 (2x210)	Th-Coal	420.0
7.	Chandil TPS (500)	Thermal	500.0*
<b>CENTRAL SECTOR</b>			
1.	Bokaro 'B' II TPS (420)	Thermal	210.0
2.	Kahaigaon TPS (940)	Thermal	630.0

\* Posed for Private Sector participation.

[*Translation*]

**Telephone Complaint system**

1542. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for the total computerisation of telephone complaint system in Delhi ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the names of exchanges in Delhi where complaint system has already been computerised fully ; and

(d) the time by which this system is likely to be computerised in the remaining exchanges ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir .

(b) and (c) (i) The telephone complaint system has already been computerised in six exchanges i.e. Tis Hazari, Laxmi Nagar, Rajpath, Chanakyapuri, Sena Bhawan and Delhi Cantt.

(ii) Installation of computerisation system of telephone complaint at Rajouri Garden and Nehru Place is in progress and is expected to become operational by the end of current financial Year

(d) In the remaining Telephone exchanges of Delhi, the computerisation is planned to be completed during 94-95 .

[*English*]

**National Highways in Gujarat**

1543. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the traffic on the National Highways between Ahmedabad and Saurashtra and Baroda and Saurashtra

region of Gujarat is of very high density ;

(b) if so, whether there is proposal to widen them ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir .

(b) to (d). There is no proposal to widen for the present due to resource constraints .

**Investment in power sector by US firms**

1544. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the US firms have requested the Union Government for providing them tax free status for making investment in the power sector in the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ;

(d) the number of US firms agreed so far to invest in the power sector ; and

(e) the efforts being made by the Government to persuade US firms to investment more in the power sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAID) : (a) to (c). While no prospective private company has requested for a tax free status, some US firms have requested for the extension of the 5 year tax holiday provided in the current Year, which will be available if the commercial operation of the power plant commences before March 31, 1997 . It has been requested by the US firms that the facility of tax holiday may be extended even to those projects that are commissioned after March, 1998 . The

extension is being sought to avail tax holiday even if the power project is commissioned after March, 1998 .

(d) Ministry of Power has requested Ministry of Finance to favourably consider the extension of tax holiday for private power projects beyond March, 1998 .

(e) As on date 17 private companies based in USA have shown interest in setting up of 22 power projects in India .

The details of the policy have been widely publicised . Information and assistance is also provided by Ministry of Power to all prospective power companies for setting up power projects .

[*Translation*]

#### **Blast furnaces in Bokaro Steel Plant**

1545. SHRI SURAJ MANDAL : Will the Minister of STEEL be please to state : (a) whether a loss of 1.5 (one and half) billion has been suffered by the Bokaro Steel Plant, Bihar on account of certain faults in the blast furnaces ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the action taken this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) . On 16.9.1993 operation of Blast Furnaces at Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) was affected very adversely by a power failure from Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) . The voltage dip-associated with tripping of DVC lines caused tripping of 2 units of the Captive Power Plant . Some of the emergency loads had to be disconnected to avoid total power failure in the steel plant . This resulted in choking of Blast Furnaces and a loss of around 1000 tonnes of hot metal .

There was a similar power failure from DVC on 1.10. 1993 also for about 8 hours resulting in some loss of production .

The production losses have since been made up by BSL which, to date has met the respective targets of production .

(c) According to SAIL, the following remedial measures are in the offing : -

- (i) DVC has agreed to improve health of the lines conected to BSL .
- (ii) BSL will replace relays in all leaders from DVC with state of art distance protection relays to faciliate better discrimination of faults in other lines of DVC .
- (iii) DVC will install a new 220/132 KV autotransformers in Chandrapura Thermal Power Station (CTPS) Yard .
- (iv) DVC will replace circuit breakers in CTPS Yard in phased manner .
- (v) Missing earth wires in DVC feeders will be replaced .
- (vi) Doubling of line 4C has been agreed to by DVC.
- (vii) DVC has suggested BSL to go for 220 KV power supply system for future requirements .

#### **Telephone connections to N.R.Is.**

1546. SHRI DHARMANNA  
MONDAYYA SADUL:  
SHRI PARASRAMBHARDWAJ:  
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA  
GAVIT :  
SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide telephone connections on priority basis to non resident Indians who have decided to settle in the country, on payment of foreign exchange ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b) .Sir, There is a provision of registration under OYT-Special Category to Non-resident Indians and foreign Nationals of Indian origin repatriating to India if they surrender foreign exchange equivalent to US 2000 to the Government of India through Reserve Bank of India or any other Nationalised Bank authorised for the purpose.

**Telephone Connections in West Bengal**

1547. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone subscribers in West Bengal, district-wise ;

(b) the number of persons registered during 1992-93 ;

(c) the number of persons, out of them, provided telephone connections so far; and

(d) the time by which the remaining persons are likely to be provided telephone connections ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (d) . The information is being compiled . The same will be laid on the Table of the House .

[English]

**Availability of gold in Sono (Bihar)**

1548. SHRI C. P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar has sent a preliminary report to his Ministry on the availability of gold in 'Sono' area in Jami district ;

(b) whether any preliminary investigations have been made ;

(c) if so, the estimated quantity of gold per tonne of rocks ;

(d) whether the gold available here is commercially exploitable ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) Yes , Sir .

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir . Regional prospecting by Geological Survey of India (GSI) and preliminary exploration by Directorate of Geology & Mining, Bihar has been carried out .

The Directorate of Geology & Mining (Bihar) have indicated average gold assays of 0.17 g/t in Sono block , Karmatiya village, Jamui District, Bihar.

(d) No, Sir .

(e) Does not arise .

**New technologies in telecom system .**

1549. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:  
SHRI RAM CHANDRA VEERAPPA :  
DR. AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications (DOT) has decided to induct new technologies and digital microwave systems from India-based multinational companies into the telecom transmission network ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the criteria adopted in selecting various technologies and digital microwave system ;

(d) the projected telecom coverage and the advantages likely to be achieved with the installation of these technologies ; and

(e) the schedule fixed for implementation of the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir , by procuring the equipment from the Indian manufacturers including India based multinational companies .

(b) The digital microwave equipment is being procured from the Indian

manufacturers, some of whom have tie-ups with foreign companies and also India based multinational companies . The details are as per the attached

#### STATEMENT .

(c) Through open tender and successful validation including Lab. tests and field trial of the systems against DOT tender specifications .

(d) It will replace the present unreliable overhead wire transmission media and provide reliable and stable media between District, Tehsil, Tehsil to Block Headquarters and District to Capital both for speech and data communications .

(e) It is proposed to commission 3620/ route Kilometers in 1993-94 and 8114 route kilometers in 1994-95 .

<i>Indian Manufacturer</i>	<i>Foreign Collaborator</i>
M/sOptel, Bhopal	M/s Fujitsu Japan
TATA Telecom	JRC, Japan
HTL, HimachaalPradesh	DMC, Candada
RCL, Jaipur	ORION, Hungry
L & T	ORION, Hungry
Supreme	NOKIA, Telecom Finland
Punwire	Work, Gormany
PCL, Chanigrh	ALCATEL, France
WE BE FIL, Calcutta	ALCATEL-TELETTRAITALLY
BEL, ITI, Bangalore	NEC, Japan
Metron	MICROWAVE NETWORK USA
BEL, ITI, Bangalore	NEC, Japan
Metron	MIROWAVE NEWTWORK USA
Indchem	ABB-NEER, Norway
Shyam Telecom, Delhi	- None-(Indigenous)
ARRRRM, Hyderabad	- None- (Indigenous)

M/S BEL & M/S ITI have effore some indigenously digital radio equipment also.

Multinational based in India  
SIEMENS, India

[*Translation*]**Setting up of T.V. transmitters in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan**

1550.DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the locations in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan where low power T.V. transmitters were proposed to be set up during 1993-94 and 1994-95 ;

(b) the number of T.V. transmitters out of them set up so far ;

(c) whether the T.V. transmitters have not started functioning at certain places inspite of the fact that installation work and trial has already been completed ; and

(d) if so, the time by which these are likely to become operational ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) The Low Power T.V. Transmitters (LPTs) targetted for commissioning during 1993-94 and 1994-95 in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan are given in the *Statement*.

(b) to (d). Out of the ten LPTs targetted for commissioning during 1993-94, installation work pertaining to three LPTs, on each at Sujangarh, Sridungargarh and Gangapur in Rajasthan has been completed, and the transmitters are under test and are expected to be commissioned into service, shortly .

**STATEMENT**

(i) *TV Transmitters Targetted for Commissioning During 193-94:*

**MADHYA PRADES****RAJASTHAN**

Datia  
Jaora  
Kudeshwar  
Alirajpur

Sujangarh  
Sridungargarh  
Gangapur  
Bhadra  
Ratangarh  
Chirawan

(ii) *TV Transmitters Targetted for Commissioning during 1994-95 :*

**MADHAY****RAJASTHAN**

Sironj  
Gadarwara

Barasadri  
Rawatsar  
Hindon  
Baran.

[*English*]**Telephone Connections in Kerala.**

1551. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :  
SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN :  
SHRI THYIL JOHN  
ANJALOSE :  
SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list at present for getting telephone connections in Kerala, district-wise and category-wise;

(b) the number of persons allotted telephone connections so far, districtwise and category-wise;

(c) the persons likely to be allotted telephone connections by the end of 1993-94 ; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to provide telephone connections to the remaining persons ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (c) : Details are given in the attached STATEMENT .

(d) As per 8th Plan objective the waiting period for telephone connection is to be reduced to two years in large telephone systems, and telephone practically on demand in rural and tribal areas by the end of 8th Plan (92-97) and exchanges are planned accordingly to meet this objective .

## STATEMENT

(a) No. of persons on the waiting list at present in Kerala District-Wise and Category-Wise is as follows:

Name of District	Oyt	Special	General	Total
Trivandrum	1126	967	28694	30987
Quilon	1130	857	15708	17695
Pathanamthitta	2009	344	13995	16348
Alleppey	1805	798	16375	18978
Kottayam	1386	1387	24356	27129
Ernakulam	1467	1230	39286	41983
Idukki	175	178	7856	8209
Trichur	4350	2330	29960	36640
Palghat	882	284	13460	14636
Malappuram	3769	891	25114	29774
Calicut	2348	1329	27494	31171
Wynad	137	114	5748	5999
Cannanore	2907	838	24832	28577
Kasaragod	1457	266	13686	15409
Total for Kerala	24958	11805	286764	323527

(b) The No. of persons allotted telephone connections so far during year 93-94 is as follows:

Name of District	Oyt	Special	General	Total
Trivandrum	760	621	2082	3463
Quilon	232	107	1324	1663
Pathanamthitta	334	73	260	667
Alleppey	244	104	197	545
Kottayam	323	184	1184	1691
Ernakulam	1580	231	6465	8276
Idukki	431	63	1763	2257
Trichur	165	131	409	705
Palghat	120	88	500	708
Malapuram	251	155	522	928
Calicut	711	439	1478	2628
Wynad	84	52	174	310
Cannanore	226	71	368	665
Kasaragod	419	131	663	1213
Total for Kerala State	5880	2450	17379	25709

(c) About 31,000 new telephone connections are likely to be provided during the remaining part of 93-94.



**Telephone exchanges in Maharashtra  
and U.P.**

1552. SHRI DATTA MEGHE :  
SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATH-  
RAO GUNDEWAR:  
SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD :

Will the Minister of  
COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the places in  
Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh where new  
telephone exchanges are proposed to be set  
up during 1993 ;

(b) the percentage of work  
completed so far in this regard ; and

(c) the number of Gram  
Panchayats in the above States provided  
with telephone facility during 1991-92, district-  
wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI  
SUKH RAM) : (a) Names of places are as per  
attached STATEMENT I and I (A)

(b) 100%

(c) District-wise number of Gram  
Panchayats is as per attached STATEMENT  
I and II (A) .

**STATEMENT-I**

**LIST OF NEW TELEPHONE  
EXCHANGES PLANNEE AND  
COMMISSIONED IN MAHARASHTRA  
DURING 1993.**

*Sl.No*

1. **Bombay Fountain**
2. **Bombay Thane Cherai**
3. **Bombay Mulund**
4. **Bombay City**

5. **Bombay Andheri**
6. **Bombay Versova**
7. **Bombay Gamdevi**
8. **Bombay Powai**
9. **Bombay Gokuldham**
10. **Bombay Mira Road**
11. **Bombay Goregaon**
12. **Samvatsar**
13. **Pagori Pimpalgaon**
14. **Palve**
15. **Kolhar Budruk**
16. **Talegaon**
17. **Nandur Kandarmal**
18. **Pimpri-Neimal**
19. **Deshgaonsiddh**
20. **Bhalgaon**
21. **Shrisagoan**
22. **Wari**
23. **Durgaon**
24. **Taklikazi**
25. **Wadgaonpan**
26. **Bhatkudgaon**
27. **Dudgaon**
28. **Maveshi**
29. **Shitali-Jalgaon**
30. **Wandari**
31. **Amlujalgaon**
32. **Kadgaon**
33. **Loni**
34. **Ugwa**
35. **Gajgaon**
36. **Warud Jaulka**
37. **Dahihanda**
38. **Dhaba**

- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 39. Shirpur        | 73. Metpenjara    |
| 40. Dhamangaon     | 74. Yenwa         |
| 41. Dhaga          | 75. Makardhokada  |
| 42. Anjangaon Bori | 76. Ramtek-Marr   |
| 43. Ghuikhed       | 77. Adgaon        |
| 44. Nimbhi         | 78. Lahan         |
| 45. Ektumi         | 79. Shahpur       |
| 46. Hatmur         | 80. Palani        |
| 47. Naka-Dongare   | 81. Kasarali      |
| 48. Tamkheda       | 82. Khakurdi      |
| 49. Gond Dumari    | 83. Kolar         |
| 50. Adasi          | 84. Chincholi     |
| 51. Kumgaon        | 85. Chitegaon     |
| 52. Gauri          | 86. Yesgaon       |
| 53. Kudhkwad       | 87. Raipur        |
| 54. Chhadvel-Korde | 88. Aliyabad      |
| 55. Ashte          | 89. Motoari       |
| 56. Arthe          | 90. Khasgi        |
| 57. Varshi         | 91. Beoga         |
| 58. Udal           | 92. Lohara        |
| 59. Sindi          | 93. Wadgaon       |
| 60. Ratnapimpri    | 94. Chasakman     |
| 61. Galleborgaon   | 95. Nate          |
| 62. Waluj          | 96. Ramraj        |
| 63. Rui            | 97. Panchnadi     |
| 64. Vadange        | 98. Shiv-Bhadruk  |
| 65. Kini           | 99. Pophacki      |
| 66. Watangi        | 100. Nivali       |
| 67. Amba           | 101. Agalgaon     |
| 68. Mangaon        | 102. Karolli      |
| 69. Madhona        | 103. Manje-Digraj |
| 70. Kuntha (BK)    | 104. Narwad       |
| 71. Babhalgaon     | 105. Lchgare      |
| 72. Janwal         | 106. Kalambi      |

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 107. Widani         | 13. Kartal          |
| 108. Vadgaon Haveli | 14. Khapata         |
| 109. Gavi           | 15. Pahari          |
| 110. Wing           | 16. Sardhania       |
| 111. Pal            | 17. Shivrampur      |
| 112. Aglgaon        | 18. Manikpur (IInd) |
| 113. Kadabgaon      | 19. Tindwari (IInd) |
| 114. Chapalgaon     | 20. Dokati          |
| 115. Tadwal         | 21. Gunore          |
| 116. Korphali       | 22. Nayagaon        |
| 117. Ghasi          | 23. Phaphunda       |
| 118. Karegaon       | 25. Amanganj        |
| 119. Fulchincholi   | 26. Kotwa Sorak     |
| 120. Dharpuri       | 27. Tanda (IInd)    |
| 121. Mangrul        | 28. Newada          |
| 122. Antora         | 29. Akbarpur (IInd) |
| 123. Dahegaon       | 30. Jabalpur (IInd) |
| 124. Mulawa         | 31. Chholas         |

**STATEMENT I (A)**

*LIST OF NEW TELEPHONE EXCHANGES PLANNED AND COMMISSIONED IN UTTAR PRADESH DURING 1993.*

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Jaingara          | 36. Mahabir Chhapra   |
| 2. Baraut            | 37. Chham             |
| 3. Bharwani (IInd)   | 38. Mahoba (IInd)     |
| 4. Manjhanpur        | 39. Rakeha            |
| 5. Handia (IInd)     | 40. Rakeha            |
| 6. Phappamau         | 41. Derapur           |
| 7. Lodha             | 42. Panki             |
| 8. Nazzalpur         | 43. Rajghat           |
| 9. Raipur Dalpatpuri | 44. Bijnore           |
| 10. Bhauni           | 45. Nichalaul         |
| 11. Chilla           | 46. Thuti Bari        |
| 12. Kalinzar         | 47. Kishni            |
|                      | 48. Patlauni          |
|                      | 49. Kosi Kalan (IInd) |
|                      | 50. Semri Jamalpur    |

- |                          |                   |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 51. Boundary Road        | 87. Dehradun      |
| 52. Mahelka              | 88. Mussorie      |
| 53. Salwa                | 89. Kedamath      |
| 54. Saroorpur            | 90. Baghodhghat   |
| 55. Sirsauli             | 91. Singramau     |
| 56. Bhopa                | 92. Modinagar     |
| 57. Garhi Pukhta         | 93. Rajnagar D-2  |
| 58. Betalpur             | 94. Sanjay Place  |
| 59. Lalbur               | 95. Hanuman Ganj  |
| 60. Durgapuri            | 96. Bareilly      |
| 61. Ghordhuri            | 97. Aligarh       |
| 62. Kalia Saur           | 98. Barauli Ahir  |
| 63. Kishanpuri           | 99. Mussory       |
| 64. Vishwanathganj       | 100. Shalimar     |
| 65. Fatehpura            | 101. Basnehan     |
| 66. Garwara              | 102. Fariha       |
| 67. Kanthaula (Raniganj) | 103. Adhibadri    |
| 68. Katra Mehandiganj    | 104. Pandukeshnav |
| 69. Madoria              | 105. Tapan        |
| 70. Mandhata             | 106. Gaipur       |
| 71. Sangipur             | 107. Bargaon      |
| 72. Machata              | 108. Fandpuri     |
| 73. Biswan (IInd)        |                   |
| 74. Bandhau Kalan        |                   |
| 75. Dhammaur             |                   |
| 76. Gosainjanj           |                   |
| 77. Kalka Bhanpur        |                   |
| 78. Korwa                |                   |
| 79. Pande Baba           |                   |
| 80. Sehramau             |                   |
| 81. Fatehrarh (IInd)     |                   |
| 82. Gola (IInd)          |                   |
| 83. Sandila (IInd)       |                   |
| 84. Pahadia (IInd)       |                   |
| 85. Nagla Gulal          |                   |
| 86. Hathras              |                   |

**STATEMET II B**

*LIST OF GRAM PANCHAYATS  
TELEPHONES PROVIRED DISTRICT  
WISE IN MAHARASHTRA DURING 91-92*

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>NAME OF DISTRICT</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
1.	Ahmed Nagar	187
2.	Akola	41
3.	Amravati	72
4.	Aurangabad	69
5.	Bhandara	93
6.	Deed	21



43.	Sonbhadra	21
44.	Jaunpur	33
45.	Chamoli	34
46.	Pauri	10
47.	Tehri	12
48.	Uttarkashi	-
49.	Muzaffarnagar	64
50.	Saharanpur	25
51.	Hardwar	10
52.	Dehradun	42
53.	Lucknow	96
54.	Varanasi	148
55.	Allahabad	39
56.	Ghaziabad	116
57.	Bulandshahar	87
58.	Agra	31
59.	Ferozabad	17
60.	Merrut	102
61.	Kanpur City	5
62.	Kanpur Dehat	45
63.	Unnao	22

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Total	2725
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**AIR stations in Hilly areas of U.P.**

1553. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :  
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to set up AIR stations in Hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh, particularly in Tehri Garhwal or Uttarkashi ;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted in this regard ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ;

and  
(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (d) : Yes, Sir. There is an ongoing scheme to set up a Radio Station at Uttarkashi with a 1 KW MW Transmitter. Its installation is almost complete .

**Centres for Telephones Bills**

1555. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA)  
SHRI CHETAN P.S.  
CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have evolved any scheme regarding payment of telephone bills in some selected Central Telegraph Offices, Departmentally Telegraph Offices and Telecommunications Centres : and

(b) if so, the number of such offices in the country where this facility is likely to be provided initially ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of such offices in the country where this facility is provided so far in 855.

**CBI Report on M.T.N.L. Directory .**

1556. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS : be pleased to state :

(a) whether the CBI has submitted its investigation report in respect of the irregularities committed in the publication of Telephone Directory by the M.T.N.L. Officials.

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard and when the report was received by the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. (b) The details of the lapses pointed out by the CBI are : -

1. Allowing increase in LC amount from Rs. 6 crores to Rs. 10.15 crores to the contractor without ensuring that the conditions stipulated in the supplemental contract, are fulfilled.
2. The contract was vaguely worded with regard to number of telephone directories to be supplied as well as with regard to the powers of the contractor in enhancing the rates of bold and additional entries .

(c) the CBI report was received in the Department on 03.03.1993 . CBI recommended action as deemed fit, against two officers .

On examination of the report and perusal of the explanation of all the officers, no malafide intention was noticed on their part. The decisions were taken by the officers in their collective wisdom after weighing the pros and cons also keeping in view the circumstances prevailing at that point of time. Therefore, it has been decided in consultation with CVC to close the case .

[English]

### **T.V. Programmes**

1557. SHRIMAI GEETA MUKAHERJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state : (a) whether the Government have received representations from the forum of Public Schools about the recent trends in T.V. Programmes ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a): No, Sir.

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

### **Upgradation of post offices in Orissa**

1558.DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals received by the Government to upgrade sub-post Offices to branch post offices during 1993 in Orissa :

(b) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter ; and

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose, if any ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The Government have received 30 proposals to upgrade extra departmental branch post offices to departmental sub post offices in Orissa during 1993.

(b) Sanction has so far been issued for upgradation of one extra departmental branch post office to departmental sub post office. Action for fulfilling the target of opening 4 departmental sub post offices in the current year is under-way and is expected to be completed by March, 1994 .

(c) An amount of Rs. 4 lakhs has been allocated for opening post offices in Orissa in the current year .

### **Digital video phones .**

1559. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some cities in the country are being equipped with switching equipments that can handle the requirements for Video image of the digital Videophone ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the time by which this facility is likely to become operational in these cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI  
SUKH RAM) : (a) There are plans to install

new technology switching equipment at some cities in the country . The new Technology Switching Equipment has functional capability for handling video images . However, provision of the service would require additional equipment in the new technology exchanges and also video phone in the subscriber premises .

(b) Details are given in the attached Statement.

(c) The department has not formulated any plan for introduction of this facility .



## STATEMENT

Details of new technology exchanges inducted into the Indian telecom network.

	Circle	Station	Capacity	Type
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad " Visakhapatnam Vijayawada	10000 40000 10000 10000	Sys 'X' EWSD " "
2.	Bihar	Ranchi	10000	"
3.	Calcutta	Calcutta "	10000 10000	"
4.	Karnataka	Bangalore "	10000 30000	AXE-10
5.	Kerala	Trivandrum	10000	"
6.	Madras	Madras	10000	"
7.	Punjab	Chandigarh " Ludhiana Jalandhar Amritsar	10000 10000 10000 10000 20000	Fetex-150 " " EWSD "

	Circle	Station	Capacity	Type
8.	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore "	10000 10000	AXE-10 "
9.	MTNL	Bombay	40000	Fetex-150
10.	MTNL	" Delhi	50000 10000 40000 50000	" OCB 283 AXE-10 "
11.	Gujarat	Surat	10000	Fetex-150
		Vadodara Ahmedabad	10000 10000	" AT&T
		surat	10000	Fetex-150
		Vadodara Ahmedabad	10000 20000	" EWS
12.	Haryana	Faridabad	10000	EWS
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Indore "	10000 10000	" "
14.	Rajasthan	Jaipur " Udaipur	20000 20000 10000	" " "

	Circle	Station	Capacity	Type
15.	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad	10000	"
		(Noida)		
		Kabpur	10000	"
		Agra	10000	"
		Meerut	10000	"
16.	Maharashtra	Pune	20000	Fetex-150
		"	10000	"
		Nagpur	10000	EWSD

**AIR programme on U.N.**

1560. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether All India Radio has stopped broadcasting the programme on UN under "UN Speaks" ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any plans to broadcast/telecast programmes which mainly deal with the life and activities of the people through the world ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The recording of the said programme is no longer being received from UN Radio .

(c) No, Sir .

(d) Does not arise .

**Dulhasti hydro electric project**

1561. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK :  
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of total expenditure incurred on the Dulhasti Hydroelectric project run by French consortium, so far ;

(b) the implications involved in the event of closing the project ; and

(c) the manner in which the Government propose to retrieve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) An expenditure of Rs. 927 crore has been incurred so far by the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) on the construction of the Dulhasti Hydro-electric Project through a French Consortium .

(b) and (c) . The Govt. is not considering closing the project, Security arrangements in and around the project area have been strengthened . Efforts continue to persuade the French Consortium to resume work at site .

**Films Produced by NFDC**

1562. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of films produced by the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) for children during the last three Years ;

(b) whether most of the films produced by NFDC are in one language ;

(c) whether the Government propose to produce films for children in regional languages ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI . K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) The National Film Development Corporation Ltd. has produced three films in Hindi based on themes for children during the last three year,

(b) The National Film Development Corporation produces films in various languages including Hindi, English, Sanskrit and regional languages .

(c) and (d). The National Centre of Films for Children and Young People (N' CYP) an autonomous society under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, has been set

up to produce acquire and exhibit good quality and value-based children's films . With the grants-in-aid released by the Government, the N'CYP produces about 4 feature films and 4 short films in a year . The N'CYP has been producing films in various regional languages . Also, a film produced in one language is dubbed in various regional languages .

**Commercial leasing of land of port trusts .**

1563. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for commercial leasing of land of various Port Trusts ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether proposals in this regard have been received from Vishakhapatnam Port Trust ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b). The lands belonging to various Major Port Trusts are leased for Port related activities or commercial use etc. under Section 34(i) of the Major Port Trust Act, 1963 in accordance with the policy guidelines issued by the Ministry of Surface Transport . Apart from a proposal of Calcutta Port Trust to commercially exploit the surplus lands in the erstwhile Calcutta Jetty area on the Strand Road and erstwhile Boat Canal area; no

proposal has been received from any other Major Port Trust .

(c) and (d). No proposal of Vishakhapatnam Port Trust is under consideration of the government to lease the land at Vishakhapatnam Port for commercial use .

**Hydro-electric power projects**

1564. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the total estimated hydro-electric power potential of Indian rivers;

(b) the quantum produced from it at present and likely to be put to use during the Eighth Five Year Plan period ; and

(c) the hydro-electric power projects lying half-way at present and those which have been abandoned mid-way, giving the reasons for abandonment/delay in each case ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAID) : (a) and (b) : Central Electricity Authority has assessed the hydro-electric potential in India as 84044 MW at 60% load factor . At present, hydro-electric capacity of 19,580 MW has been installed. The expected capacity addition during the Eighth Plan is 3864.65 MW .

(c) Out of 94 sanctioned Hydro-electric Projects, 13 Projects are progressing satisfactorily/nearing completion ; 37 Projects are delayed and remaining 44 Projects are in preliminary stage of implementation . The details of these are given in the attached Statement I, II and III respectively .

**WIDE 159-169**

**STATEMENT -I***Projects Progressing Satisfactorily/nearing completion**(As on 1.12.1993)*

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Project State</i>	<i>Installed Capacity (MW)</i>
1.	Chamera St..I (NHPC) H.P.	3x180
2.	Nathpa Jhakri (NJPC) H.P.	6x250
3.	Kargil (J&K)	3x1.25
4.	Hasdeo Pango M.P.	3x40
5.	Koyna St. IV - Mah.	4x250
6.	Upper sileru II - A.P.	2x60
7.	Penna Ahobilan - A.P.	2x10
8.	Mallapur-Karnataka	2x4.5
9.	Kallada - Kerala	2x7.5]
10.	Eastern Gandak - Bihar	3x5
11.	Sone Eastern Canal (Bihar)	2x1.65
12.	Upper Rongnichu - Sikkim	4x2
13.	Bhira PSS (TATA) - Mah.	1x150

*(As on 1.12.1993)*

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Inst. Cap (MW)	Original/Latest Comm. Sch.	Reasons for delay
<b>CENTRAL SECTOR</b>				
1.	Dulhasti (NHPC) J&K	3x130	90-91 96-97	Law & order Problem. Resumption of work at site by French Consortium.
2.	Saial II (NHPC) J&K	3x11	93-94 93-95	Civil works of tail race tunnel & unit erection.
3.	Uri.	4x120	95-96 96-97	Law & order problem.
4.	Tehri Stage - I	4x250	81-82 9th Plan	Fund Constraints.
5.	Rangit III (NRPC) Sikkim	3x20	94-95 96-97	Fund Constraints.
6.	Rengaredi (NHPCO) Ar. Pr.	3x135	94-95 96-98	Fund Constraints.
		Total =		2680MW

## Sanctioned / On-going H.E. Schemes (Installed Capacity Above 3 M) Under Implementation

(As on 1.12.1993)

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Inst. Cap (MW)	Original/ Latest Comm. Sch.	Reasons for delay	Charge
<b>WESTERN SECTOR</b>					
1.	Kadana PSS Extn.	2x60	85-86 95-96	Erection of TG sets.	
2.	Sardar Sarovar	6x200 +5x50	94-97 95-98	Alternate source of financing in lieu of surrender of WB loan. Construction of main dam & R&B problem.	
3.	Bansagar Tons PH II & III (M.P.)	2x15+ 3x20	89-91 96-97	Fund constraints & problem of oustees of Ransagar Dam.	
4.	Narmada Sagar (Indira Sagar) MP	8x125	97-98 99-2000 (Unit-I)	R & R problem and project finance	
5.	Rajhat UP/MB	3x15	95-96 96-97	Cash flow problem	

R&amp;R



*Sanctioned / on-going H.E. Schemes (Installed Capacity Above 3 M) Under Implementation**(As on 1.12.1993)*

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Inst. Cap (MW)	Original/ Latest Comm. Sch.		Reasons for delay
6.	Bhandardara St.II	1x34	89-90 94-95		Delay in civil works & unit erection.
7.	Monikdoh Mah.	1x6	89-90 94-95		Delay in PH Civil works.
8.	Surya, Mah.	1x6	89-90 94-95		Delay in PH civil works and erection of penstock.
9.	Warna, Mah.	2x8	89-90 94-95		Delay in PH civil works.
	Sub-total			2767 MW	

## Sanctioned/on-going H.E. schemes under implementation

(As on 1.12.1993)

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Inst. Cap (MW)	Original/ Latest Comm. Sch.	Reasons for delay
<b>SOUTHERN REGION</b>				
1.	Srisailem LPPH A.P.	6x150	93-95 96-99	Delay in civil works of HRT & TRT.
2.	Palimala A.P.	2x30	82-83 97-98	Inter-State dispute. Completion of PH civil works.
3.	Kalinadi II Karnataka	3x40+ 3x50	87-88 95-97	Cash flow problem. Slow progress of PH and dam civil works. Cancellation of KPCL portion of UP loan.
4.	Sharavathi TR (Gerusoppa) Ktk.	4x60	93-94 95-96	Cancellation of KPCL portion of World Bank loan.
5.	Lower Periyar Kerala	3x60	90-91 95-96	Contractual failure for civil works and fixing up of new contractor.
6.	Muvattupuzha	2x3.5	90-91 95-96	Delay in civil works.
7.	Kannad Kerala	2x25	90-81 96-96	Labour problems and delay in civil works of power tunnel.
Total		1707 MW		

*Sanctioned/on-going H.E schemes under implementation**(As on 1.12.1993)*

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Project</i>	<i>Inst. Cap (MW)</i>	<i>Original/Latest Comm. Sch.</i>	<i>Reasons for delay</i>
<b>EASTERN REGION</b>				
1.	Chandil, Bihar	2x4	90-91 95-96	Fund constraints. Supply & erection of the EOT crane
2.	North Koel, Bihar	2x12	87-88 94-95	Delay in civil works of TRT and power House.
3.	Upper Indravati Orissa	4x150	86-88 94-97	Delay in civil works and cancel lation of world Bank Loan. Constitution of Construction Management project is under review by Foreign Consultants.
4.	Potteru, Orissa	2x3	89-90 94-95	Fund constraints
5.	Rammam St. II, W.R.	4x12.5	81-82 94-95	Delay in civil works and fund constraints
6.	Teesa Falls I to IV, W.R.	3x3x7.5	90-92 94-96	Delay in civil works and fund constraints
<b>Total</b>		<b>755.5 MW</b>		

*Sanctioned/on-going H.E schemes (Installed Capacity above 3 MW) under implementation**(As on 1.12.1993)*

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Inst. Cap (MW)	Original/Latest Comm. Sch.	Reasons for delay
<b>NORTHERN REGION</b>				
1.	Baner, H.P.	3x4	85-86 94-95	Completion of Civil works
2.	Gaj, H.P.	3x3.5	86-87 94-95	Delay in Civil works
3.	Thirot, H.P.	3x1.5	87-88 94-95	Delay in civil works
4.	Ranjit Sagar (Thein Dam), Panjab	4x150	91-93 96-98	Land acquisition in J&K.
5.	Srinagar, U.P.	6x55	91-92	Fund constraints, cancellation of World Bank Loan and Land acquisition problem.
6.	Sobla, U.P.	2x3	93-94 94-95	Delay in civil works and unit erection.
7.	Maneri Bhali-II	4x76	89-90 97-98	Fund constraints
<b>Sub-Total</b>		<b>1267.00 MW</b>		

## Sanctioned/on-going H.E schemes (Installed Capacity above 3 MW) under implementation

(As on 1.12.1993)

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Inst. Cap (MW)	Original/ Latest Comm. Sch.	Reasons for delay
1.	Karbi Langpi (Lower Porpani) Asm.	2x50	85-86 95-96	Project handed over to a Joint Sector Company
2.	Likim Ro, Nag.	3x8	93-94 94-95	Delay in Major civil works.
Sub-total		124.00 MW		
All India Total		9300 MW		
Central Sector		2680 MW		
State Sector		6620 MW		

## NORTH EASTERN REGION

## HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER PROJECTS

(As on 1.12.1993)

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Inst. Cap (MW)	Reasons for delay
<b>CENTRAL SECTOR</b>			
1.	Dhauliganga St. I (NHPC) H.P.	4x70	Paucity of funds.
2.	Koel Karo (NHPC) Bihar	4x172.5 +1x20	Paucity of funds
3.	Doyang (NEEPCO) Nag.	3x25	Funds constraints.
4.	Kopili Extn. (NEEPCO) Assam.	2x50	Funds constraints.
	Total	1185	

*(As on 1.12.1993)*

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Inst. Cap (MW)	Reasons for delay
<b>NORTH EASTERN REGION</b>			
1.	Naurarang Ar. Pr.	3x2	Funds constraints.
2.	Dhansiri Assam	15x1.33	Law & order problem, slow Progress of civil works and funds constraints.
3.	Dalaima	3x2	Major works deferred to review techno-economic Assam viability. Low Priority by State Government.
4.	Sertui - P	2x4.5	Delay in award of works.
Total		40.95	

(As on 1.12.1993)

Reasons for delay

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Inst. Cap (MW)	Reasons for delay
<b>NORTHERN REGION</b>			
1.	Dadupur, Har.	4x1.5	Inter-state dispute with U.P. for location of Hathnikund Parraage.
2.	Larji, H.P.	3x42	Funds constraints.
3.	Upper Sindh Extn. J&K	2x35	Law & order problem
4.	Upper Sindh II J&K	1x35	Law & order Problem.
5.	Kishanganga J&K	3x110	The Government of J&K has approved the project. Indus Water Treaty clearance awaited.
6.	Shahpurkandi, Pun.	2x40+ 2x40+ 1x8	Recently sanctioned.
7.	Jakham, Raj.	2x2.5	Scheme rejected by MOEF and revised capacity finalisation pending with RSEP.
8.	Lakhwar Vyasi, U.P.	3x100 2x60	Funds constraints.
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1160</b>	



*(As on 1.12.1993)*

Sl. No.	Name of the project State	Inst. Cap. (MW)	Reasons for delay
<b>WESTERN REGION</b>			
1.	Bodhghat Madhya Pradesh	4x125	Forest clearance.
2.	Dudhganga Maharashtra	2x12	Delay in RH Civil Works.
3.	Dimbha Maharashtra	1x3	Delay in PH Civil Works.
4.	Ghatghar PSS Maharashtra.	2x125	Recently sanctioned.
<b>SOUTHERN REGION</b>			
1.	Guntur Canal I Andhra Pradesh	2x2	Delay in fixing of Contractor.
2.	Guntur Canal II Andhra Pradesh	2x25	Delay in appointment of Consultants.
3.	Singur A.P.	2x7.5	Slow progress of major civil works

*(As on 1.12.1993)*

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the project State</i>	<i>Inst. Cap. (MW)</i>	<i>Reasons for delay</i>
4.	Somasila A.P.	2x5	Recently sanctioned by State Government
5.	Chandeli Karnataka.	2x30	Forest clearance
6.	Brindavan Karnataka.	2x5	Delay in start of works due to non-fixation of agency for execution.
7.	Bhadra RBC Karnataka	1x6	Delay in start of works due to non-fixation of agency for erection.
8.	Gangawali Karnataka	2x105	Work suspended for ecological problem since 1980.
9.	Poringal Kuthu Extn. Unit 4 Kerala.	1x16	Fund constraints.
10.	Kuttiyadi Extn. Kerala	1x50	Delay in start of works
11.	Pooyankutty Kerala	2x120	Forest clearance.

(As on 1.12.1993)

Sl. No.	Name of the project State	Inst. Cap. (MW)	Reasons for delay
12.	Lower Bhavani RBC Tamil Nadu.	2x4	Fund constraints.
13.	Sathanur Dam Tamil Nadu	1x75	Fund constraints.
14.	Kundah V Extn. T.N.	1x30	Fund constraints.
15.	Pykara Ultimate T.N.	3x50	Delay in award of civil works due to opposition by land owners. The case is sub-judice.
	Total	813	
<b>EASTERN REGION:</b>			
1.	Balimela II Orissa.	2x60	Fund Constraints.
2.	Rammam St. I West bengal	3x12	Recently sanctioned.
	Total	156	

(As on 1.12.1993)

Sl. No.	Name of project State	Inst. Cap. (MW).	Reasons for delay
1.	Ghanvi H.P.	3x7.5	Leased to Private Agency
2.	Uhi III H.P.	4x17.5	Leased to Private Agency.
3.	Vishnuprayag U.P.	4x100	Leased to Private Agency.
4.	Bansagar Ph. IV M.P.	2x10	Recently sanctioned.
5.	Tawa LBC M.P.	2x6	Leased to private Agency.
6.	Maheshwar M.P.	10x40	No delay.
7.	Anakkayam Kerala.	2x4	Leased to Private Agency.
Total =		932.5 MW	

## PRIVATE SECTOR

## SUMMARY

Total (Central Sector) :	1165 MW
Total (State Sector) :	3048.95 MW
Total (Private Sector) :	932.50 MW
Grand Total =	5146.45 MW

**Employees in AIR Doordarshan Madhya Pradesh**

1565. SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the category-wise employees in Akashwani and Doordarshan Kendras in Madhya Pradesh ;

(b) the number of employees out of them belonging to Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes and whether SC/ST quota has been filled up as per reservation norms ;and

(c) if not the reasons therefor and the steps taken to fill up the quota as per the reservation norms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) (a) to (c) the information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha .

**Export Performance of Indian Telephone Industries**

1566. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export performance of the Indian Telephone Industries has been unsatisfactory ;

(b) if so, the target fixed and achieved in this regard during each of the last three years ;

(c) the reasons for the steep shortfall in the export targets ;

(d) the measures taken to boost the exports ;

(e) whether the C&AG had commented upon adversely on the dismal show of ITI ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Till recently ITI has been the monopoly supplier of Telecom equipment to DOT and thus the main thrust of ITI has been to cater to the large domestic needs of Telecom; equipment . However, modest efforts were made towards exports .

(b) The targets and performance of exports for the last three years are as follows:

	<i>Target</i>	<i>Actuals</i>
<i>Year</i>	<i>Rs. in lakhs</i>	<i>Rs. in lakhs</i>
1990-91	No specific target fixed	30
1991-92	100	108
1992-93	300	87

(c) During 1992-93 a big order from Nigeria for cross bar spares was negotiated but the same could not be finalised in view of political instability in that country . Hence there was a shortfall . However, during the current year, ITI has already achieved an export value of Rs. 179 lakhs till November, 1993 and the expected figure for year 1993-

94 is to the tune of Rs. 500 lakhs.

(d) The measures taken to boost the exports by ITI Ltd. are as under;

(i) Indian High Commissions/ Embassies in countries with high potential for export of Telecom

products have been addressed with a view to project ITI's image abroad and thus improve exports .

- (ii) To tap the opportunities available in South East Asia a joint Venture has been set up at Singapore to promote exports of ITI products .
- (iii) ITI's equipments have been sent to different countries like Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Ethiopia, nyanmar, Uganda, Nigeria, Tanzania, Vietnam, etc. for getting type approval from the local Telecom Administrations and also for field trial demonstrations .
- (iv) ITI is participating in Global Tenders .
- (v) To project ITI's image and also to make known the wide range of products available for exports, ITI is participating in various prestigious International Exhibitions both in India and abroad.

(e) The C&AG report has commented assuming "the target as Rs. 500 crores for ITI by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan" . There appears to be an inadvertent discrepancy in the C&AG report as the target of "Rs. 500 crores " wortof export reease to te wole Telecom Sector in the country and not to ITI alone .

(f) As at (e) above .

### T.V. Relay Centres in Gujarat

1567. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of T.V. relay centres in Gujarat State, district wise ;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up more T.V. relay centres in the State during the Eighth Five Year Plan ;

(c) if so, by when these T.V. relay centres are likely to be completed/ commissioned and the Expenditure likely to be incurred thereon ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO)

: (a) The requisite details are given in the attached Statement .

(b) Yes, Sir .

(c) One High Power and 8 Low Power TV transmitters in the State of Gujarat are expected to be commissioned in phases by the year 1995. The approved cost of these projects is approximately Rs. 1140.56 lakhs. However, the implementation would depend on availability of equipment, adequate resources and other infrastructural facilities for the purpose .

(d) Does not arise .

### STATEMENT

#### *Existing TV Transmitters in Gujarat*

<i>Sf.No.</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>No. of TV Transmitters</i>
1.	Amreli	1
2.	Ahmedabad	1
3.	Bavnagar	1

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>No. of TV Transmitters</i>
4.	Bharuc	3
5.	Banaskantha	4
6.	Junagarh	3
7.	Jamnagar	2
8.	Kachchh	1
9.	Mewsana	2
10.	Panchmahal	2
11.	Rajot	2
12.	Surat	4
13.	Surendranagar	1
14.	The Dangs	1
15.	Valsad	2
16.	Vadodara	2

**Improvement of National Highway  
No.34**

1568. SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal has made any request to the Union Government for the improvement of the congested portion of National Highway No. 34 in Malda Town, West Bengal ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) : Yes, Sir .

(b) The State Government submitted an estimate amounting to Rs. 4.3 crores for the work of improvement of congested portions of N.H. 34 in Malda Town . The estimate, being deficient, has been returned to the State Government unapproved for resubmission after modifications .

**India- Estonia Relations**

1569 . SHRI ARVIND TULSHIRAM KAMBLE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL

AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Estonia have signed any agreements to strengthen the bilateral relations including economic and technical cooperation ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and salient features of the declaration issued in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. (b) The following agreements were signed during the visit of the Foreign Minister of Estonia to Delhi from 14th to 17th Oct., 1993 :

- (i) Declaration on Principles and Directions of Cooperation ;
- (ii) Agreement on technical Economic Cooperation ;
- (iii) Agreement on Trade & Economic Cooperation ;
- (iv) Agreement on Cooperation in Education, Science, Culture, Arts, Mass-Media, Sports, Tourism and Youth Affairs .

The Declaration spells out the principles which are to govern bilateral relations such as respect for independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-interference in each other's internal affairs ; respect for each other's foreign policy principles ; and identifies principal areas of cooperation such as trade, science, industry, technology, culture, environment, education, information, cooperation against crime, particularly terrorism, and opposing all forms of religious bigotry, hatred and violence.

### **High Frequency Channel in Almora, U. P.**

1570. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether proposals to licence high frequency channel, establishment of 16 permanent stations and two mobile stations in district Almora (U.P.) are pending with the Government ; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to clear these proposals and the time by which the same are likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b). The proposal has since been agreed to by Ministry of Communications .

### **National Highway No. 17**

1571. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National highway No. 17 is in poor shape :

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned for its repairs during each of the last three years and the amount utilised therefrom ; and

(c) the agency entrusted with the job to monitor the repair work ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir . National Highway No. 17 is maintained in traffic worthy condition, within the funds available .

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The State Governments concerned are the agencies executing and monitoring the maintenance works .

