

Tenth Series, Vol. XVI, No. 3

Thursday, November 26, 1992

Agrahayana 5, 1914 (Saka)

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the binding set-

LOK SABHA DEBATES. **(English Version)**

Fifth Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XVI contains Nos. 1 to 10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, November 26, 1992
Agrahayana 5, 1914 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[English]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Human Rights Commission

*41. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVI
SINGH PATIL :
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a conference of Chief Ministers was recently convened by the Union Government to discuss the constitution of a Human Rights Commission;

(b) if so, the main points discussed in the conference;

(c) the follow-up action taken/being taken in this regard; and

(d) the time by which the Commission is likely to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) to (d). A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

A Chief Ministers' Conference was organised on 14.9.92 to discuss various issues relating to Human Rights including the setting up of a National Human Rights Commission. The Conference welcomed the proposal to set up such a Commission and recommended that a committee of the concerned Central Ministers and 5 State Chief Ministers may be set up to prepare the draft frame-work of the legislation for the proposed Commission.

(c) and (d). A Nine-member Committee has been set up for the purpose under the Chairman-ship of Union Home Minister. This Committee met on 12.10.92 and decided that the views of a cross-section of the society may also be ascertained by organising seminars in different parts of the country. Four Seminars have accordingly been held in Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Hyderabad. One more seminar is likely to be organised

shortly. It is also proposed to discuss the matter in a meeting of some Chief Secretaries and DGPS of the States.

The views expressed in all these Seminars will be considered by the Committee under the Chairmanship of Union Home Minister. Further steps to prepare the final proposal for setting up of the Commission will be taken immediately on receipt of the recommendations of the Committee.

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Sir, it has been said in the answer that four seminars were conducted and views had been expressed there. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the views that were expressed at these seminars and whether they are being taken into consideration. Already there are certain Commissions like Commission for Women; Commission for Minorities; Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Also I would like to know whether precautions were taken by this Committee to see that the jurisdiction of this Commission does not overlap the jurisdiction of these Commissions.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : We are still to have the total information. Four seminars have been held. One more seminar is going to be held in Delhi and there is going to be a meeting of the DGS and Chief Secretaries in the near future. Thereafter everything will be consolidated and we will take a view about it. A number of issues were discussed. As far as possible we should try to avoid the overlap between the responsibilities given to the three Commissions which are in existence. And how to do it; what kind of mechanism needs to be evolved; is a matter to which the Committee will have to apply its mind.

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Sir, in the present situation, terrorism exists in some parts of the country particularly in Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab, where it is being supported by the foreign extremists.

What are the information gathered by this Committee from these States particularly Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab? Before starting a Commission of this nature, it is very important to have the information about the forces that are fighting against these terrorist activities over there.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : It is true in the case of Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir, there are very active terrorists involved and they have been indulging in all kinds of violence in those areas. The Army and paramilitary forces of the Police have to discharge their duties in difficult circumstances. But at the same time we cannot totally overlook the kind of excesses if they have been committing. If they are committee the excesses, certainly they will be brought to book. But, at the same time, the Government will have to take care so that there is no demoralisation of the armed forces which, in fact, are fighting with these terrorists in very difficult circumstances.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister something about the pre-history of the Chief Ministers' Conference that was organised on this issue. There had been a pressure of public opinion on the Government for the institution of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission, Women Commission and Minorities Commission. We find that the Government had responded to that and instituted these Commissions. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Chief Ministers' Conference was called as a result of there being any such pressure of public opinion in any part of the country, from any section of the population or whether alternately it was as a result of some international pressure that this proposal was taken up.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : Sir, this is an issue which has been engaging the attention of the Government since long. Internally and

externally also there have been different opinions expressed by different organisations. So, the Government thought it necessary that instead of trying to reply to all kinds of allegations, which are totally baseless, it would be better that the Government itself should go in for setting up a National Human Rights Commission, so that our track record on the whole so far as the Human Rights are concerned, is excellent. It is enshrined in the Constitution. In matters of implementation of certain Fundamental Rights, there might be violations and that is why we have been writing to the State Governments and we ourselves have also been taking up steps in different Ministers of the Government of India. But, we thought that it will be necessary that we set up on our own Human Rights Commission looking into all aspects and see that it is not for answering anyone but to satisfy ourselves that things are moving in the right direction. The Human Rights Commission is proposed to be set up.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA : Sir, I have asked a very pointed question. I wanted to know whether there has been any international pressure on the Government.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN : There has been no international pressure on this.

DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM : Sir, women have suffered a lot in our country. They have to fight against the atrocities committed on them. To safeguard the women's rights, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether women will be included in the Human Rights Committee.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN : It will be too early for me to say how the composition of the commission is going to be. But, in order to avoid the overlap, one of the considerations that we have in view is to appoint the Chairman of these three Commissions as the

members of the Human Rights Commission. But, this is at a very preliminary stage, I would not be able to say. This is just an idea about which the final view is still to be taken.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in his reply that four Seminars were held in Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Hyderabad. The violation of human rights has taken place in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir. I would request the hon. Minister whether he is considering holding a Seminar in these two States. I also want to know from the hon. Minister whether Amnesty International on Human Rights will be allowed to visit Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir so that the common and ordinary people, who have suffered a lot, for the Human Rights and violation of Human Rights will be consulted. Lastly, there has been gross violation of human rights by the B.J.P. Government in the Terai belt of U.P. and innocent murders have taken place. I would also request the hon. Minister whether he is considering to hold a Seminar in the Terai belt of U.P.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN : Sir, so far as the question about holding the Seminar in Chandigarh is concerned, of course, a large number of Seminars can be held and, in fact, we are not opposed to the idea. But, at the same time, to say that there has been a gross violation of human rights in Punjab, certainly the Government does not accept that proposition.

The third question is whether the Amnesty International would be allowed to visit Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir. This is a confidence building exercise which is going on of which the first meeting has taken place. There might be two or three other meetings thereafter. On a case to case basis we will decide as to which areas the Amnesty International should be allowed to go.

About the Terai area, in fact, I do not have any such information that the U.P. Government has been violating the Human rights in that area.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA : Sir, I would like to know the hon. Minister whether the Amnesty International and some other organisations which are claiming to be human rights organisations in India, are working as terrorists protection organisations and are demoralising our forces. The situation has become such where we have to provide protection and boost the morale of the forces which are working in very odd situations in the Jammu and Kashmir Valley and in Punjab and all other places where the terrorists are creating havoc.

I would also like to know whether the establishment of the Human Rights Organisation is being appreciated by the Government and whether they would like to adopt it.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : About the first part of the question, it will be rather difficult for the Government of India to accept the position where the human rights activists are the protectors of the killers. The hon. Member has a right to have his own views. But we cannot possibly deny that there have been certain cases wherein excesses have been committed by certain para military forces at the spur of the moment. But we have to keep ourselves cool and act in a manner which will not bring bad name to the Government and also to the organisation to which they belong. I know that these forces are working in very difficult conditions and that is why their morale needs to be maintained. But, at the same time, we have also to see that excesses are not committed. Otherwise they themselves will be responsible for adding to the number of forces which are interested in creating unrest in the country.

Bangladeshi Immigrants

*42 DR. SUDHIR RAY :
SHRI RAMKRISHNA
KUSMARIA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) The estimated number of illegal Bangladeshi immigrants at present living in India, state-wise;

(b) whether the Bangladesh Government have protested against the sending back of the first lot of these illegal immigrants;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the Government's reaction thereto;

(d) whether any time-bound programme has been worked out in consultation with the Bangladesh Government for the repatriation of Chakma refugees to their homeland;

(e) if so, the details in this regard;

(f) whether the Union Government have issued orders to suspend all aid to the Chakma refugees from the New Year;

(g) if so, the reasons therefor;

(h) the estimated expenditure incurred on these Chakmas so far; and

(i) the steps taken to check the infiltration of illegal Bangladeshi immigrants in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (i) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

There are a large number of Bangladeshi migrants illegally living in different parts of the country. It is difficult to estimate their exact number as they enter surreptitiously and are able to mingle easily with the local population because of ethnic-lingual similarities.

There are standing instructions to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to detect and deport the illegal migrants. With increasing public awareness and realisation of the magnitude of the problem and its socio-economic consequences, vigorous efforts have been initiated to stop the infiltration, detect illegal migrants and send them back.

It is unfortunate that the Government of Bangladesh has protested in the matter. Continuous efforts are being made to explain the gravity of the situation to the Government of Bangladesh and to seek their cooperation in settling this problem.

Various measures have been taken / are being taken to check the infiltration of illegal migrants from Bangladesh. These include intensification of patrolling by the Border Security Force, strengthening of its Water Wing, accelerated programme of construction of Border Roads and Fencing, strengthening of the prevention of Infiltration of Foreigners (PIF)/Mobile Task Force (MTF) schemes, issue of Identity Cards to people residing in border areas, Computerisation of visa control system, etc. A Conference of Chief Ministers of North Eastern States, West Bengal and Bihar (UT of Delhi also was represented) convened on 28th September, 1992 endorsed these measures and agreed to take further concerted action to tackle this problem.

As regards repatriation of Chakma refugees, the Government has been impressing

upon the Government of Bangladesh, the need for their speedy repatriation. Though no agreed time-bound timeframe has been worked out in this regard, during the visit of Bangladesh Prime Minister to India in May 1992, it has been agreed that speedy steps will be taken for their repatriation. For this purpose, the Government of Bangladesh has constituted a 9-Member Committee consisting of representatives of political parties to resolve the problems of Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT), including early return of the Chakma refugees.

The Government of India has not issued orders suspending the financial assistance to the State Government for maintenance of Chakma refugees who are presently staying in Tripura. An amount of Rs. 41.50 crores has so far been released to the State Government towards maintenance of Chakma refugees.

DR. SUDHIR RAY : Sir, unfortunately two different questions have been clubbed together by the secretariat.

In view of the extreme politicisation of the issue, the exaggerated Press reports, claims and counter-claims, I would like to ask the Home Minister whether the Government would distinguish the Bangladeshi migrants only on the basis of community and religion and, secondly, whether the Government would abide by the due process of law in identifying and deporting them.

SHRI M.M. JACOB : Sir, it is not true to say that Government is having any discrimination on the basis of community or religion as far as Bangladeshi migrants are concerned. Due process of law is being pursued in the matter of deportation.

DR. SUDHIR RAY : I would like to ask the Government whether they are considering the period of residence for granting them citizenship.

SHRI M.M. JACOB : Sir, those people who came from Bangladesh before 25th March, 1971 are treated as a different category and there is no problem regarding them. The question arises only with regard to subsequent people who came after 25th March, 1971. They are expected to go back to their country.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the number of illegal Bangladeshi immigrants detected till data on the border of West Bengal, Rajasthan and Gujarat? Sir, further, through you, I would like to know also the progress of the fencing work on the Bangladesh border? I would like to also submit to the hon. Minister that when 6 Pakistani prisoners lodged in Kutchh jail escaped from the jail and the police went to apprehend them, it found 10 Bangladeshi crossing over to India from the side of Pakistan border. Therefore, I would like to know the number of illegal Bangladeshi immigrants detected and deported, and the progress of the fencing work?

[*English*]

SHRI M.M. JACOB : Sir, it is already known that people are crossing over to India in the border areas. We have taken effective measures to prevent, as much as possible, the illegal migration to India. But the work of Border Roads Organisation, Border Security Force etc. and border fencing programmes are all on the way. Sufficient progress has been made in various fields including fencing.

SHRI RAM KAPSE : Sir, as far as the protest of the Bangladesh Government against sending refugees back, the Bangladeshi immigrants who have already numbered more than a lakh

[*Translation*]

MR. NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, will Shri Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy still reply to the question here?

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : He is still a Member. I think he has come to take leave of you.

SHRI RAM KAPSE : Sir, what is the reply of Indian Government as far as the protest of the Bangladesh Government for sending back the Bangladeshi migrants?

SHRI M.M. JACOB : It was reported in the press that there is a protest made in Bangladesh on the action taken by us in deporting the illegal migrants who are in India. But, at the same time, when the Prime Minister of Bangladesh visited India in last May, we had discussions with the Prime Minister of Bangladesh and she has agreed to examine this issue and create conditions conducive for taking back the chakma refugees from India and that efforts are going on in this regard. As a result of that we also understand that they have set up 9-member committee in Bangladesh which includes representatives of all major political parties. The Bangladesh Government has not accepted the point though we raised several times that there are Bangladeshi infiltrators in India.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN : Sir, may I supplement to what my colleague said? One question is about those who have crossed the border and come over to India. Another is the influx of illegal migrants on a day-to-day basis. The point was that the Bangladesh Government expected that we should have taken up at diplomatic level the exchange of views as to how these people are going to be repatriated to their country. But, if large number of them are coming on a daily basis, I do not think that any such diplomatic effort

is required. They will have to be pushed back. The Bangladesh Government have been informed about it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL : The Government has stated that the Bangladeshis cross over to India clandestinely. I would like to know whether the Government is aware of the fact that the Bangladeshis who come to India on valid entry visa stay permanently here, but an entry is made at the border that they have gone back to Bangladesh ? Secondly, passports are issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs. Therefore, whether the Ministry of Home Affairs is aware of the issuance of duplicate passports covertly at the border, which is in common man's jargon known as 'Garadnia passport' ? These passports are made use of to cross over to India from Bangladesh and vice versa.

SHRI M. M. JACOB : Sir, we are not aware of any other type of passport being issued other than the regular passport. But, there are instances of Bangladeshi migrants coming here and overstaying in this country and for that there is a governing Act of 1972 allowing them to stay in India without reporting to the police station for a limited period. But, even that is being re-examined now to revise the agreement.

Oilseeds Production

*43. SHRI ZAINUL ABEDIN:
SHRI SUBASH CHANDRA
NAYAK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the production of oilseeds in the country during each of the last three years, seed-wise;

(b) whether the country is self-sufficient in oilseeds production;

(c) if not, the reasons therefore;

(d) whether the Government have drawn up new strategies to increase oilseeds production;

(e) if so, the details therefor;

(f) the target set for oilseeds production during the Eighth plan period, year-wise; and

(g) the steps taken in each State to increase oilseeds production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMCHANDRAN): (a) to (g). A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) Crop-wise production of 9 oilseeds in the country during the last three years was as follows:-

(Lakhs Tonnes)

Sl. No.	Oilseeds	1989-90	1990-91	1991-91
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Groundnu:	81.00	75.1	70.7
2.	Castor	5.2	7.2	5.7
3.	Sesamum	7.4	8.4	6.7
4.	Niger	1.9	1.9	1.6
5.	Rapeseed and Mustard	41.3	52.3	58.4
6.	Linseed	3.3	3.3	3.0
7.	Safflower	4.9	3.2	2.0
8.	Sunflower	6.3	8.7	11.8
9.	Soybean	18.0	26.0	22.8
Total:		169.3	186.1	182.7

(b) and (c). Planning Commission has set a target of oilseeds production at 23 million tonnes for 1996-97, the terminal year of the VIII plan, with the aim of achieving self-sufficiency in oilseeds production during the year 1996-97. Oilseeds production has increased from 108.3 lakh tonnes in 1985-86 to 182.7 lakh tonnes in 1991-92. We are on our way to self-sufficiency.

(d) and (e). Government set up a Technology Mission on Oilseeds in May 1986 with a view to reducing imports of edible oil and accelerating self-reliance in edible oil by increased production of oilseeds. The strategy adopted for increasing the production of oilseeds includes increased use of inputs, adoption of improved production technology and area expansion under sunflower, soybean, rapeseed/mustard and rabi groundnut. The results have been very promising. There was record production of rapeseed/mustard & sunflower in 1991-92.

(f) Planning Commission has fixed a production target of 23 million tonnes for the terminal year of VIII Plan. The target for 1992-93 is 19 million tonnes. For the remaining years targets are fixed annually in the Planning Commission.

(g) Under Oilseeds Production Programme, specific financial outlay, number of districts, crops and details of input programme are fixed and communicated to the States for implementation according to their requirements and potential for each crop in each State.

SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through my question I wanted to know the reasons for the regions not achieving self-sufficiency in oilseeds production after the completion of Seven Five year plans and four Annual Plans, but nothing has been said in this regard in the reply. In the answer, it has been stated that we are on our way to self-sufficiency, but far away from self-sufficiency.

In the year 1996-97, that is the ending year of the Eighth Plan, we will be in need of 230 lakh tonnes of oilseeds, but in the year 1991-92, we have been able to produce only 182.7 lakh tonnes of oilseeds. So, I think it is quite impossible to reach the target of 230 lakh tonnes of oilseeds by 1996-97.

MR. SPEAKER : What is your question? Please come to the question.

SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN : I am asking the question.

Out of nine oilseeds, only the production of rapeseed, mustard and sunflower has increased substantially. So far as the other varieties are concerned, either there is a stagnation or there is a declining trend. So, I would like to know what specific strategies the Government propose to follow to increase the production of the other varieties of oilseed also.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think the hon. Member has not studied the answer. He should have given rather kudos to the farmers who have increased the production of oilseeds. From 10.8 million tonnes, they have come to 18.61 million tonnes and this year, I think, it is going to be more than 19 million tonnes and we have got the infrastructure laid out for that, we have got the plans ready and we have got everything to increase the production to 23 million tonnes by 1996-97. It really takes time. If we have progressed from that point, it is a Herculean task and I think the farmers have done a wonderful job. I can also enumerate all the steps that we have taken. The new strategies are :

(i) Emphasis on increase in per hectare productivity through use of better varieties of seed, rhizobium, proper plant protection, use of gypsum/pyrites;

(ii) Area expansion by covering non-traditional areas, expansion of irrigated area, inter-cropping and multiple cropping;

(iii) Strengthen extension system for transfer of technology to farmers;

(iv) Organise frontline demonstration at farmers' field by ICAR and State Agricultural Universities;

(v) Improved monitoring of support to farmers through OPP;

(vi) Ensure timely adequate supply and distribution of a) seed b) fertiliser c) pesticides d) equipments and implements e) Arrangements for distribution of adequate credit through Cooperatives, Regional Rural Banks and Cooperative Central Banks f) Dovetail activities under OPP with National Watershed Development Programme.

All these things are concentrated towards that objective. We are going to achieve that end. There is no doubt about it.

SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN : Oilseeds have been produced mainly in rain-fed areas. Only 20 percent of the total land under oilseed cultivation is irrigated. The yield per unit of land is very low. So, the imperative need is to increase the productivity of every unit of land under oilseed cultivation. This can be done by providing irrigation.

In view of this, I would like to know whether the Government propose to bring higher percentage of land under oilseed cultivation under the assured irrigation to ensure higher yield per unit of irrigated land. If so, the details thereof.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : You will be very pleased to know the increase in oilseeds production, percentage-wise is 69 percent, which is the highest in any sector. It is only 26 per cent which is needed to reach the target

of 23 million tonnes. We are trying to do that with our increased knowledge for the dry land farming. We are also trying to bring some more areas under irrigated land.

SHRI P. C. CHACKO : The Government in the Agriculture Ministry is moving towards ambitious target. It is very much refreshing to see that we are nearing the target. But a very important sector of edible oil production is being omitted in the whole scheme which is presented before the House. On consistent demand from the coconut growers of Kerala, the Ministry of Agriculture has taken a decision to include coconut into the oilseeds sector and a notification was issued by the Ministry. In the scheme of things which is being presented to the House today, coconut is not being included. Coconut and Palm oil are very important area where edible oil can be produced in large scale and in order to achieve self-sufficiency by 1996 in the edible oil sector which is the target of the Ministry of Agriculture.

I would request the hon. Minister to explain what are the assistance the Government is going to give to implement this decision of the Ministry to include coconut under the oilseeds and also the assistance to be provided for coconut and palm oil cultivation.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Palm oil is going to be the future oil yield to our source of edible oil. We have about 7.96 lakh hectares of land under cultivation in several States. In the next few years, we will see about 80,000 hectares more in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Kerala. They are going to do that. We are going to do something to give remunerative price also to copra and coconut. There is no problem. We are trying to integrate that also into the oilseed production.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : Kumari Uma Bharti.

KUMARI UMABHARTI: I wanted to ask a supplementary on Bangladeshi refugees, but then you did not allow me.

MR. SPEAKER: Proceedings of the House cannot be conducted as per you wishes, it can only be conducted in accordance with the rules.

KUMARI UMA BHARTI: At the time even I was well within the rules. I was the first to raise hand from this side.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that whether it is a fact that the production of oilseeds has gone down in 1991-92 as compared to the production of oilseeds in 1990-91? And also whether the reason for the decline in the production of oilseeds in 1991-92 is the non-supply of the desired quality seed of Soybean and Groundnut to the State Governments on time.

SHRI BALRAMJKHAR: You must have come to know that there is just the marginal decline in the production of oilseeds that is too mainly because of the drought conditions as it did not rain during the months of August and September.

[English]

Farm Sector Income

*44. **SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE:**
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the per capita income in the

farm sector has registered a sharp decline during the last decade;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the per capita income of persons engaged in this sector during the Eighth Plan period; and

(d) the amount earmarked for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMCHANDRAN): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The per capita income (Net Value added) in the farm sector has increased from Rs. 878 in 1980-81 to Rs. 1075 in 1990-91 at constant prices of 1980-81.

(c) The Eighth Five Year Plan envisages to further step up income of the farming community, *inter-alia*, through diversification of agriculture, development of horticulture, animal husbandry and fishery, improvement of marketing of agricultural produce, development of post-harvest technology and agro-processing for creating value addition in agriculture. The plan also lays special emphasis to the employment generation programmes in the rural areas.

(d) The public sector outlay for the Eighth Five Year Plan earmarked for agriculture and allied sectors is Rs. 96168 crore at 1990-91 prices.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister replied that the per capital income (Net Value Added) in the farm sector has increased. When you compute, taking into account the inflation that has taken place during the last decade, the hon. Minister's reply may not be true. I see from the hon. Minister's reply that

the Government is taking certain measures to improve the income of the people in the agricultural sector. But without adequate allocation, it will not actually materialise. The present allocation during the Eighth Plan, as indicated by the hon. Minister, appears to be big but when compared with the total amount of the Budget, if we calculate the percentage, it is almost or roughly the same as the allocation made during the Seventh Plan.

So, in view of this fact will the Government take adequate steps to enhance this allocation to the agricultural sector in a much larger way so that the objectives which you have mentioned in your Part (c) answer will actually materialise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member that his suggestion is laudable and according to his wishes, I think, we pleaded with the Planning Commission and got it double than what was allocated for it and we will try very hard to get more in the next coming year.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : In view of the fact that the farmers of this country are not being provided adequate credit in the right time because of which they are not able to improve the per hectare yield as well as production, will the Government increase the allocations through co-operative banks as well as commercial banks to set right the anomaly of only around 15 per cent of the net bank credit being made available to the farm sector whereas 36 per cent is given to the industrial sector?

Will the Government take necessary steps to correct it and also enhance public investment in the agricultural sector so that the farming will become remunerative and both farmers as well as agricultural labourers will try to enhance their living conditions?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Hon.

Speaker, Sir, I 125 per cent agree with what the hon. Member has said. The first thing and pre-requisite for a good farm operation is investment. Today farming is investment-oriented. You cannot do without it. But the only snag was that we had inherited something by which the whole system was discredited. The whole life-giving channel was cut into pieces. Nothing was left. The credibility of the whole credit system has gone down the drain for just political reasons. I have to resurrect it and recreate that system. I am proud to say that this year, with an allocation of Rs. 12,000 crores to Rs. 13,000 crores to agricultural sector, my target for the co-operative sector is going to be over Rs. 6,000 crores. But I am not satisfied with that. I want more investment and we are trying to create those conditions where both private and public investments can come because if there is investment in agriculture, only then, this country can progress. That is the only way out and we are going to do that and I will put it down right in the Agricultural policy.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has given his reply but we expected him to give a reply after thinking over it and doing his own calculations. He just read out the statistics provided by the Ministry of Agriculture. It is a question concerning the last decade. At that time, he was not responsible to the House. He was adorning the high office of the hon'ble Speaker, but now he will have to look into all aspects. In my opinion, the figures mentioned in the reply are fabricated.

I would like to tell you that a scientist, Dr. R.K. Mehta, working at the N.D.R.I., on a micro analysis of farm economy found that the average annual growth rate of milk production has gone up by 4.85 percent, foodgrain production by 6.43 percent, employment generation by on to 1.5 percent but the number of farm workers involved in

foodgrains production has gone up by 3.83 percent and the number of people involved in milk production by 2.08 per cent. At the same time the per capita income has fallen by 2.93 per cent. This micro analysis of the farm economy was conducted by a scientist. These figures published in the Economic Times prompted us to ask this question and we expected the Agriculture Minister to produce the accurate figures. Any other Minister in his place would also have given the same reply, because figures are prepared once in four years. However, we had great expectations from him.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you saying that the population increase should also be kept in view ?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: I am not talking of population. Even now, 73% of our population depends on Agriculture for its livelihood and there has been no improvement in their standard of living. So, as I said, we felt that because the hon. Agriculture Minister is himself a farmer, he is interested in the matter and that he will collect accurate figures only, but it didn't happen and the same stere-type reply was given. In response to the second supplementary, he said that the credibility of the credit system has been severely eroded and he has raised this point deliberately. He has an objection to the loan waiver scheme that was announced by our Government.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the farmers get remunerative price for their produces, it will boost production, increase income and accelerate the pace of development. The Government is continuously increasing the fertilizer prices and if the procurement prices are not increased accordingly, production would remain stagnant, so would the per capita income. So, I would like to know whether the Government has any long-term strategy in this regard.

Recently, When Shri V.P. Singh went to Moga, the Government announced that it would be shortly introducing an Agricultural policy. Does the Government propose to draw any long term strategy to increase production and per capita income and also bring improvements in the Agricultural sector ? Does it propose to introduce in this Session any agricultural policy to increase employment opportunities, production, per capita income, exports etc?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Mr. speaker, Sir, this question requires a very lengthy reply and I think I will respond to it after 4 o'clock in the evening.

Shri Nitish Kumar knows very well from whatever he is saying about the doings of his Party's Government and the improvements I am making on them. I don't want to point out to the previous Government's actions. It could be that they had conceived better thing, but at times, ignorant friends can commit mistakes, which are harmful to them and beneficial to others. However, it's all right, I am elder to you and if you have committed mistakes, I will rectify them. I am not blaming their action, it is not a sin to err and to err is humane. It should not be a cause of concern. Mistakes should be admitted, the way I do it.

I would like to tell you that this question has come to me for the second time. Yesterday, I received a reply, but I was not satisfied with it and ordered a review and this answer was finalised thereafter. The hon'ble Speaker has also made a significant observation. We are doing everything possible and we abuse the farmers for not being self-reliant in production, but have we checked up whether we have the moral right to abuse to them? Land is God's creation. It cannot be expanded further, but what is the remedy, if we continue to increase in numbers? From a meagre 34 crores, today we are 87 crores. Where is

the end to it? How do we propose to go about it? I have answered it only after reviewing it and finalising the answer in the right. It is a very long story, and I will let you know after checking it.

SHRIVIRENDRA SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Member had asked about the sharp decline in the per capita income in the agricultural sector and the hon'ble Minister referred to the policies of his Government aimed at preventing a fall in the per capita income in the agricultural sector. The agricultural production is not evaluated properly. While the cost of industrial products are evaluated by the manufacturers themselves, the price of agricultural produces is fixed by the Government. There is no co-relation between the two. The farmers are affected not only by the sharp decline in their income but also by the price-rise. I would like to know whether the Government has formulated any such plan to establish some kind of co-relation between the two?

SHRIBALRAM JAKHAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have thought of many things. There won't be and there should not be any differences on our thinking. It is our humble duty to safeguard the interests of the farmers. The country depends on them for its survival. The hon'ble Member has suggested holding of consultations and providing remunerative prices to the farmers. I will tell you about it. The hon'ble Member may remember the prices announced last time. So far it hasn't happened and the future is in God's hands. However, how I will tell him. I will tell him about the prices of Rabi crops and the manner in which it is fixed. There is nothing to worry. However, I am more concerned about the gap and I want to fill it up. You might have observed that the per capita income in the agricultural sector is Rs. 1075/- compared to Rs. 4378/- in other sectors. I want to fill up this gap. This gap is making me restless. I want to close this gap.

[English]

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in our country, even with the increase in the generation of new technology, the per capita availability of foodgrains has not increased substantially. The per capita availability of foodgrains which was started at something like 468 gram per day per person has just increased to 474 grams. The present trend, is that the foodgrains production is a declining one. Last year, it was 177 million tonnes and it has now been reduced to 172 million tonnes. Now the trend is that the area under foodgrain production is being replaced by the fish production, horticulture crop and other cash crops. What are the special steps that are being taken up by the Government to increase the productivity and also the production of foodgrains in the country so as to achieve self-sufficiency? As it is, we have not made any mark as far as per capita availability of foodgrains is concerned in the country.

SHRIBALRAM JAKHAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member is an expert and I always value his opinion and I take his advice also. He knows what are the impediments. He knows everything. We have discussed it. The question is simple. The outgrowing population is also a drawback.

Secondly, we have to devise ways and means. But still we are seventy per cent dependent on rain-fed agriculture. We are going to do something to conserve water. We are trying to do something which will give us more from the same quantity of water - conservation plus optimum use by the minimum quantity of water, irrigation by drip, irrigation by sprinkler, irrigation by water-shade programme, conservation programme and everything. You are asking me about the availability of foodgrains. We have to increase the productivity. It is only a section of the country which is producing more; I want

to percolate it through. Its imbalance should be erased and this imbalance should be eradicated. Otherwise, you cannot do anything.

I had called the Ministers from all the Eastern States; we had a conference after 1986. I told them that if they cannot march ahead with the time, then I think we have got no right to rule; we have got no right to do whatever is needed to be done. The simple fact remains that new strategies have to be evolved' more extension services have to be raised, more Krishi Vigyan Kendras have to be established, so that we can give proper knowledge, training to the farmers and they can apply the new techniques and everything else. That is why, we have to match our efforts with the needs which are facing us.

[*Translation*]

Drought Prone Areas In Bihar

45. SHRI RAM TAHAL CH-
 OUDHARY:
 SHRI LALL BABU RAI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the drought prone areas in Bihar;

(b) the relief work carried out in this areas during the last three years; and

(c) the funds allocated to Bihar by the Union Government during the said period?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMCHANDRAN): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) to (c). Fifty four Blocks in the Districts of Palamu (24), Monghyr (7), Rohtas (7), Nawada (9), and Santhal Paraganas (7), have been identified as Drought Prone Areas under the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP).

Government of Bihar had not reported any drought conditions in the State during 1990 and 1991. Due to the erratic and deficient rainfall during the Sought-West monsoon drought conditions have been reported in 29 Districts of Bihar during the current year. The relief measures undertaken by the State Government in this areas include :-

i) implementation of a Contingency Crop Plan,

ii) providing additional employment through earthwork schemes,

iii) reserving adequate diesel and electric supplies for irrigation purposes,

iv) providing drinking water in the affected areas,

v) providing gratuitous relief and opening of "Sasti Roti Ki Dukans",

vi) streamlining the Public Distribution Systems,

vii) measures for prevention of epidemics and for assured supply of essential medicines,

viii) ensuring adequate veterinary care and provision of fodder for the cattle.

An annual allocation Rs. 35 crores has been made under the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) to Bihar to be contributed by the Central and the State Government in the ratio of 3:1. The Central share of CRF for the

years 1990-91 and 1991-92 was released in full to the State Government. During the year 1992-93, in addition to the annual Central share of CRF amounting to Rs. 26.25 crores, an advance release two instalments of Central share amounting to Rs. 13.125 crores from the CRF of 1993-94 has also been made to enable the Government of Bihar to undertake relief measures in the drought affected areas.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the state of Bihar is in the grip of a severe drought and this time 45 lakh tonnes of crops worth about Rs. 220 crores have been damaged. Just now the hon. Minister has referred to the eight point plan making provisions for diesel, power, water etc., but so far as the situation in Bihar is concerned Palamau is faced with a serious situation and hundreds of people have died of starvation. [Interruption]

MR. SPEAKER : Please come to the question quickly.

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY : I am coming to it. While the Kharif crops have been damaged, a good Rabi crop is also ruled out. The Government has distributed rupees one lakh each of the sub-divisions, but it is a negligible amount for sub-division where there are about 150 villages. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, the time by which eight point programme making provisions for diesel, water etc. and employ-

ment generation, would commence? As per my information, there is no power supply for eight to ten hours a day in Ranchi and other parts of Bihar. The situation is such that water supply won't be available to the people from the month of January. If the Government is serious about carrying out relief work, then I would like to know the time by which adequate allocation would be made to the State Government and the work would be commenced. No work has been taken up so far.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member is aware that this matter has been discussed several times in the house and has been answered during the question Hour also. As per the parameters laid down by the Ninth Finance Commission, money from the Calamities Relief Fund is allocated to the States in four equal instalments. Accordingly, it is the State Government's responsibility to oversee relief work and provide assistance to the affected people. It is the State Government's responsibility to arrange for power supply and its distribution. Apart from that I would say that we have not shirked our responsibility in any manner, whatsoever. We have given due consideration to the matters brought before us. I have got the figures with me and we have released maximum possible funds from the Calamities Relief Fund. Now I will place the figures before the House.

[English]

(Rs. in crores)

Calamity Relief Fund (As on 1.10.92)

Annual allocation	35.00
Unspent balance on 31.3.92	43.77
Amount available upto 1.10.92	26.25

Calamity Relief Fund (As on 1.10.92)

Total amount available in CRF as on 1.10.92	70.02
Advance release of CRF after the visit of the Central team	19.68
Total funds available in Calamity Relief Fund	89.70
Funds available to Bihar State for drought management of various ongoing development programmes:	
Minor STW/TWD Schemes	12.00
Wheat/Maize Programmes	15.00

[Translation]

Rs. 10 crore for N.W,D.P.R.A. , Rs. 31 crore for Soil Conservation scheme and Rs.90crore for Jawahar Rozgar Yojana have been allotted. These funds are lying with them. It is their duty to utilise these funds properly. If all of us carry out our job, the problem can be solved.

SHRIRAMTAHAL CHOUDHARY : Just now it has been stated in the reply that Bihar Government has received Rs.26 crore where as the loss is of about Rs.200 crore. The Government of Bihar has asked for Rs.1200 crore for relief works. I would like to know what amount is being released to carry on the relief works properly. Would you like to constitute committees at district and block levels to check the misutilisation of relief funds? In Ranchi, the farmers are not getting diesel. With the result, irrigation is not being done.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : The Agriculture Ministry has provided whatever relief it could provide. One team visited there. It has submitted its report to the Government. As regards diesel, electricity, proper utilisation of funds and other questions, we don't have any means to check them. It is the responsi-

bility of the State Governments. They should do this job.

SHRILAL BABU RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not satisfied with the reply given by the hon. Minister. He has submitted the report relating to only 29 drought affected districts of Bihar whereas in Bihar 43 districts are severely affected by drought. I would like to know from the Government the time by what time it will provide funds asked by the Government of Bihar to meet the drought situation in the State?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Demand has always been on the high side but we provide to the possible extent. Whatever was possible we have released. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : It was not the question of 49 districts but there were 55 blocks. All are drought prone areas. It is not the question of only today's drought situation.....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : What Mr. Nitish Kumar is saying is not going on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Nitish Kumar, it is not going on record.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : See, I have already said that we would discuss; it later on, you should sit down now.

SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to ask the hon. Minister that at present entire Bihar is experiencing famine and one lakh people have migrated from Palamu district and 40 people have died due to starvation. All these things have appeared in newspapers but our hon. Minister of Agriculture is reiterating time and again that he will provide whatever he can. I would like to know whether he is speaking on behalf of Cabinet or the Central Government. Many people have died due to starvation in Palamu district and this has started in many more districts of Bihar. Lakhs of people are migrating from Bihar to other states for earning their livelihood. I would like to know whether Central Government is contemplating to take any action to save them from starvation?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It is already replied.

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will provide whatever is available with me. I do want to help them. If there is any delay on our part you can mention it. I have made advance release and I am still ready to make advance release from whatever is available with me. I am not bothered about the things being said here because I want to help but I can do it within the limited resources available with me. I can do it only

when the funds are available with me. Presently, it has occurred in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Pondicherry and Orissa. I am ready to release the funds whatever are allotted by the Government.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, whenever there is drought or flood in Bihar or natural calamities in any part of India, my observation is that in India and especially in Bihar the problem is due to water management. To get rid of drought and flood in Bihar, the Government of India has entered into an agreement with Nepal. Under the agreement, there is a programme of constructing dams and barrages over all the rivers. If these are constructed, all the problems relating to agriculture, irrigation, flood and drought in Bihar can be solved. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the Government intends to implement the agreement to protect Bihar from drought permanently or not?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Sir, its reply can only be given by the Department of Irrigation. Better you ask them.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question raised by my hon. colleague relates to only 29 districts of Bihar which are under drought prone areas but the entire Bihar is reeling under drought. What action the Government has taken to meet the situation? Secondly, you have said that money is given from the Drought Relief Fund. It means that the money given to the Government of Bihar will be deducted from that fund. I would like to ask the Government whether it is allocating funds from the Plan Allocation Budget or providing extra funds to the State Government?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : The ratio of money provided for natural calamities by the Central and State Government is in the ratio of 2:1. But Rozgar Yojana is different thing. It is to provide work. There can be any

*Not recorded.

method for doing the work so that it may be done in time. The work which is to be performed later on can be done earlier. Mr. Paswan, you know, the State Governments had stressed and got the policy passed that the Central Government has no right in this regard. It should come under the purview of State Governments. The State Governments will incur expenditure at their own will. It was decided accordingly. You know, when there was a famine in 1987-88 the Central Government had incurred the expenditure of Rs. 600 crore in a State. Now I have no spare funds. You should understand my compulsions. Either the State Governments of the Central Government should change the policy. Only then it can be resolved. I have not delayed even for a single minute in granting funds whatever were available with me.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to ask the Central Government that when there is severe drought situation in Bihar and 40-50 people have died due to starvation, then is it not the responsibility of the Government of India to protect the people of Bihar from starvation? What action has been taken in this regard by the Central Government?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : As I have already told that we have done our level best and 30,000 tonnes additional quantity of wheat has been released for this purpose. The remaining states have also their own problems. I have to deal with them at per. I am unable to do anything more than this.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not received the reply of my question. I have asked whether the Government of India is accountable or not for starvation death of 40-50 people in Bihar (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : We have provided assistance to the maximum pos-

sible extent. We have done whatever was possible. Rest will be done by the State Governments.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*Translation*]

Old age Homes

*46. **SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI :**
SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of old age homes constructed in Delhi so far;

(b) the number of old persons kept in these homes and the facilities being provided to them;

(c) whether the Government propose to construct more old age homes in Delhi; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) One.

(b) At present there are 30 inmates in this Home. They are provided free lodging/boarding, clothing etc. In addition, counselling, medical care and recreational services are also provided.

(c) and (d). Another Old age Home is under construction in Netaji Nagar, New Delhi.

[English]

Foodgrains Production

*47. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether foodgrains production in the current year is likely to fall short of the target;

(b) if so, the estimated quantity of the shortfall;

(c) whether the shortfall is likely to have an impact on foodgrain prices as well as on buffer stock operations; and

(d) if so, the manner in which the Government propose to neutralise the impact?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) and (b). The final estimates of production of kharif foodgrains have not yet become due from the States. Sowings of rabi crops are also still in progress. At this stage it is difficult to indicate the precise estimate of the quantity of shortfall in foodgrains production from the targetted level for the current year. However, according to available assessment, the production of kharif foodgrains during 1992-93 is likely to fall short by about 3 million tonnes from the targetted level of 103.25 million tonnes.

(c) and (d). The level of foodgrains production is one of the various determinants of foodgrain prices. The price level as well as size of buffer stock is influenced by carry-over stock, imports management of buffer stock and distribution system as well as other determinants of demand like general price level and growth in per capita income. The Government would be manag-

ing the food economy including operation of buffer stock and distribution of foodgrains under PDS in such a way that the prices of foodgrains do not rise unusually high.

[Translation]

Unauthorised colonies

*48. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:
SHRI SIMON MARANDI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand to regularise the unauthorised colonies of Delhi is continuously being made;

(b) whether the Government have considered the said demand;

(c) if so, the decision taken in this regard; and

(d) if not, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SRIMATI. SHEILA KAUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). It will be Government's endeavour to take an early decision in the matter.

Beggary

*49. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted regarding the number of beggars in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to declare begging as a cognisable offence;

(d) if so, the time by which legislation is proposed to be brought forward; and

(e) the steps being taken to provide alternate livelihood to beggars?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). A bill was drafted in 1989 for prevention of begging.

(e) The Government is examining various aspects of the rehabilitation of beggars.

[English]

Waste Water Master Plan

50. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received a waste water master plan from the Government of Orissa which is to be funded by the Australian Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) and (b). The Government of Orissa had

submitted a proposal for preparing a pre-feasibility study of the Waste Water Master Plan for Cuttack to be funded through a grant from the Australian Government's Small Activities Scheme.

(c) The proposal was recommended by the Union Government to the Australian High Commission for consideration. An expert team from Australia has visited Cuttack for pre-feasibility study.

Amaranth

*51. DR. R MALLU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Amaranth is widely used in the country as a green vegetable;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the varieties available with our Agricultural Research Units;

(c) whether these form part of the gene banks; and

(d) the details of research work conducted at the Agricultural Research Units during the last three years on Amaranth along with the amount spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Amaranth is consumed as green vegetable in Tamil Nadu, Kerala, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and parts of Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh etc.

The varieties available with Agricultural research Unit are as follows:

Name of the varieties	Research Units
Co1, Co2, Co3, Co4	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore.

Name of the varieties	Research Units
Kiran and Pusa Kirti	Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi.
Badi Cholai, Annapurna National	Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi.
Arun & Kannara local	Kerala Agricultural University, Vellanikkara.
GKVK-1	University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) Research has been conducted on varietal improvement and standardisation of production technology of the crop at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, Kerala Agricultural University, Vellanikkara, IARI New Delhi and NBPGR, New Delhi and UAS Bangalore. It is not possible to work out precisely the amount spent on Amaranth research because the financial allocations for research in vegetable crops are not made crop wise. However, it may be stated that at Kerala Agricultural University alone a sum of Rs. 30,000/- approximately has been spent on Amaranth research during the last three years.

[Translation]

Natural Calamities

*52. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had constituted a National Advisory Council to check the natural calamities;

(b) whether it has since submitted its report;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to implement its recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) to (d). A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) to (d). Sequel to the United Nations General Assembly Resolution (no. 44/236) declaring the decade of 1990s as the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR), a National Advisory Council (NAC) has been constituted to consider the initiatives to be taken for reduction of natural disasters in the country including review of the existing arrangements for preparedness against natural calamities, identification of programmes for natural disaster mitigation and creating public awareness regarding natural disasters.

(2) The NAC, which is a standing Committee, will meet periodically to review the improvements in the field of disaster preparedness and to chalk out long term strategies. The NAC during its meeting held on 9th October, 1991 was apprised of the objectives of the IDNDR for reducing the occurrence and minimising the impact of natural calamities, taking specific initiatives

to deal with natural disasters and promoting greater public awareness.

(3) The NAC in its introductory meeting generally took note of the issues placed before it concerning the identification of basic parameters for the choice of programme, formulation of programme, promotion of public awareness and for identification of gaps in the knowledge regarding natural disasters. While NAC has not submitted any report, its deliberations will provide guidance in framing national policies and programmes and for drawing up a National Action plan for attaining the objectives and goals of the IDNDR.

[English]

Deep Sea Fishermen

*53. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of fishermen are killed every year while fishing in deep sea;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any social security/insurance package for such fishermen; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAN JAKHAR): (a) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries which deals with the matters relating to deep sea fishing has reported that there is no report of loss of life of fishermen while fishing in deep sea.

(b) and (c). Department of Agriculture & Cooperation introduced a Scheme of Group Accident Insurance for active fishermen during the Sixth Five Year Plan period. Presently, the Scheme provides for an insurance coverage of Rs. 21,000 against death or

permanent disability and Rs. 10,500 for partial disability due to loss of one eye or one limb. The annual premium of Rs. 10.84 per head is shared equally between the Central Government and the State Government and hence fishermen get free insurance coverage. During 1991-92 about 8.5 lakh active fishermen were covered under the Scheme. Since the inception of the Scheme 2,268 claims have been settled and the amount paid is Rs. 320.18 lakhs up to September, 1992.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has informed that it does not operate any Scheme of social security for deep sea fishermen.

Fire in Krishi Bhawan

*54. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a fire broke out in Krishi Bhawan on October 16, 1992;

(b) if so, the details of loss of life and property as a result thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted into the cause of fire;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) the particulars of Government high-rise buildings which have been identified unsafe and served with show-cause notices by the Delhi Fire Service; and

(f) the steps being taken to instal the fire-safety measures in all these buildings?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There was no loss of life. The extent of loss of Property is yet to be determined.

(c) and (d). The Central Public Works Division appointed an Inquiry Committee to inquire into this incident. The cause of fire could not be determined.

(e) The Chief Fire Officer has reported that there are 64 such high-rise buildings belonging to Government departments out of which in respect of 18 (vide statement notices have been served.)

(f) The Chief Fire Officer has reported that improvement has been brought about to a great extent in providing safety requirements in unsafe Government high-rise buildings. Completion of job is, however, a time consuming process.

STATEMENT

1. Vikas Bhawan, I.P. Estate.
2. Safderjung Hospital.
3. Gaffer Market, Karol Bagh.
4. Mohan Singh Place, Chanakyapuri.
5. Mayur Bhavan, Connaught Place.
6. Telephone Exchange, Tis Hazari.
7. National Productivity Council, Lodi Road.
8. Sena Bhawan, Duplex Road.
9. Akashwani Bhawan, Sansad Marg.
10. Vallab Chest Institute, Delhi University.
11. M.S. Building, Near New Delhi Railway Station.

12. Admn. Block, Hindu Rao Hospital
13. Chanakya Bhawan, Chanakyapuri
14. Golden Jubilee Hall, Pusa Road.
15. Mankalya Bhawan, E.S.Z. Marg.
16. Punjab National Bank, Sansad Marg.
17. Jeevan Vihar, Sansad Marg.
18. Chander Lok Bldg., Janpath.

Southern Gas Pipeline

*55. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH:
SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation regarding setting up of a Southern gas pipeline from Bombay High along the West Coast;

(b) whether any feasibility report in this regard has also been obtained ;

(c) whether the Government have approved the project;

(d) if so, the estimated investment required for the purpose ; and

(e) how the Government propose to tackle the problem of short supply of gas to the southern region of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) to (e). Various representations in this regard have been received from time to time. An Inter-Ministerial Group had been constituted to examine the techno-economic

feasibility of transporting natural gas from Western offshore to Southern region. The report of the Group has been examined by the Government and the concept of a pipeline to the Southern Region has been approved in principle.

Pension to 1984 Riot Victims

*56. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned pension to the people who had lost members of their family in 1984 riots in Delhi;

(b) if so, the number of persons who have been sanctioned such pension;

(c) since when they have been receiving this pension and at what rate;

(d) the norms and conditions for eligibility of such pension;

(e) whether this pension has been stopped recently; and

(f) if so, since when and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIS.B. CHAVAN): (a) to (f). A statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

1. The Government have sanctioned ad hoc relief to the persons of following categories:

(i) Persons above the age of 60 years who were affected by November 1984 riots and had lost an earning member or a

would be earning member.

(ii) Widows who could not be provided employment of who are incapable of doing a job. Initially the relief was allowed @ Rs. 400/- per month provided they have no source of income.

2. On 16.3.1990, the Government of India issued orders that the quantum of ad hoc relief to the persons above the age of 60 years and the widows would be increased from Rs. 400/- per month to Rs. 1000/- per month with effect from 15.3.1990.

3. On 18.6.1990, the Government of India issued orders that with effect from 16.6.1990, the widows will, in addition, be paid @ Rs. 1000/- per month till one employable son/daughter becomes an earning member.

4.1 Ad hoc relief @ Rs. 1000/- per month has been provided to 109 persons above the age of 60 years affected by 1984 riots.

4.2 As per the information received from the Delhi Administration, the number of widows who were sanctioned ad hoc relief from 1987-88 upto 30.9.1992 was 338.

4.3 The number of widows provided additional relief of Rs. 1000/- per month till one employable son/daughter becomes an earning member is 88.

5. The schemes sanctioning ad hoc relief to the aged and the widows have been in un-interrupted operation since their inception. Only in respect of persons who have ceased to be eligible, ad hoc relief has been discontinued. In respect of aged persons relief has been discontinued in 51 cases in 1990-91 and 1991-92 on grounds of these persons having an earning or employable member in their family. In respect of widows, the relief has been discontinued in 110 cases

out of 338 between 1988-89 and 1991-92 on account of their having been provided employment or leaving Delhi or re-marriage or death. In respect of widows provided with additional relief, such relief has been discontinued in 51 cases on ground of employment having been provided either to them or their family members, widows having left Delhi or having died.

[Translation]

Allocation of Natural Gas to Gujarat

*57. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Gujarat for allocation of natural gas to the state;

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

(c) whether any decision has been taken thereon; and

(d) if no, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) and (b). Various requests have been received from the Government of

Gujarat in this regard from time to time.

(c) and (d). In view of the allocations already made within the availability of gas, additional allocations of gas could not be made.

[English]

*58. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to bring more and under oil palm plantation; and

(b) if so, the details of the places identified for the purpose in each State ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A total area of 7.96 lakhs ha. has been identified in 11 States in the country as suitable for Oil-palm Cultivation. The places identified in States for Oilpalm Cultivation are given in the Statement laid on the Table of the Sabha.

It is proposed to bring about 80,000 ha. under oilpalm cultivation during th eighth plan: Andhra Pradesh (50000 ha.), Karnataka (20,000 ha); other States (10,000 ha).

STATEMENT

State wise Potential Areas Identified for identified

Sl. No.	State	Total area identified (Lakh ha.)	Districts/Potential Areas
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4.00	Krishna, East Godavari, West Godavari, Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, Khammam, Guntur, Prakasam, Nellore,
2.	Assam	0.10	Darrang, Dibrugarh, Goalpara, Kamrup, Lakhimpur, Kowgong and Sibsagar.
3.	Karnataka Ghataprabha Irrigation Project Areas.	2.50	Tungabhadra Irrigation Project, Bhadra Project, Banavasi, Upper Krishna, Cauvery Basin, Malaprabha and
4.	Kerala	0.05	Southern Kerala
5.	Maharashtra	0.10	Ratnagiri district, Thilleri Project water and vaishasti; Jagbari river basin and Nathenvadi project area in Khed taluk, Thulji and Thilleri project areas and Surya project area in Thane.
6.	Orissa	0.10	Koraput, Aliwala, Patteru, Raiponia, Palaipal and Simulapal, Indravathi project areas at Jaipatna in Kalahandi district and Kulithalai and Trichy taluks of Tiruchirappalli district.

Sl. No.	State	Total area identified (Lakh ha.)	Districts/Potential Areas
1	2	3	4
8.	Tripura	0.05	Baspadua near Balonia
9.	West Bengal	0.10	Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling and Cooch Behar Districts, 24 - Parganas district also recommended.
10.	Gujarat	0.61	Ukai-Kakrapar Irrigation Project, Daman Ganga Command Area, Sardar Sarovar Irrigation Project and Aliabat Island.
11.	Goa	0.10	Western Ghat Region.
Total:		7.96	

**Deaths due to uncovered Manholes/
Gaps in Flyovers**

*59. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR
SHASTRI:
SHRI TARA CHAND
KHANDUL WAL:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people who died after falling into uncovered manholes and /or gaping holes in sidewalks and road dividers of flyovers during each of the last 18 months in Delhi and how does the same compare with the preceding three years;

(b) the number of such incidents enquired into and the responsibility fixed;

(c) whether any compensation has been paid to the next of kin of the deceased; and

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

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) According to MCD three death have occurred after falling into uncovered manholes during the last 18 months in the sewers maintained by it and only one death has occurred in the preceding three years.

They report further that one person died during the last 18 months after falling through the central median of flyovers under the control of MCD and that no such death had occurred in the preceding three years.

DDA reports that in its jurisdiction, one death occurred due to the person falling in uncovered manhole in the last 18 months while two deaths occurred in the preceding three years.

(b) MCD reports that each of these

incidents has been inquired into and responsibility fixed wherever the Municipal employees were found to be at fault.

DDA report that enquiry was held in three cases and in one case action was taken against the concerned employee.

(c) According to MCD, ex-gratia payment has been made to the next of kin of the deceased, in two cases of death by falling into manholes, while in one case the father of the child is reluctant to accept the compensation. No decision has been taken on compensation to next of kin of deceased in the case of death that occurred by falling through the central median of a flyover on 3rd October, 1992.

No compensation has been paid by DDA.

(d) MCD has reported that the staff has been instructed to check manhole covers during their round. The Public and sanitation staff report about the missing of manhole covers to the control room and the same are replaced as and when complaints are received. Action has been initiated by MCD to close the central median of flyovers which are having precast slabs by providing cast-in-situ RCC slabs and railings to avoid misuse of central medium by pedestrians and recurrence of such incidents. This work has been completed in two floyers and is in progress at Defence Colony Flyover. NDMC had issued instructions to field staff to ensure that uncovered manholes are covered as soon as report is received and to use steel fibre reinforced concrete covers for manholes to avoid pilferage of covers.

DDA has issued strict instructions to field staff to ensure that uncovered manholes are promptly replaced and take up covering of the manholes under DDA supervision prior to monsoon.

Bangladeshis Enrolled as Voters in India

*60. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:
SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether over one crore Bangladeshis are illegally residing in India;

(b) whether a majority of these immigrants have been issued ration cards and have also been enrolled as voters;

(c) if so, whether the Government have made any investigation into these matters to identify the persons responsible therefor; and

(d) the action the Government propose to in

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) There are large number of Bangladeshi migrants illegally living in different parts of the country. It is difficult to estimate their exact number as they enter surreptitiously and are able to mingle easily with the local population because of ethnic-lingual similarities.

(b) to (d). The names of voters are included in the electoral rolls in accordance with the guidelines and procedures as prescribed by the Election Commission of India from time to time. Ration Cards are issued by the State Governments to facilitate distribution of essential supplies to the eligible persons. The possibility of illegal migrants obtaining ration cards by suppressing their antecedents cannot be ruled out. Some migrants may have also got themselves enrol-

led as voters suppressing facts about their nationality. These issues, among others, were discussed in a Conference with the Chief Ministers of West Bengal, Bihar and North Eastern States (UT of Delhi was also represented) in Sept. 1992. It was generally agreed to take steps to ensure that the illegal migrants are not issued ration cards and that their names are not enrolled in the Voters' List.

[*Translation*]

Metro Rail Service for Metropolitan Cities

461. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to start underground rail service in Delhi and other metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, the names of the metropolitan cities where the Government propose to start underground rail service;

(c) whether any special scheme has been prepared in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d). M/s Rail India Technical & Economic Services Ltd. (RITES), in their Feasibility Report, have recommended the introduction of a metro rail on specific corridors in Delhi which is being pursued by the Government. RITES have also conducted a study for extension of the existing metro rail in Calcutta from Tollygunj to Garia. The Report is under scrutiny of Government of West Bengal. At present there is no proposal for a metro rail in any other metropolitan city and no special scheme has been prepared for the same.

[English]

Requirement of Chemical Fertilizers

462. SHRIB. DEVARAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of chemical fertilizers required in Tamil Nadu annually for each of the cropping seasons;

(b) the fertilizers allocated by the Union Government for the current kharif and rabi seasons to Tamil Nadu;

(c) whether the government propose to increase the fertilisers supply to the State; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) A statement indicating the season-wise consumption of fertilisers nutrients in Tamil Nadu during the last three years is attached.

(b) The following table gives the fertiliser nutrients allocated to Tamil Nadu during Kharif, 92 and Rabi, 92-93 seasons:

(1000 tonnes)

Nutrient	Kharif, 92	Rabi, 92-93
N	174.02	248.79
P	86.04	—
K	126.16	—
Total	386.22	248.79

Allocation of Phosphatic and potassic fertilisers has been discontinued from 25.8.92, as these fertilizers have been de-controlled.

(c) and (d). The entire requirement of nitrogenous fertilisers in Tamil Nadu would be met in fully by allocation, even if such allocations exceed the assessment already made.

STATEMENT

Consumption of fertilisers in Tamil Nadu

		(1000 tonnes)											
		1989-90					1990-91					1991-92	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total	Total	
		Khariif	Rabi	Total	Khariif	Rabi	Total	Khariif	Rabi	Total	Khariif	Rabi	Total
N		148.91	251.18	400.09	155.29	265.39	417.68	158.52	263.74	422.26			
P		71.64	86.99	158.63	78.19	90.23	168.42	77.25	87.33	164.58			
K		96.88	126.53	223.41	107.12	137.73	244.85	111.50	140.86	252.36			
Total:		317.43	464.70	782.13	340.60	490.35	830.95	347.27	491.93	839.20			

Use of LPG on a "No Fault Liability Basis"

463. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce an assurance cover to families using LPG (Liquified Petroleum Gas) on a "no fault liability basis";

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which this scheme will be introduced; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). There is no such proposal with the Government.

[*Translation*]

Deployment of Central Reserve Police Force

464. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Central Reserve Police Force personnel deployed at present, State-wise;

(b) whether the deployment of this force is not proportionate in various States; and

(c) if so, the action being taken by the Government for proportionate deployment of the said force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) It will not be in the public interest to disclose the information on the floor of the House.

(b) and (c). Deployment of CRPF is made on the basis of the requirements of different States, from time to time. Since it is need based, it can not be proportionate.

[*English*]

Availability of Sub-Lease/Conveyance Deed Forms

465. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given on July 30th, 1992 to Unstarred Question No. 3367 regarding perpetual lease of Cooperative Group Housing Societies and state:

(a) whether the format of sub-lease/conveyance deed has been made available to the Cooperative Group Housing Societies in Delhi;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which these forms are likely to be made available to the Societies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). DDA reports that the format of sub-lease deed and conveyance deed are ready with the DDA and it has been decided to make them available to the Coop. Group Housing Societies to whom land has been allotted by the DDA as early as possible.

Karnal Refinery

466. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnal refinery is being set up by Indian Oil Corporation after a great delay due to the failure of the earlier joint venture arrangement with the Tatas; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) and (b). Government has approved on 7.10.1992 the setting up of a 6 million metric tonnes per annum capacity refinery at Karnal (Baholi village now in District Panipat) at an estimated cost of Rs. 3868 crores inclusive of Foreign Exchange of Rs. 507 crores. The project is scheduled to be completed within the stipulated time.

Fire Accidents in BPCL, IPCL, MGCC and HPCL in Maharashtra

468. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the casualties in the major fire accidents which took place after 1988 in B.P.C.L., I.P.C.L., M.G.C.C. and H.P.C.L. in Maharashtra;

(b) the details of the compensation given to the grieved families;

(c) the outcome of various Committees set up to enquire into the causes of these fire accidents and salient features of the reports submitted by these Committees; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) There were no major fire accidents in BPCL and HPCL. However, a major fire occurred outside the Battery Limit Unit of the Gas Cracker Plant at IPCL's Nagothane complex in Maharashtra on 5th November, 1990. Thirty two persons lost their lives in the fire accident of which 13 were corporation's employees.

(b) According to IPCL, a sum of rupees on lakh each was paid as compensation to the next kin of those who lost their lives.

(c) The Deptt. of Chemicals and Petrochemicals have appointed a high powered Committee of technical experts headed by Director, NCL, Pune to enquire into and ascertain the causes of accident.

The report of the Committee has been received and the matter is under the consideration of that Deptt.

(d) According to IPCL, the steps taken to prevent the occurrence of such fire in future include (i) Safety audit of the mechanically completed plants and enforcement of safety measures; (ii) all the collaborators have been asked to conduct technical audit once again; (iii) retraining the operational staff in areas such as fire safety, first aid, etc; and (iv) revision of the on-site disaster management plan by the company in 1991.

Visit of French Delegation

469. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a French delegation called on him and evinced interest in the efforts made by Indian Government to combat terrorism; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Hike In prices of Petroleum Products

470. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the additional revenue likely to be earned as a result of hike in prices of petroleum products; and

(b) the impact of the price hike on the demand of various petroleum products?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The recent increase in prices of petroleum products is expected to cover the anticipated deficit of Rs. 1850 crores in 1992-93.

(b) The prices were increased with effect from 16.9.92 and it is too early to assess the impact of the increase.

[*English*]

Import of Milk Powder and Butter Oil

471. SHRI KALKA DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the market value of milk powder and butter oil imported during the last three years; and

(b) the manner in which imported milk powder and butter oil were distributed to various agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) A total of Rs. 100.27 crores has been released through sale of imported skimmed milk powder and butter oil by the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) during the last three years, out of which an amount of Rs. 59.66 crores comprise funds generated through sale of gift commodities, received from European Economic Community (EEC), to the dairy plants.

(b) Milk powder and butter oil are not distributed among the various agencies. These commodities are issued to the cooperative dairy plants and city dairies on the basis of an assessment of their requirement towards liquid milk marketing and availability with NDDB.

[*Translation*]

Fruit Processing Industries in Bihar.