### **Transit facilities through Bangladesh**

1572. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for establishing rail links from Tripura to Bangladesh and road and rail links between Dhaka and Calcutta ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government have taken up the matter with the Government of Bangladesh ; and

(d) if so, the response of Bangladesh thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BAHATIA) : (a) to (c) Government of India have been interested in establishing rail links from Tripura to Bangladesh and road and rail links between Dhaka and Calcutta. Government of India have taken up the matter on a number of occasions, at various levels, with Government of Bangladesh .

(d) Government of Bangladesh, so far, have not reacted positively to our proposals .



**Payment of Telephone**

1573 SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:  
SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI:

Will the Minister COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision for not sending telephone bills for payment for the period the telephone remains out of order; and

(b) if so, the date from which the above decision has been implemented and minimum period in this regard for which the telephone should remain out of order?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHRAM): (a) and (b). Sir, the Govt. has taken decision for giving rental rebate in the telephone bills for prolonged interruption/suspension of telephone services as per details given below:

- (i) If the services remain interrupted continuously for seven days or more pro-rata rebate in rental is given in the Bill. These orders are effective since 15.6.1990; and
- (ii) If the services remain interrupted/suspended continuously for more than 14

days, full month's rental rebate is given in the telephone bill. These orders are effective since 1.12.1992.

[Translation]

**National Highways in Bihar**

1574. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV:  
SHRI PALA K.M. MATHEW:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) total length and number of the National Highways in States, State-wise;

(b) whether the length of the National Highways in Bihar is less in proportion to its population and area; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) A statement is annexed.

(b) and (c). The length of national Highways in Bihar is more in relation to its area but less in terms of its population. Declaration of roads as national Highways is not on the basis of area/population but on the basis of criteria laid down for the purpose keeping in view the requirement of the country as a whole.

## STATEMENT

Sl.No	State	Length (in Km)	No. of NHs
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2888	7
2.	Assam	2286	14
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	330	2
4.	Bihar	2117	9
5.	Chandigarh	24	1
7.	Gujarat	1631	7
8.	Goa	229	3
9.	Haryana	698	5

Sl.No	State	Length (in Km)	No. of NHs
1	2	3	4
10.	Himachal Pradesh	4	4
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	648	2
12.	Karnataka	1996	7
13.	Kerala	940	4
14.	Manipur	431	2
15.	Meghalaya	472	3
16.	Mizoram	551	3
17.	Madhya Pradesh	2946	9

Sl.No	State	Length (in Km)	No. of NHs
1	2	3	4
18.	Maharashtra	2918	11
19.	Nagaland	113	2
20.	Orissa	1649	6
21.	Pondicherry	23	1
22.	Punjab	892	7
23.	Rajasthan	2931	7
24.	Sikkim	62	1
25.	Tripura	200	1

Sl.No	State	Length (in Km)	No. of NHs
1	2	3	4
26.	Tamil Nadu	1896	9
27.	Utar Pradesh	2613	11
28.	West Bengal	138	10
Total		34058	

[English]

**Roads in Assam**

1575. SHRI PROBEN DEKA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Assam has submitted any proposal to the Union Government seeking special allocation for linking some of the roads with National Highways; and

(b) if so, the number of such roads in the State including the amount earmarked therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is having in mind the proposals submitted by the Government of Assam for financing certain projects linking State Roads with national Highways. The State Government has sponsored 19 road/bridge scheme of State Roads of Inter-State of Economic Importance in the 8th Plan. However, due to limited allocation of funds for Central Sector Roads Programme in the 8th Plan, it will be possible to take up only some selected projects under the afore-said programme. It is, therefore, not possible to indicate the funding position at this stage.

**Coco-Nut Water**

1576. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether new technology for storing and using sweet coconut water after long preservation is available in the country;

(b) whether there is any industry in India engaged in preserving and making coconut water available as a soft drink;

(c) whether such industrial products or preserved drinks are being used in other coun-

tries; and

(d) the steps being taken in this regard in the food processing industry of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUNGOGOI): (a) to (d). The Regional Research Centre, Trivendrum has developed the technology for making soft from coconut water which has not yet been commercialised, though a few entrepreneurs have obtained this technology from RRL through Coconut Development Board. It is reported that a company in Philippines has developed technology for bottling soft drink, both of the carbonated and non-carbonated varieties made from coconut water.

[Translation]

**Delhi-Saharanpur Road**

1577. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: SHRI CHINMAYANAMD SWAMI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to convert Delhi-Saharanpur National Highway into a double-lane road;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the estimated cost involved therein; and

(c) the time by which the work is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Constitutionally, the Government of India is primarily concerned with roads declared as National Highways only. The responsibility for roads other than National Highways is essentially that of the State Governments concerned. Since the road in question is a State road, its development including widening

is the responsibility of the State Government(s) concerned.

[English]

### **Pak Lobby on Kashmir**

1578. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:  
SHRI ANNA JOSHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Pak Lobbying for UN panel on Kashmir" appeared in the 'Times of India' dated November 16, 1993; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken and the results achieved by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Pakistan had informally circulated draft resolution against India on Kashmir issue. However, as a result of prompt and effective countermeasures taken by India, Pakistan could not muster enough support and did not table the resolution.

### **Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation**

1579. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:  
SHRI GURUDASKAMAT:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has applied for the membership of Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC);

(b) if so, whether this application is being considered by the APEC favourably;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the tangible gains to be accrued to India by the outcome of the recent summit of APEC and likely to be accrued by its membership?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (c). India has indicated its interest in participating in APEC. However, APEC has decided at the Seattle meeting to concentrate at this stage on consolidation and improvement of its effectiveness. They have declared a three-year moratorium on new membership after admitting Chile in 1994. However, APEC has also set out procedures for enabling other countries of the Asia Pacific region to participate in its work programmes for promoting global and regional trade and investment.

(d) APEC membership covers countries with 60 percent of world GDP and 40% of foreign trade and includes the world's largest and most dynamic economies. With the liberalisation of India in APEC's global and regional trade and investment facilitation programmes can be expected to bring substantial benefits both to India as well to other APEC countries.

### **Films Screened at Udaipur Film Festival**

1580. SHRI GURUDASKAMAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quality of Indian Films screened at the Udaipur film festival in November, 1993 were of substandard as compare to the films of other countries; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Four independent Juries for judging the films on different cinematic aspects

announced 10 awards and made five special mentions. Of these, Indian films and child artists won 3 awards and 3 special mentions.

#### **Satellite Communication Network of NTPC**

1581. DR. VASANT NIWUTI PAWAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation proposes to expand its satellite communication network;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the benefits which are likely to be accrued therefrom; and

(d) the power plants which will be getting the benefits by this network?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (d). The national Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) proposes to expand its existing Satellite Communication Network to cover six more power projects under operation/execution, viz., Unchahar and Auraiya in Uttar Pradesh, Talcher in Orissa, Anta in Rajasthan and Kawas & Gandhar in Gujarat. This network will provide point to point dedicated communication facilities in respect of Voice (Telephone) Fax and Data (Computer to Computer) from these power projects to NTPC's Corporate office at New Delhi and other projects where these facilities already exist.

[ Translation ]

#### **Anpara Thermal Power Plant**

1582. DR. P. R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reduced the amount of allocation made for the Anpara thermal power plant;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). The Anpara 'B' Thermal Power Project (2x500 MW) is being implemented in the State Sector by the Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board. The approved Annual Plan outlay for the year 1993-94 for this project is Rs. 716 crores. The Central Govt. has made no reduction in that allocation.

(c) The first unit of 500 MW of Anpara 'B' Thermal Power Project was synchronised in July, 1993 and the second unit is planned to be synchronised by June, 1994.

#### **Anland Waterway From Highway To Allahabad**

1583. SHRIRAMPUNJAN PATEL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for completing the project to deepen the Ganga river for the inland waterway from Hooghly to Allahabad;

(b) the year-wise expenditure incurred thereon so far and the progress made in the work; and

(c) the reasons for delay in its timely completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) During 8th Five Year Plan, a target of providing navigable channel of 45 m. width and 2.0 m depth in Haldia-Farakka and 1.5 m depth in Farakka-Patna stretches of the Ganga by undertaking temporary river conservancy works of bandalling and dredging, has been fixed.



(b) The year-wise expenditure incurred on deepening of navigation channel on the Ganga is given below:-

<i>(Rs. in lakhs)</i>		
<i>Bandalling &amp; Dredging</i>		
1986-87	.....	39.05
1987-88	.....	55.64
1988-89	.....	60.18
1989-90	.....	31.54
1990-91	.....	28.16
1991-92	.....	38.80
1992-93	.....	36.69

The temporary river conservancy works of bandalling and dredging are being carried out every year during lean season from October to April to maintain the required navigational channel.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Our of Turn Telephone Connections**

1584. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new telephone connections sanctioned on out of turn basis during the last six months; and

(b) the category-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### **Linking Kanyakumari With Dwarka.**

1585. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to link Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu with Dwarka in Gujarat by road; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No Sir, Kanyakumari and Dwarka are already linked by existing roads.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Mangalore Thermal Power Project**

1586. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the national Thermal Power Corporation has decided to handover the charge of 250 MW thermal power project of Mangalore to Government of Karnataka;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total amount spent so far by the NTPC on this project:

(d) whether to NTPC has asked for any compensation or reimbursement in lieu of the amount spent so far by it on the project; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYANAIDU): (a) to (e). The Mangalore Thermal Power Project Stage-I (420 MW) was to be implemented by the National Thermal Power Corpn. (NTPC) with technical and financial assistance from the erstwhile USSR which

did not fructify. In the meanwhile, the Indian electricity statutes had also been amended to encourage increase participation by the private sector in the power sector primarily to provide and additionality of resources. Accordingly, NTPC has been permitted to implement projects in the private sector on the basis of its minority participation in equity. The Government of Karnataka had entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with M/s Cogentrix Inc. USA for the setting up of a thermal power plant at Mangalore. As some land had been acquired for NTPC's project which also had other requisite linkages/clearances, in the interest of speedier implementation of the project the Government of Karnataka were informed by the Central Government to consider advising the private sector proponent that these could be transferred to the new venture on NTPC being adequately compensated for the expenses and commitments incurred.

The NTPC has sought reimbursement of expenditure towards cost of land, infrastructure built, studies carried out etc. amounting to about Rs. 15.33 crores ending March, 1993. Further the NTPC will also seek reimbursement of the continuing liability in the project being incurred until such time the land etc., is transferred and any other liabilities that may arise.

#### **Alwaye-Sherthalai Section**

1587. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in widening the Alwaye-Sherthalai section of National Highway No. 47 are converting it into four lanes in Kerala;

(b) the funds earmarked for the project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The work has not started so far.

(b) A provision of Rs. 6.50 crores has been made for the project during 1993-94.

(c) The likely completion date of the work will be about 7/2 years after it is awarded.

#### **Thermal Power Stations in Maharashtra**

1588. SHRIMANIKRAO HODLYAGAVIT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the thermal power stations working at present in Maharashtra; and

(b) the quantum of energy generated by these power stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). MSEP has supplied the required information as under.

<i>Name of Thermal Power Station</i>	<i>Energy Generation April - Nov. 1993 (Million Units)</i>
Nasik	3176
Koradi	4097
Paras	162

<i>Name of Thermal Power Station</i>	<i>Energy Generation April - Nov. 1993 (Million Units)</i>
Bhusawal	1909
Parli	1948
Chandrapur	4319
Khaperkheda	1824
Uran	1138
Trombay	4096
Maharashtra (Total Thermal)	22669

[*Translation*]

### **Sholapur Air Stations**

1589. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL:  
SHRIDHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL:  
SHRIGOVINDRAO NIKAM:

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

(a) the duration of programmes broadcast from the Sholapur All India Radio Station and the languages in which these programmes are broadcast;

(b) whether there is persistent demand to increase the duration of these programmes;

(c) if so, the details therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROAD-

CASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DAO): (a) The details are as follows:-

(i) Total hours of broadcast per week - 42 hours

(ii) Languages - Marathi and Hindi

(b) No. Sir.

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

### **New Post Offices**

1590 SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH:  
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details branch post offices and departmental sub-post offices set up during the year 1992-93, State-wise;

(b) whether their number are less than the targets fixed; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI

SUKHRAM): (a) to (c) During 1992-93, 635 extra departmental branch post offices and 116 departmental sub-post offices have been sanctioned against the target of 600 and 100 respectively. State-wise details of which are given in the attached statement.

**STATEMENT**

*Information Relating To Branch Post Offices And Departmental Sub Post Offices Targeted And Sactioned As On 31.3.1993 Under Annual Plan 1992-93.*

S.No.	Name of Circle	Branch Post Offices.		Departmental sub post offices.	
		Target	Sanctioned	Target	Sanctioned.
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19	6	5	9
2.	Assam	27	27	3	3
3.	Bihar	70	70	8	3
4.	Delhi	nil	-	5	9
5.	Gujarat	25	30	5	5
6.	Haryana	10	10	3	4
7.	Himachal Pradesh	15	15	1	1
8.	J & K	5	5	1	-
9.	Karnataka	15	15	5	7
10.	Kerala	10	15	3	7
11.	Maharashtra	55	62	10	10
12.	Madhya Pradesh	55	55	5	7
13.	North East	35	35	5	1
14.	Orissa	40	40	5	8
15.	Punjab	10	10	3	3

S.No.	Name of Circle	Branch Post Offices.		Departmental sub post offices.	
		Target	Sanctioned	Target	Sanctioned.
16.	Rajasthan	60	60	6	9
17.	Tamil Nadu	14	10	7	5
18.	Uttar Pradesh	75	100	10	11
19.	West Bengal	60	70	10	4
		600	635	100	116

[English]

**New Division In Doordarshan**

1591. SHRISURYANARAYAN YADAV:  
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS/ be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been  
signed with Japan for expansion and modernisa-  
tion of the telecommunication network in the  
country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the new technology and  
equipments acquired under this agreement dur-  
ing last year will be utilised in all States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the  
names of particular States to be benefitted by this  
agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI  
SUKH RAM): (a) No Sir,

b) to (c). Do not arise in view of (a) above.

**New Division IN Doordarshan**

1592 SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Will  
the Minister of STATE FOR INFORMATION  
AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the move to create a separate  
News Services Division in Doordarshan on the  
lines of AIR has been shelved; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROAD-  
CASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) There  
was no such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

## STATEMENT

Statement showing the details of the profit/loss of the SEBs for the year 1991-92 and cumulative loss/profit as on 31.3.1992 after reckoning subsidy and IDC.\*

Sl.No.	SEBs	1991-92	(Rs. in crores) Cumulative as on 31.3.1992	
1	2	3	4	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	84.44	313.64	
2.	Bihar	-113.72	-1003.13	
3.	Gujarat	70.85	25.38	
4.	Haryana	-228.15	-944.96	
5.	Himachal Pradesh	2.73	-111.80	
6.	Karnataka	24.30	-157.40	
7.	Kerala	-34.73	-189.51	
8.	Madhya Pradesh	83.97	471.29	
9.	Maharashtra	125.19	351.67	

Sl.No.	SEBs	1991-92	(Rs. in crores) Cumulative as on 31.3.1992
1	2	3	4
10.	Orissa	24.74	-60.24
11.	Punjab	272.72	-309.89
12.	Rajasthan	61.80	-544.47
13.	Tamil Nadu	84.38	407.55
14.	Uttar Pradesh	54.00	-394.29
15.	West Bengal	-92.22	-531.04
16.	Assam	-174.58	-1131.25
17.	Meghalaya	8.80	-18.79
	Interest During Construction.		

**Losses in SEBs**

1593. SHRI ANKUSH RAO RAOSAHEB TOPE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of accumulated losses suffered by the each State Electricity Board at the end of March, 1993;

(b) the reasons for such losses;

(c) whether the Government have set up a committee to examine working of the State Electricity Boards; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The audited final accounts of most Electricity Boards for the year 1992-93 have yet to become available. The details of the profit/loss of the State Electricity Boards for the year 1991-92 and the cumulative profit/loss as on 31.3.1992 after reckoning subsidy and interest during construction is given in the attached Statement subsidy and interest during construction is given in the attached Statement.

(b) The major reasons for the losses of the State Electricity Boards are unrealistic power tariff structure including low agree cultural tariff, non-payment of RE subsidy to SEBs by the State Governments, low level of PLF, high T&D losses, high fuel consumption in the thermal power stations etc.

(c) Planning Commission has set up an NOC Committee on Power on 3.6.1993 to examine measures to make State Electricity Boards economically viable by re-casting tariff, improving efficiency and considering de-linking of distribution for generation.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

**Construction Of Bridge Over Ganga In Bihar**

1594. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a bridge over river Ganga at Manik Chowk in Sahibgunj district of Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the estimate cost; and

(c) the time by which the construction work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a): No, Sir,

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

[*English*]

**Kollam-Kottapuram Stretch Of West Coast Canal**

1595. SHRIV. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on the Kollam-Kottapuram stretch of West Coast canal has started in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount spent on the project so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir,



(b) and (c) Works in Kochi-Kollam stretch of West Coast Canal including Champakara & Udyogmandal Canals for development of a fair-way of National Waterway standard had begun from the current financial year, i.e., 1993-94. The detailed hydrographic survey of Udyogmandal and Champakara Canals has been completed and similar survey has been started in Alleppey-Kayamkulam stretch also. So far about 50,000 cu.m. of dredging has been completed in the Udyogmandal Canal. The dismantling work of a defunct lock structure at Thottappalli has been entrusted to Kerala State Irrigation Department. M/S. NATPAC, Trivandrum has been appointed as Consultant for land acquisition works related to the National Waterway development.

Expenditure incurred on this National Waterway during the current financial year (1993-94) till November, 1993 is about Rs. 41.00 lakhs.

#### **Roads In Himachal Pradesh:**

1596. MAJ. D. D. KHANORIA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Himachal Pradesh has made any request to the Union Government for the allocation of special funds to link some of roads in the State with National Highways; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the amount earmarked therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member has in view the proposals sponsored by the State Government of Himachal Pradesh for financing under the Scheme of State Roads of Inter-State or Economic Importance in the 8th Plan. The State Government has projected the requirement for rendering Central assistance for four schemes costing Rs. 18.70 crores under the aforesaid Scheme. However, due to meagre allocation of funds for the Central Sector

Roads programme in the 8th Five Year Plan, it will be possible to take up only some selected projects in a few States. It is, therefore, not possible to specify the funding position at this stage.

[*Translation*]

#### **New Exploration Policy Of Mines In Bihar**

1597. SHRI PREMCHAND RAM: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state: Ne

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any new policy for proper exploitation of mines in Bihar;

(b) whether there is any alternative in the policy for providing employment to the unemployed persons;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SING YADAV) : (a) to (d). The Government's New Mineral Policy was placed before the House on 5.3.93. The policy aims to speed up the pace of mineral development in the country generating in turn additional direct and indirect employment opportunities.

#### **Fruit Processing Industry**

1598. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Confederation, India, Food, Trade and Development is doing research to find out solution to the problems being faced in the development of fruit processing industry;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and the reaction of the Government thereon; and

(c) by which time the Government are

likely to take a final decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUNGOGOI): (a) to (c). The Confederation of Indian Food Trade and Industry (CIFTI) - a body promoted by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry have informed that they have indentified certain problem areas relating to Indian food processing industries. These areas are inter-alia (a) weak horticulture base leading to non-availability of raw-materials of desired quality in adequate quantity; (b) high incidence of taxes and duties on processed food particularly packaging materials leading to high prices and small domestic market; and (c) lack of infrastructure in the form of cold chain. According to CIFTI, following steps are necessary: (i) provision of adequate land to the industry to grow raw-materials either by declaring horticulture a plantation crop or amendment of land ceiling laws; (ii) bringing down of the excise and import duties on packaging materials and machinery; (iii) removal of sales tax, octroi and other levies on processed foods; and (iv) building up of infrastructure through collaborative effort between industry and government. Government have already brought down excise duties on the processed fruits and vegetable products to nil and is operating various schemes for development of infrastructure as well as promotion of backward integration between the processor and the farmer. Issues on land ceiling, etc. are the subject matter of State.

**Setting Up Of Air/Doordarshan Kendra At Hamirpur, H.P.)**

1599. SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an AIR and Doordarshan Kendra in Hamirpur district in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the expenditure to be incurred thereon; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI. K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir, as given below:

**ALL INDIA RADIO**

A Project to set up a Local Radio Station with 2x3 KW FM Transmitter, Multi-Purpose Studio and Staff Quarters at Hamirpur District, at an estimated capital cost of Rs. 279.95 lakhs, is technically ready.

**DOORDARSHAN**

A low power TV Transmitter is proposed to be commissioned at Sujampur in Hamirpur District of Himachal Pradesh at an approved cost of Rs. 111.27 lakhs, by 1994-95.

**Religious T.V. Serials**

1600. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the religious serials approved by Doordarshan for telecast for the year 1993-94 and the dates from which these new religious serials are likely to be telecast;

(b) the number of the days in week on which such serials are likely to be telecast and the duration thereof; and

(c) the names of the producers of such serials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) As a policy, Doordarshan does not telecast programmes which have a bearing only on religious theme. At the same time it is the endeavour of Doordarshan to telecast programmes including

Hindi Feature Films and Serials on established tradition & heritage, socio-cultural themes with universal values and to uphold seculars, religious tolerance and communal harmony.

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

[English]

### Useless Spending On Litigations

1601. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:  
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Government spends Rs. 2.5 Cr. to save Rs. 15 lakhs" appearing in the 'Economic Times', New Delhi dated the October 31, 1993;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and the reaction of the Government there-to; and

(c) the persons responsible for this State of Affairs and measures taken/being taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of such useless spending of foreign exchange on litigation in Courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes Sir,

(b) The report incorrectly suggests that Government entered into litigation to establish a legal point. Litigation was initiated by a firm of solicitors against a Government Department and four public sector undertakings. Every effort was made by the defendants to settle the matter amicably out of Court. When these efforts failed litigation became inevitable.

(c) Does not arise.

### Post And Telegraph Offices In A.P.

1602. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:  
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Post and Telegraph Offices and Telephone exchanges opened in Andhra Pradesh, District-wise during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the number of Post and Telegraph Offices and Telephone Exchanges proposed to be opened during the Eighth Five Year Plan and the targets fixed thereof for 1993-94 and 1994-95 particularly in Warangal district;

(c) whether there are a number of small town-villages in the said district without these facilities; and

(d) if so, the time by which the said facilities are likely to be provided there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The district-wise number of posts & Telegraph offices and Telephone exchanges opened in Andhra Pradesh during the Seventh Five Year Plan is given in Statement I, II and III respectively.

(b) It is now proposed to open 3600 extra departmental branch post offices and 650 departmental sub-post offices during the Eighth Five Year Plan in the country as a whole. Under the Annual Plan 1993-94, it is proposed to open 12 extra departmental branch post offices in Andhra Pradesh. There is no proposal for opening of a post office in Warangal District in the current year. As the State-wise targets for Annual Plans are fixed on a yearly basis, no decision has been taken so far /1994-95

Details of the number of Telegraph Offices including combined offices Telecom Centres and Telephone Exchanges proposed to be opened are given below:

<i>Office</i>	<i>Under the 8th Five Year Plan</i>	<i>Targets for 1993-94</i>	<i>Annual Plan 94-95</i>	<i>Targets for Warrangal Distt. 93-94 94-95</i>	
Telegraph Offices	30	6	6	-	-
Combined Offices	375	75	75	15	15
Tel. Exchanges	24	5 No	1* No		

\* One Exchange at Nawapet of Warangal District is proposed to be opened during 1993-94/1994-95.

(c) and (d) Post Offices are opened keeping in view the population income as well as distance norms, subject to availability of resources and within the given plan target. On this basis, total facilities are being progressively extended, by opening new post offices, under successive plan schemes.

There are 36 towns and villages in

Warrangal District which do not have telegraph facilities and 494 Panchayat Villages without telecom facilities. Telegraph and Telecom facilities are proposed to be extended to these places by 31.3.95 and subject to availability of resources. In the case of Telephone Exchanges, the facilities will be extended before the end of the 8th plan, subject to availability of equipment and stores.



SI.No	Name of the District	85-86		86-87		87-88		88-89		89-90	
		SO	BO	SO	BO	SO	BO	SO	BO	SO	BO
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12.	Mahubnagar	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	10	-	-
13.	Medak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
14.	Nalgonda	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	-
15.	Nellore	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
16.	Nizamabad	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
17.	Prakasam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
18.	Rangareddy	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	7	-	-
19.	Srikakulam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
20.	Visakhapatnam	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	-	-
21.	Vizianagaram	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-
22.	Warangal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-
23.	West Gadavari	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-
Total		-	-	-	-	-	1	7	123	1	12

## STATEMENT - II

No. of Telegraph &amp; Combined Offices Opened during 7th Five Year Plan

Sl.No.	District	T.Os	C.Os
1	2	3	4
1.	East Godavari	1	3
2.	Vizianagaram	-	4
3.	Hyderabad	1	-
4.	West Godavari	-	5
5.	Guntur	2	5
6.	Krishna	3	4
7.	Visakhapatnam	1	7
8.	Rangareddy	3	2
9.	Warrangal	-	7
10.	Nellore	-	4
11.	Srikakulam	-	3

Sl.No.	District	T.Os	C.Os
1	2	3	4
12.	Kurnool	-	5
13.	Mahbubnagar	-	5
14.	Karimnagar	-	6
15.	Chittoor	1	5
16.	Anantapur	1	5
17.	Nalgonda	1	5
18.	Nizamabad	-	7
19.	Adilabad	-	5
20.	Cuddapah -	7	-
21.	Prakasam	-	5
22.	Khammam	-	8
23.	Medak	-	6
Total		14	111



**STATEMENT - III***No. of Telephone Exchanges & Telecom Centres opened during VII Plan Period.*

Sl.No.	Name of the SSA	No. of Telephone Exchanges opened during VII Plan	No. of Telecom Centres opened during VII Plan
1	2	3	4
1.	Adilabad	7	-
2.	Anantapur	28	-
3.	Chittoor	25	-
4.	Cuddapah	22	-
5.	East Godavari	(-) 5*	12
6.	Guntur	-	5
7.	Karimnagar	6	2
8.	Khammam	12	-
9.	Krishna	11	3
10.	Kurmool	39	2
11.	Mahabubnagar	29	1
12.	Medak	34	-

Sl.No.	Name of the SSA	No. of Telephone Exchanges opened during VII Plan	No. of Telecom Centres opened during VII Plan
1	2	3	4
13.	Neigonda	(-) 68	-
14.	Nellor	16	2
15.	Nizamabad	18	-
16.	Prakasam	(-) 19	-
17.	Srikakulam	4	2
18.	Visakhapatnam	10	5
19.	Vizianagaram	7	1
20.	Warangal	-	2
21.	West Godavari	7	3
22.	Hyderabad Telcom District.		
	(a) Urban	14	11
	(b) Ranga Reddy	-	3
		259	54

\* These Exchanges are closed due to Merger/Damaged by Extremists

**Telephone Bills**

the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

1603. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (Delhi Telephones) informs the subscribers about the non-payment of their telephone bills;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the guidelines issued in this regard;

(e) whether the letters written by the subscribers to the Chief Accounts Officers/Accounts Officers (Telephone Revenue) and particularly in the office of the General Manager (North) are never replied to; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor and the instructions issued or proposed to be issued in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) A telephonic reminder followed by a registered reminder is given before disconnection of a telephone for non-payment of bills.

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

(d) As given in (b) above.

(e) No Sir.

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

**Production Of Billets**

1604. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will

(a) the total quantity of billets produced in the country during the last three years;

(b) the estimated demand of billets in the country during the corresponding period;

(c) the annual estimated capacity of production of billets in the Steel Industry;

(d) whether the country is facing shortage of billets;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to increase the production keeping in view its demand in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHANDEV): (a) to (c). The estimated demand and production of semis during the last three years was as under:

(In '000 tonnes)

	<i>Demand</i>	<i>Production</i>
1990-91	5800	5994
1991-92	6100	6015
1992-93	6200	6263

The capacity of production is in terms of crude steel/saleable steel and not billets. Semis are the intermediate products which include billets, bloome and slabs etc.

(d) and (e). The availability of semis for domestic consumption is less than the domestic demand and hence there is shortage semis in the country.

(f) To some extent the shortage of semis for rerolling industry is met through improved availability of rerollable scrap from the domestic ship-breaking industry. Government have also taken a number of steps to increase production of steel including semis such as-

- i) Iron and steel has been removed from the list of industries reserved for the public sector; it has also been exempted from the requirements of compulsory licensing under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951 subject to certain locational restrictions;
- ii) Iron & Steel sector has been included in the list of high priority industries. Such industries have the facility for automatic approval of foreign investment in equity upto 51%;
- iii) Control over pricing and distribution of steel has been dispensed with;
- iv) Customs duty on import of capital goods and inputs for the steel industry has been reduced; and
- v) The public sector integrated steel plants have also taken up modernisation and expansion programmes.

[ *Translation* ]

#### **Upgradation Of Post Offices In Gujarat**

1605. SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal regarding opening of new branch post offices and upgradation of the existing post offices in the Amreli region in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of branch post offices

proposed to be opened/Upgraded during the year 1993-94 in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHRAM): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It is proposed to open 20 extra departmental branch post offices and 8 departmental sub post offices in Gujarat during 1993-94.

[ *English* ]

#### **Pak Propaganda In Us**

1606. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan is carrying on a malicious propaganda in the US regarding alleged human rights violation in Kashmir; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI. R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Government have been following a multi-pronged approach towards countering motivated and malicious propaganda by elements inimical to India. Our Missions in the US are involved in an on-going effort to target the US Congress, officials of the Clinton Administration, the US media and key opinion makers including academicians and think tanks by means of letters, private meetings dissemination of publicity material, issue of press releases, press briefings, talks and seminars. The Indo-American community is being mobilised to reach out to their local Senators/Congressmen and project their views on issues of concern to India. Government also propose to hire the services of a professional lobbyist firm registered in the US to supplement the efforts by our Mission/Posts in the US.

**I Thermal Power Station**

1607. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the MINISTER OF POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the target date I any set for the commercial production of power from the I Thermal Power Station in Orissa;

(b) the progress made in this regard so far; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to expedite the construction of the power project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Unit I is expected to start commercial production in June-July 1994, and Unit II in December 1994.

(b) For Unit-I, the Alkali Boil out of boiler has been completed on 25.11.1993 and TG has been boxed up on 25.10.1993. For Unit-II boiler hydraulic test is expected by December, 1993.

(c) In order to expedite the completion of this project, Ministry of Power, in association with CEA, is closely monitoring the progress of various activities of the project for timely commissioning. All out efforts are made to achieve the targets by vigorous and close follow up of progress of works and by rendering timely assistance to the project authorities. Joint Coordi-

nation meetings are also held regularly with the project authority, major manufacturers, suppliers and construction agencies etc., to remove the bottlenecks if any, in the execution of the project.

**Funds For National Highways**

1608. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state;

(a) the allocation of funds and sanction accorded and amount disbursed to States for the construction and maintenance of National Highways, during 1992-93; State-wise; and

(b) the demand for allocation of funds for 1993-94, and the actual amount of funds made available during April-September, 1993, State-Wise!

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) A statement showing funds allotted/released to various States for construction (development) and Maintenance of National Highways during the year 1992-93 is given in the statement - I

(b) A statement showing demand for 1993-1994 and expenditure upto Sept. 1993 for original works and maintenance, Statewise, is given in the statement - II

**STATEMENT***Amount Allotted/released during 1992-93*

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of States/uts</i>	<i>Development</i>	<i>Maintenance</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
		<i>(Rs. In lakhs)</i>	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2800.00	1249.44
2.	Arunachal Pradesh.	80.00	35.41
3.	Assam	12756.00	1039.63
4.	Bihar	1420.00	1072.66
5.	Chandigarh	25.00	15.48
6.	Delhi	700.00	171.80
7.	Goa	850.00	208.31
8.	Gujarat	4850.00	881.37
9.	Haryana	2020.00	380.83
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1150.00	529.55

Sl.No.	Name of States/uts	Development (Rs. In lakhs)	Maintenance
1	2	3	4
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	50.00	143.39
12.	Karnataka	1945.36	1105.85
13.	Kerala	1600.00	587.82
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1915.00	1213.25
15.	Maharashtra	3580.00	1506.68
16.	Manipur	250.00	73.32
17.	Maghalaya	387.00	170.27
18.	Nagaland	50.00	3.50
19.	Orissa	1475.00	738.52
20.	Pondicherry	44.64	5.78
21.	Punjab	2900.00	638.97

Sl.No.	Name of States/uts	Development	(Rs. In lakhs)	Maintenance
1	2	3	4	
22.	Rajasthan	3295.00	1141.02	
23.	Tamil Nadu	1700.00	1134.96	
24.	Uttar Pradesh	5195.00	1394.96	
25.	West Bengal	2230.00	1071.51	



## STATEMENT - II

Demand for 1993-94 and expenditure upto September 1993 for development and maintenance of National Highways

Sl.No	Name of States	Development		Maintenance		9/93
		Demand	Expenditure	Demand	Expenditure	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		(Rs. in lakhs)				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5241.11	2456.39	3114.00	938.99	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	265.68	*61.89	34.00	55.43	
3.	Assam	2972.50	337.32	2462.00	211.37	
4.	Bihar	2920.71	* 788.03	2564.00	113.66	
5.	Chandigarh	45.00	13.41	33.00	4.82	(8/93)
6.	Delhi	200.55	125.99	137.00	56.73	
7.	Goa	1367.82	209.88	187.00	29.00	
8.	Gujarat	11679.66	* 2819.99	1894.00	697.89	(8/93)

Sl.No	Name of States	Development		Maintenance		993	
		Demand	Expenditure	Demand	Expenditure		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
		(Rs. in lakhs)					
9.	Haryana	3736.22	1434.45	829.00	351.11		
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1548.80	305.45	645.00	346.64		
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	50.00		335.00	N.A.		
12.	Karnataka	2701.24	977.21	2093.00	268.69		
13.	Kerala	5807.43	1344.16	855.00	761.82		
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3782.86	1206.06	3035.00	842.20		
15.	Maharashtra	6199.31	2564.53	3170.00	842.20		
16.	Manipur	387.64	59.35	147.00	35.53		
17.	Meghalaya	773.10	*313.56	180.00	81.54	(8/93)	
18.	Nagaland	80.39	*166.32	6.00	N.A.		

Sl.No	Name of States	Development		Maintenance		9/93	
		Demand	Expenditure	Demand	Expenditure		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
		(Rs. in lakhs)					
19.	Pondicherry	33.80	1.24	26.00	1.32	(7/93)	
20.	Orissa	3509.23	1698.54	1744.00	389.12		
21.	Punjab	3949.06	1370.48	748.00	406.18		
22.	Rajasthan	7431.20	3839.76	3005.00	686.25		
23.	Tamil Nadu	2191.07	1438.71	2055.00	749.29		
24.	Uttar Pradesh.	6995.52	2422.19	3198.00	840.04		
25.	West Bengal	4973.02	Not Available	1948.00	N.A		
Expenditure upto 8/93							

**Fax Facilities in Rural Areas**

1609. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the revenue from the telegraph offices is affected adversely due to increase in the number of telecommunications, telex and fax facilities;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to maintain increase in the revenue;

(c) whether the Government propose to instal fax facilities in the post offices in rural areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHAM): (a) Yes Sir,

(b) Measures have been taken to modermise the services and provide new facilities such as Bureau fax.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Release of Advertisements and Newsprint to Newspapers**

1610. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of small, medium

and big newspapers in the country;

(b) whether the Government propose to make suitable changes in its policy for release of Government advertisements and allocation of newsprint for different newspapers;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the total number of regional newspapers receiving DAVP Advertisements, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government have appointed a Committee to formulate policy for encouraging growth of small, medium and regional newspapers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and other steps being taken to encourage such newspapers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) As per the records maintained by the office of Registrar of Newspapers for India, the total number of registered newspapers upto 31.12.1992 in the country was 305.096.

(b) and (c). The present policy is considered adequate.

(d) There are, at present 4360 newspapers in various States which receive DAVP advertisements. The State-wise figure is given in the attached statement.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

**STATEMENT**

<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>No. of newspapers receiving DABP Advertisements.</i>
Andhara Pradesh	115
Assam	71

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<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>No. of newspapers receiving DABP Advertisements.</i>
Bihar	183
Gujarat	97
Haryana	52
Himachal Pradesh	12
Jammu & Kashmir	37
Karnataka	67
Kerala	54
Madhya Pradesh	797
Maharashtra	176
Manipur	3
Meghalaya	5
Nagaland	1
Orissa	50
Punjab	129
Rajasthan	761
Sikkim	3
Tamil Nadu	59
Tripura	23
Uttar Pradesh	1066
West Bengal	255
Andaman & Nicobar	4
Arunachal Pradesh	1

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<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>No. of newspapers receiving DABP Advertisements.</i>
Chandigarh	15
Delhi	314
Goa	4
Mizoram	2
Pondicherry	4

[*Translation*]

**Telephone Exchanges in H. P.**

1611. PROF PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be please to state:

(a) the district-wise number of villages in Himachal Pradesh where more than ten persons had deposited money up to December, 1989 for setting up telephone exchanges;

(b) the places out of them where telephone exchanges are likely to be set up by March, 1994; and

(c) the time by which the telephone exchanges are likely to be set up to the remaining places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHRAM): (a) District-wise details is given in the statement - I

(b) Details of places are given in the statement-II

(c) Progressively by March, 1997 subject to the availability of resources.

*District-wise details of places where more than ten persons had deposited money upto december, 1989*

*Annexure 'AA'*

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>No. of places</i>
1	2	3
1.	Bilaspur	8
2.	Chamba	2
3.	Hamirpur	5
4.	Kangra	2
5.	Kullu	Nil
6.	Kinnaur	Nil
7.	Lahul & Spiti	Nil
8.	Mandi	Nil
9.	Shimla	4
10.	Sirmour	Nil
11.	Solan	Nil
12.	Una	1
Total		22

Places where telephone Exchanges are likely to be set up by March, 1994

Annexure 'B'

Sl.NO.	Name of places	District
1	2	3
1.	Majheri	Bilaspur
2.	Jhatkhana	-do-
3.	Bhakhra	-do-
4.	Kuthera	Hamirpur
5.	Majhin	Kangra
6.	Badukhar	-do-
7.	Khamadi	Shimla



*Places where telephone connections will be provided from the existing nearby exchanges by March, 1994*

Sl. No.	Name of Places	District	Waiting list to be cleared
1	2	3	4
1.	Ghages	Bilaspur	Beri/Barmana
2.	Hatwar	-do-	Jahu
3.	Chauri	Hamirpur	Patlander
4.	Karot	-do-	Chabutra
5.	Chakrtoh	-do-	Talai
6.	Dhamandari	Una	Dera Baba Rudru.

[English]

**Raw Material Divisions**

1612. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) have recently recognised created some new Raw Material Divisions in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether SAIL's Raw Material Division at Rourkela in Orissa State has been abolished; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Raw Materials Division was formed by SAIL with its headquarters at Calcutta and the management of SAIL Captive mines and IISCO mines which were under the administrative control of Bokaro Steel Plant, Rourkela Steel Plant, Durgapur Steel Plant and IISCO have been placed under the Raw Materials Division of SAIL from the dates as mentioned here under:

- |                |   |           |
|----------------|---|-----------|
| i) ISCO Mines  | - | 12.1.1990 |
| ii) DSP Mines  | - | 1.2.1990  |
| iii) RSP Mines | - | 1.5.1990  |
| iv) BSL Mines  | - | 7.6.1990  |

(c) and (d) SAIL decided to form a separate unit to look after the affairs of the captive mines of SAIL which were under the management of steel plants for better control - quantitatively and qualitatively - of raw materials. Raw materials Division has Coordination Offices at the Steel Plants located at Bokaro, Rourkela, Durgapur and Burnpur. The Mines and Quarries Department of RSP is functioning as the Coordination office of Raw Material Division.

**Power Projects in Orissa**

1613. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received applications from private companies/institutions for setting up of power projects in Orissa;

(b) if so, the number of such applications pending with the Government at present;

(c) the names of the power projects proposed to be handed over to private companies/institutions; and

(d) the details of terms and conditions finalised in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) Nine expressions of interest from Private sector companies to set up Power Projects in Orissa have been received.

(c) The details of the offers are as follows:

## STATEMENT

Sl.No.	Name of the Company	Name of the Project	Installed Capacity	Date of signing MDU/ Agreement
1	2	3	4	5
1.	AES Transpower and IB Valley Power Pvt. Ltd. (IVPL)	3rd and 4th Units of I.T.P.SS.	2 x 210 MW	9.12.1993
2.	Kalinga Power Corpn. Ltd., (In Collaboration with North East Energy Maral Baraugh)	Duburi Thermal Power	2 x 250 MW	25.1.1992
3.	Spectrum Technologies U.S.A., Inc.	T. T. P. S-B, Talcher	2 x 250 MW	24.3.1992
4.	International Equity Partners Ln. Washington Dc	Kamlanga Thermal (Talcher Coal Power Station)	2 x 250 MW	31.3.1993
5.	Pioneer Energy, INC> Illinois USA	Lapanga Thermal Power Station (IB Valley Coal Field) at Sambalpur Dist.	-do-	16.10.1993
6.	Eisenberg Group of Companies (EGC) United Development Incorporated Asian House lareal ( Joint Venture	Hirma Thermal Power Station (I b Valley Coal Field )	St. I 4Xn500 MW SSt. II 2 X500 M WW	17. 8. 1993 . by Govt. of india

Sl.No.	Name of the Company	Name of the Project	Installed Capacity	Date of signing MDU/ Agreement
1	2	3	4	5
	With N T P C )			
7.	Isppat Alloys Ltd. Calcutta West Bengal	Naraj Thermal Power Station at Cuttack Dist.	4 X 250 MW	4.12.1993
8.	M/s . Kalinga Power Corp. Ltd. (in Collaboration With North East Energy Maralbarough)	(a) Birupa Mibi Hydel Project (b) Salandi Small Hydel Power Project .	750 KW  1) 2X 3000 K W 2) 1X 1000 K W	7 . 11. 1992  -do-
9.	M/s . Orissa Power Consortium Ltd.	(a) Indravati Small Hydel Power Project  (i) Indravati SStage - I 2X100 K w  (ii) Indravaati Stage -II 2 X 750 K W  (b) Charampa Mini Power Project 2 X250 K W		29. 5. 19993      -do-

(d) The details of the terms and conditions have not been finalised with any private company/institution.

**Merger Of Fishery Division With  
Agriculture Ministry**

1614. SHRI S.M. LALJANBASHA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to merge the Fisheries Division of your Ministry with the Ministry of Agriculture;

(b) if so, reasons thereof;

(c) whether revival and development of deep-sea fishing industry is not being given priority by you Ministry; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUNGOGOI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**New Post Offices In Kerala**

1615. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government propose to open new post offices in Kerala during 1993-94; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; district-wise and category wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHRAM): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The district-wise details of new post offices sanctioned and proposed to be sanctioned in Kerala Circle under Annual Plan 1993-94 are given in the attached statement.

## DETAILS OF NEW POST OFFICES OPENED/PROPOSED TO BE OPENED IN KERAL UNDER PLAN 1993-94.

Sl.No.	Name of District	Category of Post offices.	Extra departmental branch post offices (already sanctioned)	Departmental sub post offices (proposed to be sanctioned)
1.	Alleppey		1	-
2.	Calicut		5	-
3.	Cannanore		3	-
4.	Idukki		1	-
5.	Kasaragod		2	1
6.	Kottayam		1	-
7.	Malappuram		-	1
8.	Palghat		1	-
9.	Pathanamthitta		7	1
10.	Quilon		5	-
11.	Trivandrum		3	-
12.	Trichur		1	-
Total:			30	3

### **Telephone Connections to Freedom Fighters**

1616. SHRI DHARMABHIK SHAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications pending for new telephone connection during 1993-94;

(b) the number of applications of Freedom Fighters also pending for new telephone connections; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### **Organisation of Drama etc. by Private Parties**

1617. SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of registered private parties organising dramas, composite programmes, folk and mythological epics, folk recitals puppet, magic show etc. with the Doordarshan:

(b) whether the Government propose to take some steps to promote them; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in that direction during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI. K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c) Doordarshan Kendras situated throughout the country utilise local talents available in the field of drama, folk dances, music, puppet shows, magic shows depending upon their programme

requirements. Such talents are also utilised in the National Programme. However, details of such private parties is not maintained centrally in a compiled form.

### **Power Projects in Maharashtra**

1618. SHRI RAMACHANDRA GHANGARE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation has approved and decided to renovate and expand the Khaparkheda Thermal Plant, to set up new power plants at Umred and Ananyan in collaboration with foreign companies during the Eighth Plan period;

(b) if so, the details of the above projects and the names of collaborator companies with whom the agreements have been signed; and

(c) the progress made in the implementation of the above projects, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYANAIDU): (a) No Sir. The National Thermal Power Corporation has no proposal to take up renovation and expansion of the Khaparkheda Thermal Plant and to set up new plants at Umred and Anandvan in collaboration with foreign Companies during 8th Plan Period.

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

[*Translation*]

### **T. V. Transmitters in Uttar Pradesh**

1619. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of TV transmitters in

Uttar Pradesh at present;

(b) whether all these TV transmitters have been functioning;

(c) if not, the number of such TV transmitters which have not been functioning at present; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) 65 TV transmitting Stations are functioning in the State of Uttar Pradesh, at present, and are reported to be going so satisfactorily.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

#### **Import Of Coke**

1620. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether metallurgical coke has been imported for zinc plants whereas coke reserve is available in the country; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the efforts made by the Government to fix the accountability for it and to take deterrent action in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM) SINGH YADAV: (a) and (b) Government has constituted an enquiry committee to examine the matter of import of metallurgical coke by Hindustan Zinc Limited. Committee's report is awaited.