472. SHRI BHOGENDRAS JHA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the present state of fruit processing industries of Cooperative Sector in Madhubani, Darbhanga and Oeni of Madhubani district in Bihar;

(b) whether any financial assistance has been provided by the Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAOMANGO): (a) to (c). There are only

three fruit processing units in the cooperative sector, one each in the districts of Madhubani, Darbhanga and Oeni of Madhubani in Bihar. These units, which were set up during 1966-67, never went into production due to a dispute between the contractor and societies concerned, regarding supply of machinery. The matter went into arbitration and arbitration case continued till 1975 with the result that the societies could not take up commercial production. By the time the cases were resolved, the societies lost interest in it and on the recommendation of the State Government, the National Cooperative Development Corporation sanctioned rehabilitation assistance of Rs. 4.80 lakhs in 1976 for reviving the Darbhanga unit. The NCDC also sanctioned rehabilitation assistance of Rs. 4.20 lakhs to Oeni (Waini) unit and Rs. 4.12 lakhs to the Madhubani unit in 1982. In all these three cases, the State Government did not take any action for the rehabilitation of these units as a result, the sanctions were cancelled. These units are still lying closed and the NCDC has not received any fresh proposing from the State Government for revival of these three units.

[English]

World Bank Assistance to Madhya Pradesh for Water Supply and Sanitation

473. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank assistance has been provided to Madhya Pradesh for the projects related to water supply and sanitation;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the details of districts where the work has been done under the scheme in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

National Agricultural Extension Project

474. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the assistance provided to Orissa Government by the World Bank under National Agricultural Extension Project ; and

(b) the progress made under this project during the last two years in Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) World Bank assistance under National Agricultural Extension Project (NAEP) is not provided directly to states but is on a reimbursement basis. The Department of Economic Affairs has provided advance Central assistance of Rs. 150.00 lakh during 1990-91 and 1991-92 to Orissa State to facilitate full budgetary support to the project by the State Government.

(b) Progress under this project during last two years in given in the statement.

STATEMENT**(a) Financial**

Rs. in million)

Project	Total cost	Expenditure		Cumulative expenditure ending March'92
		90-91	91-92	
NAEP - 1	198.60	47.53	71.24	176.41

(b) Physical

Component

Achievement upto March'92

Civil Works

436

Vehicles

91

Staff

7209

Training

9781

*[English]***Disturbed Areas**

475. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the J and K declared as disturbed areas so far;

(b) whether there has been demand to declare some more districts in Jammu and Kashmir as disturbed areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the step taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) The following areas in the State

Govt. of Jammu and Kashmir have been declared as disturbed areas vide State Govt. Notification No. SRO No. SW 4 dated 6.7.90:-

(1) Areas falling within 20 KMs of the Line of Control in the Districts of Rajouri and Poncho have been declared as disturbed areas.

(2) Districts of Anantnag, Baramulla, Badgam, Kupwara Pulwama and Srinagar.

(b) to (d). There have been some demands to declare some parts of the Jammu Region, particularly the district of Doda, as disturbed area. However it has not been found advisable to do so in the present.

Contaminated Water Supply in Delhi

476. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government have been drawn to the news item captioned "Mayur Vihar: Contaminated water supply" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated September 26, 1992;

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

(c) the number of complaints regarding supply of contaminated water supply in Delhi received by the Government during each of the last twelve months and how do the same compare with the preceding three years ; and

(d) the reasons for supplying contaminated water and the steps taken to ensure safe potable drinking water in Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (d). Details are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) Yes, Sir. As per record at 1312 complaints were received from December, 1991 till 24.9.92 and the number of complaints received during the preceding 3 years is as follows:

January, 89 to December, 89 : 640

January, 90 to December, 90 : 673

January, 91 to December, 91 : 936

STATEMENT

A news item appearing in the Hindustan Times highlighted the following points relating to water supply:

1. A water supply line to the pocket adjoining Noida road has reportedly been infected due to large oxidation pond nearby

and the same requires shifting.

2. Shortage of water at upper floors.

3. While in other pockets of the area, Ganga Canal Water was being supplied sub-soil water was being supplied in pocket IV.

The reply to the above is as follows as reported by Delhi Water Supply & Sewage Disposal Undertaking (DWS & SDU).

There was a shortage of water on the upper floors earlier but after suitable regulation of 'on line bossier' the supply hours have increased and water is now available on all the floors for 5 hours each in the morning and evening besides for one hour in the afternoon. The work on two more trial bores for constructing tubewells is in progress and if the quality of water is found good, two more tubewells will be provided to strengthen the present arrangements.

It is not correct that sub-soil water was being supplied in pocket IV. Water from tubewells as well as filtered water from the Bhagirathi Treatment Plant is being supplied.

The Oxidation Pond is in no way contaminating the under ground water supply, as these tubewells are situated at a distance and the quality of water is potable.

As regards the shifting of Oxidation Ponds, these were constructed as temporary measure and will be abandoned as soon as the Kalyan Puri Pumping Station under construction by D.W.S. & S.D. Undertaking is commissioned. The Civil and Electrical & Mechanical works of the Undertaking are expected to be ready by April, 1993, its commissioning will depend upon supply of power by DESU for which matter is being pursued.

L.P.G. Cylinders

(b) the steps being taken to improve the supply ?

477. **SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYA:**
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) and (b). The demand of existing domestic LPG customers in the country is being met by and large in full. Prompt action is taken whenever there is an occasional shortage. A statement of LPG sales during 1991-92 is enclosed.

(a) the demand and supply position of L.P.G. cylinders, State-wise details thereof; and

STATEMENT

States	<i>LPG sales 1991-92 In MT (Provisional)</i>
Andhra Pradesh	180733
Arunachal Pradesh	1766
Assam	40505
Bihar	68519
Goa	13569
Gujarat	205517
Haryana	72849
Himachal Pradesh	12136
Jammu & Kashmir	20331
Karnataka	118677
Kerala	65106
Madhya Pradesh	124310
Maharashtra	448525
Manipur	4737
Meghalaya	3375
Mizoram	2198

States	<i>LPG sales 1991-92 in MT (Provisional)</i>
Nagaland	2589
Orissa	22194
Punjab	102684
Rajasthan	87264
Sikkim	837
Tamilnadu	214613
Tripura	28897
Uttar Pradesh	276895
West Bengal	131288
UNION TERRITORIES	
Andaman & Nicobar	457
Chandigarh	14664
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	363
Delhi	218608
Daman	501
Lakshadweep	
Pondicherry	4153

Allocation of Gas for Power Generation

478. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVEISINGH:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

any power project in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the steps taken to allocate gas
for the proposed gas power projects in that
state; and

(a) whether there is no gas linkage for

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). In views of the commitments already made within the availability of gas along the HBJ pipeline, no allocation of gas could be made for any gas based power project in Madhya Pradesh.

[Translation]

Jute Crop In Uttar Pradesh

479. **SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Union Government to provide impetus and infrastructure to grow jute crop in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government have any survey to ascertain the possibilities of growing jute crop in Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Government of India is operating a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Special Jute Development Programme to increase the production of jute and improve its quality in important jute growing states including Uttar Pradesh. Under the Scheme Central Government provide hundred percent assistance to the

State Government to pass on the required technology by way of incentives to the farmers on production and distribution of quality seeds of high yielding varieties, supply of plant protection chemicals and equipments, demonstrations of improved technology, supply of farm implements, excavation of retting tanks, supply of fungal culture etc.

(b) and (c). The scheme is already being implemented in potential jute growing areas of the state.

Plantation of Fruit Bearing Trees

480. **DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fruit bearing trees planted in Uttar Pradesh during 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92;

(b) the funds earmarked for this purpose and the amount actually sent thereon; and

(c) the target fixed for the year 1992-93 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The year-wise fruit bearing trees planted in Uttar Pradesh are given as under:

(in lakhs)

	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
	93.499	77.693	69.29

(b) The funds allocated and sent for the purpose are given as under :-

(in lakhs)

	Outlay	Amount spent
1989-90	303.747	306.604
1990-91	345.47	349.27
1991-92	406.27	208.968

(c) A target for 100.5 lakh plants have been fixed for 1992-93 within an allocation of Rs. 531.13 lakh.

purchase of these machines.

(c) Does not arise, in view of reply at (b) above.

Tetra-Pack/ Tetra-Brick Machines

[English]

481. SHRI RAM SAGAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

National Public Library

(a) the capacity utilization of Tetra-pack /Tetra-brick machines purchased from Sweden in the Years 1990 and 1991;

482. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(b) whether the inquiry conducted against the irregularities committed in the purchase of these machines in over; and

(a) whether the Dr. Ambedkar Foundation has decided to establish a National Public Library in Delhi in the name of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action against the guilty persons?

(b) whether any land has been made available for this purpose;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) The capacity utilisation based on the sale of packaging material of Tetra-pak/Tetrabrik machines during 1990 and 1991 is 43% and 54% respectively.

(c) if so, the location thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There were no irregularities in the

(b) to (d). It has been informed by the

Ministry of Urban Development that they have identified envelope No. 5 in the Institutional Complex between Dr. Rajinder Prasad Road and Raisina Road having an area of 20,160 sq. ft. for allotment for the construction of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar National Public Library.

However, during discussion in the Fifth Meeting of the Standing Committee for the Centenary Celebrations of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar held on 8.9.92 members demanded allotment of a plot of land lying vacant opposite National Museum of Janpath which is meant for putting up National Library. Minister of Urban Development agreed to examine and allot the same at an early date.

[Translation]

Rice Mills in Uttar Pradesh

483. SHRI ARJUN SINGH
YADAV:

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up rice-mills in Uttar Pradesh during 1992-93; and

(b) if so, the locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHARGOMANGO):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Oil Palm Research Institute

484. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be

pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request for setting up a Oil Palm Research Institute at Mohitnagar in the district of Jalpaiguri, West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c). A proposal for establishment of NRS for Oil Palm at Mohitnagar in Jalpaiguri has been received from North Bengal National Chamber of Commerce & Industries, Jalpaiguri. Response from the State Government of West Bengal for making available suitable land and other minimum facility required, is awaited.

[Translation]

Quota of DDA Flats for MPS

485. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEER-APPA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given on March 11, 1992 to unstarred Question No. 2519 and state:

(a) whether the information in regard to quota of D.D.A. flats fixed for MPs and the number of flats allotted during the last ten years, Year-wise, has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). According to DDA 3% re-

served quota in the allocation of SFSF flats was provided in only IV th & Vth Self Financing Schemes which were launched in 1981 and 1982 respectively. As per information available on records no allocation/allotment has been made under the reserved quota for MPs during the last 3 years. However, information for last 10 year is not available.

No reserved quota was provided for MPs in the other scheme, viz. Retired Persons Scheme-82, Retired Persons Scheme-85 and Ambedkar Avas Yojana-1989 for MIG, LIG and Janta categories and Self Finance Scheme-VI.

[English]

**Palika Bazar Traders Association
Office**

486. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the New Delhi Municipal Committee has sealed the office of Palika Bazar Traders Association; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Deficit in Oil Pool Account

487. SHRI VIJAY NAVALPATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the deficit in the oil pool account has risen considerably;

(b) if so, the present outstanding dues to the oil producing and refining companies;

(c) the reasons for huge deficit in the oil pool account; and

(d) the solution proposed to tide over the staggering deficit in the oil pool account?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (d). Due to non-recovery of the full cost of production, refining, marketing etc. through the prices of petroleum products increase in the deficit in the oil pool accounts has taken place. Prices of some petroleum products have been increased w.e.f. 16.9.1992 to tide over the deficit.

**Recruitment of Women in Border
Security Force**

488. DR. RAJAGOPALAN SRIDHARAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether women are recruited in the Border Security Force;

(b) if so, the cadres in which they are recruited and the nature of posting given to them; and

(c) whether any special training is given to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) As per BSF Rule 7, women are ineligible to be recruited in BSF against combatised posts except with the prior approval of the Central Government. However, women are recruited in some other posts in BSF.

(b) Women have been recruited in the BSF in the Medical Cadre as Medical Officers as well as Nurses and para-medical

staff in group 'C' and 'D' posts. Their job is to give medical cover to the BSF personnel and members of their families. Certain women employees of erstwhile Armed Bns. have also been appointed on their Bns. embodiment in the BSF. A few women have also been recruited in the ministerial cadres for doing ministerial job in BSF offices.

(c) No special training is being given to the women recruited in the BSF. However, 6 weeks Medical Officers' basic training/ re-orientation and familiarisation courses are being imparted to the Lady Medical Officers immediately on their appointment in BSF. The women recruited as Nurses and paramedical staff in Group 'C' are also required to undergo basic training for a limited prescribed period of 6 weeks.

Production and Import of Kerosene Oil

489. **SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Kerosene oil produced and imported in the country during the last three years and likely to be produced and imported during the current year;

(b) the steps being taken to produce

more Kerosene oil in the country; and

(c) the allocation made to States and Union Territories during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The quantity of kerosene oil produced and imported during the years 1989-90 to 1992-93 are as under:-

(Figures in '000' Tonnes)

Years	Production	Import
1989-90	5700	2864
1990-91	5471	3367
1991-92	5339	3391
1992-93	2591	1473

(April-Sept)

(b) By setting up of additional refining facilities and expansion of capacity of existing refineries.

(c) The information is given in the Statement enclosed.

STATEMENT

Kerosene Allocations to States/UTs during 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92

Sl. No.	States/UTs	(In MTs)				
		1989-90	1990-91	1991-92		
1	2	3	4	5	5	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	561138	586215	563921		
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10122	10876	8790		
3.	Assam	241861	247987	237339		
4.	Manipur	20795	20760	19442		
5.	Mizoram	6642	7198	5452		
6.	Bihar	463463	469753	468617		
7.	Delhi	223641	240106	238171		
8.	Goa	726018	27289	26492		
9.	Gujarat	747788	781245	780927		
10.	DNH/Daman/Diu	5891**	6057@	5946*		
11.	Haryana	144670	152631	150777		

Sl. No.	States/UTs	(In MTs)				
		1989-90	1990-91	1991-92		
1	2	3	4	5		
12.	Punjab	305791	324769	318794		
13.	Himachal Pradesh	36888	36654	35095		
14.	Chandigarh	20053	20920	20113		
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	66317	67611	65021		
16.	Karnataka	428684	444582	430195		
17.	Kerala	255639	265075	257223		
18.	Madhya Pradesh	367818	382649	380502		
19.	Meghalaya	15817	15391	15172		
20.	Maharashtra	1450910	1485776	1480045		
21.	Nagaland	9967	10205	9624		
22.	Orissa	152355	155951	151344		
23.	Rajasthan	255184	268636	264758		
24.	Sikkim	7310	10120	5938		

(In MTs)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
1	2	3	4	5
25.	Tamil Nadu	634901	656315	640000
26.	Pondicherry	14339	14581	13638
27.	Uttar Pradesh	893957	912026	905891
28.	Tripura	21483	20793	1874
29.	West Bengal	710848	748675	716611
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	4063	2539	3568
31.	Lakshdweep	837	875	873
Total:		8110185	8386130	8239045

** Dadar & N.H. = 3033-MT
Daman & Diu = 2858 MT

@ Dadar & Nagar Haveli
Daman & Diu

3113 MT
2944 M

* Dadar & Nagar Haveli
Daman & Diu

3008 MT
2938 M

Allotment of Petrol Retail Outlets

490. **SHRI MANBENDRA SHAH:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the number of petrol/diesel retail outlets and L.P.G. agen-

cies allotted during 1991-92 and till date separately; State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): The details are given below:-

	RETAIL OUTLET DEALERSHIPS	LPG AGENCIES
1991 - 92	60	82
1992 - 93 (till October, 1992)	11	60

[Translation]

Expenditure on Development Works of Outer Delhi by DDA

491. **SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK:** Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on development works in outer Delhi by Delhi Development Authority during the last two years ; and

(b) the details of the expenditure incurred the amount likely to be incurred on maintenance of garden in outer Delhi by during the current year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Take of the sabha.

DDA Flats Constructed / Allotted Category - Wise

492. **SHRI LALIT ORAON:** Will the

Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the colony-wise details of the flats including Janta, LIG MIG, SES (Category-II and and Category-III) constructed in various colonies in Delhi by Delhi Development Authority during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of flats out of the allotted, colony-wise;

(c) the number of flats reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes persons out of then; and

(d) out of the reserved flats the number of flats allotted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The colony-wise and category-wise details of the Jnata, LIG MIG, SFS flats constructed in various colonies in Delhi during the last three years is as Annexures A1, A2 & A3 respectively, as reported by DDA.

(b) The number of allotments made under

the different categories of flats in the last three years is reported by DDA as under:-

Category	89-90	90-91	91-92
Janat	9677	8290	2981
LIG	9361	4447	1553
MIG	2796	776	332
	25407	14967	5996
Grand Total :-			46365

Colony-wise details of above allotments have not been compiled by the DDA.

(c) There is a reservation of flats upto 25% to SC/ST registrants. According to DDA, if, however, the requisite number of applicants of this category are not available, the flats are to be offered to the persons in non-reserved categories as per terms & condi-

tions of the New Pattern Registration Scheme 1979 and Self Financing Scheme -V (1992) and SFA-VI (1985).

(d) DDA reports that, 5287 flats were allotted to SCs/STs. The remaining flats were allotted to persons in non-reserved categories.

STATEMENT A - I

Statement Showing the House Completed during 1989-90

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	SFS	MIG	LIG	JANTA/EWS	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
East Zone						
1.	Lower MIG (LIG) houses at Kundli Sec	-	-	3376	-	3376
2.	EWS houses at Kondli Sec.	-	-	-	2040	2040
3.	MIG/LIG houses at Trilokpuri Pkt. V South of Lake	-	12	48	-	60
WEST ZONE						
4.	Construction of 208 SFS houses at Madipur on Rohtak Road SH1 120DUs Gr. III	120	-	-	-	120
5.	C/o 468 LIG houses Pkt. 3 III Madipur SH: 156 LIG Dus Gr. II SH: 156 LIG DUs Gr. III	-	-	156	-	156
		-	-	156	-	156

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	SFS	MIG	LIG	JANTA/EWS	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6.	C/o 1312 LIG houses in Pkt. GH 5 & 7 Zone G-17 Area, Paschim Vihar SH: 256 DUs Gr. III SH: 224 DUs Gr. IV SH: 272 DUs Gr. V	- - -	- - -	256 224 227	- - -	256 224 272
7.	C/o 996/864 LIG houses at Hastal					
	SH: C/o 252 DUs Gr. IV SH: C/o 180 DUs Gr. V	- -	- -	252 180	- -	252 180
8.	C/o 1200 MIG houses at Paschim Vihar					
	SH: 144 MIG DUs Gr. III	-	144			144
SOUTHEAST ZONE						
9.	SFS houses at Kalkaji Opp. B.B. Gurudwara	144				144
10.	SFS houses at Sarita Vihar Pkt. H&J, Gr. IV	120				120

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	SFS	MIG	LIG	JANTA/EWS	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11.	SFS houses at Sarita Vihar Pkt. H&J, Gr. V.	120	-	-	-	120
12.	SFS houses at Sarita Vihar Pkt. H&J, Gr. III.	100	-	-	-	100
13.	SFS houses at Sarita Vihar Pkt. B. Gr. II (Balance work)	14	-	-	-	14
14.	SFS houses at Sarita Vihar Pkt. C. Gr. I (balance work)	42	-	-	-	42
15.	SFS houses at Sarita Vihar Pkt. K&L Gr. I, II & III	424	-	-	-	424
16.	EWS houses at Shahpur Jat	-	-	-	96	96
17.	EWS houses at Lado Sarai	-	-	-	160	160
18.	EWS houses at Dakshipuri	-	-	-	188	188
19.	LIG houses at Badarpur	-	-	56	-	56

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	SFS	MIG	LIG	JANTA/EWS	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
SOUTH WEST ZONE						
20.	558 SFS houses at Vasant Kunj	558	-	-	-	568
NORTH ZONE						
21.	C/o 512/504 EWS Bl. B Pkt. 4 Sec. XVII, Rohini	-	-	-	504	504
22.	C/o 512/540 EWS Bl. D. Pkt. I, Sec. XVII, Rohini	-	-	-	520	520
23.	C/o 288/256 LIG Bl. D. Pkt. 5&6, Sec. XVII, Rohini	-	-	256	-	256
24.	C/o 936/988 Janta houses at Pkt. V (P) Pitampura	-	-	-	774	774
25.	C/o 192 Janta Houses Pitampura Pkt. Y (P)	-	-	-	192	192
26.	120 MIG at Sarai Khaili SH: 60 MIG Sarai Khaili	-	60	-	-	60

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	SFS	MIG	LIG	JANTA/EWS	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
27.	1664 EMS Sec. XVI Rohini SH: 832 EWS Sc. XVI Rohini	-	-	-	832	832
28.	120 LIG Pkt. 4, Bl. H Sec. XVI Rohini	-	-	120	-	120
29.	1664 EWS S.c. XVI Rohini Rohini	-	-	-	832	832
30.	SH: 832 EWS, SEC. XVI, Rohini	-	-	256	256	256
31.	256 LIG Gr. VI, Sec. XI, Rohini	-	-	256	-	256
32.	96 MIG at Lawrance Road	-	96	-	-	96
ROHINI ZONE						
33.	Rohini Sec. 15	-	1120	1320	2656	5096
34.	Rohini Sec. 18	-	880	1080	-	1960

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	SFS	MIG ²	LIG	JANTA/EWS	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Grant Total: 1642	1642	2312	8264	8794	21,012
WEST ZONE						
1	C/o 356 SFS Cat. II Pk. II at Madipur					
i.	SH: 132 SFS DUs Gr. I	132	-	-	-	132
ii.	92 SFS DUs Gr. II	92	-	-	-	92
iii.	132 SFS DUs Gr. III	132	-	-	-	132
2.	C/o 232 SFS houses in Pk. GH. 12 Area P. Furi	240	-	-	-	240
3.	C/o 854/996 LIG houses at Hastsal					
	SH: 180 DUs Gr. I	-	-	180	-	180
	SH: 180 DUs Gr. II	-	-	252	-	252
4.	C/o 126 LIG DUs at P. Vihar	-	-	126	-	126

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	SFS	MIG	LIG	JANTA/EWS	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5.	C/o 188/136 Janta houses near Nagloi Syed P. Puri	-	-	-	136	136
6.	C/o 336 CSP houses at P. Puri in Pk. A-4	-	-	-	336	336
7.	C/o 360 LIG DUs at Madipur SH: C/o 108/84 LIG DUs	-	-	84	-	84
8.	C/o 356 SFS houses Gr. III in GH-4 P. Puri	348	-	-	-	348
Total:		944	-	642	472	2058
ROHINI						
1.	448 Janta houses Pk. 7 Sec. 16	-	-	-	448	448
2.	512 Janta houses Pk. 8 & 9 Bl. G. Sec. 16	-	-	-	512	512
3.	592 Janta houses Pk. 5 & 6 Bl. F. Sec. 16	-	-	-	592	592

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	SFS	MIG	LIG	JANTA/EWS	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	440 LIG houses Sec. 16	-	-	440	-	440
Total:		-	-	440	1552	1992
SOUTH WEST ZONE						
1.	80 SFS houses Pk. 788 Sec. D Vasant Kunj. SH: 40 Gr. II & 40 Gr. III	-	-	-	-	80
2.	28 SFS houses Gr. III Sec. C, Pk. 2, Vasant Kunj	28	-	-	-	28
3.	285 SFS Pk. 5 & 6, Sec. B Vasant Kunj	285	-	-	-	285
4.	124 SFS houses Gr. III, Pk. 4 Sec. C, Vasant Kunj.	124	-	-	-	124
5.	288 Janta houses Sec. C PK. 4, Vasant Village	-	-	-	288	288
Total:		517	-	-	288	805

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	SFS	MIG	LIG	JANTA/EWS	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
SOUTHEAST ZONE						
1.	632 EWS houses at Pull Pahaladpur	-	-	-	632	632
2.	96 EWS at Dakshnipuri	-	-	-	96	96
3.	27 CST at Sarv Priya Vihar	-	-	-	27	27
4.	128 LIG houses at Pull Pahaladpur	-	-	128	-	128
5.	140 SFS Gr. I Pk. F&G Sarita Vihar	140	-	-	-	140
6.	12 SFFS at Mandakini Enclave	12	-	-	-	12
7.	12 SFS at Kalkaji Bl. B	12	-	-	-	12
Total:		164	-	128	755	1047
MORTH ZONE						
1.	336/228 MIG houses at Jahangir pur Gr. II	-	224	-	-	224

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	SFS	MIG	LIG	JANTA/EWS	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	468/41 LIG houses Gr. II & III, Motia Khan	-	-	234	-	234
3.	396 LIG houses Pk. C&D (V) Pitampura	-	-	180	-	180
4.	246 Kanta at Pitampura	-	-	-	246	246
	Total:	-	224	414	246	884
EAST ZONE						
1.	88 MIG/88 LIG at Mayur Vihar Pk. IV	-	36	36	-	72
2.	960/860 LIG at Dilshad Garden	-	-	864	-	864
3.	613 Janta houses in Pk. Q Dilshad Garden.	-	-	-	603	603
4.	265 houses at Trilokpuri Pk. V	-	13	52	-	65
5.	128 LIG at Trilokpuri Pk. V	-	-	128	-	128

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	SFS	MIG	LIG	JANTA/EWS	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6.	128 LIG at Kondli Sec. A, Gr. IV, V & IX	-	-	28	-	128
7.	200 EWS houses at Kondli Sec. B	-	-	-	200	200
Total:		-	29	1208	803	2060
Grant Total:		1625	273	2832	4116	8846

STATEMENT - A - II*Statement showing Houses Completed during 1991-92*

<i>Zone</i>	<i>S.F.S</i>	<i>MIG</i>	<i>LIG</i>	<i>Janta/EWS</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>
ZONE					
East Zone	-	180	100	1656	1936
South West Zone	1109	-	-	-	1109
South East Zone	697	260	96	41	1094
Rohini	-	-	-	832	832
North Zone	12	1068	876	174	2130
West Zone	164	-	543	3107	3914
Total:	1982	1508	1615	5810	10915

House Completed : 1991-92

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	SFS	MIG	LIG	Janta	Total
1.	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	M... house Road, PK...	-	16	-	-	16
2.	96 MIG/96 LIG houses at Dilshad Garden	-	100	100	-	200
3.	146/64 MIG at Jhilmil	-	64	-	-	64
4.	520-520 EWS at Kondli Sector-D	-	-	-	512	712
5.	1024 EWS at Kondli Sector-C	-	-	-	944	944
Total:		-	180	100	656	1936
						0

House Complifood during 1991-92

Scheme	Circle	Div.	SFS	MIG Cat. III	LIG Cat. II	Janta	EWS	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Pkt. A Vasant Kunj	2	6	30	20	-	-	-	50
Pkt. 4 Vasant Kunj Gr. I & II	2	9	60	96	-	-	-	156
Pkt. 4, Vasant Kunj, Gr. II; & IV	2	8	50	80	-	-	-	130
Pkt. 2 Vasant Kunj	2	8	12	16	-	-	-	48
Pkt. 5&6 Vasant Kunj	1	2	6	44	-	-	-	110
Pkt. 5& 6 Vasant Kunj	1	3	108	72	-	-	-	180
Pkt. 5& 6 Vasant Kunj	1	5	25	18	-	-	-	45
Pkt. 2 & 3, Vasant Kunj	1	4	120	192	-	-	-	312
Pkt. 2 & 3, Vasant Kunj	1	5	30	48	-	-	-	79
Total:			523	586	-	-	-	1109

Sl. No.	Scheme/Location	Completed 91-92					No. of Flats constructed					Total
		EWS	LIG	MIG	SFS	Total	EWS	LIG	MIG	SFS	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7						
1991-92												
1.	SFS Houses at Gr. II pkt.				140	140						
2.	SFS Houses at Pkt. F&G Sarita Vihar				60	60						
3.	SFS houses at Pkt. D&E Sarita Vihar				497	497						
4.	MIG houses at Pujpehladpur Gr. I & II			260		260						
5.	LIG houses at Madanpur Khadar		96			96						
6.	EWS houses at Panchsheel Enclave	41				41						
		41	96	260	697	1094						

(a) Details of the houses constructed in Rohini during the last Three years are:-

Year	Location	S.F.S.	No. of flats					Total
			MIG	LIG	EWS	Total		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
1989-90	(i) Rohini ph-II	Sec-15	1120	1320	2656	5096		
	(ii) Sec-18							
	Rohini Ph-II		880	1080		1960		
		Total:	2000	2400	2656	7056		
1990-91		Sec-16						
1992		Rohini ph-II			409	1552		
1991-92	Rohini ph-II	Sec-11			832	832		

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Circle/Divn.	Category of House				
			SFS	MIG	LIG	Janta/EWs	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1.	60 MIG Houses at Sarai Khalili	CC-7/ND-1	-	60	-	-	
2.	396 LIG at Pkt. G&J Pitampura	CC-11/ND-7	-	-	216	-	
3.	SFS Ca. II at Mo'ia Khan	CC-7/ND-2	12	-	-	-	
4.	204/74 Janta Houses at Pkt. A (U) Pitampura	CC-11/ND-6	-	-	-	174	
5.	336 MIG Houses in Sec. A-5 Gr. I at Narela	CC-12/ND-10	-	336	-	-	
6.	336 MIG houses in Sec. A-5 Gr. II at Narela	CC-12/ND-10	-	336	-	-	
7.	336 MIG Houses in Sec. B-4 Gr. III at Narela	CC-7/ND-2	-	336	-	-	

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Circle/Divn.	Category of House						
			SFS	MIG	LIG	Janta/EWs	LIG	MIG	Janta/EWs
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
8.	330 LIG Houses in Sec. A-6 Gr. II at Narela	CC-11/ND-7	.	.	330	.	.	.	
9.	330 LIG Houses in Sec. B-4 Gr. II at Narela	CC-7/ND-1	.	.	330	.	.	.	
			12	1068	876	174			

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Cir/Div	Houses Completed during 1991-92							Remarks
			SFS	MIG	LIG	Janta EWS	Total	Total	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
1.	36 LIG houses Pkt III at Madipur	C-6/WD-1	.	.	36	.	.	36		
2.	208 SFS houses at Main Rohtak Rd Madipur	C-5/WD-1	52	52 Against 88 taken up 52 were	

Houses Completed during 1991-92

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Cir/Div	SFS	MIG	LIG	Janta EWS	Total	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	SH 88/52 (Actual)							actually complets.
3.	112 SFS at CH-5 Phase-I Bodella	C-5/WD-2	112	-	-	-	-	112
4.	74/75 (Actual) incremental houses at Nawala Heri	C-17/WD-3	-	-	-	75	75	Against 74 to up 75 were completed
5.	132 LIG houses Pkt. C Hastal Gr. V.	C-5/WD-5	-	-	192	-	132	
6.	504/512 (Actual) Jant houses Gr.II at Hastal	C-5/WD-6	-	-	-	512	512	Against 504 taken up 512 were actual completed.

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Cir/Div	Houses Completed during 1991-92							Remarks
			SFS	MIG	LIG	Janta EWS	Total			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
7.	48 LCH at Raghunir Nagaar	C-17/WD-12	-	-	-	48	48			
8.	2693/2714 EWS and 358/136 LIG houses at Bindapur Pkt. 3 Dwarika Ph. 1									
	(i) 113 EWS/12 LIG Houses in Block F	C-5/WD-1	-	-	12	96	108			
	(ii) 255 EWS 45 LIG houses in Bloc E Pkt. I	C-5/WD-1	-	-	48	210	250			
	(iii) 260 EWS+38 LIG houses in Block E pkt-II	C-5/WD-2	-	-	38	222	260			
	(iv) 285 EWS+53 LIG B1-D pkt. II	C-5/WD-2	-	-	53	228	281			

Houses Completed during 1991-92									
Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Cir/Div	SFS	MIG	LIG	Janta EWS	Total	Remarks	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
	(v) 240 EWS+40 LIG	C-5WD	-	-	40	236	270		
	(vi) 278 EWS+40 LIG	C-5WD-7	-	-	40	250	290		
	(vii) 220 EWS/20 LIG houses at Bindapur pkt. III B1. B-II	C-17/WD-12	-	-	20	213	233		
	(viii) 202 EWS/24 LIG houses at Bindapur pkt. III B1-C	C-17/WD-12	-	-	24	190	214		
	(ix) 268 EWS/36 LIG houses at Bindapur pkt. III B1. B-II	C-17/WD-12	-	-	36	257	293		
	(x) 300 EWS/32 LIG houses at Hindapur pkt. III B1.A	C-17/WD13	-	-	32	302	334		

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Houses Completed during 1991-92								
Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Cir/Div	SFS	MIG	LIG	Janta EWS	Total	Remarks
1								
2		3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	(xi) 284 EWS/36 LIG houses at Bindapur pkt. III B1. B-1							52 houses could not be taken up for construction because of revised layout and change in the quantity of schedule of quantities.
		C-S/W/D-6						
			Total :	164	543	3107	3814	

[English]

Foreign fishing vessels in Indian Waters

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

(a) whether the Government propose to review and amend the policy regarding the operation of foreign fishing vessels in the Indian waters on charter by Indian companies;

(b) the number of applications for such charter received during 1991-92 and during April-September, 1992 separately;

(c) the number of such applications granted with the name of licencee;

(d) whether it is proposed to introduce joint collaboration between Indian and foreign companies for exploitation of the living resources of the sea in the Indian waters; and

(e) the number of foreign fishing vessels apprehended in the Indian waters during the year 1991-92 while fishing without licence and the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHARGOMANGO): (a) to (c). The overall policy regarding the operation of foreign fishing vessels in Indian Exclusive Economic Zone as per the Charter policy announced in 1989 is under reviews. No application have, however, been received for grant of Letters of Intent under Charter Policy during 1991-92 and during April-September, 1992.

(d) The Government have announced a new policy on deep sea fishing in 1991, which involves (i) Leasing, (ii) Test

Fishing and (iii) Joint Ventures between Indian and foreign companies for fishing, processing and marketing. As a result of endeavour

made under this policy, the Government have already cleared 24 proposals of Test Fishing /Leasing / Joint Ventures with an expected investment of over Rs. 1200 crores.

(e) 36 foreign fishing vessels were apprehended and handed over to the police by the Coast Guard for legal action, between 1st April, 1991 to 31st March, 1992.

Pensions of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited

494. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposals from Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited recommending improvements/increase in pensions to Bharat Petroleum Pensioners who were originally in the service of Burman-shell and on nationalisation were taken over by Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited;

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal is under consideration of the Government.

Allotment of Flats to Widows

495. SHRIMATI SURYA KANTA PATIL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending in DDA

regarding allotment of flats to widows under 2 1/2% reservation for them; and

(b) the steps being taken to clear the pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPEMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) (a) DDA reports that there is a quota of 21/2% for out of turn allotment of DDA flats which includes young and recent widows. 579 applications received from widow are pending with DDA as on 20.11.92.

(b) Subject to the overall ceiling of 2 1/2% for out of turn allotments, widows can be accommodated depending on seniority of application and degree of need.

Horticultural Development in Kerala

496. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up a plan for development of horticulture in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented in the State; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c). An integrated project for development of horticulture in Kerala with the assistance from EEC has been sanctioned recently. The project will be implemented at a cost of 35.727 million ECUs (Rs. 139 crores approximately, at the present rate of exchange). Out of this 76.7% will be borne by

the EEC, 21.9% by Government of Kerala and 1.4% by private founders. The project which has been launched in the year 1992 will be completed within a period of six years. It is proposed to link market centres and production areas with processing units wherever feasible. It will mainly cover horticultural produce like vegetables, mango, pineapple and banana.

(d) Does not arise.

Ashram Schools

497. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Kanyashram, se-bashram and Ashram schools set up in the scheduled districts of Orissa during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government have also upgraded some of those schools;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the dilapidated conditions of most of the school buildings in Orissa and particularly Sundargarh District; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to repair those school buildings?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Exploration of Oil in the Kerala Coast

498. SHRI A. CHARLES: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any exploration has been conducted to find out oil in the Kerala coast during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the results of such explorations?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. ONGC has acquired 9744 LKM of seismic data in the last five years. ONGC has also drilled 6 exploratory wells in this basin of which 5 are offshore Kerala without any success. Under contracts in the Third Round of bidding foreign companies acquired 12257 LKM of seismic data in three offshore blocks in the basin and drilled 3 wells which proved the dry.

Gas Based Power Plant at Bhandar In Madhya Pradesh

499. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN : Will the MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have accorded permission to provide gas from Hajira-Vijaypur-Jagdishpur gas pipeline for gas based power plant at Bhandar in Madhya Pradesh.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND) : (a) to (c). No, Sir. Keeping in view the allocations made within the availability of gas along the HBJ piling, additional allocations of gas could not be made.

[Translation]

Contract of Gas reserves to Multi-national Companies

500. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND

NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to give the contract of gas reserves to multi-national companies;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the detail of the foreign companies to whom contract of gas reserves have been awarded?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND) (a) to (c) In order to supplement the oil and gas production activities of ONGC/OIL, the Government of India have invited offers for development of medium-sized and small-sized oil and gas fields from Indian and foreign companies. The last date for receipt of bids is 31.3.1993.

[English]

Crime in I.S.B.T. Area

501. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of robbery, theft and looting of passengers has increased in I.S.B.T. area of Delhi;

(b) the number of such crimes in I.S.B.T. area reported during 1991 so far and the details thereof;

(c) the number of cases investigated and the out-come thereof; and

(d) the action taken to check such crimes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M.

JACOB): (a) Yes Sir. There have been 86 cases of theft and one case of robbery in I.S.B.T. area from 1.1.92 to 13.11.92 as against no case of robbery and 61 cases of

theft during the corresponding period last year.

(b) and (c). The out-come f the cases reported from 1.1.92 to 13.11.92 as under:-

Crime Head	No. of cases reported	No. of cases filed as untraced	No. of cases pending investigation	No. of cases pending trial
Robbery	1	—	—	1
Looting/ dacoity	—	—	—	—
Theft	86	48	26	12

(d) Patrolling inside the I.S.B.T. has been intensified. All the passengers are being regularly advised to be more watchful through Public Addresses system. Observers have also been detailed inside the I.S.B.T. to look out for criminals.

Proposed Changes at India Gate

502. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:
Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received certain objections, views and suggestions from various environment organisations about the proposed changes at India Gate, New Delhi; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). Govt. of India have decided to develop the area around India Gate as August Kranti Udyan. While so firm proposals have yet

been finalised for the development of this area which will include the statue of Mahatma Gandhi, suggestions and representations have been received from some organisations for this redevelopment.

A Concept Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (UD) has been constituted to formulate the concept for the development of the Udyan as well as the location of the statue of Mahatma Gandhi Apart from the representatives of the concerned Ministries, eminent architects have been associated with this Committee. The suggestions and representations received from the various organisations have been taken into account by the concept Committee.

[*Translation*]

Spurious LPG Cylinder Regulators

503. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a gang involved in manufacturing spurious LPG cylinder regulators has been unearthed recently in Delhi;

(b) if so, the number of persons arrested in this connection;

(c) the number of regulators recovered from them; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to check it?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Nine persons have been arrested in this regard.

(b) 3,835 finished and unfinished spurious regulators have been recovered.

(d) Steps are being taken by Oil Industry and the Police to detect such cases.

[English]

Setting up of new Petro Projects

504. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:
SHIR SHANKERSINH
VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gujarat Government have submitted a proposal to set up new Petro-Projects during next five years in Joint Venture with Canada and ONGC;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if so, the cost of the proposed projects?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

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

Fish Resources

505. SHRIMATIVASUNDHARARAJE:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated potential of fish resources in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone;

(b) to which extent it has been exploited for yielding from EEZ;

(c) the details of different kinds of species; and

(d) the details of marine item products exported to different countries during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The potential for fish resources in the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) of India has been estimated at 3.9 million tonnes, by a Working Group of Experts constituted by the Government in 1991.

(b) The estimated fish landing from the Indian EEZ during 1991-92 was 2.4 million tonnes.

(c) and (d). A statement is appended

STATEMENT

1. (c) List of Marine fish species exploited

1. Elasmobranch

2. Clupeoids

(a) Oil Sardines

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------------------------|-----|--|
| | (b) Engraulide (anchovies) | 16. | Lactarius |
| 3. | Chirocentrus | 17. | Sciaenidae (Croackers) |
| 4. | Harpodon Nehereus | 18. | Ribbon fishes |
| 5. | Cat fishes | 19. | Scorpaenidae |
| 6. | Saurida spp (lizard fishes) | | (a) Mackerels |
| 7. | Eels | | (b) Seer fish |
| 8. | Hemirhamphus spp | | (c) Thunnus |
| 9. | Exocoetidae spp (Flying fishes) | 20. | Crustaceans |
| 10. | Sphyrapoda spp | | (a) Penaeids prawns |
| 11. | Mugilidae (Mulletts) | | (b) Non-penaeids prawns |
| 12. | Polynemidae (Indian Salmon) | | (c) Lobsters |
| 13. | Perches | | (d) Deep sea lobsters |
| 14. | Leiognathus spp | 21. | Molluscs & Cephalopods |
| 15. | Carangids | | |
| | (a) Caranx spp | | (d) Details of quantities of marine products exported during each of the last three years: |
| | (b) Carangidae | | |

	<i>Quantities in metric tonnes</i>		
	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
1. Frozen Shrimp	57819	62395	76150
2. Fresh/Frozen fish	21227	42340	49119
3. Frozen Squid	11944	16667	25523
4. Frozen Cuttle fish	14158	11596	12437
5. Froszen Lobster	2068	1600	1629
6. Other items	3627	4821	6957
Total	110843	139419	171820

[*Translation*]

Welfare Programmes for Tribals in M.P.

506. KUMARI VIMLA VERMA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the welfare works carried out by the Government for the tribals of Madhya Pradesh during the last three years and the amount spent by Union and State Governments separately;

(b) whether any special scheme or programme has been formulated in the Eighth Five Year Plan to uplift the standard of living of the tribals of this areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) The information is under collection and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It is proposed to introduce the following three new schemes in the tribal areas of the country from the current year:

- (i) Vocational training in tribal areas.
- (ii) Educational complex for tribal girls in low literacy pockets.
- (iii) Grant-in-aid to State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations.

(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Use of Chemical Fertilizers/Pesticides

507. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Will

the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of farmers using chemical fertilizers/pesticides are decreasing;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to develop non-chemical fertilizers/pesticides;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether pesticide units propose to manufacture of neem-based products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c). No, Sir. However, to encourage the use of non-chemical pesticides a number of biocides and neem-based pesticides have been registered for commercial production. The Government is also encouraging the use of bio-fertilizers.

(d) Yes, Sir.

[*Translation*]

Shifting of Central Government Offices from Southern Bihar

508. SHRI SHIBU SOREN:
SHRI SIMON MARANDI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether many offices of the Union Government and regional offices of Public Undertakings are being shifted to other places from Southern Bihar on a large scale and causing acute opposition and discontent among the people of the region; and

(b) if so, the names of offices of Union Government and Public Undertakings that

have been shifted to other places during the last two years and the reasons therefor.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIM. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). As no such information is maintained by the Ministry, it will be collected and laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Oil Crises

509. SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country is heading for a tough period on the oil front;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) to (c). In view of the ever increasing demand for petroleum products, efforts are on to augment exploration, development, and production of crude and products. An investment in the oil sector of the order of Rs. 24,000 crores has been approved for the 8th plan.

Natural Gas

510. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:
SHRIMATI BASAVARAJES-
WARI:
SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is enough natural gas at Bombay High Seas, Cauvery Basin and

Godavari Basin;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts being made by Government to exploit it?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) and (b). As on 1.1.92, the recoverable reserves of natural gas established in these basins is 595.34 billion cubic metres.

(c) The reserves of natural gas are already under exploitation in these basins. Further projects to develop a number of oil and gas fields in these basins are under implementation. A few blocks are being offered for exploration/development by private companies.

[Translation]

LPG Agencies in Maharashtra

511. DR. GUNAVANT RAMBHAU SARODE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG agencies allotted during each of the last three years in Maharashtra;

(b) whether the Government propose to allot some more gas agencies in Maharashtra; and

(c) if so, the locations identified thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a)

1990-91	-	11
1991-92	-	7
1992-93	-	
(till Oct., 1992)	-	9

(b) and (c). LPG distributorships are opened at different places in the country, including Maharashtra, on the basis of Market survey, economic viability, product availability, etc. under various Marketing Plans.

[English]

LPG Connections

512. SHRIRAMESH CHENNITHALA:
SHRIPALAK M. MATHEW:
SHRI SURYA NARAYAN
YADAV:
SHRI HARDHAN ROY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG connections released during last six months, State-wise;

(b) the number of persons on the waiting list for LPG connections as on October 31, 1992, State-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). A statement is enclosed.

(c) Depending upon the availability of product efforts are made to release maximum possible number of LPG connections every year.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	States	Persons on Waiting List for LPG Connections as on 1.10.92	New connections released during April-Septe.,92
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5.46	28447
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.13	395
3.	Assam	1.37	2844
4.	Bihar	2.30	10276
5.	Goa	0.57	1366
6.	Gujarat	6.18	24619
7.	Harayana	3.29	12248
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.67	9478
9.	Jammy & Kashmir	0.66	11345
10.	Karnataka	4.21	23964
11.	Kerala	3.45	13163
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4.11	18369
13.	Maharashtra	14.67	48135

Sl. No. **States** **Persons on Waiting List for LPG Connections** **New connections released during April-Septe., 92**
as on 1.10.92

1	2	3	4
14.	Manipur	0.20	188
15.	Meghalaya	0.08	900
16.	Mizoram	0.06	233
17.	Nagaland	0.13	51
18.	Orissa	0.91	537.5
19.	Punjab	4.51	24085
20.	Rajasthan	6.62	23330
21.	Sikkim	0.05	654
22.	Tamil Nadu	9.11	24466
23.	Tripura	0.25	254
24.	Uttar Pradesh	12.49	37707
25.	West Bengal	7.34	17707

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>States</i>	<i>Persons on Waiting List for LPG Connections as on 1.10.92</i>	<i>New connections released during April-Sept., 92</i>
1	2	3	4
UNION TERRITORIES			
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	0.06	408
2.	Chandigarh	0.69	1569
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.01	120
4.	Delhi	6.17	26850
5.	Daman	0.02	250
6.	Lakshadweep	0.00	54
7.	Pondicherry	023	171

[Translation]

(e) to (g). Question does not arise.

Crop Insurance Scheme

[English]

513. SHRI LAKSHMI NARAIN MANI TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the type of agricultural land and the crops included under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme;

(b) whether the agricultural land affected by natural calamities is included under this scheme;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether this scheme is applicable to those lakhs of farmers whose land is irrigated by water from the dams;

(e) if not, whether they are also likely to be covered under this scheme;

(f) if so, by what time; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d). The Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) is an area based and credit linked scheme applicable to all loanee farmers, who avail of loans from institutional sources to grow wheat, paddy, millets, oilseeds and pulses crops. The scheme provides insurance coverage against all natural calamities. The State Government is free to notify any area for coverage under the scheme provided the implementing State Governments/UTs. possess the required yield data as well as the capability of conducting 16 crop cutting experiments in each of the notified area, for the insured crops. In the notified area both irrigated and unirrigated land is covered.

Jharkhand Issue

514. SHRI BHANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA:

DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO:
SHRI LOKANATH CH-
OUDHURY:

SHRI K. V. THANGHABALU:
SHRI SIMON MARANDI:

SHRI SHIBU SOREN:

SHRI K. PRODHANI:

SHRIMATI KESHARBAI SONAJI
KSHIRSAGAR:

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the round of talks with all concerned regarding Jharkhand issue has completed;

(b) if so, the unanimous view expressed by them in this regard;

(c) the final decision arrived at; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (d). A number of discussions were held with various political parties, groups and organisations to ascertain their views on the Jharkhand issue. No unanimous conclusion emerged from these discussions. The matter is still under examination. Further discussions on this subject with concerned parties and organisations may also become necessary at a later date. No definite time

frame for final decision can, therefore, be indicated at this stage.

[*Translation*]

Damage to Crops by Drought

515. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH
YADAV:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI LALIT ORAON:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise, details of the value of crops damaged in the country dur to drought during the last year;

(b) the efforts made by the Government to deal with the drought problem; and

(c) the State-wise, details of the facilities provided to the farmers affected by the drought during the last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[*English*]

Oil Exploration in Bihar

517. SHRI MANJAY LAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ONGC has identified certain areas in Bihar having substantial concentration of petroleum products;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to include these areas in its oil exploration

programme in the country; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

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

Increase in Price of Milk in Delhi

518. SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN:
SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHR MUMTAZ ANSARI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently increased the prices of milk of Mother Dairy and Delhi Milk Scheme in Delhi;

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

(c) whether the public have been affected dur to hike in milk prices; and

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to bring down the prices of milk and if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) The selling price of Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) milk has been revised upward w.e.f. 1.9.92 from Rs. 5/- to Rs. 7/- per litre and from Rs. 4.40/- to Rs. 6/- per litre of toned and double toned milk respectively. The Mother Dairy has switched over to marketing of toned milk through Bulk Vending System in place of Double Toned Milk and fixed its price at Rs. 8/- per litre from 1.10.92. Mother Dairy has reduced the price

of Full Cream Milk from Rs. 11/- to Rs. 10/- per litre.

(b) The revision in price has been necessitated due to increase in the overheads including transportation cost as a result of hike in the cost of petroleum products and general rise in the price index.

(c) and (d). Whereas the Mother Dairy, a commercial unit has fixed the sale price of its milk keeping in view the cost of production to maintain viability, DMS milk is subsidised to the extent of difference between the cost of production which is more than the selling price. There is, therefore, no proposal at present to bring down the sale prices of milk.

Creation of Uttranchal State

519. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRAKHANDURI:
SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 28 on July 9, 1992 and state;

(a) whether the Union Government have completed its examination of the proposal and the details justification sent by the Government of Uttar Pradesh with regard to creation of Uttranchal State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) The matter is under examination.

(b) Does not arise.

Reserves of Oil and Natural Gas in Gujarat

520. DR. K.D. JESWANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in exploration and exploitation of Oil and Natural Gas reserves in Gujarat; and

(b) the estimated extent and location of the resources in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). As on 1.1.92 the recoverable reserves of oil (including condensate) and gas established in Gujarat was 265.02 million tonnes and 119.63 billion cubic meters respectively. Exploration is continuing in Cambay, Kutch and Saurashtra areas of Gujarat and 110 exploratory wells are expected to be drilled in 1992-93 and 1993-94 in these areas.

Laying of L.P.G. Pipeline in Delhi

521. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gas Authority of India plans to lay L.P.G. pipeline in Delhi for supply to consumers;

(b) if so, the number of houses to be covered;

(c) the places likely to be covered by gas pipeline; and

(d) the amount proposed to be spent on the above project?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

Ram-Janma Bhoomi-Babri Masjid Issue

522. SHR RAJESH KUMAR:
 PROF. MALINI BHATTACHAR-
 AYA:
 SHRI SIMON MARANDI:
 SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA:
 SHRI P.M.L. SAYEED:
 SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY:
 PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO
 DESHMUKH:
 SHIRMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
 SHRI SUDARSAN
 RAYCHAUDHURI:
 SHI CHITTA BASU:
 SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:
 DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY:
 SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far to resolve the Ram Janma Bhoomi-Babri Masjid issue; and

(b) the further steps proposed to be taken by the Government to find out a solution to this disputes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Following the statement of the Prime

Minister in Parliament on 27th July, 1992, a series of consultations were held with a broad cross-section of parties. Suggestion were also invited from the public. The Prime Minister also wrote to the leaders of Political parties requesting their co-operation in the process of negotiations. The first meeting between the Vishwa Hindu Parishad and All India Babri Masjid Action Committee was held on 3 October, 1992, the second meeting was held on 16 October, 1992 and the third meeting was held on 8 November, 1992. However, in the meanwhile a unilateral announcement had been made for the resumption of Kar Sewa on 6 December, 1992. This announcement resulted in disruption of the direct talks between the two sides and after the third meeting, it was not possible to resume direct talks.

2. A meeting of the National Integration Council was held on 23 November, 1992 in which the Council, *inter-alia* resolved, "after considering all aspects of the Babri Masjid - Ram Janma Bhoomi dispute and the report of the Government, the Council extends its wholehearted support and co-operation in whatever step the Prime Minister considers essential in upholding the Constitution and the rule of law, and in implementing the Court's orders".
3. In the Contempt Petitions pending before the Supreme Court, the Honourable Court directed that the Union Government should indicate its stand in the matter so that the Honourable Court may have its assistance in making such an order as would ensure enforcement of the earlier orders of the Honourable Court. Accordingly, on 23 November, 1992, the Solicitor General, *inter-alia*, made the following submissions before the Honourable Court.

- (a) In view of the wide ramifications of the Ram Janma Bhoomi-Babri Masjid

issue, the Government of India is prepared to give to the State Government whatever assistance is required in furtherance of the directions of the Honourable Court; and

- (b) The Government of India also assured the Honourable Court that the Government will take such action as may be directed by the Honourable Court to secure the enforcement of its order.

The matter is under consideration of the Supreme Court and is, therefore, subjudice.

[English]

Functionings of Sewer

523. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM:
SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given on August 6, 1992 to Unstarred Question No. 4551 and state:

(a) whether the sewer lines in Sundershan Park, Moti Nagar have since started functioning;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to start sewer in Sudershan Park, during November, 1992?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Delhi Water Supply and Sewage Undertaking have initiated that the

work of commissioning sewerage system envisages:-

- (i) Laying of sewer line.
- (ii) Completion of Civil and Electrical & Mechanical Works of Pumping Station and;
- (iii) Completion of pumping main upto the out all sewer.

All the Civil and E&M works have been completed and DESU connection is expected during November. The astem is likely to be commissioned soon.

Maharashtra-Karnataka Border Dispute

524. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation led by Chief Minister of Maharashtra met the Prime Minister recently and discussed the Maharashtra-Karnataka border dispute;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) how the Union Government propose to resolve this issue at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). The Prime Minister heard the grievances put forth by the deputation of leaders from Maharashtra and the border areas. No specific assurance was given to the delegation. The Central Government is of the view that the issue has to be resolved essentially by the two State Governments by mutual discussions. Towards this end, the Central Government will extend all possible assistance.

**Allotment of Petrol/Diesel Retail outlets
and LPG Agencies**

525. PROF. MALINI BHATTACHAR-
AYA:
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are con-
sidering to divest the Petroleum Ministry of
the power to allot petrol pumps and gas
agencies and such allotments are likely to be
made by the public sector oil companies;

(b) if so, the rationale behind this move;

(c) whether the Government have taken
into consideration the malpractices which
are likely to entail as a result of the proposed
move; and

(d) if so, the reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-
ANAND): (a) to (d). There is no such pro-
posal with the Government.

Farm Controls

526. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commission for Agricul-
tural Costs and Prices (CACP) have recom-
mended dismantling of farm controls;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the Government's policy on the
continuance of farm controls?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI
MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to
(c). In view of the changes in the macro-
economic policy environment relating to trade
and industry, and its consequences on the
agricultural sector, the CACP has recom-
mended removal of some of the restrictions
in a phased manner. The Government is
taking appropriate action in this regard.

**Private Investment in the area of
Bottling Distribution of LPG**

527. SHRI PALA K.M. MATHEW: Will
the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATU-
RAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by the Govern-
ment to improve the supply position of
domestic L.P.G.

(b) whether the Government propose to
consider the private investment in the areas
of L.P.G. bottling and distribution; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-
ANAND): (a) Plans have been drawn to
increase LPG availability in the country by
commissioning new sources, and through
imports.

(b) and (c). No such decision has been
taken by Government.

**Demonstration near Pak High Commis-
sion Office in Delhi**

528. SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: Will
the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased
to state:

(a) whether recently a peaceful demon-
stration was organised near Pakistan High
Commission in Delhi to protest against the
alleged interference of Pakistan in the inter-

nal affairs of the country during which many people were lathicharged and tear gas shells used by the police on the participants; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to see that such incidents do not recur in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). Two demonstrations were held in front of Pakistan High Commission Office on 2.9.92 and 28.10.92. No permission was granted by the Administration to the organisers for the demonstrations. These demonstrations were not peaceful. Some of the demonstrators pelted stones on the police, damaged DTC buses and broken the police cordons and reached third barricade despite repeated warnings. The demonstrators were stopped by the police when they broke the third barricade and started rushing towards the Pakistan High Commission. For dispersing the crowd, water canons were used and when they proved to be ineffective, the police fired 19 tear gas shells to disperse them. During these incidents, 11 police personnel were injured. Two criminal cases have been registered u/s 147/148/186/323/332/353/427 IPC and 147/148/188/323/186/332/353/427 IPC at P.S. Chaknaryapuri, New Delhi.

[*Translation*]

Acquisition of Tribal Land

+529. SHRI BRISHIN PATEL: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Governments are acquiring tribal land in the country in violation of laws at present; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Union Government to prevent acquisition of

tribal land and to ensure their proper development?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b). Information is being collected from the concerned State Governments/ UT Administrations and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as received.

[*English*]

Pak Abetment to terrorism in India

530. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
 PROF. PREM DHUMAL:
 SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:
 SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:
 SHRI GIRDHARILAL BHAR-
 GAVA:
 SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU:
 DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:
 KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press reports regarding sending of more trained militants and arms into Punjab and Kashmir Valley by Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to make the security arrangements along the international border and line of Actual Control including the provision of security belt?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). Government is aware that Pakistan is trying to send more trained militants and arms and ammunition into Punjab and Kashmir.

(c) To check the infiltration of terrorists into India, appropriate steps have been duly initiated.

Bhanu Pratap Singh Committee on Agricultural Policies

531. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which Bhanu Pratap Singh Committee on Agricultural Policies and programmes was constituted;

(b) whether the Committee has submitted its report to the Government; and

(c) if so, the details of recommendations accepted by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). An Advisory Committee to go into issues related to declaring agriculture as industry was constituted on 6th Feb., 1990 under the Chairmanship of Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh. The Committee submitted its report on 30th July, 1990.

(c) The Govt. agrees with the views of the Committee regarding higher priority for agricultural sector to tap unrealised potential of the sector, providing facilities and other incentives to agriculture as an industry, formulation of new agricultural policy, etc.

Issue of Arms Licences in Delhi

532. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR:
SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria laid down for issue of

arms licences to people in Delhi for self-protection;

(b) the number of applications received for issue of arms licences in Delhi during the first six months of the current year;

(c) the number of persons whose applications have been accepted; and

(d) the number of persons whose applications have been rejected alongwith the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) The applicant should be a resident of U.T. Delhi; not less than 21 years of age; having good moral character and physically capable of handling the fire arms. His needs for the arms licences should be genuine.

(b) 4417.

(c) 2210.

(d) The applications of 2207 persons have been rejected as on enquiry made by the local police, either their need was not found genuine or the applicant was found involved in criminal cases.

[*Translation*]

Grants to Local Bodies for Sanitation Facilities

533. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any grant-in-aid is being given by the Union Government to local bodies for improvement of sanitation facilities in cities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). Grant-in-aid is being given by the Union Government under the following schemes:-

- (i) Low Cost Sanitation for the Liberation of Scavengers Central subsidy and loans from HUDCO are provided to the urban local bodies for the conversion of dry latrines and construction of low cost water seal pour flush latrines in small and medium towns with the objective of eliminating manual scavenging to the maximum possible extent during the VIIIth Five Year Plan, subject to availability of funds. A total of Rs. 123.97 crores of subsidy has been sanctioned by HUDCO in respect of the scheme submitted by the State Governments.
- (ii) Ganga Action Plan - Almost all the schemes under implementation in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal are related to improvement of sanitation facilities with emphasis on cleaning the Ganga. A total of Rs. 300 crores has been released by the Ganga Project Directorate to the implementing agencies in these States.

Demand of Milk

534. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have formulated any scheme to increase the supply of milk in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the scheme has been circulated to States; and

(d) if so, the response of the State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) to (c). The State Governments have been requested to formulate a scheme on "Integrated Dairy Development in Non-Operation Flood, Hilly and Backward Areas" for increasing milk production, procurement, processing and marketing of milk.

(d) Project proposals have been received from the State Governments of Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Mizoram, Tripura, Nagaland, Gujarat, Orissa, Kerala and Sikkim.

[English]

Decision to Decontrol the Petroleum Sector

535. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKRA MURTHY:
SHRI SHRAVANKUMAR PATEL:
SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:
SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to decontrol the petroleum sector;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether several international oil companies have now started operating in India;

(d) if so, the details thereof and to what

extent the increase in prices of petroleum products would be checked as a result thereof; and

(e) what would be the status of the indigenous oil companies?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). With a view to increase production, the Govt. of India have introduced liberalised policies in the petroleum sector.

(c) No Sir.

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

Grain Banks in Orissa

536. **SHRI K. PRADHANI:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open grain banks in the drought affected districts of Orissa;

(b) if so, the number of grain banks proposed to be set up in Koraput, Nabarangpur, Malkangiri and Rayapatta districts of Orissa;

(c) whether UNICEF is giving assistance to grain banks; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Sabha.

Visit of Minister to U.K.

537. **SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be

pleased to state:

(a) whether during his recent visit to the UK, negotiations were held about the steps to be taken to contain and prevent international terrorism; in the context of Pakistani involvement in terrorists activities in Kashmir and Punjab and the activities of UK based terrorists, financing and engineering terrorism in India;

(b) if so, the precise nature and details of the talks and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the follow up action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). Negotiations were held and an Extradition treaty and Confiscation Agreement was signed with the Government of U.K. The Extradition treaty provides for the extradition of certain categories of offenders who commit crimes punishable with a minimum of one year imprisonment. The Confiscation Agreement is concerning the investigation and prosecution of crime and the tracing, restraint and confiscation of the proceeds and instruments of crime and Terrorist Funds.