[English]

#### **Private Sector In Transportation**

1621. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:  
SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:

SHRI DATTAMEGHE:  
SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHROV  
GUNDEWAR:  
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:  
SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to encourage private sector participation in road transport and shipping sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the private parties thereto;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) Road Transport and Shipping Sectors are open to private sector. In the recent years, a number of steps have been taken to encourage participation of private sector in the above areas. Some of the steps taken are as under:-

#### **ROAD TRANSPORT**

- (i) The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 which was brought into force from 1st July, 1989 contains provisions for liberal grant of State Carnage Permits to private operators.
- (ii) Further, the Planning Commission has recommended that:

(a) there should be no expansion of State Road Transport Corporations (SRTC's); and

(b) SRTC's should gradually make room for private sector, except in areas where Private Sector is unlikely to come.

#### **SHIPPING**

- (i) Automatic approval is now given for



acquisition of ships except crude tankers and OSVs, by Private Shipowning companies.

- (ii) Shipping companies have been allowed to retain sale proceeds of their ships abroad and utilise them for fresh acquisition.
- (iii) Freedom to time charter out Indian ships to foreign shipping companies.
- (iv) Acquisition of vessels through bare boat charter-cum-demise method.
- (v) The Liner routes where the existing three Indian Shipping Companies (SCI, India Steamship and Sciendias) are not operating have been thrown open to all Indians Shipping Companies.
- (vi) Government have relaxed the minimum percentage of share capital of an Indian Company to be held by citizen of India.
- (vii) Certain Sections of Merchant Shipping Act were considered by foreign lenders as impediments to the enforcement of the rights of lenders in case of loan defaults and consequent requirement of foreclosure of the mortgage. These Sections have now been amended. This would facilitate Indian Shipping Companies to raise external commercial borrowing for foreign ship acquisitions.

[*Translation*]

#### **Incorrect Publication Of MAP India**

1622. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned: Bharat ka Adhura Naksha Chapa,

Sarkar Khamosh\* appearing in Rashtriya Sahara dated October 10, 1993:

(b) if so, the names of foreign publications which came to the notice of the Government for publishing such incorrect maps during the last two years; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) It is not possible to collect and collate the names of all publications which publish such incorrect maps all over the world. But when ever such incorrect maps of India come to the notice of the Government or Indian Missions abroad, the matter is taken up with the publishers for necessary corrective measures.

[*English*]

#### **Soft Drink**

1623. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have granted permission for tie up between Parle and Coca Cola; and

(b) if so, the details of the agreement and the reasons therefor and its likely impact on Indian soft drink industry?

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

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Private Sector Power Projects**

1624. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

SHRIG. DEVARAYA NAIK:  
SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted by the Government to provide financial package to private sector power projects;

(b) whether the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has recently cleared the financial packages of five private sector power projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of power projects still awaiting clearance from CEA at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYANAI DU): (a) the criteria stipulated by Govt. for financial package of private sector power projects, inter alia, includes the following;

- (i) Debt to equity ratio is permitted upto 4:1.
- (ii) Foreign equity participation upto 100% is allowed.
- (iii) Promoters have to bring in at least 11% of the total cost of the project.
- (iv) Not more than 40% of the total outlay can come from Indian Public Financial Institutions.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Twenty two.

#### **Privatisation Of Broadcasting**

1625. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCAST-

ING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to invite private sector for setting up radio stations all over the country; and (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration and Government has not taken any decision in the matter.

#### **Duplicate Passports**

1626. SHRID. VENKATESWARARAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether loss of duplicate passports is reported to the Government time and again;

(b) whether the Government are aware of any racket in the use of such duplicate passports;

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

(d) whether the Government also propose to increase the duplicate passport fee to check this racket; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) The loss of any passport is to be reported to the nearest Passport Office/Indian Mission or Post abroad immediately.

(b) and (c) Instances of racketeering in the fraudulent use of duplicate passports have come to the notice of the Government. Such cases are investigated and when it is substantiated that there has been a malafide act, action is taken under the Passport Act 1967.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

**P&T Offices in U. P.**

1627. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:  
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:  
SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Post and Telegraph Offices and Telephone Exchanges opened in Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat, during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) the number of Post and Telegraph Offices and Telephone Exchanges proposed to be opened in these States during the Eighth Five Year Plan, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHRAM): (a) and (b) POST OFFICES

839 post offices in Uttar Pradesh and 108 post offices in Gujarat were opened during the 7th Five Year Plan.

During Annual Plan 1992-93, 100 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices and 11 Departmental Sub Post Offices were opened in Uttar Pradesh while 30 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices and 5 Departmental Sub Post Offices were opened in Gujarat. During the current year it is targeted to open 93 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices and 12 Departmental Sub offices in Uttar Pradesh and 20 Extra Departmental Branch Post offices and 8 Departmentally Sub Post Offices in Gujarat. State-wise targets for the remaining 3 years of the 8th Plan have not been finalised, This is done from year to year.

(a) and (b) . TELEGRAPH OFFICES AND TELEPHONE EXCHANGES

In respect of telegraph offices and telephone exchanges, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

**Telephone Connections**

1628. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed for allotment of temporary telephone connections;

(b) whether Members of Parliament are authorised of recommend temporary telephone connections;

(c) if so, the total number of applications received by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited in Delhi during the last two months for temporary telephone connections and the number out of them sanctioned and found unacceptable separately; and

(d) the number out of them recommended by Members of Parliament during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHRAM): (a) Temporary connections can be sanctioned on genuine medical grounds. They can be sanctioned on genuine non-medical ground also, if the applicant has registered for a telephone under OYT or Non OYT-Special category. They can also be sanctioned to Government Departments, public Sector undertakings and Statutory bodies to meet their genuine temporary needs.

(b) No such authorization is required.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Visit of Foreign Ministers of South Africa**

1629. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU :  
SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA :  
SHRI RABI RAY :  
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL :  
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVI SINGH PATIL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Foreign Minister of South Africa has visited India recently:

(b) if so, the issues discussed by him with Indian leaders and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any areas have been identified for bilateral cooperation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (d). The Foreign Minister of South Africa Mr. R.F. Botha visited India from November 21-22, 1993. During the visit, two protocols were signed between the two sides. One on the establishment of diplomatic relations and the other on the establishment of consular relations.

Mr. Botha had meetings with Prime Minister, External Affairs Minister and Minister of State for External Affairs, during which areas of mutual interest were discussed. Mr. Botha also referred to the possibilities of intensified economic cooperation among the Indian Ocean countries, in which the Government of India is taking an active interest.

**Post and Telegraph Offices in Rajasthan**

1630. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of post offices, sub-post offices and telegraph offices proposed to be opened during 1994-95 in Rajasthan, location-wise;

(b) the number of post offices and telegraph offices upgraded during the last two years in the state; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to improve the functioning of post offices and telegraph offices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Targets for opening post offices are fixed annually. Therefore, no decision has been taken as yet in respect of 1994-95.

In respect of telegraph offices, it is proposed to set up offices in the following 7 locations :—

(1) Makrana (2) Suratgarh (3) Bundi (4) Jhalawar (5) Ramganjmandi (6) Neemkathana (7) Bhawanimandi.

(b) 4 post offices and 12 telegraph offices were upgraded during the last 2 years.

(c) To improve the functioning of post offices, a number of measures for upgrading the technology and modernising the equipment utilised, besides computerising some of the departments, are proposed to be progressively introduced.

In respect of telegraph offices also modern electronic equipment are being intro-

duced to improve and streamline their functioning.

[English]

### **Post Offices in Maharashtra**

1631. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices likely to be opened in Sangli district, Maharashtra, particularly in during the current financial year; and

(b) the names of places identified for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). It is proposed to open 1 extra departmental branch post office and 3 departmental sub post offices in Sangli district during the current financial year. The names of places have not yet been finalised.

### **Postal Stamp on Chandra Singh 'Garhwali'**

1632. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4502 on March 29, 1993 and state :

(a) whether necessary formalities have been completed for the issue of commemorative stamp on Shri Chandra Singh "Garhwali";

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to

be issued;

(c) whether the proposal for issuing the stamp on Shri Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna was again put up before the Philatelic Advisory Committee; and

(d) if so, the recommendation of the Committee and the time by which the stamp is likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The design for the proposed stamp has been approved and forwarded to the India Security Press for further processing & printing.

(b) The stamp is likely to be issued in early 1994.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

### **Post Offices in M.P.**

1633. SHRI BARE LAL JATAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the number of post offices in Madhya Pradesh where facilities of P.C.O. telegram and Saving bank are available, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): There are 2890 PCOs, 755 combined offices (i.e. with telegram facilities) and 11,409 post offices with Savings Bank facilities in Madhya Pradesh. District-wise details are given in the attached statement.

## STATEMENT

*District-wise Details of P.C.O. Combined Offices (Telegram facility) POs With SB Facility in MP Circle*

S.No.	Name of the Dist.	Combined Offices	PCOs	POs with SB facility
1.	Balaghat	8	63	217
2.	Bastar	10	104	569
3.	Batul	9	58	214
4.	Bhind	18	41	252
5.	Bhopal	3	47	129
6.	Bilaspur	21	73	647
7.	Chattarpur	54	54	223
8.	Chindwara	6	63	264

S.No.	Name of the Dist.	Combined Offices	PCOs	POs with SB facility
9.	Damoh	10	35	159
10.	Datta	6	43	98
11.	Dewas	11	52	169
12.	Dhar	11	79	196
13.	Dhurg	16	33	327
14.	Guna	17	43	196
15.	Gwalior	13	69	192
16.	Hoshangabad	76	76	246
17.	Indore	15	95	162
18.	Jabalpur	28	114	390

S.No.	Name of the Dist.	Combined Offices	PCOs	POs with SB facility
19.	Jhabua	11	62	158
20.	Khandwa	4	106	471
21.	Khargon	10	132	309
22.	Mandla	6	46	215
23.	Mandsur	18	141	305
24.	Morena	15	65	253
25.	Narsingpur	64	64	182
26.	Panna	14	14	151
27.	Raigarh	6	62	416
28.	Rajpur	27	129	623



S.No.	Name of the Dist.	Combined Offices	PCOs	POs with SB facility
29.	Raisen	9	29	202
30.	Rajgarh	6	32	165
31.	Rajnandangaon	7	36	214
32.	Ratlam	16	82	101
33.	Rewa	4	59	335
34.	Sagar	13	57	296
35.	Sarguja	11	31	273
36.	Satna	9	53	284
37.	Sehora	4	57	167
38.	Seoni	6	64	194

S.No.	Name of the Dist.	Combined Offices	PCOs	POs with SB facility
39.	Shadol	29	71	293
40.	Shahjapur	24	78	179
41.	Shivpuri	17	52	223
42.	Sidhi	14	44	206
43.	Tikamgarh	40	40	183
44.	Ujjain	38	91	200
45	Vidisa	1	51	161
			755	11409

**Export by NMDC**

1634. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Mineral Development Corporation is exporting its production directly at its own level;

(b) if so, the details of the production exported during the last three years indicating the value thereof; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to promote the export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Export of iron ore produced by the National Mineral Development Corporation Limited (NMDC) is canalised through the Minerals & Metals Trading Corporation of India Limited (MMTC). However, NMDC was, as a special case, permitted in February 1990 to directly export 2.5 lakh tonnes of calibrated lump ore with a view to test its suitability for manufacture of sponge iron. Against this, the actual exports undertaken by the company year-wise and the value earned are as under:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Value</i>
1989-90	56228 Tonnes	Rs. 2.40 crores
1990-91	39290 "	Rs. 1.70 "
1991-92	65791 "	Rs. 5.46 "

NMDC has set up a demonstration plant for manufacture of Ferro-Oxide from Blue Dust. Test production of Ferro-Oxide from the

demonstration plant was exported as per details given below :-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Value</i>
1990-91	120 Tonnes	Rs. 2.75 lakhs
1991-92	221 Tonnes	Rs. 8.12 lakhs
1992-93	180 Tonnes	Rs. 6.67 lakhs

(c) Iron Ore Exporters enjoy the benefits extended to exporters under Section 80 HHC of the Income Tax Act as well as the benefit of a unified exchange rate. Export duty applicable on iron ore export was withdrawn with effect from 1.4.93.

**Food Processing Industries**

1635. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING

INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of incentives being given by the Union Government to entrepreneurs in Food Processing Industries;

(b) the number of units functioning in this industry State-wise and item-wise; and

(c) the number of applications pending

at present for setting up new units in this sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). Industrial Policy of July, 1991 has placed most food processing industries in the high priority list and have done away with the requirement of licencing in all food processing industries except for distillation and brewing of alcoholic beverages and items reserved for manufacture in the small scale sector. The Government also extended various fiscal concessions such as exemptions of excise duties on all fruit and vegetable products, meat and poultry products, and fish products and have also lowered the duties on many other processed food products including most of the milk products. The duties on the machineries required for processed food industries have also been lowered. This

Ministry is also operating various Plan Schemes for development of food processing industries under which assistance is extended to projects in the public sector, cooperative sector, joint sector, private organisations, etc.

Since the announcement of the industrial Policy of July, 1991, entrepreneurs are required only to file Industrial Entrepreneurs, Memoranda (IEM) in respect of industries where licence is not required. Since the food processing industries are both in the organised and unorganised sectors, information in regard to the number of food processing industries State-wise and item-wise is not maintained centrally. However, information in regard to the number of rice mills, flour mills, fish processing units, fruit and vegetable processing units, sweetened aerated water units that are registered under Fruit Product Order are given in the attached statement.

## STATEMENT

## STATEWISE DISTRIBUTION OF NO. OF UNITS OF SOME SELECTED SECTORS.

Sl. No.	States/UTs.	F & VP Units	Sweetened Aerated Water.	Rice Mills including Hullers.	Roller Flour Mills	Fish Prod. Units.	Bear Units
1.	Andhra Pradesh	175	72	21744	58	26	3
2.	Assam	20	2	2608	40	-	-
3.	Bihar	40	12	4372	58	-	-
4.	Gujarat	165	55	3161	30	28	-
5.	Haryana	164	26	1797	33	-	1
6.	Himachal Pradesh	78	1	1115	13	-	1
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	73	6	N.A.	18	-	1
8.	Karnataka	178	47	14370	54	19	3
9.	Kerala	291	30	16096	27	103	2
10.	Madhya Pradesh	66	26	3674	20	-	2
11.	Maharashtra	713	87	9277	54	41	5

Sl. No.	States/UTs.	F & VP Units	Sweetened Areated Water.	Rice Mills including Hullers.	Roller Flour Mills	Fish Prod. Units.	Bear Units
12.	Manipur	10	1	169	1	-	-
13.	Meghalaya	6	1	93	2	-	-
14.	Nagaland	4	0	N.A.	4	-	-
15.	Orissa	18	3	7364	18	15	4
16.	Punjab	159	13	6823	28	-	1
17.	Rajasthan	62	25	353	10	-	-
18.	Tamil Nadu	336	43	18228	37	31	-
19.	Tripura	3	0	703	2	-	-
20.	Uttar Pradesh	364	46	7634	98	-	4
21.	West Bengal	237	20	10457	46	30	2
22.	Sikkim	2	0	17	-	-	-
23.	Andaman & Nicobar	1	0	116	0	-	-

Sl. No.	States/UTs.	F & VP Units	Sweetened Aereated Water.	Rice Mills including Hullers.	Roller Flour Mills	Fish Prod. Units.	Bear Units
24.	Anunachal Pradesh	2	0	N.A.	0	-	-
25.	Chandigarh	21	7	31	5	-	1
26.	Dadra & Nagar Havelli	4	2	9	-	-	-
27.	Delhi	218	24	34	18	-	-
28.	Goa	46	90	717	2	5	4
29.	Mizoram	2	0	N.A.	-	-	-
30.	Pondichery	8	2	220	3	-	1
31.	Daman & Diu	*	*	*	*	1	*
TOTAL		3416	641	131682	702	299	32

\* Figures included in Goa's figures.

[English]

SHRI CHITTA BASU:

**Post Offices in Kerala**

1636. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Post Office in Kerala have been computerised;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the proposals, if any, for further computerisation of Post Offices in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

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

**Calcutta Port**

1637. SHRI ANIL BASU:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have chalked out any plan to improve the overall functioning of the Calcutta Port;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c). A provision of Rs. 421 crores has been made in the 8th Five Year Plan (1992-97) for various development schemes aimed at improvement of the general functioning of the Calcutta Port. The major schemes included in the 8th Five Year Plan with outlays are as follows :

*(Rs. in crores)*

1.	Replacement of Swing Bridge	17.50
2.	Replacement of 1 Pilot Vessel	26.30
3.	Replacement of D.V. Nadia	18.00
4.	Replacement of floating crane C.V. Atlas	22.00
5.	Recessional dredging at Jiggerkhali flat	65.84
6.	Procurement of three locomotives in replacement	9.13
7.	Replacement of dredger 'Churni'	48.00



**Separate Channel for Agriculture**

1638. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to start a separate channel in coordination with Ministries of Agriculture exclusively for farmers, particularly to educate them in the better use of seeds, fertilizers and pesticides; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

**Indians in Jails in Foreign Countries**

1639. SHRI DATTA MEGHE:  
SHRI VILASRAO  
NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian soldiers and civilians are languishing in jails in foreign countries;

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

(c) the efforts made/being made by the Government for their early release; and

(d) the number of Indians released as a result of the efforts made by the Government during the last two years, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

**Bridges Over National Highways in Rajasthan**

1640. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA): Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction and repair of bridges over the National Highways in Rajasthan are being reviewed;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last two years; and

(c) the deficiencies found therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c). The details of bridge works on National Highways in Rajasthan for which review relating to their construction and repairs has been made during the last two years are as under :

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of bridge works reviewed</i>
1991-92	23
1992-93	16

Progress on some works was found to be slow, mainly because of default of contractors.

[*Translation*]**Construction/Repair of Bridges in U.P.**

1641. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any review is being made on the progress of work relating to construction and repair of bridges on National Highways in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last two years; and

(c) the details of lapses, if any, found therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The details of bridge works on National Highways in Uttar Pradesh for which review of the progress relating to their construction and repairs has been made during the last two years are as under :-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of bridge works reviewed</i>
1991-92	32
1992-93	24

Progress on some works was found to be slow, mainly because of default of contractors.

[*English*]**Payment of Harbour Dues**

1642. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oarsmen pay harbour dues at the time of clearing the materials such as scrap, waste, etc;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No category of Port users called Oarsmen exist at any of the Major Ports.

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

**Privatisation of Iron-Ore Mine of NMDC**

1643. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to hand over to private sector a high grade iron ore mine of the National Mineral Development Corporation which has shown reserves of the highest grade of iron ore after exploration;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for handing-over this mine to private sector; and

(c) the details of terms and conditions in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Government have so far not taken any decision to hand over any high grade iron ore mine of National Mineral Development Corporation Limited (NMDC) to

the private sector.

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

### **India-Uganda Relations**

1644. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level Indian delegation headed by the Minister of State for External Affairs visited Uganda during September, 1993;

(b) if so, the various subjects discussed during the visit and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the Government have offered Indian expertise for joint ventures in that country; and

(d) if so, the areas identified for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No, Sir.

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

### **FAX for Telegrams and Money Orders**

1645. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:  
SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to use FAX machines for speedy delivery of telegrams and money orders;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes Sir, for telegrams but there is no proposal to use FAX for transmission of Money Orders.

(b) Provision has already been made for use of the Fax network in the event of failure of SFT/SFMSS network wherever offices of destinations are directly available on FAX network for disposal of priority telegrams. Besides other telegrams bearing Fax number can be delivered on fax to the subscribers.

Does not arise in respect of Money Orders.

(c) Does not arise so far as Telegrams are concerned.

The proposal to transmit money orders by using FAX was examined by the Department of Posts in the past and dropped as transmission of money orders via FAX was not found viable. However, as an alternative to speed up the transmission of money orders, Department of Posts has drawn up a programme of transmission of money orders via Satellite medium.

### **T.V. Programmes from Pattanamthitta**

1646. SHRI K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether T.V. programmes from the Pattanamthitta relay station in Kerala are not clearly visible on TV screens;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the power of the relay transmitter or increase the height of tower;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) The existing Low Power TV Transmitter at Pattanamthitta in Kerala is working on full radiating power and is reported to be providing satisfactory service within its coverage area. However, population in certain areas/pockets may not get satisfactory service due to shadow areas caused by intervening hills.

(b) and (c). In order to improve TV service in the area, the height of the existing transmitting tower at Pattanamthitta is envisaged to be increased further. There is no proposal, at present, to increase the power of the existing transmitter there.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Deep-Sea Fishing Vessels**

1647. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of deep-sea fishing vessels which lay idle in Visakhapatnam Port during the current fishing season, starting from July 1, 1993;

(b) whether the Government have made any efforts to encourage resumption of fishing activity by the idle vessels: and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Forty-one deep sea fishing vessels lay idle in Visakhapatnam Port during the current fishing season starting from July 1, 1993.

(b) and (c). The following assistance is being given to the deep sea fishing sector as a

whole:-

- (i) Provision of 33% subsidy on the cost of indigenously constructed deep sea fishing vessels.
- (ii) Provision of loan facility on soft terms by SCICI Ltd.
- (iii) Assistance for construction of fishing harbours at major and minor ports.
- (iv) Training of deep sea fishing operatives for manning the fishing vessels.
- (v) Assistance for diversified fishing.
- (vi) Price reimbursement on HSD consumed by Export Oriented deep sea fishing vessels.
- (vii) Equity participation by Marine Products Export Development Authority in deep sea fishing projects.
- (viii) Rehabilitation assistance to sick deep sea fishing units.
- (ix) Assistance under the Plan Scheme of the Ministry of Food Processing industries.

The Government has also constituted a Technical Committee to look into the problems of sick deep sea fishing industry in India.

#### **Pak Pressure on UN Human Rights Sub-Commission**

1648. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has stepped up its pressure on the U.N. Human Rights sub-

commission on prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities and for sending an observer mission to monitor alleged human rights violation in Kashmir; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the counter steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). Yes Sir, the Government of Pakistan and Pakistan backed Non-Government Organisations have been agitating the alleged human rights violations in Kashmir before the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities. The Sub-Commission consists of independent experts. The Indian delegation has kept the Sub-Commission members fully apprised of the true picture of Human Rights situation in J & K, particularly the violation of human rights of the people of J & K due to Pakistan's support to terrorism in the State.

#### **Sikkim Issue**

1649. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of Sikkim was taken up during Prime Minister's recent visit to China; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). The fact that Sikkim is an integral part of India has been conveyed to the Chinese authorities on several occasions including Prime Minister's recent visit to China. The Chinese authorities are aware of India's position and have noted it.

#### **New Steel Plant in Orissa**

1650. SHRI K. PRADHANI:  
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up new Steel Plants in Orissa with the collaboration of Foreign Companies/NRIs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. A steel plant under the name of "Kalinga Steels (India) Limited" is proposed to be set up near Daitari in Orissa in pursuance of a Memorandum of Understanding signed between Government of Orissa and Dr. Swaraj Paul of the Caparo Group, U.K. The Government of India have approved the foreign investment proposal for setting up this Steel Plant. The plant is projected to produce 1.5 Million Tons of HR Coils and 0.48 million tons of pig iron annually. The estimated project cost is Rs. 6400 crores which will be met through an equity of Rs. 1600 crores and a debt of Rs. 4800 crores. The Detailed Project Report is expected to be ready by July 1994.

#### **Maintenance of National Highways**

1651. SHRI SANDIPAM BHAGWAN THORAT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:-

(a) the total expenditure incurred on the maintenance of National Highways during each of the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(b) the amount sanctioned for the maintenance and construction of new bridges on National Highways in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) A statement showing the expenditure incurred on the maintenance of National Highways during each of the last three years viz. 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93, year-wise and State-wise is given in the attached statement.

(b) The amounts sanctioned for the special repair of bridges on National Highways in Maharashtra during the last three years are:-

1990-91	Rs. 46.31 lakhs
1991-92	Rs. 16.52 lakhs
1992-93	Rs. 20.60 lakhs
<b>Total</b>	<b>Rs. 83.43 lakhs</b>

Normal maintenance of bridges is covered under overall maintenance grant. The amounts sanctioned for construction of bridges during the last three years are :

<i>(Rs. in lakhs)</i>	
1990-91	688.45
1991-92	1322.58
1992-93	614.74
<b>Total</b>	<b>2625.77</b>

## STATEMENT

## EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON THE MAINTENANCE OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS.

S. No.	Name of the State/UT	Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)		
		1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1350.56	1345.56	1300.39
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	36.27	94.32	117.44
3.	Assam	986.64	2080.09	1085.64
4.	Bihar	1147.50	1089.73	1072.73
5.	Chandigarh	11.56	11.87	15.43
6.	Delhi	127.76	211.73	191.89
7.	Goa	218.87	190.04	148.88
8.	Gujarat	1335.37	1004.16	1056.61
9.	Haryana	254.72	401.66	401.08
10.	Himachal Pradesh	606.96	525.90	519.50
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	80.44	5.70	14.97
12.	Karnataka	883.32	1187.40	1677.57
13.	Kerala	493.42	620.35	746.39
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1174.41	1618.89	1534.03
15.	Maharashtra	1848.56	1629.47	1051.02 (up to 1/93)

S. No.	Name of the State/UT	Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)		
		1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
16.	Manipur	78.28	73.60	78.02
17.	Meghalaya	181.19	210.52	168.62
18.	Nagaland	2.00	0.29	2.73
19.	Orissa	654.72	870.31	727.17
20.	Pondicherry	7.87	5.28	31.23
21.	Punjab	515.38	572.17	793.14
22.	Rajasthan	1064.87	1212.62	1168.51
23.	Tamil Nadu	967.90	996.89	1175.11
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1142.80	1169.04	1462.38
25.	West Bengal	1366.73	1377.39	515.17 (up to 12/92)



**Educational Programmes from  
Ahmedabad Doordarshan Kendra**

1652. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to relay educational programmes from the Ahmedabad Doordarshan Kendra in Gujarat for the benefit of people of the tribal and backward classes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Doordarshan Kendra, Ahmedabad is uplinking the ETV programmes w.e.f. 1.12.1993 and the same are being relayed by TV transmitters in the Tribal belt.

**National Highway No. 52**

1653. SHRI PROBEN DEKA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the damages caused to National Highway No. 52 from Baihata Chariali to Tezpur by the recent floods and rain;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to repair and develop this National Highway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Some bridge protection works and pavement crust were damaged in addition to formation of pot-holes. Necessary immediate repair work has already been taken up by the State Government.

**Pine Apple Processing Industry**

1654. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2948 on August 16, 1993 and state:

(a) the further progress made in the implementation of the programme relating to setting up of fruit processing units particularly for Pine Apple processing in Kerala with the assistance of European Economic Community; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b). As per the information available, the Work Plan for the Kerala Horticulture Development Programme with the assistance of the European Economic Community has been approved with certain modifications by the Steering Committee in its meeting held on 26th November, 1993.

**T.V. Transmitters in Border Areas of J & K**

1655. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a network of low and high power transmitters are going to be set up in the border areas of Jammu and Kashmir to inform, educate and entertain the people; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The requisite details are given in the attached statement.

## TV TRANSMITTER NETWORK IN BORDER DISTRICTS/AREAS OF JAMMU &amp; KASHMIR

TV Transmitters under  
Implementation/ ENV  
Isaged to be set up

Existing

Kupwara	VLPT, Kupwara	VLPT, Tithwal
Baramuulla		VLPT, Baramuulla. VCPT, Uri VLPT, Dawar.
Poonch	HPT, Poonch. Transposer, Surankot	VLPT, Surankot. VLPT, Poonch
Rajouri	VLPT, Rajouri.	LPT, Thanamandi HPT, Narshera. VLPT, Pudhal. VLPT, Kalakot.
Jammu	HPT, Jammu	Transposer, Nagrota VLPT, Samba
Kathua		LPT, Kathur.
Ladakh	VLPT, Leh VLPT, Deskit VLPT, Nyema VLPT, Timsogam	HPT, Leh. VLPT, Shyck

HPT: High Power Transmitter  
LPT : Low Power Transmitter  
VLPT Very Low Power Transmitter.

**Concession in Trunk Calls***[Translation]*

1656. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any concession/compensation is given to such telephone subscribers who book the trunk calls which do not mature for more than 24 hours, 48 hours, for more than a week, month, and for more than one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which the Government propose to provide any type of compensation to such subscribers/consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No Sir. The Inland Trunk calls are booked on daily basis and calls not materialised due to any reason are treated as cancelled under time expiry at 24.00 hours (Mid night). However on specific request from the subscribers the calls are rebooked for the next day.

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

(c) There is no proposal to provide any type of compensation in such cases.

**Tanakpur Hydro-Electric Project**

1657. DR. P. R. GANGWAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the Tanakpur hydro-electric power project was dedicated to the nation;

(b) whether construction work on the project has since been completed;

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

(d) the number of local and outsider employees working in the project, separately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI. P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The Tanakpur hydro-electric power project was sanctioned by the Govt. of India in August 1984 for implementation in the Central Sector.

(b) and (c). The construction work on the project has been completed and all the three units were test synchronised by the first week of April, 1992.

(d) The number of employees posted at the Tanakpur HE Project is as follows :

	<i>Employees belonging to the same State</i>	<i>Employees belonging to other States</i>
Regular	215	61
Work-charged	324	62

[English]

**Telephone Connections in Karnataka**

1658. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons registered for telephone connections in Karnataka, district-wise and particularly in Mysore and Bangalore cities by the end of October 1993; category-wise;

(b) the number of telephone connections released by the end of October 1993 particularly in Mysore and Bangalore; and

(c) the number of telephone connections proposed to be released in the above cities by the end of March, 1994?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH, RAM): (a) District-wise/category-wise waiting list given in the attached statement. Part (a)

(b) The number of telephone connections proposed to be released by the end of march 94:

Mysore City	3800
Bangalore City	23000

## STATEMENT

(A) I. District	Para (A) Districtwise/categorywise waiting list as on 31.10.93		Waiting list		Total	Part B Districtwise Net telephone connections released from 1st April 93 to October, 93.
	OYT	SPECIAL	GENERAL			
			SPECIAL	GENERAL		
1. Belgaum	80	465	6480	7025	640	
2. Dharwad	111	384	7253	7748	1274	
3. Mysore	40	618	10221	10879	1159	
4. Bellary	1	5	994	1000	331	
5. Bidar	5	9	579	593	362	
6. Bijapur	10	36	2330	2376	1084	
7. Gulbarga	71	267	3115	3453	632	
8. Raichur	-	-	1221	1221	265	
9. Chitradurga	54	130	3063	3247	555	
10. Hassan	20	38	2874	2932	183	
11. Kolar	8	48	2747	2803	885	
12. Mandya	14	63	1629	1706	273	
13. Tumkur	23	185	3645	3853	198	

Para (A) Districtwise/categorywise  
waiting list as on 31.10.93

Part B  
Districtwise

Net telephone connections  
released from 1st April 93  
to October, 93.

Waiting list

SPECIAL GENERAL

Total

Net telephone connections  
released from 1st April 93  
to October, 93.

(A) I. District	OYT	Waiting list		Total	Net telephone connections released from 1st April 93 to October, 93.
		SPECIAL	GENERAL		
14. Chickmagalur	28	96	2661	2785	138
15. Madikeri	42	75	2250	2367	185
16. Shimoga	66	96	4384	4546	117
17. Uttara Kannada	62	100	2541	2703	540
18. Dakshine Kannada	311	453	23491	24255	3503
19. Bangalore	3110	5056	93557	101723	8299
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4056</b>	<b>7622</b>	<b>175538</b>	<b>187216</b>	<b>20773</b>
A. II Bangalore City	2892	4354	89472	96718	6353
Mysore City	2	518	8600	2120	802

**Telephone Connections to Blinds**

1659. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered the proposal regarding special concession to blinds in payment of telephone registration fee, call charges, etc.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Instructions have already been issued to provide priority concessional telephone facility to blind persons under Non-OYT/ Special category against normal registration fee granting 50% rebate in normal rental and advance annual rental.

**International Conference on Population and Development**

1660. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India made certain suggestions for developing commonality of approach towards the proposed Cairo International Conference on Population and Development during the recent meeting of SAARC countries held at Kathmandu;

(b) if so, the response of other member States in this regard, country-wise;

(c) whether any consensus was arrived at on the issue; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes Sir. In pursuance of the decision taken at the Seventh SAARC Summit held in Dhaka on 10-11 April, 1993, a SAARC Ministerial Conference on Women and Family Health was held in Kathmandu on 21-23 November, 1993. One of the objectives of the Conference was to develop a commonality of approach towards the proposed Cairo International Conference on Population and Development. The Indian delegation's views that issues related to empowered of women which directly relate to Population should be focussed on were reflected in the Kathmandu Resolution.

(b) In accordance with the SAARC Charter, the final documents/Resolutions etc. at such Conferences are adopted on the basis of consensus; consequently the response of SAARC Member States are not reflected separately.

(c) Yes Sir. At the SAARC Ministerial Conference on Women and Family Health which was held at Kathmandu from 21-23 November, 1993, the Ministers adopted a consensus Declaration "Kathmandu Resolution on Women and Family Health".

(d) The Kathmandu Resolution includes:

Commitment to empower Women and improve their status in society, promote female literacy and education and skill development for income generation;

- encourage the adoption of the small family norm as an ideal through information, education and communication;

- requirement of substantial additional

concessional financial assistance and grants through both bilateral and multilateral channels and predictable level of funding for reduction of poverty and sustained economic growth of developing countries.

The Ministers resolved that the text of the Kathmandu Resolution may be forwarded to the International Conference on Population and Development Secretariat at New York as the input of SAARC Member countries to facilitate preparatory work of the conference.

[*Translation*]

**Telephone Connections from  
Discretionary Quota**

1661. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone connections provided by him from his discretionary quota between January 17, 1993 to October 31, 1993;

(b) the statewise details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to fix the discretionary quota on monthly basis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) 8380 telephone connections were provided from the Discretionary Quota of the MOS (C) from 17.01.93 to 31.10.93.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

**Doordarshan Satellite**

1662. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry propose to modify the first come first served scheme for allotment of time slots on the satellite channels or to start a new scheme in view of the Delhi High Court's judgement in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO):

(a) to (c). The Ministry is undertaking a complete review of the entire scheme for allotment of time slots on the satellite channels including interim arrangements

**Mejja Thermal Power Station**

1663. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Damodar Valley Corporation's proposals for utilisation of the power to be generated at the 630 MW Mejja Thermal Power Station under construction; and

(b) the estimated cost of the power station ?



THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Power to be generated from the Mejia Thermal Power Station (3 x 210 MW) of the Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) would serve to cover the anticipated peak shortage in the DVC system.

(b). The latest estimated cost of the power station is Rs. 1370 crores (at July 1993 prices).

**Conversion of Telephone Exchange into Electronic Exchanges in A.P.**

1664. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of telephone exchanges

being converted into electronic ones in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise;

(b) the present stage of progress made in case of each such exchanges; and

(c) the number of such exchanges likely to be converted during 1993-94 and 1994-95, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). Details of telephone exchanges being converted into electronic exchanges during 1993-94 and present stage of progress made in each case is given in the attached Statement I.

(c) Districtwise number of such exchanges is given in the Statement II.

## STATEMENT

Telephone Exchanges to be converted into electronic Exchanges during 1993-94

Name of the District : ADILABAD

Sl. No.	Name of the Station	Present state of Progress
1.	Adilabad	To be converted by March 94
2.	Sirpirkagaznagar (II unit)	" by Dec. 93
3.	Bellampalli	- do - by Mar. 94
4.	Shainsa	- do -
5.	Dandepalli	Commissioned on 23.4.93
6.	Laxmanchanda	- do - 21.5.93
7.	Niguva	- do - 23.5.93

Name of the District : ANANTAPUR

Sl. No.	Name of the Station	Present stage of progress
1.	Tadipatri	To be converted by March 94
2.	Anantapur (2nd Unit)	- do -
3.	Kudur	Commissioned on 29.4.93
4.	Bammanahal	- do - 6.10.93
5.	Nalluru	- do - 7.7.93
6.	Patham	- do - 8.8.93
7.	Peddavaduguru	- do - 26.4.93

## Name of the District : CHITTOOR

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present stage of progress</i>
1.	Puttur	To be converted by March 94
2.	Piler	Commissioned on 23.5.93
3.	Pakala	- do - 20.8.93
4.	B.Kothakota (2nd unit)	To be converted by March 94
5.	Gurramkonda	Commissioned on 6.7.93
6.	Damalacheruvu	- do - 16.5.93
7.	Horsely Hills	- do - 1.4.93

## Name of the District : CUDDAPAH

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present stage of progress</i>
1.	Yerraguntla	To be converted by March 94.
2.	Chilamakur	Commissioned on 1.4.93
3.	Eruvapalam	To be converted by March 94
4.	Duvvur	Commissioned on 27.9.93
5.	Mangampeta	- do - 30.9.93

## Name of the District : GUNTUR

Sl. No.	Name of the Station	Present stage of progress
1.	Mangalagiri	To be converted by Dec. 93
2.	Tenali	- do - Mar. 93
3.	Vinukonda	- do -
4.	Sattenpalli	- do -
5.	Macherla	- do -
6.	Dapatla	- do -
7.	Ponnur	- do -
8.	Kondrupandu (2nd)	Commissioned on 1.4.93
9.	Vatticherukuru (2nd)	- do - 1.4.93
10.	Donopudi	- do - 26.4.93
11.	Prathur (2nd)	- do - 1.4.93

## Name of the District : EAST GODAVARI

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present stage of progress</i>
1.	Amalapuram	Commissioned on 10.9.93
2.	Yanam	To be converted by Dec. 93
3.	Yeleswaram	- do - Mar. 94

## Name of the District : HYDERABAD

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present Stage of Progress</i>
1.	Saifabad-VI	To be converted by Mar. 94
2.	Musheerabad	- do -
3.	Charminar	- do -
4.	Secunderabad	- do -

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present Stage of Progress</i>
5.	Golconda	- do -
6.	Jubilee Hills	- do -
7.	Gachibowli	- do -
8.	*Other RLU expans	- do -
9.	Shamshabad	- do -
10.	Kompally	- do -
11.	Shamoorpet.	- do -
12.	Sanghinagar	- do -
13.	basupally	- do -
14.	Dubbacherla	- do -
15.	Ennaram	- do -

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present Stage of Progress</i>
16.	Malvi Nagar	- do -
17.	Marripally	- do -
18.	V. Nagulapally	- do -
19.	Yellampet	- do -
20.	Oodainagapur	- do -
21.	Kanekal	- do -
22.	K.Raviryal	- do -
23.	MDR Pelly (Madireddipalli)	- do -
24.	Manchala	- do -
25.	Peddarnul	- do -

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present Stage of Progress</i>
26.	Rachaloor	- do -
27.	Raipole	- do -
<p>* Kukatpally Housing Bd.  Vasanthallipuram  Chandrayangulla</p>		
		3-k lines 2-k lines 1-k lines .
<b>Name of the District : KHAMMAM .</b>		
<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present stage of progress</i>
1.	Yellandu	Commissioned on 11.9.93
2.	Khammam RLU	To be converted by Mar. 94
3.	Khammam	- do - Dec. 93
4.	Satyanarayanapuram	- do - Mar. 94
5.	Kunavaram	- do -



<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present stage of progress</i>
6.	Aswaraopet (2nd unit)	commissioned on 1.4.93
7.	Durgampahad	- do - 9.7.93
8.	Dammamet	- do - 21.11.93
9.	Mukundapuram	To be converted by March 94
10.	Mondikunta	- do -
11.	Nagupalli	Commissioned on 8.9.93
12.	V.K. Puram	- do - 6.9.93
13.	Annasurendripalli	- do - 7.9.93
14.	Nagupalli	- do - 8.9.93

## Name of the District : KRISHNA

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present stage of progress</i>
1.	Kaikaluru (2nd unit)	Commissioned on 1.4.93
2.	Hanuman Junction	- do - 13.8.93
3.	vijayawada	- do - 24.10.93
4.	Kankipadu	To be converted by Dec. 93
5.	Avanigadda	- do - Mar. 94
6.	BhaskararaoPET	- do - Mar. 94
7.	Bhujabalapatnam	Commissioned on 19.4.93
8.	Putrola	- do - 4.4.3
9.	Polavaram	- do - 1.4.93
10.	Ramavarapupadu (2nd unit)	- do - 1.4.93
11.	Gannavaram	- do - 1.4.93
12.	Bandipalam	- do - 29.4.93

## Name of the District : KURNOOL

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present stage of progress</i>
1.	Nandyal	Commissioned on 1.7.93
2.	Yemmiganur	To be converted by Mar. 94
3.	Adoni	- do -

## Name of the District : MAHABUBNAGAR

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present stage of progress</i>
1.	Shadnagar	To be converted by Dec. 93
2.	Amanagallu	- do -
3.	Mahabubnagar	- do - Mar. 94
4.	Moosapet	- do -
5.	Khilaghanapur	- do -
6.	Urukonda	- do -

## Name of the District : MEDAK

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present stage of progress</i>
1.	Bolaram	To be converted by Dec. 93.
2.	Shankarampet-I	Commissioned on 16.4.93
3.	Narasapur (2nd unit)	To be converted by Mar. 94
4.	Tokmal	Commissioned on 28.9.93

## Name of the District : NALGONDA

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present stage of progress</i>
1.	Nalgonda	Commissioned on 20.11.93
2.	Kodad	To be converted by Mar. 94
3.	Nidamanur	- do -
4.	Rayyalagudam	Commissioned on 26.6.93

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present stage of progress</i>
5.	Mattampally	To be converted on Mar. 94
6.	Halida	- do -
7.	Vishnupural	- do -
8.	Tripuraram	- do -
9.	Dindi	Commissioned on 28.10.93
<b>Name of the District : NELLORE</b>		
<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present stage of progress</i>
1.	Sullurpet	To be converted by Dec. 93
2.	Gudur	- do - Mar. 94
3.	Nellore	- do -
4.	Chittamore	Commissioned on 25.9.93

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present stage of progress</i>
5.	Bitragunta	Commissioned on 22.4.93
6.	Manubelu	To be converted by Mar. 94
7.	Turimolla	- do -
8.	Katuroya	Commissioned on 20.4.93
9.	Damaranadugu	To be converted by Mar. 94
10.	Indurukurupeta	- do -
11.	Udayagiri	- do -
12.	Somasila	Commissioned on 22.8.93
13.	Annamedu	- do - 6.6.93
14.	Dagadarthy	To be converted by Marc. 94

## Name of the District : NIZAMABAD

Sl. No.	Name of the Station	Present stage of progress
1.	Bheemgal (2nd unit)	To be converted by March. 94
2.	Pitalam	- do -
3.	Dichpally	Commissioned 28.8.93
4.	Nandipet	- do - 25.9.93
5.	Bicknour	- do - 30.4.93
6.	Nagireddypeta	- do - 25.5.93
7.	Patangal	- do - 25.7.93
8.	Morthad	- do - 16.7.93
9.	Domakonda	- do - 7.10.93

## Name of the District : PRAKASHAM

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present stage of progress</i>
1.	Chirala	To be converted by Dec. 93
2.	Addanki	- do - Mar. 94
3.	Podili	- do -
4.	Giddalur	- do -
5.	Cumburn	Commissioned 1.4.93
6.	Maruturu (2nd unit)	To be converted by Mar. 94
7.	Donakonda	Commissioned 1.4.93
8.	Kondepi	To be converted by Mar. 94

## Name of the District : VISAKHAPATNAM

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present stage of progress</i>
1.	Anakapalli	Commissioned 12.6.93
2.	Godpalapatnam	To be converted by Mar. 94
3.	Vishakapatnam	- do -



<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present stage of progress</i>
4.	Segur Estate	- do -
5.	Madhuruwada (3rd unit)	- do -
6.	Lankelapalem (2nd unit)	Commissioned on 26.4.93
7.	Kotaratta	- do - 1.4.93

Name of the District : VIZIANAGARAM

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present stage of progress</i>
1.	Parvathipuram	To be converted by Mar. 94
2.	Bobbili	- do -
3.	G.L. Puram	- do -
4.	Kurupam	Commissioned on 8.9.93
5.	Jonnavalara	To be converted by Mar. 94
6.	Pydibhimavaram	Commissioned on 5.9.93

## Name of the District : WARANGAL

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present stage of progress</i>
1.	Warangal	Commissioned on 31.10.93
2.	Raghunathapalli	- do - 29.5.93
3.	Govindarapet	- do - 5.7.93
4.	Ghanapur (M)	- do - 8.7.93
5.	Warangal (Rural)	To be converted by Mar. 94
6.	Rachannapet	- do -
7.	Warangal (STDPT's)	- do -
8.	Kumi	- do -
9.	Gudur	- do -

## Name of the District : WEST GODAVARI

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present stage of progress</i>
1.	Jangareddygudem	To be converted by Dec. 93
2.	Eluru	- do - Mar. 94
3.	Tanuku	- do -
4.	Palakole	- do -

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present stage of progress</i>
5.	Tadepalligudem	- do -
6.	Mahadevapatnam	Commissioned on 26.11.93
<b>Name of the District : SRIKAKULAM</b>		
<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present stage of progress</i>
1.	Srikakulam	To be converted by Mar. 94
2.	Allinagarani	Commissioned on 23.7.93
<b>Name of the District : KARIMNAGAR</b>		
<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Present stage of progress</i>
1.	Peddapalli	To be converted by Dec. 93
2.	Karimnagar	- do -
3.	FCI	To be converted by Mar. 94
4.	Volulavada	- do -
5.	Ramagundam	Commissioned on 28.9.93
6.	Mukanur	- do - 28.11.93
7.	Gangadhara	- do - 16.11.93

## STATEMENT - II

## DISTRICT-WISE NO. OF EXCHANGES TO BE CONVERTED INTO ELECTRONIC DURING 1993-94 AND 1994-95

S. No.	Name of District	Total Planned	No. of Exchanges	
			1993-94 Already Commissioned	1994-95 Planned
1.	Adilabad	7	3	6
2.	Anantapur	7	5	6
3.	Chittoor	7	5	6
4.	Cuddapah	5	3	6
5.	Guntur	11	4	6
6.	E. Godavari	3	1	6
7.	Hyderabad	29	-	6
8.	Karimnagar	7	3	6
9.	Khammam	14	8	6
10.	Krishna	12	9	6
11.	Kurmoor	3	1	6
12.	Mehabubnagar	6	-	6
13.	Medak	4	2	6

S. No.	Name of District	Total Planned	No. of Exchanges	
			1993-94 Already Commissioned	1994-95 Planned
14.	Nalgonda	9	3	6
15.	Neelore	14	5	6
16.	Nizamabad	9	7	6
17.	Prakasham	8	2	6
18.	Srikakulam	2	1	6
19.	Vishakapatham	7	3	6
20.	Vizianagaram	6	2	6
21.	Warangal	9	4	6
22.	W. Gadavari	6	1	6
<b>Total :</b>		<b>185</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>132</b>

**Extradition of Memons**

1665. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the steps taken and the results achieved so far in regard to the extradition of Memon brothers to India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA) Government have supplied to Pakistan detailed information about the presence of members of the Memon family in Pakistan. Government have repeatedly and at various levels urged Pakistan to locate, apprehend and return to India the members of the Memon family. It is regrettable that so far no positive response has been received from Pakistan.