(c) Enabling legislation in this regard is under process.

Year Plan

538. **SHRIMATI DIPIK H. TOPIWALA:**
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total investment proposed to be made for augmenting the production of LPG during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the percentage of private investment therein; and

(c) the extent to which the LPG requirement in the country is being met from indigenous production and the details thereof by the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). A provision of approximately Rs. 205.06 crores has been made during the 8th Plan for production of LPG from fractionation units, apart from production from refineries to be expanded, all the public sector. As against the total demand projections of 4397 TMT of LPG by the end of Five Year Plan, the indigenous availability is expected to be about 3818 TMTs.

[Translation]

Privatisation of Construction work of Flats in Delhi

539. SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:
DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY:
SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI:
SHRI SHIVLAL NAGGIBHAI
VEKARAA:
SHRIMATI SURYA KANTA PATIL:
SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA:
SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD
SINGH:
SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to hand over the construction work of DDA flats in Delhi to the private sector;

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

(c) the measures being taken to check the quality of construction and prices of the flats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No specific scheme regarding association of private builders in house construction activities in Delhi has so far been approved by the Government.

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

Vehicle Thieves in Delhi

540. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:
SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN
SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a gang of vehicle thieves has been unearthed in Delhi recently;

(b) the number of persons arrested in this regard;

(c) the number of vehicles recovered on the clues provided by the accused; and

(d) the effective steps taken by the Government to check theft of vehicles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir. During the period from 1.1.92 to 19.11.92, 18 gangs of vehicle thieves were apprehended by Delhi Police.

(b) 54.

(c) 103.

(d) The following steps have been taken to check theft of vehicles:-

- (i) Foot/Mobile patrolling has been intensified.
- (ii) Traps are being laid by Anti-Auto thefts squad and local Police in effected areas.
- (iii) Action u/s 66 Delhi Police Act has been stepped up.
- (iv) A close watch is being maintained over the activities of M.V. thieves.
- (v) the public is being educated through media campaigns to get vehicles etched, install safety devices, to curb these thefts.
- (vi) Pickets have been directed to check all vehicles carefully.

Agricultural Growth Rate

541. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is widespread difference in the agricultural growth rate in various States of the country;

(b) if so, the annual agricultural growth rate during the last three years in Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Gujrat, Karnataka and Orissa;

(c) whether the Agricultural Scientists working under the Wheat Improvement Project of India Council of Agricultural Re-

search have expressed the view that the present agricultural growth rate of the country can be raised rapidly; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to increase the agricultural growth rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Rate of agricultural growth in various States of the country would always be varying because of differences in the agro-climatic conditions, soil fertility, infrastructure development, and socio - economic conditions.

(b) Three years is a very short period to indicate differences in growth rates of the various States as much would depend upon the behaviour of rainfall and whether in various States. However average annual growth rates of production of major crops during the last 3 years, i.e. 1989-90 to 1991-92 with 1988-89 as base, worked out for these States, is given in Annexure.

(c) It is the general feeling among Agricultural Scientists that there still exists a gap between the demonstrated potential of the existing improved technologies and the yield realised in the field in various regions of the country, particularly in the low productivity States and if this gap is bridged, the growth rate in wheat production can be further improved for those region.

(d) The steps being taken to increase the agricultural growth rate include adequate and efficient delivery systems for the inputs including high yielding variety seeds, credit, power etc., efficient extension support to transfer the available technology to the farmers along with a good price and market support.

STATEMENT

Average annual growth rates of production of Major Crops during the three years i.e., 1989-0 to 1991-92 with 1988-89 as Base

States	(Per cent)					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Foodgrains	Oil Seeds	Cotton	Jute & Mesta	Sugarca	
Punjab	+ 4.9	+ 36.2	+ 5.7	-	+ 5.3	
Haryana	- 1.1	+ 22.0	+ 18.2	-	11.2	
Uttar Pradesh	+ 00.00	+ 6.4	-	-	+ 7.0	
Bihar	- 4.6	+ 11.5	-	+ 12.2	- 9.3	
West Bengal	+ 3.5	+ 4.0	-	+ 12.2	- 9.3	
Andhra Pradesh	- 2.5	+ 3.9	+ 34.1	+ 10.5	+ 11.4	
Gujarat	- 12.9	- 22.7	- 5.3	-	+ 9.4	
Karnataka	+ 5.9	+ 9.7	+ 2.1	-	+ 6.3	
Orissa	+ 7.4	+ 3.5	-	+ 6.4	+ 5.3	

[English]

Exploration of Oil in Lakshadweep

542. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any geological survey has been conducted with a view to explore oil and Natural Gas in Union Territory of Lakshadweep sea;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to conduct a survey in Lakshadweep for oil exploration; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. the details are as under:-

- (i) Seismic refraction measurement (1960).
- (ii) a geological expedition to carryout preliminary geological study of the Laskhadweep Islands (1978);
- (iii) reconnoiter seismic survey (1978) to 1981);
- (iv) a reappraisal of hydrocarbon prospects of Kerala-Lakshadweep basin (1983); and
- (v) further aquisition of regional seismic data (1987-88).

Attack on Microwave Station in J&K

543. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kashmir militants captured and damaged microwave station at Banihal on October 10, 1992 night snapping all telecommunication links between Kashmir and rest of the world;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to check the recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). On the night of October 10, 1992 militants disrupted the communication link by setting fire to the Microwave Station at Banihal. The guards on duty were also abducted but released later on.

The Telecommunication link has since been restored by using alternative microwave and satellite link, Repair to the Microwave Siation at Banihal are underway.

The Security position ha been reviewed and arrangements for protection of vital installations in the State have been tightened.

Licences for off-taking High-Octane Petroleum

544. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of individuals/firms who have been issued licences for off-taking high-octane petroleum for use in car rallies, etc. during 1991-92 and 1992-93; and

(b) the quantum of fuel released in each case during the period?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). No licence is required

for the use of High Octane petrol for cars.

[*Translation*]

Bottling and Distribution by Soft Drinks

545. DR. P.R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foreign companies which have sought permission from the Government for bottling and distribution of soft drinks in India;

(b) the details of the companies which have been granted permission and progress made so far in this regard; and

(c) the terms and conditions thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (c). No foreign company has sought permission for bottling and distribution of soft drinks in India.

[*English*]

Pepsi Foods Private Limited

✓ 546. SHRI RUPCHAND PAL:
SHRI HARI KISHORE
SINGH:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether M/s. Pepsi Foods Private Limited has violated export norm undertakings in regard to its products;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (c). The issue of violation of export norms by M/s. Pepsi Foods Limited in terms of the Foreign Collaboration Approval/Letter of Intent with regard to export obligations is under examination by the competent authority in the office of the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, Ministry of Commerce. Remedial measures will accordingly be taken on receipt of their advice. ✓

[*Translation*]

Land acquired for Rajiv Gandhi Monument

547. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether ten acres of land of Mahatma Gandhi's Samadhi at Rajghat has been acquired for erecting the Rajiv Gandhi Monument;

(b) if so, whether prior permission has been taken from the concerned authorities; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

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

Oil and Natural Gas Commission

548. SHRI BARE LAL JATAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to

review the oil policy and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government have received the report of the Committee constituted to restructure Oil and Natural Gas Commission; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) to (c). The report of the Committee to examine all aspects of ONGC's existing organisational structure and the need for its restructuring constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri P.K. Kaul has been received and is under examination of the Government.

Persons arrested for Espionage

549. SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons arrested during the last six months on the charge of indulging in espionage activities; and

(b) the reasons for their indulging in espionage activities and the details in the regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). It will not be in public interest to disclose the details on the floor of the House.

[English]

Emergency Cells to attend LPG complaints

550. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA):
SHIR MAHESH KANODIA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of those cities where emergency cell to attend LKPG complaints has been set up;

(b) whether Government propose to set up such more cells; and

(c) if so, the name of the places?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) to (c). A statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

<i>Existing</i>	<i>Proposed</i>
1. Agra 1.	Akols
2. Ahmedabad	2. Anand
3. Ahmednagar	3. Bhadurgharh
4. Ajmer	4. Bharuch
5. Aligarh	5. Bhatinda

<i>Existing</i>	<i>Proposed</i>
6. Allahabad	6. Bicholim
7. Ambala	7. Bombay
8. Amravati	8. Chandigarh
9. Aurangabad	9. Chuiplun
10. Ballabgarh	10. Curchorem
11. Ballery	11. Dungarpur
12. Bangalore	12. Erode
13. Bareilly	13. Etah
14. Baroda	14. Faridabad
15. Belgaum	15. Farukhabad
16. Bhavnagar	16. Goa
17. Bhillai	17. Hardwar
18. Bhopal	18. Himmatnagar
19. Bhubaneshwar	19. Hoshiarpur
20. Bikaner	20. Jagraon
21. Bokaro	21. Jamnagar
22. Bombay	22. Kamptee
23. Calcutta	23. Kashipur
24. Calicut	24. Kasrgod
25. Chandigarh	25. Kavali
26. Coimbatore	26. Khandwa
27. Cuttack	27. Khargpur

<i>Existing</i>	<i>Proposed</i>
28. Dehradun	28. Kothagudem
29. Delhi ²⁹ .	Malegaon
30. Dharward	30. Mangalgiri
31. Durgapur	31. Manipal
32. Ernakulam	32. Mathura
33. Faizabad	33. Mohali
34. Firozabad	34. Nadiad
35. Gaya ³⁵ .	Nasik
36. Ghaziabad	36. Panipat
37. Gorakhpur	37. Raebareilly
38. Gulbarga	38. Raipur
39. Guntur	39. Ratnagiri
40. Gurgaon	40. Rishikesh
41. Guwahati	41. Rourkee
42. Gwalior	42. Sambalpur
43. Hissar	43. Shimla
44. Howrah	44. Shyambazar
45. Hubli ⁴⁵ .	Siliguri
46. Hyderabad	46. Srikakulam
47. Indore	47. Srinagar
48. Jabalpur	48. Srirampur
49. Jaipur	49. Sultanpur

<i>Existing</i>	<i>Proposed</i>
50. Jalandhar	50. Tirupati
51. Jammu	51. Tuticorin
52. Jamshedpur	52. Vashi
53. Jahansi	53. Vellore
54. Jodhpur	54. Vidisha
55. Kakinada	55. Yamuna Nagar
56. Kanpur	
57. Karnal	
58. Kharda	
59. Kolhapur	
60. Kota	
61. Kurnool	
62. Lucknow	
63. Ludhiana	
64. Madras	
65. Madurai	
66. Mangalore	
67. Meerut	
68. Muradabad	
69. Muzaffarnagar	
70. Mysore	
71. Nagpur	

*Existing**Proposed*

72. Nellore
 73. Panchkula
 74. Panjim
 75. Patiala
 76. Patna
 77. Pondicherry
 78. Pune
 79. Rajkot
 80. Rajmundry
 81. Ranchi
 82. Ratlam
 83. Rohtak
 84. Rourkela
 85. Selam
 86. Shahjahanpur
 87. Shahrnpur
 88. Shimoga
 89. Sholapur
 90. Sonapat
 91. Surat
 92. Treichy
 93. Trivandrum
-

*Existing**Proposed*

94. Udaipur
 95. Ujjain
 96. Varanasi
 97. Vijayawada
 98. Visakhapatnam
 99. Warangal

Crop Insurance Scheme

551. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO
 DESHMUKH:
 SHRI SHIBU SOREN:
 SHRI KODIKKUNIL
 SURESH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to reply given to SQ. Dy. No. 136 on 16th July, 1992 and state:

- (a) whether the Government have to finalised the new Crop Insurance Scheme;
 (b) if so, the salient features thereof; and
 (c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c). It has been decided that while the existing Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) may continue, a pilot scheme charging actuarial rates of premia, covering all farmers and all crops against all risks, may be implemented in one district of every state, preferably at low unit areas. The Govern-

ment is in the process of finalising the new Pilot Scheme.

Appearance of Accused in the Court

552. SHRIMATI SUSEELAGOPALAN:
 SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that many of the culprits sentenced to higher higher punishments by Higher Courts in appeal cases are escaping punishment without being taken into prison since it is not compulsory for the accused to appear in the court when the verdict is pronounced;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to consider the question of amending the law for making it obligatory for the accused to be present at the time of pronouncement of the judgement in the court and, if sentenced, to be taken to prison straight from the court; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). Attention of the Government has not been drawn to any specific incident. However, the question of the presence of the accused at the time of pronouncement of the judgement and the execution of the sentence are governed by sections 353, 418 and other relevant provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. There is no proposal under consideration to amend the law in this regard.

Joint Venture in the Development of Oil Fields

553. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATANAYAK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high power team visited U.S.A. to invite joint venture for the development of oil fields;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the name of oil fields selected for development on joint venture basis?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). A high-level team visited U.S.A. during August, 1992, and had discussions with companies based in the U.S.A. regarding participation in joint ventures for development of oil & gas fields in India.

(c) The oil/gas fields proposed for development on joint venture basis are:

1. Mukta
2. Ravva
3. Panna

4. R-Series
5. D-1
6. Mid and South Tapti
7. Kharsang
8. Digboi
9. Bogapani-Samdang
10. Barbil-Diroi
11. Dipling
12. Baghewala

Bodo Problem

554. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:
SHRI SUBASH CHANDRA
NAYAK:
SHRI BARE LAL JATAV:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the initiative taken and proposed to be taken by the Government to settle the various issues relating to Bodo problem with the concerned parties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): Efforts are continuing to find amicable and acceptable solutions to the problems of Bodos in Assam through negotiations with the concerned parties. Discussions have been held at State and Central Government level in this connection.

Freedom Fighters Pension cases

555. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:
KUMARI VIMLA VERMA:
SHRI RAM NAIK:

SHRI B. DHARMABHIKSHAM:
SHRI DATTATAYAL BANDARU:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for the grant of freedom fighters pension pending at present, state-wise;

(b) the time by which these applications are likely to be disposed;

(c) whether the Government have received any complaint about bogus recipient of freedom fighters pension; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). No application received within the prescribed last date, i.e. 31.3.1982 is pending. Applications received after the prescribed date are treated as delayed applications, for which no separate statistics are maintained. However, cases received after the prescribed date and review petitions received from time to time are being considered provided they satisfy certain prescribed criteria. This is a continuous process.

(c) and (d). Such complaints are received from time to time and these are got investigated and if the complaint is found correct, the pension of the recipient is suspended/cancelled.

Vigilance on Indo-Nepal Border

556. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD
YADAV:
SHRI N.J. RATHVA:
DR. G.L. KANAUIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the assistance provided to the concerned State Government and the other steps taken by the Government to check the sneaking out and infiltration of terrorists on Indo-Nepal border; and

(b) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) India has an open border with Nepal. Due to increase in the terrorist activities along the border, the Government of India has established an anti-terrorist check-post near Sonauli in the Maharajanaj district of Uttar Pradesh (U.P.) Police Stations, outposts and immigration checkposts on Indo-Nepal border have been alerted to keep strict vigil. Border Security and policing have also been tightened all along the border.

(b) One activist belonging to the Khasli-tan National Army was apprehended at Sonauli on 1.9.91 while entering Uttar Pradesh from Nepal. In another incident on 5.5.92 an activist belonging to the Khalistan Commando Force was killed by the police when he was trying to escape to Nepal.

Rapid Action Force

557. SHRI SUDARSAN
RAYCHAUDHURI:
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rapid Action Force (RAF) has been dispatched to any State or Union Territory since its formation; and

(b) the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Since its formation, the Rapid Action Force (RAF) has been deployed in Bihar and Delhi for law and order duties.

Production of Petroleum Products

558. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:
SHRI ANIL BASU:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND

NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quality wise production of petroleum, kerosene and HSD in the country;

(b) whether there is any projected shortfall of supply of the above;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to deal with the situation?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (d). The consumption and indigenous production of Kerosene, Petrol and HSD during 1991-92 are as follows:-

(Thousand M. Tonnes)

	Consumption	Production
Kerosene	8350	5339
Petrol (Mogas)	3573	3420
HSD	22679	17404

The shortfall has been made good by imports.

Ban on PMK

559. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu have requested the Union Government to ban the organisation 'Pattal Makkal Katchi' on account of its secessionist activities; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is under examination in Govt. of India.

Cell to Examine Problems of Kashmiri Migrants

560. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA
GAVIT:
SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA:
SHRI LALIT ORAON:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who have migrated from Jammu and Kashmir as a result of the ongoing terrorists activities;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up a cell to sort out their problems; and

(c) the facilities being given and proposed to be given to these migrants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). A statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

(a) According to available information, 33817 migrant families (1.6 lakh persons) are registered in Jammu, 18769 (75030 persons) in Delhi and 954 families (1662 persons) are registered in other States/U.T's such as Maharashtra (Bombay & Nagpur), Haryana, Goa, Kerala & Chandigarh.

(b) Kashmir Division in the Ministry of Home Affairs is coordinating the work of Kashmir migrants.

(c) Permanent rehabilitation of the migrants outside the Valley is not contemplated and it is hoped that they will be able to return with improvement in the situation there. In the meantime, relief and other facilities are being provided, to take care of their basic needs.

Besides the provision of ration/cash relief to these migrant families, accommodation to the needy families along with sanitary and medical facilities, supply of electricity and water, etc. have been organised. Other items like blankets, fans, woollens etc. were supplied by the government/voluntary organisations. Further, special efforts have been made for education of the children in camp schools, and colleges, and for admission in professional institutions. Facilities for payment of leave salary/pension to migrant Government employees, transfer of Bank Accounts and Lockers, insurance settlement etc. have also been provided. Construction of 1391 single room tenements for housing the migrants in Jammu, has been completed out of a total of 2250 units that have been sanctioned.

The scale of relief being provided to the migrants is as follows:

Jammu

- | | | |
|----------------------|----|--|
| (i) Cash relief | .. | @ Rs. 1,000/- per month per family of four or more members. |
| (ii) Free dry ration | | Each person @ 9 kg Rice, 2 Kg Atta. Each family 1 kg Sugar per mensem. |

Delhi

- | | | |
|----------------|----|--|
| (i) Dry ration | .. | Those staying in camps are being provided with one time utensils/bedding kit and monthly ration. |
|----------------|----|--|

- (ii) **Cash relief** .. Those staying in camps set up by Delhi Administration are paid Rs. 125/- per family per month subject to a maximum of Rs. 500/- per family of four or more members, besides free ration costing about Rs. 500/-. Those staying outside the camps are paid Rs. 250/- p.m. per family subject of a maximum of Rs. 1000/- per family of four or more members.

[*Translation*]

Atrocities on SCs/STs

+561. SHRI RAM BADAN:
SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK:
SHRI AJOY MUKHO-
PADHYAY:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PAN-
DEYA:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in the incidents of atrocities on SCs/STs;

(b) if so, the number of persons killed or injured and the number of houses damaged or destroyed during each of the last three years and in 1992 State-wise;

(c) the number of cases registered and the number of persons punished during the said period; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) to (c). The annexed statements I and II indicating the number of

persons killed, injured and the number of houses damaged during 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992 indicate that there is an increase in the cases of atrocities against Scheduled Castes during the period; whereas there was a little decrease in the case of atrocities against Scheduled Tribes during 1990.

The details about the number of persons punished during the above period is under collection from the State Govts./UT Administrations.

(d) There are detailed guideline issued to the States and UTs suggesting various precautionary, preventive, punitive, rehabilitative measures to prevent crimes against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. A Legislation called the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 was passed and brought into force w.e.f. 30th January, 1990 which provides for stringent punishment to those committing atrocities

A Conference of Chief Ministers under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister was held on 4th October, 1991 on prevention of atrocities on SCs and STs in this regard. The Conference took a number of decisions which were forwarded to all the States and UTs for necessary action.

STATEMENT - I

Statement showing the number of incidents of atrocities on Scb. Castes registered, persons killed, injured and the number of houses damaged during 1989, 1990, 1991 and 1992 as reported by the State Governments/U. T. Administrations.

Sl. No.	State/UT	1989	1990	1991	1992	1989	1990	1991	1992
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	511	602	477	192	41	58	33	12
2.	Assam	17	27	14	Nil	02	01	01	Nil
3.	Bihar	997	507	568	399	56	27	01	13
4.	Goa	02	Nil	05	01	Nil	Nil	01	Nil
5.	Gujarat	593	788	1355	1069	14	18	20	20
6.	Haryana	77	81	65	56	01	04	05	04
7.	Himachal Pradesh	79	63	39	13	01	02	Nil	01
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	155	38	42	42	02	Nil	Nil	Nil
9.	Karnataka	490	690	732	288	08	15	28	13
10.	Kerala	616	648	660	381	08	12	10	05
11.	Madhya Pradesh	4226	5210	5332	3205	74	81	92	92

Sl. No.	State/UT	1989	1990	1991	1992	1989	1990	1991	1992
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
12.	Maharashtra	363	499	573	515	19	18	29	10
13.	Orissa	363	304	372	242	04	06	07	07
14.	Punjab	21	22	37	08	05	07	31	04
15.	Rajasthan	1588	1591	2098	1402	34	30	39	48
16.	Sikmim	03	15	27	17	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
17.	Tamil Nadu	482	544	551	426	15	25	11	09
18.	Uttar Pradesh	5195	6096	4804	2541	270	265	284	165
19.	West Bengal	13	05	10	09	01	02	Nil	01
20.	adra & Nagar Haveli	Nil	01	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
21.	Delhi	05	05	04	02	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
22.	Pondicherry	01	01	05	01	01	Nil	01	Nil
Total:		15799	17737	17820	10805	556	569	613	380

Sl. No.	State/UT	1989	1990	1991	1992	1989	1990	1991	1992	1991	1992	1992	Date for '92 upto
		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	17	18	18	19
1.	Andhra Pradesh	152	157	147	62	10	16	07	04	07	04	04	April
2.	Assam	Nil	03	Nil	Nil	Nil	01	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	June
3.	Bihar	83	29	27	21	88	43	39	26	39	26	26	May
4.	Goa	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Sept
5.	Gujarat	64	71	94	58	12	16	22	12	22	12	12	Aug.
6.	Haryana	01	Nil	Nil	Nil	03	01	02	Nil	02	Nil	Nil	Aug.
7.	Himachal Pradesh	09	04	02	03	03	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	July
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	33	Nil	01	01	07	03	02	02	02	02	02	Aug.
9.	Karnataka	16	30	33	11	23	18	23	22	23	22	22	June
10.	Kerala	18	13	18	13	15	12	05	06	05	06	06	June
11.	Madhya Pradesh	171	295	329	329	65	82	63	63	63	63	63	Aug.
12.	Maharashtra	31	60	38	18	10	04	12	15	12	15	15	Aug.
13.	Orissa	05	09	16	09	17	10	23	16	23	16	16	Aug.

Sl. No.	State/UT	1989	1990	1991	1992	1989	1990	1991	1992	1991	1992	Date for 92 upto
		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	17	18	19
14.	Punjab	Nil	01	06	01	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	June
15.	Rajasthan	136	167	159	95	57	62	94	46	46	46	Aug.
16.	Sikmim	Nil	01	Nil	Nil	01	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Aug.
17.	Tamil Nadu	12	05	04	05	32	27	12	07	12	07	July
18.	Uttar Pradesh	886	812	734	375	362	297	284	162	284	162	June
19.	West Bengal	05	Nil	01	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	June
20.	adra & Nagar Haveli	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Aug.
21.	Delhi	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Sept
22.	Pondicherry	Nil	01	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	01	Nil	01	Nil	Aug.
Total:		1629	1658	1609	823	703	589	587	364	587	364	

Note: Information in respect of other States/UTs is NIL.

STATEMENT - II

-Statement showing the number of incidents of atrocities on Sch. Tribes registered, persons killed, injured and the number of houses damaged during 1989, 1990, 1991 and 1992 as reported by the State Governments/UT administrations.

Sl. No.	State/UT	Cases registered										Murder			
		1989	1990	1991	1992	1989	1990	1991	1992	1989	1990	1991	1992		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10						
1.	Andhra Pradesh	79	100	74	16	07	13	09	05						
2.	Assam	18	33	03	NR	04	04	Nil	NR						
3.	Bihar	100	98	13	NR	07	03	01	NR						
4.	Gujarat	129	123	206	100	08	08	19	13						
5.	Goa	01	Nil	Nil	Nil	01	Nil	Nil	Nil						
6.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	01	07	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil						
7.	Karnataka	87	42	15	02	03	01	Nil	Nil						
8.	Kerala	155	107	49	57	02	02	Nil	Nil						
9.	Madhya Pradesh	2163	2366	2145	491	38	62	62	12						
10.	Maharashtra	214	177	235	200	09	10	11	08						
11.	Manipur	Nil	06	07	03	Nil	01	04	01						

Sl. No.	State/UT	Cases registered													
		1989	1990	1991	1992	1989	1990	1991	1992	1990	1991	1992			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10						
12.	Nagaland	05	Nil	Nil	-	01	Nil	Nil	-	01	Nil	Nil	-		
13.	Orissa	217	104	134	87	04	02	02	02	02	02	02	02	02	02
14.	Rajasthan	420	415	547	386	11	14	14	08	12	12	08	08	08	08
15.	Sikmim	07	11	29	15	01	Nil	Nil	Nil	01	01	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
16.	Tamil Nadu	01	03	214	NR	NR	Nil	Nil	03	Nil	Nil	03	03	03	03
17.	Uttar Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil	NR	Nil	Nil	Nil	NR	Nil	Nil	NR	NR	NR	NR
18.	West Bengal	90	10	08	11	Nil	01	01	01	03	03	01	01	01	01
19.	A & N Islands	Nil	Nil	01	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
20.	Arunachal Pradesh	9	Nil	Nil	-	Nil	Nil	Nil	-	Nil	Nil	Nil	-	-	-
21.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	07	11	04	05	Nil	Nil	Nil	05	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Sl. No.	State/UT	Cases registered					Murder						
		1989	1990	1991	1992	1989	1990	1991	1992				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10				
22.	Daman & Diu	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	01	Nil	Nil				
23.	Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil	Nil	NR	Nil	Nil	Nil	NR				
Total:		3623	3575	3685	1381	96	122	127	51				

Sl. No.	State/UT	1989	1990	1991	1992	1989	1990	1991	1992	1992	1992	Date for '92 upto
		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	18	18	19
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19	25	17	04	05	09	Nil	01	01	01	April
2.	Assam	Nil	01	01	NR	01	01	Nil	NR	NR	NR	Sept.
3.	Bihar	02	Nil	Nil	NR	01	01	01	NR	NR	NR	Sept.
4.	Gujarat	21	17	34	31	04	07	03	05	05	05	Aug.
5.	Goa	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Sept.
6.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Aug.
7.	Karnataka	Nil	02	Nil	Nil	Nil	01	01	Nil	Nil	Nil	March
8.	Kerala	Nil	02	01	01	01	Nil	01	Nil	Nil	Nil	May
9.	Madhya Pradesh	77	151	152	19	19	31	20	02	02	02	April
10.	Maharashtra	19	13	17	22	08	07	07	02	02	02	Aug.
11.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	03	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Sept.
12.	Nagaland	01	Nil	Nil	-	01	Nil	Nil	-	-	-	-
13.	Orissa	01	03	07	02	04	Nil	05	04	04	04	Aug.

Sl. No.	State/UT	1989	1990	1991	1992	1989	1990	1991	1992	1991	1992	Date for 92 upto
		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	17	18	19
14.	Rajasthan	44	49	46	25	07	08	13	11	13	11	July
15.	Sikkim	04	02	03	Nil	01	04	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Aug.
16.	Tamil Nadu	NR	Nil	01	NR	Nil	01	18	NR	18	NR	
17.	Uttar Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil	NR	Nil	Nil	Nil	NR	Nil	NR	
18.	West Bengal	01	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	01	Nil	07	Nil	07	
19.	A & N Islands	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Sept.
20.	Arunachal Pradesh	01	Nil	Nil	-	Nil	Nil	Nil	-	Nil	-	
21.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli/Delhi	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Sept.
22.	Daman & Diu	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	June
23.	Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil	Nil	NR	Nil	Nil	Nil	NR	Nil	NR	
Total:		190	255	282	104	51	71	55	32	55	32	

Note:- 1. Information in respect of other States/UTs is NIL.

2. NR: Not Reported.

P.A.C. Companies Deputed in Delhi

562. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of P.A.C. Companies from Uttar Pradesh deployed in Delhi at present;

(b) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh have requested the Union Government to send team back; and

(c) if so, the time by which the companies are likely to be sent back?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) 20 companies of U.P.P.A.C. are deployed in Delhi at present.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Shortage of Kerosene and Diesel Oil

563. SHRI POBIN DEKA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a shortage of kerosene and diesel oil in many parts of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to meet the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

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

Production of Wheat

564. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of wheat in the country during 1991-92, state-wise;

(b) the annual domestic demand of wheat in the country; and

(c) the exact shortfall in the wheat production at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The State-wise production of wheat in the country during 1991-92 is given as under:-

(In lakh tonnes)

Bihar	35.66
Gujarat	9.06
Haryana	65.02
Himachal Pradesh	5.96
Madhya Pradesh	46.73

(In lakh tonnes)

Maharashtra	6.26
Punjab	122.95
Rajasthan	44.78
Uttar Pradesh	201.56
West Bengal	5.30
Others	7.59
Total All-India	550.87

(b) The demand for any particular foodgrain like wheat at a given point of time depends on a number of factors like population, production, overall availability including net imports, income distribution, level of prices, availability of substitutes and other related economic variables. As such it is difficult to assess exact demand for wheat. However, the average net demand as indicated by availability for wheat for human consumption (excluding demand for seed, feed and wastage) during the last three years ending 1991 is estimated to be 45.8 million tonnes.

(c) There may not be shortfall in the wheat production but its demand may be increased due to shortfall in production of other foodgrain crops.

[*Translation*]

Social Welfare Organisations in Uttar Pradesh

+565. SHRIGAYA PRASAD KORI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Government aided social welfare organisations functioning in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) the assistance provided by the Union Government to the organisations during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b). A statement is enclosed .

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STATEMENT

Statement Referred to in Reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 71565 for Answer on 26.11.92

Sl No.	Name and address of the Organisation	Assistance Provided		
		1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Iswar Saran Ashram, Iswar Nagar, Allahabad.	3,40,918	1,64,944	2,45,950
2.	Hind Sweepers Sevak Samaj, Lucknow	3,55,215	5,58,787	3,25,268
3.	Jan Jagaran Parishad, Saidabad, Allahabad	79,470	-	-
4.	Human Services Charitable Trust, Lucknow	-	2,99,885	5,49,530
5.	Bodhi Satwa Bana Saheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Smarak Samiti, Lucknow.	-	-	2,73,279
6.	Social and Economic Development Institution, Lucknow.	-	-	1,08,990
7.	U.P. Harijan Evam Samaj Sewa Snasthan, Lucknow.	-	-	1,27,282

Sl No.	Name and address of the Organisation	Assistance Provided		
		1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
1	2	3	4	5
8.	Sarvejanik Siksha Samiti, Lucknow	-	-	91,080
9.	Sarvejanik Shikshanayan Sansthan, Hardoi	-	-	2,59,560
10.	Bhartiya Adimjati Sewak Sangh, New Delhi	2,82,245	2,93,273	3,00,680
11.	Servants of India Society, Pune, Maharashtra.	9,69,435	20,26,394	14,28,935
12.	Deen Dayal Research Institute, New Delhi.	-	1,88,145	1,60,070
13.	Ashok Ashram, Dehradun.	-	1,54,368	1,16,278
14.	Mangalam, Mangalam Sadan, Lucknow	16,52,560	17,00,000	12,69,000
15.	Rotary Sponsored Crippled and Youth Welfare Society, Allahabad.	11,75,000	14,64,861	12,89,000
16.	Abhinay Repertory Theatre & Research Instt. Lucknow.	6,200	5,33,158	89,527

Sl No.	Name and address of the Organisation	Assistance Provided				
		1989-90	1990-91	1991-92		
1	2	3	4	5		
17.	Alok Charitable & Trust, Vasant, Vihar, New Delhi.	-	-	48,600		
18.	All India Women's Conference, New Delhi.	-	-	67,191		
19.	Shri Ram Shram Sewa Sansthan, Badaun.	-	-	59,220		
20.	Dharmarth Seva Prabandh Eyam Samaj Kalyan Samiti, Hardoi	-	-	50,175		
21.	Samaj Seva Sangh, Brahmपुरi, Delhi.	-	-	54,540		
22.	Hasrat Mohani Charitable Society, Kanpur.	-	2,99,6500	-		
23.	Muslim Social Uplift Society, Aligarh.	-	2,99,650	-		
24.	Sir Syed Society, Varanasi.	-	2,49,400	-		
25.	Duty Society, AMU, Aligarh.	-	2,49,400	-		

Sl No.	Name and address of the Organisation	Assistance Provided				
		1989-90	1990-91	1991-92		
1	2	3	4	5		
26.	Noorul Islam Education Society, Lucknow.	-	2,34,900	-	-	
27.	Akhil Bharatiya Axad Sewa Sansthan Lucknow.	-	-	43,290		
28.	Gramya, Vikas Sewa Sansthan, Allahabad.	-	2,24,100	2,86,560		
29.	India Red Cross Society, Allahabad	-	-	48,150		
30.	Kashi, Club, Varanasi.	-	10,25,460	10,25,460		
31.	Sri Kanchi Lal Shastri Samarak Sansthan, Kanpur.	-	94,500	70,890		
32.	Medical Adviser's Assn. Kanpur	-	-	1,51,560		
33.	Netaji Subhas Vidya Mandir, Rampur.	2,90,000	10,000	9,25,413		
34.	Nirbal Samaj Kalyan Sansthan, Lucknow	-	-	48,150		

Sl No.	Name and address of the Organisation	Assistance Provided				
		1989-90	1990-91	1991-92		
1	2	3	4	5		
35.	Shri Ram Babu Verma Society, Agra.		7,04,887	6,15,922		
36.	Moradabad Shaheed Memorial Society Lucknow.	1,37,945	1,23,006	5,22,788		
37.	Sarai Nahar Udyog Samiti, Badaon.			14,400		
38.	Samajik Evam Arthik Vikas Sansthan, Lucknow.			1,51,560		
39.	Sarvodaya Gram Evam Mahila Vikas Sansthan, Milak.			45,090		
40.	Tilak Shaikshik Samiti, Allahabad			1,51,560		
41.	Association for Social Health in India		1,46,881			
42.	Manav Sansathan, Sanaranpur.	49,500				
43.	Swargiya Ramdeo Singh	50,400				

Sl No.	Name and address of the Organisation	Assistance Provided		
		1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
1	2	3	4	5
	Swatantra Sangram Sevaa Nirashrit Dalit Avam Pichhra Varg.			
44.	Akhil Bharat Vihars Parishad, Lucknow.	47,700	-	-
45.	Sri Vrindavan Anand Maha Vidyalyaya, Mathura.	2,34,686	2,48,481	2,58,120
46.	Pragnarain Mook Badhir Vidyalyays Samiti, Aligarh.	1,34,978	1,54,980	3,15,515
47.	Deaf & Dumb School Meerut.	1,34,715	1,57,036	3,07,841
48.	Akhil Bharatiya Viklang Kalyan Samiti Mandai, Ayodhya.	1,48,000	-	6,56,957
49.	N.C. Chaturvedi, Deaf & Dumb School, Lucknow.	3,20,892	6,19,922	-
50.	N.C. Chaturvedi Training College for Teachers of the Deaf, Lucknow.	67,200	1,43,040	-

Sl No.	Name and address of the Organisation	Assistance Provided				
		1989-90	1990-91	1991-92		
1	2	3	4	5		
51.	N.C. Chaturved School for the Deaf, Lucknow:	3,00,000	1,50,000	5,31,230		
52.	Raphael Rider Cheshire International Centre for the Dehradun.	1,63,317	1,81,000	2,45,891		
53.	Sur Samarak Mandal Agra.	2,44,699	2,18,333	3,28,207		
54.	Shri Hanuman Prasad Poddar, Anndh Vidyalaya, Varanasi.	4,7,944	6,75,948	6,98,017		
55.	Goonge Bahron Ka Vidyalaya, Kanpur.	92,115	55,383	7,41,697		
56.	National Fellowships & Rehabilitation Centre for the Blind, Allahabad.	30,000	-	-		
57.	Deaf & Dumb School, Varanasi.	1,05,177	2,02,643	3,12,132		

Sl No.	Name and address of the Organisation	Assistance Provided		
		1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
1	2	3	4	5
58.	National Association for the Blind, Aligarh.	3,38,720	2,30,286	2,10,519
59.	Shri Ajar Dhum Mahila Ashram Trust, Harwar.	2,17,746	3,90,501	-
60.	U.P. Deaf & Dum Institute, Allahabad.	43,60,658	48,340	1,91,338
61.	Saraswati Badhir Seva Samiti, Lucknow	-	1,23,006	2,01,486
62.	Paryavaran Jan Jagran Samiti, Almora.	-	63,180	1,27,480
63.	Swami Arjanand Anndh Vidyalaya Haridwar.	-	-	5,00,922
64.	Viklang Kendra Bhardwas, Ashram, Allahabad.	-	-	3,27,942

Sl No.	Name and address of the Organisation	Assistance Provided				
		1989-90	1990-91	1991-92		
1		3	4	5		
65.	Deaf & Dumb School Ambari Azamgarh.	-	-	1,34,544		
66.	Nanhi Duniya Badhir Vidyalaya Society, Dehradun.	-	-	10,71,912		

[English]

**Supply of Petroleum Products To
Districts Of Madhya Pradesh**

566. SHRI ASLAM SHER KNAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of supply of petroleum products like petrol, diesel and kerosene oil in the district Betul and Hoshangabad of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the number of petrol/diesel retail out lets functioning in each district and the proposal for increase in supply of these items during the year 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Coaching Classes To SC/ST Students
for Competitive Examinations**

567. SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the students belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe and being imparted free coaching for the preparation of competitive examinations;

(b) if so, the number of persons benefited from this scheme during 1991-92, State-wise;

(c) the target fixed for such beneficiaries during 1992-93; and

(d) the funds allocated for the scheme during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI

SITARAM KESRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

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

(d) During the year 1992-93 a provision of Rs. 1.75 crores has been made under the Centrally Sponsored Coaching & Allied Scheme for SCs/STs.

Rateable Value of Property

568. SHRI ROSHAN LAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Assessment and Collection Department of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi does not honour either the Notified land Rate (N.L.R.) or the Allotment charges of land prescribed by Delhi Development Authority while calculating rateable value of properties; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M.JACOB): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Gas Distribution System for Uttar
Pradesh**

569. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal for setting up a gas distribution system to feed hundreds of small industries in Kanpur, Ferozabad, Agra, Khurja, Ghaziabad and Joida areas of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, by what time the gas distribution system will become operative?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). There is no such proposal. However, natural gas is being supplied to some industries; in Ghaziabad.

Consumption of Fertilizers

570. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Nitrogen, Phosphatic

and Potassium (NPK) fertilizers consumed in this Kharif season;

(b) the reasons for the low off-take as compared to the last two seasons; and

(c) the consequently fall in production of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The estimated consumption of fertilisers in the country during Kharif, 92 season, as reported by the State Govts., is given below:

<i>Nutrient</i>	<i>(Lakh tonnes)</i>
N	40.93
P	16.68
K	7.24
Total	64.85

(b) There is no fall in the estimated off-take of fertilisers in Kharif 92 as compared to the last two Kharif seasons.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Vayodevan Committee Report

571. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL CHAR-GAVA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Cooking Gas Agencies permit the consumers to carry gas cylinder with them;

(b) whether the Department has made

any survey to find out the number of the people carrying gas cylinders on their cycles/scooters/cars;

(c) whether Vayodevan Committee has submitted its recommendations against all owing the consumers to carry gas-cylinders;

(d) whether the Government have taken any action to check this practice; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Except under authorisation from the Oil Companies, LPG distributors are not permitted to allow the consumers to carry

LPG cylinders with them.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). Action is taken by the oil companies against the defaulting distributors in accordance with the Marketing Discipline Guidelines.

Laying of Gas Pipeline from Bombay High to Andhra Pradesh

[*English*]

572. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal for laying a gas pipeline from Bombay High to Andhra Pradesh:

(b) if so, the details thereof and action proposed to be taken thereon;

(c) whether such requests have also been received from other State Governments; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (d). Requests have been received from time to time from various State

Governments to lay a pipeline from Western Offshore to the Southern States.

An Inter-Ministerial Group had been constituted to examine the techno-economic feasibility of transporting natural gas from the Western offshore to Southern region. The Report of the Group has been examined by the Government and the concept of a pipeline to the Southern Region has been approved in principle.

Fertilizers to Orissa

573. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of different kind of fertilizers allotted to Orissa during each of the last three years from the Central Pool;

(b) whether the Government have a proposal to increase the allotment of fertilizers to Orissa during 1992-93; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) A statement indicating the nutrient-wise chemical fertilisers allotted and consumed during the years 1989-90 to 1991-92 is attached.

(b) and (c). The following allotment of fertiliser nutrients have been made to Orissa for the Year 1992-93

	Kharif 1992	Rabi 92-93	Total
N	95.57	48.93	144.50
P	27.78	-	27.78
K	14.59	-	14.59
Total	137.94	48.93	186.87

Allotment of phosphatic and potassic fertilisers has been discontinued from 25.8.1992 as these fertilisers have been decontrolled.

The entire requirement of nitrogenous fertilisers of Orissa will be met in full by allocations

STATEMENT*Allotment and Consumption of Fertilisers in Orissa*

Fertiliser Nutrient	('000 tonnes)						
	1989-90		1990-91		1991-92		
	Allotment	Consumption	Allotment	Consumption	Allotment	Consumption	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
N	153.70	132.87	148.09	126.66	149.38	126.21	
P	57.63	43.89	42.35	41.05	50.42	41.50	
K	41.70	27.97	25.55	24.96	32.21	28.30	
Total:	253.03	204.73	215.99	192.67	232.01	196.01	

[*Translation*]

Orange processing Industries.

574. SHRITEJSINGH RAO BHONSLE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the union Government have received any proposal from the government of Maharashtra for setting up Orange Processing Industry in Nagpur and Amrawati ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO):

(a) No, Sir.

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

[*English*]

Fish Resources in Bihar

575. SHRI KAMLA MISRA MADHUKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the World bank has selected Moti Lake and Kariyaman lake of Motihari in the East Champaran district of Bihar for the development of fish production;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the target fixed for completion of this work and the details of the works started for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLA-PALLY RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) yes , Sir.

(b) The World bank project envisages development works to make the lakes suitable for fish production and involves construction of sluice gates, protection bunds, deepening of inlet and outlet channels, and weed clearance.

(c) The district collector, East Champaran has been requested by Government of Bihar to start the detailed survey and prepare plans and estimates to undertake the works. The development works are likely to commence from April 1993 and are expected to be completed in two years.

Registration of Ph. D. Scholars by Cochin University.

576. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cochin University has refused to register the 11th batch of the ph. D. scholars joined for the Ph. D. programme in 'Mariculture' of the Central marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Cochin;

(b) the steps taken by ICAR in this matter,

(c) whether there is any attempt to shift the Ph. D. course in Mariculture from CMFRI, Cochin to any other Institutes by ICAR; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (K. C. LENKA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Question does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The Question does not arise.

Sewer Connections

577. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether laying of sewer line in Trilokpuri, Delhi has since been completed;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when it is likely to be completed and connection of sewer line is given to the residents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c). DWS SDU reports as follows: Trilokpuri, Resettlement colony was developed in two phases namely Trilokpuri Phase I and Trilokpuri Phase II. The Works of laying of internal sewers including peripheral sewers in both these phases have been awarded and are under execution. Phase I work had started in April 1991 with completion period of 24 months and phase II work started in November, 1992 with completion period of 18 months. The connections can be given to the residents after completion to the above works.

Special foodgrain production programme

578. SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI: KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the states where the special foodgrain production programme for rice has been launched;

(b) the progress of the programme these states;

(c) whether the government have made any review of the programme; and

(d) if so, the proposals under consideration of the Government for the improvement of this programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Special foodgrains Production Programme (SFPP-Rice) was launched in 1988-89 in 13 major rice producing states and Special Rice Production Programme (SRPP) launched in 1985-86 in eastern states have since been unified and renamed as integrated Programme for Rice Development (IPRD). IPRD is being implemented in Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Tirpura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal and Pondicherry.

(b) The progress of programme implementation in these states has been by and large satisfactory. Rice production in these States taken together has increased from 58.0 million tonnes in 1984-85 to 73.4 million tonnes in 1991-92. During the same period the average productivity level has increased from 1418 kg/ha to 1744 kg/ha.

(c) and (d). The review of the implementation of programme is being done with the States during national Conferences of Kharif and Rabi held seasonally. For improving the programme implementation flexibility has been provided to the State to fix the physical targets of their own dependign on the availability / supply of inputs.

Urban Water Supply

579. SHRIM.V.V.S MURTHY : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to introduce a Centrally sponsored water supply scheme in towns with a population of less than 20,000 during eighth Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the Name of towns of Andhra Pradesh which have been indentified under the scheme?

THE MIINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.ARUNACHALAM): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) A new Centrally sponsored Scheme for Water Supply to towns with population less than 20,000 is being introduced which will be funded by the Central and the State Governments in the ratio of 50 : 50. The Scheme is proposed to be initiated from 1993-94.

Detailed guidelines incorporating various criteria for the selection of towns and preparatid of schemes for such towns have already been circulated to the state Governments and they have been requested to send their proposals on the basis of these guidelines.

(c) List of towns of Andhra Pradesh with a population of less than 20,000 may please be seen in the attached statement .However, no proposal had been received from the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh so far.

Statment

Names of town of Andhra Pradesh which have been identified under the scheme

1. Vemulawada
2. Banswada
3. Cheepurapalle
4. Renigunta
5. Nagar Kurnool
6. Kondapalem alias Sriramnagar
7. Nellimala
8. Kaikalur
9. Parasamba alias kasibugga
10. Penukonda
11. Tirumalai
12. Gannavaram
13. Machavaram
14. Dornakal
15. Kollapur
16. Kuppam
17. Sompeta
18. Palosa
19. Madhira
20. Bhattiprolu
21. Asifabad
22. Phirangipuram
23. Manthani
24. Rajam

- | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|-----|--|
| 25. | Chellapalle | 49. | Eampachodavuram |
| 26. | Singaralyikonda | 50. | Veparala |
| 27. | Budvel | 51. | Shankarampet |
| 28. | kosigi | 52. | Sriramsagar Project Right Flank colony |
| 29. | Cumbam | 53. | Upper Sileru Project Site Camp |
| 30. | Bugganipalle | 54. | Mothugudem |
| 31. | Ghatkesar | 55. | Srisaillam project Township(LFC) |
| 32. | kamalapuram | 56. | prasanthinilayam Township |
| 33. | Kankipade | | |
| 34. | Madugula | | |

[*Transfation*]

Exhausted Oil Wells

- | | | | |
|-----|-----------------------|------|---|
| 35. | Rozole | | |
| 36. | Alampur | | |
| 37. | Bandarulanka | 580. | SHRIMATI KESHARBAI SONAJI KEHIRSAGAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: |
| 38. | Yadagirtigutta | | |
| 39. | Bapulapadu | (a) | the number of oil wells exhausted after exploration in Bombay high and other Coastal areas; and |
| 40. | Kovurpalle | (b) | the quantity of oil and gas explored last year therefrom? |
| 41. | Nagierddipalle | | |
| 42. | Pendurthi | | |
| 43. | Kothapalle Haveli | | THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIB. SHANKARANAND) |
| 44. | Lakshettipet | (a) | No oil well has been exhausted in Bombay high and other coastal areas. |
| 45. | Shar Project Township | (b) | Does not arise. |

[*English*]

Chain Snatching Incidents In Delhi

- | | | | |
|-----|------------------|------|---|
| 46. | Sirpur | 582. | SHRIJEEWAN SHARMA; Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: |
| 47. | Mandasa | | |
| 48. | Vijayapuri South | | |

(a) whether the chain snatching cases are on the increase in the Capital;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of chain snatching cases reported during 1992 and how do these compare with the proceeding three years; and

(d) the steps taken to check such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir. There has been an increase in chain snatching cases in the Capital.

(b) the reasons include rapid urbanisation, increase in population, vehicular traffic and influx of migrants.

(c) The number of chain snatching cases reported during the period from 1.1.92 to 15.11.92. and its corresponding period of last three years is as under:-

Year	No. of cases
1969	139
1990	114
1991	188
1992	228

(d) Among the measures taken are increased patrolling; posting of pickets at strategic points; strengthening of intelligence; surprise checking of vehicles and increased surveillance etc.

Investment of Funds in Foreign banks By ONGC

583. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE;
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH
SHAKYA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ONGC has violated the provisions of the ONGC Act by investing its surplus funds in foreign banks as reported in the Indian Express of July 17, 1992;

(b) if so, the facts and details in this regard;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the corrective steps the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) (a) According to ONGC, it has not invested any of its surplus funds in violation of provisions of the ONGC Act.

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

Import of Crude Oil From Russia

584. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO:
DR. G.L. KANAUJIA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a five member official delegation had gone to Moscow in September last to remove bottlenecks in the way of Russia supplying its committed Quantum of crude oil to India during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the out come of the discussions held there;

(c) the quantity of oil expected from

Russia presently and the mode of its payment particularly in Rupees as per the Russian Government's earlier commitment for the current year's supply?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND) (a) yes, Sir. A four member delegation visited Moscow in September, 1992.

(b) and (c). Subsequent to this visit, two memoranda of understandings for the supply of 400,000-500,000 metric tonnes of crude oil each to India have been signed under the current trade plan provisions.

[Translation]

Setting Up of Oil Refinery in Gujarat

585. SHRI N. J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has granted permission to an oil Refinery company of Switzerland to set up an oil refinery in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the oil refinery would be set up in Gujarat and the total production capacity of the refinery; and

(d) the place at which it is proposed to be set up this oil refinery in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND)

(a) to (d). Government of India have issued a letter of Intent to M/s. international petroleum S.A. (B.V.I.), Switzerland to set up a 100% export oriented crude oil refinery with an initial capacity of 5 MMTPA at a suitable location in West Coast of Gujarat.

[English]

Development of medium Towns In Andhra Pradesh

586. DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the plans to provide better civil and other amenities in number of small and medium towns in various States have been approved by the Union Government and Housing and Urban Development Corporation;

(b) if so, the projects undertaken by the union Government and housing and Urban Development Corporation for developing medium towns in the Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the total amount earmarked for the purpose;

(d) by what time they are likely to be completed; and

(e) the amount spent in Andhra Pradesh during 1992-93.

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUN-ACHALAM): (a) The on-going Centrally sponsored Plan Scheme of Integrated Development of Small and medium Towns (IDSMT) was launched in the year 1979-80. From 1979-80 till 31-3-92, 517 towns spread in various States and UTs have been covered under the IDSMT Scheme and Central assistance amounting to Rs. 176.17 crores released. This includes 36 towns of Andhra Pradesh for which Central assistance of Rs. 10.64 crores was released. in the modified pattern of the IDSMT Scheme which is applicable for towns to be covered under the IDSMT Scheme during the 8th Five Year Plan (1992-97), besides budgetary support,

loan assistance from HUDCO/ other financial institutions is also envisaged. At present, no proposal of any State Government/ UT Administration for financial assistance under the modified pattern of IDSMIT Scheme is pending with the Central Government.

(b) to (e). Do not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

[Translation]

Violation of Civil Rights Act

587. SHRIRAMSAGAR: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any information from some State Governments about the violation of Civil Rights Act 1955 during 1991 and 1992;

(b) the number of cases filed in this regard during the said period, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to amend the provisions for abolishing untouchability; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is made?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) A statement is enclosed.

(c) and (d) Untouchability stands abolished under Article 17 of the Constitution though it exists in several parts of the country. Efforts are being made for the socio-economic development of these classes to eradicate untouchability.

STATEMENT

Statement showing the number of cases Registered Under the PCR Act 1955 (As Reported By State Govt/UT Adm.) For the Year Ending 31st Dec. 1991.

S.No.	Name of State/UT	No. of cases registered during 1991
1.	Andhra	(NA)
2.	Assam	Nil
3.	Bihar	(NA)
4.	Goa	8
5.	Gujarat	209
6.	Haryana	2
7.	Himachal Pradesh	18
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	3
9.	Karnataka	722

S.No.	Name of State/UT	No. of cases registered during 1991
10.	Kerala	21
11.	Madhya Pradesh	249
12.	Maharashtra	340
13.	Orissa	42
14.	Punjab	Nil
15.	Rajasthan	107
16.	Tamil Nadu	861
17.	Tripura	Nil
18.	Uttar Pradesh	296
19.	West-Bengal	1
20.	Chandigarh	Nil
21.	Delhi	3
22.	Pondicherry	21

Information relating to the cases registered during the year 1992 has to so far been received.

[English]

**Recruitment of Women Constables In
Central Reserve Police Force**

588. DR. RAJAGOPALAN SRIDHARAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Reserve Police

Force has undertaken any recruitment drive to enlist women as Constables during June, 1992;

(b) the places where such drive was undertaken;

(c) the number of candidate who appeared for the recruitment; and

(d) the number out of them selected and recruited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF PARLIMETARY AFFAIRS
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-
TRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M.
JACOB):(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Talegaon in Pune (Maharashtra) and
New Delhi.

(c) 104

(d) 16

[*Translation*]

Refineries In Madhya Pradesh and Orissa

589. SHRI KHELA RAM JANGDE: Will
the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATU-
RAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of oil refineries located in
Madhya Pradesh and Orissa;

(b) whether these refineries are working
as per their licenced capacity; and

(c) if to, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-
ANAND): (a) Presently there are no refiner-

ies located in Madhya Pradesh and Orissa.

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

[*English*]

Agricultural Production

590. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will
the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased
to state:

(a) the estimated current value of an-
nual agricultural production during the last
three years;

(b) the estimated annual value of fertil-
izers used for agricultural production at cur-
rent prices, year-wise;

(c) the Government subsidy on the fer-
tilizer used for agricultural production, Year-
wise; and

(d) the estimated value of any other
direct or indirect subsidy to agriculture pro-
duction, year-wise, at current prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI
MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN):

(a) Year Value of output of agriculture at current prices (Rs. crore)

1988-89 100774

1989-90* 108566

1990-91** 129723

(b) Year Value of inorganic fertilisers at current prices (Rs. crore)

1988-89 5752

1989-90* 6062

1990-91** 6398

(c) Year Value of subsidy on fertilizers production at current price (Rs. crore)

1988-893214	
1989-90*	4555
1990-91**	4418

(d) Year Indirect subsidy on irrigation at current price (Rs. crore)

1988-893275	
1989-90*	3509
1990-91**	4221

*Provisional

**Quick Estimates

Animal Husbandary

reply at (a) above.

591. SHRITHAYIL JOHNANJALOSE:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(d) Union government supplement the development of animal Husbandary in Kerala by way of various Centrally sponsored Schemes. The schemes are:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala have submitted any proposal to the union government for the development of Animal Husbandary in the State;

(1) extension of frozen semen technology and progeny testing programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(2) assistance to States for feed and fodder development;

(c) the response of the Union Government thereto; and

(3) national project on rindepest eradication;

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government for the development of Animal Husbandary in Kerala?

(4) assistance to States for the control of animal diseases;

(5) professional efficiency development;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) No specific proposal has been received from the Government of Kerala for the development of animal Husbandary in the State.

(6) assistance to States for modernisation/improvement of abattoirs;

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

(7) National bull production programme;

(8) Swiss-aided dairy development projects;

(9) assistance to co-operatives;

(10) integrated sample survey for estimation of major livestock products;

(11) national ram/buck production programme; and

(12) assistance to States for integrated piggery development.

Drought condition in Orissa

592. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the severe drought conditions prevailing in Sundargarh, Keonjhar, Kalahandi and Koraput district of Orissa: and

(b) if so, the steps taken to provide immediate relief and other assistance to the drought affected people in the districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Liquor Tragedy in Delhi

593. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:
DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the main recommendations made by Justice Jagdish Chandra in his inquiry report on the Sura tragedy that killed more than 200 persons in Delhi last year; and

(b) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) The main recommendations of Justice Jagdish Chander Commission Inter-alia are standardisation of all Ayurvedic preparations, medicines containing alcohol by the drug controller of India; proper quality control by the drug controllers of respective States; sale of Ayurvedic medicine from the shops of regular chemists; immediate implementation of the provision under the poisons Act regarding the licencing and control over the methyl alcohol; drug controllers should be given separate laboratories to carry out regular checks of Ayurvedic and other type of medicines; establishment of more country liquor shops in the various localities of Delhi, etc.

(b) The Delhi Administration have reported inter-alia that the Departments which have been indicted by the Commission have been asked to identify the staff responsible so as to initiate departmental action.

The complete report drawing particular attention to parts which concern the Govt. of Uttar Pradesh has been set to the Chief Secretary, UP for necessary action.

Instructions have been issued to Police, Excise and Drugs controller for strict supervision at the borders out-posts and authorised distribution points.

Steps are also in hand to chalk-out an effective strategy to prevent recurrence of such tragedies in the future.

Purchase of natural Gas from Bangladesh

594. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approached recently the Bangladesh Government for purchasing Natural Gas for commercial use in the country particularly in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the response therefrom?

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The response is not encouraging.

[*Translation*]

Complaints About delay In Supply Of LPG Refills And Under-Weight Cylinders

595. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:
SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received about the delay in the supply of LPG refills, supply of under-weight cylinders etc. During April to July and August to November 1992 giving the break-up of the complaints;

(b) the number of complaints that were established on investigation and the action taken therein;

(c) the details of the corrective steps proposed to be taken to safeguard the interests of the consumers; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor/

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) & (b). According to available information 3230 complaints were received. out of these 610 were established and necessary action was taken against defaulting distributors.

(c) Appropriate action is taken by Oil Industry and also Weight & Measures Department of the State Governments.

(d) Does not arise.

Fake Passport Racket

596. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:
SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the trade of issuing fake passports is thriving in the country;

(b) if so, whether any racket-engaged in issuing fake passports has been unearthed during the last three months;

(c) if so, the number of the persons found involved in the said racket; and

(d) the action being taken against them by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMETARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M.JACOB): (a) to (d). The registration investigation, detection and prosecution of crimes including fake passport cases in the

responsibility of the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations. The information regarding number of persons involved in fake passports racket is not collected and monitored by the Central agencies.

National Commission On Safai Karamcharies

597. SHIR SHIBU SOREN:
SHRI SUBASH CHANDRA NAYAK:
SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH:
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA

Will the Minister of Welfare be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a National Commission of examining the problems of Safai karamcharies in the country;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up;

(c) whether the programmes relating to the rehabilitation, education and health of Safai Karamcharies are also under the consideration of the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI

SITARAM KESRI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Very soon.

(c) and (d). Statement is enclosed

STATEMENT

A National scheme for the liberation and rehabilitation of scavengers with Rs. 464 crores provision in VIII Five Year Plan has been launched to do away with the inhuman and obnoxious practice of manual scavenging and also to rehabilitate the liberated scavengers in gainful employment. About 4 lakh scavengers are to be liberated and rehabilitated within a period of five years. The scheme provides for financial assistance for setting up self employment upto Rs. 50,000/- in the following pattern:

Maroin money	Rs.	7,500
Subsidy	Rs.	10,000
Bank loan	Rs.	32,500

A sum of Rs. 280 crores are to be channelised as loans from nationalised Banks. Rs. 105 crores is meant for training to the identified scavengers with a stipend of Rs. 150/- per month per head.

Besides, pre-Matric Scholarships are also provided for the children of those engaged in unclean occupations like that of scavenging, flaying and tanning etc. The rates of Scholarships are as follows:

Day Scholars

From Class I to V - Rs. 25/ per month for 10 months in a years
From Class VI to VIII - Rs. 40/- per month for 10 month in a year.
From Class IX to X - Rs. 50 per month for 10 months in a year.

Hostelers

From Class III to VIII- Rs. 200/- per month for 10 months in a year. From Class IX to X - Rs. 250/- per month for 10 months in a year. Ad-hoc grant of Rs. 500/- per student per annum to all students is given.

[English]

Memorials Of Political Leaders

598. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of political leaders whose memorials are proposed to be set up; and

(b) the estimated amount likely to be spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Government propose to instal statues of the under mentioned leaders in New Delhi:

1. Mahatma Gandhi
2. Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru
3. Smt. Indira Gandhi
4. Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri
5. Shri Rajiv Gandhi

It is also proposed to develop the samadhi of late Shri Rajiv Gandhi "Vir Bhumi" and develop the area near Delhi Gate as a memorial for Late Babu Jagjivan Ram, viz., Samata Sthal.

(b) As firm estimates have not yet been finalised and approved, the estimated amount to be spent cannot be indicated at present.

Deployment of C.R.P.F. And Army

599. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times C.R.P.F. or Army was deployed in various parts of the country during 1991 and 1992, State-Wise and Union Territory-Wise;

(b) the reasons for such deployment; and

(c) the number of times the force were deployed without any request from the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). It will not be in the public interest to disclose the information on the floor of the House.

Agricultural Yield

600. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gap in yield between the experimental plots and the farmers' field in India is very large as compared to other agriculturally advanced countries in the world;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to take concrete steps to reduce this gap; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The main reasons for the gap in yield levels are as under:

(i) Lack of assured irrigation facilities and more dependance on rainfed farming in the country.

(ii) Lesser use of agricultural inputs due to smaller holdings of the majority of farmers and lower resource capability.

(iii) Low level adoption of improved crop production technology by resource poor farmers of the country.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir.

(i) Efforts are being made to increase the irrigation potential of the country through various irrigation schemes.

(ii) For judicious use of irrigation water incentive is being provided to the farmers of selected states for purchase of sprinkler sets under Intensive Cotton Development Programme.

(iii) Incentives are being provided to the resource poor farmers for use of seeds of high yielding varieties. Micro-nutrients, herbicides, pesticides, plant protection equipments and improved farm implements, etc. Through various crop production oriented programmes.

(iv) For quick transfer of latest crop production technology incentives are also being provided for organisation of field demonstrations and farmers trainings.

Low Cost Pump-Sets

601. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAOVADDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small industries Testing and Research centre has developed a low cost pump-set which consumes less power;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to popularise the use of these pump-sets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c). The pump-set is at design stage. The question of taking steps to popularise the same does not arise.

Commission On Kerosene

[*Translation*]

602. SHRI RAMTAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from Bihar for increasing the rates of commission of the distribution of kerosene oil under the public distribution system;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. This is under consideration of the Govt.

[*English*]

States Reorganisation Commission

603. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA
KUMAR:
SHRI GOVIND RAO NIKAM:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered the desirability of setting up another States Reorganisation Commission in view of the recent demands for creation of smaller States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) The Central Government is not considering setting up another States Reorganisation Commission.

(b) Does not arise.

Betel leaf

604. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any demand for establishment of Research Centres for betel leaf in Orissa and West Bengal, and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (K.C. LENKA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has already set up research centres for betel leaf research in Orissa in 1981 and in West Bengal in 1983 under All India Co-ordinated Research project.

Drought In Bihar

605. DR. R. MALLU:
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL:
SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA:
SHRI MONORANJAN SUR:
SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH:
SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:
SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV:
SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI:
SHRI LALIT ORAON:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the districts in Bihar which were affected by the drought during the current year;

(b) the details of damage caused thereby;

(c) the financial assistance sought by the state Government and the amount actually released;

(d) whether any Central Team had visited the State to assess the drought situation and recommended the relief measure; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (e). According to the reports from the Government of Bihar, the 29 districts of Patna, Nalanda, Buxar, Rohtas, Bhabhua, Gaya, Nawada, Jehanabad, Aurangabad, Saran, East Champaran, Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi, Sahebganj, Monghyr, Jamui, Katihar, Araria, Purnea, Kishanganj, Samastipur, Begusarai, Palamu, Darabhanga, Madhuvani, Dhanbad, Hazaribagh, Garhwal and Supaul are

affected by drought conditions during the current year.

2. The State Government has reported the following damage due to drought conditions:

- (i) Population affected 53.8 lakh
 (ii) Crop area affected 37.32 lakh hect.

3. In its memorandum the Government of Bihar have sought additional assistance of Rs. 1200.12 crores for relief measures in the wake of drought conditions. A Central Team visited the drought affected areas to assess the situation. On the basis of the recommendation of the Central Team the last instalment of Central share of CRF amounting to Rs. 6.5625 crores for the year 1992-93 and 2 instalments of Central share of CRF amounting to Rs. 13.1250 crores for the year 1993-94 have been released in advance to the Government of Bihar to enable it to augment its resources for relief measures.

Power Plant At Pipavav

606. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
 DR. AMIT LAL KALIDAS:
 DR. K.D. JESWANI:
 SHRI DILEEPBHAI SANG-
 HANI:
 SHRIMATI BHAVNA
 CHIKHILIA:
 SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI
 THAKORE:
 SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
 SHRI HARIN PATHAK :
 SHRI HARI SINGH CHAVDA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any commitment for allocating gas for a power plant at Pipavav in Saurashtra;

(b) whether there is also any move to take Tapti gas to Hazira to meet commitments of supply from HBJ pipeline;

(c) if so, when and how the commitment to supply gas for the power plant is likely to be met;

(d) whether the commitments from HBJ pipeline have a priority higher than the commitment to supply Tapti gas to Pipavav; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (e). The development plans to produce gas from the Tapti Gas fields are yet to be finalised.

Farm Policies

607. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been invited to the news-item captioned "Misguided farm Policies flayed" appearing in the 'The Hindustan Times' dated October 24, 1992;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government there to; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to bring about better agricultural growth in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Government is aware of the problems of Indian agriculture. Through the

mechanism of support prices for agricultural crops, it had attempted to give farmers a remunerative price for their produce. A number of schemes for better agricultural growth covering different foodgrains crops, horticultural produce, land development, rainfed farming, fisheries and animal husbandry sectors are being implemented.

New Agricultural Policy

608. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL:
PROF UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:
SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised the new Agricultural Policy;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). Government has finalised a Draft Agricultural Policy Resolution, for discussion with the States. the Draft Policy aims at tackling the major challenges in Indian agriculture, and addresses itself to the problems of under-employment, unemployment & mal-nutrition, by generating activity through diversification of agriculture and promotion of agro-based industry. it also aims at augmenting processing, marketing and storage facilities, development of rainfed and irrigated horticulture, augmentation of biomass production and increased utilisation of irrigation potential and promo-

tion of water conservation. It also aims at reviving and strengthening the local communities and increasing involvement of non-governmental organisation in agricultural development.

(c) the New Policy will be introduced after consulting the State Governments.

Import of LPG

609. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of LPG imported during 1990-91 and 1991-92; and

(b) the quantity of LPG to be imported during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR ANAND).

(a)	YEAR	QUANTITIES
	1990-91	329 TMT
	1991-92	215 TMT

(b) Government have approved the import of 0.450 MMT of LPG for the year 1992-93.

Prices Of Petroleum Products

610. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL:
SHRI SUDHIR GIRI:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA:
SHRI AMAL DATTA:
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:

PROF. RITA VERMA:
 SHRI CHETAN P.S.
 CHAUHAN:
 SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA
 GAVIT:
 DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHAR
 REDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of petroleum products have been increased recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for increasing the prices when the international prices of crude and petroleum products are on the downturn; and

(d) the likely impact of this price hike economy?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) to (d). In order to partially reduce the increasing deficit of the Oil Industry keeping in view the costs, the Prices of petroleum products except SKO for domestic use were increased with effect from 16.9.1992. The impact on the economy is too early to be assessed.

Crimes In Delhi

611. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Every sixth killing sex-related. A new high in murder cases in Capital " appearing in the Indian Express dated August 22, 1992;

(b) if so, the number of murder cases reported during 1992 (upto October) month-wise and the number out of them related to sex;

(c) the number of cases solved and those still pending; and

(d) the measures being taken to check crimes in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Month-wise details of the murder cases reported and number of these cases having their genesis in sex during the period from 1.1.92 to 31.10.1992 is as under:

<i>Month</i>	<i>Cases reported</i>	<i>No. of sex related cases</i>
January	40	7
February	39	6
March	55	10
April	39	4
May	53	7

<i>Month</i>	<i>Cases reported</i>	<i>No. of sex related cases</i>
June	52	9
July	45	8
August	49	7
September	45	6
October	42	8
	459	72

(c) The disposal of the 459 cases is as under:

Number Of Cases					
Reported	Cancelled	Admitted	Pending Trial	Pending (Investigation)	Untraced
1	2	3	4	5	6
459	2	457	232	220	5

(d) The steps taken by the Government to curb crime include increased patrolling; posting of pickets at strategic points; strengthening of intelligence frequent raids at the hide out of criminals; increased surveillance; co-ordination meeting with the officers of the neighbouring States; training of police officers in handling modern weapons and modernisation of communication network.

Flood Affected Areas

612. SHRI RAMESH CHENNI-
THALA:
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRI N.J. RATHVA:
SHRI SUKHENDU KHAN:
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA;
SHRI SUDHIR GIRI:
SHRIMATI SUSEELA
GOPALAN:

SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI:
SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA
NAYAK:
SHRIMATIGEETA MUKHER-
JEE:
SHRI K. PRADHANI:
KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI
SINGH:
SHRI P.M. SAYEED:
SHRI CHINMAYANAND
SWAMI:
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR
PATEL:
PROF. K.V. THOMAS:
SHRIKODIKKUNIL SURESH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the places in State/Union Territories affected by floods during the current year;

(b) the estimated loss caused thereby in each affected State / Union Territory;

(c) the Central assistance sought by each State/ Union Territory and the amount actually released;

(d) the State /Union Territory visited by the Central Team (s) in this regard; and

(e) the follow-up action taken on the reports of the Central Team (s)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). Details of places affected by floods during the current year and estimated loss

are being collected.

(c) to (e). The States of Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu have submitted Memoranda seeking additional Central assistance of Rs. 215.28 crores, Rs. 534.00 crores, Rs. 125.46 crores, Rs. 9.00 crores, Rs. 318.74 crores and Rs. 530.04 crores respectively for relief measures in the wake of floods during the current year. A Central Team visited the affected areas in Jammu & Kashmir to assess the flood situation.

The following advance releases have been made from the Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) to the State Governments for relief measures:

	<i>Name of State</i>	<i>(Rs. in Crores)</i>
1.	Jammu & Kashmir	6.75
2.	Kerala	17.4375
3.	Madhya Pradesh	6.9375
4.	Uttar Pradesh	26.64
5.	Tamil Nadu	21.9375

Increase in prices Of fertilizers

613. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:
 PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESHWARLU:
 SHRI V. DHANJAYA KUMAR:
 DR. P. R. GANGWAR:
 SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY:
 SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV:
 SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
 SHRI CHITTA BASU:
 SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI:
 SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:

SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:
 SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU:
 SHRI BALRAJ PASSE:
 SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
 SHRI MANIKRAO HODLAYA GARIT
 SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA:
 SHRI MOHAN SING(DOERIA):
 DR. LAXMINRAYAN PANDEYA:
 PROF. RITA VERMA:
 SHRI SOBHANDRESWARA RAO VADDE:

DR. MOHADEEPAK SIGNH
SHAKYA:

SHRI ANNA JOSHI:

SHRI INDRAJEET GUPTA:

SHRI MANORANJAN SUR:

SHRIMATI KESHRBAI

SONAJIKSHIRSAGAR:

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:

SHRISATYAGOPAL MISRA:

SHRI P.C. THOMAS:

SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI:

SHRI MANORANJAN

BHAKTA:

SHRI PARASRAM BHARD-

WAJ:

fertilizers before and after the decontrol;

(c) the likely impact of this increase on the consumption of fertilizers and production of foodgrains;

(d) whether the small and marginal farmers in the country are also overburdened by this sudden increase in the prices of fertilizers; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to provide adequate relief to these farmers at the earliest?

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of some fertilizers have been hiked following the decontrol of their prices;

(b) if so, the prices of various kinds of

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The prices of the phosphatic and potassic fertilizers have gone up after their decontrol w.e.f. 25th August, 1992.

(b) Details are given below:

Product	Before Decontrol	After [Decontrol*
Di-Ammonium Phosphate(DAP)	4680	7800-8100
Muriate of Potash (MOP)	1700	5476-6490
Complexes		
12: 32: 16	2750	6732
10: 26:26	2500	6800-6903
20: 20: 0	2050-2200	6446
15: 15:15	1800	6080
23: 23: 03600	6483	
17: 17: 17	2200	3570

* as reported by some of the State Governments.

(c) to (e). In order to cushion the impact of increase in price of decontrolled fertilizers, Government announced a concession of Rs. 1,000/- to be given directly to the farmers as a result of which these fertilizers have been made available by the State Governments at lesser prices. A sum of Rs. 340 crores has been sanctioned to meet this requirement. The State Governments have also been Additionally sanctioned a sum of Rs. 500 crores in all for taking up special schemes for small and marginal farmers which are infrastructure and investment related. Adequate flexibility has been given to the State Governments which includes provision for States to enhance support to small and marginal farmers in the availability of decontrolled fertilizers.

Expenditure On Foreign Tours

614. SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN:
SHRI N.K. BALIYAN:
SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred on foreign tours by officials of the Ministry during 1991-92;

(b) the details of such expenditure during 1989-90 and 1990-91, and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to reduce such expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Rs. 630734/-

(b) Rs. 486440/- and Rs. 341227/- respectively.

(c) A ban exists on foreign tours except for those related to commercial or aid negotiations.

[*Translation*]

Water In DDA Colonies.

615. SHRI RAM KRISHNA
KUSMARIA;
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:
SHRI MATI BHAVNA
CHIKHLIA:
SHRI RATILAL VERMA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority has not provided water so far in various colonies developed since 1985;

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

(c) the time by which water is likely to be provided in these colonies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). DDA reports that it has provided water in the areas developed by DDA except for 2 housing pockets:

(i) Co-op. Group Housing Society (CGH) area Chilla Dallupura.

(ii) C.G.H.S. area, Vikaspuri.

(c) DDA reports that as regards CGHS area, Chilla Dallupura, water shall be provided through tube-wells as soon as electric connections is made available by DESU. For CGHS area Vikaspuri, water shall be supplied only open MCD provides water for these areas.

Marginal Farmers

616. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:
SHRIMATI SHEELA
GAUTAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is rapid increase in the number of marginal farmers in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to check the increasing number of marginal farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) As per the latest Agricultural Census the number of marginal farmers have increased to 56.15 million during 1985-86 from 50.12 million during 1980-81.

(b) The main reasons for increase of marginal farmers is "the division of ancestral property".

(c) The Government is taking various steps through family welfare programmes to limit the family size.

Allotment of Plots In Rohini Residential Scheme

617. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM:
SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who applied for MIG and LIG plots under Rohini Residential Scheme and the number out of them allotted plots;

(b) the time by which the remaining applicants are likely to be allotted plots and the reasons for the delay; and

(c) the steps being taken to ensure

speedy allotment of plots to be applicants at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The number of persons who applied for MIG and LIG plots under Rohini Residential Scheme and the number of registrants allotted plots, as reported by DDA, are as under:

Category Persons applied/registrants
Allotment made

LIG	38105	17109
MIG	25889	10394

(b) and (c). DDA have informed that a programme has been chalked out to accommodate the remaining registrants during the 8th Five Year Plan subject to availability of plots. Due to non-availability of plots at present, allotment is not being made to the remaining registrants. Proceedings for acquiring further land are reported to have been initiated. DDA have further reported that attempts are being made to acquire the balance land as soon as possible on a priority basis.

[*English*]

Starvation Deaths

618. SHRI SUBASH CHANDRA NAYAK:
SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI:
SHRI LOKANATH CH-
OUDHURY:
SHRI PARASRAM
BHRARDWAJ:
SHRI K. PRADHANI:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI SARAT CHANDRA
PATTANAYAK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several persons belonging to Scheduled Tribes died of starvation in Koraput district of Orissa as reported in the Indian Express of September 16, 1992?

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether any inquiry into the causes leading to starvation deaths has been made:

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the specific measures taken to check such deaths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Visit to France

619. SHRI ANNAJOSHI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether she visited France in the third week of October 1992;

(b) if so, the important issues discussed and pacts signed during her visit;

(c) whether the French Government has shown any interest to invest in housing projects of India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Discussions were held by the Minister for Urban Development with the

French Minister for housing and Equipment on possible areas of co-operation and French Assistance in housing, urban infrastructure and urban transport. No formal agreement was, however, signed.

The French Minister for housing agreed to depute a mission to examine projects relating to social housing, housing finance, building materials, water supply and urban infrastructure and urban transport.

As a sequel to these discussions, the French Government sent a Mission in November, 1992 to identify projects for assistance and areas of technical co-operation in these fields.

Removal of Jhuggis Near MPs Flats

620. SHRI LOKANATH CH-
 OUDHURY:
 SHRIMATIGEETA MUKHER-
 JEE:
 SHRI VISHWANATH SHAS-
 TRI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new Delhi Municipal Committee Municipal Corporation of Delhi authorities have been instructed to remove all the jhuggi-jhopris from the vicinity of MP bungalows and flats; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the NDMC/MCD authorities in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAAM): (a) New Delhi Municipal Committee has reported that instructions have been received for the removal of the existing jhuggis in VIP areas especially those around M.Ps bungalows.

(b) N D M C. has so far removed 21 commercial and other jhuggis.

Projects Sanctioned By NSFDC In Kerala

621 SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects sanctioned by the National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) in Kerala during 1990-91 and 1991-92; and

(b) the details of the project proposals of Kerala pending for approval with the Corporation during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) The number of projects sanctioned by NSFDC in Kerala during 1990-91 and 1991-92 are as under:

Year	No of Projects
1990-91	Nil
1991-92	2

(b) 6 project proposals are under scrutiny as per details enclosed.

STATEMENT

No. of Proposals Pending for Kerala

Sl. No.	Date of Receipt	Scheme/Nature of Activity	Approx Cost of Scheme	(Rs. in Lakhs)			Status
				NSFDC Share	5	6	
1.	27.1.90	Setting up of an Offset Printing Press	9.00	7.00			Loan to proposed to be shared on 50-50 basis with KFC. Sanction of KFC is awaited.
2.	14.5.92	Transport Scheme from District Coop	14.00	7.00			Clarifications on fund utilisation in the past are awaited
3.	3.8.92	MILMA Project	154.00	46.00			Under Process
4.	8.9.92	Allotment of Shopping Room	Not Specified	Not Specified			Clarifications Sought.
5.	13.10.92	Prawn Culture	271.00	200.00			NCDC's sanction awaited
6.	17.11.92	Establishment of Business Facility Centres.	317.00	200.00			Under process

[*Translation*]

LPG Agencies In Gujarat

622. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG agencies closed due to malfunctioning in Gujarat during last three years;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) the number out of them which have been permitted to function again; and

(d) the details of the agencies against whom investigations have not been completed so far?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). During the period 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 (till October, 1992), 6 LPG distributorships were closed in Gujarat due to various reasons such as cancellation/suspension of licences by State Government authorities, release of unauthorised connections, dispute between partners, etc..

(c) Nil.

(d) 1. Dilip Gas Agency, Wankaner.

2. Damor Agencies, Madassa.

3. Mayur Agencies, Morbi.

[*English*]

Processing of Fruits and Vegetables

623. SHRI KALKA DAS: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of fruits and vegetables being processed in the country at present;

(b) whether the Government have assessed their demand in foreign countries, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRIGIRIDHARGOMANGO):

(a) to (c). The fruits and vegetables processing units set up in the country are capable of processing all types of fruits and vegetables. However, the prominent fruits and vegetables which are processed are mango, pineapple, guava, banana, papaya, apple, orange, peach, beans, potato, tomato, peas and onions. No market survey to assess the demand of processed fruits and vegetables in foreign countries has been conducted. However, Agricultural and Processed Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has made a general assessment of the export potential of processed fruits and vegetables. APEDA has estimated that India could achieve exports of 1,30,000 tonnes processed fruits and vegetables by 1996-97. APEDA has formulated a number of schemes to boost the exports of processed fruits and vegetables.

[*Translation*]

Development Of N.C.R.

624. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister had advised several Chief Ministers on December 19, 1991 to formulate schemes within one month for balanced development of the National Capital Region;

(b) if so, the names of the States which have handed over the schemes to the Prime Minister and the estimated amount likely to be spent on these schemes;

(c) the manner in which the Union and the State Government proceed to mobilise funds; and

(d) whether a time-bound programme is being formulated to implement these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No Sir, However, while addressing the 15th meeting of the NCR Planning Board held on 14th September, 1992, The Prime Minister desired that the concerned Central Ministries immediately prepare time-bound programmes for infrastructure development relating to roads, rail services, power and telecommunication facilities in NCR, as per the Regional Plan-2001.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Apart from the major NCR related infrastructure schemes which are expected to be taken up by the concerned Central Ministries in the VIII plan period, NCR Planning Board plans to raise requisite funds for State Sector schemes using the budgetary support of Rs. 200 crores allocated to the Board in the VIII Plan along with matching contributions from the NCR States/Delhi UT Admn., financial assistance of major institutions in the nations housing sector and funds raised in the capital market. In addition, provision has been made for floating joint stock companies at that local level to raise equity funds from the private sector as and when necessary.

(d) Yes Sir.

[English]

Private Sector Companies in the Field of oil Exploration

625. SHRIMATI VASUNDHAR RAJE : Will the minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the private sector companies given oil fields for explorations during 1991-92 and 1992-93;

(b) whether most of the proven oil fields have been handed over to private parties; and

(c) if so, the reasons for handing over proven oil fields to private sector for exploration?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Government have approved the award of contract for four blocks to private sector companies under the fourth Round.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Foreign and Private Investment in Oil Exploration Sector

626. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ONGC propose a fresh offer of blocks of oil fields in a bid to attract foreign and private investments in the oil exploration sector;

(b) if so, whether the main objective of the ONGC is to ensure intensive exploration of the sedimentary basins in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) to (c). In order to intensify exploration of the sedimentary basins in the country it had been decided to offer blocks for exploration for oil and gas to private Indian and foreign companies on a regular round-the-year basis. This will be to supplement the efforts of ONGC and OIL.

Criteria For Allotment Of Petrol/Diesel Retail Outlets In Rural Areas And Urban Areas

[*Translation*]

627. KUMARI VIMLA VERMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted for opening of petrol and diesel pumps in various parts of the country including rural and urban areas;

(b) the number of diesel/petrol pumps functioning at present in the country, State-wise;

(c) the number of diesel/petrol pumps opened during last one year;

(d) whether there is any demand for opening more diesel/petrol pumps at present; and

(e) if so, the names of the places in Madhya Pradesh, where diesel/petrol pumps are proposed to be opened in near future?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-

ANAND): (a) Retail outlets are opened in different parts of the country including rural/urban areas based on the volume-distance norms for combined MS/HSD and lone HSD retail outlets.

(b) As on 1.10.1992 there were 15153 retail outlets in the country.

(c) During the period April, 1991 to March, 1992, 95 retail outlets were commissioned.

(d) and (e). 100 locations for the State of Madhya Pradesh have been proposed in the retail outlet marketing plan for the period 1988-93.

[*English*]

Slaughter Houses

628. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there are a large number of illegal slaughter houses in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to close these slaughter houses and stop their further growth in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) There are no illegal slaughter houses in Delhi.

(b) and (c). Do not arise in view of reply at (a) above.

[*Translation*]

Expenditure On Renovation of Bungalows

629. SHRI SIMON M.RANDI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the Ministry-wise/Department-wise details of the expenditure incurred on the decoration, repair and renovation of the bungalows and on furniture of the present Minister since June 1991 till date;

(b) whether the Government have fixed any limit of the expenditure on building, furniture, decoration and electricity etc. for various Ministers:

(c) if so, the details of the Ministers who have followed the said limit and the details of such Ministers on whom more than one lakh rupees have been spent and the details of their payment etc.; and

(d) the number of such MPs against whom more than fifty thousand rupees are outstanding under the head of rent of residence, electricity, water etc. and the details of the action taken so far for the recovery of the same.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Foodgrains Production

[*English*]

630. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether total foodgrain production in

the country during 1991-92 has fallen down as compared to the previous year;

(b) if so, the actual shortfall and reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to boost up foodgrain production during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The production of foodgrains during 1991-92 is estimated to be 167.06 million tonnes which is less by 9.33 million tonnes in comparison to 176.39 million tonnes achieved during 1990-91. The shortfall is attributed to unfavourable weather conditions that prevailed in Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh & Bihar particularly during the south-west monsoon season (June to September, 1991).

(c) In addition to ensuring remunerative prices to the growers for their produce, the steps being taken to increase foodgrains production during 1992-93 include the on-going special thrust programmes like Special Foodgrains Production Programme (SFPP) - Wheat, and Maize & Millets; Integrated Programme for Rice Development (IPRD); National Pulses Development Programme (NPDP) etc. including Mini Kit Programme.

Financial Assistance For Jails

[*Translation*]

631. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government of Maharashtra have sent any proposal to the Union

Government asking for financial assistance to increase the number of jails and to improve the condition of existing jails;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of assistance likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) No proposal has been received from the Government of Maharashtra during the current financial year i.e. 1992-93 for financial assistance to increase the number of jails and to improve the condition of existing jails.

(b) and (c). In view of answer given against (a) above, does not arise.

Setting Up Of LPG Bottling Plants

[English]

632. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up some new LPG bottling plants in the tribal areas of the country; and

(b) if so, the number and location of LPG bottling plants proposed to be set up in the tribal areas during the Eighth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). While LPG Bottling Plants are set up on techno-economic considerations, one bottling plant each in the tribal areas of Mizoram, Manipur and Tripura is proposed to be set up during the 8th Plan Period.

Support Price of Jute

633. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the support price of jute during the last three years;

(b) the basis on which this price has been determined; and

(c) the time when this price is declared annually?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The minimum support prices fixed during last 3 years are:-

1990-91	Rs. 320 per quintal
1991-92	Rs. 375 per quintal
1992-93	Rs. 400 per quintal

(b) The support prices for various agricultural commodities including raw jute are fixed on the basis of recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP), views of the concerned State Governments, Central Ministries, etc. The CACP, while making its recommendations takes into account a number of important factors like the costs of production, changes in input prices, input-output price parity, trends in market prices, demand-supply situation, inter-crop price parity, effects on industrial cost structure, general price level and cost of living, the international price situation and the parity between prices paid and received by the agricultural sector.

(c) As a policy, the minimum support price of jute is to be announced in the month of January each year.

Foreign Nationals In India*[Translation]*

634. SHRIMATI BHAVNA
CHIKHLIA:
SHRI RATILAL VARMA:
SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of foreign nationals residing illegally in the country and nationality-wise; and

(b) the details of the steps taken by the Government to check this tendency and to repatriate them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Since such illegal migrants as enter India surreptitiously, mingle with the local population, and such persons overstaying go underground, it is difficult to determine the number of such persons who are residing illegally in the country.

(b) Various steps including intensification of patrolling by BSF, strengthening of its water wing, accelerated programme of construction of border roads and fencing, strengthening of PIF/Mobile Task Force schemes for the State Governments, issue of identity cards, computerisation of visa control system etc., have been taken.

Allotment Of Flats Under Slum Housing Registration Scheme, 1985

635. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of slum dwellers regis-

tered by Delhi Development Authority under the Housing Registration scheme-1985;

(b) the number out of them to whom plots/flats have been allotted till October, 1992;

(c) whether there is a separate list of the registrants belonging to the Scheduled Casts and the Scheduled Tribes;

(d) if so, the details thereof

(e) the number of people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to whom flats/plots have been allotted and the number of applicants in the waiting list;

(f) the time by which flats/plot; are likely to be allotted to the SC/ST applicants in the waiting list; and

(g) the reasons for delay in allotting flats, plots to all the applicants under the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNCHALAM): (a) 27693, as reported by D.D.A.

(b) 1374. In addition two Co-operative Group Housing Societies formed by widow registrants have been allotted land for construction of 604 flats.

(c) to (e). Yes, Sir. There is a separate priority list for Scheduled Caste registrants Under the scheme, 339 flats have been allotted to the Scheduled Caste registrants and 5423 S.C. registrants are in the waiting list.

(f) and (g). According to MCD, the flats are allotted to SC/ST applicants as and when flats become available.

Crime Against Women

636. SHRI RAJENDRA AG-
NIHOTRI:
SHRI CHINMAYANAND
SWAMI:
DR. ASIM BALA:
SHRI MANIK RAO, HOOLYA
GAVIT:
SHRIAMARROYPRADHAN:
PROF. SUSANTA CHAK
RABORTY:
SHRI RAM NAIK
SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of crime against women reported during last six months, State-wise;

(b) the number of cases of abductions and victimization of children and minor girls occurred in Delhi during the last six months;

(c) the number of persons apprehended in these cases and the numbers out of them to whom punishment has been awarded by the courts; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) A statements showing State/ Union Territory wise available statistics of crimes against women during the last six

months is enclosed.

(b) and (c). The number of cases reported by the Delhi Police regarding kidnaping and abduction of children, minor girls, persons apprehended and convicted is given in statement-II.

(d) The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes including crimes against women is the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. State Governments have to take action to register cases, undertake investigation and file cases in the courts of law. The prevention of crimes of this category also falls within their jurisdiction. However, the Government of India have initiated a number of measures to check such crimes. The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 was amended in 1984 and 1986 to make the law more stringent. In addition, the Indian Penal Code, the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 were amended to deal effectively not only with dowry death cases but also with cases of cruelty to married women.

A number of schemes are being implemented by the Government as well as through women's voluntary organisations to make women economically independent and aware of their rights. Mass media campaigns against the social evil of dowry through the programmes of electronic media are also being organised.

Instructions have been issued to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to effectively enforce legislations relating to crimes against women.

STATEMENT - I

State & UT wise Data on Crimes against Women upto June 92

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total	Remarks
1	2	3	4
STATES			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3153	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	29	upto March
3.	Assam	738	
4.	Bihar	773	
5.	Chh	40	
6.	Gujarat	NA	
7.	Haryana	761	
8.	Himachal Pradesh	278	
9.	Jammu & Kashir	382	Ecl. May
10.	Karnataka	1216	
11.	Kerala	579	

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total	Remarks
1	2	3	4
12.	Madhya Pradesh	6842	
13.	Maharashtra	6088	
14.	Manipur	79	
15.	Meghalaya	28	
16.	Mizoram	45	
17.	Nagaland	0	
18.	Orissa	808	
19.	Punjab	150	
20.	Rajasthan	2288	upto May
21.	Sikkim	10	upto April
22.	Tamil Nadu	1209	
23.	Tripura	159	
24.	Uttar Pradesh	6458	
25.	West Bengal	NA	

Sl. No.	State. UT	Total	Remarks
1	2	3	4
UNION TERRITORIES			
26.	Andaan & Nicobar Islands	10	
27.	Chandigarh	40	
28.	D & N Haveli	6	
29.	Daman & Diu	NA	
30.	Delhi	1809	
31.	Lakshadweep	10	
32.	Pondicherry	396	

Note: 1. Figures are based on Monthly Crime Statistics and May be Treated as Provisional.

2. NA Stands for not Available.

STATEMENT - II

Statement showing the Number of Cases Reported about Kidnapping and Abduction of Children and Minor Persons Arrested and Convicted during the Last Six Months (May-October, 1992)

Sl. No.	Cases Reported	Parsons arrested			Convicted
		1	2	3	
1.	207		96		-
2.	11		4		-
3.	87		53		-
4.	21		22		-

Quarters for Central Government Employees In Patna And Ranchi

[English]

637. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the quarters available for the Central Government employees in Patna and Ranchi, category-wise and the locations thereof;

(b) whether the Government propose to construct more quarters at both the places;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNCHALAM): (a) There is no General Pool Residential Accommodation available for allotment to Central Government employees in Patna and Ranchi.

(b) to (d). There is no proposed for construction of General Pool Accommodation at Patna and Ranchi as construction is undertaken after taking into consideration the overall demands from the eligible government employees and the budgetary constraints.

Increase In Supply Of Diesel And Petrol In Lakshadweep

638. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any representation from the Union Territory of Lakshadweep for increase in supply of diesel and petrol quota; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Presently the demand of Diesel and petrol in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep is being met.

Allocation Of Molasses To Haryana

639. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of molasses allocated to Haryana for use as ingredient in animal feeds during 1991-92 and 1992-93;

(b) whether the quantum so allocated is in accordance with the demand of the State; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) An allocation of 11625 MT of molasses has been made to Haryana for use as ingredient in animal feeds during 1991-92 awaited against a demand of 8570 MT.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise, in view of reply at (b) above.

Drinking Water Facilities In Urban Areas

640. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR:
SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATANAYAK:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether allocations are made for urban water supply schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any special grant to tackle the drinking water problem in Mangalore and Gulbarga cities in Karnataka is being provided; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIM. ARUNCHALAM): (a) and (b). Urban Water Supply is a State subject. The funds for implementation of water supply schemes are allocated under the State Plan.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Crash Of B.S.F. Aircraft

641. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Border Security Force aircraft recently crashed at the Indira Gandhi International airport resulting in the death of the Border Security Force Inspector General;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in the matter; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On 27th August, 1992, a BSF "Superking Air B 200" aircraft VT-EDA piloted by Shri T. S. Dhaliwal, Director Air Wing, Border Security Force, took off at about 12.00 hrs from Indira Gandhi International airport. Shortly after take off, it crashed resulting in the death of Shri T. S. Dhaliwal.

(c) Central Government has appointed a Committee of Inquiry under the Aircraft Rules, 1937.

(d) The Inquiry has not been completed.

[*Translation*]

Barbed-Wire Fencing In Jammu & Kashmir

642. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are formulating any scheme for erecting barbed wire on the Indo-Pak border in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) if so, the details of the action taken in this regard and by when barbed wire is likely to be erected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). The feasibility of constructing the fencing on the Indo-Pak border in the Jammu portion of Jammu & Kashmir is under examination of the Government.

Setting UP Of Oil Refinery At Khirkiya In Madhya Pradesh

643. SHRI SHIV RAJ SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an oil refinery in Khirkiya town of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). Government of India has approved, in principle, the setting up a 6 MMTPA oil refinery in the joint sector in Central India.

[English]

Increase in prices Of Petroleum Products

644. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY:
SHRI ANIL BASU:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to reduce the prices of petroleum products which were increased on September 15, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

Terrorists Arrested In J & K

645. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI:
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
SHRI RAM BADAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of terrorists apprehended and killed in Jammu and Kashmir during the last six months;

(b) the number of civilians and security forces personnel killed by them;

(c) the details of financial and other help provided to the families of those killed;

(d) the details of the arms, ammunition and other material seized from the killed and apprehended terrorists; and

(e) the measures taken by the Government to curb such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (e). A statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

The State Government has informed that the number of terrorists apprehended and killed in Jammu & Kashmir during the last six months i.e. upto Oct. 1992 is given below:

(a)	(i)	Terrorists apprehended	...	2122
	(ii)	Terrorists Killed		320

(b)	(i)	Civilians Killed	...	292
	(ii)	Security Forces Killed	...	99
(c)	Financial and other help provided to those killed		..	A sum of Rs. 4 Crore 15 lakhs and 75 thousands have been granted to the families of those killed. The Government of J&K have issued guidelines for payment of ex-gratia assistance to persons killed or permanently/partially disabled in terrorist violence, vide their order number 723-GR (GAB) of 1990 dt. 10.7.90.
(d)	Details of Arms, ammunition seized from the killed and apprehended terrorists.		..	
		AK 47/56	..	1385
		Revolvers/Pistols	..	309
		Universal M Gun	..	74
		Rocket	..	108
		Rocket Boosters	..	55
		Grenades/Stick grenades		1233
		Detonators		1502
		RTG's		40
		Wireless sets		12
		Mines		121
		Claymore mines of		24
		Anti tank mines		7
		Ammunition	..	1.46
				lakh
				(rounds)

- (e) The measures taken by the Govt. to curb such activities

The Govt. has stepped up pressure on terrorists and the border Intelligence operations have also been further intensified.

[English]

Viral Infection In Fish Species In Kerala

646. SHRIMATISUSEELA GOPALAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a fresh out break of viral infections among the fish species in Vembanad lake in Alleppey district in Kerala is reported:

(b) if so, the steps taken to find out the root cause for the viral infection which is regularly repeated every year; and

(c) the details of relief measures taken to help the fishermen who became unemployed due to this viral disease in fish species?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No such report has yet been received from Government of Kerala.

(b) Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpur under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, after studying the fish disease in Vembanad lake of Kerala in 1991, confirmed that the disease is Epizootic Ulcerative Syndrome (EUS). The cause of the viral infection is yet to be identified.

(c) Government has issued guidelines to take various measures to contain the disease like:

(i) treatment of the affected manageable water areas with lime and salt;

(ii) treatment of affected fish with potassium permanganate; and

(iii) to maintain hygienic condition in open waters.

Cold Storages

647. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATANAYAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa have submitted to National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC) a perspective plan for setting up of Cold Storages in Orissa during Eighth Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, the response of the NCDC thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

Communal Organisations And Communal Riots

648. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:

SHRI P.M. SAYEED:
SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SUL-
TANPURI:
DR. ASIM BALA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of communal organisations in India are receiving funds and help from foreign countries;

(b) whether this funding has been utilised for creating communal tension in the country;

(c) the number of communal riots occurred in the country during the last six months, state-wise;

(d) the loss of life and property suffered as a result thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government to check communal riots and the activities of the communal organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Dependancy On Monsoons

649. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether target fixed for kharif crop could not be achieved in 1992;

(b) if so, the target fixed and the actual production achieved;

(c) whether the monsoon remained the major factor responsible for the failure in achieving the production target;

(d) the various areas in the country affected due to insufficient rain;

(e) if so, whether the Government have formulated any time bound programme to reduce the dependency on monsoon for agriculture in the country;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The target fixed for 1992-93 for some of the kharif crops like foodgrains, and jute may not be achieved, while the target for kharif oilseeds may be achieved.

(b) The final estimates of production of kharif crops 1992-93 have not yet become due from the States. However, the current assessment of likely size of kharif crops along with targets fixed are given below:

(*In million tonnes*)

<i>Crop</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Likely achievement</i>
Kharif foodgrains	103.25	100.0
Kharif Oilseeds	10.00	10.5

<i>(In million tonnes)</i>		
<i>Crop</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Likely achievement</i>
Jute/Mesta (In million bales of 180 kgs. each)	9.2	7.5 to 8.0
Cotton (million bales of 170 kg. each)	12.0	11.5 to 12.0

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Scanty rains received in the pre-monsoon season (March to May) 1992 in West Bengal and North-Eastern States have severely affected the coverage of area under jute crop, particularly in the major producing States of West Bengal. Rains were also deficient during south-west monsoon season (June to sept.) 1992 in Bihar, parts of East Uttar Pradesh, parts of Andhra Pradesh, and parts of East Madhya Pradesh.

(e) and (f). The Government have formulated a long to up strategy to reduce the dependancy on monsoon for agriculture in the country by expanding areas under of dry farming technology in the rainfed areas. The Government have been according growing priority to the holistic development of extensive rainfed areas for stabilising and enhancing producing of dry crops like oilseeds and pulses through restructured National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas.

(g) Does not arise.

Relieving Of Tribals From Moneylenders

[*English*]

650. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh have developed a new method of weaning away the tribals from the clutches of Sahukars/moneylenders;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government are considering to adopt such a method throughout the country for the welfare of tribals; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) to (c). Information is being collected from the Government of Andhra Pradesh and will be laid on the table of the House as soon as received.

[*Translation*]

Cost Of Production Of Agricultural Commodities

651. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the hike in prices of diesel and fertilizers are likely to increase the cost of production of agricultural commodities;

(b) if so, the cost of production of main agricultural commodities before and after the hike in prices of diesel and fertilizers;

(c) whether the Government propose to promote the use of manures by reducing the dependence on chemical fertilizers; and

(d) if so, the schemes proposed to be launched in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The increase in cost of production of various agricultural commodities as a result of increase in prices of diesel and fertilizers would vary from state to state depending upon the level of application of fertilizers/ration of use of plant nutrients, i.e., N.P.K., source of irrigation and level of mechanisation. Therefore, exact increase in cost would depend on the change in the mix of above inputs effected by the farmers in the new

input price scenario. However according to preliminary assessment the cost of production of wheat is likely to increase by Rs. 8 to 10 per quintal in major producing states. In case of paddy the increase in cost of production is likely to be relatively lower.

(c) and (d). Under the scheme on "balanced and integrated use of fertilizers." it is proposed to provide Central assistance for promotion of manure as a source of fertilizers through organisation of demonstration on the use of manure, preparation of riched manure with modern techniques as well as propagation of green manuring.

[English]

Production of Pulses

652. SHRI VJAY NAVAL PATIL:
SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHARY:

Year	Production in million tonnes
1989-90	12.86
1990-91	14.27
1991-92	12.05

Approximate requirement of pulses in the country is around 16 million tonnes.

(c) Import of pulses during the last three years and the current year is given below:-

Year	Production
1989-90	(P) 4.29
1990-91	(P) 12.73
1991-92	(P) 3.11
1992-93	(P-Provisional) 2.20

Contracts registered with NAFED for Import upto Sept '92.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the production of pulses in the country during each of the last three years, year-wise against its requirements;

(b) whether the production of pulses has not kept pace with the requirement;

(c) if so, the extent of import for the last three years and the current year; and

(d) the details of the Plans to boost up production of pulses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRIMULAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). Production of pulses during the last three years is indicated below:-

(c) One Centrally Sponsored Scheme viz. National Pulses Development Project and another Central Sector scheme viz. Special Foodgrains Production Programme

(Pulses) (SFPP (Pulses) are in operation to boost up production of pulses. The first scheme is in operation in all the States and Union Territories. Under this scheme assis-

tance is provided for the production and distribution of seeds. laying out Block Demonstrations, plant protection operations, improved farm implements, sprinkler sets, rhizobium culture, etc. Under SFPP (Pulses), Plant Protection measures are provided for arhar and gram against pod borer, cut worm and termites in a number of important pulse growing States. The scheme also provides assistance for seed minikits in States growing summer pulses.

[*Translation*]

Migration From Afghanistan

653. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families migrated to India from Afghanistan after the change of Government there;

(b) the camps in India where these families have been kept;

(c) whether Government are aware of the difficulties and the problems being faced by such families; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) 15, 568 Afghan nationals have entered India between June and October, 1992.

(b) No camps have been set up by the Government for the Afghan nationals in India. They are reported to be staying in privately pitched tents near Gurudawaras, sarais, dharamshalas etc. A good number of them are staying with their relatives or friends also.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Their problems are being looked into.

[*English*]

Undertrials In Delhi

654. SHRI SHRAVANKUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of undertrials under detention in jails or lock-ups for over five years in Delhi as on January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1, 1992;

(b) the nature of the crimes alleged to have been committed by them; and

(c) the reasons for their prolonged detention?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) As per information from the Delhi Administration, the number of undertrials under detention for more than five years is as under:

<i>As on</i>	<i>Delhi Jails</i>	<i>Police Lock-up</i>
1st January, 1992	28	
1st April, 1992	36	

<i>As on Delhi</i>	<i>Police Lock-up Jails</i>
1st July, 1992	43
1st October, 1992	54

(b) The crimes alleged to have been committed by them under various laws are as under:

	<i>1 Jan</i>	<i>1 April</i>	<i>1 July</i>	<i>1 October.</i>
Indian Penal Code	20	27	32	36
Narcotic Drugs and psychotropic Substances Act	4	4	6	10
Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Act	4	5	5	5
Official Secret Act	-	-	-	1
Customs Act	-	-	-	2

(c) They have been remanded to judicial custody in connection with the crimes committed by them under various laws. Some are in custody as they have not been able to arrange bails.

[*Translation*]

**Programmes For The Welfare Of SC/
STs.**

+655. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of welfare programmes

performed by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission during 1991-92 and 1992-93 in various districts of Uttar Pradesh particularly in Azamgarh and Mau districts;

(b) whether the works of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission are reviewed periodically;

(c) if so, the details therefor; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) The functions of the

National: (a) Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as laid down under the amended Article 338 of the Constitution do not include the performance of welfare programmes.

(b) to (d). The work of Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes Commission is generally not reviewed by Government. However, the Commission submits an Annual Report to the President which is placed on the Table of the House and which is discussed in the House.

[English]

Oil Exploration Programme

656. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN:
PRABHU ZANTYE:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any study to improve the oil exploration programme involving foreign participants;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the proposed plan to boost our oil and natural gas exploration programme?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) to (c). The measures to attract foreign investment in the exploration sector are regularly reviewed to ensure that these are internationally competitive. Under the Forth Round of bidding, Government has approved the award of contracts in respect of 4 blocks. Blocks are also proposed to be offered at regular intervals to private companies for exploration for oil and gas, so that the exploration efforts of ONGC/OIL are supplemented.

Extension Of HBJ Pipeline

657. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR
GANGWAR:
SHRI RAJVEER SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend HBJ gas pipeline to feed the fertiliser plants at Phoolpur (district Allahabad) and Gorakhpur;

(b) if not, whether Government have examined the techno-economic feasibility of extending the pipeline for developing the backward region of eastern U.P.; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) No, Sir,

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Non-availability of gas.

Cities Developed Under Urban Basic Services For Poor In Assam

658. SHRI PROBIN DEKA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of cities in Assam which have been developed under the "Urban Basic Services for poor" during each of the last two years; and

(b) the city-wise details of the development work done in these cities and funds allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). The objective of the Scheme of Urban Basic Services for the Poor is to enable the urban poor residing in low income neighborhood to have access to basic social services such as non formal education, health care, nutritional supplementation etc. The cities and slumpockets located therein are selected by the State Governments. During the year 1990-91 and 1991-92, the State Governments of Assam selected the towns of Silcher, Dibrugarh and Jorhat. Govt. of India have provided Rs. 21.60 lakhs and Rs. 19.00 lakhs respectively during 1990-91 and 1991-92 to the State Government for implementing the scheme. The types of activities to be undertaken are determined by the State Governments and municipal bodies concerned according to the local needs.

Fire Incidents In government Offices

659. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fire incidents took place in different Government and Public Sector Undertakings offices in Delhi during the last one year;

(b) the loss of life and property as a result thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the government to prevent recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). The Delhi Fire Service has reported that during the period January 91 to December 91, about 65 fire calls were received by them in Delhi. There was no loss of fire. The estimated loss of property was Rs. 12,35,550/-.

(c) The Unified Building Byelaws, 1983 and Delhi Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Act, 1986 and Rules framed thereunder provide comprehensive fire safety and means of escape arrangements in the various Categories of buildings including Government/ Public Undertaking high rise buildings etc.

National Capital Territory Of Delhi

660. SHRIGURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to convert Delhi into a National Capital Territory;

(b) if so, the number of districts to be made; and

(c) the criteria being adopted for the creation of these districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Article 239 AA of the Constitution, inserted by the Constitution (Sixty-Ninth Amendment) Act, 1991, provides that the Union territory of Delhi shall be called the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

(b) and (c). No such decision has been taken so far in this regard.

[*Translation*]

World Bank Assistance For Agricultural Development

661. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of aid provided by the

World Bank for the extensive development of agriculture in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years; and

(b) the areas of Uttar Pradesh which have been benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). There is no project with World Bank Assistance for the Extensive Development of Agriculture in Uttar Pradesh. However, the following Projects with World Bank assistance are in operation in the State:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Amount of aid provided by the World Bank during the last three years	Areas benefited
1	2	3	4
1.	National Agricultural Extension Project - I	Rs. 2.00 crores	30 Western districts.
2.	National Agricultural Extension Project - III	Rs. 2.50 crores	25 Eastern districts
3.	Himalayan Watershed Management Project. (closed on 30.9.92)	Rs. 33.67 crores	Tehri Garwal Pauri Garwal Chamoli Almora
4.	National Agricultural Research Project - II	Rs. 3.38 crores	The entire U.P. State has been covered under NARP for strengthening zonal research station in 10 agro-climatic zones.

Setting UP Refineries In Gujarat*[English]*

662. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has submitted (rupees ten thousand crores) a project for two oil refineries to be set up at Sikka Nagar and Jamnagar in Gujarat;

(b) whether these two refinery projects are to be taken up by two private sector enterprises Essar and Reliance Group;

(c) the extent of employment generation and estimated oil production per annum; and

(d) the time by which these refineries are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). M/s Reliance Industries Ltd., M/s International Petroleum S.A. (BVI), Switzerland and M/s Essar Propose to set up refineries in the State of Gujarat.

(c) and (d). These details will be known only after they prepare the detailed project reports.

Registration Of LIG And MIG Flats In Delhi During 1979

663. SHRI MANJAY LAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applicants registered for LIG/MIG flats by DDA during 1979 and number of applicants allotted flats;

(b) the number of flats cancelled on account of non-furnishing of complete papers and subsequently flats were allotted through a mini draw;

(c) if so, the reasons for not allotting flats to all those whose flats were cancelled; and

(d) the steps being taken to allot flats to all?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) It is reported by DDA as follows:

<i>Category</i>	<i>No. of Registrants awaiting allotment</i>	<i>No. of registrants allotted flats</i>
MIG	47,521	20,620
LIG	67,502	39,763

(b) and (c). No such record has been maintained by DDA.

(d). DDA reports that all registrants will be allotted flats during the 8th Five Year Plan subject to availability of land and infrastructural services.

Cashew Industry

664. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn

up any special programme for the development of cashew industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the State where this programme is to be implemented during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c). A Central Sector Scheme for development of cashewnut is being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture. An amount of Rs. 30.00 crore has been allocated tentatively for implementation of that scheme during the 8th Five Year Plan. The major States covered under the scheme include Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, etc.

The main components of the scheme are development of cashew plantations with clones of export quality varieties, replanting of old and uneconomical plantations, pest control measures, transfer of technology, special programmes for beneficiaries from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, etc.

Reduction In Prices Of Benzene

665. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to start a new Benzene plant in Cochin Refinery;

(b) if so, whether infrastructure and other facilities for such a plant are existing in Cochin Refinery; and

(c) the total expenditure likely to be

incurred in the plant to be start?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Certain infrastructural and other facilities are available.

(c) An expenditure of approximately 328 crores is expected to be incurred in the proposed plant.

[Translation]

Demand Of Fruits and Vegetables.

666. SHRI GIRIDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted on the demand and production of fruits and vegetables of various seasons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the prices of these commodities increase due to the storing of fruits and vegetables for making them available in non-season; and

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to reconsider the Food Processing Policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Storage of fruits and vegetables and making them available in the market in the off-season improves prices realisation by the farmers in the period of

glut. Ministry of Food Processing Industries is encouraging setting up of infrastructure including storage facilities for post-harvest processing.

[English]

Prawn Culture

667. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of existing prawn farms in the Orissa;

(b) whether the prawn yields have been declining in Orissa in the last three years;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to increase the prawn production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) So far 8472.24 ha. of brackishwater area has been brought under prawn farming by four Brackishwater Fish Farmers' Development Agencies in Orissa.

(b) No, Sir. Prawn Production in Orissa has increased from 6284 tonnes in 1988-89 to 7713 tonnes in 1990-91.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) It is proposed to further develop 1340 ha. of brackishwater area for prawn production in Orissa under "Shrimp and Fish Culture Project" with World Bank assistance.

Review of Cooperative Act

668. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to review the Co-operative Act for the Co-operative Group House Building Societies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Laying Of New Gas Pipelines

669. SHRIMATI KESHARBAI SONAJI KSHIRSAGAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to lay new gas pipe lines in Maharashtra, Andhra And Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SH. B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). Pipelines are being laid in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh for supply of gas to committed consumers. Further an Inter-Ministerial Group had been constituted to examine the techno-economic feasibility of transporting natural gas from Western off-shore to Southern region. The report of the Group has been examined by the Government and the concept of a pipeline to the Southern region has been approved in principle.

Hike In Sales Tax

670. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Administration has implemented the proposed sales tax hike;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
 (c) if no, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the loss incurred due to non-implementation of the sales tax hike?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. J. JACOB): (a) to (c). No, Sir.

(d) Question of loss does not arise.

Import of Crude Oil And Petroleum Products

[*Translation*]

671. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have taken a decision to import additional crude oil and petroleum products;
 (b) if so, the quantum of additional crude oil and petroleum products separately proposed to be imported; and
 (c) the total foreign exchange likely to be spent on the import?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No Sir.

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

[*English*]

Ban on toxic Kesari Dal

672. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a ban on the production and consumption of toxic Kesari Dal under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Maharashtra have sought permission to lift ban on the kesari dal;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government have permitted them to lift the ban; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). The provisions of PFA Act, 1954 are applicable to manufacture, storage and distribution for sale of articles of food. According to rule 44A of PFA Rules, 1955, sale of Kesari Dal is prohibited from the date so notified by each State/U.T. All States/U.Ts. except the State of Bihar, M.P. and West Bengal have prohibited sale of Kesari dal under this provision.

(c) to (e). The Government of Maharashtra has constituted a committee to consider this issue.

[*Translation*]

Shortage Of Crude Oil In Refineries

673. SHRI N. J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the oil-refineries in the country which are facing shortage of crude oil for the last three years;

(b) whether some of oil-refineries in Gujarat are also facing the shortage;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

[English]

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

Profit Made By Gas Authority Of India

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Refineries at Barauni in Bihar and Bongaigaon in Assam have faced shortage of crude oil in the last three years.

674.— DR. RAJAGOPALAM SRIDHARAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(b) No Sir.

(a) whether the Gas Authority of India has made profit during the last three years;

(c) Does not arise.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to provide more facilities to the consumers?

(d) Govt. has received a proposal for laying of a crude oil pipeline from Haldia to Barauni. Bongaigaon Refinery would consequently get the resultant crude from Assam oil Fields.

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Profits made during the last three years are as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Rupees (in crores)</i>
1989-90	24.94
1990-91	22.72
1991-92	93.55

(c) GAIL is operating and maintaining its gas transportation and distribution network and ensures a regular and reliable supply of gas to consumers.

porary Groups A, B, C and D posts under the Delhi Administration, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi and the New Delhi Municipal Committee as on April 1, 1992;

Posts In MCD/NDMC

(b) the number of posts in each Group which were vacant on that date:

675. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of permanent and tem-

(c) the number of persons recruited against the vacant posts in each group during 1991-92; and

(d) the break-up of the recruitment by method or agency of recruitment?

SHRI ANANTRAO
DESHMUKH:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Cooperative Initiative Project

676. DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Dairy Development Board and Samakhya have launched a Cooperative Initiative Project to promote and extend the cooperative movement at local, regional and national levels; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. A Cooperative Initiative Project has been launched to develop a committed and active constituency of cooperative leaders and practitioners across the country which could and would play a major role in reforming the cooperative environment. The three year programme is led by a three member Cooperative Initiative Advisory Panel. The Panel would conduct a series of workshops in different parts of the country focussing on cooperative principles, cooperative law, policies and practices. First such workshop was conducted at Baroda on 10th & 11th October, 1992. By the end of three years 50 such similar workshops are likely to be conducted.

Gas Terminal At USAR

677. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra have requested for second gas terminal at Usar and allotment of more gas from Bombay High;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). A proposal to this effect was received from the Government of Maharashtra in June, 1992.

(c) In view of the allocations already made within the availability of gas, additional allocations of gas could not be made.

Cashewnut Cultivation

678. DR. SUDHIR RAY:
SHRI K. THULASIAH VANDAYAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the domestic consumption and export of cashewnut during 1991-92;

(b) the production of cashewnut during the above period State-wise; and

(c) the additional area likely to be brought under cashewnut plantation in West Bengal during this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) the domestic consumption of cashewnut in

India is about 1,98,000 tonnes. The export of cashew kernel during 1991-92 was 64,692 tonnes.

(b). The State-wise production of cashewnut during 1991-92 is given below:-

<i>State</i>	<i>Production (MT)</i>
Kerala	143200
Karnataka	26750
• Andhra Pradesh	40360
Tamil Nadu	12710
Goa	14490
Maharashtra	31960
Orissa	31840
West Bengal	3660
Pondicherry	290
Tripura	50
Total	305310

(c) During 1992-93, it is proposed to bring additional area of 150 ha. under cashewnut in West Bengal under the Central Sector Programme.

community is likely to be given SC/ST status?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Yes Sir.

Fisherman Community

679. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether various organisations of fisherman community have been urging the Union Government to give Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe status to the people belonging to their community; and

(b) if so, the time by which the said

(b) The proposal is being considered alongwith similar other proposals in the context of the comprehensive revision of the lists of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe. Any amendment in the existing lists can be done only by an Act of Parliament as laid down under Articles 341 (2) and 342 (2) of the Constitution.

Illegal Immigration From Bangladesh

680. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:
SHRI VIRENDER SINGH:

SHRI MADAN LAL KHUR-
ANA:
SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:
SHRIMATIGEETA MUKHER-
JEE:
SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA
NAYAK:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of the Chief Ministers of the various states on the issue of illegal immigration from Bangladesh was convened by the Government recently;

(b) if so, the decisions taken at the Conference; and

(c) the steps taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMANTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A copy of the resolution containing the decisions/recommendations of the said Conference is enclosed.

(c) Various steps including intensification of patrolling by BSF, strengthening of its water wing, accelerated programme of construction of border roads and fencing, strengthening of PIF/Mobile Task Force schemes for the State Governments, issue of identity cards, computerisation of visa control system etc., have been taken to implement the decisions/recommendations of the Conference.

STATEMENT

Resolution Passed By The Conference Of Chief Minister On Illegal Migration From Bangladesh, On 28 September, 1992, At New Delhi

The Conference comprehensively discussed the various issues pertaining to illegal migration from Bangladesh, and underlined the need for formulating an effective strategy and a well coordinated plan of action to be implemented jointly by the Central Government and the State Governments.

2. The Conference noted that large scale migration of population from Bangladesh had led to a number of serious problems, including demographic changes in various parts of the country. The Conference viewed with concern that some organisations including the anti-talk faction of ULFA have been encouraging or conniving at the illegal migration. Such actions should be firmly dealt with both at the political and administrative levels.

3. The Conference welcomed the proposal for a Central legislation regarding introduction of the scheme of Identity Cards to maintain a record of all persons normally residing in the affected areas, as this would facilitate the identification of foreigners. The Conference urged that very early steps should be taken to enact the legislation, taking into account the views of the State Governments.

4. The Conference supported the steps taken by the Government of India for strengthening the Border Security Force including its Water Wing, constructing border roads and fencing, tightening visa regulations and computerisation of visa control system. The Conference underlined the need to further strengthen the Border Security Force and the Mobile Task Force in some areas.

5. The Conference recognised the urgency of creating public awareness about the serious socio-cultural, political economic and security implications of illegal migration of foreigners into India from any quarter. The Conference underlined the importance of use of media for the purpose. such a cam-

paign should aim at motivating the local people to come forward to report to the authorities about presence of illegal migrants in their area.

6. The Conference noted our close and friendly relations with Bangladesh, and emphasised that all necessary steps should continue to be taken at the diplomatic level to secure the cooperation of Government of Bangladesh for preventing illegal migration of Bangladesh is to India.

7. The Conference decided that such meetings at the level of Chief Ministers should be held at least twice a year to review the measures taken by the Central and State Governments for dealing firmly with the problem and to ensure time-bound action.

[*Translation*]

Special Scheme For Farmers

681. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:
SHRI HARISH NARAYAN
PRABHUZANTYE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated a special scheme to assist the small and marginal farmers in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the time by which the scheme is proposed to be launched; and

(d) the amount earmarked to each State under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Government of India have announced special assistance to State Governments for the

benefit of small/marginal farmers.

(b) Copy of the guidelines formulated and issued to State Governments for implementation of the scheme is enclosed as statement I.

(c) Implementation of the scheme has been formally started with the release of first instalment of assistance to the States.

(d) A statement showing State-wise allocation of funds under the scheme is at statement - II

STATEMENT - I

Guidelines of the schemes suggested to states to help small/marginal farmers under the special scheme of Assistance Announced by the Government

Government of India has announced assistance of Rs. 500 Crores to be administered by the State Governments in order to protect the special interests of small/marginal farmers who do not have enough marketable surplus to derive benefits from enhanced support price. State-wise allocations of Rs. 470 crores is based on area held by small/marginal farmers in each State, total consumption of phosphatic and potassic fertilizer and the percentage consumption of this by small/marginal farmers. An amount of Rs. 30 crores has been set aside for giving transport subsidy to farmers in hilly and remote areas.

Government of India propose to give the States adequate flexibility to take up suitable schemes for the benefit of small/marginal farmers. Government of India, however, propose the following investment/infrastructure building schemes for the consideration of the State Governments:

(i) Buffer-stocking of quality seeds/seed production in North-East;

(ii) Schemes for provision of bore/shallow tube-wells, etc.

(iii) Drip irrigation system among small/marginal cotton cultivators;

(iv) Land development including reclamation of soils;

(v) Strengthening infrastructure for small/marginal farmer cooperatives for poultry, fishery, fruit/vegetables, etc.;

(vi) Improving storage/retail outlets, provision of soil testing laboratories, to promote fertilizer use in low consumption areas;

(vii) Promote use of small tractors;

(viii) Setting up fertilizer quality control infrastructure; and

(ix) Establishment of biological control laboratories.

Where required, the State Government may also consider enhanced support to the small/marginal farmers, to alleviate the increased cost of fertilizers. State Governments proposing schemes beyond the above suggested ones, may do so, after consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India.

STATEMENT - II

Allocation of funds under the scheme on central Assistance for small/Marginal Farmers 1992-93

<i>State</i>	<i>State-wise Allocation (Rs. in crores)</i>
Andhra Pradesh	53.80
Karnataka	36.90
Kerala	21.68
Tamil Nadu	53.82
Gujarat	20.66
Madhya Pradesh	26.22
Maharashtra	35.83
Rajasthan	16.52
Goa	0.75
Haryana	13.95
Punjab	25.33

<i>State</i>	<i>State-wise Allocation (P.s. in crores)</i>
Uttar Pradesh	70.88
Himachal Pradesh	1.25
Jammu & Kashmir	2.26
Bihar	24.66
Orissa	9.82
West Bengal	31.09
Assam	1.95
Tripura	0.65
Manipur	0.50
Meghalaya	0.18
Nagaland	0.03
Sikkim	0.05
Arunachal Pradesh	0.04
Mizoram	0.08
Delhi	0.19
Chandigarh	0.03
Daman & Diu	0.04
Pondicherry	0.71
D & N Haveli	0.11
A & N Island	0.02
Total	470.00

Your State allocation for the above sanctioned schemes for 1992-93 is Rs. (Annex. II) crores. First instalment of funds is being released immediately. Further instalment will be released based on the progress of expenditure of component-wise expenditure on different schemes and the number of beneficiaries served.