[*Translation*]

**Ship Breaking Yard in Gujarat**

1666. SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide special technical and financial assistance to Ship Breaking Yard at Bhavnagar in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). The State Government of Gujarat have reported that the Gujarat Maritime Board has prepared a

project report to provide different facilities, phase-wise, at Alang Ship Breaking Yard in Bhavnagar District of Gujarat at an estimated cost of Rs. 142.80 crores. In the first phase, it is proposed to provide infrastructural facilities such as roads, water supply, bridges, power supply, approach bund and jetty, etc. at an estimated cost of Rs. 36.24 crores.

[*English*]

**Production of Major Metallic and Non-Metallic Ores**

1667. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the production of major metallic and non-metallic ores during 1992-93;

(b) the target for 1993-94;

(c) actual production during April-September, 1993 and

(d) whether any significant deposits have been discovered in respect of ores and minerals in which the country is deficient during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (c). Position is given in the Statement attached.

(d) Deposits of Molybdenum, gold and tungsten discovered during the last two years are ;

<i>Mineral</i>	<i>Area</i>
1. Molybdenum	Harur area, Dharmapuri dist., Tamil Nadu.

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<i>Mineral</i>	<i>Area</i>
2. Gold	(i) Maharajagadai area, Krishnagiri Taluk, Tamil Nadu.  (ii) Hira block and Maski block, Kempikete area, Karnataka.  (iii) Ramagiri-penakacharia schist belt and Bisanatham area, A.P.  (iv) Ananpuri - Shukia area of Banaswara dist., Rajasthan.
3. Tungsten	Dahegaon-Pipelgaon area, Maharashtra State.

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**STATEMENT****PRODUCTION OF MAJOR METALLIC AND NON-METALLIC MINERALS DURING 1992-93 AND APRIL-SEPTEMBER, 1993 AND TARGETS OF MAJOR METALLIC AND NON-METALLIC MINERALS DURING 93-94.**

Minerals	Units of Quantity				
	92-93	2	3	Production April- Sept. 1993.	Estimated Production 93-94
1				4	5
<b>METALLIC MINERALS</b>					
Bauxite	Th.t		5103	5425	5028
Chromite	Th.t		1070	434	1094
Copper ore	Th.t		5211	2514	5224
Gold	Kg.		1850	240	1938
Iron Ore	Th.t		55818	26097	56378
Lead Conc.	Tonnes		60704	26397	61426
Manganese Ore	Th.t		1870	794	1781
Silver	Kg.		46560	26420	19910
Zinc Conc.	Tonnes		301437	144218	325022



Minerals	Units of Quantity	Production			Estimated Production 93-94
		92-93	Sept. 1993	April-94	
1	2	3	4	5	

NON-METALLIC MINERALS

Apatite	Th.t	17	5	14
Phosphorite	Th.t	617	379	728
Asbestos	Tonnes	43788	20617	46067
Barytes	Th.t	372	330	533
Diamond	Carat	18752	9486	19607
Dolomite	Th.t	3051	1915	3468
Fire Clay*	Th.t	439	223	465
Fluorite (Graded)	Tonnes	2819	2995	5635
Fluorite (Conc.)	Tonnes	19598	10814	19215
Gypsum	Th.t	1626	824	1878
Kaolin	Th.t	649	315	659

Minerals	Units of Quantity	Production			Estimated Production 93-94
		92-93	April- Sept. 1993.	4	
1	2	3	4	5	
Kyanite	Tonnes	9891	3255	5941	
Sillimanite	Tonnes	20227	5990	12050	
Limestone	Th.t	76617	41255	83868	
Magnesite	Th.t	570	197	417	
Mica (Crude)	Tonnes	2997	2207	2243	
Steauite	Th.t	382	164	360	

\* Exclude the production of fire clay, if any, recovered, incidental to coal mining.

P - Provisional

Th.t - Thousand Tonnes.

**Steel Plants**

1668. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated new guidelines for Steel projects and selected 25 sites for new Steel plants during 8th five year plan;

(b) if so, the details of the guidelines and the locations identified therefor;

(c) the total new capacity and investment proposed to be added during the 8th five year plan;

(d) the details of the Steel projects approved to be set up in Maharashtra and their present status alongwith project-wise cost capacity and employment potential etc.; and

(e) the details of projects in Maharashtra under consideration of the Union Government and the steps being taken to clear them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Government issued a set of "Guidelines for Entrepreneurs in Iron and Steel Industry" in October, 1992. The guidelines provide entrepreneurs comprehensive information on the policy framework, demand projections, availability of essential raw materials, infrastructural facilities, possible locations, technological capabilities existing within the country, requirement of environmental clearance for Iron & Steel projects, etc.

These Guidelines have identified 25 possible sites in the country having potential for setting up new iron and steel projects

and coke making plants. These include 2 in Andhra Pradesh, 2 in Bihar, 1 in Goa, 3 in Gujarat, 2 in Kamataka, 3 in Maharashtra, 6 in Madhya Pradesh, 3 in Orissa, 1 in Uttar Pradesh and 2 in West Bengal. No specific sites have been indicated for Steel Plants based on the Electric Arc Furnace route and using Steel melting scrap/sponge iron as raw material. It has also been emphasised in the Guidelines that the list of possible sites is only an indicative list.

(c) It is projected that total annual production of finished steel in the country will increase from the current level of about 15 million tonnes to about 24 million tonnes by the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan. The total outlay for the steel sector in the Eighth Five Year Plan is Rs. 14579 crores. Besides, investment will also take place on steel plants in the private sector.

(d) and (e). Iron and Steel Industry has been removed from the list of Industries reserved for the public sector and also exempted from the provisions of compulsory licensing except for certain restricted locations. No Government approval for industrial licence is, therefore, required to set up new steel plants in the private sector. A large number of private entrepreneurs have proposals to set up steel plants in the private sector. Of such proposals, one is reported to be under implementation in the State of Maharashtra, namely by M/s. Lloyds Steel Industries Limited at Wardha having an estimated annual capacity of 4 lakh tonnes. M/s Nippon Denro Ispat Limited is also reported to have submitted a bankable report to the Financial Institutions for setting up a 12 lakh tonnes per annum steel plant at Raigad.

**Setting up of LPTV in Orissa**

1669. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS :

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

(a) whether the Government have received any demand for setting up of Low Power T.V. transmitter at Dasarathpur and Chandikhol in the District of Jaipur, Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO):

(a). Representations have been received from time to time for establishment of Low Power TV Transmitters at Dasarathpur and Chandikhol in Cuttack district of Orissa.

(b) Dasarathpur and Chandikhol lie in the coverage area of the High Power TV Transmitter functioning at Cuttack. There is no proposal, at present, to set up TV transmitter at these places. Further strengthening of TV service at the aforesaid places would depend upon the availability of adequate resources for the purpose in the future Plans of TV expansion.

#### **Tele-Films in Malayalam**

1670. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of tele-films in Malayalam lying pending for clearance;

(b) the criteria for selection of tele-films; and

(c) by when the pending tele-films are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO):

(a) and (c). Proposals for TV serials/tele-films under different schemes as well as *suo-moto* proposals are received and approved by various doordarshan Kendras for telecast over Doordarshan. No centralised list of serials/tele-films received and approved by different Kendras is, therefore, maintained, selection being an ongoing activity.

(b) Proposals for tele-films are examined keeping in mind the following criteria :-

(i) Relevance of the story, theme or the subject to the needs of Doordarshan;

(ii) Treatment of the subject/story line;

(iii) Conformity to the Telecast Code;

(iv) Track records of the Director, Executive Producer, Writer, Crew, etc.

#### **New Branches of Song and Drama Division**

1671. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up new branches of the Song and Drama Division in some selected towns and cities;

(b) if so, the towns and cities identified therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up a branch at Berhampur in Orissa also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO):

(a) At present there is no proposal to set up new office of Song & Drama Division.

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

#### **Projects of I.T.I.**

1672. SHRI RAMCHANDRA GHANGARE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Controller and Auditor General has in its latest report (No. 12 of 1992) Union Government (Commercial) commented upon nine major projects of the Indian Telephone Industries Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The nine major projects of the Indian Telephone Industries Ltd. mentioned in the C & AG Report are :

- (i) Telephones Project at Naini Unit of ITI.
- (ii) Strowger Switching Equipment Project at Rae Bareli Unit of ITI.
- (iii) Crossbar Capacity Expansion Project at Bangalore Complex.
- (iv) ICP Crossbar Equipment Project at Rae Bareli Unit.

(v) Small Electronic Exchanges and Digital Trunk Automatic Exchanges at Palakkad Unit.

(vi) E10B Electronic Switching Systems at Manakapur Unit.

(vii) Rotary and Push Button Electronic Telephone Project.

(viii) Electronic PABX Equipment Project at Palakkad Unit.

(ix) Setting up of 3 Plants for production of Electronic Switching Systems at :

(a) Plant at Keonics City near Bangalore for 1 lakh lines.

(b) Plant in Bangalore Complex for 1 lakh lines.

(c) Plant at Keonics City for 3 lakh lines.

The Report of C & AG which was placed before the two Houses of Parliament on 11.5.1993 has mainly highlighted the aspects of time and cost over-runs of the projects.

(c) The C & AG had prepared this Report after obtaining feedbacks from the management of ITI Ltd. and as also from the Ministry wherever necessary. The response of the Government is that the report of the C & AG will help in improving the standard of execution of projects.

#### **Rourkela Steel Plant**

1673. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allocated additional funds for completion of the Modernisation scheme of Rourkela Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the modernisation and expansion programme proposed to be undertaken with the utilisation of the additional allocation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

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

[*Translation*]

#### **Telephone Connection to Doctors**

1674. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state;

(a) whether any time limit has been fixed by the Government in regard to providing telephone connections to doctors;

(b) the number of applications from doctors pending with the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited for more than one year with reasons therefore; and

(c) the time by which these applications are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No separate record of waiting list for Doctors is maintained. They are registered under Non/OYT/Special category.

(c) These applicants shall be provided

telephone connections during the 8th Plan period progressively subject to timely availability of equipment and other resources.

[*English*]

#### **Steel Industries**

1675. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had convened a meeting of representatives of Steel Industries in September, 1993; and

(b) if so, the details of issues discussed therein and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). As part of continuing process of ascertaining from time to time the progress of implementation of iron & steel projects, a meeting was convened in September, 1993 with some of the entrepreneurs. It was impressed upon the entrepreneurs that in view of the large investments required in this sector, there was a need for them to build up competent managerial expertise for project implementation, keeping in view the latest developments in technology, and improve the financial viability of the projects. It was also indicated that on its part Government was keen to see the early implementation of proposed projects, and towards that objective it would provide whatever assistance is possible.

[*Translation*]

#### **Building for Telephone Exchanges in Rajasthan**

1676. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of

COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone exchanges functioning in departmental buildings as well as in private buildings in Rajasthan; and

(b) the telephone exchanges for which Departmental buildings are to be provided in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) (i) The number of Telephone Exchanges functioning in Depttl. Building 67.

(ii) The No. of T.Es functioning in Private Buildings 1048.

(b) The telephone exchanges for which Departmental buildings are to be provided in near future - 38.

[English]

#### **Power Development Fund**

1677. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Private Power Development Fund has been proposed/ created by the World Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount of financial assistance likely to be provided to India through this fund; and

(d) the stand taken by the Government on this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) World Bank have offered a technical assistance loan to be

administered through the Power Finance Corpn. for assisting the private power initiatives.

(b) The overall purpose of the Technical Assistance loan and grant from the World Bank is to ensure that the basic objectives of the private power initiative are achieved, i.e. that additional investment capital and management expertise are mobilised and that the potential efficiency gains in power supply are fully realised and passed on to the final consumers. In the short term the project would help to manage the implementation of the private power policy during the present transition period and would also set the stage for the introduction of market mechanisms in the sector as a whole. To that effect, assistance would be provided to GOI and the various central and state entities concerned for (i) the review by private power specialists of the offers currently under consideration to ensure that the projects being negotiated are executed under acceptable and sustainable conditions (ii) the introduction of competitive bidding for the selection of project sponsors; and (iii) the formulation of additional provisions in the policy and regulatory framework to achieve the above mentioned objectives, and promote other forms of private sector participation, in addition to Independent Private Power Projects.

(c) The amount of the loan is US Dollars 20 million.

(d) The loan agreement has already been signed and the SEBs who are negotiating with private promoters have been advised to take assistance from this loan.

#### **New Food Processing Units**

1678. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :  
SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH  
YADAV :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any techno-economic survey has been conducted by the Government to assess the potentiality for establishment of new units of food processing industry in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the facilities provided so far, particularly in the State of Gujarat, including financial assistance and loan for establishing such industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b). While no State specific assessment of investment required for encouraging food processing industries have been made by this Ministry, under its Plan Schemes, financial assistance is provided to State Govt. organisations/academic bodies etc. for conducting studies to assess the potential investment required etc. for development of food processing industries in various States/regions. No such proposal for assistance has been received from Gujarat in this regard.

(c) Financial assistance under the Plan Schemes of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries was extended to the following schemes received from the State of Gujarat.

(i) Setting up of seven agro parlours to market Gujarat Agro Industries Corporation's products.

(ii) Setting up/enhancing storage facilities at fruit processing units located at Gandhavi and Junagarh.

(iii) Tuna and other fish processing.

[*Translation*]

#### **International Ocean Transport Industry**

1679. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :  
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether International Ocean Transport Industry is facing serious crisis;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken to meet the situation-keeping in view the interest of the Indian Shipping Industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

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

[*English*]

#### **Vindhyachal Expansion Project**

1680. SHRI ANIL BASU :  
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :  
SHRI AJOY  
MUKHOPADHYAY :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has asked the National Thermal Power Corporation to change its qualifying requirements for bidders for the boiler contract of Vindhyachal expansion project;



(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). The qualification requirements for bidders for World Bank assisted projects are approved by the World Bank. On a representation received by the World Bank from one of the prospective bidders for the Vindhyachal Super Thermal power Project Stage-II (2 x 500 MW) boiler package, the World Bank, after discussions with the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), accepted appropriate reformulation of qualification requirement based on the bidding documents approved by the World Bank for earlier projects. As the revision in qualification requirement could provide additional routes for qualification facilitating greater competition and participation, including that of the second major Indian boiler manufacturer for power projects and was in line with the original formulation proposed by the Central Government, the revision in the qualification requirement was adopted.

#### **Indo-UK Relations**

1681. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he had visited the UK during August, 1993;

(b) if so, the bilateral and multilateral issues discussed with British leaders during his visit; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main issues discussed included all aspects of bilateral relations and regional and multilateral issues of mutual interest.

(c) The talks resulted in better understanding of each other's concerns and perspectives and enhanced prospects for bilateral cooperation in various fields.

[Translation]

#### **Abolition of Octroi**

1682. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States in which Octroi has been abolished and the States in which it is yet to be abolished;

(b) whether the loss suffered due to abolition of Octroi is proposed to be compensated by imposing some other tax;

(c) if so, the States in which it has been imposed and the States in which it is yet to be imposed; and

(d) the amount of income likely to be earned annually therefrom, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) At present, Octroi is levied only in 8 States, namely, West Bengal, Gujarat, Haryana, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan and Manipur.

(b) to (d). The government have constituted a Committee of Chief Ministers

headed by Shri Jyoti Basu, Chief Minister of West Bengal and Chief Minister of Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Maharashtra and Orissa as Members and Dr. Raja Chelliah, Fiscal Adviser to Government of India as Associate Member. One of the terms of reference of the Committee is to suggest measures for rationalisation of the system of levy and collection of octroi. The Committee is to submit its report by 31st January, 1994.

[English]

### Faulty Cable Pairs

1683. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of (i) cable pairs terminated (ii) DELs (Pairs working) (iii) spare pairs OK. (iv) faulty pairs and (v) persons waitlisted as on December 31, 1992 in Delhi Telephones;

(b) whether rectifying the faulty pairs involves no fresh cable laying work and no imported technology;

(c) if so, the number of connections that are given by rectifying the faulty pairs and the likely amount of revenue that is earned annually as a result thereof; and

(d) the steps and time bound programme prescribed or proposed to be prescribed to rectify the faulty pairs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Sir, number of cable pairs terminated are 10, 27, 730 (ii) DELs as on 31.3.93 are 688830 and number of pairs in use (including pairs for telex, non exchange lines etc.) are 701915 (iii) Number of spare pairs OK are 237214 (iv) Number of faulty

pairs are 88601 (a large number of them beyond economic repairs) and (v) total number of persons waitlisted in respect of Delhi Telephones as on 31.12.92 is 379035.

(b) Yes, Sir. Rectification of faulty cable pairs does not normally involve substantial fresh cables laying work. Faulty pairs are retrieved on a continuous basis, at times even by laying small length of new cables to replace cable in a faulty section. Rectification of faulty cable pairs does not normally involve any imported technology.

(c) Release of a new connection primarily depends upon the availability of exchange equipment capacity. Its provision therefore does not necessarily depend upon rectification of faulty cable pairs.

(d) Rectification of faulty pairs is a continuous process and wherever retrieval of faulty pairs is feasible necessary steps are taken to retrieve the pairs.

### Repair/Construction of Roads in Delhi

1684. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the annual expenditure on repairs/construction of roads in Delhi as against the budgetary allocation;

(b) the mode for giving contracts for the repairs/construction of roads;

(c) the names of the Governmental/civic machinery responsible for examining repairs/construction of roads;

(d) whether cases relating to use of spurious building materials have come to light; and

(e) if so, the details thereof including the action taken against those found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT

(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) As reported by the concerned agencies the expenditure on repair/construction of roads in Delhi as against the budgetary allocation during the year 1993-94 is given as under :

(Rs. in lakhs)

<i>Allocation</i>		<i>Expenditure</i>	
<i>Repair</i>	<i>Construction</i>	<i>Repair</i>	<i>Construction</i>
4076.04	9700.00	2247.75	4868.24

Note : Expenditure figures are up to 31.10.1993.

(b) The contracts for repairs/ construction of roads are awarded by call of tenders after giving due publicity in leading newspapers.

(c) The various Governmental/Civic authorities responsible for examining repairs/ construction of roads in Delhi are :

- i) Municipal Corporation of Delhi
- ii) New Delhi Municipal Committee, and
- iii) Delhi Administration.

(d) As reported by the concerned agencies, no case relating to use of spurious building materials has come to light.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Expert Committee for Processing Industry**

1685. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has set up an

Expert Committee headed by the former Chief Secretary of Assam and Meghalaya to go into the working of the Food Processing Industry in the North Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING  
INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. An Expert Committee headed by the former Chief Secretary of Assam and Meghalaya and consisting of 13 other members has been constituted to study the existing status of food processing industry in the North Eastern States and to suggest long-term and short-term action plans for development of food processing industries there.

(c) The Expert Committee is expected to submit its report within 6 months.

#### **Microwave System in Kerala**

1686. SHRI K.M. MATHEW : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be

pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to start Micro-wave system in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the places selected for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI

SUKH RAM): (a) Microwave systems are already working in Kerala.

(b) The details of the places which are already connected with Microwave systems, are given in the attached Statement-I and the places which are proposed to be connected with Microwave system during 8th Five Year Plan are given in the attached Statement - II.

## STATEMENT - I

1. Trivandrum-Ernakulam-Calicut-Mangalore.
2. Ernakulam-Coimbatore
3. Calicut-Kalpetta
4. Ernakulam-Irinjalakuda
5. Ernakulam-Alleppey
6. Calicut-Coimbatore
7. Ernakulam-Palarivattom
8. Ernakulam-D Tax - Cochin
9. Panampilly Nagar-Tripunithura
10. Aroor-Panampilly Nagar
11. Palarivattom-Kalamassery.
12. Panampilly Nagar-Ernakulam Jetty Exchange.

**STATEMENT - II**

1. Mattanur-Mangalore 6 GHz 140 Mb/s (1+1) via Taliparamba, Neeleshwar, Kasargode & Madfadaka
2. Alleppey-Ernakulam GHz 140 Mb/s (1+1) via Kuthiathode
3. Ernakulam-Trichur 6 GHz 140 Mb/s (3+1) via Alwaye & Irinjialakuda
4. Trichur-Palghat 6 GHz Mb/s (1+1) via Kumaranellur & Ottapalem
5. Trivandrum-Alleppey 6 GHz 140 Mb/s (1+1) via Varkala, Quilon & Mavelikara
6. Palghat-Coiinbatore 6 GHz 140 Mb/s (1+1) via Chettipalayam.
7. Ernakulam-Kozhikode 6 GHz 140 Mb/s (2+1) via Alwaye, Irinjialakuda, Trichur, Kunnankulam & Kottakai.
8. Kozhikode-Mattanur 6 GHz 140 Mb/s (2+1) via Vadagara
9. Kottayam-Peermedu 6 GHz Mb/s (1+1) via Kanjirapally
10. Nagercoil-Trivandrum 6 GHz 140 Mb/s (1+1) via Thayamodu.
11. Kottayam-Pallai 7 GHz 34 Mb/s

12. Ernakulam-Idukki 7 GHz 34 Mb/s
13. Kottayam-Alleppey 7 GHz 34 Mb/s
14. Kottayam-Thiruvilla 7 GHz 34 Mb/s
15. Quilon-Punalur 7 GHz 34 Mb/s
16. Calicut-Kalpetta 7 GHz 34 Mb/s
17. Alleppey-Sherthalai 7 GHz 34 Mb/s
18. Quilon-Tiruvilla 7 GHz 34 Mb/s

13 GHz

1. Trivandrum Microwave-Trivandrum Medical College.
2. Trivandrum M/W - Trivandrum Central Exchange

3. Trivandrum M/W - Kaithamukku
4. Trivandrum Medical College - Kaithamukku
5. Trivandrum Medical College - Trivandrum Central Exchange
6. Kozhikore-Chevayur
7. Kozhikore - Malapuramba
8. Kozhikode-Panniyankara
9. Kozhikore-Palayam
10. Panampilly Nagar-Muttancherry
11. Emakulam D-Tax - Panampilly Nagar
12. Panampilly Nagar-Pallurithy
13. Trichur - Ollur
14. Trichur - Cherpu



15. Cannanore - Daliapattanam
16. Mavelikara-Kayamkulam
17. mavelikara-Chenganur.
18. Kottayam - Gandhinagar
19. Mavelikara - Haripad.

**Regarding Indian Bureau of Mines**

1687. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the functioning of the Indian Bureau of Mines has been streamlined; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and other steps being taken for better performance of the Bureau?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b). Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) is organised in six technical divisions, each with distinct functions and responsibilities under the overall control and directions of Controller General. IBM. The Bureau is functioning smoothly.

**Funds for Power Projects**

1688. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the power projects being funded by the World Bank at present in the country;

(b) the progress made so far in the completion of these projects;

(c) whether the World Bank has given any indication for not funding these projects further;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the alternative sources arranged by the Government for these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). Status of the power projects being implemented with assistance from the World Bank is given in the Statement.

(c) to (e). Multilateral funding agencies including the World Bank have suggested measures to improve the financial health of the power section in India. These include achieving by State Electricity Boards (SEBs) of statutory rates of return, rationalisation of their tariff structure and timely recovery of their receivables. The Central Government has been concerned about these issues for quite some time and these have also been discussed at various levels including in the periodical State Power Ministers' Conference convened by it. Number of corrective measures including adopting an action plan for improvement in the financial and physical performance of the SEBs have been initiated.

## STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Present Status
1.	Upper Indravati Hydro Electric Project, Orissa (600 MW)	Diversion cum depletion tunnel work of the agreement in respect of Podagada Earth Dam has been completed. Stator foundation bolt erection of Unit-I is over.
2.	Indira Sarovar Hydro-Electric Project, Madhya Pradesh (500 MW)	For upgradation of data processing facility, consultancy is being rendered by Tata Consultancy Service. Detailed orders have been placed on various firms.
3.	Farakka STPP Stage-II of NTPC West Bengal (2 x 500 MW)	Unit-4 has been synchronised on 25.9.92. 400 KV Transmission Line S/C Farakka - II Durgapur and 400 KV D/C Farraka-Bihar Shariff and 200 KV D/C Farakka-Laimatia Line completed.
4.	Chandrapur Unit 5 & 6 Maharashtra (2 x 500 MW)	Unit-5 was synchronised on 22.3.91. This unit was put on coal firing on 31.3.92. Unit-6 was synchronised on 11.3.92. Coal firing achieved on 25.3.93.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Project</i>	<i>Present Status</i>
5.	Rihand Transmission System 400/500 KV, Uttar Pradesh	With the commissioning of 400 KV S/C Dadri-Maler-Kotla Transmission Lines in July, 92 and static-var compensator at Kanpur Sub-station the physical work associated with Rihand ITL Project has been completed.
6.	Kerala Power Project, Kerala (180 M)	Driving of tunnel has been completed. Lining and grouting are in progress. The contracts for the Civil works, dam, PH, surge-shaft have been terminated. For electrical works, orders have been placed for all major equipments.
7.	Combined Cycle Power Project, NTPC, Rajasthan, U.P. and Gujarat (1500 MW)	Anta-All units synchronised. Auraiya- All units synchronised. Kawas- all 4 Gas Turbines Commissioned.
8.	Karnataka Power Project-I Karnataka (270 MW)	Excavation and concreting of Dam and Power House are in progress. Installation of Unit No.1 static excitation system is in progress. Balance turbine and generator assembly are under supply.

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Present Status
9.	Karnataka Power Project-II, Karnataka (2 x 40 MW)	Excavation work in respect of Gerusoppa H.E. Project is in progress. Orders have been placed for most of the major hydraulic and electric equipment. BHEL has intimated that the supply will be completed by Sept. '94.
10.	National Capital Thermal Power Project, U.P. (840 MW)	Units I, II & III synchronised in Oct. '91, Dec. '92 and march, '93 respectively. Unit-4 Boiler light-up expected in Dec. '93. Condenser erection started on 14.1.93. Transmission system associated with this project has already been completed and is under service.
11.	Talcher Thermal Power Project, Orissa (1000 MW)	Hydraulic test for Unit-I completed on 13.6.93. Light up expected by May, 1994. 400 KV D/C Talcher Rourkela and 400 KV D/C Talcher Rengali Transmission Lines are scheduled for commissioning in March '95 and April '94 respectively.
12.	Nathpa Jhakri H.E. Project, Himachal Pradesh (1500 MW)	Only preliminary work is in progress. Procurement of material delayed due to completion of various formalities which is now in an advanced stage of completion.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Project</i>	<i>Present Status</i>
13.	Maharashtra Power Project-I (Hydro), Maharashtra (1000 MW)	Construction of approach tunnel ventilation tunnel etc. are completed. Excavation of head race tunnel, tail race tunnel and emergency water tunnel are in progress. The contract work for consultancy services for electrical and mechanical works has been signed.
14.	Maharashtra Power Project-II Maharashtra (500 MW)	Tenders for steam turbines and generator and steam generator opened as scheduled on 20.3.93 and 30.8.93 respectively.
15.	North Region Transmission Project, POWERGRID I (Multistate)	Actual progress is in line with loan agreement target.
16.	Private Power Utilities (Bhira) Maharashtra (150 MW)	Manufacture of main plant commenced. Power House of 64 MTR full depth has been excavated. Penstock fabrication has been taken up. Generator transformer of BHEL make has been received at site.
17.	Private Power Utilities BSES Project, Dahanu, Maharashtra, (500 MW)	Unit No. 1 Boiler Drum hoisted on 31.10.92. Unit No. 2 Boiler Drum hoisted on 24.4.93. First stream of DM water made available on 24.8.93. Unit-I Boiler hydraulic test was done on 14.8.93.

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Present Status
18.	Power Utilities Efficiency Improvement Project-M. P. Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh (PFC)	Total number of schemes identified are 38 which include 22 schemes of transmission, 14 schemes of urban distribution and 4 schemes of environmental upgradation 36 additional schemes have been received for appraisal and sanction by PFC.
19.	Power Grid System Development Project of POWERGRID.	PIB has cleared the project subject to certain conditions which have been complied with approval of COEA will be sought shortly.

\* Loans under suspension.

**Panel for Road Accidents**

1689. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any panel to probe road accidents in Delhi has been set up;

(b) if so, the terms and reference thereof; and

(c) the time by which the panel is likely to submit its report ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The terms and reference of the Committee which has been constituted to go into various factors which leads to accidents are as under :

1. To ascertain the factors which lead to road accidents, particularly those caused by public transport buses;
2. To suggest remedial measures to reduce the incidence of such accidents; and
3. Any other matter deemed relevant by the Committee.

(c) By 31.12.93.

**Filling up of SC/ST Posts**

1690. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the category-wise number of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes/Tribes lying

vacant in his Ministry as on November 30, 1993; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for filling up these posts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Category-wise number of posts reserved for SC/STs lying vacant in the Ministry of Power as on November 30, 1993 are as under :

Category	SC	ST
Group 'A'	3	1
Group 'B'	10	10
Group 'C'	25	16
Group 'D'	-	-

(b) Vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes have been intimated to UPSC, Staff Selection Commission etc. to fill up these vacancies under the "Special Recruitment Drive" during the current year 1993-94.

**Post Offices in Assam**

1691. SHRI PROBIN DEKA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for opening of Branch Post Offices/Sub Post Offices in Assam during 1993-94;

(b) whether all the Gram Panchayat headquarters are proposed to be given priority while opening Branch Post Offices;

(c) whether the construction of the



building of such Post Offices has been started by now;

(d) if so, the names of places where this has been started; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) It is proposed to open 25 extra departmental branch post offices and 3 departmental sub post offices in Assam during 1993-94.

(b) Yes Sir. However, such proposals will be subject to fulfilment of norms and availability of resources.

(c) The Department does not construct buildings for extra departmental branch post offices. Construction of buildings for departmental offices depends on many factors, and availability of resources.

(d) and (e). Do not arise in view of (c) above.

[English]

#### **Motor Vehicles Act**

1692. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amendments proposed to be made in the Motor Vehicles Act; and

(b) the time by which the amendments are likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). A large number of amendments are proposed to the Motor Vehicles Act.

Some of the important amendments relate to :

- (i) modifications and amplification of certain definitions of new type of vehicles;
- (ii) simplification of procedure for grant of driving licences;
- (iii) putting restrictions on the alteration of vehicles;
- (iv) certain exemptions for vehicles running on non-polluting fuels;
- (v) ceilings on individuals or company holdings removed to curb 'benami' holdings;
- (vi) States authorised to appoint one or more State Transport Appellate Tribunals;
- (vii) increase in the amount of compensation to the victims of hit and run cases;
- (viii) removal of time limit for filing of application by road accident victims for compensation;
- (ix) punishment in case of certain offences is made stringent;
- (x) facility for filing of application for a claim before a tribunal having jurisdiction in the area in which the accident occurred or the claimant resides, at the option of the claimant;
- (xi) new pre-determined formula for payment of compensation to road accident victims on the basis of age, income, which is more liberal and rational.

The Bill amending the Act is proposed to be introduced in the current Session or during the Budget Session of the Parliament.

**Iran on Kashmir Issue**

1693. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES

: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Deputy Foreign Minister of Iran, during his recent visit to India, had discussed Kashmir issue;

(b) if so, whether Iran had supported India's attempts to find a solution to the Kashmir issue through bilateral efforts and without the involvement of intermediaries;

(c) whether that country has assured India of its support in the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) on this issue; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (d). During the visit of the Deputy Foreign Minister of Iran H.E. Mr. Alaeddin Broujerdi to New Delhi on November 8-10, 1993, a detailed exchange of views took place with Iran on bilateral, regional and multilateral issues including, *inter-alia*, Kashmir issue.

Mr. Broujerdi conveyed Iran's appreciation for India's offer to Pakistan of a wide ranging and sustained bilateral dialogue on all matters of mutual concern.

Mr. Broujerdi also expressed Iran's appreciation for India's efforts to apprise the OIC countries of the facts regarding developments in Jammu and Kashmir in the correct perspective, and offered to assist in improving India's relations with the OIC.

**Pepsi Project.**

1694. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have cleared recently the Pepsi project for development of a chain of restaurants;

(b) whether technical know-how for such projects is not available within the country; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof and the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). The Government has approved a proposal of M/s. KFC — a subsidiary of M/s. PepsiCo Inc. of USA to establish a wholly owned company in India for setting up of a chain of 30 restaurants with a investment of approximately US \$ 40 million over a period of seven years of which foreign equity investment will be US \$ 20 million. The Indian subsidiary of KFC will develop and operate these restaurants (i) some by the subsidiary itself; (ii) some by joint ventures between Indian subsidiary and the Indian entrepreneurs; and (iii) some through Indian franchisees. This project is expected to generate direct and indirect employment of about 15000 persons, upgrade the quality of production of poultry, dairy and fruit and vegetable products of its suppliers in the country and establish a modern system of supply, storage and distribution of processed poultry, dairy and fruit and vegetable products.

**Committee for Stamps**

1695. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of Philatelic Advisory Committee was held on August 18, 1993;

(b) if so, the composition thereof;

(c) the names of personalities which were considered for issue of stamps;

(d) whether the name of late Dr. R.D. Karve has also been approved for this purpose; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The list of Philatelic Advisory Committee members who attended the meeting of the Committee on 18.8.93 is given in the attached Statement - I.

(c) The PAC considered proposals on eminent personalities are given in the attached Statement - II.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Minutes of the PAC meeting only indicate the proposals which are recommended by the Committee. No reasons are recorded for the proposals which are not among those recommended.

#### STATEMENT - I

*List of Philatelic Advisory Committee Members who Attended in the Meeting of the Committee on 18.8.93*

1. Shri Sukh Ram — *Chairman*  
Minister of State for Communications.
2. Shri S.K. Parthasarathy — *Vice Chairman*  
Secretary,  
Department of Posts.
3. Shri T.E. Raman,  
Member (Operations)  
Department of Posts.

4. Shri G.S. Rajamani,  
Financial Advisor,  
Department of Posts.
5. Representative of  
Department of Economic Affairs,  
Ministry of Finance.
6. Dy. General Manager,  
India Security Press  
for General Manager,  
India Security Press  
Nashik.
7. Smt. Malini Bhattacharaya,  
Member of Parliament,  
308, V.P. House,  
New Delhi - 110001.
8. Shri Mathura Prasad Sinha  
C-9, Park Road Colony,  
Lucknow.
9. Prof. R.P. Khatana  
House No. 420/16, Civil Lines  
John Hall Road,  
Gurgaon - 122 001.
10. Miss. (Major) Krishna Mohini,  
Humanity House, Near Thode Ground,  
Rajgarh Road,  
Solani (H.P.)
11. Dr. D.J. Banerjee  
Editor, Signet, 36-A,  
Ritchie Road, Calcutta-700019
12. Shri A.R. Singhee  
'Deepmala' House No. 252,  
Road No. 18, Jubilee Hills,  
Hyderabad - 500034.
13. Shri V.S. Dastur,  
Editor, India's Stamp Journal,  
UCO Bank Building, 4th Floor,  
359-DN Road, Fort, Bombay-400001

14. Shri A.S. Mittal,  
Stamp Dealer 'Anand', A-37,  
Janta Colony,  
Jaipur - 302 004.
15. Shri S.C. Dutta - Member Secretary,  
Deputy Director General, (Philately)  
Department of Posts, New Delhi.

**STATEMENT - II**

*Proposals for Special/Commemorative  
Stamps in Respect of the Personalities  
Considered in the Meeting of the Philatelic  
Advisory Committee Held on 18th August,  
1993.*

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Personality</i>
1.	Annangaracharya Swamy
2.	Aurbindo Ghosh *
3.	Bharati Dasan
4.	Binod Kanungo
5.	Duggirala Gopala Krishnaiah
6.	Dwijinderlal Ray
7.	Hutatma Mahadeo Mailar
8.	Hazrat Azimabadi
9.	Herman Gundert
10.	Ishwer Lal Chhotabhai Desai
11.	Krishna Rao Pandit
12.	L. Meenakshi Sundaram
13.	Meghnad Saha
14.	Maharaja Ganga Singh
15.	Maharaja Gulab Singh

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Personality</i>
16.	Meherwan Shahryar Irani
17.	Maharana Bhupal Singh
18.	Maharaja Jai Singh Sawai
19.	Maulvi Liaqat Ali
20.	Pandit Dwaraka Prasad
21.	Prajapita Brahma
22.	Pandit Srinarayan Chaturvedi
23.	P.S. Varier
24.	Pratap Singh Kairon
25.	Rukmi Lakshmi Pathi
26.	Shahid Matangini Hazara
27.	Sai Baba of Shirdi
28.	Sant Kirpal Singh
29.	Sant Ram
30.	Satyaendra Nath Bose
31.	A.J. John
32.	Anasuyaben Sarabhai
33.	Ashalata Sen
34.	Ayyankali
35.	Chhanglal Karamshi Parakh
36.	Col. C.K. Nayadu
37.	David Sasson
38.	Deshbantee Krishnanath Sharma
39.	Garimella Satyanarayana

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Personality</i>
40.	Kavi Samrat Upendra Bhanja
41.	K.L. Sehgal
42.	Mahadji Scindia
43.	Mahatma Gandhi
44.	Prof. R.D. Karve
45.	Rafi Ahmed Kidwai
46.	Ravi Shankar Mahasankar Raval
47.	Sangoli Rayanna
48.	Siyaramsaran Gupt
49.	Tipu Sultan
50.	Atma Raoji Bhat
51.	V.L. Mehta
52.	K.L. Nanjappa
53.	Maharaja Yadvendra Singh of Patiala
54.	Vijai Merchant
55.	Vinoo Mankad.

#### **Regional News on AIR, Bangalore**

1696. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the duration of regional news bulletin on AIR, Bangalore; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO):  
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **New Press Commission**

1697. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Federation of Working Journalists have recently demanded setting up of a new Press Commission to review the state of affairs in the Indian Press; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO):  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Since the recommendations of the Second Press Commission are still to be implemented in their entirety, the setting up of a new Press Commission at this stage would be premature.

#### **US Resolution on Kashmir**

1698. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US Senate have passed any resolution for censuring Pakistan for aiding and abetting militants to indulge in terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). The US Senate Foreign Relations Committee (SFRC) considered the Foreign Aid Authorisation Bill for fiscal year 1994 on September 8, 1993 and adopted without discussion or vote 16 amendments including one moved by Senator Jesse Helms which expressed, *inter alia*, deep concern over credible reports that Pakistani Authorities have facilitated gross abuses by militants in Kashmir against civilians through the supply of arms and training to terrorist groups. It called upon Pakistan to end the provision of arms, equipment or training to militants in Kashmir and to take action to ensure that persons committing acts of terror do not receive "support or sanctuary" in Pakistan.

Government have been consistently apprising the US Administration and Congress about the continuous and unabated support from Pakistan to terrorist groups in India. Government constantly monitor developments within the American political system, including the US Congress and its Committees, and are continuing with the on-going efforts to mobilise support and increase sensitivity to India's concerns on this subject by targeting US Congressmen, their staffers, officials in the Clinton Administration and key opinion makers in the American media and public.

#### **High Power T.V. Station at Jehanabad**

1699. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a high power T.V. transmitter and

Radio Station at Jehanabad in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) The Jehanabad District is adequately covered by AIR through its 100 KW MW transmitters at Patna and Ranchi, 3 KW FM transmitter at Patna and 2 KW SW transmitter which is being upgraded to 50 KW SW at Ranchi. The TV service of Jehanabad is covered from HPT Patna. Further expansion of TV service in the Distt. would depend upon availability of resources and interset priorities.

#### **Change in Telephone Registration Number**

1700. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the time generally taken by the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (Delhi Telephones) in giving the changed registration number to prospective subscribers who have changed their address and applied for change for telephone registration of their applications accordingly;

(b) the number of applications for change pending with the Commercial Officer (West Registration) as on November 30, 1993 and since when ;

(c) the reasons for delay in informing the changed registration number to the applicants; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the efficiency in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (d). Sir, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Film Festival in Calcutta**

1701. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of preparatory work done in connection with the holding of the next Film Festival in Calcutta during the next month;

(b) whether while planning, the various flaws which were taken note of during the previous film festivals had been taken into consideration;

(c) the manner of selection of Indian and foreign films for exhibition at the festival and particulars of the various Indian films selected for entry so far;

(d) the estimated expenditure involved on holding this festival; and

(e) the role, if any, assigned to the West Bengal Government in making the festival a success?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Preparatory work for the setting up of appropriate infrastructure such as offices, telecommunication facilities etc., and for hiring of theatres, as well as for getting films for the various sections of the Festival has

been undertaken.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The information is given in the attached statement.

(d) Government have sanctioned a budget of Rs. 115 lakhs for the 25th International Film Festival of India, 1994.

(e) The active cooperation and involvement of the West Bengal Government is essential for the success of the Festival, particularly in providing infrastructural support and facilities for the setting up and manning of the Festival offices, making arrangements for venues and provision of other facilities for the Festival. The West Bengal Government have been extending all cooperation in this respect.

#### **STATEMENT**

*Criteria for Selecting Films for International Film Festival of India (IFFI)*

(A) *Foreign Films*

Most films in the Cinema of the World Section are invited from films which have been screened at other International Film Festivals, or have won awards, or have received acclaim, or are by well-known film makers. Films submitted for entry which cannot be classified in any of these categories and which have not participated in any Festival, are shown to a Preview Panel. The members of this Panel make individual assessments of the films they see and these comments are taken into consideration while deciding on the inclusion or

otherwise of a film submitted for the Festival.

2. Films in the Foreign Retrospectives, Tributes and Focus Sections are selected after taking into consideration the views of the Festival Organising Committee, depending on availability of suitable packages of films for the Festival.

(B) : *Indian Films*

#### INDIAN PANORAMA FILMS

Feature films for the Indian Panorama Section are selected by inviting entries which are shot-listed by 3 Regional Panels of film professionals in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. The final selection from short-listed films is made by an All India Panel at Delhi. Non-feature films of the Indian Panorama are selected by a separate Selection Panel in Delhi.

#### FILMS FOR INDIAN RETROSPECTIVE SECTION

Films for the Indian Retrospectives/Tributes are selected in consultation with Film Industry Organisations, after eliciting the views of the Festival Organising Committee and the Film Industry Co-ordination Committee.

#### FILMS FOR MAINSTREAM INDIAN CINEMA SECTION

Films for the Indian Mainstream Cinema Section are selected by the Film Federation of India from amongst the most popular films of all Regions for the last year or so.