Chief Secretaries are advised to monitor implementation of schemes devised for small/marginal farmers as also earlier scheme of distribution of Rs. 1000 per tonne for decontrolled fertilizers and ensure that the benefit announced by the Government are available to the farmers without any delay. Fortnightly progress reports may be sent to this Ministry.

[English]

Offshore Gas At Hazira

682. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of natural gas required to meet all the commitments of Hazira and HBJ Pipeline;

(b) the projected availability of offshore gas at Hazira when these commitments were made; and

(c) whether this projects availability of gas includes gas from the Tapti high fields?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). The projected availability in the year 1990 when the last commitments were made, was 40 MMSCMD by 1994-95. Commitments were made after applying a diversity factor for both firm and fallback users.

(c) The projected availability was on the

basis of expensing proposed in capacity of the pipelines and the Hazira Gas Terminal and not on the source of gas supply.

Fertilizer Subsidy

683. SHRISHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds released by the Union Government to the Government of Gujarat during last two years under the scheme of fertiliser subsidy to small and marginal farmers;

(b) whether this amount was fully utilised by the State Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The scheme on Fertiliser subsidy to small and marginal farmers was implemented during 1991-92 only and an amount of Rs. 11.525 crores was released to the State Government of Gujarat.

(b) and (c). The State Government have reported utilisation of an amount of Rs. 2.846 crores during 1991=92.

(d) On receipt of utilisation of the first instalment towards the end of the financial year, 2nd and 3rd instalments were released. The State Government has been requested to report further utilisation details, if any.

[Translation]

Restoration of Normalcy in J & K

684. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA:
 SHRIMATI KESHARBAI SONAJI
 KSHIRSAGAR:
 SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO
 DESHMUKH:
 SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the economic, political and other measures taken by the Government for the restoration of normalcy in Jammu & Kashmir; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). A statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

1. The Government of India has been consistently reiterating its resolve to restore the democratic process in the State. In this direction a number of initiatives have been taken. A multi party Advisory Council has been set up to aid and assist the Governor. Efforts have been made to activate the district level Committees. Several leaders including the Home Minister and the Minister of State for Home Affairs have visited the Valley in recent months. Dialogues have been held with representatives of all the major national political parties in which representatives of major regional parties of the State were also invited. A multi party delegation also visited the State during 27.10.92. A meeting of a multi-party group of former Legislators and Parliamentarians from the State was also convened on 7.11.92 with a view to discuss the situation and involving them in the process of normalisation of the

situation and moving towards restoration of the electoral process. Since it was not practicable to have discussions with all former legislators/Parliamentarians in a single session, it is proposed to have further such meetings in the near future.

2. The Government of J&K has been facing financial difficulties, particularly on account of the militancy that has been going on in the state for the last 3 years.

3. An inter-Ministerial group has been constituted in the Ministry of Finance and the Rangarajan Committee has been constituted in the Planning Commission to look at ways of getting over the financial problems in the State of J&K and certain other States. In the meanwhile the Central Government has been releasing the monthly instalments of normal central assistance and share in taxes, on an advance basis, to the State Government. The accrued liability on account of loan and interest payments in the current year amounting Rs. 165 crores and a carry-over liability of Rs. 144 crores from the previous year has also been kept in abeyance.

4. Regular review is being done of the various developmental projects going on in the State. The State Government has also been advised to ensure that the local administration is activated so that various projects and schemes can be implemented effectively on the ground.

5. At the same time pressure is being kept on the militants, so that the fear of the gun can be reduced and the people can feel confident to come out and participate in normal political and economic activities.

6. As a result of various initiatives taken so far, and the successes achieved by the Security force in the recent past against the militants there are signs of activity and interest among various sections of the population

to move forward in the direction of restoration of normalcy in the State.

[English]

Housing Projects with French Assistance

685. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an expert French team visited India to assist in various Housing Projects;

(b) if so, the details along with the housing projects discussed;

(c) whether any financial assistance is likely to be provided by French Government for housing projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d). As a result of the visit of the Union Minister for Urban Development to France, the French Government sent a six member mission to India during 15th to 18th November, 1992 and held discussions with the officials of the Ministry of Urban Development and various agencies to identify projects in the fields of housing, urban development and building technology for support from the Govt. of France. The mission agreed to consider assistance in the sector of water supply and sewerage, light rail transport, building materials and construction and technical assistance in these areas, The detailed projects in identified areas are under formulation for posing to French Government.

Storm water Drains in Government Colonies

686. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether storm water drains were not desilted/cleaned before the onset of the 1992 Monsoon in the Government employees residential colonies in Delhi resulting into water logging mosquitoes breeding;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to clean and desilt all the drains now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M., ARUNCHALAM): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Indo-Bangladesh Border Fencing

687. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps are being taken by the Government for the construction of road and fencing of Indo-Bangla Border;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the fencing and construction of road;

(c) the amount allocated for this purpose during 1992-93;

(d) the target set for the construction of road and fencing of Indo-Bangla Border in 1992-93 and remaining years of Eighth Plan; and

(e) the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-

TRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Rs. 831.17 crores

(c) Rs. 91.27 crores

(d) 1992-93

Remaining years of 8th Plan

Roads -350.67 Kms.

2127.66 Kms.

Fencing-121.69 Kms.

713.94 Kms.

(e) Roads- 364.40 Kms.

Fencing- 86.10 Kms.

Hostels in Kerala

688. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of hostels under the Union Government functioning in Kerala;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to set up more hostels in the State;

(c) if so, the details therefor; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNCHALAM) : (a) There is no General Pool Hostel accommodation in Kerala.

(b) to (d). There is no proposal for construction of such hostel accommodation in the State of Kerala as construction programme is taken up after taking into consideration the overall demand from the eligible government employees and the budgetary constraints.

Central Assistance to Tamil Nadu to check secessionist Activities

689. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government to provide the necessary assistance to Tamil Nadu Government to combat secessionist activities in the state?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): The Ministry of Home Affairs have released the following amount to the Government of Tamil Nadu for modernisation of oits police force:

Year	Amount released (Rs. in lakhs)
1990-91	72.97
1991-92	131.17
1992-93	98.37

In Addition to the above, an amount of Rs. 10 crores has also been released to the State Government during 1991-92 as grants-in-aid for operations against militants.

Nexus Between Punjab and Kashmiri Militants

690. SHRI GEROGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Jammu and Kashmir militants are providing help to their counterparts in Punjab in getting arms from the Inter Services Intelligence directorate of Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether security forces have succeeded in finding the nexus between the militants of Punjab and Kashmir; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Such instances have come to notice.

(b) and (c). Arrest and interrogation of militants by security forces has revealed that there is a growing nexus between Punjab and Kashmir militants.

12.00 hrs.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Panja is present here. Doordarshan has acted with partiality. While the news item pertaining to Kumari Mamta Banerjee's activities in Calcutta was beamed,

it did not give visual coverage to the ten lakh people assembled at the boat club...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Paswanji, please take your seat. Whosoever speaks without my permission won't be recorded.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I will listen to you also. I would like to say one thing. You help yourself and the presiding Officer by discussing things in smooth way, but during the one hour, after the Question Hour, perhaps there is a competition between the hon. Members to put forth their views and the result is that their views don't go on record. The hon. Members also don't get a response to it from the Government, as a result of this. Further, the less vociferous Members, who silently sit through the proceedings come to meet me in the chamber to tell me that they are not heard as a result of this. Please, I am saying all this in your interest only. It is my request to you. Look, today there are 41 items in the agenda before me and the number of Speakers on certain items is even nine. You give your questions 21 days in advance and the Government gives its answer in writing. It is then printed and handed over to you. Today we have been able to take up only five questions in the Question Hour, and now when Members are again on their feet, how can we succeed in our attempt to complete 41 items on the agenda? I request you to create such an atmosphere in the House, wherein you can raise important questions, turn by turn. This will enable you to go on record whenever necessary. You may also get answers to your questions. If you don't do it, your points won't go on record and they will get lost in the melee. Therefore, I request you to take a decision on the matters to be taken up for discussion, today, tomorrow and the day

after tomorrow. It will be binding on both of us. If this is not done, then the important issues take a back seat and less important ones come to the forefront. As such, all issues have their own significance but only few make it to the forefront.

Therefore, my suggestion is that you may accept this, otherwise I would ask you to run the House, as you wish during this hour and I will be a silent spectator.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Please take up the calling Attention Motion.

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat first, because I have not completed. So far as the question of Calling Attention and Adjournment motion are concerned, you yourself are a very senior Member and you know that there are certain Rules and procedures to be followed in these matters. Both Calling Attention and Adjournment Motion are meant for raising matters of urgent public importance and the most important aspect of it is the urgency involved in the matter. The drought issue is an urgent one and I am taking it for Calling Attention. I have told the hon. Minister also, but it will be difficult for you to know all these things, because all the Notices come to my office. Therefore, please listen to what I am saying here. You help yourself and also the House and act in such a way that your points go on record and the Government is able to pay its attention towards them. I cannot repeat these things. Today, I said and I will say it a couple of more times and after that I will leave it to you.

Today, I am going to call the hon. Members, one after another and the issues on which more than one Member is to speak will be kept much below in the Agenda so that other hon. Members can raise their individual points first. I will take up those issues first, which are not at all difficult.

SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH (Washim): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise and draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister towards the issue of Strike by the India Airlines Pilots, affiliated to the I.C.P.A. since October, 1992. The passengers are suffering heavy losses and undergoing severe hardships on account of the pilot's strike. All flights are being rescheduled and cancellation of flights has become a regular feature. These pilots are demanding a further raise in their salary. All pilots earn around Rs. 25,000 to 30,000 per month, but even then, they are demanding a hike. They are also demanding salary at par to that of pilots working for private Airlines, but they tend to forget that while they are on duty for 40 to 50 hours, the pilots, working for private airlines are made to work up to 80 hours. While drawing the attention of the hon'ble Minister towards this issue I would like to demand that he should take stern action in this regard so that such things are not repeated because the pilots. Strike is causing severe hardships to tourists, especially foreign tourists. I urge the hon. Minister to take immediate action in this regard in order to alleviate their problems, at the earliest. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to raise...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Not necessary, it is brought to the notice of the Government.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam): Mr. Speaker Sir, the Centre has asked for withdrawal of National Security Guard with effect from 31.10.1992. From the date of assumption of office as Chief Minister by Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi in June 1991, the

Centre is consistently pressing for withdrawal of NSG since they are in need of NSG elsewhere. Threat to Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's life by the LTTE never diminished. In fact, the threat to her life is greater today than it was ever before. The Punjab Chief Minister, Shri Beant Singh, has been provided with necessary NSG security by the Centre. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's life is no less precious than that of Punjab Chief Minister and the threat to her life is even greater. It is the perception of the top ranking police officials that Tamil Nadu Chief Minister is the most threatened political leader in the country today. After Rajiv Gandhi's assassination in May, 1991, NSG was provided to the Chief Minister, Dr. 'Puratchi Thalaivi. Tamil Nadu Government has insisted that NSG protection should be extended till such time the State Government creates its own Special Security Group, since no training had been imparted to the police personnel in fields like bomb disposal, commando training etc. The State Government actually began setting up of its Special Security Group.

Despite this, periodically every three months or so, there were frequent communications from the Union Home Ministry that the NSG protection would have to be withdrawn, as the NSG persons are needed elsewhere. Finally, unable to withstand the pressure exerted by the Home Ministry, the Chief Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu finally agreed to the withdrawal of the NSG without the knowledge of the concurrence of the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister. The attitude of Government of India is highly deplorable. The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu is not opposing the LTTE for her own personal reasons. She is fighting the LTTE in the national interest. The newly trained Special Security Group cannot be expected to come up to the standard of the NSG within so short a period of time. It is the duty of the Union Government to provide the necessary protection and security to the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Government to see that necessary security is provided to the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister by restoring the National Security Guard.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: What is the reaction of the Home Minister?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): This point has been raised by the hon. Member here. In fact, I will have to find out. This seems to have been a routine kind of a letter. Some officer seems to have written it. I am not quite sure as to who is the officer who wrote this letter. But irrespective of this letter, I can assure the House that the NG security to the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu will be continued so long so as she wants it.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (PUNE): Sir, it has been decided to shift the Regional Centre of the Central Food Technology Research Institute at Nagpur, which comes under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Science and Technology of the Central Government. However, the State Government has offered to provide two acres of land belonging to Punjab Rao Krishi Vidyapeeth to this institute for continuing its activities in the State. However, the Central Government has requested the State to share 50 percent of the recurring expenditure. Since the benefits of the Research Institute will be made available to all those concerned in the entire country, why should only one State which has provided land for the institute free of cost, bear this burden? So, the State Government has been requesting the Central Government since 1989, not to insist on this demand. Since these negotiations, discussions, etc. have been going only, we earnestly request the Central Government to take a generous view and run the institute at their cost on the land given by the State as it will bring benefits to all the people in the country.

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN (Barpeta):

Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government to the serious situation prevailing in Assam. Sir, a very serious situation of instability prevails in Assam. The twin bomb blasts in Guwahati at the busy Pattanbazar and Dispur MLA Hostel recently, took a toll of many lives and injured hundreds. The bomb blast which followed the Guwahati blast on 22nd Morning damaging the Highway bridge at Gaurang river snapped and crippled the transport line. Prior to it, the bomb blast in Arunachal Express killed many people. In addition to the blasting of bombs, kidnappings, extortion of money, etc., are also going on.

These bomb blasts and the senseless killing of innocent people are condemned by all peace-loving people.

All these incidents show that the terrorist activities have not stopped in spite of the tall claims made by the Assam Government that peace is restored.

The terrorists are continuing their activities. For this, the State and Central Governments are to blame. They bungled the entire situation. The Government failed to fully utilise the opportunity for the solution of the ULFA problem when a good chunk of them surrendered and agreed to a negotiated settlement. The Government failed in this and also in further isolating the secessionists.

The Bodo and Karbi problems are dragging on. Lack of seriousness and to some extent, imperviousness on the part of the Government with regard to the Bodo issue is giving scope to the BSF who are doing terrorist attacks. They are to be isolated. On Karbi issue the proposed tripartite talk has not been held and on the contrary the State Government dissolved the Karbi Anglong District Council. This action of Government will further alienate the Karbi people. The dilly dallying tactics and authoritative action

of Government is giving scope for extremist elements to rally people.

The services of democratic and peace loving forces are not utilised. The normal political activities are suppressed. This is helping the extremist forces. All this has led to a situation in which Assam and for that matter the entire North-Eastern region is sitting on a powder-keg.

I urge upon the Government to extend all necessary help to meet the situation.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Sir, I am raising a very important issue regarding the United States imposition of economic embargo against Cuba. This latest act of United States administration is in addition to 30 years U.S. Economic blockade against Cuba. This Act, which is called the Cuba Democratic Act is a clear interference and intervention in the internal affairs of a sovereign State. This has been condemned universally. Even the European Community in its resolution said that they consider the enactment of this legislation by the U.S. President would cause a great damage to their bilateral relations. They also said that this is against the EC-US agreed relations and that this is unacceptable. It is an extra territorial reach of jurisdiction which would have the effect of prohibiting the U.S. owned or controlled subsidiary companies domiciled in E.C. from trading with Cuba. Just two days back the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution condemning this act of United States of America and asking them to withdraw that Act.

Sir, this Act of United States of America has been universally condemned by all European countries, Latin American countries and elsewhere but it is a matter of regret that our Government which happens to be a friendly Government of Cuba is keeping silence. Cuba is a very friendly country. For the last 30 years we have been having very

cordial and very friendly relations with Cuba. We have played a very important role for world peace and for the cause of non-aligned movement in all the developing countries but it is a matter of regret that our Government is keeping silence.

Therefore, through this Parliament and through this House, I would request that the Government of India should take a stand at the earliest and condemn this act of United States of America, which is making not only economic embargo but asking all the multinational corporations and other international companies not to have any kind of economic relations and not to have any kind of trade with Cuba. I hope the House will join me and the Government will also take an immediate action and will stand by the side of our friendly country.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Belpur): I strongly support it.

MR. SPEAKER: We have decided that only one Member should bring it to the notice of the House.

SHRI SOMATH CHATTERJEE: The is an issue concerning a friendly nation which is subjected to nothing but a political brigandage by this biggest imperialist country of the world. India should have a voice; India should express its views very categorically. In the Non-aligned Movement the role that Cuba played is known to everybody. It is just a tiny country against which this imperialist power is taking all sorts of illegal actions. We call nothing but an international brigandage. Therefore, India must voice its protest very strongly. I support Mr. Chandrajeet Yadav. I am sure that the House is not divided.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Not at all.

SHRISOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Every

section of the House should support this move.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): The hon. Speaker should call the Leaders and pass a Resolution in the Parliament itself. That is how, it should be handled. Why don't you say that?

[*Translation*]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, 27 fake universities are functioning in the country. This issue had also been raised earlier in the House. Four of them are functioning in Delhi itself. viz Takshshila Kendriya Vidyalaya, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi, Commercial University, Daryaganj, New Delhi, United Nation University, Delhi and Vocational University, Delhi. There are 27 universities functioning without the permission of the University Grants Commission. It is obligatory on the universities to take prior permission of the U.G.C. under section 27 of the University Grants Commission Act. But it has not been taken. You have also chastised the Government that it is a very serious matter as they are playing with the future of the students. The Government should have paid attention towards it, but the Minister of Human Resource Development completely ignored it. There is a provision of imposing a fine of Rs. 1000/- for this. The University Grants Commission has proposed for at least 6 month's imprisonment and a fine ranging from 1 lakh to 10 lakhs for this purpose. Thorough you, I would like to request the Government to introduce this Bill, get it passed and make suitable amendments in order to take appropriate action against the defaulters running fake universities, which are playing with the future of young students of the country.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: This is a serious matter. Please take note of it. We would like to

have a Statement made on this. If 27 Universities are running without permission, it is a serious matter. What is the factual position, the House would like to know?

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur): Sir, for the last few months, a nation-wide agitation by the Doordarshan Production staff has been going on. Early in October or late in September, the Minister had a Meeting with the agitating staff and he also wrote them a letter saying that the issues can be solved through discussion and indicating a time limit within which most of the issues could be resolved. However nothing happened after that, instead a number of cases of arbitrary transfers have been started. It is being done in spite of an assurance by the hon. Minister. Now, following a suspension order on two employees, things have reached a new pass and the all-India Joint Action Council of the Doordarshan Employees have said that they are going to stall Doordarshan Broadcasting altogether unless the cases against the agitating staff are withdrawn.

In view of the Minister's letter, one feels that certainly, at least some of the demands of the Doordarshan employees were fit to be considered. The Minister thought them fit to be considered and to be solved soluble through discussion. But even after that, the matter has been precipitated in this way. For instance, the issue of Prasar Bharati. This is one issue on which we, all of us, feel very strongly. This is one of their demands. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister since he is present here - this. We would demand an explanation from him as to how this crisis was reached even after the discussion that the Minister had held with them. We would urge him to withdraw the disciplinary action against the workers and to sit with the employees and to resolve the issues through discussion.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: From

1.00 p.m. today, it begins.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MIISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): I have received information regarding Calling Attention from the hon. Members. A question exactly also on this is coming up on Monday. I have asked for total facts. A draft was put up before me this morning which I have corrected and sent it back. As soon as it is made final, I will place it before the House.

I want to point out only one thing that so far as this agitation is concerned, now the negotiation is going on with the employees, and staff. Openly some of them threatened in a public meeting that they will stop transmission. Government had to run the administration. In fact, yesterday, there was no coverage by visuals of trade union and coverage of other matters. The normal work is being interrupted. We are not for confrontation at all. But this is the demand of 2500 our of 35000 staff of All India Radio and Doordarshan. A large number of staff is opposing bifurcation, opposing some other demands.

So, what I have done is that I have formed committee headed by Mr. Varadhan, the Addl. Secretary attended the hearing by the committee. Negotiations were going on. The cut out date is the 30th December by which a report has to be given. Some of the matters are pending since the last 17 years as they are saying. Now, all these things are being gone into. But, in the meantime, suddenly, they started work-to-rule and openly threatened that we will stop transmission.

When the visuals are coming in, they are not adding them on the table though a small section. Still it is an unregistered union with a small section of the workers. But I wanted to do justice if I find there is a need for justice. That is why I have formed a committee. As soon as it comes to me, I will come to this House and place it before the House.

(*Interruptions*) As I said, the negotiation is going on.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: You have said that within 15 days most of the issues will be resolved.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: No; I did not say so.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Mr. Speaker Sir, a serious crisis has cropped up in Bihar. In 1962, a refinery was set up in Barauni. Thereafter, a fertilizer factory and a Thermal Power Station were established there. All these three establishments are on the verge of closure and along with the problem of unemployment of the employees in these establishments, Bihar is also reeling under the crisis of fertilizer and kerosene oil. So far as the generation of electricity is concerned, perhaps we rank among the last two States in the country. We are hardly getting any supply of crude oil these days. We used to get supply of crude oil from Assam which was disrupted. A proposal was there to get supply through Haldia pipeline. Even a pipeline was also laid for this purpose but now that also seems a distant possibility. This extension work could have been implemented at a very low cost but even then the Central Government has not taken any decision in this regard.

We do not object to the establishment of new oil refinery and fertilizer factory, but this fact is being ignored that the same work can be done with less expenditure and at the same time production can also be maintained which will result in less expenses and saving of foreign exchange. The employees and labourers of these factories had come yesterday, but it does not concern them alone. It also concerns Bihar and the country as a whole.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I espe-

cially request the Government of India that the concerned Minister should make a statement in this regard today or tomorrow so that the people may come to know whether the Government is deliberately closing these factories one by one or wants to continue them in the interest of labourers, in the interest of Bihar in the interest of the people of the country as a whole. As the matter is of a serious nature, I am not asking to make any hue and cry but if the Government does not take any decisive steps in this regard, then it can go against the national interest. At least, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs can assure the House regarding the crisis prevailing in these three big establishments. I am not asking about the factories closed long back. I would like to ask him to make a statement in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Nitish Kumar, one question was also asked in this regard. I am also giving you a chance to speak. We have just decided that one person should be allowed to speak on a particular subject. If others want to speak on it, then we can have a discussion on it. Now only you will speak on this subject.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the whole of Bihar is under the grip of drought. After viewing the drought situation the Government of Bihar has declared the whole of Bihar as drought affected area. 300 blocks of 43 districts out of total 50 districts are badly affected....

12.30 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

The data collected by the State machinery states the loss suffered in these 300 blocks as more than 60 percent. These are official figures and the Government has a tendency of making lower assessment of the actual picture of the situation, but everybody knows there that in these 300 blocks, the

loss is to the tune of 90 per cent. Out of this, 178 blocks suffered a 100 per cent loss. This situation in Bihar may lead to starvation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, especially in Palamau, a Somalia like situation has developed there. The Newspapers there have all along been reporting this news but the Government did not take any action. On the request of the State Government a Central team visited there. But when the team visited there, the rains were round the corner. That is why a correct assessment of the prevailing situation could not be made. During the visit of team the Government of Bihar had asked for an additional assistance of Rs. 1000 crore but as there was no rain during the scheduled period, the demand for additional assistance was raised to Rs. 1250 crore. Even this sum is also not sufficient for Bihar as it needs extra Rs. 2000 crore in place of the sum asked for. Whenever we raise a question regarding drought prone areas like the one raised about 49 blocks, then we are told that a Calamity Relief Fund has been constituted for the purpose.

According to the recommendation of the Ninth Finance Commission the Centre has provided the stipulated amount to the Government of Bihar. This is a regular reply. The total share of the Centre out of Rs. 32 crore is Rs. 26 crore. With the help of this Rs. 26 crores we cannot face the unprecedented drought situation in Bihar. The district of Nalanda, Nawada, Patna, Jahanabad, Aurangabad along with all the other 43 districts fo Bihar are facing drought which is worse than the worst ever drought of 1966-67.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you might be remembering that late Jai Prakash Narayan was alive at the time when Bihar was experiencing a terrible drought during 1966-67. A relief committee was formed under his Chairmanship and relief worth crores of rupees poured in from all over the world. But his time the drought is even worse than the

previous one. The Central Government is neglecting the situation and whenever we raise this issue the Government replies that there is already a provision of the Calamity Relief Fund; but as a matter of fact we cannot meet the situation with the Calamity Relief Fund. I would like to alarm the Government that the cattle and human beings will die on a large scale. There will be water crisis. Contiguous disease will spread. Such situations have to arise. I would therefore, like to submit that keeping in view the situation of Bihar the Governments should declare the whole of Bihar as drought hit area and simultaneously it should be declared a national calamity. Unless it is declared a National Calamity relief cannot be provided on a large scale. If a large scale-relief from within the country and abroad is not rushed the data of the people of Bihar and some part of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh will be displayed on the television screen in the same way as the picture of drought hit Somalia is nowadays being displayed everyday. This will present a very ugly picture of the country before the world.

Now the question is not as to which party is there in power, the question is to provide protection to the languishing humanity, the Central Government may have complaints against the State Government (*Interruptions*). The Central Government may intend to dislodge the State Government but this cannot be done by allowing the people of the State to die. It is not the question of Governments, it is the question of the whole country. Through you, I would like to submit to the Government that a State of national calamity should be declared and I would also like to submit that the Adjournment Motion placed by me should be accepted. I have, however, been informed through the source of the Secretariat that my Adjournment Motion has been rejected.

You gave me an opportunity to speak. I would like to submit that there should be a

debate on this issue by accepting the Adjournment Motion or a separate debate may be held in order to have a comprehensive discussion about the whole situation. The Central Government is delaying the sanction of Rs. 48 crore which was declared by the Central team as a relief measure. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you will be surprised to note that the hon. Minister of Finance had recently been on a visit to Patna where he publicly declared that not even a single penny would be given as relief to Bihar. What is this politics? Crores of people there are on the verge of death due to starvation. Lakhs of cattle are likely to die, there is no drinking water. In such a state of affair the hon. Minister of Finance declares there that not a penny would be given as relief. The old bill is being curtailed from whatever money has been sanctioned for the Calamity Relief Fund. There is an acute crisis of electricity there. What is required is to provide more electricity to Bihar. Instead of doing that electricity was being supplied to Bihar in the name of the old dues of the N.T.P.C. That has been cut now. Now the question is how to face the situation of drought in Bihar. There is no moisture left for rabi. It is a surprising thing that there is no dew-fall there. Flowers which usually bloom during winter are not blooming. Such a terrible situation prevails there and in such situation the hon. Minister of Finance makes such an irresponsible statement. The hon. Minister of Finance has declared that he has done what he could. This is the terrible politics being played there. I would like to appeal that arrangements should be made to hold an immediate and comprehensive discussion and at the same time I would appeal that a state of national calamity should soon be declared. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Hon. Speaker has made a request to this House that if the speakers were to cut short their speeches many others would be able to

participate in the debate. If one gets an opportunity he goes on prolonging his speech, thereby denying the opportunity to others. If you were to cut short your speeches many more can participate in the debate. Therefore, I request you all to cut short your speeches.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Sahasra): Since three days we have been giving notices, we have not been allowed. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Please tell us about the discussion on drought situation. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Nitish Kumar, so far as the drought is concerned, one Member will speak on that issue. That was decided. The purpose of the Zero Hour is to bring the matter to the notice of the Government so that the Government will take proper action to redress the grievances which are ventilated by the hon. Members. That is the purpose of the Zero Hour; but if you go on reading like 377 statements there will be no end to it.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please listen to me. By this process our precious time is lost. By the time you conclude, many people will be denied of an opportunity to speak. Therefore, my humble request is kindly restrain yourself. You may ventilate your grievances and the Government will respond to it and take action. The reporters also after you speak have to chase you, otherwise. The Hon. Speaker has made it absolutely very clear. Lung power should not be wasted by

both sides for this purpose.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Please tell about the discussion on drought situation in Bihar. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Nitish Kumar, the drought in Bihar is really very serious. You have made it absolutely very clear and the Government also has taken notice of it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: It was already decided in the Business Advisory Committee meeting that there will be a discussion on drought in Bihar.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think we will take it up.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Sir if you donot want to admit the Adjournment motion then please take it under rule 193 or allow a special discussion on it... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM AIK (Bombay North): Sir, we want to speak in a disciplined way but we are not allowed to speak and those who speak again and again are given opportunity... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let us hear the version of the Government.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Sir, we have already agreed to have discussion on the flood situation in the country and we do not have any objection to discuss the drought condition along with the floods. I think, it is better that we discuss the drought and flood situation in the country. *(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Would you like that matter to be taken up now?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: We are already discussing the fertiliser prices and wheat import issue. May be next week, we will be able to discuss, not today.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, seven persons have been shot dead in West Bengal. I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards it.

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: In Zero Hour, there is no point of order.

SHRI RAM NAIK: How can there be any point of order?

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Seven persons have been shot dead but not even a single penny has been given as compensation.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR (Faridkot): Sir, you are giving time only to the Opposition Members. We have given notice two days back. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: By this process the time is lost.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: Only the Opposition Members have been allowed to speak. But, we have not been allowed to speak. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let there be no cross talks. Kindly take you seats.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: It is a grave injustice here. We have given notice.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. Speaker has made it very clear that drought and floods are very important subjects and in consultation with the Leaders, the time will be allotted for a detailed discussions. I think the Leaders also agreed with this. Further, the hon. Speaker has said that on each issue one Member should speak. This is the understanding. What is going on here?

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: The third important issue is that there is a crash of cotton prices in the markets of the country and the farmer is getting Rs. 500 less than last year. It is a matter of great concern.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is better to give them a fair chance.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): What about Ayodhya? The situation is becoming explosive there. *(Interruptions)*.

I have given a notice. Kindly allow me to raise the matter first... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIGUMANMALLODHA: Sir, seven persons have been shot dead in Murshidabad in West Bengal. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kindly resume your seats...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If any unparliamentary words are used, those will be expunged. Kindly resume your seats now...

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: I am on a point of order, Sir...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is no point of order during Zero Hour, Mr. Acharia. There is no specific subject before us. This is Zero Hour and during Zero Hour there cannot be any point of order. We shall have to come round and get ourselves to normal business...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If you feel any unparliamentary words are used here, those parliamentary words are expunged. I have made it absolutely clear. Therefore, kindly resume your seats. By this process, time is lost and those who do not have bigger voice, are denied the opportunity to speak...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Basudeb Acharia, if anybody has used words which are unparliamentary, I have ordered for the expunction of those words...

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE

(Dumdum): Sir, do you think that Ayodhya and Murshidabad are on the same footing?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If any unparliamentary words are used, I have ordered for the expunction of those words...

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karol Bagh): Sir, injustice is being done to the people in West Bengal *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, do you agree to the stand that if the House can discuss Ayodhya, therefore, it can discuss anything? This is the kind of approach they are trying to adopt...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Persons belonging to the CPM are responsible for this...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, it is a sabotage of workers' right. The hon. Minister Shri Ajit Panja is here. He must respond to this. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, They have to listen to him. Kindly allow him to complete. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members, we are coming very close to 10 o'clock. Immediately at 10 o'clock the zero hour comes to an end. Many of the hon. Members here want to ventilate grievances of their constituencies which are very impor-

tant. What do we achieve in this way? We have achieved nothing.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Many people want to raise important issues.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, lakhs of workers assembled at Boad club yesterday. That was not shown on T.V. Shri Ajit Panja is here. He must hear and respond to it. It is a serious matter. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Acharia, the workers' problem was discussed in the House yesterday. Once again you are raising that issue. Please allow others.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR (Faridkot): They are not the only custodians of workers' interests. We are being ignored. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, we have not been given a chance. I want to raise a matter of urgent public importance. The nurses in All India Institute of Medical Sciences have gone on an agitation. Their rights have been denied for very long. There are thousands of them in the Institute and only 150 of them have been given quarters. Many of them are suffering. Their grievance must be heard. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: They have created havoc in Murshidabad. There have been many cases. The Police failed to take action. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Sir, we are not given a chance to speak. Please allow us. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is a very important forum. We have to discipline ourselves. Others cannot do it. As the hon. Speaker has made it absolutely clear, we have to follow the list.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Sir, my submission is that there was a time when Murshidabad was famous for its best quality of musli ad delicacy of 'Pan'. But today blood shed is taking place there. On 2nd of November a firing incident took place there, in regard to it... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: Sir, there is a demand for cotton in international market. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Brar, you will have the chance afterwards. Please resume your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: Sir, through you, I would like to say to the Government of our country in very strong words that this has not been done so far. The price of cotton has declined Rs. 500 per quintal in the markets. On one side you are talking about policies and on the other side you propose to withdraw subsidy... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Sir, he should not be allowed to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Brar is not going on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If our purpose is that the Zero Hour should be lost without any specific purpose, then the procedure that we are adopting is very fair, fine and excellent. But, would this be appreciated by all the hon. Members in this House? If we do not discipline ourselves, then who else can discipline us? What have we achieved by shouting like this? We have wasted only our energy. When Shri Nitish Kumar was speaking, the House was very calm and quiet. The hon. Speaker has appealed to you all to maintain certain discipline in the House so that very important matters can be brought to the notice of the Government. The Government is also anxious to hear as to what is going on in the whole country. The Presiding Officers are expected to speak less and so my humble request to you all is, let us maintain some decorum in the House so that everybody will have the opportunity. By one o'clock we have to finish the Zero Hour and adjourn for Lunch Break. Now, Shri Guman Mal Lodha will speak.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, sir, I was submitting that there was a time when Murshidabad was known for its beautiful muslin and delicious pan. But now there blood shed is taking place. I was extremely distressed and pained at it. On Nov. 2, some rural people assembled at Hariharpura and the President of RSP which is a faction of CPM government was also among them. Under the leadership of the same person five thousand people were taking out a procession to protest against more than 100 incidents of killings, rape and dacoity during the last six months and sought protection... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, if you do not allow us to refute, then that will not be fair.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the procession reached there. The Block Development Officer in front of Hariharapura...*(Interruptions)* I have personally visited the site. Five M.P.'s also accompanied me...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Do not see with coloured eyes.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: I am objective, but you are subjective because your Government is there.

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my submission is that I talked to the District Magistrate there and also discussed the matter with Shri Jyoti Basu the Chief Minister of West Bengal. Both of them accepted that innocent persons have died in this firing...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Not even a single police officer or any other government officer visited the site...*(Interruptions)* People were very seriously injured.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: The hon. Minister may kindly reply in the House as to what action was taken by the Government in regard to the killing of Shankar Niyogi...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

13.00 hrs.

SHRI SOMATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): It is very very improper. We are tolerating this.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: I am not yielding.

SHRI SOMATH CHATTERJEE: This is misuse of Lok Sabha. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Lodha Saheb you have made it very clear. I will call Mr. Somnathji. How long will you speak? I have called Somnathji.

*(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I told Shri Jyoti Basu that I met the wife of Shri Sen who had died. She was crying that she had been married only 14 months ago and that she had pregnancy of 8 months, she was distressed as to how she would manage at the time when the child would be delivered...*(Interruptions)* My submission is that compensation should be provided to the families of those who have been killed. False cases registered against the innocent rural people should be withdrawn and action should be taken against the police...*(Interruptions)* The Home Minister should make a statement.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record. I have called Mr. Somnath Chatterjee.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI SOMATH CHATTERJEE: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, since he has taken the name of my Party and has made unfounded allegations against my Party, it is my duty to take your permission to say one or two words.

Nobody is happy about the incident that has taken place. We have expressed our sincerest regret. Not only administrative action but judicial enquiry has been ordered. If Mr. Lodha does not know, I cannot help it.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Mr. Basu did not agree for it at that time. But the CPI pressed for it. On the pressure of CPI, he has agreed.

SHRI SOMATH CHATTERJEE: He cannot misquote and misbehave on the floor of the House. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is an established procedure. Suppose if an hon. Member is speaking, unless he yields, others cannot intervene. These are the norms we have to follow. If you were to deliberately violate it, it would be extremely painful.

SHRI SOMATH CHATTERJEE: It is very very unfortunate when a judicial enquiry is pending, Mr. Lodha who was a judge, Chief Judge of one of our High Courts is referring to allegations, incidents which are the subject-matter of the enquiry. I am sure, the judicial authority will be entitled to find out. But when he is making such allegations, is he taking responsibility for this?

I know, BJP is trying its best to have a foothold in West Bengal. In Tin Bigha, they have tried their best but they face difficulties. Here, they are trying to take a particular posture in relation to Ayodhya but they have joined hands with Congress in West Bengal. We know that. Therefore, they are exposed.

In the State matter, you have allowed

him to do that. I said, "Very well, let him say." We have ordered judicial enquiry. He should not have mentioned all these incidents in details, what according to him was the incident, which is the matter to be found out. Therefore, I cannot but refute that I refute very strongly the attempt which is being made by Mr. Guman Mal Lodha to vitiate the inquiry that is going to take place. Realising that a judicial inquiry has been ordered, they have nothing to say. They are misusing the forum of the Lok Sabha. (*Interruptions*) I do not hear one word from the BJP friends. Doordarshan is being misused. Why yesterday's demonstration was not shown on Doordarshan? I would like the hon. Minister to respond to that. (*Interruptions*) I am sure even the Prime Minister said that if the workers had grievances, the Government is willing to hear. He has said that. I do not know whether they have a point or not. We have doubts. But lakhs of people assembled here. Nobody can deny that. Is this an important event to be projected on the TV or not, and I would like the hon. Minister to say on this. Is he going to do this? (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): When my Department has been mentioned, may I make one submission? (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: We also oppose the way in which Government media was misused yesterday. No TV coverage was given to the yesterday's rally. The news of Bharat Bandh was also withdrawn after its broadcast on radio...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Government media is always misused. Congress rally held in Calcutta yesterday was given adequate coverage but not the other held here...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: The instance of giving coverage to the Calcutta rally and not to that held here yesterday proves the discriminatory attitude of the Government and shows that instructions were given to media in this regard. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: I contacted the Director Doordarshan at 9 PM. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I call Shri R. Dhanuskodi Athithan to speak.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK (Phulbani): In one of my plots i.e., Tumribandh, it is reported that three persons died. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AJIT PANJA: It is a different issue. (*Interruptions*) The first thing I want to say is, Mr. Somnath Chatterjee said that in Bengal we are having some sort of close connection with BJP. That is not correct.

Secondly, yesterday the most unfortunate incident took place. Immediately after it came to my notice, yesterday night I directed an inquiry immediately after Hindi news. I said this for the simple reason because my residence is near the Boat Club and I have seen thousands of people going on there and the gathering have had a news value. (*Interruptions*) There is news worthiness. So, I have ordered an inquiry. I have got the preliminary inquiry report which I place before this House. This is regarding non-coverage of trade union rally held yesterday on 25th November, in the news bulletin.

The DG spoke to ADGN and had been informed that the Additional Director of News completely overlooked the event while preparing the deployment chart. In the meeting,

it was decided that this has good news value and news worthiness and, therefore, it has to be covered. When this major oversight was detected, ADG had instructed Chief Producer (News) to immediately contact private stringers who may have covered the event so that it could be incorporated in the news bulletin. The Chief Producer did not follow up action in this regard. As a consequence, the visuals from private stringers could not be obtained. When ADG enquired, the Chief Producer said that, because of the work-to-rule, the arrangements for emergency operation of TV were being made to take follow-up action he missed the coverage of trade union gathering. The Chief Producer informed that they are making contingency plans to shift the operation of the News Unit to Pitampura so that public services could be maintained in the event of any emergency eventuality. The ADG (N) has informed that the Trade Union Rally was included as one of the headlines in the 9.30 pm News and was covered fairly extensively as a dry item' because visuals were not being made available. It was made as one of the headlines in the English News. Furthermore, he informed that he tried to get in touch with a private professional stringer and as soon as he was able to obtain the visuals, it would be included in the earliest possible Bulletin.

Sir, after receiving this, I immediately ordered that it has to be obtained when the Doordarshan themselves found that it has got a news value. I am very happy to announce that they have been able to locate the visuals and it will be covered in this evening's News Bulletin. (*Interruptions*) May I complete this? Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee personally took it up. The Chief News Person of the News Department, that is, the ADG(N) has apologised to her for this. As they are saying, they missed it without any bad intention.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: This is not the first time to happen this. This has hap-

pened at the Bombay Historic Rally. Several times, I have informed the Minister. This is a deliberate attempt (*Interruptions*).

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): You said that the Ram Janambhoomi issue should be underplayed (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roser): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to state in the House that the Doordarshan has always adopted a biased approach toward the opposition and this has become more vehement in the past few days. The hon. Minister may remember that in the meeting of the consultative committee attached to his Ministry I had mentioned that the Doordarshan did not depute any Reporter to cover the convention of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes held in the Parliament House, nor was any reporter deputed to cover the historic rally at Bombay. What's more, no Reporter was even deputed for yesterday's rally in the capital. It is in the code of conduct of the organisation to cover certain kinds of rallies or functions held at certain places, but it was not done. However, the Congress rally at Calcutta yesterday was given wide coverage. So, Doordarshan has the Manpower ad time to give coverage to events taking place in far off Calcutta, but no coverage was given to the massive historic rally which took place right under your nose in the capital. Your partisan attitude is obvious from these actions and it is all the more increasing in the name of the opposition.

At least, the fourth estate has maintained its creditibility in this country, but Doordarshan is losing its creditibility, with every passing day. As in the case with the Radio earlier where people preferred to listen to the programs and news broad Casts of the B.B.C., compared to the A.I.R., now in the case of television also, STAR T.V. is being

preferred over Doordarshan. As such, you plan to compete with START.V., but you can never achieve your objective, if you continue to adopt such a biased-approach. Therefore, I request you to punish the guilty officials responsible for this Omission— and prepare a comprehensive report on it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on November 3, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting made desperate attempts to toil the 'Bharat Bandh' by repeatedly broadcasting that the 'Bandh' is a flop. Similarly, they underplayed the Ayodhya issue. It seems that you have given specific instructions to the effect that no visual coverages should be given to the Opposition o television. As a result, Television is losing its credibility in the country.

[*English*]

SHRI AJIT PANJA: I have take note of the hon. Members' points and the sentiments of the hon. Members of this House.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : The Doordarshan is infested with people of RSS ideology. Please check up antecedents. It is RSS-infested. That is the problem that you are facing. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: You do not have a sense of discipline. You do not allow the other Members to speak. This is very very unfair, unfortunate. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AJIT PANJA: Sir, about the Doordarshan, the hon. Member has said that there is the involvement of the outsiders. Some names have been taken by the hon. Member. Kindly supply those names to me. Whatever I have got, I can tell you that we do ordinarily interfering with the Doordarshan activity's we deliberate on the policy matters.

But if the sense of the House is that I must put this right, I can do so. But the House should not turn back and tell me that I am interfering with the news. I can, Sir. With my colleague present here, we have got the ability to put things in right perspective. But it is such a subject matter that we thought it should be left to function independently. But something is happening there as the hon. Members are saying. If the sense of the House is that, then give us seven day's time and I will give a proof that we have been able to do it. But the House must stand behind it fully. I will do it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Why don't you go by the news value? (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only what Shri Nayak is saying will go on record.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK (Phulbani): Sir, it is the most agonizing fact that three persons have died in a hospital when they were under treatment because of lack of food, nutrition and medicine. My block Tumribandh has been under constant and chronic jeopardising condition. It does not get food and medicines. It is the most backwards tribal area. Sir, I earnestly request that the Government of India should immediately react to it because the State Government has completely been quite indifferent to such a state of affairs. It is a question of starvation and death that has happened in my district. I expect an immediate action on this from the Central Government. Thank you. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet at 2.15 p.m.

13.16 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till fifteen minutes past Fourteen of the clock

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at twenty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

14.20 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Veterinary Council of India Regulations, 1992 etc.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Veterinary Council of India (Standard of Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Code of Ethics for Veterinary Practitioners) Regulations, 1992 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 395(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st April 1992 together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. G.S.R. 615 (E) (Hindi and English versions) in Gazette of India dated the 1st July 1992 under sub-section (3) of section 66 of the Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984.

[Placed in the Library See No. LT-2728/92]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Veterinary Council of In-

dia for the year 1990-91 together with Audit Report thereon.

- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Veterinary Council of India for the year 1990-91.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2729/92]

Notification under Essential Commodities Act 1955 and Annual Report and Review on the working of National Co-operative Dairy Federation of India Ltd. Anand from 1991-92

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 842 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th November, 1992 containing Order indicating the supplies of fertilisers to be made by domestic manufacturers of fertiliser to various States, Union Territories/Commodity Board during the period from 1st October, 1992 to 31st March, 1993 (Rabi 92-93 season) under subsection (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in the Library See No. LT-2730/92]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Co-Operative Dairy Federation of India Limited, Anand, for the year 1991-92 along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Cooperative Dairy Federation of India Limited, Anand, for the year 1991-92

[Placed in the Library See No. LT-2731/92]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House shall now take up Matters under Rule 377. Shri Anbarasu Era.

1422 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Needs to amend the Hindu and Special Marriages Acts is order to remove 'epilepsy' as one of the grounds for divorce**

SHRI ANBARASU ERA (Madras Central): Epilepsy is a central nervous system disorder manifesting with focal or generalised convulsions frothing and may or may not be associated with urinary or faecal incontinence. It was considered as "untreatable" and may not provide normal family life and possibly transmitted to the off-spring. On the basis of this, epilepsy was considered a condition offering sufficient ground for divorce.

Unfortunately, Indian Law equate epilepsy either with temporary insanity or incapacity to look after oneself. This is evident from judicial pronouncements of the Supreme Court based on various provisions of India Penal Code 1860, Indian Evidence Act 1872 and Indian Contract Act 1872.

The Andhra Pradesh High Court has invoked this provision and granted annulment of marriage on this ground in 1984. Though the word 'epilepsy' as such is not found in the marriage laws applicable to Muslims, Christians and Parsis, words such as insanity, soundness of mind and mental disorder have been used in these reactions to give room for divorce. Divorce on the ground of epilepsy, has serious consequences on the life and treatment of epileptic patients.

In order to protect the interest of the unity of the family, there is a great need to bring about a statutory

disassociation of 'epilepsy' from insanity, unsoundness of mind, lunacy or any other mental disorder, since epilepsy is curable and controllable to lead to normal family life. Further, epilepsy is not hereditary and it cannot be transmitted to the offspring.

I, therefore, urge the Government to amend the Hindu and Special Marriages Act so as to eliminate the epilepsy as one of the grounds for divorce.

- (ii) **Need to solve water logging problem in the villages adjoining Ghaggar Control Canal in Rajasthan**

[*Translation*]

SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH (Bikaner): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, flood is an annual feature of the Ghaggar river in Rajasthan. The Ghaggar control canal was built with the objectives of checking the flood waters and

diverting them to the dry areas. With these waters, 18 depressions were created in large sand dunes and these depressions were filled with water from the Ghaggar Control Canal. Owing to the presence of Gypsum, beneath these depressions, about 20-25 villages in the nearby low-lying areas got water logged and about one lakh acres of agricultural land became uncultivable.

To save the water logged land, the water Resources Ministry of the Union Government despatched a team of Engineers. Apart from this, the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission also undertook an aerial survey of the region, few days back. So far no concrete work has been taken up, although the Engineers opine that if a canal linking the depressions, containing water from the water logged areas, is built, it could be linked to the Suratgarh branch of the Indira Gandhi Canal. This in turn, would make the highly fertile village land, cultivable once again. Therefore, the Union Government is requested to immediately sanction the aforesaid canal.

- (iii) **Need for allocation of more funds to Uttar Pradesh Government for the development of hilly region of the state**

SHRI MANABENDRA SHAH (Tehri Garhwal): Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, more financial allocation is required for the development programmes of the mountain regions of Uttaranchal in Uttar Pradesh, keeping in view the incongruous geography and special problems of the region. However, the pace of the development programmes has not improved, as a result of the non-increase in the Special central assistance provided by the Union Government, in the past three years. While there has been a continuous increase in the Central assistance for other States, mountain regions etc., the annual allocation for the hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh for the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93, has remained stagnant at Rupees 182.01 crores. The capacity and the problems of the region is akin to the adjacent mountain State of Hima-

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chal Pradesh and the area and population of both are almost equal, but in comparison with Himachal Pradesh, there has not been the expected increase in the planned allocation for the region. Consequently, there is widespread dissatisfaction in minds of the people.

I urge the Union Government to make appropriate increase in the planned allocation for the development of the hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh.

(iv) Need to Convert Delhi Saharanpur National Highway with a four line Highway

DR. RAMESHCHANDTOMAR (Hapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the condition of the Delhi-Saharanpur National Highway is so bad that due to the less width of a lane from Delhi border to Loni and the heavy traffic, accidents have become a daily feature and hundreds of people lost their lives during the year 1991-92.

Sir, traffic has now increased to such an extent on the Delhi-Saharanpur national highway that the existing road is unable to contain the to and fro traffic and it takes more than 30 minutes to cover the three kilometre distance from Loni to Delhi border.

I request the Government to convert this section of the national highway into a four lane one, so that the difficulties faced by the people are removed and their life and property are protected.

(v) Need for a by pass on the National Highway passing through Sasaram, Bihar to prevent road accidents in Sasaram.

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (Sasaram): Sir, the national highway passing through the centre of Sasaram in Bihar is a busy and

highly congested one. All the offices of the District Headquarters are located on both sides of the national highway. The city is thickly populated and all the major shops are located on both sides of the highway, due to which there is a perennial crowd on the road. On the other hand, all goods carriers ply through this road, as it is the national highway, as a result of which accidents have become a regular feature.

Therefore, through this august House, I urge the Government to build a national highway by pass road, on the outskirts of Sasaram city, on the lines of similar arrangements in other cities and also keeping in view the congestion on the aforesaid highway.

[English]

(vi) Need to formulate a Central Scheme to check the growing Incidents of female Infanticide in certain areas of Tamil Nadu

DR. RAJAGOPALAN SRIDHARAN (Madras South): Sir, I would like to raise the following under, 'Matters under Rule 377'.

There is large scale female infanticide in a few parts of Tamilnadu like Salem District, Usilampatti and other areas. Torturous methods are used to kill the child. Tamilnadu Government has now come forward with a proposal to collect the new born female births at various places and protect and groom them. This is a novel scheme; no other State with similar problem has even attempted. The scheme may involve sizeable expenditure and also infrastructure.

I request the Central Government to examine the worth of this scheme and try to enforce the scheme as a central measure with the participation of the State administration.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only the approved text will go on record.

(vii) **Need to impose prohibition in Andhra Pradesh and Compensate the State Government against the losses of revenue arising out of implementation of Prohibition**

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE(Vijayawada): Sir, our Father of Nation had advocated for prohibition of alcoholic drinks as the intoxicants are partly responsible for the miserable conditions of the poor. Our Construction also envisaged that the Government will pursue it as one of the State policies and spell out the same under Article 47. But several State Governments have not implemented this policy and have almost ignored it, while the sales-tax, which was initially introduced to bridge the deficit due to implementation of prohibition, is continuing even after lifting of prohibition. At the same time, the States are considering the State excise increase as a *Kamadhenu* as a result of which many poor people are not able to cross the poverty line. They cannot provide good education or medical facilities to the members of their families. Lakhs of women are fighting against the alcoholism in Andhra Pradesh for nearly two months. They demand from the State Government to prohibit sale of Arrack and other alcoholic products. All sections, including workers, self-employed, trade, intelligentsia, have supported this demand. Almost all political parties have also supported this demand.

The Union Government should immediately consider it and take necessary steps to introduce prohibition in Andhra Pradesh and help the State Government by reimbursing 50 per cent of loss of State excise revenue due to implementation of prohibition.

14.33 hrs

ADVOCATE (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

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 further to amend the Advocates Act, 1961 be taken into consideration."

A similar Amendment Bill was in fact introduced in Lok Sabha in May, 1990. With the dissolution of Lok Sabha in March, 1991 the Bill lapsed. Therefore, I have come before this august House for consideration of this Bill again.

The Advocates Act, 1961 was enacted with a view to amending and consolidating the law relating to legal practitioners and providing for constitution of Bar Councils. It was amended from time to time, taking into account, among other things, the proposals made by the Bar Council of India. Recently, the Bar Council of India and certain other bodies and individuals have made a number of proposals for further amending the Act. Based on the experience gained in the administration of the Advocates Act, 1961 and keeping in view the various proposals received, it has become necessary to further amend the Act with a view to enabling the Bar Council of India and the State Bar Councils to function more effectively for the Sections 6 and 7 of the Advocates Act, 1961 spell out the functions of State Bar Councils and the Bar Council of India, respectively. Amendments to these sections have been proposed with a view to empowering the State Bar Councils to promote the growth of Bar Associations for purposes of implementing the welfare schemes for advocates and to visit and to inspect Universities on the directions of the Bar Council of India, and to constitute funds for establishing law libraries.

It was found that certain Bar Councils do not hold elections in time. In the absence of regular elections, the elected members of the Council continue to hold office for indefinite periods and courts have observed that non-holding of elections in time is an undemocratic practice. After consulting the Bar Council of India, it is now proposed to amend Section 8 to provide for automatic

[Sh. H.R. Bhardwaj]

cessation of membership of members of the State Bar Council in the event of non-holding of elections within the prescribed period of five years or an extended period of six months granted by the Bar Council of India. A Committee of three members is to be constituted for the purpose of holding the elections and to discharge the functions of the State Bar Council in the absence of the elected body. The Committee shall also hold the elections within a period of six months from the date of its constitution or an extended period granted by the Bar Council of India.

At present, Section 104 of the Act provides that the Bar Council of India shall meet at New Delhi and that a State Bar Council shall meet at its headquarters. Originally, there was no restriction with regard to the place of meeting of the Bar Council of India or of a State Bar Council. In 1974, Section 10A was inserted in order to cut down the expenditure on account of holding of the meetings outside the headquarters. It was found in practice that no savings in expenditure were made by holding the meetings at headquarters. It is proposed to amend Section 10A suitably so that the Bar Council of India and the State Bar Councils could meet outside the headquarters also.

Section 24 of the Act specifies the persons who may be admitted as advocates on a State roll. Under this Section, one of the conditions to be fulfilled for admission as an advocate is that he has paid an enrolment fee of Rs. 250/- to the State Bar Council. However, the enrolment fee payable by a persons which is a member of the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes is kept at Rs 125/-. Section 46 of the Act requires that every State Bar Council shall, for each financial year, pay to the Bar Council of India a sum equivalent to twenty per cent of the total of the enrolment fees realised by it under the Act during that year. The Bar Council of India and the State Bar Councils represented that the expenses involved in the administration of the Bar Council of India and the State Bar Councils are growing every year and that it

has become necessary to revise the enrolment fee upwards from Rs. 250/- to Rs.750/- without disturbing the fee payable in case of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Bar Council of India further suggested that there has been avoidable delay on the part of the State Bar Councils in transferring its part of the enrolment fees and that this has created hardship for them. It is proposed to omit Section 46 and amends Section 24 for providing that twenty per cent of the total of the enrolment fees be paid separately by the persons making payment at the time of his admission as an advocate on a State roll by way of bank draft drawn in favour of the Bar Council of India.

Section 24A of the Act prescribes disqualification for enrolment. The Bar Council of India has pointed out that, under the existing provision, a person who is removed or dismissed from employment or office under the State as defined in article 12 of the Constitution on charges involving moral turpitude has not been disqualified for enrolment, and that Section 24A be suitably amended for this purpose. It is proposed to amend the said Section accordingly.

Section 52 of the Act saves the power of the Supreme court to make rules under articles 145 of the Constitution for laying down conditions subject to which a senior advocate shall be entitled to practise in that court and for determining the persons who shall be entitled to act in that Court. The Supreme Court recently suggested that this Section be amended to empower that Court to make rules for determining persons who shall be entitled to plead before that Court.

The present Bill seeks to amend the Advocates Act, 1961 to give effect to the above subjects.

Hence, the Bill is before the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the

Advocates Act, 1961, be taken into consideration."

Then there are amendments.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): I beg to move:

"That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 31st March, 1993." (1)

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAV (Jaipur): I beg to move:

"That Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 11th March, 1993" (2)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): I beg to move:

"That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 15th March, 1993." (3)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The total time allotted is one hour, out of which Congress gets 26 minutes, BJP - 12 minutes, Janata Dal - 6 minutes; CPI(M) - 4; CPI - 1 minute, AIADMK - 1 minute; Teigu Desam - 1 minute; JMM - 1 Minute; Janata Party - 1 minute, and all other small groups, all put together one minute.

So, it is upto us to stick to the limited time available.

I call Shri Lodha to initiate the debate.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I, on the whole welcome the Advocates Amendment Bill. I would like the hon. Minister to committedly implement the freedom of Law, and the freedom of Judiciary, in the true spirit of this

Bill. While talking about Executive and Judiciary, we also talk about Advocates and while talking about Advocates if we do not include Judiciary in it, then will be incomplete. During the tenure of Shri V.P. Singh two Bills were mooted. One was about setting up a commission for appointing Judges, specially in High Courts and Supreme Court. Another was setting up a collegium and Tribunal for dealing in cases of nepotism and allegations regarding political appointments of Judges. But that Bill lapsed with the downfall of the V.P. Singh Government. These Bills were neither introduced nor there is any intention of introducing them. I would like the Hon. Minister to clarify while replying to the Debate whether he agrees to the proposal of collegium Tribunal Commission in principle regarding appointment of Judges and whether that Bill would be introduced in some form or other in this very session. The Bill is oscillating between Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. This is a very important Bill in the legal field for providing free legal aid to the poor. A Bill was passed regarding establishing Lok Adalats, but the Chief Justices had decided in a conference, which I had attended that the Bill advocates the supremacy of the Executive and Judges and Chief Justices do not have any right to exercise their power in order to provide free legal aid to the poor. It was thus an encroachment on their autonomy and sovereignty and therefore, it should be given a second thought. It is being considered. Most probably in Rajya Sabha it has already been considered or is being considered, but it has not yet come to the Lok Sabha so far. If a Bill regarding providing free legal aid to the poor takes 5 to 7 years time in becoming a law, then what can be said about other things. It was first introduced in 1986, after that it was discussed in the conference in 1988 and today in 1992 it is yet to become a law. Can we hope that it will be passed in this session or next session without waiting for 21st century.

Generally there is supremacy of Judiciary in the country in providing fair justice to the people, but with a view to remove corruption a Bill was introduced viz., the

[Sh. Guman Mal Lodha]

Lokpal Bill, even that is gathering dust. I feel that today while passing this Bill we would like to know from the hon. Law Minister. Whether he will take some action about getting Lokpal Bill passed? Joint Parliamentary Committees are constituted for inquiring into Harshad Mehta affair, Bofors affair and other affairs of this sort. Some provisions should also be there in the Lokpal Bill in order to take legal action in corruption cases involving politicians, Chief Ministers, Ministers and even the Prime Minister. If it is essential, then the Prime Minister should also be brought into the dock. I would like to put these three Bills before you and would like the House to pass them. I wish that the hon. Minister of Law should consider this problem. The fee for new Advocates has been raised from Rs. 250 to Rs. 750. There is no objection to it in view of the price rise and devaluation of rupee, but with this I would like to say that this fee of Rs. 750, is misused by the members of Bar Council of India to undertake tours from Kanyakumari to Kashmir and organise meetings in five star hotels in other cities instead of Delhi. I have seen them organising meeting in Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and even Assam. I take this as a heavy burden on the earnings of the poor Advocates. There is no need of touring any other place, they can organise meetings in Delhi itself. I know that those Advocates who are elected to the Bar Council of India have a monthly income of not less than Rs. 50 thousand to Rs. 1 Lakh. When I went to Tamilnadu, I was told that some Advocates had to mortgage their gowns in order to earn their livelihood. I have also visited Calcutta and Bombay. Some member Advocates of the Association are very poor. For getting the work of oath Commissioner, they run like hawkers. Now-a-days the rate is Rs. 2 which was Re. 1 earlier. One gets only 10-12 annas out of it after joining the commission. This is the tragic story of lakhs of Advocates who have to struggle in the beginning. When, *Technocrats, Doctors and Engineers go for a job, they get a salary, but when an Advocate goes to a court, he has to pay an enrolment fee of Rs. 750.* I request you to

reconsider it. *Young Advocates should be provided loans from banks to maintain their libraries. Loan without interest should also be provided to the Bar Council for a library, furniture and its own building. You should also provide grant for this purpose. The most important thing is about social welfare scheme. In every other organisation, be it a Government employee or the employees of corporation or Banks, everybody gets the facility of P.F., Pension and other such facilities, but there is no such arrangement for the Advocates. Wherever an effort was made in this direction it failed. The Bar Council had enabled the Advocates to some extent but how can it mobilise funds. Funds will have to be made available either by the public exchequer or given in the form of loan or grant in-aid either from the State or from the Centre. Therefore, I demand that the social welfare scheme for Advocates should be made effective and the Government should provide funds to the Bar Association or the Bar Council as graft-in-aid.*

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, Mr. Bhardwaj himself has been an advocate. Therefore, there is no need to explain the travails of an advocate to him. He knows how an advocate passes his initial five years with great difficulty. So, the hon. Minister should make an announcement in his reply in respect of the advocates. Section 30 of the advocate Act provides that an advocate can practice anywhere he likes. He can plead a case in any court whether it is a tribunal, an authority or any other forum. In the last few years some new legislations were enacted which prevent the advocates to continue the above practice. For example, they were not allowed to practise in family courts, Excise Commissioners, offices and other authorities whereas Provisions under section 30 were made in 1961. I would like to draw the special attention of the hon. Minister that the Government should implement the verdict of the Supreme Court rather than my explanation which is very brief. This verdict had been given in 1988 which directs that section 30 of the Advocate Act should be enforced. The provision is still in force since 1961, but it is ineffective even now. It should be imple-

mented. It would be a very useful work. The Supreme Court writes in this regard:

[*Translation*]

[*English*]

"The Act was passed in 1961 and nearly 27 years have elapsed since it received the assent of the President of India. In several conferences and meetings of lawyers resolutions have been passed in the past requesting the Central Government to bring into force section 30 of the Act. It is not clear whether the Central Government has applied its mind at all to the question whether Section 30 of the Act should be brought into force. In these circumstances, we are of the view that the Central Government should be directed to consider within a reasonable time the question whether it should bring Section 30 of the Act into force or not. If on such consideration the Central Government feels that the prevailing circumstances are such that Sections 30 of the Act should not be brought into force immediately it is a different matter. But it cannot be allowed to leave the matter to lie over without applying its mind to the said question. Even though the power under Section 30 (sic Section 1(3) of the Act is discretionary, the Central Government should be called upon in this case to consider the question whether it should exercise the discretion one way or the other having regard to the fact that more than a quarter of a century has elapsed from the date on which the Act received the assent of the President of India. The learned Attorney General of India did not seriously dispute the jurisdiction of this Court to issue the writ in the manner indicated above.