*Indian Films Selected for International Film Festival of India 1994. (IFFI '94)*

(A)	<i>Feature Films</i>	<i>Language</i>
1.	Magrib	Malayalam
2.	Patang	Hindi
3.	Sambal Wangma	Manipuri
4.	Shilpi	Bengali
5.	Shunya Theke shuru	Bengali
6.	Sooraj Ka Satvan Ghoda	Hindi
7.	Uttoran	Bengali
8.	Vidheyan	Malayalam
9.	Woh Chhokri	Hindi



<i>Feature Films</i>	<i>Language</i>
10. Abartan	Assamese
11. Antareen	Bengali
12. Bhagvad Gita	Sanskrit
13. Chinnari Mutha	Kannada
14. Deivathinte Vikruthikal	Malayalam
15. Gowri	Malayalam
16. Ilayum Mullum	Malayalam
17. Kabhi Haan Kabhi Naa	Hindi
18. Lavanya Preeti	Oriya

(B) <i>Non-Feature</i>	<i>Language</i>
1. A House And A Home	English
2. Anubhaav (No dialogue)	
3. Anukampan	Hindi
4. Bazar Sitaram	Hindi
5. Colours of Absence	English
6. Fearless-The Hunterwali Story	English
7. Freedom	Hindi
8. Hyderabad-A Place In The Heart	English
9. In Search Of Indian Theatre	English
10. Lai Haraoba	English
11. Moksha	Bengali
12. On The wild Trail	English

<i>Non-Feature</i>	<i>Language</i>
13. Ordinary Love	Hindi
14. Rastriya Dariyai Udyan	Gujarati
15. Sunday	Hindi
16. The Second Page	Hindi
17. The Splendour Of Garhwal & Roop Kund	English
18. Tragedy Of An Indian Farmer	Music
19. Wangla-A Garo Festival	English

### National Thermal Power Corporation

1702. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total installed capacity of National Thermal Power Corporation as on April 1, 1993;

(b) the additional capacity which came on stream during April-September, 1993;

(c) the additional capacity under installation;

(d) the capacity utilisation of the NTPC during 1992-93 and April-September, 1993;

(e) the total recoverable debt on account of power supply to State Electricity Boards and other institutional consumers as on April 1, 1993; and

(f) the steps taken to recover the debt?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The total installed

capacity of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) as on April 1, 1993 was 13054 MU.

(b) The additional capacity which came on stream during the period April-Sept., 1993 is nil.

(c) The additional capacity currently under implementation is 3281 MW.

(d) the Plant Load Factor of NTPC's coal based power stations during 1992-93 and April-September 1993 was as under :

	<i>1992-93</i>	<i>April-September 1993</i>
PLF (%)	70	74.65

(e) The total recoverable dues on account of power supply to State Electricity Boards and other institutional consumers as on 1.4.1993 was Rs. 2572.81 crores including surcharge of Rs. 1028.21 crores.

(f) Apart from regular follow up of payments with the SEBs and respective State Governments, the following steps,

wherever possible, have been taken to recover these dues and prevent further accumulation :

(i) Adjustment of arrears by recoveries from central appropriation:

(ii) Regulation of power supplies by shutting off or restricting supply to SEBs, commensurate with their Payments.

#### **Losses of HSCL**

1703. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Steel Works Construction Limited (HSCL) has been running in losses for the last several years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the total cumulative losses suffered by HSCL as on March 31, 1993;

(c) the number of workers on the rolls of the company;

(d) whether an Expert Committee in 1988 had unanimously recommended closure of the company; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) HSCL has to face stiff competition from Private Sector Construction Companies. Substantial loss in Libyan operations, severe competition in obtaining orders for new works, pressure on margins, increase in establishment cost and high annual wage bill are adversely affecting the financial position

of the company. The total cumulative losses suffered by HSCL as on 31.3.93 is Rs. 447.48 crores.

(c) The total man power position is 18381 as on 31.3.93.

(d) No Expert Committee was constituted by Government in 1988.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Secretary Level Talks with Pakistan**

1704. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT :  
SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have held several rounds of talks at Secretary level with Pakistan on Siachen and other issues;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any progress has been made towards the settlement of Siachen issue;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the fresh initiatives taken/proposed to be taken at the Secretary level to resolve various outstanding bilateral issues between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (d). Pursuant to the Confidence Building Package proposed to Pakistan by Government in May 1990, six rounds of Foreign Secretary level talks between India and Pakistan have taken place.

These talks have covered various outstanding issues between the two countries including Siachen. Tulbul Navigation Project and the demarcation of boundary in the Sir Creek area.

The last round of talks on the Siachen issue, was held in New Delhi from 2-4 November, 1992 at the level of the Defence Secretaries of the two countries. At these talks, proposals aimed at a comprehensive resolution of the issue were discussed. It was agreed that the next round of Defence Secretary-level talks would be held in Islamabad.

(e) The Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan are scheduled to meet in Islamabad from 1-3 January, 1994. These talks are proposed to be in the nature of a comprehensive dialogue with Pakistan on all outstanding problems including aspects of the Jammu and Kashmir issue. With a view to working towards a normalisation of relations between the two countries.

[*Translation*]

#### People of Indian Origin in Myanmar

1705. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the category-wise number of employees working in Indian embassy, Yangon, Myanmar;

(b) the expenditure incurred on the functioning of this embassy during each of the last three years;

(c) the names of places in Myanmar where more than five thousand persons of Indian origin have settled;

(d) whether the people of Indian Origin in that country are facing difficulties in protecting their ancestral language and culture;

(e) if so, the assistance being provided by the Union Government in this regard;

(f) whether any assistance is being provided by the Indian embassy to teach Hindi and other mother tongues to these persons of Indian origin;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) At present there are 22 India-based officers and staff and 47 locally recruited staff in Indian Embassy, Yangon, Myanmar.

(b) The expenditure incurred on the functioning of Indian Embassy, Yangon for the last three years is as follows:

1990-91 Rs. 11039761.00

1991-92 Rs. 14020631.00

1992-93 Rs. 17609846.00

(c) Though no official figures are available on the number of residents of Indian origin in various places, it is estimated that in cities like Yangon, Mandalay, Zeyawadi, Kyauktaga, Syriam, Thaton and Moulmein the number of residents of Indian origin is more than 5,000.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) to (g). Government of India, through Indian Embassy in Yangon,

distributes text books, magazines, journals and newspapers and books on Indian literature and religions in various languages such as Hindi, Tamil, Bengali, Telugu and Malayalam. Indian Embassy helps in conducting Hindi classes in several townships in Myanmar. It also helps various organisations of people Indian origin to conduct examinations for Indian courses including languages.

(h) Does not arise.

[*English*]

#### **Improvement of Highways**

1706. SHRI BOLLA BULLI  
RAMAIAH :  
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce new technology for the improvement of highways in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether foreign experts have been invited to help in providing new technology; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Upgradation of technology for improvement of highways in the country is taking place constantly on a broad front and is a continuous process. As such it is not possible to give precise details;

(c) and (d). Services of international experts under Technical Assistance provided by agencies like World Bank, Asian Development Bank etc. are being availed of where necessary.

[*Translation*]

#### **Telephone Connections to Panchayats**

1707. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Panchayat headquarters in Rajasthan linked with telephone facility so far, and

(b) the amount spent for this purpose during the last two years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a). As on 30/11/1993, number of villages having panchayat headquarters in Rajasthan covered with telephone facility is 5965.

(b) The details are as under :-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount Spent</i>
1991-92	Rs. 16,08,75,000/-
1992-93	Rs. 22,63,75,000/-

#### **Fruits and Vegetable Industry**

1708. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :  
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposals from Non-Resident Indians for setting up of industries based on fruits and vegetables in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b). As per available information, three applications received from NRIs for setting up Fruit and Vegetable based industries in the country have been approved. The details are as under :-

1. **Shri Ramnik Modi, U.K. (NRI)** : Letter of Permission on under 100% Export Oriented Undertakings' Scheme was granted on 28.1.1992 for setting up of a unit in the State of Gujarat for the manufacture of Pickles and Food Spices.

2. **Shri Padam k. Chhanna, USA (NRI)** Automatic permission for foreign collaboration as per the new Industries Policy, 1991 has been granted for setting up of a Food Processing Unit in the State of Andhra Pradesh, in April, 1992.

3. **Shri H.N. Solanki, U.K. (NRI)** : Letter of Permission under EPZ Scheme granted on 20.7.1992 for setting up of a 100% Export Oriented Unit in Cochin Export Promotion Zone, Cochin (Kerala) for the manufacture of Processed Vegetables.

*English]*

**Aluminium Export by NALCO**

1709. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Aluminium Company (NALCO) has stopped export of Aluminium plates and other material produced by it, through Paradip Port;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the present arrangement of exporting Aluminium plates and other products is more economical; and

(d) the reasons for not shipping these products through Paradip Port?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) produces Aluminium Ingots and Wire Rods and not produces Aluminium Plates. During last 3 years following exports were made through Paradeep:

1991 - 92	3,400 MT
1992 - 93	20,000 MT
1993 - 94 (to date)	300 MT

(b) and (d). Exports of Aluminium by NALCO from Paradeep have been temporarily suspended due to following reasons:

1. Wharfage, Warehousing, Port charges, consignment and forwarding charges etc. are high compared to Vizag/Calcutta.
2. Only limited number of ships call at Paradeep Port which does not enable adherence to shipment schedules.
3. Lack of container handling facility

and non-availability of containers requirement of which would be about 100 per month.

4. Inadequate rail facilities from Angul to Paradeep and higher cost of Road transport which makes it uneconomical.
5. Inadequate security and theft of materials at Paradeep Port.

(c) Yes, Sir.

**Public Utility Commissions for Power Sector**

1710. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :  
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Public Utility Commissions to keep a check on the functioning of the private investors in the power-sector and lay down guidelines for protecting the interests of the consumers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No Sir.

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

**Waiving of Demurrage Charges**

1711. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any guidelines have been issued for waiving of demurrage charges at various Ports;

(b) if so, whether there is uniformity in the procedure of waiving of demurrage charges at various Ports; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

**STATEMENT**

*Guidelines for Remission of Demurrage Charges*

1. Waiver of Demurrage should be considered only when the Port is not able to deliver goods in time. In each such case, responsibility for not being able to give timely delivery should be fixed.

2. (i) The exceptions to (1) above where remission of demurrage can be given will be as follows :

(a) Where clearance of goods is delayed due to reasons like detention under court injunction, detention of cargo by customs for special examination and chemical/analytical test under Section 17 of the Customs Act, 1962 other than the ordinary process of appraisement by the Customs, detention of the goods by the customs for bonafide operation of ITC facilities.

(b) Gift cargo consigned to

- charitable and welfare organisations.
- (c) Goods imported by public hospitals primarily run on non-profit basis.
- (d) Goods imported by educational and scientific institutions.
- (e) Personal baggage imported by diplomatic or consular corps officials of international bodies like UN and its affiliated bodies.
- (f) Personal baggage of students/ returned scholars.
- (g) Cases where goods are confiscated and the confiscation order is held invalid by the court or the Tribunal and the importer is allowed to clear cargo if the confiscation order is withdrawn.
- (h) Case where goods are detained by any Public Health Authority whether cleared or destroyed.
- (i) Cases where delivery of cargoes could not be effected due to natural calamities like cyclone, floods, requisition of trucks for general elections etc.
- (ii) In all the above cases, ordinarily remission only upto 80% of the demurrage accrued for the period of detention can be given.

Prior concurrence of FA&CAO of the Port Trust should be obtained in all cases where it is proposed to give remission exceeding Rs. 50,000/-.

4. Where the proposed amount of

remission exceeds Rs. 5 lakhs, it should be subjected to pre-audit, before any remission is granted. The pre-audit may be done by the FA&CAO's Department.

5. Any request for remission should be made within one month of the delivery of cargo and any relaxation can be given only by the Board with the concurrence of the Finance Department (of the Port).

6. Once a case has been rejected or accepted only partially by Remission Committee/Board of Trustees, any request for review of the decision should be made within one month of the receipt of the decisions of the Port Trust and the decision on the review should be communicated within two months of the receipt of the review petition. If no request for review is made or if a decision has been taken on the review a petition, the decisions taken should not be further reviewed or modified except on a direction from a court.

7. No modification in claims can be entertained.

8. All cases of remission should be considered by the Port Trust Board only, except in case of Bombay Port Trust where the number of such requests is large and therefore, it is not practicable for the Port Trust Board to consider these requests. In Bombay Port Trust, a remission committee of which FA&CAO is a member may decide the cases, involving remission upto a level of Rs. 1,00,000 in each case subject to a overall annual ceiling of Rs. 1 crore per year. All other cases may be considered by the Port Trust Board only. Wherever Remission Committee have been constituted by any Port Trust, no individual other than an official of the Port Trust should continue as a member of the Committee for more than one term of two years at a stretch. The



agenda papers of the Board/Committee of Board should clearly bring out the guidelines issued by Government and should include a clear statement from the FA&CAO of the Port Trust whether in the specific case the proposal satisfies all the conditions set out in this guideline. The Remission Committee should record the views expressed by various members and also its reasons for granting or not granting remission in each case. The minutes of the Remission Committee meeting should be put up in the next Board meeting for information.

9. When the orders on requests for remission are issued, it is essential that a speaking order is issued bringing out the reasons for rejecting the application should also be communicated in writing to the applicant.

10. If in the opinion of a port trust, an application for remission not covered by para (2) above, deserves consideration due to any special circumstances, the Board of Trustees may consider such cases and take an appropriate decision. The special reasons should be recorded in writing.

#### **Merchant Shipping Act**

1712. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to amend the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the amended version is likely to become operative?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Yes.

Sir. For facilitating the implementation of the policies of liberalisation of economy and relaxation of Government control, provisions relating to registration, transfer of ships, foreclosure of mortgages, and fixation of rates contained in sections 21, 42, 45, 51 & 412 of the Act have been amended by promulgation of an Ordinance No. 34 of 1993 on 27th October, 1993. A Bill replacing this Ordinance has also been introduced in the Winter Session of the Parliament.

#### **Advertisements on Metro Channel**

1713. PROF. UMMAREDDY  
VENKATESWARLU :  
SHRIMATI MALINI  
BHATTACHARYA :

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

(a) the time allowed for advertisements on the Metro Entertainment Channel;

(b) whether the norms and guidelines to be followed for advertisements on National Channel are applicable to Metro Channel;

(c) if so, whether opening of Metro Entertainment Channel is creating difficulty in finding sponsors for National channel; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO)

(a) For every half an hour sponsored programme on the Metro Channel Doordarshan allows 3-1/2 minutes free commercial time to the sponsors and utilises 1-1/2 minutes for spot advertisements.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. However, the situation is the result not only of the programme of the metro channels but also the delay in the availability of new serials under the New Sponsorship Scheme on account of a CBI enquiry and litigation. The amount of free commercial time admissible during the prime time in the evening transmission on the national channel has already been increased to 90 seconds to make the time slots attractive to the sponsors.

### **Indo-Bhutan Relations**

1714. SHRI K. PRADHANI :  
SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to strengthen further the bilateral relations with Bhutan; and

(b) the salient features of the projects launched in both the countries as a part of Indo-Bhutan joint collaboration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) As a result of the state visit to India of the King of Bhutan, January 4-7, 1993 and of the Prime Minister's goodwill visit to Bhutan, August 21-22, 1993, several initiatives to strengthen bilateral relations have been taken. In the power sector investigations of the Sankosh hydel project and implementation of the Kurichu hydel project began during 1993. A new transit point at Dhubri for Bhutan's exports was opened and new co-operation projects, such as expansion of Paro airport have also begun. The steady progress in all aspects of India-Bhutan relations has expanded the traditionally warm, close and cordial ties

between the two countries.

(b) Among the major co-operation projects assisted by India in Bhutan are hydro power generation at Chukha, power transmission lines, industrial plant at Gidakom, hospitals at Mongar, Lhunsi and Tashiyangtse and rural development at Gaylegphug, telecommunications, road constructions and mining projects. Joint ventures in Bhutan in cement manufacture and other areas are reportedly being discussed by private Indian firms with Bhutanese counterparts.

### **Sanction of Post Offices in Gujarat**

1715. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some post offices have been sanctioned for Vadodara, Bharuch and Panchmahal districts of Gujarat as per norms and are yet to be opened;

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

(c) the time by which these are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c). One post office, namely Halol Industrial Estate of Panchmahal has been approved and has not yet been opened due to non-availability of suitable accommodation. Every effort is being made to find a suitable rented building. No post office was sanctioned to be opened in 1993-94 in Vadodara and Bharuch.

### **Sadiya-Dhabri Stretch of Brahmaputra**

1716. SHRI PROBEN DEKA : Will

the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether schemes have been formulated to boost up inland water transport from Dhabri to Sadiya along the Brahmaputra; and

(b) the time by which the scheme is likely to be cleared and implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Waterway (Sadiya-Dhubri stretch of the Brahmaputra river) Act, 1988 has come into force w.e.f. December, 1988. To boost IWT system, developmental work on this National Waterway was started from the financial year 1989-90 so as to provide a fairway of National Waterway standard. Schemes are sanctioned and implemented every year for undertaking river conservancy works like bandalling, channel marking, hydrographic survey in the stretch Dhubri to Dibrugarh (768 kms.). The development of Dibrugarh—Sadiya (123 Kms.) stretch is envisaged during 9th Plan.

#### **New Post Offices in Bombay**

1717. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of areas in North Bombay where proposals for opening of new post offices are pending alongwith dates where the proposals were submitted;

(b) the steps taken to acquire premises for new post offices in each area;

(c) whether the Government propose to construct the buildings itself or purchase

a building already constructed or acquire the premises for public purpose; and

(d) if not, the other steps the Government propose to take to acquire premises for the new post offices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Proposals for sanctioning post offices in Gokuldham and Marolnaka of North Bombay are pending. The proposals were taken up in 1992.

(b) to (d). The State Government has been addressed to help obtain land/buildings in a number of areas including Gokuldham. Where land is made available, construction of buildings will be undertaken, subject to availability of funds and sanction of the post office. Search for suitable buildings would also be made when the post offices are actually sanctioned.

#### **T.V. Transmitters in Kerala**

1718. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total allocation made for the expansion of Doordarshan and All India Radio network in Kerala during 1993-94;

(b) whether the Government has taken any steps for setting more T.V. transmitters in the State and also to expand the capacity of Trivandrum Doordarshan Kendra; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO):

(a) The total allocation made for the expansion of Doordarshan and All India Radio

network in Kerala during 1993-94 is Rs. 58.03 lakhs and Rs. 397.45 lakhs respectively.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. One high power transmitter at Cannanore, 2 low power transmitters, one each at Kannangad (Kasargod district) and Thodupuzhan (Idukki District), and a very low power transmitter at Munnar (Idukki district), are under implementation. A low power transmitter at Chengannur, and a very low power transmitter at Kanjirapally, are also envisaged, subject to availability of resources and approval by the competent authority. There is, at present, no proposal to expand the capacity of Doordarshan Kendra at Trivandrum.

#### **Telecast of Obscene Scene**

1719. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :  
SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK :  
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :

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

(a) whether the Bhopal Doordarshan telecast an operation of a naked woman recently;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto and the policy adopted by the Government in telecast of obscene pictures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO):

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The visual was part of an item on an operation carried out in a local hospital of Bhopal recorded by the

Doordarshan Kendra with the co-operation of the surgeon and included in the regional news bulletin telecast by Doordarshan Kendra, Bhopal on 10th October, 1993.

(c) The officials connected with the telecast have been cautioned to ensure that programmes conform to guidelines regarding modesty and decency.

#### **Production and Export of Steel**

1720. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed for production and exports of Iron and Steel separately during 1993-94;

(b) the actual production and export of iron and Steel separately during the first half of the current year and the value thereof (upto April-September 1993);

(c) whether this compares favourably with the production and exports of the corresponding period of last year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a). It is expected that production of Finished Steel and Pig Iron during 1993-94 will be 17.24 million tonnes and 1.89 million tonnes respectively. The export of Pig Iron and Saleable Steel is expected to be 2.46 lakh tonnes and 23.73 lakh tonnes respectively.

(b) to (d). The actual production and export of Pig Iron and Steel during April-September, 1993 *vis-a-vis* production and export in April-September, 1992 was as under :-

*(Quantity in lakh tonnes)*

<i>Production</i>	<i>April-Sept. '93 (Prov.)</i>	<i>April-Sept. '92</i>
Finished Steel	72.19	72.87
Pig Iron	6.59	8.81

*(Quantity in lakh tonnes)*

<i>Exports</i>	<i>April-Sept. '93 (Prov.)</i>		<i>April-Sept. '92</i>	
	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Value in Crores</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Value in Crores</i>
Saleable Steel	7.91	653.3	2.44	184.6
Pig Iron	3.34	137.6	Nil	Nil

No data regarding production value of steel and pig iron is available.

### Steel Production

1721. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

Saleable Steel and the plant-wise production of public sector steel plants and production of private sector during 1992-93 was as under :

*(in million tonnes)*

(a) the quantity of steel produced during 1992-93 with break-up by private and public sectors and plant-wise break-up in case of public sector;

Bokaro Steel Limited	3.00
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Durgapur Steel Plant	0.64
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Rourkela Steel Plant	1.18
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(b) the public sector production target for 1993-94, plantwise with the installed capacity of each plant;

Bhilai Steel Plant	3.12
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Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited (IISCO)	0.40
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(c) the actual production plant-wise during April-September, 1993; and

Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP)	0.82
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(d) the steps taken, if any, to improve capacity utilisation?

Total Public Sector	9.16
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THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV). (a) The total production of

Private Sector	5.52
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Grand Total :	14.68
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(b) and (c). The plant-wise installed capacity in terms of Saleable Steel, production plan for 1993-94 and actual

production of Saleable Steel in April-September 1993 for public sector steel plants is as under :

(In million tonnes)

<i>Plant</i>	<i>Installed Capacity</i>	<i>Production Plan 1993-94</i>	<i>Production April-Sept. '93 (Provisional)</i>
Bokaro	3.16	3.05	1.56
Durgapur	0.94	0.92	0.26
Rourkela	1.17	1.13	0.48
Bhilai	3.15	3.10	1.60
IISCO	0.40	0.40	0.15
VSP	2.66	2.13	0.56

(d) Capacity utilisation of Durgapur Steel Plant will improve with the expected commissioning of Blast Furnace Nos. 2 and 3 in December, 1993. Production in Rourkela Steel Plant which was affected due to unprecedented flooding in August 1993 has now recovered. Efforts are being made in VSP to stabilise production by removing bottlenecks in production lines.

languages in which such programmes are proposed to be telecast in States; and

(c) the proposed date of beginning and the duration of such programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO):

(a) to (c). A satellite regional language service in the following languages, Assamese & North Eastern Languages, Bangla, Gujarati, Kannada, Kashmiri, Malayalam, Marathi, Oriya, Tamil and Telugu on the existing four satellite channels of Doordarshan has been in existence since 1st October, 1993. A two and a half hour chunk has been provided to each language from Monday to Friday.

#### **Folk and Regional Language Programmes**

1722. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to telecast folk and regional language programmes on Doordarshan's Satellite Channels;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the

#### **All Inclusive Tariff for Power Plants**

1723. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of POWER be

pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal for offering of all inclusive tariff for power plants set up with foreign investment in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). Even though Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, Indian Electricity Act, 1910 and the notifications issued thereunder lay down the basis on which tariff is to be determined in case of both licensee and generating companies, the tariff structure for each specific project is a matter of commercial arrangement between the SEB and the private company. Tariff proposals in case of each project have to be settled with the concerned SEB. In the implementation of the policy to attract greater private investments in the electricity sector, tariff structures which are different from notified tariff regulations have also been taken up for consideration by State Govts/SEBs, if such proposals are received from prospective private power project proponents.

#### **Bulk Mail Centres**

1724. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any decision has been taken to set up bulk mail centres in all major cities to facilitate despatch of share certificates, dividend warrants and refund orders by the Corporate Sector; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). The decision taken is to set up, in all A, B-I and B-II Class Cities/Towns Bulk Mail Centres for posting of letters both registered and unregistered of atleast 10,000 if un-registered and 250 if registered, at a time. Normally the letters should be pre-sorted by the mailer, destination wise. Mailer will receive a rebate of 2% of the value of the postage including registration fee, for the pre-sorting.

This scheme applies to corporate sector as well as other individuals/institutions who wish to post letters in bulk.

#### **Advertisements on Doordarshan**

1725. SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have agreed to permit foreign companies to advertise their products on all channels of Doordarshan;
- (b) if so, the terms and conditions laid down by the Government for such advertisements;
- (c) the annual estimated revenue (in foreign exchange) likely to be earned as a result thereof; and
- (d) the extent to which the outflow of foreign exchange due to the advertisements given by Indian manufacturers to Star T.V. channels is likely to be neutralised by implementation of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (d). The matter is under consideration.

**Foreign News Agencies**

1726. SHRI SHANTARAM  
POTDUKHE :  
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :  
SHRI V. SREENIVASA  
PRASAD :  
SHRI TARA CHAND  
KHANDELWAL :  
SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to allow free operation of foreign news agencies in the country;

(b) if so, whether the move is contrary to the recommendation of the Press Council of India;

(c) whether the Government have taken any steps to ensure that the multinational news agencies do not go beyond the permission given to them to distribute their international financial services to non-media customers in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to regulate the operation of such news agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO):  
(a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) to (e). The Government have granted permission to the multi-national news agencies with the stipulation that the distribution of financial service will be only for Banks, Financial Institutions and selected clients for their own use and not for reproduction or public distribution.

[*Translation*]

**Repair and Maintenance of National Highways**

1727. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to identify the Highways which are of international standard;

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

(c) the amount sanctioned for maintenance and repair of National Highways during 1993-94, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A statement showing state-wise release of fund as on 30.11.93 (upto data) for Maintenance and Repairs of National Highways during the year 1993-94 is annexed.

**STATEMENT**

S. No.	Name of State	Amount released (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1520.62
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	21.50



<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of State</i>	<i>Amount released (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
3.	Assam	1106.49
4.	Bihar	1115.48
5.	Chandigarh	13.00
6.	Delhi	183.21
7.	Goa	162.52
8.	Gujarat	857.70
9.	Haryana	425.07
10.	Himachal Pradesh	623.45
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	63.83
12.	Karnataka	1034.50
13.	Kerala	574.77
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1071.37
15.	Maharashtra	1581.86
16.	Manipur	119.18
17.	Meghalaya	182.21
18.	Nagaland	5.50
19.	Pondicherry	4.52
20.	Orissa	849.04
21.	Punjab	579.38
22.	Rajasthan	973.77
23.	Tamil Nadu	1161.69
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1464.39
25.	West Bengal	1286.92
TOTAL:		16981.97

[English]

**Advisory Bodies and Committees**

1728. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of all the Advisory Bodies or Committees functioning at present in his Ministry;

(b) the Committees and Bodies whose tenure will be over in next six months; and

(c) whether any Committee is proposed to be constituted to monitor on a unit- by-unit basis the revival of sick food processing units in the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). Two Development Councils viz..

(i) Development Council for milk food and other processed food products; and

(ii) Development Council for processed fruit and other foods, constituted under Industries (Development and Regulation) Act has a tenure of two years.

An Expert Committee constituted in September, 1993 to study the existing status and constraints of food processing industries in the North-Eastern States and to recommend short-term, medium-term and long-term plan of action for development of processed food industries in those States is to submit its report within a period of six months.

A technical Committee constituted to look into the problem of sick deep sea

fishing industries in India is also submit its report by February, 1994.

Besides the above, no Committee has been constituted to monitor on a unit- to-unit basis the revival of sick food processing industries in the country.

**Food Processing Sector**

1729. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have urged the Eastern and Northern States to review their policies on Food Processing Industries and make conditions attractive for entrepreneurs for investment in this sector;

(b) whether any new proposals have been suggested to the State Governments in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken to implement the proposed scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) In several meetings organised at regional and national levels, State Governments have been impressed upon the need for accordng requisite priority, adequate attention and thrust to develop all food processing industries in the States, adoption of suitable State Policy, provision of incentives, reduction of State levies etc.

(b) to (d). The Ministry of Food Processing Industries are operating several developmental Plan Schemes for the overall development of food processing industries.

Financial assistance is extended to State Government Organisations/Co-operatives/Voluntary Organisations, Joint Sector etc. for setting up or enlarging processing facilities, developing backward linkages with farmers, marketing support, pork and poultry and other meat processing facilities etc. Financial assistance has been extended in respect of proposals received from Eastern and North Eastern States also.

### **Reduction in Strength of Armed Forces from Indo-China Border**

1730. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-China agreement concluded recently on mutually recognising the Line of Actual Control, is likely to create peace and tranquility between the two countries; and

(b) if so, the time by which the two countries propose to reduce their troops on the Line of Actual Control and the extent of reduction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes Sir. it is Government's realistic expectation that implementation of the agreement will lead to peace and tranquility along the line of actual control in the India-China border areas.

(b) The extent of troop reductions and when they will be carried out will depend upon the progress of negotiations between India and China on implementation of various measures of the agreement.

**12.00 hrs.**

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow the

discussions to continue upto 12.30 p.m. One Member on one point may express his views.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise again an issue, with great anguish in my heart, which had been raised time and again in the past too. Though this august House twice passed a resolution on the language issue yet its results are not evident. People from all over the country come and sit on dhama in front of UPSC but everytime they are maltreated. This time agitators were handcuffed and put behind the bars.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this House is Supreme and despite passing the resolution twice I fail to understand what is the hitch before the Government for not translating the wishes of the august House into practice. I am not advocating for making any language compulsory whether it be Hindi, Tamil or any other language. Our country has been weakened because of the ongoing language controversy. As a Minister in the past I have seen that the seminars are conducted here.....\*\*..... these are very monotonous.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : That word will not form part of the record.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, though this word has negative conotation yet it is not unparliamentary. I never use unparliamentary language.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: That I have to decide.

[*Translation*](*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Matric fail students of Public schools easily get employment. Such is the situation that English knowledge has become obligatory to get employment in India. Devaluation of Indian languages has adversely affected the whole of the development process. This issue has been raised repeatedly in the House. One youth got his legs broken and the resolution in this regard was passed twice yet nothing has been done. We are not advocating for Hindi to be imposed but simply submitting that the Indian languages should be put on high pedestal. Mother tongue is the medium in which anybody can forcefully express one's views. \*\*

There is a limit to even resorting to agitations. Though we have requested the Government time and again yet we fail to understand the reasons which are preventing the government from taking any decision in this regard. Though the august House twice passed the resolutions yet agitationists are being maltreated. People agitating in front of UPSC are only following ideals of 'Gandhi ji' and are not committing any crime. Even then they are being meted out such inhuman treatment.

Even in the darkness of mid night the agitators are forced to get up, they are maltreated and beaten up and when the issue is raised in the House the Government remains silent. What are the reasons for not implementing the resolution. Sir, through you. I would like to submit that a meeting of opposition leader's and youth sitting on dharna for years should immediately be convened and the Government should display its resolve to implement the resolution instead of giving mute response.

MR. SPEAKER : Non implementation of assurances given in the House, as per procedural requirements, should be raised in the Assurances Committee.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: You too intend to bypass this way ?

MR. SPEAKER. I am not bypassing but simply reminding you the procedure.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : I may not be as intelligent as you are but even after passing such a resolution nothing is being implemented. (*Interruptions*)

The Government should do something in this regard.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support Shri Sharad Yadav. This was not the assurance of the Government but resolution of the House passed unanimously. This issue had been repeatedly raised in both the Houses and youth continued their agitation but they were beaten up time and again. When we discussed the matter with them we were informed that a Committee would be constituted but no decision has been taken in this regard as yet. Why are the agitators being repeatedly handcuffed and imprisoned? The Government must throw light on all these points.

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue I intend to raise I will raise later on. Right now I would like to speak on the issues raised by Shri Sharad Yadav and Shri Saifuddin Choudhury. In the last session also, I raised this issue and it

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\*\*Expunged as ordered by the chair.

was taken up in the Cabinet too. Shri Shukla is also present in the House and the Government is trying to implement the resolution passed twice regarding Indian languages. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to remind that all the Assurances by the Government are got implemented.

*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a fact that both the Houses of Parliament have passed Resolutions and it is also agreed to by the Government to implement that. There was a Presidential directive also in this case to implement that. I agree with the hon. Members that it is overdue for implementation. I will take it up with the Home Ministry or who so ever is concerned with it. The directive given by this House, I think, should be implemented. We will try and do it as quickly as possible.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sharad Yadav is very right when he says that if the Resolution is passed by the House it should be implemented as soon as it is possible.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Sir, I do agree with it. It is a very important issue which has not been implemented yet. It has been pointed out, but there are reasons which are beyond my control. *(Interruptions)*. I am expressing the official views on this matter. I remember this matter has been brought before the Cabinet also. There are Resolutions of both the Houses of Parliament which have been accepted by the Government. There is a Presidential directive

also on this matter and if such matters are raised in the House, I think, we will take note of it and try to expedite the implementation. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: If both the Houses have passed the Resolution, it means, the entire Parliament has passed the Resolution. The suggestion given by the hon. Member is that the leaders of all the parties should be invited if there is any difficulty or any obstacle and they should be consulted so that expeditiously the resolutions are implemented.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: We will invite the leaders for discussion on this subject. *(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR: (Durg) Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Central Government has approved 125 units for the journalists and the photographers of the Press Information Bureau. Some of them, about 25-30 units are vacant. So far as the occupied as well as the vacant units are concerned about one and a half year ago, I alongwith the journalists and the photographers had requested the hon. Minister of Urban Development to issue guidelines in this regard. A big delegation had also met the hon. Minister and requested him to lay set of guidelines immediately, if not yet laid. If nothing has been done in this regard so far, then the Government must take an initiative at the earliest, and if the concerned Ministry says that guidelines are there, then what is the difficulty in making allotment of vacant quarters? People are awaiting for allotment for more than a year. The Government should call the meeting at the earliest and allot the quarters within a week so that they are given possession by January, 1994.

SHRI RABI RAY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise a very important matter. It is good that the two Ministers of the Ministry of External Affairs are present here. It appears that the diplomatic relations between India and America are deteriorating for the last few months. The well known Senator of America Mr. Presslor alone with some of his colleagues came to India. I would like to raise this matter because American Government wants to withdraw the Presslor amendment. Everybody knows that if it is withdrawn, the offensive capacity of Pakistan would increase. At the same time the delivery of F-16 aircrafts would be released. I would like to submit that the Presslor law was enacted in 1985 under which the economic and military assistance provided by America was curtailed.

An American diplomat Miss Raphael has given a very objectionable statement about Kashmir when she said that India had made an accession in Kashmir. It appears that in this manner she would put a question mark even on the independence of our country.

Mr. Presslor had come to India last week to discuss Indo-US relations. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what did he discuss with the Government. He also met the hon. Prime Minister I would like to know the details particularly about the amendment of senator Presslor which the Clinton administration wants to implement. What action has been taken by the Government to bury the hatchet. We would also like that the Presslor amendment should not be withdrawn and whether this matter was discussed during the negotiations.

[English]

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR :  
(Nasik) A very unfortunate railway and bus

accident has taken place.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Pawar, the Railway Minister is going to make a statement on this subject within two minutes.

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR : I want your protection. I have given a notice.

MR. SPEAKER : I am getting a statement from the Railway Minister even without your asking. After the Railway Minister makes a statement, you can ask for clarifications, if you want, but not now.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the two Ministers of the Ministry of External Affairs are present here, we have read in the newspapers that discussions were held. So we would like to know what discussions were held. It is an important matter, therefore the august House should be apprised of the situation.

MR. SPEAKER: When an issue of international importance is raised during Zero Hour, it would not be proper to seek a statement without holding discussion over it. If the hon. Member gives a short notice question, I may allow the discussion.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh) : Mr. Speaker Sir, I would also like to submit that the hon. Ministers of the Ministry of External Affairs are present, when these matters are being taken up in the meeting of the Ministry of External Affairs, why do you not allow two hours time for discussion.

MR. SPEAKER. They have decided for discussion. It has been announced in the House that discussion on External Affairs would be held. This topic has also been

taken up in the report of BAC.

[English]

SHRI CHITTA BASU: (Barasat) A statement may be made on this particular subject in order to make the discussion meaningful.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR: (Khandwa) Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that tremors of earthquake are being felt for the last 15 days in the Pandara Tehsil of Khandwa district in Madhya Pradesh and Sangli district of Maharashtra and .....

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister is to give a statement in this regard, thereafter we will discuss this subject. You please sit down.

[English]

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum) : Janapriya Finance and Industrial Investment (India) Ltd. is a registered public undertaking and there are several lakhs of investors with deposits amounting to crores of rupees. It was registered in 1956 under the Companies Act. It has its headquarters in Calcutta. There are lakhs of small depositors all over the country. In Trivandrum, a branch was working for quite a number of years. One of the objects of the Branch was to collect small savings through door to door service. This Office was closed down one fine morning. Several crores of rupees have been cheated from the small investors in Kerala.

This is a very important issue affecting lakhs of very small investors and their

agents. Its headquarters is in Calcutta and registration has been given by the Government of West Bengal.

MR. SPEAKER : You can start criminal proceedings against that Company. There is a provision in the law for that.

SHRI A. CHARLES : I want action should be taken by the Government of India to launch prosecution against the Company to make payment to the small investors since all the deposits are in the nationalised banks.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam) : The damage caused by flood and cyclone in Tamil Nadu is estimated at ₹s. 666 crores.

MR. SPEAKER : I am going to allow a discussion on that subject. You can raise this matter later.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, today thousands of rural bank employees are observing strike and they are demanding National Rural Bank of India. This strike is being organised by Rural Bank Employees Association.

This issue was raised on the floor of the House during the last Session by Shri Nitish Kumar Ji and all the Members, irrespective of whichever Party they belong, supported the demand that there should be a National Rural Bank of India.

The Finance Minister, Shri Manmohan Singh consulted the representatives of all political parties. The representatives who were present in that meeting also very clearly and categorically said that in order to cater to the needs of the thousands of rural poor artisans, agricultural labourers and poor peasants, there should be a National Rural Bank of India.

In 1976, when the Regional Rural Bank was set up, the first Regional Rural Bank came up in our country. The purpose of setting up of such a Rural Bank has not been served.

MR. SPEAKER: Why do you not ask a Question on this point instead of raising it in Zero Hour? You know of it.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : I am concluding now. In order to serve the needs of the rural people, in order to help the rural artisans to come above the poverty line, it is the unanimous opinion of this House that there should be a National Rural Bank of India. So, I demand that the Government should take immediate decision to set up a National Rural Bank of India to serve the rural poor of our country.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : (Barh) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support Shri Basudeb Acharia. A consensus was formed in this regard during the last session also. The hon. Members of all the political parties had a unanimous opinion that National Rural Bank should be set up particularly for those rural people who are living below poverty line in villages, for launching a poverty eradication programme to raise them above the poverty line and to provide loan to such people, farmers and craftsmen. Thus National Rural Bank may play an important role in this regard. But the Government has been making an undue delay in it. Therefore, through you I would urge upon the Government to take an action immediately in this regard.

[*English*]

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : (Contai) Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Metro Channel of the

Television has been neglecting the development of Regional languages.

Bengali has been neglected too much. We have been pressurising the authorities of the Doordarshan to take steps to develop the Bengali language and to focus it through the electronic media. In this connection, I point out that the serial shown in the Doordarshan is also below the standard. We cannot accept such a below the standard serial in the interest of the public.

Thank you,

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Sir, the farmers in different parts of Orissa especially in the Hirakud Command Area are suffering a great deal due to the distress sale of paddy which is going on there. The hon. Minister is present here. I would request him, through you, to make some arrangements.

Secondly, there is a great anomaly in the matter of gradation of paddy which is existing now. Some varieties of paddy which are graded as superfine in Andhra Pradesh and elsewhere are graded as just the common variety in Orissa. So, this anomaly should also be remedied. This is my request to the hon. Minister.

DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDHAM (Tiruchengode) : Sir, I came to know from newspaper reports that the Officers Training Academy in Madras is to be merged with the Indian Military Academy soon and the modalities of its shifting and merger have already been worked out. This has been stated by the Chief of the Naval staff. It is also stated that the women Officers Training Wing at the OTA is also being shifted. This unit functioning in Madras is a century old one. Its shifting will affect hundreds of employees in Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu will



lose one prestigious Training Academy. The move to shift the more prestigious Training Academy is highly regrettable. I request the hon. Minister, through you, to stop this move and take urgent steps in order to prevent the shifting of this Academy.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Ferozpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the farmers of Punjab who are facing a very big problem. The State Government had increased the rate of electricity in the previous months. According to the earlier rates, the farmers had to pay Rs. 65 for their electricity bill, whereas, now they have to pay Rs. 125 for it.

MR. SPEAKER : This matter should be raised in the Punjab assembly.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Ferozpur) : Those, who used to pay Rs. 125, have now to pay Rs. 250. I would like to say that the farmers of Punjab contribute more than 70 per cent of the total foodgrains production in the country. It is the duty of the Government to provide relief to those farmers ....

MR. SPEAKER : You should raise this question in the Legislative Assembly of the State and not here.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Ferozpur) : In this way the farmers are made to cough up more money every year. I would like to request the Government through you that it should direct the Punjab Government to withdraw the hike in electricity rates with immediate effect, so that the farmers could get relief of the debts and their problems.

[*English*]

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI (Serampore) : Since 7th of December, about four lakhs of employees in Haryana - State Government employees and the employees of other institutions ...

MR. SPEAKER : No, no.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI : Just listen, Sir. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Then somebody will raise issues relating to West Bengal Assembly jurisdiction.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: It is related to the Union Territory of Chandigarh. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI TARA SINGH (Kurukshetra): This matter cannot be raised. This is a State subject and this should not be allowed to be raised here. (*Interruptions*) \*\*

MR. SPEAKER : Only Shri Paswan's statement will go on record.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand this. You should understand it. I am trying to facilitate your raising important national issues on the floor of the House.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: It is also a national issue. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: If you are interested

in Haryana, somebody will get up and say on West Bengal.

cooperating with me to conclude this activity within half-an hour.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You should sit down please.

12.30 hours

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

*[Translation]*

**Memorandum of Understanding  
Between the North Eastern Electric  
Power Corporation Limited and the  
Ministry of Power for 1993-94  
ETC.**

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roser): Mr. Speaker, Sir, even after 45 years of independence, there are so many castes and tribes in our country who have not been included in the category of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. Several of these castes belong to Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Bihar etc. As per the rule, when the State Governments write for them and the R.G.I. gives its approval on it, the Government of India moves a Bill in this regard in the Parliament. When our Party was in power, we had prepared a list of nearabout 200 such castes and tribes, to be included in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It was approved by the State Governments and RGI had also given its approval in this regard. Although this Government has been assuring to bring a Bill regarding the inclusion of these castes in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the last two years. Yet it has not done anything in that regard. A tribe of Tamil Nadu named Bharaga has been agitating in Delhi for the last one year in this regard. I would request the Government to bring a Bill in the Parliament at the earliest and those castes and tribes, which have been approved by the State Governments as well as by the RGI, should be included in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Power for the year 1993-94. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 4700/93]
- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Power Research Institute, Bangalore, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Central Power Research Institute, Bangalore, for the year 1992-93.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Well, thank you for

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4701/93]

**Notification Under the Major Ports Act, 1963 and Review on the Working of and Annual Report of Dredging Corporation of India Limited New Delhi for 1992-93 ETC.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub section (4) of section 124 of the Major Ports Act, 1963:-
- (i) G.S.R. 32 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th January, 1993 approving the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust Employees (Leave) Regulations, 1993.
- (ii) G.S.R. 60 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 1993 approving the Corrigendum to Tuticorin Port Trust (Recruitment, Seniority and Promotion) Sixth Amendment Regulations, 1992.
- (iii) G.S.R. 346 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th March, 1993 approving the Tuticorin Port Trust employees' (Recruitment, Seniority and Promotion) Seventh Amendment Regulations, 1993.
- (iv) G.S.R.426 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd May, 1993 approving the Calcutta Port Trust employees' (Welfare Fund) Second Amendment Regulations, 1993.

- (v) G.S.R.500 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th July, 1993 approving the Madras Port Trust' (Recruitment of Heads of Departments) (Amendments) Regulations, 1993.
- (vi) G.S.R.512 (E) Published in Gazette of India dated the 14th July, 1993 approving the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (Recruitment of Heads of Departments) Regulations, 1993.
- (vii) G.S.R.522 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th July, 1993 approving the Cochin Port Trust Employees' (Educational Assistance) Regulations, 1993.
- (viii) G.S.R.582 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th August, 1993 approving the Tuticorin Port Trust (Recruitment of Head of Departments) Amendment Regulations, 1993.
- (ix) G.S.R. 583 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st September, 1993 approving the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust Employees' (Welfare Fund) First Amendment Regulations, 1993.
- (x) G.S.R. 558 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th August, 1993 approving the Visakhapatnam Port Trust Employees' (Leave Travel Concession) Regulations, 1993.
- (xi) G.S.R.618 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th September, 1993 containing corrigendum to the Notification No. G.S.R.843 (E) dated the 2nd

November, 1992.

- (xii) G.S.R.636 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st October, 1993 approving the Mormugao Port Trust Employees (Allotment of Residences) (Fifth Amendment) Regulations, 1993.
- (xiii) G.S.R.65 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th February, 1993 approving the Calcutta Port Trust Employees' (Leave Travel Concession) Second Amendment Regulations, 1993.
- (xiv) G.S.R.75 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th February, 1993 approving the Cochin Port Trust Employees' (leave) amendment Regulations, 1993.
- (xv) G.S.R.82 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd February, 1993 approving the Mormugao Port Employees' (Conduct) (Amendment) Regulations, 1993.
- (xvi) G.S.R.194 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd March, 1993 approving the Visakhapatnam Port, Class-I Officers (Acceptance of Employment after Retirement) Amendment Regulations, 1993.
- (xvii) G.S.R.256 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd March, 1993 approving the New Mangalore Port Trust Employees (Amendment of Residences) First Amendment Regulations, 1993.
- (xviii) G.S.R.280 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th March, 1993 approving the Paradip

Port Trust (Pension Fund) Amendment, Regulations, 1993.

- (xix) G.S.R.347 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th March, 1993 approving the Cochin Port Employees (Recruitment, Seniority and Promotion) Amendment Regulations, 1993.
  - (xx) G.S.R.569 (E) Published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd August, 1993 approving the Mormugao Port Employees (Grant of Advance for purchase of Conveyance) Amendment Regulations, 1993.
  - (xxi) G.S.R.593 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th September, 1993 approving the Visakhapatnam Port Trust Employees (Contributory Outdoor and Indoor Medical Benefit after Retirement) Amendment Regulations, 1993.
  - (xxii) G.S.R.620 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1993 approving the Mormugao Port Employees (Contributory Medical Benefits after retirement) Amendment Regulations, 1993.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 4702/93]
- (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) Review by the Government on the working of the Dredging

Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Dredging Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4703/93]

- (3)(i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust for the year 1992-93, together with Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust for the year 1992-93.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4704/93]

- (4)(i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Calcutta Port Trust for the year 1992-93, together with Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Calcutta Port Trust for the year 1992-93.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4705/93]

- (5)(i) A copy of the Annual

Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cochin Port Trust for the year 1992-93, together with Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the Cochin Port Trust for the year 1992-93.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4706/93]

- (6)(i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Paradip Port Trust for the year 1992-93.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Paradip Port Trust for the year 1992-93.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4707/93]

- (7)(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Bombay Dock Labour Board for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Bombay Dock Labour Board for the year 1992-93.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4708/93]

- (8)(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mormugao Dock Labour Board for the year 1992-93, alongwith

Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Mormugao Dock Labour Board for the year 1992-93.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4709/93]

- (9) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 103 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 :-

- (a) (i) Annual Accounts of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust for the year 1992-93, together with Audit Report thereon.

(ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust for the year 1992-93.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4710/93]

- (b) (i) Annual Accounts of the Calcutta Port Trust for the year 1992-93, together with Audit Report thereon.

(ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Calcutta Port Trust for the year 1992-93.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4711/93]

- (10) A copy of the National Highways (Amendment) Rules, 1993 (Hindi and English versions) published in

Notification No. S.O. 699 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th September, 1993 issued under section 7 of the National Highways Act, 1956.

- (11) A copy of the National Highways (Amendment) Rules, 1993 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 855 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th November, 1993 under sub section (3) of section 9 of the National Highways Act 1956.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4712/93]

- (12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Visakhapatnam Dock Labour Board for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Visakhapatnam Dock Labour Board for the year 1992-93.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4713/93]

**Review on the Working of and Annual Report of  
Bharat Aluminium Company Limited for  
1992-93**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government on the

[Sh. Balram Singh Yadav]

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4716/93]

working of the Bharat Aluminium Company Limited for the year 1992-93.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Aluminium Company Limited for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4714/93]

**Profit and Loss Account and Balance Sheet of the Department of Telecommunications for 1991-92 and Memorandum of Understanding Between the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited and the Ministry of Communications Department of Telecommunications for 1993-94**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): I beg to lay on the Table -

- (1) A copy of the profit and Loss Account and Balance Sheet (on accrual basis) of the Department of Telecommunications, for the year 1991-92 (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4715/93]

- (2) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited and the Ministry of Communications, Department of Telecommunications for the year 1993-94.

**Review on the Working and Annual Reports of Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited for 1992-93, Vijayanagar Steel Limited Bangalore Ore for 1992-93 etc.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): I beg to lay on the Table 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 on the working of the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited for the year 1992-93.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4717/93]

- (b) (i) Review by the government on the working of the Vijayanagar Steel Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1992-93.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Vijayanagar Steel Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT - 4718/93]

- (c) (i) Review by the government on the

working of the Sponge Iron India Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1992-93.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Sponge Iron India Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT - 4719/93]

- (d) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited, Bhubaneswar, for the year 1992-93.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited, Bhubaneswar, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT - 4720/93]

**Annual Report and Review on the Working of Paddy Processing Research Centre (Tamil Nadu) Society, Tamil Nadu for 1992-93**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): I beg to lay on the Table -

- (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Paddy Processing Research Centre (Tamil Nadu) Society, Tamil Nadu, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Paddy Processing Research Centre (Tamil Nadu) Society, Tamil Nadu, for the year 1992-93.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT - 4721/93]

**1231 Hrs.**

**STATEMENT BY MINISTERS**

- (i) **Earthquake in Maharashtra and adjoining areas**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): I seek leave of the House to make a statement on the situation arising out of recent earthquake in Maharashtra and adjoining areas and the relief and rehabilitation measures taken by the Government.

An earthquake measuring 6.3 on the Richter Scale struck the Marathwada region of the country just before day-break at 3.56 a.m. of September 30, 1993. It had its epicentre at Killari village in Ausa Tehsil of Latur district in Maharashtra. It was followed by three after shocks of declining intensity on the same day. Milder after shocks still continue to be felt in the region.

Although parts of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Goa and Pondicherry also experienced mild tremors, the brunt of damage and destruction was experienced in Latur and Osmanabad districts of Marathwada. The earthquake severely affected 36 villages in Latur and 31 villages



[Sh. Balram Jakhar]

in Osmanabad, causing several deaths and extensive damage to residential houses and public buildings. In addition, there was damage to dwelling houses in 52 villages of Latur district and 374 villages of Osmanabad district. 11 other districts of Maharashtra also experienced damage of varying degrees to houses and public buildings. In Kamataka, the quake affected 22 villages in 5 districts. It is with great pain and anguish that I inform you that as many as 7601 people lost their lives and 15846 people were injured in Maharashtra. It also completely damaged nearly 19,000 houses and caused partial damage of varying intensity to 2.17 lakh houses. In Kamataka, the losses were comparatively minor where the earthquake resulted in loss of 10 human lives, complete damage to 216 houses and partial damage to nearly 28,000 houses, besides some damage to other infrastructure.

The heavy toll of human lives and extent of damage destruction and human misery caused by the earthquake benumbed all of us. However, the relief machinery of the country swung into action immediately. The Chief Minister, Maharashtra, along with Ministers and Senior officials reached the site and provided the leadership to organise rescue and relief operations. Army columns comprising of sappers, engineers and medical and para medical units with field equipments moved in from Bombay, Pune and Secunderabad within 24 hours of the earthquake. They numbered 10,000 and mounted one of the largest peace time operations in independent India. The army succeeded in rescuing over 9,000 injured. In addition, over 6,000 dead were removed and cremated or buried.

Nearly 12,000 non-military personnel, surgeon to medical, public health, police,

revenue, engineering, home guards, etc. were also engaged in the rescue and relief operations. There was also spontaneous response from volunteers and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) who took a major part especially in providing food, medical aid and other needed assistance. The rescue operations were substantially completed by October 5, 1993. Along with treatment of the injured, medical teams took preventive measures against the danger of epidemics with the result that there was no outbreak of any epidemic in spite of the presence of a large number of dead bodies and complete dislocation of normal life.

The Prime Minister visited the areas on 4th October, 1993, assessed the situation and comforted the bereaved families.

At the Central level, the Crisis Management Group (CMG) headed by the Cabinet Secretary met on the day of the earthquake to consider measures to be taken by various Central Government agencies. Cabinet Secretary has been reviewing the situation regarding the steps to be taken for relief and rehabilitation on weekly basis. The CMG headed by the Central Relief Commissioner in the Ministry of Agriculture was meeting daily during the crisis period and now periodically to review the situation and provide assistance needed by the State Government from time to time. Government of India have released Rs. 41.25 crores to assist the State Government in relief and rehabilitation measures.

The State Government along have so far spent Rs. 38.6 crores on relief and rehabilitation measures.

Government of India deputed 15 medical teams consisting of 45 specialists in various fields to assist State Governments efforts to provide immediate medical relief to

the affected population. Besides emergency food, cotton blankets, life saving drugs and other items of relief assistance were also airlifted for distribution among the victims. Ministry of Railways carried relief materials free of cost. Air India also carried relief material from abroad free of cost. All customs and Central excise Collectors were directed to exempt the articles intended for relief and rehabilitation in Maharashtra and Karnataka from customs duty and Central excise. Income-Tax exemption has been granted to the contributions for earthquake relief and rehabilitation.

The people of this country have always shown great fortitude in facing natural calamities and mobilising the human and material resources for succour to the victims. They contributed very generously to the relief and rehabilitation efforts of the Government of Maharashtra. In fact voluntary work by a large number of agencies public and private played a crucial role in alleviating the misery of the people. The spontaneous offer of money, material, expertise for relief and rehabilitation from a wide range of foreign donors which include foreign governments, UN bodies, non-Government Organisations and individuals and the compassion expressed by them have proved the solidarity and innate humanism of the international community in times of extreme crisis like this. It was very touching to see even the groups of school going children and the people from vulnerable sections making small but extremely valuable contribution. I am sure this house would join me in expressing our deep sense of gratitude to all of them.

We are now faced with the problem of providing appropriate rehabilitation - social, economic and psychological to the victims families, disabled persons, destitute women and orphaned children. The Ministry of

Finance is already negotiating with the World Bank for assistance for a comprehensive reconstruction package, proposing an investment of over Rs. 1,000 crores. A World Bank team has pre-appraised the project report for an emergency reconstruction credit. The Board of the bank is expected to consider the proposal for final approval early. Private donor agencies have started construction of dwelling units and community facilities in 20 villages with the permission of the Government of Maharashtra.

One of the matters to be firmed up regarding construction of dwelling units, other buildings and infrastructure is the technology and materials to be used in reconstruction so as to withstand the impact of possible future earthquakes. Government of India have appointed an Advisory Group to consider the question and its report has just been received.

The area affected by the calamity had been classified seismically and Zone-I which is least vulnerable to moderate and great earthquakes. This assumption has now been belied and, therefore, the need for a re-look at the seismic zoning classification especially in peninsular India. Prime Minister has already announced Government's intention to undertake this review speedily. In this connection, a Committee by the Government of India to look into the inadequacies of the existing seismic survey reports and to recommend corrective measures has submitted its reports which is under consideration. Besides, a Task Force to examine the need for seismic instrumentation and an Expert Committee for updating the project document on seismic observations are already at work.

While a large number of dignitaries, both Indian and foreign as also teams of

[Sh. Balram Jakhar]

officers from Central Government have been visiting areas and giving us the benefit of their advice and feedback, I have had the most recent opportunity of personally visiting the area interacting with the affected persons and reviewing the relief and rehabilitation programmes with the State Government. I wish to record my appreciation of the goodwork done by the State Government, Armed Forces, non-Government Organisations and public spirited individuals. While conveying my heart felt sympathies for the affected people, I wish to assure this House that we will spare no efforts in meeting the challenges of rehabilitation.

MR. SPEAKER : Should we have a short discussion on this ?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Later on Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: We will fix up a time for that.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Any time that you say I am prepared.

MR. SPEAKER : You were to make a statement on the cyclone.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : That I will do later on Sir. The report is being prepared. The assessment is coming. My teams have gone and they will bring out the data.

MR. SPEAKER : Will it be possible tomorrow?

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam) : Only Rs. 1 crore has been released as a token amount. I demand more funds should be released. Nearly one week has passed since his visit.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : He does not actually have the facts. We have already

recommended. That has to be gone through the process. You do not worry about it. I have already recommended for the early release of the instalment for the next year also. You do not worry on that score. We are taking care of that. I am going to make a statement about this and then I will come back to you.

SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNAIAH (Tumkur) : Some three districts in Karnataka are also affected. A liberal attitude should be shown. Because Karnataka is not in a position to meet the demands of the people.

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) : In such matters Parliament should be taken into confidence earlier. Even on earthquake it is a post-mortem report of the Government of India. About cyclone it will take two-three weeks more. It has to be brought to the notice of the House at the earliest possible opportunity.

MR. SPEAKER : It is going to be a long drawn process and we will consider it very carefully.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani) : There have been repeated tremors in the Marathwada area and the areas around.

MR. SPEAKER : We are going to discuss that issue.

*(Interruptions) \**

MR. SPEAKER: It is not going on record.

**(ii) Unmanned Level Crossing Gate Accident Involving 7304 Syhyadri Express and a Bus on Miraj-Pune be Single Line Section of South Central Railway on 11.12.1993**

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : It is with deep anguish that I apprise the House of an

unfortunate accident involving train No. 7304 Kolhapur-Bombay VT Sahyadri Express and a school bus at about 11.30 Hrs on 11.12.93 on the Miraj-Pune BG SL section on the Hubli Division of South Central Railway. While the train was on run in the block section between Alandi and Phursungi stations and approaching level crossing No. 11 at Km. 17/11-10, two buses carrying Primary School children for a picnic suddenly tried to cross the level crossing. It is learnt that the driver of the train whistled heavily and tried to slow down. One bus passed the level crossing, but the second bus was hit. It appears that the driver of the illfated bus while taking the turn to cross the level crossing, perhaps, stalled because he could not change the gear in time as there is a gradient. As a result 7304 Sahyadri Express hit the tail end of the bus and threw the bus down the embankment of the level crossing into the field, about 40-50 metres away.

Due to the impact, 38 passengers of the bus including 34 school children, 2 lady teachers, a peon and a clerk lost their lives and another 45 sustained injuries. There was no injury to the train crew or train passengers.

The level crossing where the accident occurred is on a straight track, served by a kutchra road and the visibility on either side is clear for nearly 500 metres, with the road running parallel to the track for about 450 metres. It is said that this level crossing is not very much in use except on holidays by people visiting the nearby temple.

Immediately on receipt of the information about the accident, Medical Van from Ghorpuri/Pune, with railway Doctors left for the site of the accident. General Manager, Central Railway alongwith senior

officers, Director, Indian Railway Institute of Civil Engineering and Area Manager, Pune, organised immediate relief arrangements in coordination with District Administration and Municipal Corporation of Pune. Divisional Railway Manager, Hubli alongwith Divisional Officers also rushed to the site. The Additional General Manager, South Central Railway, alongwith senior officers also proceeded to the site of accident by a special train. The injured have been shifted to the Sasoon Government Hospital, Pune, where they are progressing.

I, accompanied by Chairman, Railway Board, Member Traffic and Member Engineering rushed to the site by a special airforce plane and also visited the injured in the hospital and consoled the relatives. I have ordered an enquiry into the accident.

In an unfortunate accident like this generally ex-gratia or compensation is not allowed. Since the injured are small children, as a special case, I have ordered ex-gratia payment to the injured.

My colleague Shri K.C. Lenka, all railway workers and I express our heartfelt condolences to the families who lost the valuable lives of their children and sincere sympathies to the injured.

I trust the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central): May I seek one clarification ? *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Generally, we do not allow clarifications of this sort.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : If you allow, I want to seek only two clarifications. He has made a statement that the issue of manning the level crossing would be taken up with the State Government which is supposed to bear the cost of manning the railway level crossing. I would like to know as to whether it is not the duty of the Railway to see that those who cross the railway level crossings are fully protected. How do you rely upon the State Government for that purpose?

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR (Nasik) : Sir, the hon. Minister has just now said that the driver of the train whistled and tried to slow down the train. But, it is learnt that the train was running late; and at that time, it was running at a speed of 90 kilometer per hour. Actually it should run at a speed of 40-50 kilometers per hour. Since it was running at a high speed, the driver could not stop the train in time and so, there was a clash. Hon. Minister has said that he has visited the site. There is a general feeling that an apathy was shown by the Railway Minister. 38 people have died and we should see from the point of view of sympathy towards the children. I strongly recommend that those who have died should be given some compensation as we are giving to the general category. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Yes. You have made the statement.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF : Sir, I do not think that I have made any statement regarding the manning of the level crossing that State Government should contribute or anything like that, nor it is the railways. There are very well established norms based on the traffic. There are certain occasions where the State Government also comes into

the picture in meeting the cost of manning the level crossings. The railways also take part in that. It is both.

So far as the accidents part is concerned, my friend totally looks like misinformed. We have been there. The Mayor of Pune was there. The local MP was there. The local Collector was there. The local police officials were also there. Everybody was there. Everybody's version is the same. It is the fault of the driver who was in haste.

MR. SPEAKER : It is being investigated. Isn't it ?

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF : One bus crossed the level-crossing. The other bus just tried to follow blindly. Unfortunately, the hit was at the fag-end of the vehicle which created this tragedy.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : This is being looked into.

*(Interruptions)*

12.47 Hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) **Need to improve the standard of Portrayal of public figures in Films**

[English]

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK (Bolangir) : Sir, it has been observed that the standard of portrayal of public figures in films has been declining now-a-days. Instead

of presenting the public figures, such as, defence personnel, police, bureaucracy and social servants, as sentinels of peace and promotion of social values, they are characterised in a despicable manner. This is creating a negative impact on the tender minds contributing to social disorder. The Central Board for Film Certification should be strengthened and there is an urgent need to control this disease.

I request the Central Government to take steps to discourage such portrayal of public figures in films and other media so that social harmony and balance can be maintained.

**(ii) Need for Construction of a Railway Bridge at Village Jamaluddin Chack in Patna Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar**

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KIRPAL YADAV (Patna) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, under the Danapur division in my constituency Patna, the Railway Department had acquired land from the people and had blocked the drains therein. As a result, the dirty water flowing in those drains in the village Jamaluddin Chack has stagnated at several places and an epidemic may spread at any time. The residents of village Jamaluddin Chack Gorgawan, Nauratanpur and Babu Chack are facing a lot of difficulties due to this water-logging. Besides this, the villagers had to visit Neora Road, which lies across the railway line. An ancient tomb is situated there near the railway line, which is visited by pilgrims coming from a distance of several kilometres. As there is no link bridge, serious accidents are likely to take place there, while acquiring the land from the

people, the railway department had assured them to give job to one member of the family owing the land. But that assurance has not yet been fulfilled.

So, I would request the hon. Minister of Railways through you that proper drainage system should be made in the village, a link bridge should be constructed on the railway line and one member of the family from whom the land was acquired, should be compensated with employment.

**(iii) Need to Release Special Grants for Construction of Two Subways at Kempegowda Road in Bangal Ore.**

[English]

SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA (Chitradurga) : Sir, Bangalore city is one of the fast developing cities in Asia. Large industries are located in and around the city. Traffic congestion has become a major problem to the people. There are certain areas like Kempegowda road, city market, Shivajinagar bus stand where the road traffic will come to a halt for hours together during peak hours. Kempegowda road which is in the heart of the city has the maximum traffic congestion. There are twenty cinema theatres apart from other major commercial centres on this road. In fact, there is a flyover near Kempegowda circle which is used by few pedestrians because of its height. Even if this flyover is used by pedestrians regularly, there is a great need to construct at least two subways (underground) at Kempegowda road, one near Kempegowda Theatre and the other near Mysore bank.

I urge upon the hon. Minister of Surface Transport to release special grants for the construction of two subways (underground) at kempegowda road.

**(iv) Need for Conversion of Metre Gauge Railway Line Between Talaguppa and Shimoga, Karnataka into Broad Gauge.**

SHRI K.G. SHIVAPPA (Shimoga) : Sir, the conversion of metre gauge rail line into broad gauge is in progress between Anasikere and Shimoga. Another rail line between Shimoga and Talaguppa is equally important. The conversion work of this line has not been taken up so far despite several representations from State Government in this regard.

The world famous Jog-Falls is just 20 kilometres away from Talaguppa. In addition, Jog-Falls is one of the very important power generation centres. Work is going on at Sharavati. Most of the labourers, farmers and traders depend upon rail journey between Talaguppa and Shimoga. This is the famous hill area of Karnataka. As it is a hilly area priority should be given for conversion of the present metre gauge rail line into broad gauge.

I, therefore, urge upon the hon. Minister of Railways to look into the matter and issue orders for taking up the above mentioned conversion work without any further delay.

**(v) Need to Take Steps to Solve Power Crisis in Assam**

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN (Barpeta) : Sir, the power situation in Assam is very grim. The power cuts for hours together have become a common feature. Many of the power generating units have been shut down. As a result, at present about 116 MW of power is generated as against the installed capacity of over 500 MW.

The absence of regular power supply has affected people from different walks of life. It has grievously affected the industries and all development work in the State.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to give serious consideration to the acute power problem in the State and take steps for early implementation of projects such as Kathalguri, Amguri, etc. in the State of Assam.

**(vi) Need to Start a 900 M.W. Pumped Storage Power Project Over Kistabazar Rive Near Purulia Town, West Bengal.**

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO (Purulia) : Sir, the demand of power has been rising at rapid rate in the country including the State of West Bengal. The West Bengal Electricity Board has taken up investigation work to study the feasibility for installation of a pumped storage power project over Kistabazar river in Ayadhya Hills. The project site is located 65 Km. in west from Purulia town. The location have been approved by the Central Electricity Authority, CWC and the foreign consultant, M/s Electric Power Development Company Limited, Japan. Based on the technical data, M/s EPDC of Japan has come to the conclusion that a 900 MW pump storage scheme is viable over Kistabazar river. 530 acres of forest land has been transferred to the power department. The estimated construction is Rs. 1232 crores and will be completed in years.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to start the project within the current financial year.

12.53 Hrs.

PRESIDENT'S EMOLUMENTS AND  
PENSION (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up Item No. 10, namely, President's Emoluments and Pension Act, 1951.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M.  
SAYEED): I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the President's Emoluments and Pension Act, 1951, be taken into consideration".

Sir, the President's Emoluments and Pension Act, 1951 regulates the emoluments and pension of the President and various other benefits admissible after demitting the office of the President. The said Act provides for the use of a furnished residence without payment of rent, a telephone and a motor car free of charge and secretarial staff consisting of a Private Secretary, a Personal Assistant and a peon by the retired President. The Act does not provide for any free travel by air, rail and road, although under the President's Pension Rules, 1962, free travel is allowed to retired Presidents in connection with medical attendance and treatment for themselves and their spouses.

In order to enable the former Presidents to maintain the dignity of the august office held by them, it is proposed to amend the President's Emoluments and Pension Act, 1951 so as to provide for their free travel by the highest class by air, rail or steamer accompanied by one person anywhere in India.

According to Section 4 of the

President's Emoluments and Pension Act, 1951, any sum payable under this Act is charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.

The President's Emoluments and Pension (Amendment) Bill 1993, has been finalised in consultation with the Ministries of Civil Aviation & Tourism, Finance, Railways, Surface Transport and the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs.

With these words, Sir, I commend this Bill to this august House for approval.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the President's Emoluments and Pension Act, 1951, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 2 was added to the Bill.*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill"

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.*



SHRI P.M. SAYEED: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

12.58 Hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE:  
DISAPPROVAL OF THE CHIEF  
ELECTION COMMISSIONER AND OTHER  
ELECTION COMMISSIONERS  
(CONDITIONS OF SERVICE)  
AMENDMENT ORDINANCE AND CHIEF  
ELECTION COMMISSIONER AND OTHER  
ELECTION COMMISSIONERS  
(CONDITIONS OF SERVICE)  
AMENDMENT BILL

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE  
(Panskura) : I beg to move:

"That this House disapproves of the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Amendment Ordinance, 1993 (No. 32 of 1993) promulgated by the President on the 1st October, 1993."

Mr. Speaker Sir, we are moving this Statutory Resolution because we do not approve the practice of bringing forth ordinances for every thing. Whatever may be the subject matter of the Bill, if it is passed by way of an ordinance, we oppose such a move. This may or may not necessarily mean that we are opposing the provisions contained in the Bill. We only

want to put on record that this practice of ordinances is bad and that is why I chose to move the Statutory Resolution against it.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to amend the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Act, 1991 be taken into consideration."

Sir, the question whether there should be a multi member Election Commission has been debated from time to time. In 1990, the Committee on Electoral Reforms headed by the then Law Minister, Shri Dinesh Goswami, had recommended that the Election Commission should be a three member body. In Parliament, the hon. Members have repeatedly made the demand for making the Election Commission a multi-member body. The hon. Supreme Court in Dhanoa's case has aptly described the need for making the Election Commission a multi-member body and I quote from the judgement:

"When an institution like the Election Commission is entrusted with vital functions, and is armed with exclusive and uncontrolled powers to execute them, it is both necessary and desirable that the powers are not exercised by one individual, however, all-wise he may be. It ill-conforms to the tenets of the democratic rule."

The hon. Supreme Court in the aforesaid case has also observed that it is an acknowledged rule of transacting business in a multi-member body that, "when there is no express provision to the contrary, the

business is to be carried on unanimously", and that, "the rule to the contrary such as the decision by majority has to be laid down specifically by spelling out the kind of majority - whether simple, special of all the members or of the members present, and voting, etc." The court further observed :

"In a case such as that of the Election Commission, which is not merely an advisory body but an executive one, it is difficult to carry on its affairs by insisting on unanimous decisions in all matters. Hence, a realistic approach demands that either the procedure for transacting business is spelt out by a statute or a rule either prior to or simultaneously with the appointment of the Election Commissioners or that no appointment of Election Commissioners is made in the absence of such procedure."

13.00 Hrs.

As hon. Members are aware, the President in exercise of the powers under Article 324(2) of the Constitution fixed the number of Election Commissioners other than the Chief Election Commissioner at two with effect from 1st October, 1993. With the Election Commission becoming a three member body, it became necessary to make provisions for transaction of business of the multi member Commission. Subsection (1) of the proposed section 10 confers power on the Election Commission to regulate, by unanimous decision, the procedure for transaction of its business as also allocation of its business amongst the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners. However, until such time as the Election Commission makes provision for disposal of its business under subsection (1), the Bill specifies in subsections (2) and (3) of the said section the manner for

disposal of business by the Election Commission. Opportunity was also utilised to grant the salary and other perquisites admissible to a Supreme Court Judge to the other Election Commissioners. As Parliament was not in Session, the President promulgated the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Amendment Ordinance, 1993, on 1st October, 1993.

The present Bill seeks to replace this Ordinance by an Act of Parliament.

Sir, I commend the Bill for consideration of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Motions moved:

"That this House disapproves of the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Amendment Ordinance, 1993, (No. 32 of 1993) promulgated by the President on the 1st October, 1993."

"That the Bill to amend the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Act, 1991 be taken into consideration."

Time allotted for this Bill is two hours  
Will it be possible for us to complete it in two hours?

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Yes, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Is the Home Ministry ready to take up Item Nos. 13 and 14?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : Sir, we will take it up tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Item Nos. 15 and 16 may also come up. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs may inform the concerned Ministers. Item No. 17 may also come up.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): Yes, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned for Lunch to meet at 14.00 hours.

**13.02 Hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till  
Fourteen of the Clock.*

**14.07 Hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at seven  
minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the  
Chair)

#### ARREST OF MEMBER

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have to inform the House that the Hon'ble Speaker has the following telex message dated 11 December, 1993 from the District Magistrate/ District Superintendent of Police, Godda, Bihar, on 13 December, 1993:-

"Shri Suraj Mandal, Member of Parliament, has been arrested in connection with economic blockade by Jharkhand Mukti Morcha(s) in Godda District, Bihar, on 10.12.1993."

**14.08 Hrs.**

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE:  
DISAPPROVAL OF THE CHIEF  
ELECTION COMMISSIONER AND OTHER  
ELECTION COMMISSIONERS  
(CONDITIONS OF SERVICE)  
AMENDMENT ORDINANCE AND CHIEF  
ELECTION COMMISSIONER AND OTHER  
ELECTION COMMISSIONERS  
(CONDITIONS OF SERVICE)  
AMENDMENT BILL—*Contd.*

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are two amendments to be moved to the Motion for Consideration. Shri Dau Dayal Joshi - not present: Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava - not present.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 1993 is a very important Bill; and it is dealing with a very vital Institution which is vested with the power to direct, superintend and control elections in our country.

Elections are life-line of our democracy and Election Commission is the nerve centre for the holding of elections. There is no denying the fact that over the years, by and large, our Election Commission has discharged its duties in a very responsible and dignified manner. Despite the fact that there were times in the past when many questions had been raised about certain decisions of the Election Commissioner, many a times in this House, we had to debate on certain actions of the Chief Election Commissioner, it was not to cast any asperions on any individual but this House took up those issues with an attitude to strengthen this very vital institution

concerning our democracy.

With that view in mind, this time also, while supporting this particular Bill, we hope that the measures which are going to be taken through this Bill, that is, to make it a multi-member commission, will go a long way to strengthen this institution of our democracy.

I do not wish to take up the issues that were raised in the past, that had bearing on the functioning of the Election Commission, that had really put not only this House but the people at large outside also in a very desperate and frustrating atmosphere and raised questions about holding of various important elections. If I leave that aside then also the vital question that comes is, whether it is prudent for this country and for this Parliament to allow a situation to continue where such vast powers are vested in one individual.

The kind of powers that are given to the Election Commission and which are so far being exercised by one individual, what is the guarantee that there will not be any deliberate or non deliberate misuse of those powers? What is the guarantee that there will not be any other considerations coming into play in the matters of taking certain decisions which would have very important bearing for the future of our democracy or for the future of one or the other political party in our country?

These kinds of questions have been raised not very long ago. In the last session, in this House we had to, for quite some time, express our resentment, our agitation about postponement of biennial elections to Rajya Sabha from West Bengal and Gujarat; then Legislative Council elections; bye-elections to Assemblies and Lok Sabha and a particular situation

developed whereby even the question of whether elections to many other positions can be held or not was raised. A very unseemly confrontation took place, involving this vital institution of Election Commission, the Government and this also brought Parliament into it. Those crises were resolved through the intervention of judiciary.

Does that speak well for the Election Commission? Where are the guarantees then that in future also this type of crises will not take place? I understand that certain decisions taken in the past by the Election Commission came in for criticism. But appreciation could also be heard about the way the elections to the five State Assemblies and Mizoram took place recently. The conduct of the Election Commission was good and beyond question. We are happy about that. We are happy that elections to these five very vital States in the Hindi heartland took place in a well mannered way. The newspapers are also writing about it. The people are also talking about it. We have no dispute about that. These are the type of things that ought to be done by the Election Commission and we need institutional guarantees that in future only this type of good things will happen and no diversion or aberration will take place. The guarantees can only be created if such vast powers are not given to one person, but to more than one.

It is not a question that we are debating for the first time. While the Constituent Assembly was debating this particular clause about the Election Commission, even at that time, questions were raised whether it should be a multi-member commission, and whether so much power could be vested on one individual or not. At that time, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar had the following to say:

[Sh. Saifuddin Choudhury]

"My provision does contain nothing to provide against the nomination of an unfit person to the post of the Chief Election Commissioner or other Election Commissioners. I do want to confess that this is a very important question and it has given me a great deal of headache and I have no doubt that it is going to give the House a great deal of headache."

The kind of headache referred to by Dr. Ambedkar in 1948 had to be suffered by this House not very long ago but only during the last session.

The question was posed by Dr. Ambedkar himself. Where is the guarantee that an unfit person would not be nominated to it? I would like to mention this. While the Government are making it a multi member Commission with two or three members, I do not know how they are selected. That is also a very important question. The selection or appointment should not be done through executive powers. There should be an independent neutral authority to decide about a panel which will choose from among the renowned impartial knowledgeable people with a good understanding of the Constitution who may be available for this post. They should be appointed from that panel.

This is also very important that we not only make the Election Commission a multi-member Commission but the manner in which they will be appointed has also to be decided in a very fair and democratic manner. So, in a very disputed background the question of making the Election Commission a multi-member Commission came into our mind. But while we are really going to enact for that today, it is not with any rancour about a particular decision of the

Chief Election Commissioner that we are going to support this Bill. Even without any controversy that could have been there in the past this noble idea of making the Election Commission a multi-member body had to be accepted by this House. That principle had to be followed. It is not denigration of any individual. This does not mean any disrespect for the high office of the Chief Election Commissioner. This is to safeguard our democracy, to strengthen our democratic institutions, to really have some guarantee that it is not misused that we are supporting this provision. It is also true that questions have been raised about the way the Government enacted the Ordinance and appointed two Election Commissioners. That has been taken to court by the Chief Election Commissioner.

The Supreme Court had given a kind of an Interim Order. Now I do not know whether this is a kind of indictment of the Government or not. Some Hon. Members have moved disapproval motion to this Ordinance.

During the last Session, the whole House stood as one man and demanded that there should be a multi-member Commission. At that time, you wavered and you did not heed to that. The leaders had agreed to this. When just on the verge of elections, you made it a multi-member Commission by an Executive Order doubts are bound to be raised. This is not the way good things are done in this country. Certain good things were done by you but done in a manner which appeared to the people, with bad intentions and bad motives. So, we do not approve the way you had appointed two Election Commissioners through an Executive Order. That is why, there are disapproval motions.

On the basic question of making it a

multi-member Commission, in the interest of democracy, even the Supreme Court in S.S. Dhanou case in 1991 had to say the following, which I may recollect for your understanding:

"There is no doubt that two heads are better than one, and particularly when an institution like the Election Commission is entrusted with vital functions and is armed with exclusive and uncontrolled powers to execute them, it is both necessary and desirable that the powers are not exercised by one individual, however, all-wise he may be. It ill-conforms the tenets of the democratic rule. It is true that the independence of an institution depends upon the persons who man it and not on their number. A single individual may some times prove capable of withstanding all the pulls and pressures, which many may not. However, when vast powers are exercised by an institution which is accountable to none, it is politic to entrust its affairs to more hands than one. It helps to assure judiciousness and want of arbitrariness. The fact, however, remains that where more individuals than one, man an institution, their roles have to be clearly defined, if the functioning of the institution is not to come to a naught."

This is also very important. In 1991, the abolition of two posts of the Commissioners were upheld by the Supreme Court. This was done on two counts, the manner in which the appointment was given was disapproved by the Supreme Court and also there were no clearly defined guidelines, demarcation of powers, how will they act within this framework of Election Commission. Nowhere in the Constitution, it

is said that it is the Chief Election Commissioner who is to direct superintendence and to control the elections. It is the Institution, which is to control the elections. The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners that Parliament by law may make. We have this provision in the Constitution. But for long time, despite our demand, this has not been brought into effect through passing of a law. Now you are going to do this. But the very background of this Ordinance created misgivings in the minds of many.

I very firmly say that we have nothing to criticise or denigrate any individual. One decision may be liked by some Parties and the other decision may be liked by some other Parties or individuals. Maybe certain actions were appreciated and certain actions were condemned. But there should not be any occasion in the future where democracy will come to a standstill. elections will be postponed doubts; will be raised and the vital pillars of our democracy, our State, will come into confrontation through an arbitrary action of any individual, who is holding a vital position in our system.

In order to end all that and in order to smoothly function our democracy, we need a multi-member Commission. And that is why, our Party supports this particular Bill, which has been moved by the Government.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill moved by the Law Minister.

Now, our Constitution itself lays down that the Election Commission shall consist of Chief Election Commissioner and such other Election Commissioners as the

[Sh. Sharad Dighe]

President may deem fit. In the last Session I remember that several times particularly the Opposition Leaders had raised this issue that the Government should act immediately and establish multi-member Election Commission. When the matter was so urgent it was but natural that it was to be done by issuing an ordinance. It is no use in saying that we support the Constitution of multi-member Election Commission but we oppose the establishment by an Ordinance. When the matters were so urgent and the elections were also on the anvil, if any act is necessary to be done immediately, the Government is entitled to issue ordinance and then establish such an Election Commission.

As I stated, Article 324 itself envisages a multi-member Election Commission. This experiment was made as far back as 7th October, 1989 also when by notification two Election Commissioners were appointed, namely, Shri V.S. Sehgal and Shri S.S. Dhanoa, But, subsequently on 1 January, 1990 those notifications were rescinded and the matter had gone to the Supreme Court itself. It is, therefore, a welcome move that in the present circumstances the Government finds necessary to establish a multi-member Election Commission. Therefore, these steps have been taken.

The Bill now lays down the service conditions also but the vital parts of the Bill are Sections 9 and 10 which lay down the rules for transaction of business of Election Commission. I welcome the move of the Government to define also the procedure which is to be followed by the Election Commission. As regards the multi member Commission - as the earlier hon. Member has read out from the judgment by the Supreme Court in S.S. Dhanoa vs. Union of

India; reported in AIR 1991 Supreme Court at page 745 - they have also approved the establishment by saying that there is no doubt that two heads are better than one and particularly when an institution like the Election Commission is entrusted with multi functions and is armed with exclusive uncontrolled powers to execute them, it is both necessary and desirable that the powers are not exercised by one individual however much wise he may be. And the same judgment also lays down the necessity to formulate, in such circumstances, the precise powers and the rules of transactions for such a Commission.

In paragraph 15 of that judgement it is also stated that :

"It is further an acknowledged rule of transacting business in a multi-member body that when there is no expressed provision to the contrary, the business has to be carried on unanimously.

The rule to the contrary such as the decision by majority, has to be laid down specifically by spelling out the kind of majority, whether simple, special or of the Members present and voting, etc. In a case such as that of the Election Commission, which is not merely an advisory body but an executive one, it is difficult to carry on its affairs by insisting on unanimous decisions in all matters. Hence, a realistic approach demands that either the procedure for transacting business is spelt out by statute or a rule, either prior to or simultaneously with the appointment of the Election Commissioners or that no appointment of Election Commissioners is made in the absence of such procedure."

Now, the Government has exactly followed this guideline which was given by the Supreme Court and, therefore, in section 10 it has been made clear that the Election Commission may, by unanimous decision, regulate the procedure for transaction of its business, as also allocation of its business amongst the Chief Election Commissioner and the other Election Commissioners. So, as far as all these matters are concerned, the decisions are to be unanimous and all the business of the Election Commission shall, as far as possible, be transacted unanimously. The further it has been provided that if the Chief Election Commissioner and the other Election Commissioners differ in opinion on any matter, such matter shall be decided according to the opinion of the majority. So, this will practically solve the problem if there are differences between the Chief Election Commissioner and the other members of the Election Commission. Of course, there are some doubts in the Constitution itself as to the status of the Chief Election Commissioner *vis-a-vis* the other Election Commissioners. Article 324 itself lays down that he will be the Chairman. Not only that, it also provides that he cannot be removed ordinarily, but he can be removed in such a manner as a judge of the Supreme court. So, immunity is given to him as far as removability is concerned. That is not given to the other member of the Election Commission. Their conditions of service are to be decided by law, or till that time by the President itself, and when they are to be removed, there has to be a recommendation of the Chief Election Commissioner to this effect. So, from this point of view, it appears that the intentions of the framers appear to be that he should have little more status and therefore, in the debates of the Constituent Assembly also, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar stated that we, of course, do not propose to give the same status to the other members

of the Commission. We have left the matter to the President as to the circumstances under which he would deem fit to remove any other member of the Election Commission. So, at least as far as the removability is concerned, he has got a little more status and he is also the Chairman as far as this is concerned.

The Parliament has, of course, powers to frame law regarding the service conditions and also the procedure to be followed, as far as the Election Commission is concerned, and in exercise of those powers, we are laying down this procedure of decisions by majority. I have a little doubt in my mind and the Law Minister may clarify the position, that in view of the spirit of the whole article 324, whether this law will ultimately stand, as far as the Supreme Court is concerned.

No doubt, in the earlier case of the Supreme Court - which I have just now cited - there are indications that Parliament may frame rules or make law for the purpose of transaction of the business of this Commission. And that gives support to the powers of this Parliament to make law making it incumbent upon the Commission that in these matters the ultimate decision shall be by majority.

No doubt, even before we discuss this matter, the Supreme Court has already given interim stay saying that:

"Meanwhile until further orders, with a view to ensuring the smooth and effective functioning of the Commission and to avoid any confusion with regard to its administration, we direct that the Chief Election Commissioner shall remain in complete and overall control of the Commission's work."



[Sh. Sharad Dighe]

Now I do not know what will ultimately be decided by the Supreme Court. But I hope that this law will stand and it will help in the smooth working of this very respectable organisation of Election Commission whereby not only one head will decide all the matters but they will be decided by the whole Commission by majority.

With these words, I feel that many of the bitter experiences we are getting sometimes as far as the functioning of this Election Commission is concerned, those irritants may be removed by this procedure and from that point of view this law is welcome. We do not, of course, frame the law putting before us certain personalities. Ultimately these are permanent institutions envisaged by the Constitution and, therefore, we have to take great care not only to protect them, to maintain their freedom and to make them impartial but, at the same time, we must also see that they function smoothly and the main basis of our democracy, namely, elections are properly conducted and are not conducted by whims of a particular individual; but they are conducted in a wise manner by three heads applying to the situation and to the facts of the particular matter.

From that point of view, therefore, I support this Bill and I welcome it.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think the intention of the Government behind this Bill is not sacrosanct. Twice the elaborate discussions have taken place on the functioning of the Election Commission during the last two sessions. In one session it was unanimously

decided to turn Election Commission into a multi-member body. The Government delayed it at that time. It was made a multi-member Commission only after the announcement of elections. The case was referred to Supreme Court. The Supreme Court delivered an interim observation that the Chief Election Commissioner would have an overriding power and regarding elections his decision would be final. The multi-member Commission seems to be guiding in multi-directions within only a few days of its reconstitution. The day this ordinance was promulgated some of us had expressed an apprehension whether the new Election Commissioners would even be provided seats for their sitting or not and our doubts proved to be well founded.

I cannot discuss about any person here and one should not discuss about any person. But when the doubts were expressed by everybody that the attitude of the Government was to evade the issue at every level and only when they were convinced with the fact that it would go against the interests of the party in order to curtail the powers of the Chief Election Commissioner. They turned this Commission into a multi-member Commission.

The Election Commission had once before also been turned into a multi-member Commission. Last time when they felt that the Chief Election Commissioner being impartial was not working properly in their opinion, they turned it into a multi-member Election Commission through an Executive Order. The later Government abrogated that executive order. The case was referred to the Supreme Court and the observation given by the Supreme Court has just been quoted by hon. Saifuddin Chaudhary. That shows that the intention of the Government was not veracious. And as a result thereof we are affronted with such a situation. The Supreme

Court has given an interim observation in this case also. We felt that they have precipitated this Ordinance. We thought that now since the case is in the Supreme Court and all the elections have been held and no other elections are to be held in near future, they should have adopted the proper procedure to constitute a multi-member Commission in pursuance of the final verdict of the Supreme Court.

Our objection is only on those points which I have raised and the same points had been raised by the leader of our party Shri George Fernandes at the time when it was introduced by the hon. Minister of Law. We are committed to see that the multi-member Commission is constituted and the work is distributed among them; and of course, after the multi-member Commission is constituted, the salary and the amenities to be provided to the Members are also fixed. The main thing would be to decide how the work would be distributed among them, what would be their powers, and all the more important is how the multi-member Commission would function. At the time when the matter relating to the Chief Election Commissioner and the powers of the Election Commission was raised, a controversy had cropped up. The Attorney General had been invited and his observation had also raised a controversy in the country. As per the observation of the Attorney General the Election Commission of constituted a part of the Government in a way and the opposition would never have agreed with that.

We take the Election Commission as an independent body and there should be no interference of the Government in its functioning. We would like to know as to what would be the mode of nomination of the members in a multi-member Commission; how the members would be nominated and

selected and whether it will be done at the instance of the ruling party and whether any specific criteria or Rules will be laid, and whether any tradition will be evolved. Will the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court or the Members of the Opposition benches or the Speaker of Lok Sabha, Chairman of Rajya Sabha would be consulted. It will have to be seen that the new Election Commission evokes trust and functions impartially.

I do not want to go into all those controversies that were raised and how a notice for impeachment motion by a few Members of Opposition against the Chief Election Commissioner was moved. Generally no discussion on the *modus operandi* of a person can take place in the House without a substantive motion. But what is the position today? Several papers have been distributed today on behalf of the Chief Election Commissioner. Election Commission following the correspondence which took place between the Chief Election Commissioner and the Cabinet Secretary that how the Chief Election Commissioner wanted to divulgate all facts to the Prime Minister but was not given an audience before him even after repeated requests, when the Opposition Members, especially, members of National Front and Left Front were creating controversies, the Prime Minister had not given any assurance and had in fact put it in deep freeze, even a person like me has started having a different opinion. But after a few days when the ruling party felt that things were being done against their interests, they woke up from slumber and started the work. But they started it only after the functions of Election Commission had already become talk of the whole country. Parliament cannot remain insouciant to what is happening all around. Today, it is a general opinion that Election Commission has done a right thing. Fair elections were

[Sh. Nitish Kumar]

held in five States and people voted in larger numbers. Though the enlightenment also played its role yet the role played by Election Commission cannot be ruled out. People are giving credit to Election Commission. That's why, Parliament cannot turn a deaf ear to the voice of the people. It will have to be respected.

The objective of Constituting a multi-member Commission was to have a proper delegation of powers and execution of work to improve the quality of work and not to try to obstruct the functions of a person who had been discharging his duties in a fair manner and who did not knuckle down under pressure.

The members who are appointed in the Election Commission have been badly treated. There was no fault of their own. They were eminent learned people and they offered their services in such a situation even then they have been treated badly. One member had to go leave and the other had to leave. One of the causes was a dubious policy of the Government. The whole Bill was inspired by dishonest intentions. Once it was constituted through an executive order and the next time through an ordinance. All political parties should have been consulted to find out a solution in this regard, as whom they can nominate a member and how it should function, but no such discussion has taken place.

My personal opinion is that the present Law is not sufficient to handle this situation. If we really want to improve the functioning of this institution in the right way then there is nothing wrong in it to hold elections again and again if the public do not give clear opinion. It will increase the work of Election Commission. In such a situation present Law

will not be sufficient to improve the functioning of Election Commission. Whatever is written in the Constitution, we can not override it by making a Law. The Provisions of the Constitution in respect of Chief Election Commissioner and Regional Election Commissioner cannot be changed. If it can be made multi-member Commission through present Law, then its members can not be equal to the Chief Election Commissioner. In the circumstances, such rules, should be made as the Election Commission can work impartially and properly, its function can be properly divided. The rules should also specify as to how the members can be nominated. It will be necessary to amend the Constitution to fix all these things.