We, therefore, issue a writ in the nature of mandamus to the Central Government to consider within a period of six months whether Section 30 of the Act should be brought into force or not. The writ petition is accordingly disposed of."

Sir, this verdict had been given on August 4, 1988. A mention to this effect has been made on Page 54 of the Supreme Court cases 1988. There are various such references in our mythology that Sursa's mouth had great elasticity. Has that period of six months elapsed or not? If the period has since been completed, what decision is being taken in this regard. This House and lakhs of advocates of this country would like to know from him about this. It is a life saving drug for them. They should be allowed to practise anywhere they liked so that citizens' right could be protected and justice is made available to them at a low cost. Will the Government make an announcement that section 30 of the Act would be implemented. It would be of no use to advocates if the Government passed this Act and made the new provisions ineffective as the section 30 has been kept in safe lockers. It should, therefore, be implemented. I would like to inform that the existing philosophy is very important. Appointments of lawyers are made throughout the country whether it is the case of appointment of the Attorney General, Advocate on Records, Civil lawyers or Departmental lawyers. I would like to request that a panel should be drawn for this purpose and the Chairman of the Bar Council should be made a member of the selection board. The hon. Minister should himself become a member. There should be no red-tapism, no nepotism, no politics, no casteism and no regionalism. Suppose a particular Chief Minister or the Prime Minister comes from a southern state, the advocate panel is changed and only south Indians are taken as advocates. There is no difference between North and South. India is one from Kashmir to Kanyakumari. It should be done on the basis of merit. Appointments should be made by drawing panels for this purpose. The Government accepted the resignation of the Attorney General and appointed a new incumbent to the post. I congratulate the Government for this. This resignation should have been accepted much earlier. It would be better if I do not go into the details as to how the previous Attorney General created

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a judiciary history. All the hon. ministers and the hon. Members of the House know about the details. Everybody knows as to how evidences had been collected, records were found. Who were the people involved in the case and who provided protection. Whatever may be its process and facts known or unknown, direct or indirect, the name of the highest judicial officer, the Attorney General had been linked with it. Persons like Stabled had given new dimensions to this office. In pursuance of the same ideology the Speaker of Lok Sabha appointed a Commission to enquire into the conduct of a Judge. The Attorney General opined that Speaker's orders have since lapsed with the dissolution of the House. Therefore, enquiry should not be held. But the Supreme Court made a judicial review and directed that the orders of the Speaker do not lapse. Therefore, an enquiry into the conduct of Shri Ramaswamy should be held. So the enquiry was held. But many obstructions were caused in the way of the enquiry. My submission is that the post of Attorney-General is very respectable and dignified one and that is what the framers of constitution wrote. The Constitution has granted him the right of audience. It can tender advice to the House and point out its acts of omission and commission. We feel very disgraced for such deeds. But I would like to congratulate the Government for the appointment of the new incumbent to the post. We have great expectations from him. A dispute is currently going on in the country. In this case the Judges of Supreme Court take advice from the Attorney General of India. In fact they should, because the Attorney General is a very dignified officer and impartial person who decides the matters in their true lawful spirit. But it should not be there that orders of the Supreme Court should be obtained through him. Supreme Court should not be made the Political Affairs Committee of the Cabinet, whatever may be its verdict. The Attorney-General should not act as the Home Minister of India. He is free to give his opinion whatever he likes. I would like to submit that I have very cordial relations obtain with Shri

Bhardwaj. My submission to him is that he should take special measures for setting up of Lok Adalats. The poor people of our country spend as may as 30 to 40 years in the corridors of judiciary, produce witnesses and appear for cross examination of evidences. They make appeals. In this way litigations run for 50-60 years.

15.00 hrs

I have written a book titled, 'Law, Judiciary-Fuel, Flames And Fire'- in which an example has been cited that a case lingered on in courts in India for 762 years. I have picked it up from Guinness Book of Records. One can imagine as to how a poor and innocent person can fight a case for 762 years. His many generations would have been perished in this process. From which source he would have arranged money, how he would have spared time and what profit he would have derived? Therefore, I want that all the things such as second appeal, special leave petition etc. should be simplified. We want clear and true justice and not technical justice. We do not want the justice of Lord Clive, Dalhousie and Macauley, that judicial system should be done away with. We in India want easy swift and inexpensive and substantial justice. We should not go into the technicalities. A special campaign should be launched to bring an end to all these technicalities. All the technicalities in our procedure should be brought to an end and arrangements should be made to provide justice swiftly.

Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the Minister that when I became the Chief Justice, 50.60 people including a husband and a wife came to me. There were tears in the eyes of the lady and she was having a packet sweets in her hands. I asked her that on one hand she had brought sweets and on the other hand she was weeping, what was all that? She replied that I might have forgotten, she was the mother of Kaml, who was set on fire by her son-in-law. He did so because we could not fulfil his demand for more dowry. They knocked the doors of every court including High Court. They also

approached the hon. Chief Minister and the S.P. They all said that she had committed suicide, but the parents of the girl said that I had very kindly ordered on their appeal that the C.B.I. enquiry be conducted into it. After the investigations, the C.B.I. had held that she was killed by poisoning. As soon as I came to know that she was poisoned, I had put that rascal behind the bars. Today he is languishing in the jail. I have done such a remarkable work that none in future will dare to indulge in such a heinous crime against the girls like Kamla. Nobody will dare to ill treat or kill the girl for dowry. During my tenure, I had ordered an enquiry without caring for the system. Therefore, my submission is that law should be ended in such a way that the common men may come to know about the severe punishment that is given for injustice and crime committed against the women. Such a provision will create a sense of fear among other people also.

In the last, I would like to say one thing more and conclude. The age limit for the advocates should be fixed. At present the situation is that when a person retires, he goes straight to the Supreme Court for practice. Similarly, other officers also start practice in the High Court after retirement. But there are young advocates who have been trying for the last 10 to 15 years to come to the fore front. Suppose, if I go somewhere and start practice as a retired Chief Justice, then it will cause a setback to their aspirations. So, the age limit would be fixed at 50 years and none beyond the age of 50 years should be allowed to practice in the court. He should be restricted to do the practice or give his council only in the chamber and he should not be allowed to go to the court for practice. The maximum age limit should be fixed at 50 years.

Alongwith it, I would like to submit one more thing regarding the court fee. I consider it as a black spot on our judicial system. The poor people of this country always suffer due to the court fee. So far as my knowledge goes each and every commission has suggested to abolish the court fee. Justice should not be weighed in the gold or silver

scale otherwise the one who is rich or affluent will only get the justice and the poor will be deprived of it. Such a thing should not happen during the term of present Minister, Sir. Therefore, the court fee should be abolished. If it is not possible to abolish it all of a sudden then charging of it should be stopped at least in some special cases. The vicious circle does not permit to do anything. Helpless women, mothers and girls who are subjected to the heinous crimes in the society can not knock the doors of the court, because the court fee comes in their way.

I would like to submit one thing more that it should be laid down as an essential qualification that only those persons who have served for at least three years in Lok Adalats or in Legal Aid Cell will be appointed as judges, in the High Courts in the Supreme Court. As you have done in the case of doctors that they should have worked in a rural area for a particular fide period, the same condition should be laid down for the advocates as well. But it has been seen that Government appoints those persons as judges who have never worked in the social field and who have never worked for the poor. I would also like to say that special attention should be paid to the Schedule Castes and Scheduled Tribes, while making appointments of judges to the Supreme Court, High Courts or any other place. I would like to cite an example. Mr. Meena, who was a member of the Bar council of the High Court and who used to deal in the criminal cases was not recommended for appointment to the post of a judge. Yet, I wrote a letter to Shri Goswamiji, who was Chief Justice at that time regarding appointing him as a judge. Today, I would like to congratulate his soul as he has since passed away, for appointing Mr. Meena as a judge on my recommendation. Today, Mr. Meena is functioning better than other judges of the Rajasthan High Court.

Therefore, if you want to do a thing, then do not go into the technicalities, that the case should be first recommended by the Chief Justice, then by the Chief Minister and then

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by the people surrounding the Chief Justice and the Chief Minister.

We want that during your tenure some such revolutionary steps should be taken and such an atmosphere should be created, that the people may say that Mr. Bhardwaj is the Messiah of the poor.

[English]

SHRISHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Advocates (Amendment) Bill, 1992, moved by Shri H.R. Bhardwaj. It is to amend that Advocates Act, 1961. In fact, it is a non-controversial Bill. Shri Guman Mal Lodhi has taken this opportunity of speaking on several subjects connected and unconnected with this Bill. He has also travelled through a very large field from the appointment of Advocate-General to the impeachment of the Supreme Court Judge and his own experience as the Chief Justice of the State.

Now, as far as I can see, as I have said, it is a very non-controversial Bill, providing only a few more functions for the State Bar Councils and the Bar Council of India. These are the suggestions of the Bar Councils themselves. That is why this provision is more non-controversial, and perhaps some of the suggestions have emanated from the Supreme Court. Now, it merely adds to two functions of the State Bar Councils. One function is to implement the welfare schemes. But on this, while dealing with this clause, I do not understand, why these words are used to promote the growth of Bar associations for the purpose of effective implementation of the welfare schemes. I think some clumsy drafting has been made. What is meant is that the welfare schemes should be implemented and that should be one of the functions of the State Bar Councils.

Another function that is added as far as State Bar Council is concerned, is to inspect the universities which impart the legal edu-

cation to the students. Now, as far as the Bar Council of India is concerned, one more function has been added namely to cause inspection of the universities through the State Bar Council.

Now as far as raising of funds is concerned, the Bar Council and the State Bar Council have been now empowered to set up funds for establishing law libraries. It is a very laudable object and that was necessary for a long time. Then, wherever the elections were avoided by the State Bar Councils, the provision is now made and the Bar Council has been now empowered to set up a Special Committee to take charge in such cases and also to conduct elections.

As far as the place of holding the meetings is concerned, they can now hold the same at different places outside the State headquarters. To a certain extent, I agree with the earlier speaker that it is possible that this provision might be misused and large funds may be spent under the guise of holding meetings at various places in the State or throughout India. So, some check will have to be there as far as this provision is concerned.

The Bill raises the fee from Rs. 250 to Rs. 750 but, at the same time, the exemption to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe advocates has been retained as it is.

Then, the disqualification for enrolment of advocates has been added. Those who have been convicted for offences involving moral turpitude cannot enrol themselves as advocates. Supreme Court also has been given power to frame rules for advocates who want to plead in the Supreme Court. Up-till now they had only limited power for advocates who were acting in the Supreme Court.

As I have said, this Bill is not only non-controversial but also a welcome one. This was long overdue and these suggestions have come from the Bar Council, the Supreme Court and several other institutions which are connected with these provisions.

I would like to take this opportunity to emphasise one or two points. First of all, I agree with Lodhaji that more attention should be given to the welfare schemes of advocates. Our people have got very wrong notions about the profession of advocates. They feel that they are a very well-to-do class. As the Supreme Court has said with regard to OBCs, that there is 'layer of cream', similarly, there is layer of cream in this profession also but a large number of people in this profession are struggling. So, various beneficial or social schemes may be introduced by way of legislation, particularly, as Lodhaji has said, for their housing. Of course, for those advocates who are disabled and poor, provision has been made, but for several advocates, for those who cannot practise at the older age, some social schemes will have to be introduced.

Another very serious thing which I want to place before this House and before the Law Minister is that now there is a growing tendency among the advocates of boycotting the courts for some or the other reason. This tendency may have to be curbed. They use the word 'boycotting the court' as our workers use the word 'strike'. When courts are boycotted, the class which suffers is the litigants. Already there are heavy arrears in every court and they are further piled up by resorting to this weapon of boycotting. Many times this boycott is on flimsy grounds. Supposing the list of holidays is declared, then they will say that such day is not declared as a holiday, or sometimes the list of holidays for one court is different from the list of holidays of the higher court. So, the advocates will boycott saying that we must have the same holidays, same vacations. If the Presiding Officer or the Judge is not of their liking, then also they will boycott the court. Some times this boycott is justifiable but many times it is on flimsy grounds. This wastes the time of the courts and the litigants suffer. For example, in the Bombay High Court, some time ago, three to four judges were boycotted. They were not given any work. They were just drawing salary. The work was being piled and nothing was done. What I submit is that in such cases the Bar

Council should be given this function of interfering in such cases. What happens today is that nobody interferes. The Chief Justice does not want to take that unpleasant task. As this is not covered by any industrial law or labour law, therefore even the Government does not interfere. The fun is just watched. Nobody can intervene in what is going on and can stop this matter.

Therefore, the Bar Council should be empowered to intervene in the matter or to negotiate or take such firm action or pass any resolution at least condemning these unjustified boycotts. If there is any justifiable cause, they should be given this enabling power to intervene in the matter. I may go further and say that further teeth must be provided to the Bar Councils. They have got functions. But they have got very limited funds. As far as 'teeth' are concerned, they have not got much powers to take action.

Therefore, the Government may consider giving further and sharper teeth to the Bar Councils - either State Bar Councils or the Bar Council of India. If that is done, I think, much work can be done and, perhaps, that will help in removing the arrears of cases which are pending and which are piling in all the High courts and even in the lower courts as far as the States are concerned.

With these words I welcome this measure and suggest that the suggestions of the Bar may be considered by the Government.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Next speaker is Shri Mohan Singh. Shri R. Naidu Ramasamy who is at serial number five, made a request to be allowed to speak as he has some work in his constituency where floods are there. Shri Mohan Singh, if you accommodate, Shri Ramasamy can speak for five minutes.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): I have no objection.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Shri Ramasamy may speak now.

SHRI R. NAIDU RAMASAMY (Periyakulam): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for providing me an opportunity to speak on the Advocates (Amendment) Bill, 1992, on behalf of All India Anna D.M.K. All the provisions in the Bill should be welcomed by the whole House. The provision that those persons who have been dismissed or removed from employment or office under the State, on charges involving moral turpitude should not be enrolled as advocate, is a very good provision. But at the same time this provision should not apply to those who sue the Government and the Government loses the case. In such a case, the persons should be allowed to be enrolled as advocates. An amendment appears to be necessary.

I also welcome the amendment providing for the Bar Council of India and the State Bar Councils to meet at places other than their headquarters. This would ensure the uniformity of legal practice and also give the profession a global touch.

But you know that the legal profession is ridden with many ills. For example, studying law is not only for practising law but also for creating an awareness about the requirement of following the law and obeying the rules of law. This is somehow being lost. Many of the young people who study law, practise as juniors without proper monetary support. I, therefore, suggest to the Government to provide a minimum sustenance dole to all advocates practising as juniors for a term of two years.

Many of the lawyers who are practicing as advocates are fleecing their clients since there is no maximum fee prescribed under law. This should be done so that legal advice to the clients is not made a mere matter of trade and commerce. By law, one must fix a maximum fee chargeable from clients for category-wise suits. This would enable the clients to file suits without the fear of being milked by the lawyers. The rule of law in the country is first administered through lawyers and then only through the judgements of courts. This would also curb the tendency of

justice being sold through lawyers influencing courts by their clout.

I also request the Government to honourably pay an *ex gratia* non-practising allowance to all those who wish to retire from practising law by putting an application for withdrawal of enrolment at the Bar. This may be paid to them for two years from 58 years to 60 years. The beneficiaries should not be allowed to resume practice.

A statutory requirement should also be there to provide lawyers at Government cost to all labourers in the country who wish to fight against the injustice of the management. I would like the Government to enact the Bill on labour participation in the management and link this matter with the measure. I also like the Government to provide lawyers at Government cost to all those women who like to fight the evils of dowry system and male harassment. And also before filing the suit in the court, it has to be decided on all matters except criminal proceedings. If the matter is decided by Lok Adalat, then it is not necessary to place it before the court. Only after finding out from the Lok Adalat in all disputes we have to allow it to file before the court. This will reduce the number of litigations.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is nothing to welcome and nothing to protest against in this Amendment Bill. The hon. Minister has brought forward this Amendment Bill only to spoil two valuable hours for some unnecessary issues. The provisions of rulings was already there which alone could do. If only the fees of the lawyers have to be raised then a permanent provision may be made in the rules of the Bar Council that whenever required according to the time and situation the Bar Association may raise or lower down the fees for the enrolment of the lawyers. I hold that a regular amendment in the Act for this is not proper.

The second amendment brought for-

ward by the Government is that the meeting of the Bar Council can be held anywhere instead of only at the head-quarters. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I can very well understand the motive behind it. If this Amendment Bill is passed, the meeting of the Bar Council of any State will not be held in the Central place. For example, the members instead of holding the meeting in Lucknow or Allahabad, can hold the meeting in some aeroplane itself in Andman. Its adverse effects will follow in future. The Bar Council which is at present not able to discharge its responsibilities for the paucity of funds, will require more money to spend over the meetings to be held at out stations. I think that this has not been done much sensibly.

Besides, there is an additional provision that the members of the Bar-Council may supervise the library of the university. The members of the Bar-Council will supervise whether proper arrangement of books for the students of L.L.B. has been made in the library or not. I think that this is almost like raising a figure to the wide set-up of the universities and to the level of teaching-learning process. I think it is not something very proper to do any amendment in the present Act.

I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the 3 or 4 points in this Advocates Act which really requires amendments. The right of maintaining discipline has been provided to the Bar Council under section 35 of the Advocates Act 1961. But with deep anguish I would like to submit that at the lower levels, particularly at district levels the relationship between the Bench and the Bar is very incordial. I, however, agree that it is not so in the High Courts and the Supreme Court. We often read in the Newspapers and it has also been found by personal experiences that the behaviour of the lawyers practising in lower courts is regularly deteriorating in relation to the Bench. There are incidents of misbehaviour with the district judges, C.G.M.S. with judicials. The Bar-Council has been a total failure in maintaining discipline. I would, therefore, like to suggest that the right of maintaining disci-

pline should now no more rest with the Bar Council. It is good if a separate tribunal is made for that, because it would be a great problem for the lawyers to work in the face of growing indiscipline on the part of the judicial Magistrate and District Magistrates.

Similarly, I have to make a second suggestion about which Shri Lodhaji has already given a hint. It is really a very good suggestion. It is generally observed that when a person retires after serving on a very top post, say, as an income tax officer, he then wears the gown and starts practicing in the very same court from where he retires. Similarly, when a Sales Tax Commissioner retire from service, he starts practice in the very same office. As a matter of fact, what they do is more pairvi than legal practice. They are thus abusing the responsibilities of lawyers. I would like to submit that rules should be made to restrain those retired officers from practicing in the courts of the same department and particularly in the cases of economic offences. Such amendments are really required in the Advocates Act.

The third thing which was also hinted to by Shri Lodhaji and by other hon. Members is that the economic condition of the lawyers practicing in the lower courts is constantly deteriorating. At times, the lawyers die prematurely, in the age of 45-46 or 48 years. Then there is nobody to look after their family. There is, however, a rule under the provision of which the Bar Council may run a welfare scheme. There is a provision under section 2 of the rule that the Bar Council may make welfare programmes. The Bar Council has, however, been unable to bring forth some comprehensive and worthwhile schemes for the lawyers. I would like to plead that there should be a compulsory insurance scheme for them. It is the responsibility of the Government that after the deaths of a lawyer it should provide protection and support his family. There should be arrangement of special funds for that purpose. I would be pleased if there is such an amendment in the Advocates Act. The hon. Minister is, however, more interested in bringing facial amendments in the Act on the floor of

[Sh. Mohan Singh]

the House rather than bringing fundamental changes. I know that on the basis of the majority votes this Bill will be passed. Anyway, I do not intend to object it, but I would also like to submit that a parliamentary committee should be made to bring a fundamental change in the Advocate's Act. The Government has made a provision according to which those will be a senior advocate and a junior advocate. When two advocates are of same age group and if they are enrolled on the same date then the seniority would be decided on the basis of the seniority of age. Such is the rule of the Government, but I think, this is not a proper rule. There should be an amendment that when two senior advocates are enrolled on the same date then the seniority would be decided on the basis of practicing age of the advocate. According to me this will be a proper amendment. I hope that keeping my suggestions in view the hon. Minister will form a parliamentary committee with a view to bring a fundamental change in the Advocate's Act-1961 and after forming the Committee he can invite more suggestions to produce the draft for a large scale amendments in the Act on the floor of the House, only then it will be proper. Small and large change in the present legal system. With these suggestions, I extend my thanks to you and to the hon. Minister and I again mention the amendments moved by me.

[English]

SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI (Kasaragod): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I welcome the proposed amendment. It is said that the Advocate profession is a noble profession. In the Statement, the purpose of this amendment is clearly stated. The main purpose is to implement welfare schemes for Advocates. That is absolutely necessary, Of course, there are Advocates who are very influential and very rich, but some Advocates are very poor also.

Nobody is expressing concern about the poor advocates, who are generally called

as Sunday Lawyers. Sunday Lawyers means, they wear black coat and gown but with no brief. Every day they would dress up at about 10 am. to go to court and return without earning any income. Such lawyers require welfare scheme.

15.31 hrs

[SHRI TARA SINGH *in the Chair*]

So, the amendment to that extent is welcome.

New amendment, i.e. clause 24 (c) is really necessary. But my doubt is, after clause (b), it is said, the following clause shall be inserted namely:

2 "If he is removed or dismissed from employment or office under the State on any charge involving moral turpitude."

If he is dismissed, of course, he cannot appear before the court etc. But the original section is like this.

If he is convicted of an offence under the provisions of the Untouchability Act, he would be disqualified." Provided that the disqualification for enrolment shall cease to have effect after a period of two years has elapsed since his release".

Now amended section (c) also comes after (b). I want to know, whether this is applicable to the persons dismissed from the service also on the ground of moral turpitude that they are barred only for two years only and thereafter there is no bar. If that is the implication, then naturally, the amendment is not justified. It is because, if a person is dismissed from the service for moral turpitude, after the lapse of two years, he is eligible to enrol as advocate. It means, this noble profession will be dubbed as an immoral profession. I want the Minister to clarify whether the restriction in the bar is only for two years or permanent. If the person is dismissed from the service on the ground of moral turpitude and if the bar is

only for two years, there would not be any meaning at all. I request the Minister to explain that aspect.

About the other provisions intended to be made applicable by way of this Amending Bill, I have no objection. I agree with all the provisions except clause 24 (c), which the hon. Minister may clarify the position.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI (Saidpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you for providing me an opportunity to express my views. The motive behind bringing forth the Advocate Amendment Bill-1992 is broadly to implement the welfare schemes meant for the advocates as also to make the concerned organisations viable to solve the financial problems of the Indian Bar Council and the State Bar Council is also one of its main objectives.

Sir, there is a provision in the Bill according to which all the advocates, with the only exception of the advocates of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will have to pay Rs. 750/- in view of Rs. 250/- as their fee. I welcome it. The hon. Minister deserves to be congratulated for giving exemption to people of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It is good that the Government paid attention to it. I think that the profession of advocates is very important in the world. India holds second position, next to America. But I regret to say that some people have monopoly over the profession. The number of advocates from rural areas is negligible. If at all, they come, no incentives are given to them. Same is the condition of the advocates of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. If they come to this profession, they do not get adequate protection. It would have been better if the provision to provide security to the advocates of rural areas and also to those belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes had been made.

I have observed, others have also observed that most of the cases are filed by

people hailing from rural areas. If the hon. Minister gets a survey conducted, he would realise how the clients from rural areas find themselves in trouble when they have to engage advocates in cities. Almost the same situation prevails in every village today. Our rural clients are confused as to who should be their advocate to fight their case. They feel that their cases are not fought properly.

Judges of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are appointed under reserved quota. I want the Government to provide the same facility to the advocates of rural areas and give production to them.

Secondly, it has been seen that some senior advocates have established complete monopoly in courts, they have complete hold over their junior advocates. This fact should have been taken into account in the Bill.

Another important thing is that when advocates are appointed as DGC or AGC, the Government exercises partially in making these appointments. I would like the hon. Minister to keep these factors in view. As many of the other hon. Members have suggested that a panel should be formed to make these appointments, which should keep the capability and also the capacity of the advocates in view while appointing them, whereas at present, these factors are given no consideration. Sir, at present, about two crores of the cases are pending in courts. The reason - so far as I think - is the appointment of incapable advocates and if the present trend continues, capable advocates would not be appointed and the number of pending cases would go on increasing. If capable advocates were appointed, there would have been no pending cases.

Shri Lodha is a very senior and experienced Member. He has drawn the attention of the Members to the open misuse of crores of rupees of a fund. Meetings are held at other places. If these meetings are held at the Centre or in States, this fund can be utilized. The money of this fund should be utilized to set up libraries and to provide

[Sh. Rajnath Sonkar Shastri]

financial assistance to advocates to purchase books. As other Members have already pointed out that the fund should be utilized for providing financial assistance to the families of advocates when they grow old. Sometimes the advocate is so much dedicated to his work that he does not pay attention to his family which ultimately grows financially weak. In such a crisis, his family should be given assistance.

Sir, lastly I would like to submit that when the cases are filed in courts, the advocates enclose power of attorney with the case file, thus getting complete authority to fight the case on behalf of their clients, but this creates many difficulties for clients. Therefore, we should think over the working procedure in courts also. When advocate gets authority to fight legal matters, he charges his fee. But most of the time, there is strike in courts, as a result of which the time of hearing is fixed on a later date. The client is so much fed up with this practice that he returns to his native place. Therefore, ban should be imposed on holding strikes there. It would have been better if this matter would have been included in this Bill. The advocates should not charge fee for the day when the court is closed and no work is done, but they do take fee for that day. This practice should be checked.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, strikes were called 100 times in one year in Banaras and no work was done. Therefore, it should have been considered through this Bill as to which rules should govern, strikes so that strikes are not called every now and then. Often, the advocate goes on strike.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This has been happening particularly for the last 3-4 years.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Even Mr. Chairman has also supported it.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Sir, before I conclude, I would like to submit that the motive of this Bill is good and not only

attention should be paid to the aspects I have mentioned, but the Bill should be amended as well. (*Interruptions*).... I am telling the Members that they should not interrupt when I speak. Because in that case one finds it difficult to say what he wants. I have said that since you have interrupted while I was speaking, I will also do the same when you speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please exchange these sweet words outside the House and not here.

[*English*]

SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH (Adoor): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the provisions contained in the Advocates (Amendment) Bill, 1992 so ably presented by the hon. Minister.

The aim and object of this Bill is to promote the growth of Bar Associations for the purpose of effective implementation of the welfare schemes referred to in Section 7.

The function of the Bar Council shall be to recognise universities whose degree in law shall be a qualification for enrolment as an advocate and for that purpose to visit and inspect universities. I am sorry to state that the visit is not being done frequently. I agree with the objects and reasons specified in the Bill. I would urge upon the Government to issue directions to the Bar Councils of the States to fix up the fees to be charged by the advocates for conducting the cases as, in the absence of the same, the advocates are likely to take advantage of the loopholes of the Bill and charge unreasonable fees from the litigant people. I shall be happy if the Minister brings forward an amendment to the relevant section:

'An advocate enrolled in the light of the provisions contained in the Bill should subscribe to the oath and unequivocally state that he will not charge for conducting the cases of the litigants more than what is reasonably fair.'

With these few words, I support the Bill.

[*Translation*]

SHRIGEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaf-farpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, so many things were said, because it was essential to comment on the Bill. I would like to draw the attention of the House to a sentence i.e. the Amendment you have proposed to Section 24 (A) and say few words on it.

[*English*]

It is: "Dismissed or removed from employment or office."

[*Translation*]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is my suggestion that the Government should incorporate one more word in the proposed amendment and i.e.

[*English*]

"or resigns"

[*Translation*].

Let the other words remain as it is. This suggestion is being made because in this country big shots are never dismissed. They just resign, as the Government should have dismissed the former Attorney-General. Had a commoner, prosecuted in a lower court committed the sins Shri Ramaswamy had committed then, I am sure the Law Minister would also agree with me that the commoner would not only have been dismissed from service, but criminal cases would also have been instituted against him. Since the Attorney-General happened to be a big shot, he is free to commit any sin and when his sinful deeds reached their extremity, he walks off coolly and honourably, after tendering his resignation. Now, that you propose to amend it, let it be amended that

[*English*]

"Dismissed or removed or resigned from

employment or office under the State on any charge involving moral turpitude."

[*Translation*].

Mr. Chairman, Sir, when you are talking about law, I would say that in this country, law is implemented in a different way for the rich and the poor. As long as this situation or condition prevails, it is useless to talk of high-sounding terms like Justice, Law, Lok Adalat etc etc. Therefore, while making a suggestion for improvement in the proposed amendment in the existing law, I would like to add that the attitude adopted by the Government with regard to the Attorney General was totally incorrect. I had written a letter to the Prime Minister on September 19, mentioning each and every activity of the former Attorney-General including the manner in which he got opened a special account and got a clean loan from the Standard (Standard Chartered) Bank. I even mentioned the account number in the letter. In the letter, I also mentioned that while being the Attorney General, how the Attorney-General on a brief from the Ministry of Finance, demanded in his capacity as the representative of the Union Government and its highest legal officer that the department responsible for checking incomplete offences, which comes under the Finance Minister and which seized shares worth hundreds of crores of rupees belonging to many people from Bombay involved in the securities scam, should return them to their rightful owners and thus your Attorney-General oversaw the task of returning shares worth crores of rupees to those people. An account was opened, that Account was taken. So was the loan. Why an Attorney-General, who had given a written statement to the effect that he had an income of Rs. 1.8 crore, last year, would take a loan of Rupees 15 lakh? That amount of Fifteen Lakh rupees was a bribe. At that time, nobody imagined even in their wildest dreams that this will be exposed, that Rs. 15 lakh overdraft account will be exposed. Money was being misappropriated. Real state deals were being struck. When the scam got exposed, everything got revealed and when there was no option left, it was made out that

[Sh. George Fernandes]

the account was a clean loan. It is for this reason that I wrote to the Prime Minister asking him to get a probe ordered into this account including the manner in which he secured a loan, and also how being the country's Attorney-General, he took loan from a Bank, which has been identified as Number One Offender in the securities scam. Of all the banks, if Citi Bank is considered the number one offender then Stanchert certainly occupies the second position, for bungling involved in it is to the tune of Rs. 1,000 crore. Not only that it didn't bring in the foreign capital as stipulated, but it is violating all laws of the country and the Reserve Bank of India and even after its exposure, our Attorney-General, performs the task of advising it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, on 29th and 30th June, the Attorney-General visited Pune and stayed at the Five Star 'Blue Diamond' hotel, arranged by Standard officials and consultations with the offenders for two consecutive days went on, at a time, when the Joint Parliamentary Committee is holding its sittings, C.B.I. and I.B. are conducting inquiries and many other inquiries are being held, the Attorney-General of the country enjoys an all-expenses paid treat, arranged by Stanchart at Pune and advises the offenders against that very Government, which pays him his salary.

What's more, the Attorney-General goes all the way to London to meet the Chief Executive of the Stanchart and when the latter comes to the country to tender evidence, he goes to the residence of the Attorney-General on the eve of the sitting and takes counsel, on the basis of which he tenders evidence and our Attorney-General sits pretty in his office, scot-free. There is a Bombay-based woman journalist by name Ms. Gauri Gurumurthi. She made a through investigation into the whole matter and pursued the Attorney-General and when in order to confirm her findings, she sent a questionnaire to him, to which he made a written reply that all the matters raised were incorrect,

although it came and later that her each and every finding was true, and on the other hand is the reply of the Attorney-General stating that they were all incorrect. Further, in the first week of September, he told the Lady Journalist that the issue was a North versus South one and because the lady Ms. Gauri Gurumurthy happened to be from the South, the Attorney-General, in the first week of September, told her that she is also from South and she should be aware that the North Indians are always on their toes to ruin South Indians and this very charge, he levelled publicly, few days later and still continued to remain as the Attorney-General. Yet the Law Minister, who has been praised so lavishly by my friend Shri Guman Mal Lodha, did not take any action?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): We have already taken action.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: What did you do?

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: He is no more the Attorney-General.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Well, he did move out, when he was left with no option. Therefore, I would like to submit before you that I did not want to comment on this particular Bill, Mohan Singh, had to speak, so he spoke and Guman Mal ji also spoke out his mind, but Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have risen because the discussion on this Amendment Bill provided me an opportunity to raise this question in the House and also make a request to the Law Minister. If the hon. Minister desires, I am prepared to give him a copy of my letter to the Prime Minister. Certainly the Prime Minister must have passed it on to him. He must be having a copy of it.

[*English*]

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: We are fully aware of what you have said.

*Bill**[Translation]*

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: So, today, my first suggestion is that the Government should incorporate the word I have suggested in the Amendment, in the proper way and secondly the Government should not allow a man to go scot free just because he tendered his resignation. Rather, it should take steps to file cases against him in consultation with the Law Ministry, the Home Ministry and the Finance Ministry. Thank you.

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this amendment in the Advocates Act is being brought with certain objects and reasons and these are mentioned herein. These objects include as to how to strengthen the legal profession and make the welfare scheme more effective.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the common man is losing faith in the present judicial set up. Generally, people think that justice sells, breeds corruption and its standard is going downwards. That is why it became imperative for the Minister of Law to bring an amendment to the Advocates Act. He has also suggested to entrust some duties to Bar Council and State Bar-Councils. But whether the Central Government is going to shoulder some responsibility in this regard or not?

The present position of the Advocates specially of the young ones is such that they are launching agitation in every state of the country. They want to make their profession more dignified. They want to put more labour and need assistance in order to make this profession more attractive. The Central Government spends Rs. 1 crore on an employee during his service period. Due to unemployment even educated persons are unable to get a service these days. They decide to adopt legal profession but as they are financially weak, they do not have either legal books or an office where they may contact their clients, discuss legal questions and prepare for their profession. As a result of which during the initial period of their practice they are bound to live a hard pressed life.

16.00 hrs

Mr. Bhardwaj is the Law Minister I am here since 1980 and I have requested all the Law Ministers, who have come during this period that the centre should take some responsibility in this regard. If the matters regarding their funning up, helping to maintain their libraries, constructing their own chambers and to provide pension in the event of their premature death are only left with Bar-Council and State Bar-Councils, then one cannot expect their smooth and satisfied implementation.

In this amendment you have raised the fee from Rs. 250 to 750, but exempted SC/ST from it, it is very good.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How much time do you need more to speak?

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: I would take just 3-4 minutes time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may continue tomorrow.

16.01 hrs**DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193**

Situation Affecting Agriculture and Farmers Interests Due To Increase The Prices of Fertilizers and Wheat Import
CONTD.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up further discussion regarding the serious situation affecting agriculture and farmers interests due to increase in the prices of fertilizers and import of wheat.

Shri V P Singh.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH

(Fatehepur) : Thank you, Sir. When this Government came to power it told the nation that the first item on its agenda and the biggest problem that it has to handle is the balance of payments. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : The Finance Minister has fled. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH

: I Was just mentioning it. When I saw the Finance Minister, I started from balance of payments. (*Interruptions*) On his mention, he has taken the flight; and much of our resources also - the foreign exchange for purchase of wheat - have gone.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD) : He does not want to confront with the Ex-Finance Minister.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH

: Sir, despite the issue of wheat, the issue of farmers and other issues, I will first deal with the issue of balance of payments.

This is one of the most serious crises that we are facing today. It is now questioned as to how do we use our foreign exchange reserves. It is borrowed foreign exchange that we have got. It is not a hard-earned one; but a hard-begged one. Out of this, the Government has decided to spend Rs. 1500 crores of foreign exchange for import of wheat. This money will have to be paid back. And how are you using it? Are you putting it in infrastructure? Are you putting it in capital investment, that will generate the money for the repayment? How is it that, after two years when it comes, this amount or Rs. 1500 crores is going to be paid back? That is one big issue. It is a big issue because it relates to our economic sovereignty. What alternative use, for this amount of Rs. 1500 crores that is going to be spent on wheat, could

have been there? This could have been spent on power as there is a bottleneck of infrastructure in power or on transport. Even if we see in agricultural sector where always we have the problem that capital formation is not taking place - the argument that is put forth is, capital formation is not taking place because of ready subsidy. That has been your consistent argument. Was it not a fit case, if we were to spend Rs. 1500 crores, that this could have gone for the infrastructure in agriculture? Rs. 1500 crores would have given three lakh tube-wells or equivalent of irrigation capacity in canals or otherwise. Three lakh tubewells could irrigate five crores hectares of land giving us at least 50 lakh tonnes of wheat. We have got this annually. It would have gone towards self-reliance. But instead the Government has chosen to criminally spend this foreign exchange in one shot for import of wheat and that too 30 lakh tonnes whereas it could generate a production capacity of 50 lakh tonnes of wheat annually. This is one thing. I charge this Government of misuse of the foreign exchange and committing the future of this country to debt trap. That is what it has done. It is an old fashion. The genesis is that we have come to this stage : borrow and then take the soft options of spending it.

We also faced it. The hon. Agriculture Minister is here. If you remember, when we were in power, edible oil prices shot up. There was tremendous pressure to spend foreign exchange and import edible oils. I told them : do you want the economic independence of this country or cheaper edible oils? I can spend foreign exchange to get the edible oils and myself be popular. You perhaps also have some easy time. But I know with open eyes, it will be committing the future of the country. And I would get a very clear response from the people: no, we want economic sovereignty. What the Government has not judged is the patriotic sense, in the sense of the sacrifice of this country.

There was not a total shortage of wheat.

Continuously, we have had good crops. The next crop coming is a good one. Instead of making measures of dehoarding - if there were with traders or otherwise - the easy option of importing and spending precious foreign exchange has been there.

Now much crocodile tears are being shed about the public distribution system. May I ask: is it not true that 6.47 lakh tonnes of wheat from your stocks during October 1991-92 were released in free market and not to the PDS. I am not talking of the wheat that went away. You released this to free market. Now you want to replenish your stocks at least to this tune by spending foreign exchange. This would amount to at least little less than one-third of your spending foreign exchange. Rs. 500 crore foreign exchange you have squandered away in this way and created a shortage of wheat which you could have had in your stocks and supplied to the public distribution system. It is a gross mismanagement. It is a great injustice to the people - the consumer and the producer both - and to the economy in general. We have clear example in this.

What is the situation. You are spending this foreign exchange when the next crop is due and a good crop is going to come. There is no denial of this fact. You will see the fact even by your norm. How much have you exported? I am not quoting the case of that wheat but your own norm and policy.

You have a buffer stocking policy. And minimum stocks are recommended at various periods of time. Nine million tonnes are not always needed as you are pleading. That is required maybe in the beginning of the season. But as you approach a new crop, your requirement lessens. For instance, if you are to go 100 kilometres, you put 10 litres. It is not that you need 10 litres all the time and up to the end. So is this mythical figure of nine million tonnes.

I remember in January, when we were in power, the stocks were only 6 million tonnes. The proposal came to me and I said, "No. New crop is coming; I am not going to spend foreign exchange. With this six million tonnes, we can tide over and come to the new season where we will get new wheat." I want to ask you one question. According to the policy of buffer stocking, on 1st April, the requirement was about 3.7 million tonnes and what you had on 1.4.1992 was 2.23 million tonnes. That means you were short by half a million tonne only. When new crop came, the total stock of wheat on Central and State account was 7.42 million tonnes. To make up this mythical figure of nine million tonnes - it is not mythical but real - you needed only one and a half million tonnes even by your calculations. Why were three million tonnes imported? Is this not criminal squandering of foreign exchange and bringing us in the spiral of debt trap? What were the compulsions? My colleague, Mr. George Fernandes had mentioned about the compulsions. Well, it is time you speak up rather than trying to conceal these things. So, this import of wheat has been anti-farmer and anti-consumer and it is against the national economic interest. It is no confidence on the Indian farmer. We have had good crops. Wheat production has been going up. In 1979-80, it was about 32 million tonnes. I am just rounding up the figures. For 1990-91, the figure is 54.5 million tonnes. Productivity has gone up per hectare from 1036 quintals to 2274 quintals. So, there was no need of any panic. And availability was there even in the market. Only on two conditions you are authorised to import or there is validity to import, namely, if there is total shortage and if the prevalent prices are too high. There was no total shortage. Prices prevailing were too high means there is hoarding. That means you took no action on that. There was temporary shoot up of prices. I had been to Moga in Haryana. The market price prevailing there is roughly Rs. 3.20 or Rs. 3.25 or Rs.3.15. This includes western UP also.

They are very near about our issue price. So, there is neither price rise nor shortage of total availability. Yet, you have chosen to spend this precious foreign exchange. Whom are you answerable? You are answerable to the people of India. We cannot just give you the authority to squander our foreign exchange and bring us to debt. This is just not possible and we are not going to tolerate it. And why has this shortage come after all? It is because the offer that was made was of Rs. 280 after bonus and everything. It means Rs. 250+Rs.25+Rs.5. It is all right; do it. The prevailing market prices were higher, that is, Rs.225 or something and the farmer would have given you those prices. Even the Punjab Government is now asking for much higher price of Rs. 370. But even if you had given it at Rs. 375, your stock problem would have got over. It is because you have failed that you want to punish the farmer. Whom are you subsidising? You are buying from Canada at about Rs 526 per quintal and you gave the average as Rs.501. Now, even if you take that average - I am not going into the details of calculation but roughly to illustrate the point I am saying - to bring it to issue price of about Rs.3, you will have to subsidise it to about Rs.2. Even if you buy from the market at Rs. 3.20, the subsidy is 20 paise. Whatever amount that you may be buying, had you bought it from the market within the country, your subsidies would have been much lower. Whom are you subsidising? You are helping the American farmer and subsidising his produce to sell it here, rather than helping the Indian farmer! That is the point. Canadian farmer, Australian farmer, American farmer - any farmer other than the Indian farmer is good enough for you!

Yesterday a point was made about the Dunkel Draft Text, or DDT as it is known. This DDT is for us and it is being sprayed on the Indian farmer! In this text, there is a

provision for 3.3 per cent of the agricultural produce. We want to know whether you have agreed to it. If you have not agreed, even then, why are you implementing it, without even mentioning it? Without taking the name of Dunkel, Mr. Dunkel is sitting here, in the first seat!

Is it not true that the wheat which was being used for cattle feed, was substituted by corn? Demand for wheat has gone down and there is a pressure to sell the wheat in foreign countries. So now, that is being loaded on us. This reminds us that we have gone back to the old days of PL-480! It was a proud day when we said that we would import no more wheat, and we hailed the Indian farmer as the quaroian of our economic independence. And today a sad moment has come. What the Government has been stating on various occasions, amounts to building a case of repeated imports and permanent imports. The Agriculture Minister might be very much worried. I am sure he must be taking up this cause, though he cannot express it here very explicitly. Surely, he must be raising his voice in the Cabinet.

Sir, this trend is very dangerous. I cannot be elaborative. I am just making some points and elaborating them in the overall context of how it would affect the agricultural production in this country. Just see what you have done. You are going to dump wheat here and depress the prices. The farmers who produce, are going to be depressed too. At the same time, you have pushed up the prices of the inputs used by the farmer. Fertilizer prices have been pushed up to levels which are beyond the reach of a common farmer. And what will it do? It is a known fact that capital formation after 1980 had declined. What I am saying is from an authoritative source, viz. Shri Hanumantha Rao, who is one of the very well known experts on agriculture. In 20 years, that is between 1960 and 1980, capital formation went up from Rs. 1000 crores to Rs. 5000

crores. From there, it started declining, and by 1987 it touched the figure of Rs.4000 crores. This is the trend both in public and private sector capital formation. Why is this stagnancy or decline in capital formation? The reason is that the terms of trade have not been favourable to the farmer. In fact, this further shows that the real prices of foodgrains have actually fallen. If we take the index numbers of relative price of foodgrains in 1971 as 100, the real price of foodgrains in 1991 came to 80.

Over the last twenty years, in spite of rise in nominal prices, the real prices of foodgrains have fallen. It is good. It has helped the consumer and the wage earner. But when capital formation has not taken place, when the real prices are falling, at that very juncture, what have you done? If you increase the input prices and decrease the output prices, the capital formation will further come down. That is what you are doing to the key sector. It is a very very dangerous thing. This path will lead us to the dependence on food itself. If you become dependent on food, with 40 per cent people living below the poverty line, that means, you have sold away your independence. You cannot stand up and take your own path.

What will happen to production? There is a 30 per cent increase in fertilizer prices because of elasticity of demand. It is not inelastic demand. This is what the studies have shown. It may also increase beyond that.

So far as phosphatic fertilizer is concerned it has gone up by more than two or three times. That would result in decrease in foodgrains production to the tune of about three-and-a-half per cent. It is really a tremendous shortage.

Now, what will be the impact on employment? Because of all these things, the workers, the labourers and farmers will suffer.

Apart from this what will happen to the soil? Because of increase in the price of phosphotic fertilizer the farmers will use less amount of this fertilizer. You will continue to give nitrogen but not to the extent that is required by them. This will cause imbalance in the soil. There will be greater consumption of Zinc and there will be more plants which will suffer from diseases. Who will remedy this? Will any Government do it? Unfortunately, the world is run by Bank and this country is being run by a set of accountants. We are only taking care of financial balance and on the other hand we are forgetting the real economic balance of the country. What is going to be the balance sheet of the country?

What is the /sop that will take care of increase in fertilizer prices and an increase in support prices? That is what has been said by the Prime Minister. How will the marginal farmers be benefited viz, those farmers who do not have surplus to sell? We have about 76 per cent of those farmers.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): There are Rs. 500 crores....

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Are you robbing them Rs.9000 crores you have taken away the fertilizer subsidy. The Prime Minister himself had said that if we had continued with fertilizer subsidy, we would have to give Rs.9000 crores. By robbing the farmers of Rs.9000 crores, you are just giving them Rs. 500 crores. It is a very neat way of robbing the farmers and a very profitable way of robbing the farmers. What I want to say to the hon. Agriculture Minister is that, he should exert or put pressure. The whole thing is getting distorted. An argument that is generally given is that, if you take away all the resources, we will not be able to have capital formation. Therefore, we should do away with the subsidies.

All right. Please guarantee that Rs.9000 crores have been taken away. Let us take

[Sh. Vishwanath Pratap Singh]

Rs. 6000 crores or whatever extra amount you want to take. I know you will say let us take Rs.6000 crores because the Prime Minister said about Rs.9000 crores; and if I say let us take Rs.9000 crores you will correct me and say let us take Rs.6000 crores

Now, will you ensure that Rs. 6000 crores will go to the infrastructure of agriculture? Will it? Will I see it in the next budget? Will you say about it in your reply? Nodding of head is not recorded. The privilege arises when you stand up and say.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE
(SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : I will reply to it.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : There are non-price factors. Non-price factors have become very important. It is not only the price impetus; it is the infrastructure, it is your technology, your irrigation and other facilities that have become relevant.

Now, this subsidy you should guarantee or I am ready to put it in the infrastructure. If you spend Rs. 1500 crores you can get three lakh tonnes of fertilisers. But if you spend Rs. 6000 crores, you see what will happen? But you will not do it. Shri Manmohan Singh went away because of this. If you write a note, he will reject it.

This is a Report of the Joint Committee on Fertilizer Prices. The other recommendations have been implemented immediately.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE
(Bolpur) : The note of Mr. Syed Shahabuddin has not been implemented.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : That has not been implemented. Certainly, it is very clear that the farm sector is being called upon to pay for the inefficiency of the

fertilizer. There are units where the capacity utilization is only 53 per cent. The farmer has to pay the cost of it; there is no other option. I do not know why the other recommendations have not been implemented. In fact, what we should aim at is that we should try to reduce the input cost which, without increasing it to high prices, will still improve the terms of trade, leave profit and capital with the farmer and at the same time benefit the consumer also, because there will be no cost on the foodgrains. This is a sensible part. But on the other recommendations of this Committee no action has been taken.

Now, let us come to natural gas. The natural gas pricing is done by the Government; everything is on market price mechanism; but here the Government mechanism has to decide about it. On page 101 of this Report, it reads as follows:

"The committee note that for determining the consumer price of natural gas the cost of imported furnace oil is taken as the basis which has no relation to the actual cost of production. Similarly the produced price of gas is reportedly based on the cost of production of gas from South Bassein field. This does not take into account the weighted average of the cost of gas."

I was trying to tackle this issue when I was in the Finance Ministry. But then I was out. But this gas problem is still there. It is a very very crucial thing.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : We shall do

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : We will give you all the support. This is one way. Of course, there are other details like the royalty paid by the fertilizer industry, then transportation charges for gas sold along HBJ pipeline appeal to be on the higher side

and the cost of it. All this goes up in its own way to push up the fertilizer prices. And that is again loaded on the farmer. So, this is the scenario we have. And in this scenario what does it really mean? The issue has now boiled down to food, not even say to wheat. And when you say food, then it is not only the farmer but it is also the consumer, the labourer; everyone is coming in this. It is a key sector; it is the symbol of our sovereignty; it is also the biggest sector for employment. And this is being treated like this. If you think of restructuring the industry while bringing out the new economic policy, the restructuring of the industry and of the economy can really come through the farm sector. There has been no mention of the farm policy till of late. One and a half years had elapsed but there was no mention of it till the farmers themselves stood up in Ramkola. They laid down their lives. I want to pay a tribute to the martyrs of Ramkola, Davangere in Karnataka and so many other places. Only then we started seeing in T.V. that farmers were coming tying turbans and perhaps you also got some permission to say something about farmers. You might have wanted to say earlier also.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I do not seek permission.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I know, but anyway we started hearing more about farmers after that. That is a good sign.

If you think of restructuring, the emphasis was on strategy for promoting the farm sector in agro industry. We will be providing employment in the villages itself taking the load of the land and also migration to the cities. The demand created there, the purchasing power generated there then will create a demand for items of mass consumption which will become more profitable to invest in items of mass consumption. May be Maruti's demand may not go up but

demand for bicycle and motorcycle will go up and this demand and purchasing power will then effectively restrict the industry which will become profitable to divert funds also.

So, this is the strategy which is the basis in the new economic policy. I have never heard of it and I wish to hear about it. Unfortunately, the farmer is the key factor because in a factory you can produce anything, cycle, motor-cycle, motor-car, aeroplane, bomb, atom bomb. Put if you ask any factory to produce one grain of wheat or rice that cannot be produced. That being the situation. I think it is time that we had a comprehensive agricultural policy, which will take care of the labourer working there, of the farmer and also of the transporter of the agro-industry. I will include the dealer also. The whole gamut of agricultural activity, that is what the country needs.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : We will look forward to it.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Yes, you will look forward to it. If you see the capital formation, from 1980 to 1991, i.e. ten years, there is an increase of only 11 per cent in agriculture while during the same time the industry has grown up to 44 per cent. Where are our priorities?

In this year's budget for telephones, there is an allocation of about Rs. 4819 crores, about 5000 crores; on irrigation it is Rs. 231 crores. You will say that this is a State subject. I agree with this. So the total investment of the country has to be taken with what States are investing along with this. It is a central subject, you will give that argument. But I ask you, if there is a problem of food, what is to be done ? Is there no necessity to change the national priority? Will you not ask half of the allocation of the telephones to be transferred to irrigation ? Is food necessary or telephone necessary ? Do we need only telephone to say that we are

hungry and we are dying?

So, there is so much need of restructuring the national priority and allocation on this side, of improving the terms of trading, reducing input cost and no dumping of agriculture produce in this country.

When I did not import, edible oil prices were high for only one year but next year and subsequent years the farmer produced so much that imports had gone down and prices also came down. That is the courage that ought to have been shown rather than buckled in and spent Rs. 1500 crores on this when there was no price rise either.

Then the other thing I want to bring to your notice is — only yesterday information came from Madhya Pradesh — that for paddy though there is officially no restriction on movement, officially without any permission a farmer can take away 100 quintals of paddy, a proviso has been made that permission should be taken from the Collector. This permission is just not going to come for four months. And, this is a practice which was carried out in Punjab also and elsewhere. This is how the movement is stopped illegally, where illegally the State itself acts when there is a policy that there should be no restriction as you say. If there is a restriction it should be removed.

I want to ask a question. A multi-national can come and sell his goods anywhere in the Indian market. I, as a farmer born here, this is my produce from this soil and I cannot myself sell it in my own market, in my own constituency. Is the farmer a foreigner in his own land? A facility which a foreigner has got, the farmer does not get! I want to say, on behalf of my party, that we are going to violate this restriction on movement. We are going to say that we are not going to take the

permission. We will just take the foodgrains and transport it across the States. If the State power does come, the farmers' power will come forward.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : Thank you very much. We will support you.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I know that I have a friend in you. But you have not got friends around you. That is my problem.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Raja Saheb, you acted very late. When you were in a position to do it why did you not do? Now I am doing it and you are making remarks against it.

DR. KRIPASINDHU BHOI (Sambhalpur) : What can you do in 11 months?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : When you have signed a thing, you will have to implement it, be it Mandal or anything else. Do not make it an issue otherwise another debate would start on it... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

So, this is one demand for movement of foodgrains. Here the agent also is the transporter. I had gone to Moga and while there are trucks having all India permits - - it is not that they do not have - - there is a great difficulty for truck owners in Punjab to get all India permits. This permit system should be abolished. There should be a fee system. As for a radio or a television we pay a fee, but we do not seek a permission. Much of the bottlenecks are the artificial scarcities which are created. Wheat is selling at Rs.310 or Rs.315 to Rs. 320 per quintal in Sonapat and in

Bombay it is Rs.8 or Rs.7 per kg. It is because of these bottlenecks.

So, my next demand is that so far as the transporter is concerned, if he is carrying foodgrains, there should be no restriction. Otherwise there should be a fee system, but no permission. It should be abolished. These bottlenecks should be removed.

Also, so far as the consumer is concerned, though it is a State subject, a consensus may be evolved by an agreement, if we may share it. Food is life. So, there should be no levy on life, be it sales tax or octroi, if it is foodgrains. Let us initiate a national dialogue and take the initiative on this. So, at least sales tax on foodgrains should not remain as a tax on life.

Then coming to the agro-industries, here, when you are giving all the licensing system you are breaking the law, we do not agree with it; but for this agro-industry I would ask, why should there be these restrictions? In West U.P. 70 per cent of sugarcane is just not crushed by the mills. If you ask for a sugar mill, it is not available. One or two may be available. We had taken a decision but could not get it fully implemented. If a sugar mill is to come up beyond 15 kms of the sugarcane area, it should come up; there should be no further restriction.

There are many small scale agro-industries. The excise structure is such that it is killing, slashing them by half. The interest rates are also killing the small scale sector. I am saying only on industry because that is the market of the farmers. Unless we expand the market of the farmer, we cannot bring the farmer up. This will give employment to the labour. So, this is the total package that I would recommend you and request you to come out with this new Policy. We do not know in which form it will come.

I will mention one or two more things only. The hon. Minister has mentioned that there will be no wealth tax on compensation. It is not wealth tax, but it is capital gains. But the question is of compensation only. Now, drug prices have been allowed to go up because of market forces. But, when you purchase a land of the farmer, do you give him market price?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : The question is that of acquisition. The Government acquires the land. The farmer may not even like to sell it and he is forced to sell it because it has been acquired. I have said it in that context and I think I am right in that. Why should tax be levied on him because he does not part with it? It is not the property which he has bought for profit. He has inherited it for generations coming down, and he does not want to part with it. He does so only when he is forced to. That is why I was saying so.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : That is my demand also. But, I am technically helping you. The tax that is levied is capital gains.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I do not know any science. I am farmer.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : This question will come later. What is the price that he gets? I agree that the country cannot perhaps afford all the prices for roads and canals because we need development. But even then that should be provided. But when it is urbanisation, the Government takes a good profit thereafter. Why should he part with what he got for generations which should be taken away for a song? I think, the new Policy should address itself on this issue.

The other fact that has come is of arrears. Let us take the issue of arrears. I

[Sh. Vishwanath Pratap Singh]

Ramkola, the farmer could not get arrears for one year. It did not reach the farmers for one year particularly to Harijans. I asked the same question from a son of a farmer.

[*Translation*]

SHRIRAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): I would like to inform you that in Ramkola every farmer has been paid his arrears upto this year. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : It is a matter of great pleasure that all the arrears have been paid, but when I had gone there.... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

Only Rs. 300 was the money for that DALIT farmer or the labourer whosoever he is. That is not the question. I am not highlighting the Ramkola. I want to bring the point before you. [*Interruptions*] What I want to say is that when the farmer sells wheat it is not in arrears; when he sells paddy it is not in arrears, but when he sells sugarcane it is perpetually in arrears all over the country. If you take the arrears in the whole of the country, it will be a very large sum. I know of Rs. 320 crores in the case of U.P.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : No interruptions please. Please sit down.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I am not blaming anyone. The point I want to make is that if the facilities of industry are contemplated for the farmer, then for the sugarcane when they give that slip that this much sugarcane has been received, that should be treated as cheque and in fifteen days if it is presented and not honoured, it should be a criminal offence because if a cheque is dishonoured, even when you do not

part with any goods, one has to go to jail. But here he has parted with his goods. So, there should be some legislation to compel everyone for payment.

In the end, I would say that you have to more seriously attend to this issue rather than presenting us with half truth—that f.o.c. price is this much, Rs. 267 is the wheat price, then correcting that, then saying it was in drought conditions that the orders were placed and then even after rains, further placing of orders. I do not want to say that in Barcelona we could not get any medal but I think in saying half truth, certainly this Government will get a medal, if any medals were there.

With these words, I would request that the fertiliser prices be brought back to the original and whatever wheat has not yet come, that should be stopped right away.

With these two demands, I conclude. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARCHAND SINGH (Ropar) : Mr. chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me time to speak. when I go to my native place from Delhi some children and Harijans ask me to tell them about the happenings in the parliament. I used to tell them that no issue pertaining to farmers and Harijans is discussed in the parliament so there is nothing of their interest. For the last 8 months. I have been in the Parliament and nobody raised any point in this regard. Now the House has taken up the issue relating to wheat in Punjab, so I will definitely speak on it otherwise, I used to see that one Raja Arjun Singh is sitting here and another Raja V.P. Singh is sitting there and they are debating with each other.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, wheat is produced in Punjab on a very large scale. 80 percent

people of Punjab depend on agriculture. A talk is going on about the price of the wheat. A lot has been done in the field of wheat production but the total production is same as it was there in 1947, when we were in Montugumery. I remember once, I cultivated wheat in my one acre land and I had 38 mound of wheat, the same quantity we get today and that too with the help of fertilizers and at that time we have not even heard of the chemical fertilizers.

Mr. Chairman, before this year the price of wheat was normal. The price of wheat flour was Rs. 6-7 per kilogram in Punjab and now the wheat is selling at Rs.3 per kilogram. When we came to India at that time, in one rupee we used to get 16 kilogram of flour but bow to get the same quantity of flour we have to pay Rs. 100, you may compare these prices. Gandhiji used to say that the Government would acquire all the lands and Pt. Nehru also used to reiterate the same thing but nobody bothered for it. The Congress has been in the power since the very beginning, in between, Shri Morarji came for three years but he was also a congressman and even now it is congress which is in the power.

Once I and the erstwhile PEPSU Chief Minister Shri Brishbhan went to the then hon. Prime Minister. The Secretary to the hon. Prime Minister said that it was true that we were given time, but, the hon. Prime Minister was busy at that time. Therefore he advised us to meet the hon. Minister of Home Affairs. We went to the hon. Minister of Home Affairs. Pandit Gobind Ballabh Pant was the then Home Minister. After seeing us from a distance, he called us out and said what is the opinion of PEPSU. He told us that since just three months, were left for PEPSU to be merged, there can be no negotiation on that issue. I reminded him that even Pandit Nehru, Mahatma Gandhi and he himself were talking that the lands would be nationalized. Further I said that there were three Ministers in PEPSU who owned 7 villages and a lot of

land. Earlier, they were rulers of single princely state now they rule over Eight princely states. He told us that if they own surplus land it should be brought under the land ceiling Act. I said that PEPSU is likely to be merged within three months and the Chief Minister Shri Brishbhusan has not convened the meeting of the Assembly yet. How can he enforce the land ceiling Act suddenly. He said that he would call the meeting. We went back to Patiala. When we reached there, there we found summons from the Speaker, and the Secretary of the Assembly informing us about the date on which the session of the legislative Assembly was fixed and that the land-ceiling Act was to be discussed immediately.