Therefore, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are not satisfied with this Law. The Government can say that opposition is committed to this. We are not denying our commitment but the present Law will not be sufficient for this, we have to amend the Constitution. For this, all the political parties including the opposition should be consulted and the Constitution should be amended unanimously. In this way, the functioning of the Election Commission can be improved.

This House should not convey this message that all this is being done to control a single person. Whenever it works on subjectively there is always a loss to the dignity of the institution. We will request the Govt. to withdraw this Bill and let the ordinance be lapsed. The message to control a single person in the country should not be conveyed. Whereas in public, the respect of that person has increased for holding free and impartial election. Under such circumstances, our full sympathies are with him. We have also full sympathy with the new members of Election Commission. But they are not responsible for their

predicament, the Government is responsible for that. In this situation, a Constitution amendment Bill should be brought and rules should be made to nominate the members of Election Commission. For this, opinion of all political parties, Speaker of Lok Sabha, Chairman of Rajya Sabha, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court should be taken and appointment of Chief Election Commissioner and other members of Election Commission should be made on that basis. With these words I conclude.

[English]

\*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palakkad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, I rise to support this Bill. The Constitution of India provides for a multi member Election Commission. Moreover, we have had a multi member Commission once in the past. The Supreme Court has in Danoa's case opined that it is better to have a multi member Election Commission. Therefore, I do not think that there is any legal infirmity in this Bill.

However, it is also a fact that whenever we had a multi member Commission, it had given rise to controversies. It is fact that clashes of ego of individuals have created hurdles before the commission and it has affected the smooth functioning of this body. I wonder whether such a situation will not come again. In an autonomous body like the Election Commission it is very essential to have people who are trained to look at things objectively for its smooth functioning. In every multi member body decisions are taken by majority. It is so in our Courts and therefore there is nothing unnatural about this procedure. What we need is an attitude of mind free from spirit of confrontation and conducive to the smooth functioning of the

organisation. It is also a fact that if a few people sit together and discuss a problem they will be able to avoid many mistakes. It is very necessary in a body like the Election Commission.

The next point is about conferring the same status of CEC and other Commissioners. I do not know whether and to what extent it is in consonance with the Constitution. Recently the Supreme Court in a judgement said the Chief Election Commissioner has got overall control over the Commission. The Supreme Court also said that only he can issue orders. Thus, the orders issued by the other Commissioners lost their validity. From the provisions in the Constitution regarding the Election Commission one thing becomes clear, namely that Chief Election Commissioner has a higher status than that of every Commissioners. If that is so, I do not understand how the salary and other service conditions of CEC and other Commissioners could be the same. I want the Hon. Minister to clarify this point.

When we discuss Election Commission certainly Shri T.N. Seshan comes into the picture. Some of his decisions cannot be justified. Postponement of the election to Rajya Sabha and also in Ottapalam and other constituencies are the examples. Shri Seshan hails from my constituency. But I cannot help saying one thing that it is because of him that the elections could be held free from irregularities, corruption and violence. We should not forget this truth. We must recognise his abilities. I once again support the Bill.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR  
JANARTHANAN (Tirunelveli) : Mr. Deputy  
Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Bill which

[Sh. M.R. Kadambur]

is meant to replace the Ordinance promulgated already. The House was hearing the hon. Member Shri Sharad Dighe speaking about the legal complications, this and that. But we have to ventilate the people's idea on this Bill.

Sir, India is a great country today in the universal map. It is great not because of its resources, many languages and varied culture but because it is a great democratic country. Because of that, India has got a unique place in the universal map. Therefore, it is very important for the Election Commission to assess what is the idea in the minds of the people of this great country.

I have been in this House for the past 8-9 years. The House is today debating on the Election Commission because of the functioning of the present Election Commissioner. Though the name of the individual should not be mentioned here yet we have no way. We have to mention that. So many cartoons, so many editorials have come forth in our country about this Election Commission when this great Shri Seshan has come to power. This Bill is concerned with the bringing in of more members to the Election Commission. We have to recall that when the present Chief Election Commissioner Shri Seshan was the Cabinet Secretary, at that time Shri Peri Sastry was the Chief Election Commissioner. At that time Shri Dhanova and Shri Saigal were also brought into the picture during his period only. Now, the same Shri Seshan is contradicting the Presidential nomination of Shri Gill and Shri Krishnamurthy which is very well known to the people of this country. To be short, the Election Commission which is functioning as an institution has failed to read the minds of the

people. The Palani by-election is quite an example. That election was postponed three times - one time on the condition of drought and one time by bringing in the law and order situation. But the Palani by-election has been conducted in a calm way by the people of Tamil Nadu. I feel what the Chief Election Commissioner had in his mind was proved wrong which is known throughout Tamil Nadu and elsewhere. He was partial. The election has proved that point. Therefore, I appreciate the Presidential nomination of the two more Election Commissioners. As our comrade Shri Saifuddin Choudhury has pointed out, the timing of the Ordinance is not correct. That created suspicions in the minds of the people of this country. Therefore, the timing of the Ordinance is more important in politics than the law itself.

Sir, I again want to say that so many editorials and cartoons have appeared about this Chief Election Commissioner. One newspaper has gone to the extent of writing like this : "More suited to the imperious style of the Red Queen in Alice in Wonderland than to that of judicial and judicious functionary in a democratic system." In that same editorial, it has been further stated like this : "He has a way of antagonising people with his arrogant manners and overbearing attitude." Therefore, the thing which our Government has done now will rectify the attitude of such people. The Institution of the Election Commission must read the minds of the people. Even in Russia, today only 38 per cent of the people have voted. But, in our country, with so much of terrorism prevailing, even in Uttar Pradesh, after the 1972 elections, 58 per cent of the people have voted. In Punjab, 70 per cent of the people have voted. So, it is very important to know what is there in the minds of the people. Any Election Commission has to keep this fact in its mind. Therefore, I

support this Bill. Also, though the timing is wrong, yet I support this Bill on behalf of the AIADMK party.

15.00 Hrs.

[Translation]

SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR (Motihari) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the whole country including the whole House, entire National Front Left Front were concerned about the holding of elections in the country specially in Five States where the atmosphere is not right for holding elections. Here in Delhi a conflict was going on in the Election Commission. The Opposition was emphatically demanding that Election Commission should be multi member. The Government did not take any action on it and it had ignored the public opinion. The Government was in a fix. Whether it should implement it or not and at last it has appointed two more members. It has formed a multi member Election Commission by promulgating an Ordinance prior to declaring the election. What has been its result ?

15.01 Hrs.

[SHRI TARA SINGH *in the Chair*]

The Supreme Court of India has given its interim judgement which is expressive of the public opinion should it be fulfilled or not? When the judgement came, I was in my village at that time and the people told me that the Chief Election Commissioner has slapped on the face of the Government. Prior to this an uncertainty was prevailing over the country whether the election would be held in the five states or not. But the people heaved a sigh of relief. During the last elections, many people were killed but this time that thing was not repeated. That

is why, you can understand what will be the result of all this exercise.

Mr. Chairman Sir, the issue of Chief Election Commissioner has assumed a bigger dimension in Lok Sabha also because National front and leftist parties were demanding that a trial should be held against the Chief Election Commissioner. This has a reason because people have seen the role of Election Commission during the elections of 1991. That time the election of Patna Constituency countermanded and that issue was decided after one year. That time people contemplated in whose favour they should cast their vote. They have a feeling that Election Commission is not working properly. As a result of this and also as per your aspirations we have brought a proposal that Election Commission should be a multi member body. Better late than never.

Since long we were demanding that the Commission should be a multi member body it should not be taken for granted that a person, be it a very very good person cannot make any mistake or he can work in a complete impartial manner. When the safeguard of Democracy falls upon the Election Commissioner, we are of the opinion that absolute power should not be delegated to one person. You have brought this Bill that Election Commission should be made multi member. This is a right step. I got the opportunity to attend this House four times, and I have got enough experience. You had installed one more member in the Election Commission to safeguard your own interest. It is not the question whether Shri Seshan did a right thing or wrong. It is not the question of one person. The Election Commission should be multi member and the functions of Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioner should be described clearly. You have tried to cover all the points. But as hon. Shri Nitish Kumar

[Sh. Kamla Mishra Madhukar]

has rightly pointed out who will appoint the Election Commission, will it work under the guidance of Executive or impartially? We all know that multi party system is increasing in our country. We should not think as to where we sit whether we occupy treasury benches or the opposition benches, but the composition of Election Commission should be made for the interest of Democracy and it should ensure the guarantee of impartiality. How this can be achieved? This Bill clearly indicates all the points that who will appoint this commission and whose views will prevail. It is also provided in the Bill that the views of the majority members will prevail but what will be the position when all the three members have different opinion, I would like to say that you should bring a comprehensive Bill where composition of Election Commission, powers of Chief Election Commissioner and the role of other Commissioners stages of judgement etc. should be clearly defined so that it can be discussed in Parliament to ensure the smooth and impartial functioning of the Election Commission in future, It is immaterial whether you are in the ruling party or in the opposition. I therefore, support this Bill.

[English]

DR. DEBIPROSAD PAL (Calcutta): Mr

This Bill is a departure from the earlier one, in the sense, that this Bill introduces a multi member Election Commission. The features of the Bill essentially are that the Election Commissioners are to be appointed apart from the Chief Election Commissioner and their conditions of service, salaries etc. will also be equal. But the major part of it relates to the transaction of the business, how it

should be regulated, that is also provided for the first time in this Bill.

Now, regarding the constitution of a multi member Commission, I think, it has been the experience throughout the periods that the vast powers which are given and which are vested in the Chief Election Commissioner may result in exercise of certain arbitrary conducts. It has been experience that in democratic process, fair and free elections is the heart of democracy. The entire superintendence, control and direction of the election both of the Parliament and of the State Legislatures; the President and the Vice President, have been vested in one body, the Election Commission. Up till now the Chief Election Commissioner was exercising this vast responsibility which the Constitution has vested in this Commission. But it has been found that if such vast power and tremendous responsibility for conducting the election of the whole country both of the Parliament and of the State Legislatures is vested in one single individual, however well intentioned he may be and however expert he may be, it might give room for arbitrariness. It may not assure judiciousness and that is why it has been found necessary that the Election Commission should consist of not only the Chief Election Commissioner but also two other members as the President under the Constitution may appoint.

The main features of this Bill are that the transactions of business are to be carried on normally on the rule of unanimity. In other words the conduct of the business is to be made according to the rules which are to be framed by the Election Commission unanimously. In the conduct of the business the rule of unanimity should be the principle. But if there is a difference between the Chief Election Commissioner and the other two Election Commissioners, the whole thing will be decided by the

principle of majority. In other words unanimity will yield in places where there are difference of views between different members of the Commission. That is an important feature which this Bill for the first time introduces.

It is true that whereas the transactions of the business should be conducted by the principle of majority, the Parliament has the power to decide it by appropriate legislations. But I will ask the hon. Minister to consider whether such a power can be exercised by Parliament by legislation although it is highly desirable in the context of the present situation, without the proper amendment of the Constitution.

Under article 324, sub-article 5, the Parliament has been given the power to make appropriate laws regarding the conditions of service and also the tenure of the Election Commissioners. The proviso to article 324, sub article 5 provides that the Chief Election Commissioner can be removed except in the same manner and on the same grounds on which a judge of the Supreme Court can be removed; in other words by impeachment. The only other article is article 324 sub article 2 which also gives the power to the Parliament to make appropriate law by which the appointment of the Chief Election Commissioner or the Election Commissioners can be made. But the Bill introduces what is called the regulation of the transactions of the business. The transactions of the business do not come strictly either under article 324 article 2 under which the Parliament has been given the power to make the law, or under article 324 sub-article 5 under which the Parliament has been given the power to make law regarding the conditions of service and the tenure. The only way it can be done, if the Constitution is not amended, is by stretching the appropriate provision, namely article 324 sub-article 2.

The Supreme Court also in the Dhanoa case has pointed out that the law can be made in the case of the conduct of the business. Thus, normally the rule of unanimity shall be followed unless by law or by rules, the rule of unanimity is yielded and the principle of majority is introduced by appropriate law. The principle on which this Bill has been introduced, I support it. In the conduct of business, the principle of majority may occur because all the three members may not be unanimous in their decisions; and in that way, a deadlock is likely to arise unless the principle of majority is followed and adopted. Thus, this Bill introduces a practical measure and also a measure which is intended to solve some of the deadlocks which are likely to arise, if the principle of unanimity is always adhered to.

I would also like to request the hon. Minister to consider as to whether the Election Commissioners and the Chief Election Commissioner will enjoy the same salary as is allowed in the case of the Judge of the Supreme Court. The earlier provision is that the Chief Election Commissioner will enjoy the status and the salary of the Judge of the Supreme Court. But, now the Election Commissioners will enjoy the salary of a Judge of the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court, in Dhanoa case has held that the Chief Election Commissioner is higher in rank and status than that of the Election Commissioners who are to be appointed. Therefore, may I know whether the same salary will appropriately be made available to the Election Commissioners on the same basis on which the Chief Election Commissioner is allowed the salary? This is an aspect which I will request the hon. Minister to consider.

In any event, the Bill is an appropriate one: We have seen, how havoc can be created in the elections. Recently, in the Rajya Sabha by-elections were postponed by the Chief Election Commissioner. However



[Dr. Debi Prasad Pal]

well intention, a man may have, when is given, practically without any supervision by any higher authority, normally, the result is that it is likely to give rise to arbitrariness of the individual concerned, sometimes.

Therefore, by introducing the Bill for a multi member Commission, the Government has done a very practical thing and taken steps to remove this type of anomalies and obstructions. Even the Committee which was formed under the auspices of late Dinesh Goswami also have recommended to have a multi member Commission. The Supreme Court also in Dhanoa case has held that it is desirable to have it and that such a vast power should not be vested in one single individual. Therefore, from the stand point of policy and from the stand point of principle, the introduction of a multi-member Commission is highly desirable. I congratulate the Minister for introducing this legislation at the appropriate time. The transaction of business have also been given in Clause 10. The Supreme Court itself has pointed out in Dhanoa case, which is cited by many hon. Members who have dealt with this point, that the rule of unanimity is normally the rule. But a provision may be made either by an Act or by the rules for the principle of majority because sometimes events may occur when the decision may not be unanimous and the principle of majority is to be followed.

I think that this measure is a very healthy one. The Minister may also kindly consider as to whether there will be any constitutional difficulty. Otherwise, I fully support the Bill for the measures for which it has been introduced.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, all sections of the House have supported the Government's decision to make the Election Commission

a multi-member body. As a matter of fact, this Bill does not deal with the composition of the Election Commission as a multi member body because that has been done by an executive order under Article 324 of the constitution.

This is really a consequential legislation keeping in view the observations of the Supreme Court in Dhanoa's case, namely merely making it a multi member without defining the rights and the *inter se* position of the Election Commission and without defining clearly the rights of the different Election Commissioners, including the Chief Election Commissioner will not serve the purpose. That has to be done.

In Dhanoa's case because of absence of that, the Supreme Court said that it was not workable. But one point is very pertinent. This is not the first time that a demand for making the Election Commission a multi-member body has been made. Apart from that, very recently at a meeting held in the presence of the hon. Speaker, all the parties - leaders - including the hon. Prime Minister, had, in principle, agreed to make the Election Commission a multi-member body. But things were being procrastinated. No action was being taken. And ultimately, it has been made during the inter-session by an executive order.

But in 1971, an all party committee was formed by the then Speaker. I had the great privilege of being a member of that Committee in which all the parties were represented. The report, that was filed in early February 1972, had clearly recommended unanimously that the Election Commission should be a multi-member body. It was almost 22 years back. And it is not known. But every sentence of it holds good. That is the present view of this House also. With your kind permission, I quote from page 1 of Part II of the Report of the Joint Committee on Amendments to the Constitution.

"In order that elections based on adult suffrage in the country may be free and fair, it is essential that the election work should be spread and ramified throughout the length and breadth of the country and that even in the remotest villages this work should be done in a manner so as to inspire the confidence of the people. The election machinery should be such that it may function effectively in every village, town and city in an independent, impartial and fair manner. Gradually, elections have ceased to be a mere quinquennial affair but are held, if not every year, at least in every alternate year in some part or other of our vast country. The elections have, therefore, become a continuing process entailing enormous work on the Election Commission. The immensity of the task of the Election Commission and the complexities of the duties it is called upon to discharge are too obvious and do not require any elaboration. It is too great a burden for a single person to exercise supervision, direction and control over elections effectively and consequently he is likely to be exposed and vulnerable to charges of arbitrariness and partiality. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Election Commission should be a multi-member body as envisaged in article 324(2) of the Constitution. While the decision about the exact number of Election Commissioners necessary to assist the Chief Election Commissioner in the performance of his duties may be left to Government to determine, the Committee consider that an enlarged Commission will be able to discharge more effectively the responsibilities relating to elections and in exercise of its quasi judicial functions, a broad based Commission is likely to reach generally acceptable decisions and command respect.

Every party was represented here in 1971. It was constituted by the then hon. Speaker with Shri Jagannath Rao as the Chairman.

This recommendation was made but unfortunately, it was allowed to gather dust in the corridors and archives and no action was taken. During the ministership of Mr. Dinesh Goswami, another committee was formed consisting of representatives of all the major political parties and there also - if I am not mistaken because I do not seem to have got a copy of it - there was a unanimous decision to make the Election Commission a multi-member body. During the days of 1972 or 1989, there was no controversy as at present. At present times, I know that the Election Commission has become a controversial institution because several decisions have been taken and many political party members have had reservations about them. There is no doubt about that. Therefore, there has been more and more stridence in the demand for making it a multi-member body. We are now referring to Dhanoa's case. Dhanoa's case was instituted by two former Election Commissioners whose appointments were cancelled by the Government after they were appointed by the succeeding Government. And, therefore, Supreme Court held that the appointments were made only for the purpose of creating trouble and they were not meant to function properly because of the simple reason that their powers were not defined. The Government did not make any attempt to define their powers as to how they would work either by way of majority rule or unanimously. Nothing was provided. And that is why, it upheld the abolition of the two posts of Election Commissioners but in that very judgement, although it upheld the abolition of the post of two Election Commissioners, as Mr. Saifuddin Choudhury has quoted from that judgement, there is a strong recommendation for the conversion of the Election Commission into a multi-member body because it is axiomatic that too much of power in one hand is never good and power corrupts. And here, nowadays, we have got an impression that superintendence or control of elections

[Sh. Somnath Chatterjee]

means that one is above law and nobody can challenge the one sitting as the Chief Election Commissioner and he is supposed to be able to do everything excepting converting a man to a woman. It has created tension also. I am not saying whether any decision is good or bad. I am not saying like that and I need not go into that but it has created controversy. One example is Mr. Sontosh Mohan Dev's outburst. I believe that he is under some sort of inquiry by the Election Commission. Of course, one misuse has been caught; I do not know about other misuses...*(interruptions)*...Well, if he has not done it, he will be exonerated. But I have not accused him. He has been accused by somebody else. Mr. Chairman, Sir, the point is, unfortunately, a constitutional authority has become controversial. There is no doubt that we are happy that last elections had been held properly and we congratulate it. Mr. Saifuddin Choudhury has also said it. But there should not be any occasion to raise doubts in the minds of the people in future. I should have thought that when the task is enormous, any officer would welcome assistance. He would say that he would have to take so many decisions and even with regard to judicial powers, people can act jointly. There can be nine or eleven judges of the Supreme Court sitting together and deciding on judicial matters. Sometimes, there may be majority opinion or minority opinion and with regard to quasi judicial powers which the Election Commission has to discharge, what is the difficulty if it is a multi-member body ?

One may say that one does not like a particular person. That is different. But the concept of multi-membership is a concept which should be accepted in principle. That is why, our Founding Fathers had thought of it way back in 1952 ! Even in 1952, they had that sort of an idea. They said that Chief Election Commissioner would be sufficient

and still they gave powers to the President of India which means obviously to the Government acting in the name of President, to increase the strength of the Office of the Election Commissioner. The Constitution does not want to dilute the position of the Chief Election Commissioner *per se* and he must be the *primus inter pares*. Security of his tenure is provided in the Constitution itself. Without impeachment, one cannot remove the Chief Election Commissioner. And it is not a nice thing to bring impeachment motions against any high functionary. We have had a very unfortunate spectacle in this House when we spent so many hours in deciding a motion of impeachment against a judge. It is not nice that we should be forced to bring an impeachment motion against a functionary like the Chief Election Commissioner. These things are bad and they leave a bad taste in one's mouth. We want that the different organs of our body politic should function in a manner consistent with the objectives of our Constitution. Here the objective is maintaining and upholding our democratic institutions for which proper elections are a must. This is a body which should not come into conflict with either the Parliament or the Executive or the Judiciary in a manner as it is happening sometimes now. This is rather unfortunate. I do not like that a constitutional authority of such high status should go to the Supreme Court or to any other court for that matter and file proceedings against the Government, imputing *mala fides* to it.

The Parliament is in unanimous agreement on this multi member concept. So many political parties stated that the Election Commission should be a multi-member body. In the year 1971, the all-parties committee unanimously decided that there should be a multi-member body. And this has been reiterated again and again by so many Electoral Reforms Committees that have been set up from time to time, the latest

being the Dinesh Goswami Committee. So, it is hightime that Government takes action and sees to it that there is a multi-member body with proper composition of membership. Our main grievance is that this Government chooses not to act or to act rather late. That is why we say that this Government always functions in such a clumsy manner. You give all sorts of opportunities to raise all sorts of doubts even when you, very occasionally of course, act right and proper. Rarely do you act properly. Most of the time your actions are improper and also untimely. Well, most of the time, you do not act at all unless you are forced by 'good' people like us! In this matter also, this is something that you have done after a lot of dilatory tactics and all that. Had you done it at the time when all the Members demanded a multi-member body, nobody would have said anything about you. You have resorted to take this step only when you have found yourself in certain difficulties. Therefore, immediately, motives are imputed, although occasionally I do believe and I can say it with confidence that you also act properly and correctly.

Now, we have to say a lot of things about the functioning of the Election Commissioner. Well, one can have the pleasure that he could give trouble to almost every political party. If one wants to have such sadistic pleasure, one may have it. But, giving trouble cannot be the test. The test should be whether it results in holding of proper elections or not. Sir, I believe it will only strengthen the democracy and democratic principles if the decisions of the Election Commission have unquestioned acceptability of all the political parties in the country. In that case, nobody would be able to raise a finger against the decision. Therefore, it should be above controversy. Everybody wants free and fair elections. However, I know that the Government never does what it says. Since that is the objective, the Election Commission, which is

a body to achieve that objective, should be frictionless with the executive, judiciary, bureaucracy and also other organs and it should have the greatest acceptability across the country. I strongly feel that all the parties must accept it. This is a decision which nobody should question.

Unfortunately, Sir, there are a number of motions pending in this regard. We do not want to continue the controversy, but there has been a motion which is still pending. We do not want to raise that controversy again and again. I appeal to, whoever is in which position, the Government to do it in good grace and to accept the decisions of the Parliament regarding its composition. The Government should work in a manner which is conducive to the very spirit of Constitution, which contemplates it to be a multi-member body. The Chief Election Commissioner should not grudge that other Election Commissioners are getting the same salary as that of himself. They are also men of status. They are senior officials. They have also served the country. I have nothing against them personally. I do not even know them personally. My party has nothing against them personally. Therefore, in such matters it will be better if consultation is there in this regard and proper persons are selected, but, it should be done in good grace. It should be accepted as a decision of the Parliament as a whole. The Government should try to make it workable in a frictionless manner which will maintain the basic structure of our Constitution, namely, a democratic system of Government which has to be based on free and fair elections.

The last elections have given us hope that it can happen. This time we have received much lesser number of complaints. Therefore, it is not that it is not possible. It should be done in a manner where people may think that justice is being done. It is always better to have more than one mind

[Sh. Somnath Chatterjee]

because one may not always think correctly. When the Chief Justice of India sits with his brother judges and takes a decision, even the Chief Justice may be in a minority. There have been occasions when the Chief Justice is in minority and other judges are in majority. In that case the majority opinion will prevail. Does it take away the Chief Justice's status, or does it mean that the Chief Justice is a person not fit to occupy that position? That is never so. You may or may not agree, but, that is how these organisations, these institutions can work properly and can earn the confidence of people in this matter. I wish to avoid controversy. But, these things are going on for a very long time. For example the 1971 Report was not made unanimously by all Members of the Committee set up by the Speaker to deal with the election laws, such as amendment to the Election Law, keeping in mind who will be the Election Commissioner in 1971, 1972 and 1973.

It could not have been there. That was decided in principle. When the Supreme Court said that in 1991, that was also said in principle. At that time, the present incumbent was not the Chief Election Commissioner. When we all say that there should be a multi-member Election Commission, that does not mean that we are directing against a particular person. We are saying that for a better functioning of a very very important organ of the State and a very very important organ set up by the Constitution of India.

Sir, division of power and division of responsibility also means that there will be an assigned role for different institutions or different bodies for different purposes and election is such an important matter and we say that the Government has rightly decided to bring forward this Bill in order to decide what would be the functions of the Election

Commissioners and whether they will act in a majority or in a minority or whatever it is. It was lacking in Mr. Dhanoa's case. So, this had to be done. In that sense, I congratulate the Government which had made it a multi-member Commission. Please stick to it. In future if anybody is unwilling to work, you see that a proper and wholly acceptable person is appointed. I do not know whether he will be a former who will be sitting on the tractor, then getting down from the tractor and going down to Nirvachan Sadan. I have nothing against him or I have nothing for him. If he does not come down and does not go to Nirvachan Sadan, that may be more profitable. Otherwise, somebody has to be selected. If that has to be done, then, wider consultations should be done. Even, the Chief Election Commissioner's opinion may be taken. Why should it not? I have no objection. That is why, the principle is right. In future, we shall continue to have a multi-member body and please see that you conduct the case before the Supreme Court properly. We do not know why nobody had appeared up till now. We do not know why there was no attempt made to expedite the matter. An *ex parte*, *ad interim* order was made. The Supreme Court must have thought that the Government of India has no objection. They passed an *ex parte ad interim* order. Nobody had appeared.

Sir, with these few words, in principle, I support Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH (Sheohar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government was in a bid before bringing this Bill. I do not understand what necessitated the Government to issue an ordinance. I can not make out what the Government wanted to do by bringing this Bill just one day before Mahatma Gandhi's birthday but the intention was clear because there were elections in 5 States and it appeared that the

Government could not function in an autocratic manner. There will be no scope for the Govt. to work in an arbitrary way. When this House was constituted, there were elections in your State and the new Government was to be formed but the elections were postponed there at that time. The Election Commission postponed the elections all of a sudden while the polling officers were on their way and some of them had reached at their polling stations. At few days earlier, elections were held at two or three places in Bihar but the country was postponed suddenly. Our colleagues were talking that elections in Tamil Nadu were postponed twice and it was expected that all the elections would not be favourable for the party and the same happened later on. Therefore taking into consideration the prevailing circumstances at that time the National Front and the Left Front moved a motion, which is still pending with the hon. Speaker. The hon. Prime Minister had given some assurances to the leaders of opposition parties personally and collectively regarding that. I would like to know the outcome of those assurances.

In the recently concluded assembly polls, the way, the Election Commission had functioned, had created doubt at every moment as to what step the Election Commission would take further and whether the results of these elections would be declared or not. Daily, there were tussels between the Election Commission, the Chief Secretary and the Governors of one State or the other. You can very well imagine the State of mind of the candidates for whom the counting was likely to start. I would imagine and feel their state of mind since I was actively participating in that election campaign.

Our party and the National Front support the multi-member Election Commission which has been constituted. But you should make it clear as to how those

members would be selected? My suggestion is that the persons recommended by the panel of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Chairman of Rajya Sabha and the Speaker of Lok Sabha should be appointed as the member of this important Commission. Secondly, my suggestion is that the Government should issue the directions in detail with regard to functions and powers of the members, in connection with the elections. The drama which happened and is still going on in the Nirwahan Bhawan is a disgracing incident. It is immaterial as to who is responsible for it. Such incident in Nirwahan Bhawan put a question mark on our democracy. Therefore, there should be detailed discussion also in this regard. Thirdly, my submission is that all of us undergo the election process, recent election were stretched for a lengthy period. There should not be such a lengthy period for election campaign. There should be a clear cut direction that the elections should either take place on a single day or on two days. The ruling party and some other parties have enough resources but the small parties having no black money, do not have resources. One can easily understand the position of such parties and their candidates in a lengthy period for election campaign. Therefore elections should be time bound and held according to schedule.

With these words, I extend my congratulations to the Government and specially the hon. Minister of Law, since it is never too late to mend. The hon. Minister has shown his alertness in it and he has given a momentum to a non-dynamic Government and he deserves congratulations for it.

[English]

SHRI UMRAO SINGH (Jalandhar) :  
Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to support this measure because the present

[Sh. Umrao Singh]

situation has proved that there are numerous cases of misuse of powers or use of arbitrary powers from among the powers which are being enjoyed by the Election Commissioner. Whether it is according to article 324 of the Constitution or Peoples' Representation Act, the power is not defined in the Constitution. It is only general power of superintendence, direction and control. That is a general phrase and under that numerous powers have been enjoyed by the Election Commissioner.

I would like to refer to some of them. The Commission has been given executive powers, like suspension of a poll, cancellation of a poll, countermanding of a poll, disqualification of a member and also making a disqualified member again a qualified member. These are the executive powers.

The the Commission has supervisory powers. There are judicial powers which are also being given to the Election Commission. These are regarding allotment of symbols, registration of political parties and connected matters.

There are legislative powers worth to the Election Commission. Regarding legislative powers, I would like to say that there is a code of conduct prepared by the Election Commission which is not binding but it has been made operative. If there is any violation of the code of conduct then the elections are cancelled, postponed, suspended or adjourned. So, the code of conduct which is prepared by the Election Commission is a sort of legislative authority assumed by the Election Commissioner.

Similarly, there is the power of delegation. The Constitution and the Representation of People Act empower the Election Commission to delegate its authority

to subordinate polling and returning officer and other authorities, but recently we have seen that the Election Commissioner has delegated its authority to the observers. I think, it is extraordinary and the Election Commissioner has not been empowered by the Constitution or by any other legislation for this. These observers can certify the conduct of a poll and the result of the poll can only be announced after they certify it.

Similarly, the commission they have the powers to give direction. These are very wide powers which are being given or are being enjoyed by the Chief Election Commissioner. I strongly feel that there is no authority under the Constitution in this country which enjoys so much of power whether it is legislative or judicial or executive. We have this Parliament, which is the supreme authority but still it has not got some of the powers which are being enjoyed by the Chief Election Commissioner. So, I strongly feel that there is scope for a multi-member Commission.

The Conditions of Service have already been provided according to the 1991 Act. Certain members from the Opposition have objected to the appointment of Commission and its members. We have already an enactment which has been passed by this House and which authorises the appropriate authority, the President to appoint the Chief Election Commissioner. Now the same authority can appoint other Commissioners also. So there is no necessity of clarifying or putting in the law or somewhere again enacting the power of authority as to who is to appoint the Election Commissioner. The Authority which can appoint the Chief Election Commissioner can appoint the other Election Commissioners also. I do not see any misuse of that authority.

According to the Bill, these are very

simple matters. In regard to salary, the Chief Election Commissioner and other members of the Commission are put on the same footing. In regard to age there was a difference. The Chief Election Commissioner was to retire at the age of 62. Now, that retiring age has also been raised to 65. I think, there is nothing wrong in that.

Similarly regarding pension, the Chief Election Commissioner was to get the pension which is being allowed to the Supreme Court Judge and a Member of the Election Commission was to get pension equivalent to that of a High Court Judge. They have been equated in the respective posts. There is nothing wrong in it.

According to the principles of a commission, whether it an election commission, or any other commission, or may be a court, Supreme Court or High Court the conditions of service and the conduct of business should be clearly identified. In the case of an Election Commission, if this amending Bill provides for rules for the conduct of the business, just as this House has rules for the conduct of business and all other authorities have got rules for the conduct of business, I think there is nothing wrong. It is an appropriate thing to take a decision by majority, if not unanimous according to a simple rule of law. When there is a multi-member commission or a multi-member body, just as this House or any other authority or a judicial authority like the Supreme Court or the High Court, the majority will prevail. There is nothing wrong in this case if it is included in the legislation that the majority will prevail. We will prefer an unanimous decision because this institution of the Election Commission is a sacred institution and if cases are decided unanimously that will get the appreciation of the whole country. But in case there is disagreement some provision has to be made and I think it is rightly included that the decision of the majority will prevail.

Now, some cases have been referred here about the arbitrariness of the Commission. I do not want to mention any particular period or a person. But we had seen a situation in Punjab where the Election Commission had taken very arbitrary decisions. In 1991 there were abnormal conditions in Punjab, there was insecurity and the general elections were being held in the country. All the four major political parties in Punjab, the Congress, BJP, CPI (M) and CPI which are also the major parties in the country, requested that elections in Punjab may be delinked from the elections in the country because more security forces were needed in Punjab and the conditions were not normal. But it was not accepted by the Election Commission and the elections were held along with the others. What was the result? As many as 28 candidates were killed, 25 of the Assembly and three of Parliament. Twenty-eight candidates were killed in a poll and that was the situation in 1991. At that time there were threats, intimidation and kidnappings. Even the terrorists were openly interfering in the election process. They were putting up candidates and openly supporting one candidate or one faction or the other. Under those conditions it was requested that the poll should be cancelled or postponed but it was not accepted. The result was that there were so many killings of the candidates.

There was another situation at that time. Some parties had announced that the poll would be a referendum in favour of Khalistan. It was openly announced and even then the plea was not accepted by the Election Commission, even though it was going to decide something against the integrity of the country, against the very spirit of the Constitution and the Representation of the People Act. Still the plea for the postponement of the election was not accepted; it was decided only when the present Government at the Centre came into



[Sh. Umrao Singh]

being, and ultimately the election was cancelled. When it was asked for by the parties, the Congress party boycotted the election on that plea. But it was not postponed. This shows a clear arbitrariness of the Commission and if there is a one member Commission such incidents can happen. There may be recourse to such incidents in future also. When some people in Punjab were saying that they would secede from the country, if they win and they put the poll as a referendum for Khalistan then, I think, no other evidence was required at that time to say that that election was not going to be fair, or the Election was not according to the Constitution or according to the Representation of the People Act, or according to the spirit or wishes of the people of the country.

This was a very sad situation which I wanted to mention.

**16.00 Hrs.**

We had faced not only bullets but also a situation, when there were certain people at the helm of affairs at that time, in 1990-91. I do not know whether they wanted Punjab to stay with India or they wanted Punjab to secede Punjab from this country. Indirectly supporting election means supporting Khalistan, supporting terrorism, and supporting secessionist movement, which was openly propagated by certain sections of the people at the behest of a neighbouring country. Had there been a multi-member Commission, such a situation would not have arisen.

There are few more things to be done. For example, two Constitutional Amendment Bills were brought before the House. We had seen open misuse of religion and misuse of religious places in Punjab and also in Uttar Pradesh. It has been laid that propagation of

religious feelings or propagating enmity against the classes of citizens and also misuse of the places of temples and other religious places is an offence punishable under the People's Representation Act. In the past not a single case had been brought to the Courts and not a single person had been disqualified on the basis of misuse of religion or misuse of religious places. If we want to have a fair election in the country and if we want to see that religion is not brought in our election process, then it is essential, that we have more electoral reforms. I appeal to my friends on the Opposition side to cooperate with the Government and see that the religious and the communal forces do not have any place in the future set up of our country. Otherwise, incidents occurred in Punjab, Assam and Uttar Pradesh are bound to our again and nobody can save this country and keep this country together.

We had undergone a very difficult situation in Punjab, wherein nobody, when he goes out in the morning, could say that he would come back in the evening safely and he would be able to see his family. That was the situation, we had seen. We had lost many of our colleagues. We had lost many ex-Ministers, ex-Legislatures and even some of our friends in the Opposition CPI, CPM and BJP. They were all killed because they were propagating against terrorism, against those who were propagating for Khalistan or any other slogan, which was against the stability of the country. Their fault was that they wanted a united India and they wanted a secular India. My submission is that if we want to have a secular India, if we want to have a united India, then we must see that anti-national forces, the forces of terrorism, the forces which propagate religion, and the forces which have their command from the religious places of neighbouring country should not be permitted to come into the election arena. I earnestly request the Law Minister and the Government to immediately

go into all these electoral reforms and bring in a legislation to reform the electoral reforms in the country.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, our party support the Bill in principle regarding the constitution of a multi-member Election Commission. For the last few months and nearly for a years, the Election Commissioner and his activities have been a subject of serious discussion and their has been many ups and downs in it. It is my ninth or tenth election to the Lok Sabha whereas this time I came here after wining the election. Probably none of the Election Commissioner except the present one, was aware of his powers. When during the elections in our State irregularities were committed by the executive or ruling party, and whenever approached the Election Commissioners with our complaints, they used to show their helplessness. The power was misused. We have raised fingers on the present Election Commissioner so many times during the last few days, but the elections of 5-6 States which were held recently have made it clear to the nation specially to the political parties that the existing rules of elections, the rights of Election Commissioner and under these rights, if the Election Commissioner and if he is capable, if he does not come under the influence of the ruling party and the executive, he can get conducted fair and peaceful elections. The results, of the elections, held recently have proved it.

People were critical about the Election Commission and the Election Commissioner but today the whole media is in its favour. I have seen the interview with the Chief Election Commissioner on television in which he has pointed out his practical difficulties and has said, that the elections in these 5-6

religious tension. If the elections are to be conducted peacefully then we would be in need of sufficient police and force, for which the Government can not make arrangements since it does not have that much of police and force. Therefore, he has pointed out that elections cannot be conducted in a short span of time. When the people heard the argument they all appreciated the point of view of C.E.C.

However, in principle it is quiet right that the Election Commission should be constituted a multi-member Commission and it is not a current topic but a very old one. It can be an ever burning topic whether a man in comparison to two or three men can give the right opinion and he would never be obsessed ? Therefore, not only there is a need to make it a multi-member Commission but also to ponder over these questions as to how it would be made a multi-member Commission and how the new members would be elected, how they would be appointed, what would be their service conditions. Many hon. Members have raised several issues but I would like to raise only one point.

Under the present set up the Chief Election Commissioner like the Judges can not be sacked unless an action is taken against him under the provisions of the Constitution but there is no such provision for the other two members. It means that whenever the Government desires it can sack them by giving its opinion to the hon. President. If we want to give them the power like that of the Chief Election Commissioner and often there is a complaint that the ruling party misuses these powers and if we want to stop it, we shall have to make the same provisions as we have made for the Chief Election Commissioner for sacking them. There is a need to make such provisions in the rules, if need be, we must go even for the Constitutional amendment. In the absence of such provisions, the future ruling

[Sh. Vijay Kumar Yadav]

parties may arbitrarily use the existing powers and it would be difficult to define the status of the last two members. Thus there will always be a scope for complaint. Therefore my suggestion to the hon. Minister of Law is that he should consider this aspects to. They are being paid equally. It is right that the decision should be taken unanimously. You want to give them the equal powers in all matters but as far as the question of sacking them is concerned, both of them have been set aside. I want that it should be amended. This was the only point which I wanted. With these words I conclude and support this Bill in principle.

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the United States, in the city of Boston, there is a family of Cabot Lodges; and it is said that Cabots speak to the Lodges and the Lodges speak to the Cabots, but the Cabot Lodges only speak to God. We do not have any Cabot Lodges in our country. In a democracy, there is no place for a Cabot Lodge who can only speak to God and who can speak on the basis of revelations or direct communication from God. Having said this, I do not have to dilate on the erratic, obstinate, arbitrary, sometimes temperamental and whimsical behaviour of the Chief Election Commissioner. I am not saying that all his decisions were wrong but surely they created an impression and an atmosphere in which there was a lot of misgiving about the manner of his functioning.

Conceptually there is no difference in the House on the need for the sort of legislation that the hon. Minister has brought. In fact, the importance of a Constitutional institution or authority of national importance like the Election Commission cannot be over

emphasised in a democracy. The point that I want to make is this that the Government has chosen not to take the House into confidence as to what prompted them suddenly one fine morning to advise the President to exercise his power under article 324(2) of the Constitution and to appoint two more Election Commissioners. The first sentence of the statement made by the hon. Minister is very prosaic. It says that the President, in exercise of his powers under article 324(2) of the Constitution, fixes the number of Election Commissioners, other than the Chief Election Commissioner of India, at two, with effect from 1.10.1993. He has not told anything to us as to why on 1.10.1993, the Government woke up to the realisation that the Chief Election Commissioner needed to be assisted, if I may say so, by two more Election Commissioners. I think the Government has its reason perhaps for keeping quiet and for not taking the House into confidence. But unless they do that, they are going to get lost, in my opinion, in a legal mess because, I am afraid, perhaps the Bill that we are considering today, even if it is adopted by the House, has every possibility of being struck down by the Supreme Court because, in my personal view, it flies in the face of the very wording of the article 324. Under article 324, as I read it, the Chief Election Commissioner is not, as my hon. colleague, Shri Somnath Chatterjee pointed out, the first among equals; he is superior. He is higher in status and in authority and you cannot wish it away. If you want to achieve what you want to achieve, and on which the entire House is with you, you will have to come forward with a Constitutional amendment. Otherwise, I am afraid, this is just my apprehension- that, as I said, you are going to get lost in a legal maze. Now, the ordinance already stands challenged.

There is already an interim order and the interim order - which was not even contested by the Government - has, in fact,

nullified the entire scheme in the mind of the Government. It reduced the poor additional election Commissioners to a nullity. They were refused any work. They had nothing to do. They were only sitting there, sucking their thumbs. And one of them went on leave and I do not know what the other has done. But surely, we do not want to subject the Election Commissioners, who are also constitutional authorities, to such a fate and to such a state.

Therefore, I would suggest that we should try to work out on the basis of the experience that we have had, a certain scheme which would last longer than the term of the present Chief Election Commissioner. Because there is the element of human weakness; there is the possibility of temperamental decisions by a single person who is vested with too much authority. And, therefore, I would not look at this question that is before the House in the light of the immediate election that has gone by, thankfully, without any mishap. On the one hand it has raised hope and on the other, Mr. Chairman, it has also given rise to certain apprehensions in my mind. People have questioned this - why should the electoral process take four weeks. In other countries constitutions are decided on the basis of one day's process. And supposing you were to hold elections all over the country, supposing there is the general election, what is the time that you would like it to take? Do you want six months to complete the entire operation? How much quantum of force would you need? Would you need the entire army and all these para military forces of the country to be deployed purely on the electoral process during that period? I would like to ask this question. These are the apprehensions that have also been raised by the conduct of the immediate election about which we are also thankful that nothing very untoward happened.

There is one more point that I would

like to make. The Bill has been titled - as the ordinance was - "The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 1993". I would beg to ask the hon. Minister through you, how can the term 'conditions of service' be expanded to include 'transaction of business'? Transaction of business is totally different from conditions of service. Either there should have been two separate Bills or the Bill should have been titled properly. It simply does not follow. It does not hang together. It does not form one piece. It is not properly composed. I know the reason why you are putting that new chapter. But it does not belong there.

I always come back to this question - why is it that the Hon. Minister is trying to evade a constitutional amendment. Is he afraid that he will not be able to muster the necessary majority in the House? I assure him that on the question of a multi member Election Commission, the hon. Minister will, perhaps, have the backing of the entire House behind him. On that there is no doubt in my mind.

Therefore, he should have the courage. We in the Janata Dal have recommended that there should be a multi-member Commission, a 3 member Commission. But we have also pointed out that constitutionally the three members should be co-equals; none should be superior to the other and that the chairmanship should rotate every year among the three members according to some principle so that no one thinks that it is his *zamindari* or he is the supreme boss or that the other Election Commissioners are his subordinates. No. They are all equals. They should be appointed in the same manner they should have similar power and they should also be - of course as pointed out by another hon. Member - subject to the same process as far as the termination office is concerned.

[Sh. Syed Shahabuddin]

Therefore, I would suggest that let there be a more comprehensive Bill in the form of a constitutional amendment which should be based on the principle that the Election Commission should be multi membered and that those members should be co-equal and that it should lay down a procedure for their appointment which should not be vested purely in the Government. It should be based on a committee approach - a Committee consisting, perhaps, or including the Chief Justice of India, the Leader of the House - the Prime Minister and may be the Leader of the Opposition.

Then, that Committee should come out, with a panel of names that should come before the House. because the committee does affect the working of the parliamentary system as no other authority does. Therefore, a proper method of recruitment of three Election Commissioners should be devised by prior consultation with all the major political parties and that should be included in the Bill.

Sir, then there is one thing more. There have been many points of friction between the Chief Election Commissioner and the Government in these elections, but one point has not been noticed by many of the hon. Members here and that is the working of Article 324(6) of the Constitution. Who is to decide the categories and quantum of staff required for the proper conduct of elections? Can the Election Commission decide that unilaterally or should the Election Commission decide that in consultation with the Executive? How much staff are to be deployed and where should they be deployed, whether it is possible and whether they are available - all those factors will come in and only after mutual consultations, in a harmonious manner, that can be decided. As I said, you cannot reduce the situation to a point where the Election

Commissioner demands that the entire Armed Force of the country and the entire security apparatus be placed at his disposal. That will be reducing it to absurdity. Some checks should be there. Therefore, not only the number not only the manner of working, but also Article 324(6) of the Constitution requires to be reviewed.