I am mentioning this to make the present Ministers aware of style of functioning of Ministers of yester years. The meeting was held. A committee was constituted to look into the matter. Pandit Pant was satisfied only after getting the land ceiling Act implemented. He did what he promised. The princes were dead set against it and Pandit Nehru too intervened in it, but Pantji fulfilled his commitment.

This is the situation today. Landlords in Punjab have large land holdings in their possession. They too, are talking about farmers, and the Government is also talking about the farmers. Both the farmers and landless labourers work in the fields and produce crops. The farmers manages affairs in the market whereas the agricultural labourer toils hand in the fields. He too, should have a share in the production. But nobody talks about him. Lot has been said about the Harijans. The Congress banks on the votes of the Harijans, yet it does not bother about them.

We were discussing price of wheat here, just now. The Government has raised a very good issue, but instead of discussing it, now, the Government should have raised this issue in March or April. The price of wheat

[Sh. Harchand Singh]

will neither increase, nor decrease now. Eight months have passed without any improvement in the rates. The Government had imported wheat from abroad. Had that wheat not been imported, the rate of wheat would have been Rs. 7 a kilo in Punjab. But due to this imported wheat, the rate of wheat did not increase in the country.

Shri Vaipayee is a very nice person. He is here since the time of Pt. Nehru. He said just now that Pandit Nehru attributed every mistake at that time to the Janasangh. He is a very knowledgeable and wise person. Whatever he said about the farmers is in fact not about farmers' issue. Now the foodgrains are with the traders. He was speaking from traders point of view when he said. Actually he has traders in his mind and therefore he says that prices of foodgrains should be increased. In the wake of import of wheat from abroad, the price of wheat with the traders has not increased and they are bemoaning, because they could not make money as they did last year.

Just a while earlier, Shri Balram Jakhar took a sagacious step. Wheat was imported and as a result the price of wheat was checked from increasing. Now the protection of the interests of farmers should be given top priority, because the population is increasing day by day and there will be more demand of wheat and rice. The hon. Minister of Food might be aware that the farmers of Punjab have to pay Rs. 4000 more for transportation of wheat by train to Delhi. I want to know what is the consideration for charging this amount. Is it not a kind of bribe? And yet they boast of the Congress Government. (Interruptions) They do not know what they are doing? The Government should safeguard the interests of the farmers and provide diesel, fertilizers and electricity at the same rate on which it was available to them

last year. If the electricity is made available to farmers on the same rate as it was last year, they will supply wheat on the last year's rate. You need not increase price of foodgrains.

Sir, the Government has thrown a heavy burden on the farmers. Eighty per cent people in Punjab work in fields and 80 per cent farmers are in debt, this is because of the Government (Interruptions) They provide concessions to the traders. Now what was the need of discussing price here? (Interruptions)

Why does the Government increase the price of wheat now? The farmers do not have wheat with them, but the traders do have. Now the Government wants to benefit the traders, and that is why price is increased at this stage. My submission is that now during the sowing season the price of fertilizers and electricity should be reduced. Mr. Chairman, Sir, while allocating the portfolio of the Ministry of Agriculture, the best farmer among the eligible Ministers found but and entrusted this task. The present hon. Minister of Agriculture is very handsome and tall as well, he is a very able farmer, but he does not know that the poor labourers too have to work with the farmers. The interest of agricultural labour too should be discussed. Earlier farmers used to give one sixth of the produce to agricultural labourers. This was called 'Siri'. But now Shri Balram Jakhar has made the farmer understand that there is no need of making Harijan co-sharer in the produce and they should be treated as paid servants and given money in lieu of wheat because the price of wheat is very high. (Interruptions) But a large number of poor Harijans will die of starvation if the price of wheat is increased. Therefore the price of wheat should not be increased.

The farmers too should not be harassed. The price of things like diesel, elec-

tricity which are essential at this time of sowing season is generally increased by the Government. Therefore, I urge the Government that interest of Punjab lies in providing diesel and electricity to farmers at same rate at which these were available earlier.

There is no need of increasing the price of any other thing. Even a daily-wager worker has to purchase food from market. Now the price of wheat is Rs. 3 per kilo and that of flour is Rs. 6 per kilo. It is very sad. Nobody is bothered about them. But the Government pays attention to traders because they give money to every political party. The Government should have pity on Punjab because it is in the grip of a severe crisis. For last many years the people of Punjab have led a life of great hardships. Life of great hardships. Lakhs of Hindus have migrated from there. Lakhs of people have left their villages. Thousands of people have been killed there and when these migrated persons want to carry on their business, they should not be harassed Rs. 4,000 should not be charged as bribe from them transportation of rice by train. The electricity charges supplied to factories has been increased not by 5 or 10 paise, but 65 paise per unit straightaway. Earlier this rate was Re.1 per unit, now it is Rs. 1.65 per unit. As a result many traders have closed down their factories. It is essential that the Government should pay attention to all these problems of Punjab. Punjab is engulfed in severe crisis. People have led a miserable life there. We thank Shri Beant Singh for taking over the reigns of Punjab as it has created a feeling of confidence in lakhs of people of Punjab and they have started working in fields. As a result of their hard work in the fields, we had a bumper crop and the burden of debt on people has also reduced.

Wheat should be made available in South at the same rate at which the Government procures it from Punjab. The transportation of foodgrains is undertaken through

trains, but what does the Government do? The traders sell wheat at any rate they like. There should be control on the traders, who purchase wheat at a lower price, but sell on arbitrary prices. When the entire country from one corner to the other is one, the rates too should be uniform. The rates should not vary from place to place. Once again, I congratulate Shri Balram Jakhar for keeping the prices of wheat under control which would have risen if wheat had not been imported. Government must take care of the farmers. Punjab is also linked with the issue relating to wheat and rice. Shri V.P. Singh has very rightly stated that farmers should be provided diesel and fertilizers at the rate at which they were getting previously. But now the prices have been increased. Now the Government in collusion with the traders is trying to increase the prices of wheat. If that is done, where will the consumers go? Who would take care of the needs of the labourers? We should also think about the workers.

With these words, I conclude. Thank you.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani)
 : I would not like to repeat what has already been stated. I am happy that speakers who preceded me have shown the concern for the poor people of the rural areas of the country. But at the moment I would like to touch only two issues, one is about the withdrawal of subsidy on the fertilisers and the other is about the import of wheat in the country.

About withdrawal of subsidy on fertilizers, Government's reply is that it has increased the procurement prices of the foodgrains i.e. wheat and rice. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I think that merely talking to farmers would not be of any help, because even the farmers are divided. Can any Member or the Minister of Agriculture himself point out even a single village where majority of the people belonging to farming community have

[Sh. Bhogendra Jha]

enough foodgrains to meet their requirement for the whole year? Majority of the farmers do face the shortage of foodgrains for 4-6 months or 2-3 months and then they have to buy it from the market to meet their requirement.

17.05 hrs

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *In The Chair*]

In Bihar eighty five out of hundred farmers are marginal or small farmers while in Kerala and Bengal they are ninety three percent. Majority of the farmers in the country are of this category. Do you include them in the category of farmers or not? I am making the point to make you understand as to what is the composition of our society.

Our friend has talked about Punjab. It is the only state in the country where the rich people get contracts, everywhere else the poor cultivate the land on share cropping basis. It is Punjab alone where people having 1-2-4-6 acres of land cultivate the land on the basis of share cropping. There someone is called Potato King while there is another who owns 88 tractors. There people cultivate the land of other people on contract. Therefore, when we raise the prices of fertilisers, withdraw subsidy, it affects everybody. Whether one owns small area of land or is in possession of large area of land. All people suffer because of that as they have to pay a higher price.

This House does not belong only to the rich people. Therefore, this matter needs special attention. That is why I am stating it on the basis of figures that majority of the farmers say, 85-87 or 93 percent farmers, who cultivate only 1-2 or 3 acres of land, do it only to suffer the loss. They do farming and yet cannot meet the food requirements of

their own families. Some of them migrate to Punjab, Bombay and Calcutta and do work of a labourer and there, buy foodgrains with the money so earned. So I think they suffer doubly in this way. On one hand you have raised the prices of the fertilisers, and withdrawn the subsidy while on the other hand you have raised the prices of foodgrains on the demand of farmers. Farmers will again suffer on this count because they also purchase the foodgrains from the market to meet their requirements of one, two or four months. There can be a difference of a degree but there is not even a single village where farmers are not forced to buy foodgrains from the market. If we do not pay attention to this situation, it would not help. They have taken up the cause of labours, I am taking up the cause of poor farmers - small farmers and marginal farmers. The point which I want to emphasize is that when we raise the prices of fertilisers it adversely affects the production and lower production means rise in prices. The majority of the farmers do not have foodgrains of their own so that they may sell it and buy the other things at heavy prices. In this way farmers will suffer and so will suffer the, workers, society and the country for this condition of the farmers. It is the responsibility of the Government to see that the people who toil hard do not die of hunger. It adversely affects the country. If the farmer reduces the production of sugarcane, it would create crisis for the sugar mills of the country. Would the Government like to bring back the days when it used to import sugar from Cuba? Would the Government like the jute industry to face the crisis again, if the jute production goes down? Our industries do require the agriculture produce as raw-material. How the industry would run without this raw material? If farmers have low production and low purchasing power and no foodgrains, no money; then who would buy the products of the industries?

Today there is recession as also price

rise throughout the world. The capitalism of today is not the capitalism of Marshal or Adam Smith. Today's capitalism means less production and more profit. How? If the production is decreased, the demand would give rise to high prices. This is modern capitalism.

At this time, if you decrease the purchasing power of the country, it would create a situation of crisis both for the market and also for the industry. If there is crisis for industry, it would mean rise in unemployment. Why will the industry produce? Public Sector is being slowly abolished, but if the private sector does not earn profit, why would it produce? That is why, I am saying that we are creating so many problems for our economy. Therefore, we may either raise the prices of wheat and rice or that of fertilizers to Rs. 500 or Rs. 900, both ways the farmers will have to suffer.

Government should formulate a policy in this regard on the basis of pricing policy. Would anybody in the Government take the responsibility of fixing the prices and of extending the benefit of that policy to the actual producer, the farmer. The majority of the farmers sell their produce in compulsion which is called 'Distress sale'. Rice and wheat reach the shops of traders even before they are harvested. He goes to purchase to meet his requirement from the traders and not from any Government agency or corporation. He is looted by the traders very easily. When Government fixes the prices of the foodgrains, the profits goes to the business community. By Business Community I mean the whole-sale dealers from whom Government makes its purchases. During the tenure of Shri V.P. Singh prices of wheat had increased twice during 1990. When the prices increased for the second time, not even a single farmer was there to sell its produce except those who earn profits in the name of farmers. What is meant by increasing the prices in May-June?

Government should make a policy to give remunerative prices to the farmers. Government should first meet the cost price and then give some profit to the farmers as is done in the case of other industries. It should reach the genuine consumers at reasonable prices. Government should fix the profit at 20 to 25% it should not exceed that limit. The real consumer will not have to pay more than 20 to 25 % above that. Shri Manmohan Singh is not present here but our Minister of Agriculture is present so he should note that this policy can prove to be very helpful. People indulge in profiteering with the bank money. It is not possible for the farmers to indulge in it. The businessman earns profit while the consumers have to bear the burden and pay more. The businessman even does not know as to how much water is required in pegeon pea farming and in what sort of soil paddy farming is done. He does not know about agriculture still he is a wholesale trader. None of the wholesale traders in India conducts this business by his own money. They take bank loans for buying agriculture produce from the farmers at cheap rate, hoard the foodgrains in godowns and as a result when there is artificial scarcity of foodgrains in the market the prices of commodities soar up. The economic theories of Adam Smith and Marshal come true when more money chases too few goods. There is a wide gap in the demand and supply of goods. The whole-sale traders sell the foodgrains at double rate. Many of them take bank loans and earn huge profits by selling foodgrains at a high price during these period. I would like to submit that it should be stopped. (Interruptions) Please don't inteerrupt. I am also a farmer having 2-2/12 acres of land and will not have more than it... (Interruptions) Therefore, bank loans to wholesale traders should be stopped and instead farmers should be given loans. The grants which have ben reduced should be withdrawn. One and half year ago we had struggled for the grants of 40 per cent as a result the

[Sh. Bhogendra Jha]

Government fixed 40 percent grants for the farmers having 5 acres of land. So far as I know perhaps no small or marginal farmer in India got benefit of that all over the country. I would like to cite an example of Bihar. This year in February the hon. Minister of Agriculture and officials paid a visit there but the hon. Minister did not know whether funds had been released from the Centre. When I asked him emphatically, the Commissioner of his department said that a total amount of Rs. 35 crores in two instalments of Rs. 28 crores and Rs. 7 crores, had been released.

But it has not been made available so far. Therefore, such arrangements should be made so that poor or rich farmers may get grants. Hence, the Government should maintain the grants of 40 percent. It will increase the production, though the rich farmers may prosper but at least there would be no need of import. We will become self-reliant. The farmers should get loans from banks instead of wholesale traders. When I made this point to the then Prime Minister, he said that if they buy foodgrains from black-money in that case what would happen. I said that the money will become white. At least we will not become bankrupt. Now our farmers and consumers are being exploited. Therefore our policy should be of 'SWADESHI' and self-reliance. The policy of depending on others is a blow to our self-respect. But the Government is following a policy which would be detrimental to the interests of the nation. Does the Government want to follow the policy of P.L. 480? When America had imposed the condition that besides foodgrains we will have to take tobacco, millet and lipstick also. I had asked the then Minister of Finance Shri Morarji Desai whether it is true. He said it is a different variety of tobacco. Therefore, does the Government want to fall again in the trap of P.L. 480. My colleague Shri V.P. Singh has rightly said that we should not bother

about the foodgrain already imported but now the Government should try to sell the remaining goods under the agreement in the foreign countries so that people may not raise a finger against us. The hon. Prime Minister has said the monsoon has arrived and the time is favourable to us. We did not know it. I would like to say that foodgrain which has not reached India should be stopped abroad. Now if the Government will import, we will oppose it as Shri V.P. Singh has rightly said. It is our national duty to speak in the interest of 'SWADESHI' and self-reliance.

The Government should also announce the price policy. Foodgrains should be purchased in advance from the growers who are in trouble so that they may also get the benefit. Government should stop buying from the middle men. The import from abroad should be stopped and goods should be sold to countries where there is shortage of foodgrains. Sufficient proof of this should be made available that India is against the policy of importing foodgrains.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CON-
SUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRI-
BUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) :
Should we buy from the traders now?

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : No, it is not necessary now. The hon. Prime Minister has said that the next crop would be better. Therefore, stop bank loans to the wholesale traders so that the entire profit goes to the farmers and the Government should change its policies. With these words I conclude.

17.20 'rs.

MR. SPEAKER *In The Chair*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY

AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) :

This is the second day and three Ministers have also to reply or intervene. I wonder whether we will be able to complete it with this speed. (*Interruptions*) In seventeen days, you cannot have one week for one subject. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) :
This is a very important subject.

SHRIGHULAM NABIAZAD : Important does not mean that one will speak for hours together and months together. We already had two days. Actually, we had slated one day for it. But we continued it for the second day also. I submit that I won't mind it. But then we must sit beyond 6 o'clock also. You cannot have both the things - you want to speak and you also do not want to sit beyond 6 o'clock. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Had this discussion commenced at 2 p.m. it would have been completed by now. If Shri Jakhargives the reply, we may have to sit even upto 8 p.m.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : The hon. Minister can reply tomorrow.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : I would request you to sit till 8 p.m. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : The best we can do is to complete the discussion today and the Minister will reply tomorrow. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I will bring to your notice the rule. This is a discussion under Rule 193. The rule says:

" Speaker may allot two sittings in a

week on which such matters may be taken up for discussion and allot such time for discussion not exceeding two hours."

It says : 'not exceeding two hours'. I tell you, yesterday we have given three and a half hours and today it is two hours, that is, five hours and thirty minutes. There are other Members also who want to speak. You will appreciate that we have to discuss the drought condition and other conditions also. If time is allotted only to one topic, then other topics suffer. Please appreciate the difficulty and today the matter should be completed. This is my request. If need be, we will sit late. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : We discussed for six hours and if you need we can sit for one hour more, because there are other Members who would like to speak. Members are very much agitated. Members from Kerala want to speak.

I request Shri Deve Gowda to speak.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA (Hassan) : Respected Sir, I would like to confine myself to the consequences of the decontrol of some of the fertilizers. I do not want to go in detail about the import of wheat. It has been sufficiently discussed by senior Members like the former Prime Minister Shri V.P. Singh.

Last session on the closing day, the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Fertilizer Prices has submitted its Report to the House. The Government was anxious to accept that Report within about 70 to 72 hours of the submission of the Report to the House. As a Legislator for 30 years, I have never seen any House Committee Report being accepted so hastily, so hurriedly when it is not a unanimous one. It is only a majority opinion report and there are dissenting notes of three hon. Members of the Committee. The Government has never applied its mind about the consequences and they have never

[Sh. H.D. Devegowda]

thought over its implications, in case this Report is partly going to be accepted.

Sir, I had given a categorical dissent note where I have said that decontrol of these items is going to be a disastrous one to the farming community in particular and to the rural economy in general.

Sir, today, I do not want to mix politics so far as this issue is concerned. No political party is prepared to antagonise the farmers. Let me be very clear. It is not the monopoly of only one political party or of A political party, that they are only fighting for the cause of the farmers. Everybody who is sitting in this House, is equally interested to carry the favour of the farming community because it is one of the unorganized sectors and it is a divided sector. Let me be very clear. The Government also had a part in the division of the farming community, be it small or marginal or whatever it may be, for various reasons.

In my dissenting note, I have made it clear that the subsidy is not due to the consumption of the fertiliser. Some of your bureaucrats try to argue that the consumption went up by 30 percent, higher than what it was in 1991. Even though the fertiliser price was increased by 30 percent by this very same House, last time, the consumption of the fertiliser went high and that is one of the arguments advanced by the bureaucrats. Let me be very plain. How the subsidy amount went high, this, I have made it amply clear, based on the information supplied to the Committee. The devaluation of the rupee has ended with Rs. 900 crores additional burden as subsidy towards the farmers and the 15 per cent Gulf sur-charge and the rise of the railway fare as well as the so-called foreign exchange rate, give scope for additional expenditure of Rs 560 crores. In addi-

tion to that, phosphoric acid at the market rate of exchange will work out to about Rs. 675 crores. These are the components where the additional burden has been passed on to the farmers because of the recent financial or fiscal policies.

In the last Budget, that is, in 1991-92, Mr. Finance Minister had asked for about Rs 4,800 crores towards subsidy, that is, Rs.3,500 crores for indigenous fertilisers and Rs. 1,300 crores for imported fertilisers. And in 1992-93, he had asked for Rs. 5,000 crores in the Budget proposals.

Sir, I would like to say that, without mixing the matters, even the Prime Minister had also been misled. Let me be very plain. The Prime Minister on one occasion had said that Rs. 9,000 crores is the total subsidy amount of the burden that is going to be there on the central exchequer. That is the opinion furnished by your own bureaucrats. In 1995, their calculation is that the subsidy component may go up to Rs. 9,000 or Rs. 10,000 crores. That is one of the views expressed by the Department of Finance when they have given the evidence before the Committee.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this hon. House that in 1991 itself the Government had given a categorical assurance to the World Bank that within three years, the subsidy component is going to be waived in a phased manner. So to honour that commitment, within 70 hours or 75 hours of the submission of this report, the Government had so hurriedly accepted the Joint Parliamentary Committee's report, to a partial extent which suits them.

I must compliment the hon. Agriculture Minister who tried to fight this issue. He opposed this issue but unfortunately he has been isolated and he was unable to win the battle in the so-called CCPA Sub-Committee meeting or whatever it may be. I am not

a member of the Cabinet and I do not know what the CCPA's role is. Let me be very plain. But unfortunately, the Prime Minister, ultimately, tried to withhold the views expressed by the hon. Agriculture Minister. What clinched the issue however was the Prime Minister's argument that when the JPC favoured the de-control, it should be accepted. But the Prime Minister did not take decisions or other recommendations of the JPC. This is one of the reported things. I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact as to how the Prime Minister was very much anxious - I do not want to say the Prime Minister; but the Government was very much anxious - to honour the commitment of the IMF or the World Bank from where they have taken the financial assistance.

One of the things which worries or hurts me is when the Prime Minister addressed about four thousand farmers in his official residence, when one of the ministers Shri Rajesh Pilot led that delegation, he advised the farmers that they should not be misled by anti-social elements. At the same time he said this Rs.9000 crores is going to the manufacturers and middlemen. The Government is unable to identify who are those people who snatched away this Rs. 9000 crores in the name of the farmers. The very purpose of demanding the Joint Parliamentary Committee in the very same House in the last Budget by me was that this subsidy amount is not at all going to the farmers; it goes only to the industrialists and some of the corrupt politicians. Let me be very plain on this issue. Shri Ashok Gulati, when he gave evidence before the Committee said that 52 percent, of the total subsidy is going to the genuine purpose, and in my opinion 48 percent will be distributed among the corrupt bureaucrats and corrupt politicians. He did not want to mention the names of the politicians; but I know and I discussed it with him when he gave evidence before the Parliamentary Committee.

The Government does not want to apply its mind to some of the ideas which I tried to locate, which I tried to give in my dissenting note as to how the industrialists try to manipulate. I know everybody is interested in the farming community. One factory, to supply urea per tonne per kilometre, charges 180 paise as transportation charge. At the same time the same factory, to supply the diammonium sulphate per tonne per kilometre takes 280 paise. How could it be? This issue is not confined to a particular department. There are nearly five to six departments which are going to correlate the entire end result - they are Agriculture Department, Department of Fertilizer, Department of Petroleum and the Department of Commerce. There are various agencies and they try to defend their case to suit them. The ONGC is today making a profit of nearly Rs.3000 crores. At whose cost? Let me ask this question. They do not want to give even an iota of concession to the so called farming community, the neglected community. This is the irony.

To be very plain, even though our rulers, our ministers, whichever party they may belong to, want to take a decision, the bureaucrats do ultimately prevail on the rulers and the ministers or whoever they may be and they will not allow the ministers' desire to be implemented. This is the total sum and substance of our administrative system.

After the de-control what is the implication? How the Prime Minister was able to understand later on the implication? We are all anti-social elements, according to him. That is the very word expressed by the hon. Prime Minister. I beg to differ. We have all come here for a particular cause; we have not come here to placate any section of the society and try to create any bitterness. It is the peace of the country which is much more important. He said, while addressing a gathering, that peace is much more paramount;

and the farmers should not be misled by the anti-social elements.

From the beginning, I was fighting for this cause; from the beginning I know how the bureaucrats are trying to argue their case against the farmers. I will quote one or two instances. After the decontrol of fertiliser, the price of potassic has increased from Rs. 1760 to Rs. 5000 per tonne. The price of single super phosphate has increased from Rs. 1240 to Rs. 3000 per tonne and the price of diammonium phosphate which contains both nitrogen and phosphate has increased from Rs. 4680 to Rs. 9000 per tonne.

Recently I have gone through an article titled 'No case for a sharp increase in wheat procurement price', in which Shri Balram Jakhar was fighting for the cause of the farmers for the increase in the procurement price. It says:

"...But the farm lobby is not mollified. It is now asking for a huge increase in the wheat support prices that are expected to be announced any day. Against Rs. 280 per quintal last year, the Commission on Agricultural Prices and Costs has recommended Rs. 305 per quintal, an increase of nine per cent. But the Minister for Agriculture, Mr. Balram Jakhar has recommended a price of Rs. 340 per quintal."

They tried to justify that there was no case because they are the opinion-builders. The media is going to play a major role against the farming community. This is one of the most important factors that everyone of us has to realise. This is how the vested interests are trying to destroy the very rural economy. This is my real concern.

I would like to quote one or two more things. Agriculture has been given the top-most priority and a lot of money has been

spent in these forty years. There was an article which says:

"Why tax on agricultural income? Ever since the launching of planned economic development, the Government has made a very huge investment in agricultural sector."

"The agriculturists have become very rich and they are the affluent section; but they have not been taxed".

This is one of the arguments advanced by the so-called pseudo-economists. What is the investment that they have made? Let me be very plain. I will quote some official figures. In the First Plan and the Second Plan, out of the total plan allocation, 32 percent is spent on agriculture; in the Third Plan, it came down to 25 percent; in the Fourth Plan it was 21.4 percent; in the Fifth Plan it was 18.32 percent; in the Sixth Plan it was 27.54 percent and in the Seventh Plan it was 20.35 percent.

This is the way in which we have shabbily treated them; we have treated the agricultural sector in such a manner. This is the hard reality.

MR. SPEAKER : Your time is up.

SHRI H. D. DEVEGOWDA : I beg of you. I do not want to take the time of the House unnecessarily. But I am prepared to sit up to mid-night. In the Assembly we have sat up to 2 o'clock. In the very same House, to dispose of the No-Confidence Motion we sat up to 2 o'clock. You may try to draw the attention of the House by quoting the rules. You have got the powers to suspend the rules.

MR. SPEAKER : Only by suspending the rules, we have given 5 1/2 hours for this discussion.

SHRI H. D. DEVEGOWDA : I never tried to disobey the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER : Please be brief. You have the capacity of saying so many things in a few words.

SHRI H. D. DEVEGOWDA : Today morning, our Agriculture Minister gave an information in this House. Let me try to draw the attention of the hon. Agriculture Minister to that. He said :

"The per capita income (Net Value Added) in the farm sector has increased from Rs.878 in 1980-81 to Rs. 1075 in 1990-91."

The officers are very clever. Even though you have got more experience as an administrator, even though you have worked in various capacities, they are very clever to mislead you also. Let me be very plain on this issue.

The Bhanupratap Singh Committee's report was submitted to this very hon. House on the basis of the information that had been supplied by your own bureaucrats. It is not his personal view. If you take 1970-71 as the base, the per capita income of agricultural sector is Rs.445. In 1980-81, it is Rs.337. In 1988-89, it is Rs. 420. If the reduction will be there, that is -5.7 per cent. In this very House, today, you tried to justify that in the farming sector, the per capita income has gone up. Who has given that report? Who has given that information? You please reply.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : I was just trying to point out the same. The per capita income of the other section of the society is four times now.

SHRI H. D. DEVEGOWDA : No, no. I am coming to the next point. It is not only four or five times in the non-agricultural sector. In

what proportion has it increased? On one side, the reduction of the per capita income during the last 20 years is -5 per cent agricultural sector whereas the income of the non-agricultural sector went up by 83.6 per cent. Is there any justification? I have no grudge against the non-agricultural sector. But for the rural sector, which comprises of about 65 crores of the population, is this the treatment that you are going to give?

The so-called GDP is also again a manipulation. Thirty per cent of the GDP is going to be contributed by the agricultural sector and the work-force is about 65 per cent. But in the industrial sector, the GDP is hardly about 18-19 per cent. The workforce is about 18 per cent and the GDP is about 26-27 per cent. How do you justify this?

I am not going to say that the urban sector is free from poverty. There are several people who are below the poverty line even in the urban sector. Even in the urban areas, people are living in slums. But the total wealth is concentrated in the hands of a few urbanites. Today, we are all becoming subservient to the vested interests. Let me be very plain on this issue.

Even to constitute a Joint Parliamentary Committee to go into the details of how the fertiliser prices are going to be manipulated and subsidy is going to be drawn by the industrialists, an assurance was given in this very House. But to constitute the very JPC, your goodself knows that the Government took nearly four months to implement the assurance given by the hon. Minister. I know about it. I have written a letter. All correspondence is there. I do want to quote all these things.

Now everybody tried to argue about the free movement of the foodgrains. I have no objection. Your goodself has already made it clear that you are going to take steps to remove the ban about movement of

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foodgrains from one part of the country to the other part of the country. It is all right. That is only one component of your helping the farmer. It is not the whole thing. Let me be very plain on this issue.

The imported fertilisers even today in the international market are cheaper than the domestic fertilisers. I will give some of the figures because these are very relevant. It is not a charity that we are asking from you. Here is the share of the agricultural exports and imports in the total value of exports and imports. In 1965-66, the share was 41.6 per cent. Now the export share comes to 30 per cent. Our hard-earned agricultural produce is going to contribute 30 per cent of the total foreign exchange. Then, what is the import component that you are going to get for the sake of the farmers? You are going to get only 19.8 per cent. This is the import component for the purpose of agricultural sector. In that case, why don't you allow us to purchase the fertilisers from the international market at a cheaper rate?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gowda, how much time will you take? You have spoken for twenty minutes.

SHRI H. D. DEVEGOWDA: Sir, you are also a farmer and I know that you are kind to the farming community. Due to compulsion of time, you are trying to remind me. I know that.

I would like to ask this question not to the ruling party but to every political party. We should try to demand that in case the price of domestic fertiliser is not ten to fifteen per cent higher than the imported fertiliser, then they must allow the fertiliser to be imported by our hard earned foreign exchange. That is our contribution. This is all I am asking. Merely giving permission for the movement of foodgrains is not the answer. Let me be

plain on this issue. It means only one portion of the help is going to be done by you. Our former Prime Minister was telling that MP Government is not allowing free movement doing it. It is not the question of Janata Dal or BJP or Congress Party. Let me be frank on this issue. I have seen enough in my life. Almost all political parties try to cast aspersions against each other. Whenever we come to power, we are all helpless to the same system. The very same system is going to prevent all these types of radical changes. Even though you are interested to take action, the bureaucratic system is not going to allow this and it is going to prevail on the politicians ... [Interruptions]...

I would like to mention one more point. If you compare the subsidy of Rs. 6000 crores or Rs. 9000 crores or the subsidy component and how farmers are helped in other countries, then you will know our position. I will only state certain information here, that is, countrywise State support to wheat. In India it is -3.5 per cent whereas the so-called people who are dictating all types of conditions on us are giving - I mean the USA 40.67 per cent. For rice, Indian figure is -1.17 per cent and that of USA is 46.50 per cent. Yesterday, Mr. Vajpayee Jee was speaking about soyabean. I will give that information also because these are information based on certain documents. I am not going to give any illusory information to the House. The State support to Corn comes next. The figures for corn in India is -19.83 per cent and that of USA is 30.67 per cent. Ours is minus and theirs is plus. Yesterday our MP Congress leader was debating on what Mr. Vajpayee Jee was suggesting. For sorghum, our figure is -29.17 per cent. That is, we are exploiting our farmers, Govt. is the biggest *Marwadis* and Government of India itself a biggest middleman. The USA figure in this regard is 31.83 per cent. This is how our farmers are exploited by this very system. I can give you umpteen number of such instances. But I have only drawn the attention

of the hon. Agriculture Minister to only some of these issues. The procurement price increased by seven to eight per cent. What is the percentage of hike? I have sent a letter to you also. After decontrol, 88 per cent has been the price hike for DAP 19:19:19.

The increase between pre-control price and post-decontrol price of DAP 15:15:15 comes to 187 per cent and in the potassic MOP, it is as high as 267.71 per cent. Who is the bureaucrat who tried to advise an increase of 304 per quintal wheat? Is it justifiable at all? Ask them to go to villages and plough land. Then only, they will understand the problems of the farmer. I say this because this is one of the privileged classe which tries to enjoy at the cost of 65 per cent of our rural farmers. Let me be very plain. If I really want, I also can become an IAS officer. But I cannot become a Minister and win the confidence of nearly 15 lakhs of people in a constituency. It is not a big thing. Let me say very plainly. We should not be guided by these bureaucrats. I may also tell one more point. Your ministership is not permanent. What is permanent is the cause of the community. Here by 'community', Community is not your caste. Community means farmers' community. That is all I want to say.

MR. SPEAKER: That's all! Thank you. Please sit down.

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Just one last point Sir. I would like to sound a note of warning here. We cannot exploit the farming community as they were exploited in the days of Maharajas. Of course, they are being exploited even after our Independence. All these 45 years after Independence, our rulers are nothing less than these Palegars or Maharajas or Chakravarthies to whom the farmers used to pay annual rents which are known as Pogadi in our language Kannada.

Now, this is another type of exploitation. But let me tell you one thing. The farming community cannot be exploited any further. I warn you that unless the rural economy which took a flight to urban areas and which is concentrated in the hands of a few industrialists, a few bureaucrats and a few corrupt politicians, is flown back to rural areas, otherwise there will be a revolution. You may compare Russia and some other countries which have disintegrated. Unless you correct the situation, it will lead to dangerous consequences.

I would like to suggest one thing. Nationalise all the land in the country! I am not bothered really. My family have some acres of land. I say, nationalise all the land and give us the amount equivalent to the salary of a peon or a sweeper in the Indian Airlines. I plead on behalf of the farming community to nationalise the land because I know the plight of the farmers. I have got every right to say this. The organised sector knows how to exploit the rural community. That is why I say, you take all our land and as compensation, you give us the amount just equivalent to the salary of a peon in Indian Airlines.

I will tell you that you will not be able to mislead the farming community in this way, any longer. The youth in the rural areas are now educated and they are able to understand and realise how the politicians are exploiting them. Let me tell you, this is my warning, to these people who are at the helms of affairs.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude and resume your seat!

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Unless you reverse the whole thing, the situation will not improve. The Prime Minister has stated that he has already asked a ministerial group comprising the Minister of Petroleum and some three or four other Ministers to look

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into these aspects and see whether it is possible to undo the damage that is done. This Group is going to me and take a decision. If this takes a decision to undo the damage done . I welcome it.

SHRIS. MALLIKARJUNAIAH (Tumkur):
I thank the hon. Speaker for having given me an opportunity to speak about the increase in price of fertilizer and withdrawal of subsidy.

Twenty years back, the Ministry of Agriculture used to propagate how to form composts and how to increase production of composts. There were other departments also which were propagating how to improve production of composts. Now-a-days, the health of the cows is also going down. We are totally forgetting green manures. Because of this, the agriculturists are compelled to go in for the application of fertilizers. Even the Ministry of Agriculture went on propagating very intensively with the result every agriculturist has developed a habit of applying these fertilizers in his fields.

Now, the Government of India is thinking of withdrawing the subsidy and they are also thinking of raising the rates of fertiliser. By doing so, it will help the Government. What I want to say is that, the production of foodgrains will fall.

Now-a-days, in most of the States, land reforms are being implemented. At the most, one person can afford to have 54 acres of land in Karnataka. The small and marginal farmers have to grow only to the extent possible by which they can raise their families. The people who have more lands, can grow more foodgrains and if they have anything extra, they can sell it in the market. But, now-a-days, it is not possible. Paddy or ragi or the groundnuts that he grows does not work out to him and with the result, he gives up the habit of cultivating the entire area and

he goes in for production of coconuts or areca-nuts or Mangoes or sapotas. Over and above because of this, the production of foodgrains comes down and it goes into the hands of the people who produce non-food products. So, we have to import foodgrains from foreign countries.

You know, a couple months back, there was a shortage of wheat. We have to import wheat from abroad. Under the present circumstances, there will be a terrible shortage of foodgrains in the country and we are compelled to import foodgrains from abroad. Whatever subsidies you are giving, it will not help the farmers because we are importing foodgrains from abroad. It gives an impression that the advanced countries want to enter Indian market. Though 70 percent of the population in India are dependent on agriculture, still we are not able to feed the whole population. If such is the thing, then virtually, no agriculturist will be able to purchase fertilizer at a higher rate and grow foodgrains in his field. Because of this the production of foodgrains will definitely go down.

Secondly, he cannot afford to grow vegetables and fruits. So, there will be deficiency of these things in our country. With the result, we have to depend upon foreign countries.

We have also to distribute foodgrains on subsidised rates. We are opening Fair Price Shops. We are doing this, because the consumers are not able pay higher rates for foodgrains. We have to balance both these things. When you are feeling that the increase is reasonable and the withdrawal of subsidy is all right, then, actually what you are doing is that, you are paving the way for import of foodgrains and with the result our country becomes bankrupt.

Therefore, I expect that the Government should apply its mind very seriously.

Thirdly, for advertisement of fertilizers either in TV or some such thing, we are giving a sum of Rs. 30 crore.

18.00 hrs.

There are various other ways of advertisements on which we spend huge amount. Even the fertilizer companies also spend huge amount on managerial cost. In spite of the fact that public sector undertakings are incurring huge losses, yet they are being financed. We do not want to save money from that department to compensate it for subsidy. There are various other departmental overhead charges which could be reduced very reasonably and that amount could be utilized for importing fertilizers from the foreign countries so that we may feel self-sufficient so far as foodgrains are concerned.

The Minister of Agriculture is really an agriculturist; he knows all the difficulties. At the same time, even other friends, who are at the helm of affairs, they should also very deeply apply their mind and see that subsidy on fertilizer should not be withdrawn and the rate should not be increased. Otherwise, there will be a terrible shortage of foodgrains in the country. I request the Government to kindly apply its mind to all the suggestions I have made. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Today, we will have all the Ministers except the Minister of Agriculture participating in the debate. Then all the hon. Members will also speak on this topic so that tomorrow the Minister of Agriculture could reply to the debate.

Now Shri Kamaluddin Ahmed will intervene in the debate.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR (Faridkot): I also want to participate in the debate because of the situation in Punjab.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): I will not make any political speech. I will make a very brief submission.

MR. SPEAKER: He is intervening.

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED: I will make a very brief submission and confine myself to the previous part of the import. This is a fact that the Government decided to import three million tonnes of wheat in the mid January. Now this decision was taken in the background of two factors, two realities. One was the shortfall in our procurement last year. As against the target of 11 million tonnes of wheat, the Government could procure only 7.7 million tonnes last year; and that was a big shortfall. The second thing was that a general impression was being created that after three successive good monsoons, the fourth year is bound to be a drought year. And in these circumstances, we were compelled to take this decision so that before the things go wrong, before the situation is worsened, we must be in a position to have enough stock of foodgrains like any prudent government would have taken this decision.

We took this decision after taking another decision to stop the export of wheat which had been taken by earlier government. A total ban was put on the export of wheat and then we decided that we should import this wheat. Now, there are two or three factors which I request the House to take into consideration. The procurement price is fixed on two factors. (1). The Committee on Agriculture Cost and Prices takes into consideration the cost of production and affordability of the consumer. The price so declared is almost thought to be within the reach of the consumer also. And this system has been going on well till the year 1990.

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After that, there was a surprising difference in this. If we look into the procurement price of the year 1991 and then see the retail price of wheat which has been shot up in the market you will find that this spurt was more than 50 per cent. When last year the procurement price was Rs. 225 per quintal, the retail price near about Delhi had gone up to Rs. 450 per quintal, i.e. Rs. 4.50 per kg. This difference was because of two things. One was that over all production of wheat was estimated to be 54 million tonnes as against the previous year's production of about 70 million tonnes.

Now with this 54 million tonnes, the procurement had come to 7.7 million tonnes. There was an overall shortage in the availability of wheat in the country, plus the lower procurement. These two factors had taken place and the beneficiaries were the middlemen.

SHRIVISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: May I remind the Minister that I have the agricultural statistics. It was never 70 million tonnes of wheat production in 1989-90, it was 49.85. In 1990-91, it was 5.52 million tonnes. This is the figure and that is how the House is misled. 54.52 was never 70 million tonnes. has been said.

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED: I am saying 54 million tonnes.

SHRIVISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: There is no such short-fall as he is saying.

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED: As against the production of 54 million tonnes, the procurement was 7.7 million tonnes. In the previous year we had procured 11 million tonnes and against that year the short-fall was so much when we procured only 7.8 million tonnes. Now the procurement price was Rs. 225, the retail price had gradually

gone up to Rs. 450. So this difference and who was to bear this. It was the consumer. Now one thing which hon. Shri Bhogendra Jha had very rightly said and which I wanted to say and I must congratulate him for his realistic speech here that the different classes of farmers, a large majority of the farmers hardly have enough production for their own survival. Next to that is another bigger class which hardly meets their survival cost and also are able to market some grains for their other needs. But there is a section which, I do not think, should be classified as farmers because apart from farming they have other vacancies also.

Now this class who have the biggest capacity to retain the grain, when we had this short-fall of food procurement last year, we were ultimately told that there has been a nexus between the traders and this big class of farmers who have retained the grain with themselves in anticipation that the prices will go up to some extent on their own. To some extent at the instance or with the connivance of the traders, Now the traders also wanted to escape various stock control orders because there are limits fixed for these foodgrain for retail traders and for the whole sale traders. This was going on last year. This year also we thought that such situation should not come, at least that the demand for the PDS should be met from the local procurement.

MY commitment to the PDS is about 10 million tonnes of wheat and about 10 million tonnes of rice. Where from this wheat is to come? The 6.4 million tonnes of wheat which has come this year is hardly enough to meet the demand of the PDS.

Hon. Shri Indrajit Gupta initiated the debate and, this is a reality that his very State West Bengal, without procuring a single grain, is the recipient of 10 lakh tonnes of grain every year. If we stop this PDS or we

are compelled to stop this PDS where from this State will have this grain.

Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh: If you are so much careful about the PDS then why in October 1991-92, you sold from your stocks 6.47 lakh tonnes, not to the PDS but to the open market. Now you are making an attempt to import foodgrains that also worth Rs.500 crores.

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED: That answer my colleague, the Food Minister will give but I can only say, "Yes, that was a deliberate decision to push some stocks in the open market because the way the prices were going up last October, it was very alarming and we wanted to somehow contain the rise of the prices so that the consumer was not badly affected. This was a decision which was taken by the Government. There is no denial of that fact and in pursuance of that decision some of the stocks were offloaded to the open market.

SHRI SRIKANTAJENA (Cuttack): Open market, to whom? Was it to the flour mills?

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED: To the millers and others. I am not giving the details. He will give the details.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): To the Civil Supplies Corporation, super bazars and others, they were given.

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED: The Food Ministry deals with it and he will give the details.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Only the flour mills have taken.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: The flour mills can take.

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED: So, my

anguish was that because of this shortfall in the procurement, we had to take this decision and I am sure that the House will appreciate it.

Now, if you say that this price, at what is being imported, the same price should have been given to the farmer, wherefrom will the grain come? My submission is that the overall availability of the grain has not been so much as to ensure the total procurement.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: No, no.

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED: May I tell you one thing?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: This is to true. This is not factually true. The crops have not been no way less than the previous year. There is no question of total shortage. This is just not true. The production has not gone down.

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED: If we are to say, just for the sake of saying, it is a different thing. Here, I am telling you. A large number of farmers have switched over to the oilseeds.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: The question is, in 1989-90 that was the year when we had a food production of 176 million tonnes and then again it fell down to 167.4 million tonnes. But that was due to because of the losses, caused by the summer rains in August September. We had a very good crop of course, but then from 174 million tonnes it came down to 167 million tonnes. That was the thing.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: But wheat has continued.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Wheat continued; but it deflects

Situation affecting Agriculture and Farmers' interests due to increase

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED: I was submitting that two years back, or three years back we had to import oil. We had to import large quantities, edible oil, Pamolin from Malaysia. Now, for the information of this House, I must submit that last year we imported only 1.5 lakh tonnes and this year a few thousand tonnes and we allotted it to the different States. The States are not able to lift it because the local availability of edible oil has gone up. Now, there is no shortfall of the local edible oil has gone up. Now, there is no shortfall of the local edible oil. That shows that a considerable area has been switched over oilseeds.

In this background, what I submit is — as I said in earlier that I am not going to make a speech but only a submission — that if the procurement of wheat and rice is not ensured, what is it that the hon. Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh or Shri Indrajit Gupta, want to be done about this PDS? Should we target it only to the particular sections of society and leave the other people, or should we link it to the procurement? If we have to link the allocation to the procurement, I am sorry, that a situation will come where Kerala will not be able to have any grains from the central pool and so also the other States. That situation will come where Kerala will not be able to have any grains from the central pool and so also the other States. That situation should not come. My submission is that you kindly appreciate the position and we need not make political capital out of it. Kindly appreciate this decision and my submission is that this decision of import of wheat was only to supplement the availability of foodgrains to the PDS.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to begin with a proverb which suitably applies to the present Government.

"Arba Satta Joyonka Toyon, Sara Kunba Dooba Kiyon"

Kamalludin Sahib has proved his worth with the dazzle statistics and the same is due on the part of the hon. Minister of Agriculture and farmers are suffering a lot as a consequence of all this game of statistics.

Here in this context I would like to pay my humble homage to late Lal Bahadur Shastri who belonged to the party to which the hon. Minister belongs. He should learn at least some lessons from the late leader. He gave the slogan "Jai Jawan Jai Kisan." I remember the country was facing starvation and our Government was begging wheat from the foreign countries. He was the man who saved the prestige of the farmers of the country. He motivated the farmers to be hard working which alone could earn prestige for them. He, therefore, gave the slogan of "Jai Jawan Jai Kisan" and Lal Bahadur Shastri did really get a positive response from the farmers. Our Government was wondering around the world begging for wheat and no country was ready to give wheat to us. It may be recalled that the country was bearing the shameful black spot of P.L. 480. Credit goes to the farmers of India who salvaged the country from that phase of crisis, but what did the Government give in return to them.

During the course of the discussion, the hon. Minister was stating that the rate of wheat production has come down in the country whereas the statistics suggests that the production has gone up. Thereafter, the Government tried to import wheat from abroad because reportedly the production of wheat had come down. Yesterday the Hon. Prime Minister was stating that wheat had to be imported because the possibility of drought in the country had increased as also there was no rain during June-July. I would like to say to the hon. Minister who is himself an able agriculture expert that there is always

less rain during the months of June and July. It has been observed in the last few years that rain begins towards the end of July and there is adequate rain in August. Yet, the hon. Minister claims that he goes by the weather statistics. He should notice that now the nature is changing. In spite of having the knowledge of all these facts the Government imported wheat due to fear of impending drought. There was, however, no drought and the Government had ultimately to export 10 lakh tonnes of wheat. There goes a proverb.

"Ghar Main Nahi Dane, Amma Chali Bhunane."

The Government is not able to feed its own people and yet it is exporting. The Government was exporting wheat and just after a month of the export, the Government comes to realise that there is a crisis of wheat in the country and consequently they gave a fresh order to import 30 lakh tonnes of wheat. Last time I raised this point in the meeting of the Consultative Committee attached to the Ministry of Agriculture and I did also raise it in the Lok Sabha. There the hon. Minister of Agriculture declared that no wheat would be imported at all, I then asked "Sir, you are telling like this here and at the same time the other Ministers are telling that wheat will be imported." There was a clash between two Ministries over the procurement price of wheat. Our hon. Minister of Agriculture perhaps becomes influenceless in this regard. Shri Manmohan Singh perhaps hypnotises him. He becomes speechless before Shri Singh. He said that the farmers should get the price of wheat at the rate of Rs. 340 per quintal but he failed to do so and the farmers had to suffer a great loss and he has been compelled to sell the wheat at the rate of Rs. 280 per quintal.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: What are you talking about. The price has been raised long before.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Price has not been raised. I want to say that the Government exported wheat to foreign countries at the rate of Rs. 240 per quintal whereas wheat was imported at the rate of Rs. 500-550 per quintal. The Government is not able to raise the price of wheat even at the rate of Rs. 350-400 per quintal to the farmers of India. However, on the other hand it is in a position to purchase the wheat at the price of Rs. 550 per quintal from the farmers of the foreign countries. There are two possibilities - there is either some bungling being committed or the hon. Minister is such an interesting salesman as he purchases a thing on higher cost and sells it on lower cost. Even a simple salesman will not commit such a blunder.

We are not able to understand the way of the working of the Government. We see, that ever since the present Government came to power, it is involved in some or the other kinds of scandals varying from Bank scandal to scandal of A. B. B. Engine or wheat import Export scandal. Does it mean that the Government is presiding over scandals. But why the farmers should suffer for that? What to talk of remunerative price, the Government is not able to pay even the cost price to the farmers of India. Hon. Minister of Agriculture is sitting here, I would like to ask a question to him. Wheat, rice sugarcane etc. are produced by the Agriculture Universities of the country and the Government assesses the agricultural price or the cost price of production. I ask whether the Government is in a position to provide the same price to the farmers. All the universities belong to the Government, they do not belong to me, they do not belong to any farmer, I ask again whether the Government is in a position to provide them with the same price. I'm sure the Government is not at all in a position to provide the remunerative price. As a matter of fact, the Government has perhaps forgotten the definition of the remunerative price. The Government is willing to provide the remun-

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nerative price it will have first to define the term 'remunerative price'. Remunerative price means the Government should add the cost of fertiliser, seeds and water. Besides, the Government should also take into account the remuneration of the farmers at least at the rate of Rs. 30 per head per day. Moreover, the interest on the land and capital of the farmers should also be added. Besides it you should add some profit also which should be at least 20 to 25 percent. When the Income Tax Department of the Government levies 14 per cent profit in round figure on every thing, then the Government should levy the same charge here also and the cost that arrives after all these assessments should be given to the farmers. The Government is, however, not doing so. What is it doing then? The Government cannot provide the agriculture price, the remunerative price, nor even the cost price but it can certainly reward the farmers by increasing the price of fertiliser, electricity, water. It means that the Government is not giving even the cost price to the farmers rather it is increasing the cost of things.

I would like to ask whether the removal of subsidy on fertiliser is a sympathy shown to the farmers? Is it the way the Government wants to support the farmers of the country? Does the Government want to please a few persons by exposing the 70 per cent people of the country to starvation. Does the Government wish economic affluence only to a few persons? There must be some scam in this transaction.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to submit that there should be an investigation into it and for that purpose a J.P.C. should be set up. I would like to emphasise that an investigation should be set up. I would like to emphasise that an investigation should be carried out only by a J.P.C. because it can expose the malintention of the

Government as it is well exposing the Government in the Bank Scam Scandal. It seems that a separate J.P.C will have to be set up for each and every Ministry because it is clear that the Government has decided to do what has been suggested through the four words that follow here under:

"Rinam kritwa Ghritam Piwet, Yawat Jiwet Sukham Jiwet

Bhasmi Bhutesya Dehesya Punragaman Kutah."

Meaning thereby, go on taking loans and live lavishly because the present Government knows that it has not to come to power again. It is we who will have to pay back all the loans. We will have to face all the troubles that will follow. The Government may go on wasting the treasure, the people of India will have to face all the troubles.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, let me make one or two points more. I have been waiting since yesterday and I think that it is perhaps the destiny of the farmers that whenever something is spoken in the interest of the farmers, the bell rings.

MR. SPEAKER: You may continue on the subject, keeping aside the matter of ghee.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Whenever a farmer M.P. is about to speak, the bell rings.

MR. SPEAKER: You should talk of inillet (Jwar) leaving aside the matter of ghee.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission I would like to tell this trio of Ministers because the trio of Ministers is sitting here. They should be called trimurti (Interruptions)... Yes, trimurti, tilenge are eight words. There is something special about this word "three".

MR. SPEAKER: What is the Co-relation between this and paddy.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Mr. Rajveer Ji, everything is right about what you are telling, but I do not expect any derogatory words on your part.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: I have not used any derogatory words. He should tell me if I have made any.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: He has just now used such words.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: I have just used the term 'Trio of Ministers' Tell me what else I have said? I am ready to withdraw such words if I have used and if for that he was hurt. I am speaking in clear terms.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I am telling that it is not proper for him to use derogatory words.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: I simply intend to say that there is no co-ordination among the trio of Ministers who are sitting here.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to say that the hon. Minister of Agriculture, virtually, does not enjoy any power. He cannot do anything. Matters related to fertiliser is dealt by somebody else the hon. Minister of Finance does not know as to how much fertiliser is being produced or what are the difficulties in this way. Irrigation is dealt by another Minister. The matters of seeds and fertilisers are dealt by yet another Minister. Similarly, the matter related to chemical fertiliser is under the supervision of a different Minister. It is not known as to who is the incharge of insecticides. they are dealt by different departments. The Agriculture Minister feels as if the Union Government has got nothing to do with it. The Government

should formulate some long-term plan to solve the manifold problem of the farmers or at least it should chalk out some major plan.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, last year, when I spoke on drought, I had suggested the formulation of a long term policy, but it is yet to take shape. You have a piecemeal approach to the problems. When there is drought, only then you think over it. When there is shortage of wheat, you import it and when there is a surplus production, you find yourself at the horns of a dilemma. This is not the way. Rather the Government, in order to re-assure the country's farmers, should formulate a long-term policy with regard to agriculture and farmers.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did not want to refer to Uttar Pradesh, but Shri V.P. Singh used the term 'Ram Cola' and the Government is obsessed with Coca Cola. Instead of getting involved in the controversy of Ram Cola and Coca Cola, I would like to mention here that the sugarcane growers of Uttar Pradesh are confronted with payment problem. It is because the Union Government instead of lifting levy sugar from Uttar Pradesh is supplying levy Sugar lifted from other States, for sale in Uttar Pradesh. The farmers will get their payment, if the concerned department of the Union Government lifts levy sugar from the State. Therefore, I request you to pay attention towards this.

In your bid to create problems for the B.J.P. Government in the State, you are causing considerable harm to the poor farmers. It is my humble submission that the Government should not do anything which detrimental to interest of the farmers and it should lift levy sugar from Uttar Pradesh so that the farmers are paid their arrears.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would also like to add here that majority of sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh, owing arrears to the farmers, are Central Government units. The other mills

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have paid up their dues. The Central Government does not pay its attention towards this. Therefore, Sir, through you, it is my humble submission that the Government pay its attention towards this and I am certain that in case of a shortage in sugarcane production, this Government won't hesitate to import sugar also. I would also like to ask whether sugar is a state subject? Sugar is produced from sugarcane and it is cultivated in the States. Although, under the new economic policy, all the requisite licences have been done away with, but licence is still a pre-requisite for setting up a sugar mill and the Centre has still retained the licencing authority. The Uttar Pradesh Government had proposed for the establishment of 100 sugar mills in the State and forwarded 50 proposals to the Centre, but the latter has sanctioned the establishment of only 12 of 13 sugar units and that too on the condition that the mills would be located at a place of Center's choice. therefore, today, through you, it is my submission to the Government that the system of licenses for the establishment of sugar mills should be done away forthwith and this matter should be included among the state subjects so that the State Governments can set up sugar units at places of their choice and also on the basis of sugarcane production. Thus, the Government is creating problems for the farmers by implementing the system of Central issuance of licences, as a prerequisite for the establishment of sugar mills. What I mean to say is that the Government is harassing the farmers in every possible way.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to say in the House that the Government should not leave any stone unturned to conserve precious foreign exchange. It should not allow a depletion in our reserves at any cost. It can be converted only when the fertiliser prices the country are reduced. When the prices fall, the farmers would opt

for better quality fertilisers, which in turn would increase production and consequently the foreign exchange, at present being wanted on the import of wheat and other commodities could be saved. If this is not done and the prices are not reduced, the farmers would purchase less fertiliser, which would affect production and this in turn would prompt you to go in for imports. This would further lead to something else and then another J.P.C would be constituted. Therefore, it would be better, if the Government doesn't go in for imports.

MR. SPEAKER: Who will enact laws?

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to say that the Government should not withdraw subsidy on fertilisers. Rather, it should provide subsidies to the farmers and thus provide an opportunity to them to be self-reliant. If they becomes self-reliant and earn a decent income, then also the money would come back to you for that money, he will invest in agriculture viz-fertilisers, power, water etc. which will result in a good crop providing a decent income to the farmers and the money would be back in the Government's exchequer. It is a cycle Money in the hands of the farmers would provide an impetus to the industries Sales of consumer durables like Television, motor vehicles etc would go up and the e would be an industrial revolution. Today, the Government is concentrating on a meagre five to seven percent of the population as its market, and ignoring the mass of about 80% consumers. The farmer is both a producer and a consumer.

Through you, I once again urge the Government to give a serious thought to it. This is not a political battle. Tomorrow, anybody can be at the helm of affairs. If the policies are correct, the country will fall into decay. Unfortunately, both the policies and the intentions of the present Government are wrong.

I would like to tell the Minister trio that our hon'ble Members from Punjab made some excellent observations. Kindly pay attention to whatever they have said. They have echoed the sentiments of the farmers, expressed by them while sitting on the ridges of their fields. The hon. Member also belongs to the Congress Party. When he was speaking, I saw your face turning pale and you were not enjoying it, because at times, truth is too bitter to swallow. It makes it amply clear that the Government is least bothered about the interest of the farmers. This country would progress, if the farmers progress and the farmer would progress only if our policies are agriculture oriented and favorable to the farmers. This country will make progress in the real sense, only when the farmers are made self-reliant. Today the farmers are debtridden and the debts are increasing rampantly and still they are alive.

In my region, a farming is done under the control and supervision of the Finance Ministry. Mr. Agriculture Minister, Sir, the farmers have many bosses. Opium cultivation is done there and a lot of bungling is taking place. Those poor farmers are running from pillar to post for licence. Scores of people have come to my residence with their grievances. Opium cultivation is done in Bareilly, Badaun, Shahjahanpur, Barabanki, Gazipur etc. in Uttar Pradesh (*Interruptions*). I would like to say that either opium cultivation should be banned or it should be allowed to be done properly. Corruption has become so all pervasive that a licence can be available, on a bribe of Rs. 500/- and the non-payment of the bribe could lead to even cancellation of licence.

At present, crores of youngsters in the country are victims of opium addiction. I would like to say that if it is to be banned, there should be no delay, but if not, under no cost corruption should be allowed to prosper. Opium procured from bareilly is tested after six months in Gazipur and then notices

are issued to the farmers to the effect that moisture level is inadequate in their produce. Opium samples of 35 producers are despatched together and the samples of those who grease the palms of the concerned officials are declared to be of good quality, while that of those who don't pay the bribe are declared to be of inferior quality. As such, Opium cultivation itself is a very abominable work and the corruption involved in it makes it all the more worse.

I would like to say that the Government should give a serious thought to it and the subsidy on fertilisers, which has been withdrawn, should be restored in the larger interests of the farmers, otherwise the farmers won't be able to cultivate wheat. I have repeated time and again, the views expressed by the hon'ble Deputy Speaker. I would like to reiterate that planning should also be done in respect of agriculture. Thereafter, only decisions about cultivation of wheat, rice, cotton, oilseeds and pulses, according to the demand projections, should be taken as per plans. However, at present, nothing like this is being done. That's why sometimes rice shortage is being experienced and on other occasions wheat and sugarcane production is far in excess of demand, resulting in burning of latter in fields due to surplus production. The Government is at present engaged in the family planning programme. And you are busy in drawing up plans for your Ministry. I request you to draw up plans regarding agriculture as to how much wheat, sugar and vegetable oil is required so as to monitor the production of these in the country. If this is not done, then the farmers will be tempted to go in for the cultivation of cashcrops, which is none better a proposition.

At present mango orchards have caught up with the imagination of the people and that's why everywhere mango orchards are coming up. That day is not far off when the mango orchard growers will be in dire straight

as is the condition of the growers of grape orchards at present. There is no great demand for grapes in the country, which are now being sold at cheap prices. Truck loads of grapes sell the fruit at cheap rates outside Krishi Bhawan in Delhi. I would like to submit that agricultural planning is the need of the hour and it should be ensured that the farmers get remunerative prices for their produce. The Government should not just purchase the agricultural products at higher prices from the white-complexioned farmers of U.S.A., Canada and Australia. Rather, the Government should fix higher prices for the agricultural products produced by the farmers within the country for their betterment. Otherwise the farmers' condition will deteriorate further and if the farmers' plight becomes bad then it will be quite unfortunate for the country and the future of the country will also be in jeopardy. Thank you.

[English]

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as a Food Minister I do not feel happy when I have to take a decision to import wheat. But, what is the alternative left to me in a year where the production is the lowest? Here, the lowest production is 166 million tonnes. It is lower than the one which was four years ago when in 1988-89 the production was 169 million tonnes. I am talking about food production.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Now, you are importing wheat. What is the wheat production?

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: The wheat production also has all along been stagnant for the last four years.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: It has not come down.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: Yes; it has not come down, but it is stagnant for the last four years. In the last four years the population has gone up by more than 66 millions. So, there are more mouths to be fed. The wheat production has not gone up and it has been admitted here by many of the hon. Members (*Interruptions*).

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Please tell us the reasons for the decline in the cereal production in the country? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Mr. Minister, please do not furnish wrong statistics in support of your contention that the wheat production has not declined in the country.

[English]

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: Please listen to me. It is a fact that the wheat production has been stagnant for the last four years. In 1988-89, the wheat production was 54 million tonnes and now in 1991-92, it was about 55 million tonnes. (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

DR. G.L. KANAUJIA: What about procurement of wheat?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: First give him a patient hearing. You are not fully aware of the facts. So first acquire information.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: You are talking of production. You first make it clear whether the procurement is less or the production is less?

MR. SPEAKER: He is telling what you wanted to ask So, first listen to him.

[English]

SHRITARUNGOGOI: It depends upon the total food production also. If there is a decline in the production of one foodgrain, naturally there is a pressure on other foodgrains. If there is a decline in the production of rice, naturally there is a pressure on wheat; if there is a decline in the production of coarse grain, naturally there will be a pressure on wheat also. It is not a new theory, but it is a fact. The people have to live and the people have to be fed. In such a situation when there is a decline in the food production and when there is an imbalance between the demand and the supply, it is a fact that the prices go up and it is a fact that the price went up by 48 per cent in the last year. That is why the price went up in Delhi also. It is a fact. Then, the Opposition people were charging, we were anti-farmers. Who has raised price hike of Rs. 50? It is the highest hike we have raised under the leadership of Shri Narasimha Rao. The previous Government - may be Mr. V.P. Singh was the Prime Minister at that time, 6-11-1990—had raised it by Rs. 10. By raising Rs. 50/- we became anti-farmers and by raising Rs. 10/- the Janata Dal has become pro-farmers! Who served the interests of the farmers?

What was the procurement? We procured only 15 percent. Out of 54 or 55 million tonnes. 6 million tonnes or sometimes 7 million tonnes were procured. The rest is with the farmers. The farmers are free to sell at the market price. For 85 percent of the product of wheat the farmers are getting the market price. They get a good price. They get about Rs. 350. Last month, they got about Rs. 450. May-be for the 15 percent offered to us, they may not get the market price but they get minimum support price.

The minimum support price is, some sort of assurance to the farmers that you are assured that you will get the minimum price, if it goes below that price in the market. Then, you come to us. The Government is committed to buy whatever is offered to us. This is food security. Then, you have to see the interests of the farmers also. Last time, the price had gone up. Now the price has gone down because of import and all. Now we have become anti-consumers also. Last time, you people criticised us because the price had gone up like anything. In order to sustain the period and to check the price, I have no other alternative except to import wheat. This is the decision taken by the Food Ministry.

SHRIVISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: The point is made that when at Rs. 310 or Rs. 320 wheat is available, say not with farmers but even in the Indian market, why is it bought at Rs. 500 average from outside? If you want to choose between the Indian traders and the foreign traders, why do not you choose Indian traders? (Interruptions)

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: I will explain it. By buying in the open market, I cannot increase the total availability in the country. That gap cannot be filled up.

SHRISRIKANTA JENA: Have you tried?

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: I have not tried. But that is the fact of life. It is not that I am paying Rs. 500 to the foreign farmers.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: You are paying out of your pocket to get the wheat here.

SHRI TARUNGOGOI: A lot of money is paid to Indians also. The port charges, Indians are getting. Transport charges, Indian people are getting. (Interruptions)

SHRIVISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH:

As a test, you start buying here. Why do not you start buying just from Sonapat at Rs. 310? Why do you attempt to buy that from outside? Any amount of wheat you will get here and your stocks will be filled.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: If I have bought from here, it will not increase the total availability. It will further shoot up the price.

I can buy three million tonnes. But what about the rest?

SHRIVISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH:

That means, permanently you are going to import to depress the prices.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: It is the economy. When there is shortage in the demand and supply, the prices will shoot up. Whenever there is decline in foodgrains, we will do it. With your policy, it will always be shortage

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: No, not at all. It depends upon monsoon. Even today also, frankly speaking, total foodgrains depend on monsoon. Sixty per cent of the foodgrains is dependent upon rain-fed agriculture. There is no irrigation in Uttar Pradesh, in Bihar or in other parts. It is a fact of the life. Still it depends on the monsoon.

The foreign farmers are getting less than what our farmers are getting. I am talking of Canada farmers.

(Interruptions)

Please listen to me. F.O.B. price of Canada is Rs. 147.78. This is the F.O.B. price. This is not the price paid to the farmer. F.O.B. price is 477. Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh knows it very well.

SHRIVISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH:

What are you spending?

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: What I am spending is different. You are making an allegation.

SHRIVISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: You are saying that you are spending Rs. 500/-

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: I am saying that we are paying more to the farmer than to the industry.

SHRIVISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: You are trimming the question like that to answer like that. You said "We are spending Rs. 500/-," whereas by spending Rs. 310/- or Rs. 320/-, you can get it here.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: I will tell you. That is the spending part.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): You are ex-Prime Minister. What about total quantity in the market? What sort of argument are you making?

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: Then also what is the economic cost? For 275, you have to pay procurement incidental charges. Then distribution charges. Here also there is economic process, 455. It is not 225. Besides the price, you have to pay for the farmers. We have to pay the purchase price. We have to pay the storage charges, the handling charges and the distribution charges. We have to pay interest of this. It is not only 275. Economic price is 455.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): All right. Buy that also. That is also less than 500.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: That is for 275. If you buy 300, it will be more. If you buy at 350, then economy cost will be 542. It is more than the imported cost. It is not a fact

that we are paying more to the foreign farmer. Now what is weighted average? Weighted average is 130. (Interruptions)

You can tell me. I can prove it. Wahtever may be, it is a fact.

AN HON. MEMBER: I can prove. I can guarantee for it. You are not telling the facts. I know how it comes.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: You are quoting yesterday's prices. Weighted average is 132. F.O.B. price. I am talking about weighted average. (Interruptions) When you were in power, you were paying the same charges.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: How could Rs. 200 per quintal be the handling and storage charges?

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: It is a fact.

[English]

(Interruptions)

Please listen to me.

[Translation]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): At which place do you want to procure wheat at the rate of Rs. 500 per quintal?

[English]

Our farmers can give you at the rate of Rs. 500/-.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we people placed thousands of bags of wheat of 5 kg. each at the rate of Rs. 3.25 a kg. at the Boat Club. There was no taker.

Packing and handling charges were also included in that price. They were free to purchase.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it can be easily argued, but facts and statistics cannot be easily distorted. They cannot be changed. Now can they charge them. Handling charges might be the same today as they obtained at that time. Handling charges must have been the same when you and Shri V.P. Singh were in power. There could be a minor difference of one or two per cent. So, why are they saying so now.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH (Fatehpur): Mishandling charges have cost us Rs. 1500 crore in foreign exchange. You are spending foreign exchange. There is no question of it.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Talk in terms of contingency and how best to avoid disaster? (Interruptions)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: We cannot agree with your contention.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Had the Government not taken this measure, there would have been starvation conditions in the country. Then it was said that the public is blind.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: There is no question of starvation in Indian currency. However, the basic question raised by us is the mishandling of Rs. 14500 crore in foreign exchange by the government. Government do not have any satisfactory reply to this question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: You would have told yourself that the Government is turning a blind eye to the problems of the people. This is wrong... (Interruptions) What you are saying is totally wrong. What obtained at that time is the same now. We have heard you. Now you listen to him.

[English]

Let the Minister have his say.

[Translation]

What prevailed at that time is prevailing even today.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: This Government has a commitment to ensure regular supply to the PDS.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEERSINGH: If it was wrong at that time, then please set it right.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: You give him a patient hearing.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, if you want a smooth sailing, then address the Chair.

(Interruptions)

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: Then, there is an allegation that we are taking the decision to import at the dictates of the IMF and the

GATT. I deny it. We are not taking the decision at the dictates of the IMF or the GATT. It is the Food Ministry's decision. I have taken this huge responsibility. I have kept in mind the interests of the country, the interests of the consumers also. (Interruptions)

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): You are saying that you have kept in mind the interests of the farmers and the consumers. When you are paying Rs. 500/- a quintal to the foreign farmers, how do you say this? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No interruptions like this.

(Interruptions)

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: Sir, there is another allegation that at the dictates of the IMF & GATT, the PDS may be withdrawn. But I can give an assurance to the House that the PDS will continue. It is not going to be pruned. Instead, we try to strengthen it. Instead of pruning it, the Prime Minister has tried to strengthen the PDS. It is meant to those who are more deserving, who are in the desert areas, in the hill areas or in the drought-prone areas also.

Then, there is the question of export and import. They asked: "Why you are exporting and importing at the same time?" Regarding export, I explained the details in my detailed statement twice in the House under what circumstances the decision to export was taken. The export decision was taken in 1990 when Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh was there. At the same time, we are not saying that this decision was wrong because there was a shortage of foreign exchange. Then the Chandra Shekhar Government came to power. (Interruptions)

Then, again, we came to power. When we came to power, then also there was a

foreign exchange shortage. So, it was decided to export 10 lakh tonnes. After we came to power, we found that the procurement was less. So, we decided to reduce it from 10 lakh tonnes to 7 lakh tonnes. We decided to do it...*(Interruptions)* I come to my point. In January, again, we said that no further export to be allowed. In fact, as a result of this decision, we allowed to export about 7 lakh tonnes of wheat. Then we put a stop to that. That was in connection with the year 1991-92 ending the financial year. They say like this: "For the first time, you have taken the decision for one million tonnes and subsequently you have taken the decision for three million tonnes" yes for the first time, in January, we took the decision for one million tonnes. At that time, the price shot up like anything. Then, we decided not to go for imports because the *Rabi* crop was about to start. I said: "Let us wait for some time. We will see." In the mean time, we increased the incentive so that we can persuade the farmers to offer more to the Central Pool. We had a discussion with the Chief Ministers. I myself had a discussions with the Food Ministers. The Prime Minister also had discussions. So, at different levels, we had discussions. In spite of that fact, we could procure only 6.4 million tonnes. It is a fact of life. So, in such a situation, the export was only for a year ending 1992. That is the position. Again, we took a decision for the year 1992 ending in 1993 in a different year, in a different context—because the production has fallen down. My procurement is only six million tonnes. We require about 10 million tonnes. In that circumstances, I have got no other alternative to accept but to go in for imports. Then some people are asking us why we are not buying it from EEC. EEC wheat is not acceptable to our farmers. In fact, we did import in 1976. There was moisture in it and the price was also more and the foreign material was more. It was not acceptable in 1975-76. But we did import. It was very difficult to sell it. Neither did the consumer accept it nor did the roller flour mills accept it. It also did not

conform to the prescriptions of PFA Act.

Then they asked us why we are not buying it from Australia. Australian wheat is cheaper than the Canadian wheat. But last time, in Australia production was less and they could not offer us. They offered us only one and a half tonnes. They will give from this year onwards. The harvest will come in the month of November and from December they will give us. Then we went in for American wheat. They gave a subsidy of 30.45 dollars.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: (Anola): To whom subsidy was given.

[English]

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: They paid subsidy to their farmers. But we are buying it at a cheaper price. Our buying rate is 110. If we compare it with the previous years, we are buying it at a cheaper rate than what we paid in 1988, 1983 or even 1989. Today my price is cheaper than the price of 1988 when we got from USA at 170 dollars; from Australia we got it at 159 and then from USA at 165. Then again in 1983-84 we bought at 162. This year, we bought it at a comparatively cheaper price. International price is also fluctuating like anything.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, nobody is as attentive as I am.

(Interruptions)

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: Then it was asked: From which agency are we buying? We are buying it from the Government agencies. We are buying it from the Wheat Board of Canada; we are buying it from the Wheat Board of Australia. *(Interruptions)* These are the agencies. I have told this because yesterday they were asking about the agency

[Sh. Tarun Gogoi]

from which we are buying and about the kickbacks. Earlier also we bought only from the Government agencies. Then they asked: "Why did you give it to roller flour mills?" Last year, when the prices shot up in December, we gave it to all civil supplies organisations; we gave it to Super Bazar and we gave it to roller flour mills. Many of the civil supplies departments did not buy it and the roller flour mills bought more. We are not giving it at PDS price. PDS price is less. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIKANT JENA: At what price did you give? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: I am not yielding. It is lower than the market price. Then Shri Khurana mentioned about my statement of January 5 when I said that we have sufficient quantity of foodgrains. Yes, I did say that on January 5. I said that it is sufficient to meet the requirement for the year ending 1992. But the situation has changed. In that context, my statement has borne out the fact that we have been able to still continue to sustain the PDS, not only PDS but even the revamped PDS to 700 blocks.

19.00 hrs.

There is another question: "Why did you export in 1992-93?" In '92-93, we did not export. Whatever quantity we delivered, we delivered it, as a result of the first contract with the period ending in March 1992.

So, I think I have answered all the points and in such a situation, I think that all will appreciate our decision.

MR. SPEAKER: As agreed, the hon. Agriculture Minister will reply tomorrow.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV

(Shahjahanpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I listened to the reply given by the hon. Minister just now. In the end he expressed his hope that all the Members would be satisfied by his reply. But I would like to know why efforts were not made by the Government to procure wheat from the big farmers, the black marketeer and big traders who had abundance of wheat in their godowns, before importing the same from other countries. The Government has given a plea that since the production had stagnated during the last four years it was compelled to import wheat to restore the proper functioning of Public Distribution System. My submission is that had the Government purchased wheat from the farmers in the country itself, it would not have had to suffer loss in terms of foreign exchange. Wrong policies of the Government were responsible for the loss of foreign exchange.

Sir, so far as the matter of PDS is concerned, my submission is that Public Distribution System should not, at any cost, lack anything. I feel that there is a great need to improve the Public Distribution System to protect the poor farmers and consumers leading miserable life. Provision should be made to provide essential commodities to the poor people living below the poverty line. It is not necessary to provide the PDS benefit to big capitalists, big officials and big politicians, rather it won't make any difference in the position of the country if people of these categories are disallowed to avail PDS benefit. But nobody is talking of bringing about radical changes in this system. I would not like to repeat the points already raised. But I want to say in brief that the Government should pay attention to at least some factors. First of all the Government should announce its agriculture policy in clear terms. It won't do by saying that the Government would make investment. Sir, farmers have to approach the Government to demand an increase in the prices of wheat and sugarcane but the Government has no

fixed policy in this regard. Shri Rajveer Singh was right to suggest that the Government should make provision of at least cost prices if not remunerative prices of the commodities. On the one hand, wheat is being imported under PC 480 in the country to meet the requirements of people while the country has attained self-reliance for 2 years now. People have worked hard and it is a slur on that self-reliance of the country that our country had exported wheat at the rate of Rs. 240/- per quintal just a year ago and now the country has been drifted back to the position of going in for import. My submission is that if we do not give remunerative prices of wheat to the farmers, they would be disappointed. The price of fertilizers were increased when the sowing season began. This is the time when the use of fertilizers is essential. The hon. Prime Minister says that the farmers will get remunerative price of wheat when the crop is harvested. It is just like "putting the card before the horse". The Government has burdened farmers by increasing the prices of fertilizers at a time when they are already short of money. In Uttar Pradesh the price of a bag of DAP fertiliser was Rs. 195/- earlier. Now it has gone up to Rs. 400/- to Rs. 425/- per bag. Wheat can not be grown without DAP fertilizer there as the soil of that region cannot produce without this fertiliser. It is being taken openly that the Government has increased the prices of fertilisers and allowed import of wheat under the pressures of Dunkal proposal because it has to import 3 percent of the total production of the country. Whether someone has taken or not taken bribe or commission in Bofors case but the increase in prices of fertilisers has made farmers think that there has certainly been a four play. The Government has increased the prices of diesel, fertilisers and electricity in a single stroke overburdening the already burdened farmers. So, Sir, I would like to submit to the Government, through you, that the farmer at present is extremely distressed as a consequence of which the production would de-

crease and the Government will, perhaps, have to import rather 6 million tonnes of wheat next year while it has imported 3 million tonnes of wheat this year. So, the Government should fix one or the other agricultural policy. Through you I would like to demand that when the hon. Minister of Agricultural makes his reply tomorrow, he should make an announcement to bring down the increased prices of fertilisers. Subsidy should again be restored on fertilisers.

Today he said that the Government was loyal to farmers. Just now the Minister of Food was saying that since the Government increased the price by Rs. 50/-, it has become hostile to farmers while Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh increased the price by Rs. 10/- he is considered to be their well-wishers. The fact is that the Government has dealt such a severe blow to farmers, who constitute about 75 percent of the total population, that they have been overburdened. If there is less production, the gross national product will also go down. I believe when the agriculture policy is fixed, there would be a provision in it to fix remunerative prices for farmers' produce, so that they are not made to run from pillar to post every year for getting remunerative price of sugar-cane or any other item.

The Ramkola issue just came up. I myself went to Ramkola. Our BJP friends say that they have paid the arrears. But my submission is that Ramkola is not the only mill, there are 105 mills is total in Uttar Pradesh. What difference does it make if the arrears if Ramkila mill only are paid. There are other mills, 12 percent arrears of these mills are yet to be paid. No provision has been made to pay those arrears. Similarly, farmers in Bihar are yet to get 12 per cent arrears of sugarcane.

The present Government should make a provision for the farmer to the effect that the Central Government pay 80 per cent of the

[English]

total price of sugarcane of foodgrains in advance to the farmers instead of providing loans through banks to big capitalists. The remaining amount may be paid when the price of the grain is fixed. Such provision should be made in agriculture policy so that the farmers are not compelled to sell their produce at cheaper rates.

Secondly, I would like to submit that when the Government has adopted a policy of liberalisation for the industries, it should adopt a similar policy with regard to the farmers as well. Today, the condition is such that, any farmer wishing to instal a machine for his rice or paddy produce, he has to obtain a licence for it. Similarly, if anybody wants to instal a crusher, he has to obtain a licence. If a farmer from Punjab wishes to sell his wheat in Maharashtra, he is not entitled to do so. Farmers can not take their sugarcane or foodgrains from the state to another. On behalf of my party, I demand that all the restrictions imposed on the farmers including the one preventing them from taking their produce outside the state, should be withdrawn forthwith and a free policy of liberalisation should be adopted towards the farmers, on the lines of the one adopted towards major industrialists.

Therefore, in short, through you, I would like to say that by importing wheat and increasing the fertiliser prices, the present Government has put such a heavy burden on the farmers, that it seems that the Government is functioning under the direct control of the World Bank or the I.M.F. It has dealt a serious blow to the interests of the farmers. Therefore, the Minister of Agriculture should announce the withdrawal of the hike in fertilizer prices, tomorrow itself. With these words, I thank you.

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN
(Chirayinkil): I was closely listening to the arguments regarding the import of wheat.

The position of foreign exchange is very bad, in the sense that it is declining very sharply. That is why we have to see whether we can explore the possibility of finding an alternative. Farmers have held back their stocks and hoarding was also there. First we can appeal to them to bring out the stocks and if that fails, there are ways to bring them out. Why I am saying this is that the Government is reluctant to bring out the hoarded stocks or the held back stocks. The foreign exchange reserve is also sharply declining. The drop is significant and the reserves fell by Rs. 1600 crores in one week from Rs. 15,727 crores to Rs. 14,121 crores at the end of October. In dollar terms, the decline in one week is six hundred million US dollars. What does it mean?

If it goes at this rate, after one year what will be our foreign exchange reserves? You will go back to the position that existed when you have come to power. Otherwise you have to take another loan to keep the foreign exchange reserve. That is why we are asking the Government to take steps to bring out the stocks. But the Government is not prepared for that. That is the major defect. We can appeal to them; if they are not prepared, then we can do something because the country is more important than some of the hoarders and some big farmers. So, this has to be done.

In this context the Government should come out with a declaration that they are taking steps to reduce the amount of import as much as possible. If it can be cancelled, that would be the best option for the country. The present policy in the agrarian front will cut at the root of self-sufficiency in the coun-

try. Though our foodgrain production has not reached the actual requirement our actual requirement is 270 million when we consider our population - due to the pauperisation of the people, even 170 million or 180 million is enough. We are exporting also. For the present, it is being stocked. If the present policy is pursued, that will actually reverse the present trend of development. According to the Government, the production of foodgrains this year will be more than 180 million tonnes. The trend is going to be reversed. Why? It is because the interest rates have increased. The fertiliser prices have increased. The electricity and water charges have increased.

Even if the procurement prices is increased, will the small and marginal farmers benefit out of it? They have very little or no surplus at all to sell. If at all they can sell, that will be sold from the field itself because they have taken debt and they have to clear it up. By the time you go for procurement, they will sell it because of their dire needs. So, out of procurement, actually 60 per cent of the marketable surplus required is from 10 per cent of the farmers. What does it mean? A majority of our farmers are not benefiting out of it. A good section of the farmers are changing to cash crops. In Punjab itself, 30,000 hectares are being converted into cash crops. So, the foodgrains production is stagnant or there is nominal increase. Even the wheat production is stagnant. That has been explained here.

By decontrol of DAP, the price is more than double. The price of potash has also increased. When hue and cry was there, there was a little decrease. What decrease has actually been declared? It is very nominal. That is not going to help the farmers. This is not only affecting the production of foodgrains, but also or fertiliser industry is going to be affected in a big way. I will cite an example. The caprolactum plant of FACT started production on 1st March, 1991. At

that time, the price of imported caprolactum was \$ 2,100 per tonne. It steadily came down to \$ 1450 per tonne by May, 1992. The dumping is due to the lack of demand in the developed countries, including USA and Europe. In all these countries, actually the demand has declined.

When we started production in 1991, it was only \$ 2,100. By May, 1992, it came down to \$ 1,450. Even then, the Government is not satisfied, there came to the rescue of the foreign farmers. What did they do? They have reduced the customs duty from 80 per cent to 50 per cent. Now the imported price of caprolactum is \$ 1,300 per tonne. All the MPs from Kerala have now requested the Prime Minister to save the industry. Nine thousand workers are there in the FACT. Out of them, now 600 are going out. But if the production is like this, what would happen? With thirty per cent of the capacity production of urea this fertiliser unit will not be able to survive. That means, 9,000 workers are going to be out of employment. The farmers in the country will not get the benefit of those fertilisers and we will have to spend more foreign exchange for fertiliser import. You have not given at least a breathing phase for this industry. They have started production in March, 1991. But what is the position now? You have reduced it after a year. 80 percent of the duty has been reduced to 50 per cent. What is the justification for this? At least, you could have given some hereadthling space for this unit. From 1952 onwards, some care was taken to protect our own industry. But now, that is thrown to winds and our industries are facing difficulties one by one and fertiliser industry is one of them. What is the remedy? Can you save FACT by a little stop gap arrangement. Unless this policy is changed, nothing can be done to save this industry.

There is a decision to increase the price of naphtha and benzene and decanalisation diammonium phosphate will effect the very

[Smt. Suseela Gopalan]

[Translation]

existence of our precious plant like FACT. This plant is working with 80 per cent capacity utilisation. Now, these multinationals are dumping their products in our country and are going to monopolise our market. What is the remedy for this? When the policy of the Government is to continue the subsidy on fertilisers, nitrogen products like DAP + factomfas are not getting any subsidy. Nitrogen subsidy is being continued but these products are not getting the benefit. Why? This is going to hard hit all the areas but worst in the areas where land reforms are implemented. We have no landlord lobby in West Bengal and Kerala, where only small and marginal farmers are there. What will be their fate if this continues. So, unless the small and marginal farmers are helped, the situation will not improve. Even price increase in procurement is not going to help them throughout India particularly in West Bengal and Kerala because we have done the crime of implementing the land legislation. We are going to suffer. So, why don't you give subsidy to these products? I fail to understand this point. This is going to ruin our fertiliser industry. It is going to pin down food production and as a result, prices of foodgrains of our country will be affected and the whole country will suffer except ten per cent of the upper strata of people. So, retrace the step and save the country. IMF and World Bank are not going to save you. Please understand this at least. Even European countries are giving huge subsidy to their farmers. Why cannot we give subsidy? They are prescribing us not to give subsidy and we are succumbing to their pressure. So, the steps should be retraced and the honour and future of our country should be saved.

With these words, I conclude.

*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Pallakkad): Mr. Speaker, India is a agricultural country. 80% of the people depend on agriculture for their livelihood. Agriculture is still the backbone of Indian economy. After Independence, many steps have been taken during the past 7 or 8 Five Years Plan for the progress of Agriculture. Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru had started major irrigation dams, fertiliser factories and agricultural research centres. Indiraji brought about Green Revolution in the country. At the time of Independence, we had to import foodgrains from foreign countries. Due to the for sighted policies of the Government, food production increased many times over. Today we are growing enough food in our country to meet our requirements. We are in position to export foodgrains. This has been made possible by the untiring efforts of the farmers. This is the result of their hard work in the fields ignoring rain and hot sun or day and night.

Today, the Indian farmers are facing a major crisis in this country. The prices of factory goods are determined by the factory owners. If the prices of the raw material which are used by the factory go up, the factory owners will immediately raise the prices of their products. There is no control over that. The toothpaste whose cost of production is just Rs. 1.50 is selling at Rs. 27 in the market. There is no control over that. But the prices of foodgrains produced by the farmers are fixed by the Government. The Government does it without taking into account the real cost of production. The prices are fixed just like that. Fertiliser is a major item in the total cost of agricultural production. Recently the Government have decontrolled the prices of fertilisers. This has resulted in steep increase in the prices of

*Translation of the speech originally delivered by Malayalam.

fertilisers in the open market. D.A.P. 19 was selling at Rs. 4680 per ton before decontrol. Today its price has gone upto Rs. 8000. That means an increase of Rs.88%. D.A.P. 17 was selling at Rs. 3380. Its price has gone upto Rs. 7000, an increase of Rs. 107%. Similarly the price of D.AP. 15 was Rs. 2740 and it has gone upto Rs.7880. That means an increase of Rs.187.59%. This steep increase in the prices has not only broken the back of the farmers but it has infact out his throat. This increase has another aspect. The biggest increase is of those fertilisers which are used by farmers in the south, partiouarly in Kerala. The North Indian farmers ordinarily use Urea. The price of Urea has been reduced by 10%. Farmers in Kerala and other South Indian States are using the complex fertiliser known as DA.P. It is the prices of these fertilizers which have arisen so steeply. What is the result? The backbone of the economy of Kerala is the cash crops. It is the complex fertilisers which are normally used for rubber, Cardamom, coconut, pepper etc. What is more, even for peddy besides Urea, these complex fertilisers are used by the Kerala farmers. Sir, I am a farmer and I earn my livelihood as a farmer. today, I am expressing the igony of the farmers. The cash crops bring us foreign exchange. The steep increase in the prices of fertilisers has ruined these cash crops. Most of them are small and marginal farmers. They cannot afford these high prices. Therefore, I demand that increased prices of complex fertilisers should be withdrawn immediately.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Vijayaraghavan how many more pages you have?

* MR. V.S.VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Sir, have two more pages.

MR. SPEAKER: Alright.

*MR. V.S.VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Subsidy for fertilisers should be continued for some more time. It is not the directions of I.M.F and World Bank which should guide us. It is the basic interest of our people which should guide us. Their intention may be to destroy our agriculture sector and make us beggar before the foreign countries. I caution the Hon'ble Finance Minister that he should not walk into their trap. How many thousands of crores of rupees are to be realised or recovered as income tax arrears from the big industrialists in the country. The Finance Minister should first take steps to recover such huge arrears from them. The farmer who is feeding this country should not be troubled by him.

Another point I want to make is about the subsidy on fertilisers that is given to the small farmers. Under the present rule, a farmer has to buy fertiliser at market price and then submit a bill to claim subsidy. He is to wait for a long time to get the subsidy. He may get it or may not get it. Instead steps should be taken to make fertilisers available to him at reduced price.

Farmer has always been a victim of exploitation. Every-one believes that he will quitley suffer. A Malayalam Poet likened a farmer to coconut. The outside of a coconut is very hard but inside it is all soft and juicy. A farmer is also like that. The continuous exploitation may destroy that soft and juicy inside of a farmer. I therefore, once again request that the increased prices of fertilisers should be withdrawn.

With regard to the import of wheat, the Prime Minister has already said that there may not be any further import. The argument that Indian farmer is paid less and wheat is imported from outside at a higher price looks reasonable on the face of it. But

[Mr. V.S. Vijayaraghavan]

they have to take into account certain realities. When the production came down and there was less procurement, the Government took a decision to import wheat as a temporary measure. Any Government will do such a thing in such situation. So while I concede the argument that more incentives should be given to our farmers for raising production, I believe that import becomes necessary in the situation that existed. This is not an anti farmer step. This is merely a precautionary measure. However, I must say that we must give all kinds of incentives to our farmers for raising production. Mahatma Gandhi used to say that India lives in Villages. Villages are living because of the farmers. If the farmers perish, the villages will perish and the country will go down. Therefore, we must not do anything which will ruin the farmer.

[English]

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (Secunderabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, particularly when the New Industrial Policy and New Economic Policy were announced, the people of this country thought that there will be higher production and better distribution but on the contrary, there was decrease in production. Even the New Fertilizer Policy is also like that. It is a total contradiction. Today, the farmers are suffering because of cut in fertilizer subsidy to the tune of Rs. 10,000 crores. It is an extra burden on farmers.

When 30 per cent increase in fertilizer price was announced, in Andhra Pradesh, particularly, in Narasaraopet and Chikalurpet, the farmers protested. Firing took place. There were resentments among the farmers.

As per my knowledge, in Andhra Pradesh, the farmers use phosphatic and

potassic fertilizers. But when the restrictions were removed, the prices of these fertilizers went up. Ultimately, the farmers have to suffer a lot.

There were ten recommendations made by the JPC. Out of ten recommendations, only four were accepted by the Government; six recommendations were not accepted. One of the major recommendations was to give incentives to the farmers and the remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce. This was not considered by the Government at all.

I demand from the Minister of Agriculture that first of all he must consider remunerative price for the produce of the farmers; they must get their due share of their produce. Due to the increase in the prices of the fertilizers and the subsidy cost, 80 per cent of the small and marginal farmers are not able to purchase fertilizers in the market. The use of fertilizers in our country is very less. I have got a research and analysis report with me. On an average in the world on per hectare of land they are using 96 kilos of fertilizer. But in India we are using only 16 kilos of fertilizer per hectare of land. In Europe, they are using 200 kilos; in Egypt, they are using 400 kilos; in Japan, they are using 365 kilos; even in Pakistan, they are using 89 kilos. In India it is very meagre as compared to other developing countries. We are not in a position to supply it more. In Andhra Pradesh, we are using 123 kilos of fertiliser per hectare of land; in Punjab, we are using 137 kilos of fertiliser. Due to 30 per cent increase in the price of fertilizer and the subsidy cut, in Andhra Pradesh, last time, we produced 16.9 lakh tonnes of it; again we produced 15.7 lakh tonnes. As a result, the production of foodgrains which was 123 lakh tonnes, has come down to 119 lakh tonnes. So, the production of foodgrains is going down, But the use of fertilizer is increasing more and more. From 1981 to 1990, the use of fertilizer has gone up from 41 lakh tonnes

to 89 lakh tonnes. So, the use of the fertilizer and the consumption of fertilizer by the farmers is decreasing day-by-day. We are not in a position to produce what is needed by the farmers. In 1991-92, we produced nitrogen fertilizer upto 12.3 lakh tonnes and the phosphate fertilizer upto 19.3 lakh tonnes. In 1992-92, the nitrogen fertilizer has gone upto 16 lakh tonnes and the phosphate fertilizer has gone upto 30 lakh tonnes. The use of the fertilizer is becoming more and more day-by-day.

There are districts in the country where fertilizer is more used. There are 177 districts which use 89 per cent of the fertilizer and the remaining district 15 per cent of the fertilizer - I mean there are 279 districts which are using 15 per cent of the fertilizer. That means a major share of fertilizer is going to 177 districts and a minor share is going to 279 districts. Out of 177 districts, 91 districts are spread over in four States and they use only 51 per cent of the fertilizer. That is why even the use of subsidy in our country is very less. In other countries, the use of subsidy is more.

In our country, 70 per cent of the people are living in rural areas and 30 per cent of the national income is coming from agriculture. In spite of that, the present Government is adopting anti-farmer attitude. That is why, in our country, in direct or indirect way, we are reducing subsidy. In other countries, they are giving the maximum subsidy. In Japan, now they are giving 72.5 per cent subsidy. In South Korea, they are giving 60 per cent subsidy. In Colombo, they are giving 54 per cent subsidy. In China, they are giving 34 per cent subsidy. In USA, they are giving 26 per cent subsidy. In Pakistan, they are giving 22 per cent subsidy. In India, we are giving only 2.33 per cent subsidy. So, this is the most unfortunate state of affairs which is taking place in India. I demand from the Minister of Agriculture and the hon. Prime Minister to restore subsidy without any hesi-

tation so that the farmers may feel happy. Many hon. Members of my party have expressed their views about it because there may be a division between the rural and urban people that if the subsidy is removed, then a large number of farmers will be affected. Even in Andhra Pradesh the sugarcane produce is day by day becoming less. In Andhra Pradesh, in Nizamabad district alone, one farmer changed himself because he could not pay the debts which he could have got from other sources. Even in the banks he could not pay. That is why that sugarcane grower hanged himself.

Some of the tobacco farmers in Andhra Pradesh, the garden grower farmers in Andhra Pradesh have suffering. Starvation deaths have taken place in Mehboobnagar district. This is the condition of Andhra Pradesh because of these things. The cost of pesticides has been increased by 30 per cent.

Lastly, the cost of inputs of farmers has increased by five times. The cost of capital goods has increased by 7 times. The farmer is not in a position to get remunerative price.

MR. SPEAKER: Very good speech. Now conclude.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: I am concluding Sir. That is my humble request that the subsidy should not be removed. -

MR. SPEAKER: You need not repeat it many times. It is already said. You have said that. There are other speakers also. Now please conclude.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: The cooperative factory in Gujarat, the KRIBHCO, which is a profitable unit in this country, wants to expand many of their projects to produce more fertilizer.

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat

Now the grace is lost when you do not sit down I ask you to sit down. I have given so much time.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: KRIBHCO: must be given a chance to expand their project so that more fertilizers like amonia, nitric acid can be produced in the country.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point in repeating again and again. Please take you seat. now.

[Translation]

SHRI. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH (Parbhari): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank you, first of all, for providing me with an opportunity to speak. The hike in fertilizer prices has changed the scenario in the entire country. The Government should pay serious attention to the Report of the Bhonsle Committee and give a serious thought to its recommendations. It has opened that if the taxes on the different raw materials used for the manufacture of fertilizers are even slightly reduced, we would be able to reduce it by Rs. 1934 crores and consequently reduce the fertilizer prices. The Government should consider all the points in the Report. In Maharashtra, 40% phosphatic fertilizers and 60% phosphatic fertilizers are used. Their prices have gone up by 60 to 92 percent. Even after providing a subsidy of Rs. 650 crores, the prices of 23-23-0 fertilizers have gone up 80 percent, while that of 18-46-0 D.P.A. fertilizer have increased by 50 to 60 per cent. Hike in fertilizer prices create many difficulties for the farmers. The rural folk are unaware of the subsidy being provided by the Government. However, the farmers are a trouble lot, despite the provision of subsidy. The Government should ponder over the Report, keeping this in mind. The hon. Minister said that the Government would provide cost price to the farmers in lieu of the subsidy.

The cost of production worked out by the Agricultural Price Commissions of the centre as well as the states, differ very much. Therefore, attention should be paid to the recommendation of the state Agricultural Price Commissions. The concept of the state is different. I would like to explain it to you and you should keep it in mind, while taking a decision. There are six aspects, to it-hired human labour, interest on working capital, rental value of land, Managerial function of family on human labour, transport and marketing, profits and lastly production incentive bonus. The concept of state, which I have just now mentioned should always be kept in mind.

I would like to tell you about some Kharif crops. The per hectare cost of H.Y.V. paddy cultivation is Rs.8338 and costs of Rs. 416.9 per quintal and the farmers should get Rs.500.3 for it. The per hectare cost of H.Y. Jowar (Millet) cultivation is Rs.9361 and costs Rs. 374.4 per quintal and the farmers (we) should get Rs. 449.2 for it. The per hectare cost of H.Y.V. Jowar (Millet) cultivation is Rs 7549 and costs Rs.377.45 per quintal and we should get Rs. 453/-. The per hectare cost of H.Y. Bajra cultivation is Rs. 5861 and costs Rs. 293.5 per quintal and we should get Rs.351.6 per quintal. The per hectare cost of H.Y. Maize cultivation is Rs. 8872 and costs Rs. 354 per quintal and we should get Rs. 425.8. The per hectare cost of H.Y.V. 'Tuar' cultivation is Rs.10698 and costs Rs.713.2 per quintal, and we should get Rs.855.8. The per hectare cost of H.Y.V. 'Moong' cultivation is Rs. 4848, and costs Rs.969 and we should get Rs. 1163.5. by adding 20%. Similarly the per hectare cost of 'Urad' cultivation is Rs. 4848 and costs Rs. 969 per quintal and by adding 20% the farmers should get Rs. 1163.5. The per hectare cost of 'Sesam' cultivation is Rs.4991 and it costs Rs. 998.2 per quintal and we should get Rs. 1197.8. The per hectare cost groundnut cultivation is Rs. 8661 and it costs Rs. 866.1 per quintal and we should get Rs.

1039.2 for it. The per hectare cost of sunflower cultivation is Rs. 8460 and it costs Rs.846 per quintal and by adding 20% we should get Rs.1015.2. The per hectare cost of Soyabean cultivation is Rs.7053 and it costs Rs. 705,3 per quintal and we should get Rs.846.3 for it. The per hectare cost of H.Y. cotton cultivation is Rs.14479 and costs Rs. 1205.7 per quintal and we should get Rs.1446.84 by adding 20% . The per hectare cost of H.Y.V. cotton is Rs. 8738 and it costs Rs.873.8 per quintal and we should get Rs. 1048.6 for it. The per hectare cost of sugarcane cultivation is Rs.312,80 and costs Rs. 417.6 per tonne and the farmers should get Rs.500.6, after adding 20%.

Now, I would like to refer to Rabi crops. The per hectare cost of H.Y.V. Jowar cultivation is Rs. 7416 and it costs Rs. 741.6 per quintal and after adding 20%, we should get Rs. 889.8. The per hectare cultivation cost of H.Y. Jowar is Rs. 9752 and it costs Rs. 487.6 per quintal and we should get Rs. 585.1 for it. The per hectare cultivation cost of H.Y.V. wheat is Rs. 9803 and it costs Rs. 392.1 per quintal and we should get Rs. 470.5 for it. The per hectare cultivation cost of local wheat is Rs. 8794 and it costs Rs. 439.7 per quintal and we should get Rs. 527.50 for it. The per hectare cultivation cost of Gram is Rs.5424 and it costs Rs.678/- per quintal and we should get Rs. 813.6 for it. The per hectare cultivation cost of sunflower is Rs. 5485 and it costs Rs. 685.6 per quintal and after adding 20%, we should get Rs. 822.7/- The per hectare cultivation cost of linseed is Rs. 5585 and it costs Rs. 917 per quintal and we should get Rs. 1100.4 for it. The per hectare cost of sunflower cultivation is Rs. 8377 and it costs Rs. 837.7 per quintal and after adding 20% we should get Rs. 1005.1 for it. The per hectare cultivation cost of S.Groundnut is Rs. 101089 and it costs Rs. 848 per quintal and after adding 20% to it, we should get Rs. 1017.7/- Similarly, the per hectare cultivation cost of sunflower is Rs. 8790 and its per quintal cost is Rs. 879

and after adding 20% we should get Rs. 1054.8- The per hectare cultivation cost of S. Paddy is Rs. 9260/- and its cost per quintal is Rs. 4/- and after adding 20%, we should be given Rs. 556.6/-

Therefore, it is my humble request that we should be paid our minimum cost of production. My suggestion with regard to the imported wheat, on which many hon'ble Members have spoken, it that let the imports be in the form of wheat seeds. This would only encourage our farmers to further increase their production. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research is also finding ways and means to increase production, because chemical fertilizers are essential for food grain cultivation. Apart from this, Shri Jakhar and Shri Lenka are making all efforts to boost the agricultural production and thus accelerate the country's progress. The Agriculture Ministers are active and will be more active in future to increase the place of development in the country. With these words, I conclude. Thank you.

[English]

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai): Me. Speaker, Sir, I am very thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak in the last. The issues of wheat import and fertiliser price increase are the two issues which constitute the component parts of our Food Policy. The Government has changed the Food Policy behind the knowledge of the Parliament. I think it is in impropriety on the part of Government not to take into confidence the Parliament for changing the substantial Food Policy.

The Government have put forward two pleas for food import and fertiliser price increase. The first plea was that prices were raised of the wheat products. It is a fact price rose. But, in respect of other goods, prices also rose. So, the Government did not take any step to lessen the prices of other com-

[Sh. Dattarraya Bandaru]

modities, but resorted to food imports or wheat import to counter this price rise.

The timing is very essential in taking the decision. The hon. Minister has said in this House that the decision was taken in early January but the hon. Prime Minister had said in this House the other day that the decision was taken in July August, 1992. So, here is the confusion and here is the suspicion of the *bona fide* of the Government's intention regarding wheat import.

There is a plea that in the market there is short supply of wheat. It may be. Traders and farmers jointly may have withheld the wheat stock. They are not releasing the stocks in the market. But are they wrong in doing so? If in the open market wheat sells at Rs. 230 or above per quintal and if you purchase from abroad at the rate of Rs. 335 to Rs. 465 per quintal, what is the harm if our farmers also demand enhanced price? Their demand is justified and if the Government would come forward to give them remunerative prices, they would certainly release the wheat stock in the market so that the artificial crisis may be avoided.

Other things have been dealt with by my colleague. Only one thing I would stress upon. We have been hearing since Independence that our economy is going to be self-reliant. After Green Revolution, we hoped that our economy would be self-reliant but the food import resorted to by the Government is going against the established principles. Comrade Suseela Gopalan has already dealt with the foreign exchange problem. I also say that the foreign exchange reserve is depleting. In spite of this, the Government resorted to wheat import from abroad. This is definitely going counter not only to the interests of the farmers of our country but to the interests of the general masses as a whole. This is very much

agonising to us. We are very much concerned about this.

Successive Five -Year Plans including the Eighth plan, have put forward before us the goal of achieving a self-reliant economy. But this has been violated. I, therefore, urge upon the Government not to go away from the accepted principle of self-reliance. Food import is a very vital policy matter and if such steps are taken to divert our policy of self-reliance, then practically we shall be in danger in the near future. So, I want to say again that there is an apprehension in some quarters that the global tenders were not offered properly and that also requires scrutiny.

20.00 hrs

Sir, without taking much time of this august House I would submit that the Government should retract their steps. If they do not retract, I am afraid, they would bring about dangerous situation to the people of our country.

I censure this Government for changing the vital food policy without the knowledge of Parliament.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Dr. Parshuram Gangwar will speak. Shri Gangwar, the rule is that you should not repeat the point made by others. I will allow you as much time as you need until you repeat the points.

[Translation]

DR. P.R. GANGWAR (Pilibhit): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in our country majority of the people belong to rural areas, where seventy three per cent of the total population are farmers and they are engaged in agriculture.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Gangwar, we are sitting here late. If there is anything impor-

tant that you want to speak, I will allow you.

[Translation]

There is no need to repeat the points which have already been stated. There is no time for that.

DR. P.R. GANGWAR: I would like to submit that only at the time of elections we seem to remember the fact that majority of the population of this country belongs to farming class but after that nobody bothers about the interests of farmers. Almost all the members who speak in the House do so with the aim of getting their names published in the newspapers but they do not have any direct knowledge about the conditions of the farmers. Even we do not know about the various methods of farming or how the farming is done through tractors and ploughs and how the land is cultivated. Everything that is said here is said only to win the favour of farmers. Nobody is really sympathetic towards the farmers.

Now, I come to the real issue. Export and import Department of the Central Government is totally a failure as it does not know which is the right time for import and which is the right time for export. Recently thirty lakh tonnes of wheat had been imported and previously six and a half lakh tonnes of wheat was exported. One of our Central Ministers had stated that nothing linked with oilseeds will be imported but in spite of that soyabean and palm oil was imported. For this reasons only the farmers of our country could not get proper prices of their oilseed produce in the local markets. Government stopped the export of Basmati Rice which could earn a good amount of foreign exchange. The Government could have procured sufficient quantity of wheat from the domestic market by giving reasonable price to the farmers rather than importing it from outside. The farmers had enough stocks of wheat but the Government preferred to import

it from America, Australia and Canada. The wheat which has been imported from America is of such a low quality that it is of no use for human consumption. It has been sent here after extracting all its nutrients. It seems that some underhand dealings have been made in the import and export of wheat.

One more thing I would like to quote regarding the farmers. If any farmer wants to buy a tractor, the price is fixed on the basis of the cost price, while the prices of wheat and other produces are being decided by the Government. Everything would be alright if the Government fixes the prices of the produces in a justified manner; on one hand Government has fixed the procurement price of wheat at Rs. 250/- per quintal and has granted bonus of Rs. 25; while on the other hand Government has imported wheat at the rate of Rs. 526 per quintal. It shows that IMF is pressuring the Government. As an hon. Member was saying yesterday that Government had to take this decision under the pressure of IMF. When the farmers were in the need of fertilisers like Potassium and Phosphate, Government raised the prices of these fertilisers; but reduced the prices of Urea and when at the time of Kharif Crops farmers were in need of Urea the prices were raised. Now again when we need the Phosphate and Potassium for our Rabi crops the prices have been increased. Therefore, I would like to submit to the Government that in our rural areas where 73 per cent population is dependent on agriculture and there are 6528 Gram Sabha's in our country but the policies being followed for those by our Government are totally anti-farmers. Today our Government is following the footsteps of Pt. Nehru and Smt. Indira Gandhi... (Interruptions)....

MR. SPEAKER: No, No. Not like this.

DR. P.R. GANGWAR: I would like that the country should follow the footsteps of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri so that the slogan*

[Dr. P.R. Gangwar]

Jai Kissan, Jai Jawan" given by him may prove true. Thank you.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar): Mr. Speaker Sir, today the farmer of this country is distressed because he does not get remunerative prices for his produce but whatever he purchases, he gets it on a very high price. The prices of iron has increased six times in comparison to the prices in 1980. The prices of wood have also increased. The price of Massy Ferguson Tractor is above Rs. one lakh now. Likewise the prices of all the inputs have increased, but farmer does not get reasonable prices for his produces.

Mr. Speaker Sir, the support price of wheat is Rs. 250 per quintal which was fixed by the Government in Jan. 1992. Government had stated on January 1, this year that it has enough stocks of rice and wheat in the country and there is no need to import these items. But shortly after, it declared that there is scarcity of these items, and 10 lakh tonnes of wheat was imported from Canada at the rate of Rs. 592 per quintal on 19 June, 1992. When the Government declared in January this year that we have sufficient stock of foodgrains then how it is that after only some months on 19-6-92 it had to import 10 lakh tonne of wheat at the rate of Rs. 592 whereas our farmers are given only Rs. 250 per quintal? What does it mean? I believe that the Government thinks that if farmers get a reasonable price of their produce then they would not have to depend on Government; if Government gives Rs. 592/- per quintal to Indian farmers they would become prosperous and if farmers does not get good value of its produce then he will not produce it and the production of wheat will decline as a result of that we will have to depend on foreign countries. The Government is paying Rs. 200 more per quintal to the farmers of foreign

countries as compared to our own farmers. It has been pleaded that the same amount is spent on storage as such we are no way in loss by paying Rs. 200 more per quintal on import of wheat from abroad. This is the position and it is wrong to think in these terms. When wheat is available in the country at Rs. 550 per quintal and the farmers are prepared to sell wheat at this rate in the country itself, why the Government is importing wheat at Rs. 550 per quintal from America and other countries. I think the Government thinks that if the farmers of the country are given this price they will not remain dependent on it and that is why it does not want to give good price to the farmers and wants to make them dependent. The Government wants farmers of the country to live in the pathetic condition and the farmer of foreign country to lead prosperous life.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the subsidy given to the farmers on fertilizer has been withdrawn in 1990 and the prices of fertilizer used by the farmer have been doubled. The prices of fertilizer used in wheat crop have been doubled. Earlier the price of one bag of fertilizer used in wheat crop costs.....

MR. SPEAKER: All these things have been said ten times. Please say some new points.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am just concluding. The prices of fertilizer used in wheat have been doubled, but the prices of the farm products have not been doubled, as a result the farmer has to bear the heavy burden and is in hardship.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the plight of farmers is very bad in the country. Therefore, through you, I demand from the Government that the farmers should be paid reasonable prices of their produces. The Government should buy wheat at the same rate from the native

farmers at which it is importing from abroad.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the second point that I would like to make is that the subsidy provided to the farmers on fertilizer in 1990, should be restored so that they could increase production and do not remain dependent on others.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am concluding here. The situation today is that we are eager to import goods from abroad. With these words, I demand from the Government that it should work in the interest of the farmers so that they could prosper in life.

*SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO (Chikkabalapura): Mr. Speaker, Sir,

We are discussing two vital issues today. Import of wheat and rise in the prices of fertiliser are playing havocs in the life of Indian farmer.

Majority of the people of our country are dependent on agriculture. Farmer is the backbone of our country's economy. Unfortunately agriculture is the most neglected profession in our country, Living condition of farmers are really pathetic. The life on an attender in a Government office is much better than that of an agriculturist. Traders, bank employees lead better life. Agriculturists are the most ignored persons in our country.

MR. SPEAKER: This kind of speech is not allowed. You shall have to stick to the points. You are speaking like speaking in a public platform.

*SHRIV. KRISHNA RAO: Sir, this is not a public speech.

MR. SPEAKER: You come to import of wheat and rise in the price of fertilisers.

*SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: There is a saying in Kannada. The agriculturist who cultivates Sugarcane in one acre is left with only one Sugarcane and one piece of jaggery. The children of agriculturalist are also neglected. How many of them have become doctors? How many of them are studying in Engineering colleges? Agriculturist is born as a debtor and he dies as a debtor. Most of them remain debtors through out their life. Generation after generation agriculturist remains a debtor.

MR. SPEAKER: I will not allow speeches like this. You should realise, we are sitting very late in the night. If you have any pertinent point I can allow you to make. You cannot make a public speech here. You talk about the subject.

*MR. V. KRISHNA RAO: Now, by withdrawing the fertiliser subsidy we would be denying justice to agriculturist. He was hardly getting any profit when he was given the subsidy. We can realise the plight of a farmer in the absence of subsidy. He cannot survive without subsidy. The Honourably Minister also knows the problems of agriculturists. I, therefore, urge upon him to restore the subsidy on fertilisers immediately.

I am ashamed of mentioning about import of wheat. We were able to achieve green revolution under the able administration of our late lamented leader Indiraji. We become self-sufficient in food-grains. In fact our agriculturists have the capacity to provide food-grains to the whole world. We have abundant natural resources. Unfortunately, these resources are not exploited to the maximum extent and the agriculturists are not being encouraged. Hence my humble request to the Hon'ble Minister is to provide optimum incentives to agriculturists to enable them to produce large quantity of foodgrain. If this step is taken immediately, I am sure that there would be no need to go

[Sh. V. Krishan Rao]

to foreign countries with a begging bowl. I hope that the Hon'ble Minister will reconsider the decision of importing wheat. I am also confident that he would take all steps to help the agriculturists, to enable them to the nation a new era of progress and prosperity.

Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak and with these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH(Adoor): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the farmers of this country are facing a crisis. I do not go into details. I am touching about the Kerala farmers only. Ordinarily, they face crisis due to natural calamities but this crisis is man-made, rather Government made. The decontrol of complex fertilizer has pushed up their price abnormally. The commonly used DAP fertilizer has become very costly after this decontrol. For example, DAP..

MR. SPEAKER: Those statistics are already given.

SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: There is a very intensifying aspect to this decontrol. The prices have increased in respect of those fertilizers which are mostly used in the South, particularly in Kerala. Kerala, as you are aware, is the major producer of cash crops and in fact, the cash crops are the backbone of its economy. Growing cash crops is not like growing rice or wheat. The cost of production is more and is ever increasing. In the absence of a price support mechanism in respect of most of the cash crops, phenomenal increase in the cost of production can only ruin the growers. There is a stiff competition in the international market in respect of cash crops. The countries where the cost of production is less is slowly pushing us out of the market and this is

affecting badly our export trade. So, any increase in the fertilizer price will only push up further the cost of production. The increase in the prices of DAP has been above 100 per cent. It is the complex fertilizers which are used by the growers of Kerala. It is true that urea has been made cheaper. But urea is mostly needed in the North. In the South, it is the complex fertilizers which are commonly used. The Government claims that with the reduction in the price of urea, 60 per cent of the fertilizer consumed in the country has become cheaper. But what about the rest, i.e. 40 per cent? An ordinary farmer in my State, Kerala comes under this 40 per cent category. His cost of production has gone up by more than 100 per cent. I am speaking for these ordinary farmers of Kerala. They are quite unlike the rich surplus producing farmers in the North. They are small and marginal farmers owning less than three acres of land. With a few rubber trees and a few coconut trees, they make a modest living. It is they who have been badly hit.

I, therefore, request the Government to take all steps necessary to withdraw the increase in the prices of fertilisers.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, several learned Members have spoken before me. I would also like to express my views. I have been listening to the discussion on the import of wheat very intently for last two days and have reached the conclusion that this import is the outcome of our new economic and industrial policy.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, some questions arise in this regard. The Government puts forth the argument that due to shortage in Government godowns, it resorted to import. The shortage in godowns was caused due to less procurement. When there has been sufficient production in the country, why they was

less procurement. We cannot procure timely, our machinery cannot function properly and cannot achieve the fixed target of procurement. Then who is responsible for it. The second point is that when there was shortage in godowns, the Government made export and supplied wheat to big flour mills. The Government supplied 6 million tonnes of wheat to flour mills and 8 million tonnes have been exported. Why did the Government do so and what profits did it get by doing so. The country did not gain anything out of it. When the Government had to import wheat, why it was exported and what was the justification.

The third argument advanced by the Government is that it wanted to strengthen the Public Distribution System and therefore, this import was made. The Public Distribution System can only be strengthened when the farmer of our country is strong and the country becomes self-sufficient in respect of food-grains. Our Public Distribution System cannot become strong by importing foodgrains. The Government should pay attention to it. People working in Government could be called good and skilled administrators only when they consider it seriously as to why there was a shortage in our godowns.

Why has the prices of fertilizers gone up? The reason is that the public sector units of fertilizers are running in loss. As a result private sector fertilizer units were free to fix the prices arbitrarily. Earlier, there was sufficient production of fertilizer in public sector plants and prices were fixed accordingly, but today private sector is engaged in making more profit. It is the farmer who will be affected by it. Similarly, the subsidy given by the Government was also withdrawn. It is true that the country is passing through an economic crisis but who is affected by it. It is farm sector which is affected by it. As a result

of it the farmer will not be able to use fertilizers in sufficient quantities and the production will not be in the required proportions.

The same is the position of oilseeds and pulses. Particularly the oilseeds require more fertilizer. When there will be less production of fertilizer and its prices increase, it will have to be imported. If foreign currency will be spent on it, what will be the position of foreign exchange reserve. In such a situation how will you ensure country's development and how can you talk of green revolution. Now green revolution cannot reach our fields.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to submit that the way the Government has acted does not seem proper to me. It seems as if the Government has imported seeds under some pressure. It has already been discussed in the past also whether the seeds being imported from abroad would prove successful in our soil or not.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had purchased the seeds of cabbage at the rate of Rs. 2000 per kilo and sowed them myself in my farm. Not even a single plant sprouted. It proves that we would lag behind in the matter of farming if we sow imported seeds. If our country progresses in the field of agriculture, we would be sound in every respect even in the matter of foreign exchange. I think that the import policy of the Government has been wrong. Subsidy on fertilisers should be restored. With these words I conclude.

***SHRI OSCAR FERNANDESE (Udupi):**
 Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would confine myself only to some very important issues due to paucity of time. I am glad that the Hon'ble Prime Minister has announced that thirty thousand crores of rupees would be earmarked for rural development programmes.

On the one hand several parts of the country are affected by severe drought and on the other some parts have been lashed by devastating floods. In fact, every year the country is facing these calamities. We have to taken up the long cherished project of linking Ganga and Kaveri to face the challenges of natural calamities.

We have to spend large amounts on JawaharRojgarYojana (JRY). Major chunk of the amount under JRY should go to irrigation projects. This would be a boon not only to the farmers but to the whole nation. Ganga-Kaveri link is the only answer to many problems of our farmers. This would enable us to produce more foodgrains. Fisheries would also be encouraged.

Our farmers grow sugarcane and supply it to the factories. We have to pay about 900 crores of rupees to sugarcane growers in a state like Uttar Pradesh. Unfortunately, some others produce molasses and earn huge profit. The hard working sugarcane growers gets no profit. I therefore, feel that it is time to decontrol molasses.

Every year more than 2400 T.M.C. of water flows to the Sea from South Canara and North Canara districts. This water has to be stored and utilised for irrigation and afforestation.

I am sure that the Hon'ble Minister would give top priority to link Ganga and Kaveri rivers and make the dream of our farmers a reality.

Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak and with these words I conclude my speech.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN
(Murshidabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, many things have been said in regard to the matter which

I want to raise. Therefore, I would not like to repeat those things. The question is whether production of wheat is viable or not. The second question is whether there has been a fall in production of wheat or not. As per my information, there has been no fall in production of rice and the production of wheat has been the same. There are not two opinions that the production of 'jowar', 'bazra' and pulses has reduced a little bit. The production of pulses has reduced whereas the production of vegetables has increased manifold. If the Government is not ready to accept this fact, I would like to raise another point. Last year, the ration shops did not left the quantity of wheat and rice allotted to them for the year throughout the entire country. I don't have figures. I think that 3 million tonne of wheat and rice remained unlifted. Then what was the need to import wheat and rice from abroad?

I would like to highlight another point. You already know about J.C.I., F.C.I. and C.C.I. They don't go to the market to procure foodgrains brought by the poor people. As a result there is distress sale. They neglect the farmers and instead procure wheat through middlemen in Punjab. I would like to ask the Government how much commission has been given to these middlemen during the last three years for procuring wheat. F.C.I. is not the Food Corporation of India but it is the Food Corruption of India. The Government procures wheat at the rate of Rs. 3.50 per kg. and it should not exceed Rs. 5/- per kg. even if we include other costs. The Government procures wheat at the support price of Rs. 3.50 per kg. Whereas handling charges are Rs. 2/- per kg. The problem is that of pilferage when the foodgrains are transported from one godown to another. There is large scale pilferage. Why can't this corruption and pilferage be stopped? Why can't it be checked? The subsidy given to P.D.S. by the Government is wasted in pilferage and rampant corruption in the department. The Government is

constrained to announce that there is no stock and that is why foodgrains have to be imported. I would not like to discuss the Dunkal Proposal. The hon. Minister should reply categorically to the points which I have raised. First is whether there has been a decline in the production of vegetables. Secondly, when the Government has already 3 million tonnes of unlifted wheat and rice, where was the need to import foodgrains from abroad and at what rate was it purchased?

[English]

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would confine to the problem of rice in fertilizer prices. By now the House is unanimous and unanimously the House has expressed the concern of the farming community in one voice about the problem they are facing in view of the rice in fertilizer prices. I am really happy that even the Members from the Treasury Benches have supported this. Now why has there been a rise in price? The Government made two simultaneous Acts. One is withdrawal of subsidy and then, decontrol of the prices. As all of us know, the subsidy was to the tune of only 40 per cent of the prices. 40 per cent was the subsidy component and the moment, the entire subsidy is withdrawn, naturally, the prices should have gone up only to the extent of 40 per cent. The figures are already placed which shows that the price increase has been ranging between 60 per cent to 240 per cent. What is the reason? The reason is the decontrol of the prices. Today, the Government owes an explanation to the farming community in particular and to the country at large, as to the reasons which has compelled the Government in decontrolling the prices. Nobody—neither the Minister for Agriculture nor any other spokesman of the Government—so far, has come forward to explain as to what made the Government to decontrol the prices.

Sir, it is also clear that the Government is still exercising the right of controlling the prices in respect of one fertilizer, that is, Urea. If Urea prices could be controlled, why not the prices of composite fertilisers? Why not the prices of phosphatic fertilisers? Why not the prices of Sulphatic fertilisers? Everybody from the treasury benches spoke in support of this. It is very clear. The open market system is welcome. The prices of any commodity in an open market system would be decided mainly on two factors, that is demand and supply. Of course, other factors which would contribute to the fixation of prices is the cost of production. Now, we do not know whether there is enough stock existing in this country, whether we are competent to produce or manufacture the fertilisers to the tune of the demand in the market? The Government is not forthcoming even with those figures.

MR. SPEAKER: Those figures are published.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: The reason is mainly on account of decontrol of the prices. So, at this hour, when the entire House in one voice has expressed the concern, any responsible Government would come out with a solution. I hope that the Government will definitely come out with a solution. It is not as if that the Government is not aware of the magnitude of this problem. After the announcement of decontrol of prices and after withdrawal of the subsidies, when there was loud portents, the Government has come forward with small gifts saying that one thousand rupees per tonne is given in respect of few fertilisers. So, I am sure, the Government is very much alive to the problem. Therefore, this House unanimously wants the Government to immediately deal with this problem and come out with its proposals. I would also make an earnest request to the Government to come out with the proposals.

I would make only two or three suggestions as to how the prices could be controlled. Definitely, the prices have been increased on account of the duty that is levied on the basic raw materials which are being imported and then the other taxes...

MR. SPEAKER: One suggestion is to reduce the taxes.

SHRIV. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Why not the Government do that at least at this stage?

MR. SPEAKER: Because they want money.

SHRIV. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: They can calculate how much is the loss. They can reduce the duties or totally withdrawn all the duties, then totally withdrawn all the taxes. They can prevail upon the State Governments to withdrawal of sales tax, if any, wherever it is applicable and then think of putting up new fertiliser factories. If the Government feels that raw material is available at a cheaper rate in foreign countries,

why not go in for more import of the raw materials at a cheaper rate and make allocation to the fertiliser factories? These are the prime reasons. I would add only one point and conclude. In my constituency, coffee is the main cash crop. By export of coffee, we are making an earning of Rs. 500 crores worth of foreign exchange every year. But this time, there has been steep fall in the price of coffee on the one side and on the other side, there has been rise in the price of fertilisers. There is the picking season which has come in. But the farmers and growers could not use the fertilizers. Let the Government take all this into account. I would like the Government to make an announcement and come to the rescue of the farmers and restore the subsidy.

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to thank the Members for sitting in the House at this time. Last few speeches have been really very good. Congratulations.

20.40 hrs

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven
of the Clock on Friday, November 27,
1992/Agrahayana 6, 1914 (Saka).*