Sir, I respect the wisdom of the Founding Fathers of the Constitution. But, as Dr. Ambedkar said, in one of the debates: "Constitution is made for gentlemen", Constitution has to be observed in terms of its conventions and in terms of the experience that the nation gathers. We have amended the Constitution in the light of our experience and therefore, I would appeal to the hon. Minister to amend the Constitution in this regard. I do not hold a brief for the present incumbent or against the present incumbent, but I would suggest that let us not be taken off our feet merely by one experience or by one individual. Let us try to improve the institution in a long term sense, let us think of the future, let us think of the survival of democracy in our country, let us think of how best the parliamentary form can work in our country and then, let the hon. Minister, in consonance with the spirit of the discussion here today, withdraw the Bill that is before the House and come back to the House with an appropriate and comprehensive Constitution (Amendment) Bill, which, as I said, will not only reform the institution, but also work out the modalities of its interaction with the Executive which is also very necessary.

With these words, I am afraid, Sir, I must conclude that, I am not in a position to support the Bill, as it shows.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Trichur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support this Bill moved by the hon. Law Minister before this House. This Bill contains the opinions of all the Members of this House and all the parties

represented in this House, expressed on various occasions in this august House, I am not worried that some of the hon. Members of the Opposition found some reasons to oppose this Bill, even though ultimately they supported this Bill, because in a democratic set up, I think, there has to be dissent and some of our Opposition parties are characteristically, in the habit of opposing anything which is being brought by the Government. The hon. Member Shri Syed Shahabuddin also finally did not support this Bill, may be it is his conviction that he did not support this Bill. He said as one of the reasons for not supporting the Bill that the transaction of the business in the Election Commission is not clearly understood from the Title of this Bill. I am afraid that if his suggestion is accepted, then this Bill will have to have a very long Title. Everything which is in a Bill need not be reflected in the Title. Sir, it is very obvious that this Bill has been brought before this House with a definite purpose. Firstly, it is to make a Multi-Member Election Commission and secondly, the transaction of the business in the Election Commission has to be clarified. Why has this Bill come ? Unfortunately, some of the Marxist Party Members who gave their opinions in this House are not present now, but their colleagues are here.

One thing is very clear, Congress Party which is ruling the country today is very conscious about the democratic obligations which the party is having to the people of this country. The Opposition says, "We have made the suggestion at that time but the government did not accept it. So, making it now is not good and we cannot support it." This is very strange. This august House at a particular time may be considering something which was happening outside. This Bill is a very important one and the people are very anxious that this Government makes legislation early to make the Election Commission, a multi-member commission. As the history is well known I

do not want to go into the details. At the time of Mr. V.P. Singh Government, the multi-member commission was abolished. Again a commission was appointed, all these are part of history. When it has become necessary that a multi-member Election Commission has to be constituted, the opinion came from all corners of this House and that spirit is well taken by this Government. The allergy of some Party to Ordinance is quite difficult to understand because I do not think any precious time should be lost in this process, after the expiry of the last Session of Lok Sabha. When we thought of elections sufficiently early in October itself, Govt. have promulgated this Ordinance. I do not want to go into the hair splitting interpretation of the Constitution which is being made by some hon. Members. They have said, this is not going to stand in the Court and the Constitutional Amendment is necessary. Shri Syed Shahabuddin has also expressed the opinion.

From the Government side, we are fully aware that article 324(2) empowers the Government to make the legislation of this kind and it will stand the scrutiny of law. With that confidence only, the Government has put forward this Amendment Bill. Time of the discussion of the Bill really generates some interest because of some happenings outside. How should the Election Commission function? According to the people of this country, and the political parties of this country, what do we expect of the Election Commission? The forefathers of our Constitution, in the Constituent Assembly discussed the question of Election Commission. As long back as in 1951 itself, it was decided that it might become necessary for a country of the size of India to have a multi-member Election Commission. Now this multi-member Election Commission was decided respecting the opinions of various political parties and the public opinion.

[Sh. P. C. Chacko]

The way it was taken in the Election Commission is very strange and surprising. In India, unlike what was envisaged at the time of making the Constitution, elections have become a daily affair. By elections are coming very often. The State Assemblies are not able to complete their terms. Therefore, elections are becoming necessary very frequently and the work load of the Election Commission has gone up. Nobody can dispute this fact. But some people say, the Election Commission is not having enough work; he could finish important work in half an hour and thereafter, he would be feeling like listening to music. If this is the explanation anybody is giving, this is very unfortunate. It is a fact that the elections are to be held in time, at the wish of the people. Elections should be conducted on time. What is the best machinery to have the elections to be conducted on time is the concern for Parliament, the concern for the Government. That is why, we have come out with a suggestion, which is also the suggestion of various political parties in this House, for a multi-member Election Commission. It should be welcomed by all and the multi-member Election Commission should be taken in the right spirit.

About the functions of the Members, directions have been given very clearly. I do not know why anybody is having doubts on this. In any commission, it is decided either by "unanimity" or "majority. Nobody would, even remotely oppose it, as the basis of "unanimity" or "majority". In any commission or committee, which is a multi-member one, the only option before any committee or commission is, it would be decided by "unanimity" or "majority" decision. These two options are made before the Commission. I think, this country has experience of 45 years in the process of deciding such things. The basic faith of the people in the democratic forces has never

been challenged and their constant faith in the system is unshakable.

So, if you want to do justice to these basic democratic aspirations and beliefs of the people, the Election Commission should have responded more responsibly to the suggestions made by the Government. If anybody thinks that one single Member can do all the work and multi-Member commissions is not necessary, I do not blame them. Articles are appearing in the newspapers stating that multi-member Commission is not necessary. Some people say that constitutionally and technically, it is not necessary to have a multi-member Commission. But the common man in this country is not able to appreciate that idea.

When elections are postponed, the opinion of the people is not respected. When elections are postponed beyond a reasonable time, it is the opinion of the people which is being ridiculed. In a big country like India, elections are to be conducted at different levels. If, for any reason, elections are sometimes postponed, it is sometimes causing surprise to all the Parties and to the Government also. Nobody was responsible for it. All of us were criticising this postponement. We were indulging in self-criticism. What does it mean? As it happens, elections are postponed without any valid reason. It happened in West Bengal Rajya Sabha elections. Criticism was made by some quarters. The criticism should be fair. If the elections are to be conducted in time, in a reasonable manner, then considering the work-load of the Commission, it should be a multi-member Election Commission. This suggestion is also challenged in the Supreme Court. It is very unfortunate. I do not understand why this decision of the Government is being challenged in the Supreme Court. The hon. Supreme Court will take an appropriate decision. The matter is still pending before the Supreme Court. I am not making any

reference to that. But it is unfortunate that a matter of this kind which is the will of the people, which is the opinion of all of the political parties is being challenged before the Supreme Court.

Anyway, this multi-Member Election Commission idea is being appreciated by all people. Now some people think that this Government is doing everything in a clumsy manner. This is the oft-repeated allegation by people like Shri Somnath Chatterjee. I do not want to answer that question. The Congress party is the guardian of the democratic rights of the people of this country for the last 45 years and we need not have any study class from Shri Somnath Chatterjee about democracy or about the basic things of democracy.

If somebody from West Bengal CPM teaches us about free and fair elections, it looks very strange. This Government's decision cannot be questioned. The purpose for which it is brought cannot be questioned. This Bill and before this, the Ordinance which are brought forward for the effective functioning of the Election Commission and for the exercise of its powers, cannot be questioned. It should have been taken in a better spirit by all political parties and by the Election Commission itself.

It enshrines and embodies the aspirations of the people of this country. Recently the people had to face a very difficult situation. I think this is a final answer that this Government, in its wisdom, has found out and, that is why, without any loss of time, an Ordinance was promulgated. This is one of the very few items where there should have been one hundred per cent unanimity. I am not questioning anybody's opinion. When the Parliament is discussing this, there are certain people who want to decry this and who want to approach the Court to create impediments in the way of its implementation. This is a very sad state

of affair. When such a situation is prevailing outside the Parliament, it is the unanimity of opinion of this Parliament which should have given them a resounding answer. That unfortunately did not happen.

Anyway, it is the duty of this Government to the people of India. That is why, this Bill is brought before this House.

I support this Bill with all the power at my command.

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani)

: Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have been in favour of a multi-member Election Commission. This matter has been raised in the House time and again and no one has opposed it. We have given notice against the Ordinance in case there is no provision of multi-member Election Commission in the Ordinance. I support the multi-member Election Commission. Instead of issuing an ordinance, was it not possible for the Govt. to introduce a Bill 10-12 months earlier? They knew it in January itself that elections would be held in five States. A Bill could have been introduced in February, March, April or May. But this was not done. It was introduced only when election process started. Hence, it was apprehended that this ordinance has been issued in order to favour the ruling party. These two members could have been impartial in real sense. Desired results can be achieved by taking right decisions, keeping in view the place, the time and the persons concerned. At that time the Supreme Court rightly issued a stay order to stop the implementation of the Ordinance. It is an evidence of all this exercise that the elections held in five States were free, fair and peaceful. It was said that the elections would be a people's verdict on the events which took place in Ayodhya on 6th December. Even now the ordinance is pending in the Supreme Court. the



[Sh. Bhogendra Jha]

Government could have expedited it. If the Bill has been introduced thereafter, would it not be construed that we have challenged the Supreme Court's decision. It does not mean that the Supreme Court has stopped the implementation of the Bill. It is still under consideration.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND  
COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R.  
BHARDWAJ): There is no stay of the  
Ordinance. You are saying something.

[Translation]

BHOGENDRA JHA : I did not refer to the ordinance. The original ordinance is under consideration. Since then we are trying to pass it in the form of a Bill. Does it not mean that we are challenging the Supreme Court ? I suppose we could have passed the Bill in taking the Supreme Court in confidence. We are still and always in favour of a multi-member election commission. Everyone was of the view that deliberations could have taken place before issuing the ordinance and we could have discussed it with various leaders, or it could have been considered by our Standing Committees, resulting in some changes in its terminology. For a minority Government, it is better to seek the views of others.

One more thing I would like to say. My friend Sh. Shahabuddin also said that the position of Chief Election Commissioner is somewhat different from other Election Commissioners. That is why we have stipulated in the Objectives of the Bill that the decisions would have to be taken unanimously. People have quoted High Court and Supreme Court in this regard. The Judges decide the cases on majority basis.

But as far as the procedure is concerned, the Chief Justice holds different position. I think, in future this would create some complications. It would further lead to problems. No one would remain the head. As such, I think that the Bill contains a great anomaly. This may lead to a problem that nobody will take responsibility and this point has already been raised. During the recent elections, another Election Commissioner started issuing orders and then the Supreme Court stopped it by issuing a directive and elections were held smoothly.

The Government of Rajasthan had recently demanded the dismissal of Chief Election Officer and the Election Commissioner, dismissed him. I don't remember such an incident had happened since 1952, when on the recommendation of a State Government, the Chief Election officer of the State had been removed by the Chief Election Commissioner. I hope the minister would like to clarify this.

I support the Bill that has been introduced. But the ordinance was issued at such a crucial moment as resulted in an anarchy. The things were set right by the Supreme Court. The common feeling is that the election commission or the Chief Election Commissioner conducted the Assembly elections strictly and in a right manner. The people who used to be against him in the past are now satisfied with his work.

We also support a multi-member election commission and hope that our apprehensions would be removed by the minister.

[English]

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA  
(Balasore): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill brought forward by our hon. Law Minister. One thing is that the

Constitution of India is the essence of all the constitutions of the world. There may be some lacunae but by and by they may be rectified in the process. Our law is like the level of water, that is, it is like *Ambusaman*. There have been no statutory guidelines for the appointment and functioning of the Election Commission since Independence. In the meanwhile, there have been some attempts made to have some amendments. But it could not be possible. When the Constituent Assembly tried to have the law in this regard, at that time, there were also some lacunae and Dr. Ambedkar clearly considered the point and said this his provision did not contain anything to provide against the nomination of an unfit person to the post of the Chief Election Commission or other Election Commissioners.

16.45 Hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

He further said :

"I do not want to confess that this is a very important question and it is giving me a great deal of headache and I have no doubt about it that it is going to give the House a great deal of headache."

Sir, the entire House witnessed the headache prior to this Bill being brought before this House. There was turmoil over the functioning of the Chief Election Commissioner. This House even heard the views of the Attorney General of India because on the 2nd August, 1993, the Chief Election Commissioner postponed the by-election to Gujarat and West Bengal Legislative Assemblies, the by-election to Lok Sabha constituencies relating to Bihar, Maharashtra, Palani in Tamil Nadu and Kerala and also Assembly by-elections in several States. So, there was turmoil in this

House and everybody thought that the decision to postpone the elections was due to the open defiance of the Commission's authority by the Central Government. It was also the view of the Chief Election Commissioner, at that time. There were so many occasions when several petitions were filed in the Supreme Court and also there were several occasions in this House and the entire people of this country also witnessed the fighting between the views of the people and a single person who is the head of an institution.

Sir, in this House, in October, 1989

MR. SPEAKER: We cannot discuss those incidents; let us understand that we cannot discuss the actions taken by the Election Commission.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : I am not discussing them.

MR. SPEAKER : You are giving the dates.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : I am giving the date on which the Union Government had appointed two senior retired officials as Election Commissioners. In the Constitution also, it has been provided that a multi member Election Commission should be there. But, unfortunately, during the Prime Ministership of Shri V.P. Singh, it was abolished and then, a single member Election Commission was appointed. It was viewed seriously by the Court and later on when this was discussed in the House, they were supposed to bring in a Bill for rectification of this anomaly in the Election Commission. But it could not be possible to do so.

Sir, I welcome the hon. Prime Minister and our Law Minister who brought this Bill to halt the censure of the total democratic set up in this country.

[Sh. Kartikeswar Patra]

I want to make some suggestions on the Bill that has been brought before this House. I want to support the views expressed by the hon. Member, Shri Syed Shahabuddin, on the appointment of the Chief Election Commissioner, that is, among the members of the Election Commission, by rotation, one member should be appointed as the Chief Election Commissioner and the status, functioning and the emoluments sanctioned should be equal to all the members. All the members should be on an equal footing. By rotation for a year or two one member should be appointed the Chief Election Commissioner. The majority view of the members of the Election Commission should prevail and the popular views should be granted.

This is my humble submission before the House and before the Minister.

[Translation]

SHRI TEJ NARAIN SINGH (Buxar) : Mr. Speaker Sir, I support this Bill. As far as the legal procedure is concerned in this regard under Article 324 of the Constitution, the Government has the right to have an ordinance issued by the President. It is evident from several facts that the recent statement of Mr. Seshan reveals that he perhaps desires supremacy. Since we have an independent Judiciary, he is not going to get this power. A two Judge bench of the Supreme Court has held that the election commission is an autonomous body, but its decisions can be challenged. In this situation, it is not proper to say that nobody can restrict us.

Secondly, as far as the question of a multi member election commission is concerned, it is not a new concept. When late Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister, we had a three member election

commission. Although after some time it was again made one member commission. As far as the question of vesting the Chief Election Commissioner, with veto power, I think under Article 145(5) of the Constitution even the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court has not been vested with this power. The decisions of the Supreme Court are taken on a majority basis. If decisions in Supreme Court are taken by a majority then majority decisions taken by the Election Commission are in my opinion are not unjustified. I think this Bill is right and it should be passed. But as far as the ordinance is concerned, it was not issued at a right time. It should have been issued six months ago. But issuing an ordinance right just before the election, has created an atmosphere of distrust among the people that perhaps, the Government has some ulterior motives behind it. I, therefore, oppose this ordinance and support the Bill that has been introduced. With these words, I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have the pleasure to support this Bill. From different angles the hon. Members who have participated in this debate have already given their views. It is not that only we support this Bill; this Bill reflects overwhelmingly the unanimous opinion expressed on the floor of this House earlier.

Of course, today some hon. Members from the other side are speaking in a different voice; and I wonder about it. Even those who are party to some sort of a motion here, are today saying that they support this measure to make one member Commission, a multi-Member Commission. It is worth the demand from all corners of this House; and it is going to be materialised. In fact, it has already come; and an ordinance has been promulgated. Not only different parties, but even the Chief Election

Commissioner himself has welcomed this. In the first week of September, in a programme, at a function.....

MR. SPEAKER : It is not necessary please, to say all these things.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : This is a new point.

MR. SPEAKER : There are other Bills to be passed. If there is any new point, please say its substance.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : What I say is that even the Chief Election Commission who has ....

MR. SPEAKER : Yes. He has welcomed it, very good.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : This way, I cannot do, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not necessary for you to repeat the same point.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : We welcome this Bill. But, presently, we are not in a happy situation regarding the Election Commission. The ordinance has been challenged in the Supreme Court itself by no less a person than the Chief Election Commissioner.

MR. SPEAKER : It is an interim order, and that point has already been made.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Yes. That is an interim order. Some points need to be sorted out; and some clarifications are sought for about the functioning, powers, etc. There is also one danger ahead of it. In today's newspaper, it has come out. It is a new point. In today's newspaper, it has come out and the headline is there. If identity card

system is not introduced, then the elections are not going to be permitted after January 1995. You may again say that this is not coming under its purview. But, as a whole, we feel exercised and we feel concerned about all these things. The Government has to take serious note of all these things; and take precautionary measures right from now. Election reforms, of course, is an area which we have to give top priority. Another aspect is that, as you know, in the parliamentary life in India, we begin with a very objectionable way and we begin with some sort of a falsehood regarding the statement of expenditure.

MR. SPEAKER : Is it a part of this Bill?

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : I am coming. Again, there will be a row in the House. Some time later, you will find it. Today, it is a part of the news item which had never been opened up in the past. The Election Commission is going to enquire into all these things. We congratulate the Election Commission for the manner in which the free and fair elections have been conducted recently.

In the Election Commission, three members will be there; it is welcome and there is no controversy. Everybody was demanding it. In 1991, a Bill was already there. A case before the Supreme Court has set the trend in this regard; and we have gone ahead in that direction.

17.00 Hrs.

I will give an example about the functioning of some departments in the universities. There are universities. And there are departments having more than one professor. Even the junior professor is made head of the department in rotation. It is a question of accommodation. It is a question of spirit with which they work among

[Sh. Sriballav Panigrahi]

themselves. Therefore, it is not a question of personal ego. One has to shed the personal ego, etc., particularly so far as constitutional authority is concerned. Therefore, in that spirit, the three members could work.

MR. SPEAKER : The point is made. The chairmanship should be enjoyed by the members by rotation.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Yes, Sir. I am coming to that point precisely. The three members are there.

MR. SPEAKER : It is understood. You come to the next point. (*Interruptions*) We have given enough time.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Yes, Sir. I will conclude since you are in a great hurry.

MR. SPEAKER : There are other things to be done.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : I appreciate that other work is there. But the spirit of the debate of the Constituent Assembly with regard to this provision has also to be looked into. Equal status, removal, pay, salary, functions, etc., everything is there. He has to be regarded as chairman when there is a multi-member commission. The Chief Election Commissioner will be the chairman. So, there should be a thorough study of all these things. A due regard should also be given to the Constituent Assembly. If it calls for an amendment to the Constitution, I would request the Government to consider that also.

With this, I support the Bill and conclude.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to

support Multi Member Election Commission Bill introduced in the House as already supported by our party. The left parties had suggested long time back that there should be a multi member Election Commission but I do not know why the Government did not accept this proposal at that time and now a multi member commission is being constituted, so it has created some sort of apprehension in our minds. The Government should consider and accept the good suggestions brought forward by those parties too which are not in power. Such suggestions should not be rejected.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, elections in a democratic set up are like life saving drugs. You must have also heard and I have also been submitting time and again that our democratic system is being polluted. Had the high morale of the past been adhered to, we would not have been facing the problems which at present we are facing in the country on this account. Religion and casteism have been dragged into politics and the election system has been polluted. The ruling party has polluted it just to keep themselves in power. That is why the people have lost faith in them today. They dismissed the Governments of four States and imposed President's Rule there, the Governors of the States were their own men and they had been Chief Ministers or Ministers at one time or the other in their regime. That is why nobody raised any objection. The election procedure has by and large been appreciated by the people whether they were directly involved or not. Shri T.N. Seshan has shown how the elections should be conducted. He deserves appreciation for it. He has taken measures to strengthen the democratic system in the country. If this system is to be further strengthened, then decisions of the majority should prevail. Election procedure should be specified so as to ensure smooth functioning of Election Commission. No Bill in respect of Election Commission should be introduced out of

obsession. With these words I conclude.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura)  
: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we all had demanded for a multi member commission. I had suggested this on behalf of my party. There is difference of opinion about the Constitution and powers of the Commission. I would like to submit a few points in this regard. It is our weakness that we get pleased or disappointed very easily. It is being widely publicised that elections have been conducted in a very fair and impartial manner but, I can definitely quote incidents where in several constituencies the votes have been rejected. In some constituencies where a candidate was not in a position to do much of election campaigning the other candidate got advantage of the situation and was able to score more votes. My submission is that if the number of members is more, the chances of justice being dispensed is more. If a thorough investigation is conducted we would draw a conclusion that despite the so called stern measures taken by the Government, there have been a number of cases of corrupt practices. Many candidates who were to win, but were defeated. I do know a number of candidates in whose constituencies unfair means were used. There is no doubt that violence to certain extent has been checked but I do not agree that full justice has been done.

Regarding the multi member commission we had suggested to include such worthy citizens as the speaker of Lok Sabha, the Chairman of Rajya Sabha, the Chief Justice of Supreme Court etc. But nobody should be allowed to function in a wayward manner. If the party leaders try to contact the person who has got the authority they must be attended to. They cannot be denied of this right by anybody. Corrupt practices on a wider scale took place in the recent elections. The candidates who had almost been defeated, were made to win by taking recourse to unfair means.

I have due respect for the Election Commissioner but he should not be whimsical and wayward functioning cannot be allowed. Democracy can not be run in this manner. The dignity and the decorum of the House has always been maintained by you and we have not seen a better person than you in this regard. A person holding a high position has to maintain some dignity, he should not be whimsical and above all if somebody wants to talk to him he cannot refuse. The entire bureaucracy cannot be wrong and one person can not always be absolutely right irrespective of his clean image. There are many honest and dedicated persons in politics.

This ordinance has created some apprehension in the minds of people that the Congress party intends to prevent Shri Seshan from taking appropriate measures by making the Election Commission as a multi member body. That is why Shri Shahabuddin opposed it. His objective was that this Institution should be made impartial and we too wanted it, we don't have any objection in making it a multi member commission but the Chairman of the Commission should be changed by rotation. Certain proposals made in the committee report were not agreed to. But now I would not take up this point. However, I would like to urge upon the Government not to go to extreme. Our people if they make a little achievement, feel themselves so great as if they are on the top of the world. A firm decision should have been taken after a thorough study. We did demand for a multi member commission. If our suggestions were also included in the Bill that has been brought in the House, the picture would have been better and democratic set up more strengthened. I have made our position clear in this regard so that no Member may have any misconception with regard to our party. Though I do not agree with the provisions of the Bill yet I support the intention of the Bill and agree with multi member system. With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ : Sir, I am very happy to thank all the Members who have participated in this debate, which is so important for the smooth running of democracy in our country. Nobody can deny that the power of superintendence, direction and control of elections is vested in the Election Commission. Now, this is the Tenth Lok Sabha and several elections have taken place in India. We have done quite a lot to maintain democracy in this country. But over the years, there was a demand for a multi member Election Commission. Hon. Member Shri Somnath Chatterjee referred to the report of the Joint Committee of both the House which was presented way back in 1972. The Joint Committee recommended that there should be a multi member Election Commission. Thereafter, there was the report of the Late Dinesh Goswami Committee. With certain variations, this committee also recommended that there should be a Multi Member Commission. Recently, in view of certain controversies that erupted suddenly on some occasions - I would not like to go into the details of those controversies at this juncture - all the Parties met and there was a unanimous demand from all the parties that we should revert to a multi member commission and give shape to it as immediately as possible. Here I concede that we did take a little time. The thinking and deliberations of the Government in making certain provisions and coming to some decision have taken some time and some delay has occurred. To that extent, I concede that we are a little late. Nonetheless, I am very happy to say that this is the unanimous view of this hon. House and I believe you all agree with me. There is no dispute on one aspect and that is every political party supports a multi member body.

With regard to the suggestion that there should be more democratic method of selection process, I have noted it down.

When hon. Members from Janata Dal have spoken, I have noted it. I may also mention here that I have read the report of the Dinesh Goswami Committee and I am quite aware of its provisions. I must thank everybody again because you all have cooperated and supported the move for the introduction of a multi member Election Commission.

Certain doubts have been expressed in some quarters. I need not take the time of the House. Article 324 of our Constitution itself provides that besides one Chief Election Commissioner, there can be other Election Commissioners.

The power flows from Article 324 itself. So far as the law is concerned, I will not take much time of the House except to say that Entry 72, which is in the Union List and Article 324(1) and (5) read together, give powers to this Parliament to make provisions regarding the Election Commissioner's working as well as their service conditions. On the other day I replied that we have the legislative competence to legislate on this matter.

One or two hon. Members mentioned that we are providing a new system of transaction of business in the Act without amending the Long Title. In this connection, you may please refer to new Sections 2 and 3 of the Bill. It is expressly provided in Section 2 of the Bill which says :

"In the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Act, 1991 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in the long title, for the words "and for matters", the words "and to provide for the procedure for transaction of business by the Election Commission and for matters" shall be substituted."

Section 3 says :

"In Section 1 of the principal Act, for the words and brackets "the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service)", the words and brackets "the Election Commission (Conditions of Service of Election Commissioners and Transaction of Business)" shall be substituted."

So, it is being provided in the long title itself that it will cover both the working of the Election Commissioner and transaction of business.

Recently, we had a debate where the Advocate General of practically almost all the States participated and they debated on the issue as to whether we should have it or not. There was a unanimous view of the intelligentsia and also the bar that we should have one such provision. They all supported it. On this issue, there is absolutely no controversy and it is welcomed by this House.

So far as the powers of the CEC are concerned, much has been said about it. I am conscious that once you appoint a person as Chief Election Commissioner nothing should be done to denigrate his position. Now, what are the provisions which are provided in the Constitution with regard to his status? Firstly, he is the Chief Election Commissioner. Nobody can dispute that and his position stays once he is appointed as CEC.

Secondly, he cannot be removed from the Office except by a procedure which is provided for the removal of the Supreme Court judges. This is not applicable to other Members of the Election Commission.

Thirdly, you cannot remove other Members, without his recommendation.

We have maintained these provisions.

Merely giving the same salary to his colleagues does not in any way mean that his position is being denigrated. Just as we all are equal as Members of Parliament and suppose I get a little more perks as the Minister, that does not denigrate anybody's position. CEC is the Chairman of the Commission and if anywhere we say that he is not the Chairman of the Commission then that may amount to denigrating his position. But, his position as CEC has been maintained. His Service condition is not changed. It is too much to apprehend that. It is rather difficult to agree that we should not give respect to other Members who are performing the same work - if not same, the same type of work. They are also the Civil Servants like the CEC. I think out of the two, one was Law Secretary and the other was Agriculture Secretary. I think they were the seniormost secretaries. We are giving them the same perks. I do not think anybody should have a grievance. Therefore, this provision of giving this salary is rather wholesome.

With regard to the other provision as to how the Chief Election Commission should function, it has been provided and it is universally accepted that where an institution functions it is always expected that it will function unanimously and if not unanimously then by the majority. You cannot have any other principle in an institution where more than one person is functioning. If you think there is any, you can suggest the same to us. All of you must put your heads together, discuss the things and come out with a workable solution. If there is unanimity in this regard, we will definitely accept it. In UPSC you have a Chairman who distributes the work amongst its members.

If it is adopted, there will be a division of work amongst Election Commissioners. Even amongst the Ministers, there is a division of work. It is a very wholesome



[Sh. H.R. Bhardwaj]

practice. If the institution sits together and decides that it will function like this, that would be good. Suppose the Election Commission decides that the Election Commissioner 'A' will deal with such and such a State and the Election Commissioner 'B' will deal with such and such a State and on important matters like taking decisions on registration and so on, it will function as a Commission, that would be good. If it comes out unanimously, well and good, otherwise, the majority decision will prevail.

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court sits along with his two colleagues. There also the decision of majority prevails. Many times I had seen that the Chief Justice had been left in a minority and he had accepted the majority decision. So, for the development of the institution, it is necessary that the institution must find out a workable solution. The law can only ask him to function within the frame work of law. If people start functioning in their own way, then the law must prevail.

The law provides that the multi member Election Commission will function by unanimity. If there is no unanimity, the majority decision will prevail. I do not think anybody will have any objection for this in a democratic set up.

Now, regarding court cases, I would like to say that I do not want to discuss them in detail. That matter is coming up tomorrow. Some State Governments viz. the Government of West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and others, have also intervened in this case. Some other State Governments are likely to intervene. If you have any apprehension on the provision of any Ordinance or any Act of Parliament, the proper method which you can adopt is to test it in the court. We are passing this Ordinance with an objective, which is

supported by all of you and all the other political parties. We would like to make our submissions before the Court that the provision of multi members is not against an institution and we have no motives behind it. I would like to make it very clear that this Government has no motive behind this Ordinance. We have brought forward this Ordinance mainly because we were a little delayed in executing what you had instructed us to do in this House. I will explain that a little later. But we had taken that step in the best interests of the institution. How can you say that by having two more Members, we are going to interfere with the working of the Election Commission? So, we would like to have a proper argument in the court and whatever the court decides, we will accept.

Some suggestions were made that we should go in for a Constitutional Amendment. Sir, I have a legislative competence under the present provision and I can use that. Why should I go in for a Constitutional Amendment? I am prepared to discuss the question regarding electoral reforms with all the parties. What Mr. Yadav has said is very relevant viz. some people may be satisfied on some aspects and some other people may be satisfied on some other aspects.

I had been receiving complaints in my department also. We have to resolve them. We will resolve them by strengthening the institution and let the institution also try to strengthen itself. Let us not get involved in controversy on an issue like this. Without proper functioning of Election Commission, nobody can guarantee free and fair polls. This must also be understood that the Election Commission is an institution under which the Chief Electoral Officers of the States function as also other machineries from the States viz. SDMs, Police, the Police Chief and so on. The successful completion of elections is their success as also the success of thousands of other

people. There is no doubt that the Leaders also gave them direction. But the execution was done at the grass roots' level. We cannot forget those dedicated workers who stood on their feet, day and night and made this election a success. It is their contribution, the contribution of all of you and also the contribution of the people of India. If there were any apprehensions, they saw to it that the elections are conducted peacefully and in a disciplined way. They did not raise frivolous issues. So, we are happy. But, much can be done by way of a co-operative attitude. Today, I am very happy and I am also very grateful to all of you that you gave this support. I am prepared to discuss with you the whole gamut of electoral reforms for strengthening democracy. The sooner we come closer on these issues, the better it is. No individual is important. The institutions have to be stronger and once the institutions are stronger.... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker Sir, through you I seek reply from the Government in respect of the following points. I have information pertaining to five cases. If petitions are filed in these cases in the Court it is well and good but how does the Government propose to look into the matters where corrupt practices have been used. A BSP candidate had won the election with a margin of 4,000 votes but was declared not elected. Just because he was poor and there was nobody to support him. Such incidents have happened in 17 districts. Whereas we do commend the good work done in this field we do want to know what action the Government propose to take so as to do away with such corrupt practices.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ : So far as the monitoring of the entire work is concerned, that will be done by the Election Commission. If the hon. Member has any

other complaint I will enquire into it and furnish the information to the hon. Member, the result cannot be nullified, so far as the complaint of any hon. Member is concerned it is our duty to refer it to the Election Commission and seek clarification from the concerned State Government and if any specific issue is involved we may seek the permission of Mr. Speaker to hold a discussion on it in the House.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : No, no, I shall have looked into it.

MR. H.R. BHARDWAJ : With the permission of the Speaker.

May I just briefly point out what the Supreme Court says because much has been said in Dhanoa's case? This Ordinance is verbatim in accordance with the direction of the Supreme Court. We have carefully read it. I will state briefly just what the Supreme Court has observed. The Supreme Court has observed as follows :

"It is further an acknowledged rule of transacting business in a multi member body that when there is no express provision to the contrary, the business has to be carried on unanimously. The rule to the contrary such as the decision by majority, has to be laid down specifically by spelling out the kind of majority— whether simple, special, of all the members or of the members present and voting etc. In a case such as that of the Election Commission which is not merely an advisory body but an executive one, it is difficult to carry on its affairs by insisting on unanimous decisions in all matters. Hence, a realistic approach demands that either the procedure for transacting business is spelt out by a statute (which is this

[Sh. H.R. Bhardwaj]

Ordinance) or a rule (We have not resorted to rule; we have brought it before Parliament) either prior to or simultaneously with the appointment of Election Commissioners or that no appointment of Election Commissioners is made in the absence of such procedure."

What in Dhanoa's case the Supreme Court found is that the appointment and transaction of the business rules or laws should be brought simultaneously. We have brought both things together setting out the procedure. So, this apprehension that we have not given this procedure properly is unfounded with great respect I submit.

So, for all these misgivings, we have taken the first step, which is supported by this House. We are prepared to discuss the electoral rolls in detail as and when it is required.

So, I request that this Bill may be passed.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, at 5.30, we were expected to take up Half-an-hour Discussion. We have received a letter saying that the discussion should be postponed. Now that application will be treated as per the rule. We continue with this business.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : In the very beginning, when I moved it, I made it clear that the Statutory Resolution was not meant to be against the Bill; it was just because it was an Ordinance. I made it very clear. So, there is no question of my pressing it.

But I would like to ask only one question. I can quite appreciate that the situation will very much depend on the Supreme Court's decision tomorrow.

If the decision remains, whatever it is, have you thought out how you will come out with the impasse that has been created at the moment?

MR. SPEAKER : This is hypothetical at this stage. Let me know whether you would like to withdraw it or not. You cannot say this way or that way.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Yes, I seek leave of the House to withdraw my statutory resolution.

*The Statutory Resolution was, by leave,  
withdrawn.*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I put the consideration motion to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That the Bill to amend the Chief Election Commissioner and other Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Act, 1991 be taken into consideration".

*The Motion was adopted.*

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"Clauses 2 to 10 stand part of the Bill."

*The Motion was adopted.*

*Clause 2 to 10 were added to the Bill*

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long title stand part of the Bill".

*The Motion was adopted.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

*The Motion was adopted.*

**17.33 Hrs.**

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE:  
DISAPPROVAL OF THE  
MERCHANT SHIPPING (AMENDMENT)  
ORDINANCE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : We shall now take up item No. 15 and 16 together.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura)  
: I beg to move :

"That this House disapproves of the Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Ordinance, 1993 (No. 34 of 1993) promulgated by the President on the 27th October, 1993."

I express my disapproval of the ordinance on Merchant Shipping. The ordinance was promulgated on 27th October 1993. Now the Bill has been brought to replace that ordinance.

Sir, the present Bill is contrary to Merchant Shipping Act of 1958. The purpose of the Merchant Shipping Act of 1958 was to foster the development and ensure the

efficient maintenance of an Indian Mercantile Marine Act in a manner best suited to serve the national interest.

If the Bill is passed, this will definitely harm the national interest. What was the compelling reason for the promulgation of this ordinance? As the Winter Session was summoned after the promulgation of this ordinance, the Minister could have brought an amending Bill instead of an ordinance. One reason cited by the Government is that because of low international price this will be an opportune moment to jump into the international market to purchase ships.

Sir, one year back the Government had announced a policy on shipping. At the outset it was stated in that policy that the aim of the policy - that was the guiding policy of the Government - was increasing self-reliance in the carriage of the country's overseas trade. This Bill is quite contrary to what was stated in that policy.

Then there is a question of reservation of one hundred per cent coastal trade for national shipping. This Bill does not mention it also and is quite contrary to what was stated in that policy.

It is not a fact that the Shipping Corporation of India is now a losing concern. It has earned a profit of Rs. 14 crore in the year 1990-91 and Rs. 44 crore next year and last year Rs. 144 crore. At least one Shipyard, the Cochin Shipyard has been making profits. When our own companies are earning profit and there is idle capacity in the shipyard what is the reason for more liberalisation? By adopting a policy one year back it was liberalised and the Government control was slackened. What is the compelling reason to make it more and more liberalised and to decontrol the shipping industry?

Shipping industry is a very important

[Sh. Basudeb Acharia]

industry. Although our share in the total trade is only 36 per cent it is stagnant. This is not only in our country because there was recession for quite some time during the last four to five years in the international shipping industry also. Our Shipyards are complaining that their capacity is not being fully utilised. The Hindustan Shipyard also complains that its full capacity is not being utilised. What has compelled the Government to make it more liberalised and invite multi-national companies? In future there will be stiff competition and will our indigenous industry and indigenous companies be able to survive in the face of stiff competition? So, was this taken into consideration while promulgating the Ordinance?

17.40 Hrs.

[SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE *in the Chair*]

Sir, there was a complaint that the price of a ship, which is being fixed by the Government, was much below the production cost. When I was the Chairman of Public Undertakings Committee, I happened to visit Hindustan Shipyard at Vizag and at that time, a complaint that the price of the ship was fixed much below the production cost was made. It was rather surprising to hear that the price was fixed much below the production cost because the price is being determined by the Government. And because of that, that shipyard had suffered. I want to know whether the Government has revised its policy in regard to fixation of price or not. If a ship is sold below the manufacturing cost, then how will that shipyard survive?

Madam, once Calcutta port used to handle 23 per cent of cargo. In 1947, when we achieved independence, Calcutta's share was 23 per cent. Now it came down to only eight per cent. Similar is the case with other

ports.

In regard to recruitment of unemployed sailors, I would like to quote from the policy statement given by the Government, wherein a comparative figure had been given:

"Sea men employment Office which were set up in Bombay and Calcutta in June 1954 and March 1955 respectively for regulating the supply of sea men for foreign going ships and home trade ships on principle of rotation continued to function satisfactorily.

The number of registered sea men and the number of jobs available at the ports of Bombay and Calcutta as on 1.9.92 are furnished as under :

	<i>Regd. sea men</i>	<i>No. of jobs</i>
Bombay	18,917	16,256
Calcutta	7,950	1,837"

There was a Committee, namely Nanda Committee, which had recommended certain ratio between Bombay and Calcutta Ports for recruitment for unemployed sailors and in that report, it was recommended that for Bombay it would be 70 per cent and for Calcutta it would be 30 per cent. But no recruitment is taking place from the Calcutta Port. And a large number of sailors are facing unemployment and starvation. We do not know what is the reason, why the Calcutta Port is being neglected for years together.

Madam, although the Shipping Corporation has earned profit yet ports' operating ratio has declined. If we take the case of Bombay Port Trust, in the year 1989-90, it was 72.21 per cent and it increased to 75.83 per cent. The operating ratio in the Calcutta increased from 73.94 to 78.72 per cent. Similarly, in Cochin also the

operating ratio has been increased from 68.33 to 72.28 per cent. Only in the Jawahar Lal Nehru Port Trust, it has declined from 113.53 to 74.435 per cent. Except that Port in other ports it has increased. So, I request the hon. Minister to tell us the reason for increase in the operating ratio.

Madam, it is not a fact that we are facing any crisis. Our total number of ships now increased to 439 and our cargo handling capacity has also been increased. Our profit is also increasing and there is also a package of revival of the CPO. There will be a need for acquisition of more ships. When we are in a position to acquire more ships, when we are in a position to increase our number of fleets, and when we are able to increase our cargo handling capacity, what is the reason as to why it is being further liberalised? After one dose of liberalisation, as per the statement made by the Government that there is a positive result both in the cargo handling and in the profit, one reason might be that some multinational companies are asking the Government to amend four sections of the Merchant Shipping Act of 1958, i.e. Sections 21, 42, 51 and 412. I want to quote from Section 21 of the Merchant Shipping Act of 1958.

Section 21 says :

"For the purpose of this Act, a ship shall not be deemed to be an Indian ship unless owned wholly by persons to each of whom, any of the following descriptions applies :-

- (a) a citizen of India; or
- (b) a company which satisfies the following requirements, namely :-
  - (i) the principal place of business of the company is in India;
  - (ii) at least seventy-five per cent of the

share capital of the company is held by citizens of India :

Provided that the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, alter such minimum percentage, and where the minimum percentage is so altered, the altered percentage shall, as from the date of the notification, be deemed to be substituted for the percentage specified in this sub-clause;

- (iii) not less than three-fourths of the total number of directors of the company are citizens of India;
- (iv) the chairman of the board of directors and the managing director, if any, of the company are citizens of India;
- (v) the managing agents, if any, of the company are citizens of India or in any case where a company is the managing agent, the company satisfies the requirements specified in sub-clauses (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) ; or
- (c) a co-operative society which satisfies the following requirements, namely:
  - (i) the co-operative society is registered or deemed to be registered under the Co-operative Societies Act, 1912, or any other law relating to co-operative societies for the time being in force in any State;
  - (ii) every individual who is a member of the co-operative society and where any other co-operative society is a member thereof, every individual who is a member of such

other co-operative society, is a citizen of India.

Now, Sir, what was the purpose of incorporating this section in the parent Act? It was just to have a control over the shipping companies. Now the Government, by bringing this Bill and by promulgating an Ordinance, wants to delete this section, and if this section is deleted and if the control of the Government goes, then our indigenous companies, including our public sector companies, will have to face steep competition from the multinational companies. When we have overcome our critical situation after changing some basic policies which were announced in the form of policy statement, when our companies are doing well, what is the need for deleting this provision, what is the need for giving up the control of the Government and what is the need for inviting multinational companies? And for that, all the teeth which are there in the Act, are to be removed.

If we come to section 42, it says :

"No person shall transfer or acquire any Indian ship or any share or interest therein without the previous approval of the Central Government and any transaction effected in contravention of this provision shall be void and enforceable.

Madam, I continue to quote from Section 42 :

"2. The Central Government may, if it considers it necessary or expedient so to do for the purpose of conserving the tonnage of Indian Shipping, refuse to give its approval to any such transfer of acquisition.

3. Subject to the other provisions contained in this section, an Indian

ship or a share therein shall be transferred only by an instrument in writing.

4. The instrument shall contain such description of the ship as is contained in the surveyor's certificate or some other description sufficient to identify the ship to the satisfaction of the registrar and shall be in the prescribed form or as near thereto as circumstances permit and shall be executed by the transferor in the presence of and be attested by at least two witnesses."

Madam, what is the objection? You please see what is stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill. I quote :

"(a) the addition conditions provided in section 21 for a company or a cooperative society to own Indian Ships have been omitted, i.e., holding of minimum share capital of the country, having minimum number of directors in the company who are citizens of India, the requirement that the Chairman of the Board of Directors and the Managing Director, if any, of the company are the citizens of India and in the case of a cooperative society the condition that every individual who is a member of the cooperative society and where any other cooperative society is a member of such cooperative society, every individual who is a member of such other cooperative society, is a citizen of India;

(b) the present requirement in section 42 for obtaining previous approval of the Central Government for transferring or acquiring any Indian ships or any share or interest there has now been restricted to any time

during which the security of India or of any part of the territory thereof is threatened by war or external aggression."

Madam, it has been restricted to time when the country will be threatened by war or aggression.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Acharia, may I request you to take up the rest of the points while replying to the Statutory Resolution? I think the hon. Minister will be in a better position to answer.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Madam, when he will be answering, many new points will come. I will not repeat the points.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You will be in a much better position to make your points later.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : You withdraw the Statutory Resolution. When the Act is taken up for discussion, the points can be made.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Withdrawal can be later on also. That is not needed now. I was wondering whether we could complete this as it is nearing 6 p.m.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Madam, I will continue tomorrow. Many new points are to be made.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The total time allotted to this is one hour. We exceeded it.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Madam, it is a very important Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Undoubtedly it is. You have spoken very well. That is why I ask you to take up the rest of the points

later.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Madam, I will continue tomorrow. I have many points to make and I need another 10-15 minutes' time.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are two alternatives. We may either extend the time of the House a little and allow him to finish or to take up later.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Madam, you may please adjourn now as it is 6 p.m. I will be continuing tomorrow.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : Madam, I just want to make one submission. We want to get enlightened by his views. If he wishes, we can extend the time a little now.

18.00 Hrs.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Madam, I will continue my speech tomorrow and I will speak for about 10 or 15 minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you can finish within five minutes, we can extend upto 10 minutes past six o' clock.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Madam, I want about 15 minutes more.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Actually, four minutes were allotted to you, but you have already spoken for half-an-hour.

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : Madam, one hour was allotted to this Bill and as you have rightly pointed out, four minutes had been given to the hon. Member, but he has



[Sh. Mukul Wasnik]

mind. You can adjourn the House now.

already taken almost 30 minutes. If he can wind up his remarks today, then the House may be extended a little and then, we may finish this Bill today itself. You can consider this.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Madam, we did not expect that this Bill will be taken up today. We had expected the Human Rights Commission Bill, but suddenly this Bill came up for discussion.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why do you not finish within five or 10 minutes today itself?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Madam, I want to continue tomorrow with a fresh

MR. CHAIRMAN : In deference to the wishes of the mover, I would request the Minister that he may reply tomorrow after he speaks for five minutes.

Now, the House stands adjourned to meet again at 11.00 a.m., tomorrow, the 14th December, 1993.

18.02 Hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then Adjourned Till Eleven  
of the Clock on  
Tuesday, December 14, 1993/Agrahayana  
23, 1915 (SAKA).*

Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill.