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Friday, August 17, 1990
Sravana, 26, 1990/1912(Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Third Session
(Ninth Lok Sabha)



सत्यमेव जयते

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, August 17, 1990/Sravana 26.
1912 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[English]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. SPEAKER: I have to inform the House of the sad demise of one of our former colleagues Shri J. Matha Gowder, who was a member of the Fifth Lok Sabha during 1971-77, representing Nilgiris constituency of Tamil Nadu. Earlier he had been a member of Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly during 1957-60.

An active trade unionist, Shri Gowder was associated with several organisations engaged in upliftment of the working class and weaker sections of the society.

An able parliamentarian, Shri Gowder actively participated in the proceedings of this House and made valuable contributions thereto.

Shri Gowder passed away at Coimbatore on 12 August, 1990 at the age of about 70.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

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

(The Members then stood in silence for a short while.)

[English]

SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY (Coimbatore): Sir, four Members have been arrested in Tamil Nadu and they have not been released. I will sit on the floor near the Table.

(At this stage Shri C. K. KUPPUSWAMY came and sat on the floor near the Table.)

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): Sir, they have already been released.

MR. SPEAKER: Please go to your seat. This has never been done. I am told by the Parliamentary Affairs Minister that those friends of Lok Sabha, who were imprisoned in Tamil Nadu, have been released.

(At this stage Shri C. K. KUPPUSWAMY went back to his seat.)

11.04 Hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS
[Translation]

**Directives to Financial Institutions
for Revival of Sick Units**

*123. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to issue directives to the financial institutions for providing necessary financial assistance to revive the sick industrial units;

(b) if so, the steps being taken in this connection; and

(c) the number of sick units in Uttar Pradesh in regard to which instructions have been issued to provide financial assistance?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b) In line with the importance accorded by the Government to the aspect of revival of potentially viable sick units, the financial institutions do provide need based financial assistance towards rehabilitation of sick industrial units wherever such units are found to be technically and financially viable. However, Government have not issued any specific directives as such to the financial institutions.

Detailed guidelines have been issued by RBI from time to time regarding formulation and implementation of rehabilitation packages in respect of sick/weak units which are potentially viable. Broad parameters have also been evolved for providing reliefs/concessions under rehabilitation packages. These inter-alia include funding of existing dues of banks and financial institutions with the extended period for repayment thereof in a phased manner, interest concessions, grant of fresh term loans as also working capital facilities.

In addition, the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has been set up under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 for expeditious determination of the preventive, ameliorative, remedial and other mea-

asures that would need to be adopted with respect to such companies.

(c) No specific instructions have been issued for grant of financial assistance to sick units located in Uttar Pradesh.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question that I had raised regarding the sick industrial units is very important. The number of such units is increasing by leaps and bounds. In 1987, their number stood at about 1,58,226 in the small scale sector while in the non-small scale sector, it stood at 1,057. Their number has been on the rise ever since. In this regard, I contacted and met many officials dealing with such industries in order to get details about the rehabilitation packages formulated to revitalize these industries. The details given to me here are quite elaborate and many things are mentioned in that, but one thing that I am unable to comprehend is that despite provision of District Industries Centre, 'Udyog Bandhu' and many other State institutions in each district to make recommendations regarding rehabilitation of sick small scale industrial units and non-small scale units, why due weightage is not given to the recommendations by the District authorities or the financial institutions like banks, through whom loans are distributed and why decisions on such matters are taken arbitrarily by the financial institutions? It has been observed that banks provide financial assistance for rehabilitation to only those units which are in their good books. I would like to know whether due consideration is given to the recommendations made by the State level and District level institutions to rehabilitate such units?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a set procedure for the rehabilitation of sick units. As I mentioned in my reply earlier, the Government does not is-

sue any specific directives as such to the financial institutions, but detailed guidelines have been issued by the Reserve Bank of India, from time to time regarding formulation and implementation of rehabilitation packages in respect of sick units. These guidelines are issued to various banks, financial institutions and the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). Matters concerning industries other than those of the small scale sector and also those of the medium scale industries are dealt with by the B.I.F.R. This board has four benches working under it and each bench has got a Chairman and two members. Now, at many places, the responsibility of the Chairman has been entrusted to financial institutions, at one place it has been entrusted to trade union activists and at many other places, reputed people from the banking industry have been entrusted with this responsibility. On the basis of the recommendations made by these people all the cases are referred to the concerned banks, with the general consent of the Board and subsequently they provide the necessary assistance to the sick units. Matters concerning the small scale sector do not come under the purview of the B.I.F.R. Therefore, they are provided assistance through nationalised banks.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: My question was mainly with reference to the small scale industrial units, because non-small scale units are able to manage themselves somehow. As far as I know, the Banks themselves take decisions about providing assistance to sick small scale units. I have not received an answer to the (C) part of my question. Through that question, I wanted to know the number of sick units in Uttar Pradesh in regard to which specific instructions have been issued to provide financial assistance. Further, I want to know the number of such small scale units in U.P. whose rehabilitation is under consideration of the Government and also the number of those units, which have been provided assistance, over the past few years.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I would like to answer both the questions. With regard to the number of such units, I would like to give the all India figures. The number of sick small scale industrial units stands at 2,17,436. The number of technically and financially viable units among them is 12,954 and the number of sick units which are being provided with assistance or reliefs/concessions through the Banks, in order to overcome their sickness, stands at 8,347. Your second question was in regard to Uttar Pradesh. The number of sick units there, in the small scale sector is 22,498, while the number of sick units in the non-small scale sector stands at 70. The number of weak units in the non-small scale sector is 72. Regarding the number of people who have been provided with such assistance, we don't have state wise figures with us. We have with us, only the all India figures. Therefore, I will send this last piece of information in writing to the hon. Member, later on.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You are mistaken. The number of sick small scale industrial units stands at 22499, while the number of sick and weak industrial units in the non small scale sector which includes medium and large scale industries as well, stands at 70 and 72 respectively.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the figures quoted by the hon. Minister regarding the sick industrial units in Uttar Pradesh is indeed a matter of concern. In his statement, the hon. Minister has also referred to the benches working under the B.I.F.R. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, the number of such cases in which he has issued specific directives to the B.I.F.R. regarding the formulation of rehabilitation packages and I would also like to know as to how far they have been implemented by the banks. Is there any Cell in his Ministry to monitor all this? I am aware of many such cases where the various financial institutions have not implemented the

rehabilitation packages formulated by the B.I.F.R. If these packages are not implemented in time, then there are chances of their getting outdated. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has set up any monitoring cell in his Ministry to oversee whether the Banks and financial institutions are sincerely implementing the rehabilitation packages formulated by the B.I.F.R.?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am in possession of the information the hon. Member has sought. I have with me the latest figures upto 30-4-1990. 848 cases were referred to the B.I.F.R. Operating agencies were appointed and the number of units receiving assistance from financial institutions stands at 422.

[*English*]

The number of cases on which the report is already received from the operating agency.

[*Translation*]

The financial institutions, stands at 309. The number of such units, for whose rehabilitation, ameliorative, remedial and other measures have been approved and on which, work has started in right earnest is 94. There is a monitoring agency, which constantly monitors the proper functioning at such units even after assistance is provided to them by the financial institutions on the recommendations of the B.I.F.R.

[*English*]

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: The hon. Finance Minister knows very well that in the eastern India i.e. West Bengal, Assam and Tripura, tea industry is one of the major industries. I do not know the latest position, but about six months back, I know there were 110 tea gardens which were sick; and the tea industry is labour-based.

The hon. Minister has referred to BIFR: unfortunately, according to

my information, of the projects that have been sent to BIFR from the tea industry, none has been accepted, on the ground that these are not viable. As a result, it is creating a very serious situation, and unemployment in the area. (*Interruptions*) Because tea industry is getting good prices in the internal as also international markets, this is the right time when it can be brought to health.

Considering this, may I know what is the feedback with him: how many tea industries have applied, and what is the action taken; or, if it is not there, will he kindly look into it and see that the tea industry is taken back to rails i.e. there is viability?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: The hon. Member is right in assessing that the situation of the sick units in some of the States in the north-eastern region is very bad. For instance in Assam, as far as small scale units are concerned, the number of sick units is 11,438, and non-SI sick units are 4, and non-SSI weak units are 30. But generally we consider those units as sick, whereas in the major components we find that almost 100% erosion of the network at the peak, is there.

As far as weak units are concerned, they are those in which, in the course of a particular period, their peak network has been eroded by 50%—almost half.

So, like that the picture is very gloomy, as far as Assam is concerned. In Meghalaya, it is 657 and 1.24; in Mizoram, it is 154 and 75.26. So, from these figures, it is very clear that what you have stated is correct. We will concentrate on the northern region and ensure that BIFR as well as other agencies which are meant for small scale industries, they will attend to the problem and try to eradicate the sickness of the industry.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: The sickness in indus-

tries we find is more often due to mismanagement, diversion of funds on the part of people who ran them than for any other reason. And yet when such sickness occurs, the people who suffer most are the workers. The process of the workers getting their dues from the sick industry is so elaborate, so complicated that most often the workers do not get their dues at all. This happens particularly in cases where there is a new promoter of an industry who does not take in all the workers. So, we find widespread despair among the workers leading to suicide and death from semi-starvation and diseases. So, I would like to ask the Minister this question that in view of the fact that the Chairman of the BIFR, we know, has already offered a number of suggestions regarding the improvement and the working of the Board, what is the Government's response to these suggestions? Since there has been a fund also for the rehabilitation of workers in the textile sector, but its working again is so complicated that the workers cannot benefit from it. Is the Government thinking of setting up such boards in other sectors and simplifying their working?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:
The first part of the question is regarding the various causes for the sickness. There are certain causes which are structural in nature and certain other causes which are operational, for instance, outmoded technology, mismanagement, certain frauds committed in the conduct of the industry, non-availability of appropriate technology. In addition to that, sometimes it is due to the wrong choice of a site for a particular project that heavy losses are occurred. Therefore, whenever sickness is sought to be removed as far as possible, these causes which are causing sickness, they are trying to be rooted out. As far as the second part is concerned, it deals with the conduct of the BIFR, that is Board. A lot of controversy is going on. On one side, even the Chairman of the BIFR has written articles making concrete suggestions; and one of the suggestions to which we had referred is actually a sugges-

tion from the Chairman of the BIFR. Another criticism is from the industrialists, those who have committed frauds, those who have mismanaged the affairs; and as a result of that either they are not given the assistance or they are asked to wind up their units. They themselves have raised this controversy; they say that injustice has been done to them. In fact, neither of these two allegations are correct. They are trying to take a balanced view.

As far as a suggestion made by the hon. Member is concerned, there is no question of setting up of different boards for different industries. BIFR is a nodal agency for all the industries. We are only to see to it that there can be various cells that can take care of various sectors of the industry and try to eradicate the sickness.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:
The sickness is more in the small scale sector. The Minister has stated that more than two lakh small scale industries are sick and a large number of small scale units have also been closed down. There is a Board (BIFR) for large and medium industries. But there is no such body or board for small scale industry to suggest the revival of small scale industries which are many more in numbers.

May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will consider the constitution of a board for small scale industries so that this board will suggest remedial measures for the revival of small scale industries which number more than two lakhs? The hon. Minister has stated that monitoring is being done. I know that in West Bengal, the revival of Titagarh Paper Mill was with the BIFR for a long time and the BIFR has suggested some measures. One of these measures is waiving of customs duty and this proposal is with the Ministry of Finance. This customs duty runs to the tune of thousands of lakhs of rupees. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He is putting the question.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: This paper mill is one of the oldest paper mills of our country where more than five thousand workers are out of job. I want to know whether the Finance Ministry will consider the suggestion made by the BIFR to waive the customs duty which proposal has been lying for a number of years with them?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: It is a long question. I may be permitted to give a short answer. As far as his first suggestion is concerned, since small scale industries are scattered over large number of rural areas we do not want to have a centralised machinery because that will make a mess of the problem of eradication of sickness. And what has been done is, various financial institutions which are entrusted with the responsibility and particularly the lead organisations, with the removal of sickness of big industries, they have set up various cells and it is these cells that will monitor the task and actually all the jointly financed units of the small scale sector do not take the assistance only from one bank. They take from more than one bank. And, therefore, that bank which has offered the maximum assistance, that is a lead organisation. They take the responsibility and generally all the jointly financed units are divided amongst the IDBI, ICI, IFCI, and IRBI on the basis of the lead concept, and whichever is the largest contributor that takes the responsibility and looks after them.

The last part of his question was his real question. He wants to know what will happen about the paper mill in West Bengal. Already suggestions have been made by the BIFR for waiving of the duty. We are already seized with the matter and you will be glad to know that we might very favourably consider that proposition.

[*English*]

PROF. N. G. RANGA: He wanted a board also to be appointed.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I have told him.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I just want an assurance from the hon. Minister. What he has said has been going on for a long time. There are virtually no industries in the backward districts of Uttar Pradesh like Jhansi, Lalitpur, Hamirpur, Banda, Jalaun etc. More than half of the industrial units, which were set up in these districts have been closed down. The most important reason for this sorry state of affairs is that financial assistance and other facilities are not made available to these units, as promised by the State Government. The financial institutions, no doubt, provide loans to these units, but other factors like the non-availability of water and power makes things worse and interest on the loans go on increasing to the extent that its repayment becomes impossible. Almost all the industries in those districts are lying sick due to these factors. I would like to get just an assurance from the hon. Minister that he would get the whole thing thoroughly examined and also that if the State Government is found responsible for the sickness of all the industries, then he would direct the State Government to once again provide financial assistance to the sick industrial units so as to help them overcome their sickness.

[*Translation*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Member has complained that due to lack of basic amenities, the sick industrial units are unable to get the benefit of the assistance provided by the financial institutions and the State Governments. I assure you that I would surely contact the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and place your complaints before him so that the requisite basic amenities are made available and the financial institutions are able to help the sick industrial units.

[English]

Export and Import Projections

*124. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the projected exports and imports during 1990-91;

(b) whether Government have prepared a plan for import management; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The export target for the financial year 1990-91 has been fixed at Rs. 36,000 crores. No target is specified for imports.

According to provisional figures, India's exports for the first quarter April-June of the financial year 1990-91 are estimated at Rs. 7428 crores signifying an increase of 23.0% and imports at Rs. 9305 crores with a growth of 19.7% over the corresponding period of the previous year.

(b) and (c) Imports are governed under the Import-Export Policy for the period 1990-93, announced on 31st March, 1990. The main objectives of the policy are: to encourage rapid and sustained export growth; to facilitate availability of necessary imported inputs for sustaining industrial growth; to simplify and streamline procedures for import licensing and export promotion; to support recognised indigenous R&D institutions for building up their scientific and technological capability and to promote efficient import substitution and self-reliance. A number of steps have also been taken recently to reduce non-essential imports and to keep the trade deficit to a manageable dimension.

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Sir, this Government started its economic management with an infamous remark that the coffers are empty and specifically blaming the former Government for the balance of payment position. The proof of pudding is in the eating. What is the performance of this Government in the import export front and the balance of payment position in the last seven to eight months? In the first six months of the previous financial year, April to October,—these are the published figures—the trade deficit in dollar terms fell by 34.5 per cent. The trade deficit actually fell because of vigorous performance in exports and containing the import bill. Compared to that, as is evident from the answer to this question, as against a fall in deficit in the corresponding period of the last year, during the last three months of this year, the deficit has grown by 8.2 per cent under this Government. Now, let me take up exports. Whereas in the corresponding period last year, exports rose by 26 per cent. The Government admits that the export has stagnated and the rate of increase has fallen to 23 per cent. As regards imports, the growth rate in import is 19.7 per cent while the import rise in the corresponding period last year was much less. Therefore, this Government has signally failed in improving the export position, continuing unnecessary import and in spite of its protestations, it has actually increased the trade deficit.

My first question is this. What is the explanation for the stagnation of exports, increase in unnecessary imports and the increase in the deficit as against the corresponding period of the last year in spite of the protestations of this Government that they will improve the balance of payment position?

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: Sir, I can also use this opportunity of giving the hon. Members several statistics. I think, the first lesson in any statistics is that you cannot pick up a particular period and pass judgement over a long period of time on

either exports or imports. If I have your indulgence, I would like to deal with some details in regard to the import export figures over the last three or four years. There is no question of exports coming down and neither there is a question of import bill going up. If you suddenly pick up a period January, February and say something corresponding to the previous year, it does not reflect the yearly trend.....(*Interruptions*).

You may kindly listen to me. I am not yielding. Let me give you some facts and figures.

In 1987, the export was Rs. 14,400 crores and I am talking of the period January to December. In 1988, it went up to Rs. 18,000 crores. In 1989, it went up to Rs. 25,000 crores. In 1990, in the first six months, we have done Rs. 15,576 crores. We are aiming at an export target of Rs. 36,000 crores which is 30% growth over the previous year. In the first three months of the year the exports are always lower and in the last three months of the year, the exports are always higher. The hon. Member has not noticed that in sheer dollar terms, even today the export rise is about 14 per cent. So statistics can be quoted either way. But the fact is that the exports at the moment have got 30 per cent growth rate and we are very confident of maintaining it. As far as imports are concerned, the deficit figure as compared to 1989-90 was Rs. 7731 crores and in the previous year it was Rs. 7892 crores. But the figure by itself does not mean anything because we have to take the figures in terms of total imports. If you see the overall statistics you will find that imports have come down slightly. The other thing that I would like to advise the hon. Member is that as far as imports are concerned, the House should know that there are imports of three categories. As far as the Commerce Ministry is concerned, the imports which we are directly concerned with are all those imports which are directly related to exports. When you export, you give certain incentives like replenishment licence,

advance licence, etc. But that constitutes one-third only. About the two-third, one is essential commodities like fertilisers, steel and other items on which various Ministries advise us and we import on their behalf. The other is capital goods for industrial development where for the new factories and for modernisation of existing factories they are allowed certain imports. So there are three categories of imports which are taking place. I do not want to take too much time. But if you want I can read out to the hon. Member certain measures we have taken to curb unnecessary imports. It is a continuous process. We have already announced measures to save nearly Rs. 1,000 crores.

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR : Government have announced certain measures to curb unnecessary imports. On the other hand, the same Government has through its new industrial policy by allowing unrestricted entry of multinationals in the consumer sector and automatic sanction of equity participation of multinationals upto 40 per cent, opened the flood-gates of India's economy to multi-nationals which inter-alia will push up the import bill in terms of obsolete technology which they will push into the country. What is the effect of the new industrial policy in the buoyancy of the import bill? Secondly, every dollar rise in the petroleum price is going to cost us Rs. 400 crores in extra import bill. Already the petroleum prices have risen by seven dollars which is going to cost us Rs. 3,000 crores. We understand that this is not entirely within their control. But what is their strategy about the petroleum bill that they have to pay in the coming months? Many economists say that this is going to spiral into a totally uncontrollable situation.

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU : As far as the hon. Member's comments on multi-nationals and about the industrial policy are concerned, this is a matter which comes under the Ministry of Industry. But I do not mind replying to that in the sense

that if he can give a specific example of which multinational he is referring to, then I can respond to.

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Anybody can come.

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: No, it is not like that. I think, he should study the things again. He is not aware of what the rules are. The other thing is, if you go carefully through it you will realise that any of these companies which come there is an export obligation. So, if anyone comes in that manner, there may be some imports but the balance as far as we are concerned is always on the credit side because the exports will be more. There may be many companies which are coming into the 100 per cent export zone. So, there is no question of import Bill going up. In fact it works the other way round. The exports will go up. On the second issue as far as petroleum prices are concerned, you will appreciate that it is not a question for the Commerce Ministry to answer, but there is no doubt that every dollar rise is means Rs. 400 crores. We are importing a great deal. We are buying on the spot.

Whatever price is ruling in the market will apply to us. It applies to other countries, many countries in the Western World, they have already raised their prices of various fuels. It is very difficult to predict what the prices would be because it depends on the situation in the Gulf.

SHRI K. S. RAO: The essential commodities like oil seeds, fertilisers, and allied steel which can be manufactured in this country are being imported. Foreign exchange can be saved by increasing the production of the same in this country giving remunerative prices to the manufacturers.

Secondly, in regard to the import of capital equipment to increase the production and employment in this country in areas where some NRIs were to come forward to import second hand machinery or even indigenous

manufacturers, local industrialists, will the Government permit such import of second hand equipment which is costing 5 to 10 per cent of the new equipment, though obsolete in that country and not in this country and as the human resources are abundantly available here, utilising the same, the manufactured product can compete in the international market thereby earning lot of foreign exchange? Will the Minister think in terms of importing such second hand equipment?

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: Sir, the fact is that as far as capital goods are concerned, we want to spend our foreign exchange on the best technology and the best technology does not necessarily mean buying the second hand machines. I do not want to generalise on it, if there are any cases like that they could be examined by Ministry of Industry and we would consider them on merit.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI ALI: Sir, my question is in two parts. The first part seeks the information about total import bill for defence and oil projects and second part is related to his statement that the multinationals have very little to import and their export obligations are many: I would like to know the number of companies which fulfil such obligations. I would also like to know about the proposed line of action against those companies which do not fulfil such obligations.

[*English*]

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: Sir, I cannot give any reply as far as the Defence imports are concerned. It does not come under the purview of the Commerce Ministry. ... (*Interruptions*). As far as the petroleum is concerned the import depends on the various price structures. At the moment it is about Rs. 5,000 crores. It can go up because the prices are going up. As far as the multinationals are concerned again it is a very generalised question. The point is if multinationals comes in for 100 per cent export unit then everything is export-

ed. If they come in for something else then there is an export obligation and that they will have to fulfil... (*Interruptions*).

HON. SPEAKER: No interruptions, please.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI ALI: My question was about the action proposed to be taken against those who do not fulfil such responsibilities.

[*English*]

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: The question of allowing 25 per cent for 100 per cent export unit, I think there are only 2-3 cases where they have been allowed and they have not been allowed to multinationals, but they have been allowed to Indian Companies. All these things are examined on merits. But the fact is that we are also operating in an international environment. Today, we are talking of restrictions. We cannot bring ourselves to a zero level. We have to think of what is happening in other countries also. Today, do not think there are people waiting to come in... (*Interruptions*). I am giving you the facts. You have to go and get people to come and invest in India. It is not so simple. And there are countries all around us which are giving massive investment. We, as a policy, are not allowing 25 per cent sale in India but all countries around us are going even up to fifty per cent.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI ALI: My question was about the action proposed to be taken against those who are not working properly... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it cannot be denied that import and export both are necessary as per our requirements. But a wide gap between import and export is dangerous for the nation. A higher import against a low export performance creates the problem of Balance of Payment. Presently, the Government is taking steps to promote export and for that purpose, the

'money-bags' to the tune of billions of rupees are being given to the exporters which has no justification. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is prepared not to put this heavy tax burden on this poor country and to utilize that money for the general welfare of the poor.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, one should clearly understand it that the exports carry a cash incentive scheme. You are also talking about the same thing. Under this scheme, local taxes and freight charges are calculated and returned to the exporters. In the absence of such schemes and concessions the export prices would be higher and they would fail to compete with others in the international market. If the prices are higher by 10 to 15 or 20% then no one would buy our items of export. This gap that exists between our export and import... (*Interruptions*)... I would like to say that it cannot be bridged without such incentives, being if otherwise that gap would widen further. For instance, we are giving incentive of Rs. 2 only on a thing priced at Rs. 10 if its international price is Rs. 8. This is done in order to enable them compete in the international market. Therefore, if the government withdraws the incentive, then who will purchase their items. Therefore, if some concessions are given to exporters under the export policy, these are not aimed at bringing down the exports but to increase the export.

[*English*]

SHRI A. R. ANTULAY: Sir, through you I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister and I am sure, the hon. Minister will appreciate, the hon. Finance Minister will also appreciate, and the hon. Agriculture Minister will also appreciate, that there is a vast potential for export of horticultural produce, especially 'Alfanzo' mango. That is one area which, has remained untapped so far. Unfortunately, there is no integrated policy on the subject from

the stage of "Tending" to that of "Trading". There are many countries where 'alfanso' mangoes are not being exported, barring perhaps Middle-East and Gulf countries, though there is demand from France, Germany, USA, to some extent, and also from Japan. APEDA Chairman has done good spade work in this respect and I compliment him. I would like to know whether we have any integrated policy for the same from encouraging more plantation more produce to more processed products for export. Now Rs. 36,000 crores is the target but now much of it is earmarked for fresh alfanso mango export and how much for processed products. Is there any specific amount which is earmarked for that, and if not why not. Are we going to export the fresh fruit, as also the processed one or not. There is demand for both. The world over and we alone monopolise. Besides, there is only one region area—if I am not very much wrong—in the country where this 'Alfanso' mango is produced and that is Konkan, because the climate is such and the soil is red that this area can monopolise this king of fruits for our country in world market. Nowhere in the world it can be produced, barring a few exception perhaps except Konkan. Then why can't we utilise it fully for the sake of export, which will earn to our country a lot of foreign exchange? We enter competitive market but are callous where there is no competition, where we hold monopoly. Isn't it paradoxical?

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU:
Sir, the hon. Member has made a very valid suggestion and he would be happy to know that in Konkan during the period from April to June 1988, whereas our sales were for Rs. 107 crores, they had gone up to Rs. 138 crores over the corresponding period and in fact, as far as mangoes are concerned, in France there was a mango festival and all over Europe they were having these festivals not only to promote 'Alfanzo' mango but also other varieties of mangoes. The exports of Alfanzo mangoes are also pushing up the prices in the local markets and there are a lot of com-

plaints that they are exporting to foreign markets and that is why the prices are raising to the level to which they have in foreign countries. But it is our effort to increase our market share in the USA and in Japan. There have been some objections raised in terms of various other problems. I think you are aware of the problems. They are trying to get Food Authorities to approve this. But basically we are facing very very heavily on exports of fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, and they have shown a very sizeable increase in the current year. Unfortunately with the problems in the Gulf countries just now, we have a set back. But no doubt we have a very very large market. We are certainly looking into it and mango festivals are being held in Europe. It is a single largest market. What is also important is that we get the highest price realisation per unit from the market.

[*Translation*]

Scheme for increase in Steel Production

*125. **SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARASTE:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Ltd., has formulated a scheme to increase the production of steel during the year 1990-91; and

(b) if so the details of proposed quantum of increase in production vis-a-vis the production achieved in 1989-90?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND THE MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are given below:

(Millions Tonnes)

| Item | 1989-90 Actuals | 1990 91 Plan | % Growth planned for 1990-91 over Actuals of 1989-90 |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|--|
| Hot Metal | 9.7 | 10.6 | +9.6 |
| Crude Steel | 8.3 | 9.8 | +18.4 |
| Saleable Steel | 7.0 | 7.8 | +10.1 |

[Translation]

SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARASTE: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the steel has to be imported from abroad on account of insufficient production by the plants of the Steel Authority of India Ltd., and if so, the amount of foreign exchange to be incurred on that account.

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, I have also previously informed the House that we are still running a shortfall. There is a gap of about two million tonnes between our demand and availability. We are now trying to increase our production in the Steel plants through a massive programmes of modernisation. There are three modernisation programmes currently on the anvil, that is, Durgapur steel plant, Rourkela steel plant and the Burnpur steel plant. We will be able to improve our production substantially through the modernisation programme. But still I shall have to admit that considering the fact that demand in this country also increases even after the modernisation of these plants, there will be still a shortfall of about two million tonnes of steel at the terminal year of the 9th Five Year Plan. Therefore, we are trying and we have liberalised the policy for production in the private sector. We are with the Planning Commission and the Cabinet for the two new steel plants and to that extent if that is permit-

ted we will be able to make the demand and supply position improve. Now, the gap of two million tonnes is there and with the amount that we are spending we will be able to improve the position.

[Translation]

SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARASTE: Is the steel produced here of inferior quality as compared to that produced in U.K., Canada, France and Poland etc.?

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, it is not correct to say so. We compare very very favourable so far as the quality of our steel is concerned.

[Translation]

SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: I would like to know from the hon. Minister the actual installed production capacity of Bokaro Steel Plant and its present level of production.

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: So far as Bokaro is concerned, we are facing trouble in terms of production primarily because of shortage of power and coal. We are facing a tremendous shortage of coal and power. In fact, I can give certain figures. The contracted load that we had in the DVC, the daily contracted load, was for the supply of 145 MW. There was an understanding that at no point

of time, it will come down from 90 MW. But in the last few months, it is widely varying between 60 MW and 30 MW and I can inform the House that for the last one week, we are being supplied below 60 MW of power on sustained basis.

AN HON. MEMBER: What is the production?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: So far as the coal is concerned, the problem that we face is that today we have in our stock the lowest stock of coal which lasts virtually for a day. So, this power production also affected the production of coal and because of the shortage of coal and power, we are facing tremendous problems at Bokaro. As far as possible we are constantly monitoring the situation, but I must admit that because of these factors which are outside our control, our production was affected. (*Interruptions.*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, is there a locational policy? Why I ask this question is that if we have the approach of freight equalisation and have more of it, it does not matter whether a new steel factory is established at Srinagar or Kanyakumari. But in terms of real costs, we can reduce the cost of steel per unit to a large extent if we have a proper locational policy where raw materials are available as in Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal. What I want to know, therefore, is: Do you have a locational policy with a view to see that the approach of freight equalisation is no longer obtained and therefore to permit the private sector also to establish steel factories in this region only?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, so far as the locational policy is concerned, the problem arises also from the need of power. If too many plants are concentrated in a particular area, then the power problem arises. (*Interruptions.*)

AN HON. MEMBER: There is more power there.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: How do we have more power? (*Interruptions.*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Where there is more coal, let them have more power also.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: If my hon. friend can help me in getting more power, I will be very happy. (*Interruptions.*)

Let me answer. Obviously the raw material is an important factor for the location of the steel plant. While we concede that, we are also trying to see that the plants are dispersed in various regions in this country.

So far as the dispersal of new plants in private sector is concerned, firstly, the pressure on power in a particular region does not arise and secondly, the economic benefits flow to different regions. (*Interruptions.*)

SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA: I would like to know from the hon. Minister when he said that the Government is thinking of putting up steel plants, what are those places. Secondly, he is talking of power shortage, but there is enough deposits of coal in Bihar, Bengal and Orissa, where they can put up captive power plants or thermal power plants by other agencies. What are the problems because of which they are not able to put of steel plants there?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, so far as the captive power generation is concerned, the captive power generation in our plants is on the increase. In 1987-88 the total MW generated was 270 which increased to 321 in 1988-89 and that has now increased to 396 in 1989-90. But the fact remains that no integrated steel plant can be totally dependent on the captive power. The integrated steel plants must get power from the grid and if the

grid fails then we suffer immensely. There was virtual collapse, and my hon. friend, Mr. Chatterjee will know that there was a virtual collapse of the DVC power grid which created a problem because that affected the coal production. Therefore, even though we are increasing our captive power.....(Interruptions).

So that creates the problem. We are improving our captive power plants, but the limitation is that only through captive power plant we cannot run an integrated steel plant. So, supply from the grid is essential to run it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHAVJI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the production cost of the steel produced in our country is too high as compared to that in other countries and if so, the extent of cost difference. The second thing that I would like to know is whether the Government is making any effort to reduce the cost of production of steel produced in the country so that the domestic consumers could get indigenous steel at a lower price.

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, our cost of production compares favourably with other countries. Our constant endeavour is to improve the production so that the price can be reduced. But there are a number of external factors also which add to the cost of production. For example, there is an increase in freight charges and input costs of coal and power. Therefore, we have no control so far as the external factors are concerned. The increase is about 15 per cent in our own wage bill. So, the cost of coal, power and freight charges affect our cost of production.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMAN-GALAM: Sir, I would like to know from the Minister, if it is possible

for him either to lay on the Table of the House or inform the House as to exactly which are the plants in which he is trying to increase the production for the period 1990-91, where he sets 18 per cent for steel and 10 per cent for hot metal. I would also like to know specifically whether the Salem Steel Plant backward integration scheme is part of the growth plan.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, I cannot give the details now, but I will supply the details to my hon. friend. My answer regarding the Salem Steel Plant is the same which I gave earlier. It is under active consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister through you to the fact that the modernisation of ISCO factory is being widely discussed in Banpur and there was a dialogue with a Japanese consultant to discuss modernisation plan and that they have submitted a project report in this regard. Similarly discussions were held with Dastur & Company also and they have also submitted their project report. However, no announcement has been made in this regard by the Government till date and as a result there is great restlessness among the workers there. Therefore, the hon. Minister may inform the House about the tentative date of announcement to this effect and the details of the programme relating to the modernisation of that factory.

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, modernisation is absolutely on the cards. We have evaluated the Japanese proposals and we found that the project cost was too heavy and secondly the investment return was too low. The I.R.R. was less than two per cent, i.e. about 1.69 per cent or so. Our evaluation has been com-

pleted and we have decided to go in for a global tender. Now, the whole proposal is going to the PIB. I have kept myself to the target date and I feel that within the next two weeks, the proposals for the PIB clearance will go from our Ministry to the PIB.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, though there is a general shortage of steel in our country but out of the various qualities of it available, the actual production of some of them is on a very high side while there is a heavy shortage of some other qualities. For example, I would like to refer to the production of tin plates. There is acute shortage of these in the country. At present tin plates are used in the packing of almost every commodity. But due to scarcity of tin plates, the small scale industry has been the worst sufferer since they do not get tin plates for manufacturing containers etc. As such, will the hon'ble Minister take some steps so as to provide immediate relief to the tin plate industries?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, I do admit that there are varying degrees of shortages so far as different items are concerned. We are facing external input problems also. However, we are trying to pump money in the massive modernisation programmes that we have. Within the sphere of shortage, we try to observe and try to maintain the industry as far as possible. Within our limitations, we are trying to help them. Still, we have a check on the demand and supply position and whatever is possible from our end, we will try to do.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Improvement in News Bulletins

*126. **SHRI D.M. PUTTE GOWDA:**

SHRI R. GUNDU RAO:

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

(a) whether Doordarshan is planning extensive improvements in the news bulletins and their contents which would include a half-an-hour news bulletin each in Hindi and English in its national programme instead of 20 minutes at present; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a final decision in this regard would be taken?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):

(a) and (b). It is the constant endeavour of Doordarshan to improve the quality of its news bulletins. The duration of Hindi and English news bulletins telecast on Saturdays and Sundays in the evening on National network has recently been increased from 20 minutes to 30 minutes. Extension of duration of news bulletins on other days will be considered later.

Family Pension Scheme for RBI Employees

*127. **SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is a demand from the employees of the Reserve Bank of India for introduction of family pension scheme as is applicable to Central Government employees; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). A draft scheme for introduction of pension, including family pension, as a retirement benefit, in lieu of Contributory Provident Fund, has been received by the Government from the Reserve Bank of India and the same is under consideration in the Government.

Import of Mercedes

*128. SHRI BASUDEV ACHARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of persons who imported Mercedes D-240 cars from Japan during 1984;

(b) the price of the Cars as per the invoice and Customs duty paid by each;

(c) how the customs duty is valued on optional accessories in the absence of invoice; and

(d) in what cases and on what criteria the world catalogue price is taken into consideration for assessing the customs duty and what is the rationale behind it?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Valuation of optional accessories of cars is done in terms of the provisions of Section 14 of the Customs Act, 1962, read with Customs Valuation (Determination of Value of Imported Goods) Rules, 1988 framed thereunder, which also provide for valuation in cases where invoice is not available.

(d) Assessment of value of motor-vehicles in relation to manufacturer's price list/world car catalogue is resorted to where assessment cannot be made in terms of Rules 4, 5, 6 & 7 of the Customs Valuation (Determination of Value of Imported Goods) Rules, 1988. The manufacturer's price list/world car catalogue price represents the most authentic and

reasonable basis for arriving at the assessable value of motor-vehicles.

Construction of tourist homes in Maharashtra

*129. DR. DAULATRAO SONUJI AHER: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a Tourist Home at Nasik and Trimsak in Maharashtra by the India Tourism Development Corporation for the convenience of pilgrims visiting there; and

(b) if so, the time by which the construction work is likely to commence and the target date of its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Farm loans to primary sector

*130. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total amount of farm loans disbursed to primary sector through various nationalised banks and co-operative banks during the years ending June, 1989 and June, 1990, separately?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): The amount of direct agriculture loans outstanding by Public Sector Banks stood at Rs. 12,920 crores as at the end of June, 1989. It rose to Rs. 15,082 crores as at the end of March, 1990 which is the latest available data. In the case of Cooperatives, the short term loans outstanding as at the end of June, 1989 were Rs. 4,335 crores. The medium and long-term loans outstanding of Cooperatives were Rs. 4,878 crores as at the end of this period. Similar data for June, 1990 for cooperatives are not available.

[English]

International Finance Corporation's Investment

*131. SHRI P. NARSA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Finance Corporation has decided to make investments in India in the coming years;

(b) if so, the projects on which the International Finance Corporation has agreed to make big investment in India;

(c) whether any agreement with the IFC has been reached in this regard; and

(d) if so, the total investment the IFC proposed to make in India?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):

(a) to (d) International Finance Corporation is an affiliate of the World Bank and is guided in its operations by its Articles of Association. It invests in private enterprises in the developing member countries in the form of equity and loans without government guarantees. IFC's investment in an enterprise does not generally exceed 25% of the project cost. The total investments approved by the IFC in projects in India since 1959 amount to \$ 775.5 million in 53 Indian companies.

Export Earning Remittances

*132. SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI ALI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allow remittances in foreign exchange only as a percentage of profits earned from the export earnings; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Irregularities in the New Bank of India

*133. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on March 30, 1990 to Starred Question No. 270 regarding Chairman and Managing Director of New Bank of India and state:

(a) whether the enquiry into the irregularities detected in the New Bank of India has since been completed; and

(b) if so, the action taken against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Reserve Bank of India has conducted enquiries. The Bank has been advised to regularise/rectify the lapses and irregularities and fix accountability against the erring officials. Chairman and Managing Director has resigned with effect from 10-4-90.

[English]

Manganese Ore supply to MMTC

*134. SHRI RAM SAJJWAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether during 1988-89 the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC) contracted for the ferro grade ore on FOB basis;

(b) whether the same grade of ore was available from the Manganese Ore India Ltd. on same terms as contracted from abroad; and

(c) if so, the reasons for giving preference to the ore supply from abroad?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Some grade of ore as contracted for export was available from MOIL, but MOIL did not accept the price offered by the MMTC and hence supplies had to be procured by the MMTC from other suppliers in India. No ore was procured from abroad by MMTC.

T.V. Transmitter at Amalapuram

*135. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that even after raising the height of the low power TV transmitter at Amalapuram, the reception of the TV programmes covers less than an area of three kilometres;

(b) if so, the corrective steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether the technical experts are of the opinion that UHF band is not meant for places like Amalapuram where thick vegetation and tall coconut plantations obstruct reception; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to replace UHF band with VHF band?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (d) A low Power TV Transmitter, operating on channel 23 in UHF Band, was commissioned at Amalapuram in October, 1989. Its coverage was, however, severely limited because of the obstruction caused by the thick vegetation and tall coconut plantations surrounding the transmitter site. To overcome this handicap to the extent possible, height of the mast on which the transmitting antenna is mounted, was increased

from the earlier 100 feet to 150 feet. This resulted in appreciable improvement in the coverage of the transmitter. Reception of the transmitter has now been found to be satisfactory upto 12-15 Kms distance (inclusive of fringe areas) subject to availability of line of sight. In view of all plantation in the area, receiving antennae of about 30-40 feet height are required to be used for obtaining satisfactory reception. Boosters are required to be used for obtaining satisfactory reception in fringe areas beyond 8-10 Kms.

It is not, however, true that the situation can be overcome by the replacement of the existing TV transmitter by one operating in Very High Frequency (VHF) Band. The reach of a TV transmitter depends on availability of clear line of sight irrespective of the fact whether the transmitter is operating in VHF or UHF Band. It has also to be reckoned with that with the establishment of a large number of TV transmitter operating in VHF Band in the country, this Band has become congested making it imperative to establish UHF transmitters in certain parts of the country to avoid frequency interference from the neighbouring transmitters. It is because of this constraint that establishment of a UHF transmitter at Amalapuram has been considered imperative.

Transfer of bank accounts of Kashmiri migrants

*136. SHRI L.K. ADVANI:
SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what instructions have been issued regarding withdrawal of money by the Kashmiri migrants from their bank accounts left behind in the Valley;

(b) the number of applications which have been received so far by

the nationalised banks from the migrants for transfer of their bank accounts from the Valley;

(c) the number of accounts which have actually been transferred and are so operating; and

(d) whether any monitoring is being done Centrally to eliminate delays in such transfer of accounts?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (d) With a view to enable the Kashmir migrants to operate their accounts, Reserve Bank of India have issued instructions to banks to make expeditious arrangements for transfer of bank accounts/funds maintained with their branches in the Kashmir Valley to other branches outside the Valley, if so desired by the customers.

Public sector banks received 4512 (approximately) applications till 30th June, 1990 from the Kashmiri migrants for transfer of their accounts from the Valley. 4097 (approximately) accounts have been transferred upto 30th June, 1990 and are in operation.

Regional/Zonal Offices of banks at Delhi, Chandigarh, Jammu and Srinagar are monitoring the process of transfer of accounts in order to eliminate any delay in effecting such transfers. Jammu Office of the Reserve Bank of India is also assisting banks in sorting out any difficulties in the matter.

[Translation]

Import of Edible Oil and Cement

*138. **SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of edible oil and cement imported from January, 1990 to 30 June, 1990 and the amount of foreign exchange spent thereon; and

(b) whether Government propose to import more quantity of edible oil during 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):

(a) (i) *Edible Oil:* A quantity of 2,15,570 tonnes of Palmolein at a total CIF Value of Rs. 112.10 crores has been imported by the State Trading Corporation during the period 1st January, 1990 till 30th June, 1990.

(ii) *Cement:* A quantity of 904 tonnes of Cement for a value of Rs. 19.29 lakhs has been imported during January, '90—May, '90. Data for Cement are available upto May, '90.

(b) *Edible Oil:* Further imports of edible oils during 1990-91 will largely depend on the production of edible oilseeds in the ensuing kharif season. The other factors to be considered in deciding import of edible oils will be prices of indigenous oils, availability of foreign exchange and prices of edible oil in the international market. As such it is not possible to indicate the extent of further imports of edible oils for 1990-91.

A.I.R. Centre in Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh

*139. **SHRI AMRATLAL VALLABHDAS TARWALA:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether A.I.R. Centre in Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh has been completed;

(b) if not, the reasons for delay in its commissioning; and

(c) the time by which regular broadcasting is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The proposed radio station at Khandwa is expected to be commissioned shortly.

[English]

Functioning of Aizawl T.V. Centre

*140. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received regarding improper transmission of National network programmes on T.V. in Mizoram despite expansion and increase in the power of Aizawl T.V. Centre;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to take action to ensure that programmes could be viewed clearly; and

(d) if so the details of action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (d) Complaints about the poor reception of TV Service in parts of Aizawl town have been received from time to time. The high power (1 KW) TV transmitter installed at Aizawl, in replacement of the low power (100W) TV transmitter earlier functioning there, has its antenna mounted on a 40 Metres high TV tower, as against the normal height of 100 Metres in such cases, causing thereby a limitation in its overall reach. It was not possible to construct a TV tower of the requisite height of 100 Metres as the clearance given by the Standing Advisory Committee on Frequency Allocation (SACFA) was available only for a height of 40 Metres.

Nevertheless, the overall TV coverage in the area has considerably improved on commissioning of the 1 KW TV transmitter. However, reception at certain places which earlier received satisfactorily service from the low power transmitter, has been adversely affected due to formation of

“Shadow Zones” caused by the intervening hilly terrain. This situation can be rectified by establishment of additional transmitting facility in the “shadow area”. The provision of this facility, however, depends on the availability of adequate funds for the purpose.

Excise Frauds

*141. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Excise frauds that have come to light during the last twelve months;

(b) the action taken on these cases; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken to eliminate such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) During the period July, 1989 to June, 1990, 5419 cases of alleged evasion of Central Excise duty involving an estimated duty of Rs. 1018 crores have been detected in respect of various manufacturers all over the country.

(b) Action has already been initiated to investigate these cases and to issue show cause notices demanding duty alleged to have been evaded by the manufacturers.

(c) Detection of duty evasion is an ongoing process. Anti-Evasion machinery of the Government has been geared up to curb such malpractices. Recently, the strength of officers engaged in detecting evasion of Central Excise duty has been increased. Field formations have been alerted and asked to further intensify patrolling, nakabandi, surveillance of suspected units etc. Guidelines on prosecution have also been revised to make them more meaningful and comprehensive so as to ensure that tax evaders are dealt with severely.

Development of Tourism in Eastern Zone

*142. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have any plans for the development of tourism in Eastern Zone viz. Puri-Bhubneswar - Konark, Calcutta-Sundarban-Digha, Darjeeling etc; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) and (b) Development of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Ministry of Tourism in consultation with the State Governments have prioritised a number of projects/ schemes for central financial assistance for the year 1990-91 in the various States including those in the Eastern Zone.

The following new Circuits have also been identified in consultation with the State Governments for promotion in the Eastern Zone:—

1. Bhubaneswar-Chilka Lake and Lalitgiri-Ratnagiri
2. Patna-Rajgir-Nalanda-Bodhgaya
3. Calcutta-Sunderbans-Calcutta
4. Calcutta-Shantiniketan-Vishnu-pur-Calcutta
5. Calcutta-Darjeeling-Kalimpong
6. Calcutta- Patna- Rajgir-Nalanda-Bodhgaya

Export of Basmati Rice

1414. SHRI RAJAMOHANA REDDY: Will the Minister of COM-MERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Basmati Rice exported to USSR, U.K. and Arabian countries during the last three years, yearwise; and

(b) the foreign exchange earned therefrom, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) The information is given in the statement below:

STATEMENT

Qty : Metric Tonnes
Value : Rs. Crores

| | 1987-88 | | 1988-89 | | 1989-90 | |
|------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| | <i>Qty.</i> | <i>Value</i> | <i>Qty.</i> | <i>Value</i> | <i>Qty.</i> | <i>Value</i> |
| USSR | 148205 | 113 | 130746 | 100.32 | 109982 | 86.76 |
| U.K. | 20001 | 23.45 | 23018 | 26.89 | 15796 | 16.60 |
| Bahrain | 12565 | 12.49 | 5825 | 6.37 | 9900 | 14.87 |
| Kuwait | 32497 | 32.79 | 33890 | 37.06 | 46857 | 54.03 |
| Oman | 25759 | 25.00 | 17925 | 16.65 | 12961 | 13.47 |
| Qatar | 1249 | 1.26 | 1081 | 1.18 | 625 | 0.79 |
| Saudi Arabia | 97908 | 98.34 | 108521 | 107.65 | 159739 | 173.27 |
| U.A.E. | 16073 | 17.38 | 16712 | 22.54 | 23374 | 27.16 |

Source : Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority.

[Translation]

Relay Centre at Dungarpur, Rajasthan

1415. SHRI GULAB CHAND KATARIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the TV programmes relayed from Doordarshan relay centre set up at Dungarpur (Rajasthan) do not reach in most parts of the city; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to shift the relay centre to some higher place so that a large number of people of this tribal area are covered by its transmission?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) The low power (100W) TV transmitter at Dungarpur is not able to provide service to certain parts of the city falling within its service range, because of the shadow areas formed by the terrain conditions. Shifting of this transmitter to an alternate site depends upon the availability of a suitable site with requisite infrastructural facilities to be made available by the State Government.

[English]

Promotion of Tourism in Andaman & Nicobar Islands

1416. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKATA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government sought financial assistance from any foreign country to promote tourism in Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how much aid has already been given by Union Government in Andaman and Nicobar Islands during the year 1989-90 upto date for the development of tourism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) During year 1989-90 upto date an amount of Rs. 110.87 lacs has been released to the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

[Translation]

Export of Flowers

1417. SHRI M. S. PAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have established agency for export of flowers purchased directly from the growers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Setting up of Sponge Iron Units by Sponge Iron India Limited

1419. SHRI BALVANT MANVAR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sponge Iron India Limited (SIIL) proposes to set up sponge iron units in four States;

(b) if so, the names of the States and reasons for opening them in these States;

(c) whether these units are being set up in industrially backward States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Opening of T.V. Relay Centres during Current Financial Year in Gujarat

1420. SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of T.V. relay stations likely to be set up in Gujarat during the current financial year and

(b) the location of these centres district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) Doordarshan's Annual Plan for 1990-91, *inter alia*, provides for establishment of a number of TV transmitters but their locations shall depend upon inter-se priority, for extension of TV service to different uncovered parts of the country.

[*Translation*]

Minerals survey in Narshinghpur, Madhya Pradesh

1421. SHRI S.C. VARMA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted in Narshinghpur district in regard to exploration of minerals during the last three years;

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

(c) whether Government have formulated any scheme for the exploitation of limestone and iron-ore available in Narshinghpur district; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

4-1 LSS/ND/90

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Surveys conducted by GSI have indicated occurrences of Coal, Dolomite/Limestone and Iron Ore. A total of 7.83 million tonnes of non-coking coal reserve has been estimated in Mohpani Coal field upto a depth of 300 m by Coal India Ltd. A possible reserve of 3.004 million tonnes of limestone of BF grade is also estimated in the district. The iron ore occurrences have not been found promising.

(c) and (d) Preliminary investigations have indicated that the Iron Ore and Limestone occurrences are not of economic significance which would warrant any large scale exploitation.

Licensed Guides in Rajasthan

1423. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tourist guides in Rajasthan who have been licensed by Union Government and Rajasthan Government, separately;

(b) the necessity of such guides in Rajasthan to whom licences have been issued by Union Government;

(c) the reasons for such duplication in this regard;

(d) whether unlicensed guides are prohibited from showing historical places; and

(e) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) The Department of Tourism, Government of India have issued licences to 56 tourist guides who are based at Jaipur, whose area of operation is the entire Northern Region of India. The Department of Tourism, Government of Rajasthan have been issued tourist guide licences.

(b) Rajasthan is one of the major tourist destination in India where a large number of foreign tourists come every year. These tourists require to have tourist guide service to explain various archaeological and historical monuments of Rajasthan and many of these guides are qualified to speak different foreign languages other than English.

(c) Licences issued to tourist guides by the Rajasthan Government are only valid for the centres for which these guides are trained, i.e. Udaipur, Jaipur and Jodhpur, while licences issued by the Government of India is valid for the entire Northern Region.

(d) As per the Central Archaeological Act and State Archaeological Act of the Government of Rajasthan no unlicensed guides are allowed to enter archaeological monuments in Rajasthan and function as guides.

(e) This is because unlicensed guides are untrained and they cannot be relied upon to give accurate information regarding the ancient monuments.

[English]

Purchase Tax on Coffee

1424. SHRI B. RAJARAVI VARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand for amendment to the Coffee Act to clarify that compulsory and statutory surrender of coffee to the Board is not to be deemed as sale or purchase to exempt it from the purview of purchase/sales tax; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The matter was examined by the Government and it was decided not to pursue the matter for diverse reasons.

[Translation]

Development of Tourism in Bihar

+1425. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to refer to the reply given on 20 April, 1990 to Unstarred Question No. 5733 regarding development of certain places in North Bihar and state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar has sent any proposal to Union Government to include Balirajgarh, Kalyaneshwar (Kalna), Gautamkund, Ahilyasthan, Bishpi, Akragarh etc. the places of archaeological importance in three tourist centres along with Sitamarhi and Vaishali;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard and the likely time by which these proposals will be cleared; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) The Ministry of Tourism have not received proposals for prioritisation in respect of the places as mentioned in the Question except the following two projects for consideration of Central financial assistance during 1990-91:—

1. Development of Abhishek Pushkarni in Vaishali

2. Construction of Cottages at Vaishali

(b) and (c) Detailed project proposals with estimates are awaited from the State Government.

[English]

Export Commitments of Companies

1426. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of companies who have not fulfilled their export commitments

during last three years; year-wise and company-wise;

(b) whether export commitments have been altered in the case of some companies after the issue of industrial licences during last three years;

(c) if so, the names of such companies; and

(d) whether Government propose to monitor the export commitments on a month to month basis to check the worsening balance of payment situation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):

(a) A consolidated statement is given below listing units who failed to fulfil their export obligation during 1985, 1986 & 1987.

(b) The alteration of export obligation after issue of industrial licence is done by Ministry of Industry on the recommendation of the concerned Administrative Ministries. As such this information is not maintained in the Ministry.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (b) above.

(d) There is no such proposal at present.

STATEMENT

List—Non Fulfilment of export obligation during the years ending 31-12-85, 31-12-86, 31-12-87.

S. No. Name of the Firm

1. M/s. Joshi Fomalabs P Ltd;
2. M/s. Saurashtra Chemicals
3. M/s. Indian Dyestuffs Industries;
4. M/s. Birla Cotton Spring of Weaving Mills Ltd;
5. M/s. Datamative Consultant P Ltd;
6. M/s. Tata Chemicals Ltd;

7. M/s. T. Nameklal Mfg Co Ltd;
8. M/s. The Indian Aluminium Co Ltd;
9. M/s. Rustom Hossery India Ltd;
10. M/s. Indian Pharma Cabs of Chemicals Ltd;
11. M/s. Batliboi & Co P Ltd;
12. M/s. Mahendra Nath;
13. M/s. Sen Adlerhaimer P Ltd;
14. M/s. ISF Photokemi P Ltd;
15. M/s. Constiment Software P Ltd;
16. M/s. Pragyna K Seth;
17. M/s. The Bombay Fine Wosted Manufacturers;
18. M/s. Usha Martin Black (Wire-rope Ltd);
19. M/s. Bengal Reptile Exporting Co (1958) Pvt. Ltd;
20. M/s. Metal Box Co. Op (India) Ltd;
21. M/s. Hindustan Lever Ltd;
22. M/s. Mira Knitting Works P Ltd;
23. Ms. Raghav Electronics Industries.
24. M/s. Sangemerer India P Ltd;
25. M/s. Wadco Tool P Ltd;
26. M/s. Orient Ceramic & Industries Ltd, New Delhi.
27. M/s. K.G. Khosla Compressors Ltd;
28. M/s. Computer Dimensions International;
29. M/s. Rapa Relays P Ltd;
30. M/s. E.O. P Finance & Management Consultants P. Ltd., New Delhi;
31. M/s. Porritts & Spencers (Asia) Ltd;
32. M/s. Sanjay Marbles Ltd;
33. M/s. Amar Valves P. Ltd;

34. M/s. Continental Marbles P Ltd;
35. M/s. International Data Management P Ltd; New Delhi.
36. M/s. Ranbaxy Labs Ltd;
37. Shri Ashok Chandha,
38. M/s. Khaitan Minerals P Ltd; Jaipur.
39. M/s. Anupam Tiles P Ltd;
40. M/s. Raghunandan P D & Sons;
41. M/s. Associated Stones Industries (KOTA) Ltd;
42. M/s. Premier Vinyl Flooring Ltd, Secunderabad.
43. M/s. Contech International Soft Wire Manufacturing P Ltd;
44. M/s. Surjichem Products P Ltd;
45. Manag Marketing P Ltd;
46. M/s. Marvlex Construction P Ltd;
47. M/s. Modi A.R.C. Electrodes Co.,
48. M/s. Barega Nipping Fastners.
49. M/s. Universal Magnetic P Ltd;
50. M/s. Indian Aluminium Cables Ltd;
51. M/s. Indian Shaving Products Ltd;
52. M/s. M.B. & Co Ltd;
53. M/s. Noida Stones Co. P. Ltd;
54. M/s. Infotek Consultants P Ltd;
55. M/s. Tristar Industries (Felting) P Ltd; Delhi.
56. M/s. Stallion Shox Ltd;
57. M/s. Avanti Leathers.
58. M/s. Swapnika Tiles P Ltd;
59. M/s. Vineet Udyog Ltd;
60. M/s. Newar Marble Industries Ltd;
61. M/s. Tirupati Granite P Ltd;
62. M/s. R.A.S. Construction P Ltd;
63. M/s. R.S.R.K. Marbles Ltd;
64. Vineet Udyog Ltd; Udaipur.
65. M/s. H.H. Marbles & Granite Ltd;
66. M/s. Global Granitmarble Ltd;
67. M/s. Rajendra Dying and Mfg. Mills Ltd; Ahmedabad.
68. M/s. Monogram Mills Co Ltd;
69. M/s. Atul Products Ltd;
70. M/s. Deepak Rubber Industries.
71. M/s. Cystar Jewellery Mafg. Co.
72. M/s. New Deommercial Mills Ltd;
73. M/s. Vishal Malleabbs.
74. M/s. Shree Ballabh Glass Works Ltd;
75. M/s. Mahendra Electricals Ltd;
76. M/s. The New India Industries.
77. M/s. Himsons Textiles Engg. Ind.
78. M/s. Britannia Industries Ltd;
79. M/s. Appollo Tyres Ltd;
80. M/s. Southern Vaneers & Works Ltd;
81. M/s. Saura Marble Industries.
82. M/s. Govt Bemina Woollen Mills.
83. M/s. All India Granite Works.
84. M/s. Diamond Dies Manufacturing Corp.
85. M/s. Graves Cotton & Co. Ltd.
86. M/s. Arnold Publishers (I) P Ltd;
87. M/s. Industrial Cables (I) Ltd;

88. M/s. Hindustan Lever Ltd;
89. M/s. Abbott Labs (India) Ltd;
90. M/s. Indian Metals & Ferro Alloys Ltd;
91. M/s. Haryana Tanneries Ltd;
92. M/s. Guest Keen Williams Ltd;
93. M/s. Bharat Linder P Ltd;
94. M/s. Gardon Woodroffe Ltd.
95. M/s. International instruments Ltd;
96. M/s. Cadbury India Ltd; New Delhi.
97. M/s. Gordon Woodroffe Ltd; Madras.
98. M/s. Eimcoelecon (I) Ltd;
99. M/s. Beya India Ltd;
100. M/s. Kishco Cutlery Ltd;
101. M/s. Cement Distributors Ltd;
102. M/s. Biocon Ltd;
103. M/s. Dr. Beck Co India Ltd;
104. M/s. Guest Keen Williams Ltd;
105. M/s. Colour Chem Ltd;
106. M/s. Cadbury India Ltd;
107. M/s. G E C, Calcutta.
108. M/s. Decon Leather Ltd; Hyderabad.
109. Ingersoll Rand (I) Ltd;
110. M/s. Associated Cement Companies.
111. M/s. Grindwell Motor Ltd;
112. M/s. Color Carton Ltd;
113. M/s. Eastern Chemafarb Ltd;
114. M/s. Ingersoll Rand (I) Ltd;
115. M/s. Hindustan Ciba Geigy Ltd;
116. M/s. Indian Splicing (Mechanical) Accessories Ltd; Calcutta.
117. M/s. Hindustan Gas & Industries Ltd;
118. M/s. Dagger Forst Tools Ltd;
119. M/s. Bharat Radiators P. Ltd;
120. M/s. Exports (India);
121. M/s. Audco India Ltd;
122. M/s. Indian Duplicator Co. Ltd;
123. M/s. Ingersoll Rand (I) Ltd;
124. M/s. Harbans Lal Malhotra & Sons;
125. M/s. Bharat Radiators P. Ltd;
126. M/s. Hindustan Ciba Geigy.
127. M/s. Akbar Leather Ltd; Madras;
128. M/s. C. Abdul Rehman & Co;
129. M/s. Food Specialities Ltd;
130. M/s. C. A. Akhtar & Co;
131. M/s. Conkon Fisheries P Ltd;
132. M/s. Escorts Ltd;
133. M/s. Business Machines (I) Ltd;
134. M/s. Farida Shoes P Ltd;
135. M/s. London Star Diamond India Ltd;
136. M/s. Marshall Sons & Co (I) Ltd;
137. M/s. J.N. Marshall Engg P Ltd;
138. M/s. New Standard Engg. Co. Ltd;
139. M/s. Needle Industries Ltd;
140. M/s. May & Baker (I) Ltd;
141. M/s. Vidyut Metallics Ltd;
142. M/s. The Raymonds Woollen Mills Ltd;
143. M/s. Sandoz India Ltd;
144. M/s. Ingersoll Rand (India) P. Ltd; Bombay.
145. M/s. Sahyadri Dyestuff & Chemicals.
146. M/s. Sarabhai Chemicals Ltd;
147. M/s. Star Textile Engg. Works Ltd;
148. M/s. Perfect Fastners P Ltd;

149. M/s. Sahyadri Dyestuff & Chemicals.
150. M/s. Ranipet Leather Finishing P Ltd;
151. M/s. Mafatlal Plywood Industries.
152. M/s. Union Carbide India Ltd;
153. M/s. M.J. Pharmaceuticals.
154. M/s. National Engg. Industries.
155. M/s. Kilbro Elbert Cloves Co Ltd;
156. M/s. Microwave Products India Ltd;
157. M/s. Mayfair Leather India Ltd;
158. M/s. Sethu Shoes P Ltd;
159. M/s. Sun ship Ltd;
160. M/s. Maharashtra Leather Ltd;
161. M/s. Indian Rayon Corpn Ltd;
162. M/s. Jameel Leathers & Uppers.
163. M/s. Hoechst Dyes & Chemicals.
164. M/s. Glazo Laboratories (India) Ltd;
165. M/s. Leather Craft India P Ltd;
166. M/s. Shriram Pistons & Rings Ltd;
167. M/s. J C Glass Ltd;
168. M/s. Namesta Leather Garments Ltd;
169. M/s. Special Steels Ltd;
170. M/s. T. I. Millers Ltd;
171. M/s. Roche Products Ltd;
172. M/s. Shri Dinesh Mills Ltd;
173. M/s. Gujarat State Fertilizers Co Ltd;
174. M/s. Indian Rayon Corpn Ltd;
175. M/s. Lodha Marbles.
176. M/s. Lodha Marbles.
177. M/s. Thirupati Granite P Ltd;
178. M/s. Specta Ceramic P Ltd;
179. M/s. South East Tanning Co.
180. M/s. Bimetal Bearing Ltd;
181. M/s. Padma Electronics P Ltd;
182. M/s. South East Footwear Ltd;
183. M/s. Lucas TVS Ltd;
184. M/s. Greaves Cotton & Co Ltd;
185. M/s. Sumac Engg. Lucknow.
186. M/s. Metal Box India Ltd;
187. M/s. Voltas Ltd;
188. M/s. GEC Ltd;
189. M/s. B. R. Kumar.
190. M/s. Indrol Chemicals Ltd;
191. M/s. Electro Mobiles Ltd;
192. M/s. Merkj Sharp & Dohme of India Ltd;
193. M/s. Merkj Sharp & Dohme of India Ltd;
194. M/s. Res Chemol P Ltd;
195. M/s. Pneumatic Control Equipment P Ltd;
196. M/s. Pioneer Leather Finishers P Ltd;

Licences for steel production in Maharashtra

1427. DR. VENKATESH KABDE: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether new licences have been issued for steel production in the State of Maharashtra in the last three years; and

(b) if so, their location, production capacity and profit making ability?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GCSWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) One Letter of Intent was issued to M/s. Indian Seamless Steel & Alloys

Ltd. for setting up a project at Jejuri in Pune (Maharashtra) with a capacity of 1,50,000 M.T. p.a. to manufacture continuously cast steel round billets. The profitability of such projects is assessed by the financial institutions before sanction of financial assistance.

FERA Violation

1428. SHRI KAILASH MEHWAL:
SHRI ASHOK ANAND
RAO DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the business houses alleged to have violated the provisions of FERA during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the specific charges against each of them; and

(c) the progress of the enquiry, investigation, etc. in each case?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Grant of Mining Lease in 1989

1429. SHRI PRAKASH BAPU VASANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mining leases granted by Government during 1989, till now, State-wise;

(b) the number of applications still pending with Government for want of clearance from environmental angle upto 31 July, 90; and

(c) by what time these pending applications are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Proposal to set up separate Tourist Police Force

1430. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up separate tourist police force;

(b) whether the funds would be provided by Union Government to the State Government to bear the expenses of setting up the police force exclusively for tourists; and

(c) if not, the details of the proposal of Government in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYAPAL MALIK): (a) No.

(b) and (c) Delhi Police have recently introduced a skeleton police force to assist tourists at important centres, like the airports, railway stations, bus terminus out of their own funds and staff. However, there is no proposal as such for the creation of a separate tourists police force funded by the Ministry of Tourism.

[*Translation*]

Film on Life of Shyamji Krishna Verma

1431. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any film documentary relating to the life of Shyamji Krishna Verma, a great revolutionary has been made with the permission of government;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in its release so far;

(c) the names of the great revolutionaries on whose lives films documentaries have been made so far; and

(d) the occasions on which these films are shown and whether Government propose to telecast these films on Television?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) As per the statement given below.

(d) These films are generally shown or telecast on Doordarshan when there is such occasion, as example, birth/death anniversary of the concerned national leader/freedom fighter or the date of any particular event in which a particular national leader or freedom fighter was involved.

STATEMENT

1. BHAGAT SINGH -- 1970
2. BAGHA JATIN — 1977
(JATINDRANATH MUKHERJEE)
3. A SONG FOR BIRSA — 1981
(SENAPATI BAPAT)
4. CHANDRASHEKHAR AZAD
—1983
5. VEER SAVARKAR — 1983
6. BABA JUSSA SINGH
AHLUWALIA — 1985

[English]

Fraud in Central Bank of India

1432. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Bank of India was defrauded by about Rs. 47 lakhs through fake demand drafts;

(b) if so, the modus operandi of the fraud;

(c) whether the culprits have been apprehended and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the preventive measures being taken to countenance such situations arising in other nationalised banks also?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Central Bank of India has reported that 5 forged Demand Drafts were presented and paid at 2 of their offices at Calcutta amounting to Rs. 47.06 lacs. 2 more forged Drafts were paid at their Sholapur branch amounting to Rs. 11.74 lacs. An MICR Demand Draft book containing 50 leaves has been found stolen from the stock at Girgaum branch, Bombay. Making use of these Draft leaves, the culprits prepared Demand Drafts favouring fictitious firms drawn on Calcutta and Sholapur branches of the Bank.

(c) The Bank has filed First Information Reports at all the centres mentioned above. Internal investigation has been taken up to find out staff lapses.

(d) RBI had advised commercial banks vide their circular dated 1-10-1977 that bank draft forms should be treated as security item and kept in the custody of authorised supervising officials. Banks are expected to adhere to the procedure laid down for prevention of such frauds.

Functioning of HPT and LPT in Kerala

1433. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:

SHRI P.C. THOMAS:

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

(a) the number of high power and low power T.V. transmitters functioning in Kerala;

(b) whether Government propose to set up any more low or high power T. V. transmitters in Kerala;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government have any proposals to ensure that all the hilly areas in Cannanore and Wayanad districts of Kerala are covered by T.V. transmission; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) There are at present two high power (10 KW) and 13 low power (100W) TV transmitters functioning in Kerala.

(b) and (c) A high power (10KW) TV transmitter is already under implementation at Calicut as a spill-over scheme of the Seventh Plan. However, the VIII Plan allocation not having been made by the Planning Commission so far, it is not possible to indicate the details of the TV projects to be set up in the State under the VIII Plan.

(d) and (e) Whereas two low power (100W) TV transmitters, one each at Tellicherry and Cannanore, and one low power (100 W) TV transmitter at Kalpetta are at present functioning in the districts of Cannanore and Wayanad respectively, TV service in these districts is expected to improve on the commissioning of the high power (10 KW) TV transmitter under implementation at Calicut. It is the endeavour of the Government to extend TV service to the remaining uncovered parts of these districts also, as expeditiously

as possible, depending upon the availability of adequate resources for this purpose.

Opening of Sale Centres Abroad

1434. SHRI B.N. REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open sale centres in various foreign countries to help India's exports; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Occupancy of ITDC Hotels

1435. SHRI ASHOK ANAND-RAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state the occupancy of the hotels being run by the India Tourism Development Corporation during the last three years, year-wise and hotel-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): The requisite information is given in the statement below.

STATEMENT

The Percentage Occupancy of ITDC Hotels during the last Three years

| S.No. | Name of the Hotel | 1987-88 | 1988-89 | 1989-90 |
|-------|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Ashok Hotel, New Delhi | 75 | 80 | 84 |
| 2. | Hotel Ashok, Bangalore | 53 | 60 | 61 |
| 3. | Kovalam Ashok Beach Resort, Kovalam | 66 | 72 | 74 |
| 4. | Qutab Hotel, New Delhi | 82 | 80 | 77 |

| S. No. | Name of the Hotel | 1987-88 | 1988-89 | 1989-90 |
|-----------------|--|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5. | Lalitha Mahal Palace Hotel, Mysore | 53 | 55 | 61 |
| 6. | Hotel Airport Ashok, Calcutta | 58 | 58 | 59 |
| 7. | Samrat Hotel, New Delhi | 77 | 80 | 79 |
| 8. | Kanishka Hotel, New Delhi | 79 | 74 | 74 |
| 9. | Janpath Hotel, New Delhi | 84 | 80 | 84 |
| 10. | Hotel Varanasi Ashok, Varanasi | 42 | 40 | 41 |
| 11. | Hotel Jaipur Ashok, Jaipur | 68 | 69 | 64 |
| 12. | Laxmi Vilas Palace Hotel, Udaipur | 66 | 61 | 65 |
| 13. | Hotel Agra Ashok, Agra | 58 | 70 | 73 |
| 14. | Lodhi Hotel, New Delhi | 68 | 63 | 71 |
| 15. | Ranjit Hotel, New Delhi | 72 | 62 | 65 |
| 16. | Temple Bay Ashok Beach Resort, Mamallapuram | 51 | 55 | 64 |
| 17. | Hotel Madurai Ashok, Madurai | 38 | 47 | 47 |
| 18. | Hotel Kalinga Ashok, Bhubneswar | 37 | 41 | 46 |
| 19. | Hotel Hassan Ashok, Hassan | 32 | 39 | 48 |
| 20. | Ashok Yatri Niwas, New Delhi | 85 | 84 | 86 |
| 21. | Hotel Jammu Ashok, Jammu | 36 | 40 | 36 |
| 22. | Hotel Khajuraho Ashok, Khajuraho | 33 | 34 | 39 |
| 23. | Hotel Pataliputra Ashok, Patna | 49 | 48 | 60 |
| 24. | Hotel Bodhgaya Ashok, Bodhgaya | .. | 35 | 34 |
| 25. | Hotel Aurangabad Ashok, Aurangabad | 45 | 45 | 48 |
| TOTAL | | 70 | 70 | 72 |

Trade with Australia

1436. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to step up Indo-Australian trade:

(b) if so, the programme drawn up for the next five years; and

(c) the various fields in which joint ventures are proposed to be set up by both the countries?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is given below.

(c) India and Australia have signed Memoranda of Understanding for cooperation in the sectors of Railways, Telecommunications which inter-alia include encouragement of joint ventures. Besides other areas like mining, wool, energy, food processing etc., have been identified as possible areas for collaboration.

STATEMENT

(b) The following steps inter-alia have been/are being taken to promote trade between India and Australia:—

- (i) Increasing contacts between Indian and Australian businessmen through the forum of regular meetings of the India-Australia Joint Business Council.
- (ii) Holding of annual trade talks through established mechanism of Joint Trade Committee (JTC).
- (iii) Holding of meeting of the Joint Ministerial Commission with Australia.
- (iv) Increased participation in international exhibitions held in Australia.
- (v) Holding of exclusive displays of Indian products in Australia through the assistance of Market Advisory Service of Australian Government.
- (vi) Holding of Buyer-Seller Meets in Australia.
- (vii) Exchange of Trade Delegations between the two countries.

Black Money Generated by Property Dealers in Delhi

1437. SHRI JANARDHANA
POOJARY:

SHRI JAGANNATH
SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey to find out the black money generated by property dealers in Delhi;

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

(c) the amount realised by Government as Income tax from property dealers in Delhi in the years 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a and (b) Surveys, as per the following details, have been conducted in Delhi under the provisions of Section 133A and 133B of the Income-tax Act at the various premises where business or profession is carried on, which also include the premises of property dealers:

| <i>Financial Year</i> | <i>Survey u/s 133 A (No. of premises)</i> | <i>Survey u/s 133B (No. of premises)</i> |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| 1989-90 | 167 | 1,03,999 |
| 1990-91 (upto June 1990) | 160 | 1,118 |

Appropriate follow up action is taken in these cases after completion of survey.

(c) For finding out the income-tax collected from property dealers in Delhi, which may include property agents, builders and promoters, who may be assessed as individuals, companies, firms etc., assessment records of each and every assessee of Delhi

deriving income from business would be required to be examined before the information can be compiled for the three years. The effort and time required to be put in to compile this information may not be commensurate with the results sought to be achieved. However, if information about any specific case of property dealer is required, the same can be made available.

Proposal for Foreign Collaboration by ITDC

1438. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) has entered into any agreement for foreign collaboration;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the purposes and period of such agreements;

(d) the ITDC hotels which would be affected by these agreements;

(e) the terms of the agreement;

(f) the advantages that ITDC would derive from such agreements; and

(g) the procedure and the basis of choice of the foreign collaborations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (g) The requisite information is given in the statement below:

STATEMENT

Foreign Collaboration Agreements entered into by ITDC during 1990-91 (upto July 1990)

| <i>Particulars</i> | <i>Name of the foreign collaborator</i> |
|--|---|
| 1 | M/s GEHR Heinemann (GH) Hamburg, West Germany |
| 2 | M/s Radisson Hotel Corporation (RHC), Mineapolis, USA |
| 3 | |
| 1. Purpose and coverage of the agreement | <p>To bring Duty Free Shops and Tax Free Shop to international standards to meet the demands of travelling people and to become more competitive and contemporary in future.</p> <p>The agreement covers ITDC's Duty Free Shops in the international Arrival and Departure Lounges at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras & Trivandrum Airports as also the Tax Free Shop at Ashok Hotel, New Delhi.</p> <p>To secure marketing, Technical and Consultancy services from a reputed international chain for improving foreign occupancy and foreign exchange earnings, competing in the fiercely competitive market, updating technology in the areas of energy conservation, plant & equipment, reservation systems etc.</p> <p>The agreement covers ITDC's following 4 hotels :</p> <p>(1) Ashok Hotel, New Delhi (2) Hotel Ashok, Bangalore (3) Lalitha Mahal Palace Hotel (4) Kovalam Ashok Beach Resort</p> <p>Ashok Hotel, New Delhi will be an affiliate hotel of Radisson Hotel Corporation, the hotels at Bangalore, Mysore and Kovalam will be designated at Ashok Radisson.</p> |

3

23 Jun 90
10 years

Under the agreement, M/s RHC shall provide global marketing inputs, intensive training (free of cost) to ITDC executives and consultancy services on operating systems, computer software, business meeting facilities and equipment procurement. ITDC shall establish an on-line hook up with Radisson's world-wide reservation system and both companies shall participate jointly in international sales Conventions.

ITDC will pay :

(a) US \$ 1,00,000 in lumpsum for management development (training) on-going expenses and for technical and operational Consultancy services.

(b) 3% of net room revenues, as franchise fee, generated by the four hotels covered under the agreement.

(c) US \$ 6 per booking for every materialised reservation on reciprocal basis.

The tie up with RHC would increase ITDC's foreign exchange earnings and improve its marketing and hotel operational skills, would help in attracting more foreign tourists.

2

26 May 90
5 years

M/s GEBR Heinemann will provide :
Feasibility study of the Indian Airport duty free market; shop designs, layout and drawings; consolidated shipment of duty free merchandise from Europe-Western Hemisphere at competitive prices, training to ITDC staff, arranging advertising displays at retail counters etc.

For the above services M/s GH will be paid a lumpsum of US \$ 1,50,000 equally in a period of 5 years, payable in 4 quarterly instalments of US \$ 7,500/- every year.

A sizeable and sustained growth in foreign exchange earnings is anticipated as a result of this agreement.

1

2. Date & period of the agreement

3. Broad terms of the agreement

4. Likely benefits to ITDC

1

5. Procedure and basis of choice of foreign collaborator.

2

Four offers were considered; two were rejected as the firms were primarily interested in managing the Duty Free Shops. Between the remaining two, the terms offered by M/s GH were found more favourable besides their standing in the trade.

3

ITDC held preliminary negotiations with two other well known international hotel chains. While one party did not show interest, the other party's interest was linked with its hold on the management of ITDC hotels. This was not acceptable to ITDC as it was not in the interest of Government. However, the proposal received from M/s Radisson Hotel Corporation of USA was considered mutually beneficial.

Increasing of relay power of Trivandrum T. V. Centre

1439. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Malayalam programme which is relayed from Trivandrum Doordarshan is not available to all the places of Pathanam Thitta district of Kerala even after raising its relay power; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There is, however, no proposal at present to link the low power (100 W) TV transmitter operating at Pathanamthitta with the Doordarshan Kendra, Trivandrum, for relay of these programmes.

Export of Diamonds

1440. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of diamonds exported during the Seventh Plan period;

(b) whether Government propose to increase the export of diamonds during the Eighth Plan period; and

(c) if so, the target fixed and the steps taken to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) As per provisional estimates exports of cut and polished diamonds during the Seventh Plan Period were Rs. 14,954 crores.

(b) and (c) Export planning in the sector would have to proceed from year to year having regard to market conditions, prices and availability of dia-

monds. The export earnings are, however, expected to increase consistent with India's position as the prime exporter of cut and polished diamonds.

In order to improve diamond exports the Government has already taken a series of measures including placement of tools, equipment and accessories of manufacture on Open General Licence for imports at concessional duty, improvement in bank credit facilities, exemption of profits earned from exports under Section 80 HHC of the Income Tax Act and notification of appropriate rates of import replenishment against exports. The Government also maintains a close watch on the progress of exports with a view to provide adequate input support, whenever necessary.

Modernisation of Durgapur Steel Plant by Birla Technical services

1441. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of in-house capabilities, the Birla Technical Services had for providing engineering design of equipments at the time of submission of the bids for Durgapur Steel Plant modernisation;

(b) the details of in-house capability of Birla Technical Services now and to what extent the services of providing engineering design is being prepared by them through their employee and to what extent they are getting such designs from their sub-contractors; and

(c) the details of the mechanism which the Durgapur Steel Plant authorities have for checking such designs provided by Birla Technical Services?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) The engineering design of equipment is provided by the equipment manufacturers. At the time of submission of bids, Birla Technical

Services (BTS) had indicated that reputed sub-vendors like Siemens (I) Ltd., M/s. HEC, M/s. BHEL, M/s. MAMC, M/s. Jessops, and M/s. L & T etc., would provide the engineering designs for equipment. BTS themselves did not have capability in this field.

(b) The basic engineering, design and detailed engineering for civil and structural works is being carried out by BTS using their own employees. The engineering design of equipment is done by their sub-vendors of equipment.

(c) The design and engineering prepared by BTS are first checked and cleared by the respective consortium leaders. Upon submission, these are checked and commented upon by the Project Management Consultant, M/s. Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants (MECON)/DSP and approval accorded, wherever necessary. In addition, MECON are frequently interacting with M/s. Birla Technical Services to ensure the progress and quality of design and engineering.

Import of Rubber

1442. SHRI P. C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the grade-wise quantity of rubber imported during the current financial year so far and further imports proposed to be made this year;

(b) the quantity of imported rubber released to industrialists this year so far, grade-wise;

(c) whether the release of SMR grade of imported rubber has seriously affected the crumb rubber units; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) Out of 40,000 tonnes of natural rubber authorised so far for imports during the current financial year, 31,700 MT has already been

imported comprising of 25,700 MT of RSS 3 and 6,000 MT of SMR 20. The grade-wise break-up of the balance quantity cannot be furnished till actual imports have been made.

(b) So far 32,000 MT of natural rubber have been released out of which 27,469 MT are of RSS 3 grade and the balance being of SMR 20.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Rocket attack on Air Station of J & K

1443. SHRI PIYARE LAL HANDOO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the transmission station of All India Radio of J & K was recently subjected to rocket attack;

(b) if so, the extent of damage caused; and

(c) whether the station is operational?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) The High Power Transmitter of AIR at Narbal, Srinagar, came under rocket attack recently.

(b) The high tension room wall was partially damaged.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Coal Smuggling

1444. SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal worth crores of rupees was being smuggled into Pakistan via Gujarat from nearly two hundred private godowns at the Ghughus colliery site under Western Coalfields Limited situated in Chandrapur District of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details/facts of the case and action taken thereon; and

(c) the preventive measures taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) Available reports do not indicate large scale smuggling of coal from Gujarat into Pakistan at present. The Customs authorities remain alert against smuggling. Close co-ordination is being maintained between all the agencies concerned with the detection and prevention of smuggling.

Price List under Central Excise Rules

1445. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether approval of price list under Central Excise Rules are not being promptly approved by Collectorate of Delhi and Chandigarh Region; and

(b) the details of the price list pending with these Collectorate and the reaction of Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) The price lists are being approved promptly by the Delhi and Chandigarh Central Excise Collectorate.

(b) In Collectorate of Central Excise, Delhi total No. of Price lists pending as on 31-7-90 was 1266 out of which 1258 price lists were pending for less than 3 months & only 8 price lists were pending for more than 3 months. In Collectorate of Central Excise, Chandigarh total No. of Price lists pending as on 31-7-90 was 109, out of which 108 Price lists were pending for less than 3 months & only 1 Price list was pending for more than 3 months. Considering the quantum of work-load relating to this item of

work, this pendency is quite reasonable.

Functioning of Alwar T.V. Relay Station

1446. KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether T.V. programmes from Alwar T.V. relay station during the period from February to April, 1990 could not be viewed clearly; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) The TV Transmitter at Alwar relayed programmes via ARABSAT Satellite during the period from 21st January, 1990 to 7th August, 1990. The quality of service derived from this satellite was somewhat inferior to that derived from INSAT-IB satellite used earlier for relay of TV Service. However, the quality was of acceptable viewing standards. The transmitter at Alwar is now relaying service via INSAT-ID and there has been discernible improvement in the quality of the Service.

Indo China Joint Group on Trade and Economic Relations

1447. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI R.N. RAKESH:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indo-China Joint Group on Trade and Economic Relations has been established to discuss the steps to improve bilateral trade

and co-operation in several spheres including setting up of joint projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) when was its meeting held and the names of members who participated in the meeting; and

(d) the details of the discussion held and decisions taken, if any?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. During the ex-Prime Minister's visit to China in December, 1988, an India-China Joint Group on Trade and Economic Relations and Science and Technology was set up.

The first meeting of the group was held in New Delhi during the 18th to 20th September '89. The Chinese delegation was led by their Minister for Foreign Economic Relations and Trade. The Indian side was led by the then Commerce Minister. Lists of the delegations are given below in statements-I and II.

(d) Discussions during the meeting focussed on the ways and means to increase trade between the two countries, further strengthening of ties in the areas of economic co-operation, Science and Technology. At the conclusion of the meeting, the agreed minutes and the trade protocol covering the period 20th September 1989 to 19th September 1990 was signed.

STATEMENT I

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1. H.E. Mr. Zheng Tuobin Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade | Leader |
| 2. Mr. Chen Zhixiao Director, 2nd Deptt. for Regional Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade (MOFERT) | Member |
| 3. Mme. Ye Lingyun Deputy Director, Import and Export Deptt., MOFERT | Do. |
| 4. Mr. Wang Zhixi Deputy Director, Dept. for Technology Import and Export, MOFERT | Do. |
| 5. Mr. Chu Baotai Deputy Director, Deptt. for Foreign Investment Administration, MOFERT | Do. |
| 6. Mr. He Wei Commercial Counsellor, Embassy of People's Republic of China in India | Do. |
| 7. Mr. Yu Guoxun Vice President, China Metallurgical Raw Materials Corp. | Do. |
| 8. Mme. L in Yunhe Vice President, China National Silk Import and Export Corp. | Do |

9. Mr. Hu Guocai, Member
 Divisional Chief, 2nd Deptt. for
 Regional Affairs, MOFERT
10. Mr. Zhang Changyou Do.
 Division Chief, Deptt. for International
 Economic Cooperation, MOFERT

STATEMENT II

1. H. E. Shri Dinesh Singh, Leader
 Commerce Minister.
2. Shri A. N. Varma, Member
 Commerce Secretary.
3. Shri S. K. Singh, Do.
 Foreign Secretary.
4. Dr. V. Gowariker, Do.
 Secretary, Science and Technology.
5. Mr. C. V. Ranganathan, Do.
 Indian Ambassador to China.
6. Mr. M. R. Sivaraman, Do.
 Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce.
7. Mr. P. G. Mankad, Do.
 Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance.

Expenditure in Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity

1448. DR. LAXMINARAYAN
 PANDEYA :

SHRI MANORANJAN
 BHAKATA :

SHRI GANGA CHARAN
 LODHI :

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

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to para 13 of the Report of C&AG of India for the year ended 31st March, 1989 (No. 1 of 1990) regarding Infructuous Expenditure in the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP);

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

(c) the remedial action being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):
 (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The infructuous expenditure was due to unavoidable circumstances as per details given below in the statement. Now all the three duly fabricated Vans are on the road putting up Government exhibitions/programmes.

STATEMENT

Reasons for Infructuous Expenditure in D A V P

The C A G in its report for the year 1988-89 stated that an infructuous

expenditure of Rs. 5.88 lakh had been incurred due to delay in the body building of 3 exhibition vans meant for Itanagar, Aizwal and Calcutta Units (Mobile Van Units) of DAVP. While the van units at Itanagar and Aizwal were commissioned under the 6th Plan Scheme, the van meant for Calcutta was for replacement of the old van which had been declared unserviceable and subsequently auctioned.

2. There had been delay in fabrication of these vans on account of:—

- (a) Procurement of Van's Chassis,
- (b) Preparation of technical specifications/design and model and finalisation of the same,
- (c) Inviting of tenders,
- (d) Finalisation of lowest tenderer,
- (e) Assigning the job to the lowest tenderer,
- (f) Periodical inspection and scrutiny of the fabrication job as per specifications,
- (g) Withdrawing of 3rd chassis from the contractor when it was noticed that the party was delaying the fabrication job,
- (h) Awarding the job to another contractor by floating fresh tenders and observing all the formalities.

3. The C A G, in its report, had observed that the expenditure incurred towards pay and allowances of the staff members was infructuous since the units could not perform exhibition activities.

4. The Staff members of the Calcutta Van Unit soon after the van became inoperative, were deployed for conducting general exhibition programmes (as a General Unit). Throughout the period, the unit remained occupied while action at Headquarters went on for providing the new van to the units.

5. The staff members of other remaining two units were employed

before receiving the vans to do preliminary work. They had to be paid their salary as they were in position.

Autonomy Exercised by BBC and American Television Network

1449. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) Whether during his recent visits to USA and UK, he took the opportunity to study the working of electronic media there including the BBC and the American Television network; and

(b) If so, the outcome thereof, indicating the extent of autonomy exercised by them and the nature and extent of Government control on them?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING & MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The visit was utilised to study the working of BBC and the American Television network.

The functioning of BBC is governed by the Royal Charter and a licence and Agreement executed with the British Government. According to the provisions of these documents, Government can exercise considerable control over the Broadcasting Corporation.

The American Television Network is mostly privately owned and not subject to Government controls.

[Translation]

Central Trade Service

1450. SHRI NANDLAL MEENA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the objective of creating Central Trade Service;

(b) whether the candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are given priority at the time of posting in foreign countries; and

(c) the percentage thereof in the service at present?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) The Central Trade Service was created with the following objectives:—

- (i) To make available to the Import and Export Trade Control Organisation a regularly constituted and organised service which would help the morale of the officers and enable them to function with greater confidence and initiative.
 - (ii) To remedy the defects in the then existing situation and to make possible to plan recruitment, training and deployment of personnel in a better way so as to meet the various growing needs of the organisation.
 - (iii) To gradually encompass within its fold other cognate activities where professionalisation in the matters of trade and commerce is called for.
- (b) and (c): No Sir, as the officers belonging to the Central Trade Service are not being deployed in our foreign missions at present.

[*English*]

SITE For Ship Breaking Yard in Konkan Region

1452. **PROF. RAM GANESH KAPSE:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Managing Director, Development Corporation of Konkan Limited, Bombay have identified site at Navapur near Tarapur in Ucheli

creek for development of ship breaking yard in Konkan region;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the concerned agency (viz. M/s. Steel Shark Ship-breakers, Bombay) in the matter so far?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) Development Corporation of Konkan Ltd., Bombay, (DCKL) who are the nodal agency appointed by the State Government for development and allotment of plots for ship-breaking in the state, have identified a site at Navapur near Tarapur in Thane District for development of a ship-breaking yard and approached the State Government for securing necessary approvals in this regard.

Indo-French Joint Business Meet

1453. **SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indo-French Joint Business Council met for the Eighth time in Paris in June, 1990;
- (b) if so, the main points discussed and the decisions taken in the meeting; and
- (c) to what extent the trade between two countries will be improved?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) to (c) A delegation of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) had visited Paris on 7th and 8th June 1990 for the 8th meeting of the Indo-French Joint Business Council. FICCI has reported that discussions were held generally to promote Indian exports to EEC specifically with reference to the French market. The discussion had also focussed on the investment policy of the Government of India, scope for joint ventures involving transfer of French techno-

logy besides improvement of bilateral trade and tourism. This meeting would facilitate closer interaction between Indian and French enterprises and contribute to the volume of trade between the two countries.

Production and Import of Almonds

1454. SHRI K.C. TYAGI:

SHRI JAG PAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the production of almonds during the last three years, Statewise and year-wise;

(b) the quantity of almonds and other dry fruits imported from different countries during the same period and the amount involved there-in year-wise;

(c) the details of licences for import of almonds issued to the actual dry fruit dealers during the above period;

(d) the quantity and value of almonds proposed to be imported this year under "Export Incentive Scheme";

(e) whether there is any subsisting agreement with U.S.A. for import of almonds, if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the import of almonds has adversely affected the production; and

(g) if so, the remedial steps taken or proposed by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) The official estimates on production of Almonds are not available as reported by the Agriculture Ministry.

(b) A statement is given below.

(c) Firm-wise import licensing data is not maintained. However, the particulars of all import licences are regularly published in the "Weekly Bulletin of Import Licences, Export Licences and Industrial Licences" and copies of which are made available in the Parliament Library.

(d) Under the Import Policy for Registered Exporters, import of Dry Fruit including almonds is permitted against the export of Apricot Kernels/Walnut Kernels upto 10% of the fob value of exports. Import of almonds is also permitted against Additional Licences issued to Export Houses/Trading Houses, upto 5% within the overall value of such licences. However, any forecast on the value of the item will not be possible as such import, depends on the individual's options.

(e) In terms of the Record of Understanding between the Government of India and the Government of the U.S.A., the Government agreed to set its global authorisation of almonds (shelled and unshelled) for the period ending 31st March, 1991 at US \$ 20 Million annually. It also agreed to increase the minimum value of licensing to at least Rs. 20,000.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Import of Almonds, fresh or dried, shelled or not during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 and major countries from which imported.

| Sl. No. | Description of Items | 1985-86 | | 1986-87 | | 1987-88 | | Names of major countries from which imported | Qty. in Thousand Kgs. Value in Rs. Lakhs |
|---------|----------------------|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|--|--|
| | | Qty. | Value | Qty. | Value | Qty. | Value | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | |

Almonds, fresh or dried shelled or not

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----|------------------------|------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|---|--|
| 1. | Almonds, Kernels . . . | 286 | 54.35 | 2257 | 305.39 | 635 | 94.98 | Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, U.S.A., Iraq and United Arab Emirates. | |
| 2. | Almonds in shell . . . | 4733 | 927.53 | 3318 | 601.39 | 5591 | 987.01 | Australia, Iran, U.S.A., Pakistan, Singapore, Afghanistan and Iraq. | |

Source : Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India Vol. II (Imports) published by Dte. General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta.

Conversion of Vice Regal Lodge at Shimla into a Hotel

1455. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to convert the historic Vice-Regal Lodge at Shimla, housing the Indian Institute of Advanced Study into a hotel;

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

(c) whether objections are being raised from different quarters against the conversion of this historic building; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) and (b) With a view to rehabilitate the building earlier known as Vice-Regal Lodge at Shimla, it has been decided that the entire campus comprising 127 acres may be developed as a major tourist resort by ITDC, with the stipulation that main building will not be used for tourist purposes.

(c) and (d) Since the Government is interested in restoring the prestige glory of the old historic building which has run down for want of proper maintenance, the objections being raised in this regard are not tenable. There is no proposal to make any structural changes in the main building of Vice-Regal Lodge. The interiors of the building would be preserved as they are and historical significance of the building will be maintained.

Global Smuggling Network of Foreigners in Mumbai

1456. SHRI YADVENDRA DATT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a global smuggling network by foreigners has made 'Mumbai' an important transit point of drug smuggling;

(b) if so, the details with reasons thereof;

(c) the quantity of heroin seized in the city of 'Mumbai' in 1989 and upto April, 1990;

(d) the number of foreigners arrested for smuggling drugs, countrywise; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to check this drug smuggling in 'Mumbai'?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Due to her geographically sandwiched situation between two major illicit sources of Opiates and Cannabis Resin, the 'Golden Crescent' in the Middle East Region and the 'Golden Triangle' comprising Burma, Laos and Thailand, India has been increasingly facing transit traffic in heroin and hashish (Charas), and is being used as a conduit, particularly through Delhi and Bombay.

(c) The quantity of heroin seized in the city of Bombay in 1989 and upto April, 1990 is as given below:

| Year | Quantity of Heroin Seized (Kgs.) |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1989 | 934.023 |
| 1990 (upto 30th April) | 544.061 |

(d) The number of foreigners arrested country-wise, is given below: (In Bombay).

| Year | Country | No. of Persons Arrested |
|------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1989 | Nigeria | 43 |
| | Ghana | 6 |

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Country</i> | <i>No. of Persons Arrested</i> |
|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | UAE | 2 |
| | Afghanistan | 2 |
| | Kenya | 2 |
| | South Africa | 2 |
| | Germany | 2 |
| | Tanzania | 1 |
| 1990 (upto 30th April) | Nigeria | 40 |
| | Ghana | 3 |
| | Mali | 1 |
| | Senegal | 1 |
| | Guinea | 1 |
| | South Africa | 1 |

(e) The Government have taken various steps such as improving enforcement, strengthening of Narcotics Control Bureau, improving liaison with national and international agencies, such as INTERPOL, International Narcotics Control Board, Customs Co-operation Council, Drug Enforcement Administration of USA etc.

Smuggling of Crocodile Skin

1457. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the skin of crocodile is being smuggled out on large scale from Port Blair in Andamans in recent times:

(b) if so, the details with reasons thereof: and

(c) the steps taken by Government to check it?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) Large scale smuggling of crocodile skins out of Port Blair in Andamans have not been noticed in recent times. However, the Customs authorities remain alert against smuggling of contraband goods. Close co-ordination is being maintained between all the agencies concerned with the detection and prevention of smuggling.

[*Translation*]

B-2 City Status to Chandigarh

1458. PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to grant Chandigarh, B-2 City status;

(b) if so, the date by which it is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government have decided to upgrade Chandigarh as a 'B-2' city for the purpose of grant of House Rent Allowance also with effect from July 1, 1990. Chandigarh is already a 'B-2' city for the purpose of Compensatory (City) Allowance.

[*English*]

Ban on Import of Lac

1459. SHRI KARIA MUNDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to ban the import of Lac during the current year; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) Seed Lac/Shellac appears in the list of restricted items in the current policy and its import is not normally allowed.

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

[*Translation*]

Development of Tea in U.P. Hilly Areas

1460. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any comprehensive scheme has been prepared for the development of tea estates in hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the amount proposed to be spent on this scheme during the current year;

(c) whether existing tea estates will also be developed under this scheme; and

(d) if so, the extent of amount proposed to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) to (d) To rejuvenate the existing tea gardens and to identify areas suitable for tea cultivation in U.P., the Government of U.P. has appointed a Consultancy Firm to undertake a Feasibility-cum-Pre-Investment study including preparation of a project report and the funds required for the purpose. The Tea Board has provided an assistance of Rs. 9.5 lakhs to the Government of U.P. towards cost of the said Consultancy Project.

[*English*]

Pending Cases in Supreme Court/High Courts

1461. DR. A. K. PATEL:

SHRI UDAYSINGHRAO
GAIKWAD:

SHRI SHANKERSINH
VAGHELA:

SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA
NARSIMHA RAJA
WADIYAR:

SHRI KALP NATH RAI:

SHRI DHARMESH PRA-
SAD VARMA:

SHRI K. PRADHANI:

SHRI KESHARI LAL:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases and writ petitions pending disposal in various High Courts and the Supreme Court in each of the last three years as on July 31, 1990:

(b) the steps taken by Government to tackle the problem of arrears in the Supreme Court/High Courts;

(c) the results achieved so far; and

(d) the further measures contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) A statement is given below.

(b) Besides increasing the Judge strength, various steps, from time to time, like grouping of cases involving common question of law and constitution of special benches have been taken for reducing the arrears in Courts.

(c) The total number of cases disposed of every year, has increased over the years.

(d) A Committee of three Chief Justices of High Courts has been constituted by the Government in January, 1989 to make an indepth study of problem of arrears in Courts and to suggest remedial measures.

STATEMENT

| Name of the Court | No. of cases pending as on 31st December of | | | | No. of writ petitions pending as on 31st December of | | | |
|----------------------|---|---------|---------|---------|--|--------|--------|---------|
| | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 | 30-6-90 | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 | 30-6-90 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| Supreme Court | 175748 | 199138 | 203158 | 108379* | * | * 5730 | * | * |
| HIGH COURTS | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Allahabad | 362014 | 419836 | 468242 | @ | 139000 | 164061 | 182258 | @ |
| 2. Andhra Pradesh | 80060 | 73239 | 72891 | 62690 | 28085 | 29840 | 30326 | 33683 |
| 3. Bombay | 139548 | 142894 | 156454 | @ | 10967 | 11274 | 12868 | @ |
| 4. Calcutta | 170038 | 189338 | 200925 | @ | 4807 | 7685 | 7405 | @ |
| 5. Delhi | 77447 | 88973 | 109495 | 115930 | 10531 | 11937 | 13078 | @ |
| 6. Guwahati | 20089 | 22105 | 21708 | 21709 | 7185 | 7785 | 9737 | @ |
| 7. Gujarat | 59566 | 67530 | 74491 | @ | — | — | — | @ |
| 8. Himachal Pradesh | 9633 | 11537 | 17112 | 13576 | 1084 | 1243 | 1583 | @ |
| 9. Jammu & Kashmir | 37025 | 39767 | 42099 | @ | 7339 | 8151 | 9519 | @ |
| 10. Karnataka | 72190 | 68186 | 79429 | @ | 43206 | 38115 | 47041 | @ |
| 11. Kerala | 116735 | 108826 | 82240 | @ | 15266 | 12010 | 12814 | @ |
| 12. Madhya Pradesh | 56638 | 59004 | 61160 | @ | 11571 | 11723 | 12537 | @ |
| 13. Madras | 195443 | 225636 | 224417 | @ | 47189 | 56042 | 53128 | @ |
| 14. Orissa | 40444 | 44381 | 37330 | @ | 11367 | 11766 | 12298 | @ |
| 15. Patna | 60962 | 68382 | 66857 | @ | 14113 | 18962 | 22702 | @ |
| 16. Punjab & Haryana | 52998 | 71942 | 91769 | 93925 | 16186 | 20089 | 30453 | @ |
| 17. Rajasthan | 59 | 59374 | 70455 | @ | 18109 | 21016 | 25923 | @ |
| 18. Sikkim | 59 | 63 | 45 | 56 | 39 | 49 | 34 | 37 |
| Total | 1614999 | 1761010 | 1872719 | | | | | |

Note: *Regular hearing and admission matters only.

@Not available.

Regional Rural Banks

1462. SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of regional rural banks in the country;

(b) the total deposits in the aforesaid banks as on June 30, 1990; and

(c) which regional rural bank in Orissa has incurred the highest loss during the last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) There are 196 Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in the country at present.

(b) The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has reported that the total deposits mobilised by all the Regional Rural Banks as on 30-09-89 (latest data available) amounted to Rs. 3467.99 crores.

(c) While Puri Gramin Bank incurred highest losses during the years 1986 and 1987, Bolangir Anchalik Gramin Bank incurred highest loss during 1988-89 (15 months period) in Orissa.

Working Capital Assistance to Small Scale Sector

1463. SHRI BANWARILAL PU-ROHIT:

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has recently issued instructions to all banks to deal with the proposal for working capital assistance to the small scale sector within a time-frame;

(b) if so, the details of the instructions issued by the RBI in this regard;

(c) the extent to which small scale units in the country would be benefited as a result thereof; and

(d) the other measures Government have taken to encourage small scale units?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (d) RBI has reported that guidelines have been issued to commercial banks laying down, inter-alia, that direct loan applications under the priority sector including SSI sector upto a credit limit of Rs. 25,000 should be disposed of within a fortnight and those for over Rs. 25,000 within 8 to 9 weeks. These guidelines are aimed at enforcing a strict time discipline in dealing with all priority sector credit proposals including those received from the SSI sector. The guidelines also envisage issue of acknowledgement with date of receipt of applications and evolving and effective system for monitoring the timely disposal of cases.

A major step in this direction is the setting up of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), as the principal financial institution for the promotion, financing and development of industry in the small scale sector. It has become operational with effect from 2-4-90. SIDBI has already liberalised Single Window Scheme by raising the limit on project cost and working capital eligible under the scheme from Rs. 5 lakhs and Rs. 2.5 lakhs to Rs. 10 lakhs and Rs. 5 lakhs respectively.

National Equity Fund Scheme, which was hitherto operated by public sector banks and certain designated institutions only, has since been extended to all State Financial Corporations, private sector banks and selected urban co-operative banks as well. Besides, the scope of the scheme has been enlarged to cover the service activities in addition to manufacturing activities.

The steps outlined above are intended to facilitate the flow of timely

credit to the units in the small scale sector. [English]

[Translation]

Increasing Money Supply

1464. SHRI MANJAY LAL:
SHRI PHOOL CHAND
VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether money supply is continuously increasing in the country for the last few years;

(b) if so, the percentage increase therein during 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90;

(c) whether there has been more increase in the money supply during June, 1990;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the concrete steps taken by Government to restrict supply of money during the current year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) The rates of growth in money supply (M3) in the last three years were as indicated below:

| | | |
|---------|-------|----------------|
| 1987-88 | . . . | +15.9 per cent |
| 1988-89 | . . . | -17.7 per cent |
| 1989-90 | . . . | -19.1 per cent |

(c) to (e) Money supply (M3) recorded a smaller increase of Rs. 175 crores during June (i.e. between June 1 and 29) 1990 than that of Rs. 1045 crores during the month of May (i.e. between May 4 and June 1) 1990. The stance of the monetary policy is to moderate the rate of growth in money supply in the current financial year to well below the rate recorded in the last financial year through both general and selective credit control measures.

Newsprint

1465. SHRI NARSINGRAO SURYAWANSHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allow Newspapers to buy Newsprint from a source of their own choice; and

(b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):

(a) Newsprint is obtained by newspapers from State Trading Corporation and/or indigenous mills on authorisations issued by the Registrar of Newspapers for India, as per the Newsprint Allocation Policy. There is no proposal to change this policy at present.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Use of Grants and Loans by Industrial Houses

1466. SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether industrial houses properly utilise the grants and loans;

(b) whether instances of utilisation of the said amount for some other purposes have come to the notice of Government during the last two years and upto July, 1990, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to constitute high level commission to enquire into this; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (d) The All India Term Lending Institutions do not provide grants to industrial houses. As regards loans granted by the Institutions, IDBI has reported that it has been their experience that the Industrial Houses have been utilising the loans provided by the institutions for the purposes for which the loans have been granted. No instances of utilisation of the loans provided by IDBI for the purpose other than for which the loans were intended for have come to their notice. As such, it is not currently contemplated to constitute a high level commission for this purpose.

Number of Films Produced and Released in 1989 and 1990

1467. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of films produced and released in 1989 and upto June, 1990 and the number of films under production at present;

(b) whether the production of video films has adversely affected the income of cinema halls; and

(c) if so, the concrete steps being taken by Government to earn more profit from films?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):

(a) Government does not maintain any record of films produced or under production in the country. However, the number of films certified by the Central Board of Film Certification during 1989 and 1990 (upto June 1990) was 781 and 421 respectively. The corresponding number of feature films in video are 62 and 22 respectively during the above period.

(b) No, Sir. Production of video films has not affected the income of

cinema halls in a big way though the screening of feature films on video and video piracy has affected their income.

(c) The High-Powered Committee set up by the Government on problems of film industry have made certain recommendations to curb video piracy. These recommendations include—

- (i) Licensing of video parlours by State Governments.
- (ii) Setting up of special Police cells by State Governments.
- (iii) Amendment to the Copyright Act, 1957 etc.

These recommendations have been accepted by the Government and have been referred to the respective authorities for implementation.

[English]

Discovery of Gold Deposits in Hassan District of Karnataka

1468. SHRI H. C. SRIKANTIAH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have discovered gold deposits near Channarayapatna in Hassan District in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details of area where the gold deposits are found and the estimated deposits of gold;

(c) the number of villagers in the area likely to be affected thereby and whether any action has been taken to rehabilitate these villagers;

(d) whether any exploration work has been taken up by Government; and

(e) whether Government have declared the above place as a prohibited place?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) Geological Survey of India has been carrying out exploration for gold in Kempinkote and Gollarahalli areas near Channarayapatna, Hassan district, where there are old workings for gold. Detailed exploration by the Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited has indicated a reserve of 0.515 million tonnes of gold ore of 2.96 grams/tonnes grade in the Kempinkote prospect.

(c) The techno-economic viability of exploitation of the gold prospect at Kempinkote has not yet been established. Part of Kempinkote and Hulageri villages are likely to be affected in case of mining.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Bharat Gold Mines Limited has only submitted an application for grant of mining lease to the State Government. The area has been under exploration/investigation by MECL and GSI. No order is required for declaring the area as prohibited for the purpose of carrying out mineral exploration/investigation.

Proposal to raise Emolument Ceilings for Bonus

1469. SHRI SARJU PRASAD SAROJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to raise the emoluments ceilings (Pay +D.A.) for grant of bonus to Government employees keeping in view the revision of pay scales and increase in the amount of Dearness Allowance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The present ceiling is on the basis of the relevant provisions of the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965, and is considered adequate.

[Translation]

Fraudulent Withdrawal of Money from Banks through Bank Drafts

1470. SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money withdrawn from various nationalised banks fraudulently by presenting fake demand drafts during last one year;

(b) the number of cases registered in this regard;

(c) the amount of money recovered so far;

(d) the number of cheats against whom prosecution has since been launched;

(e) the number of those who have so far been convicted and the details of sentence awarded to them;

(f) the number of cases in which the bank staff was found involved; and

(g) the measures taken to check the incidents of fraud and forgery in banks?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (g) The information relating to amount of money withdrawn from various nationalised banks fraudulently by presenting fake Demand Drafts and other details sought in the Question is not readily available with Reserve Bank of India (RBI). However, as per the information readily available with Reserve Bank of India, a total number of 1586 cases of frauds including draft fraud cases were reported by the 28 public sector banks

during 1989. The amount involved was Rs. 50.23 crores. The details of punishment awarded by the public sector banks during 1989 to their delinquent officials found involved in fraud cases are as under:—

| | |
|--|------|
| (1) No. of employees convicted | 73 |
| (2) No. of employees given major/minor penalties | 725 |
| (3) No. of employees out of (2) above dismissed/discharged/removed | 299 |
| (4) No. of employees against whom prosecution is pending in the Court | 666 |
| (5) No. of employees against whom departmental proceedings are pending | 1324 |

Several measures been taken by the public sector banks and RBI to reduce the incidence of frauds and to bring needed improvement in the working of the banks. These measures include periodic inspections, strengthening of vigilance machinery in each bank, issue of comprehensive guidelines by RBI advising banks to strengthen the control mechanism, detailed review by the Boards of Directors of the banks of the fraud cases, training of operational personnel in regard to the procedures, etc. It has been impressed upon the banks that a serious view must be taken of irregularities if any committed by its employees and action initiated to inflict deterrent punishment on the delinquent staff.

Number of Film for Certification during last three years

1471. SHRI RAM PRASAD CHAUDHARY:
 PROF. MAHADEO SHIWANKAR:

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

(a) the total number of film received for certification during the last three years (upto 1 July, 1990) by the Central Board of Film Certification;

(b) the number of films certified without censor cuts and number of films certified with such cuts;

(c) the number of films still awaiting certification with details thereof; and

(d) the time normally taken to certify a film?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):
 (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

[English]

Divorce Cases pending in Delhi Courts

1472. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases relating to divorce and annulment of marriage under Hindu Marriage Act pending in Delhi Courts for more than five years: and

(b) the steps taken by Government for speedy disposal of such old cases?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Steps have been taken by Delhi Administration to set up 10 Family Courts in the Union Territory of Delhi. In addition, besides increasing the Judge strength in Delhi Courts, various steps have been taken in general by the Government, from time to time, to reduce pendency of cases in the Courts. A Committee of 3 Chief Justices of High Courts

has been constituted by the Government in January, 1989 to make an indepth study of the problem of arrears in Courts and to suggest remedial measures.

[Translation]

Semi-Nude Pictures in Indian Film Magazines

1473. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Indian Film magazines publish nude, semi-nude pictures of women and obscene material on the lines of foreign film magazines like Hollywood and Playboy;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to censor them so that Indian culture, civilization and the dignity of women could be upheld;

(c) whether Government propose to constitute a Censor Board in this regard;

(d) whether code of conduct has been prepared in this regard;

(e) if not, whether Government propose to prepare it and;

(f) if so, when it is likely to be prepared?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (f) Nude/obscene representation of women in books/magazines is already punishable under the Indian Penal Code. Action in this regard can be taken by the respective State Governments/Union Territories accordingly.

[English]

Expenditure on Foreign Offices

1474. SHRI M. V. CHANDRA SHEKARA MURTHY:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE

be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has recently taken some steps to curtail expenditure on its foreign offices etc;

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

(c) whether some of the senior posts have also been abolished; and

(d) if so, the expected foreign exchange likely to be saved due to this austerity measure?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir, it is proposed to close down the overseas offices of Indian Investment Centre in Tokyo, New York, London, Frankfurt, Abu Dhabi and Singapore. The annual savings from this are likely to be to the extent of Rs. 2.80 crores (based on IIC's Budget estimates of 1990-91).

ITDC Hotels in Orissa

1475. SHRI D. AMAT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hotels constructed by the India Tourism Development Corporation in Orissa during the last three years;

(b) whether the present capacity of hotels situated in Orissa are sufficient to meet the growing need and accommodation for tourists; and

(c) if not, what are the proposals of the State Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) ITDC has constructed a new joint venture hotel Nilachal Ashok, Puri in collaboration with Orissa Tourism Development Corporation Ltd. The Hotel

was partially commissioned in November 88 with 36 rooms and essential public areas. On completion the hotel will have 46 rooms. Besides, ITDC has also expanded its existing 28 room Hotel Kalinga Ashok, Bhubaneswar by addition of 36 rooms.

The expanded block was commissioned on 23rd April, 1987.

(b) and (c) The following approved hotels are functioning in the State of Orissa:—

| <i>Place</i> | <i>Star Category</i> | <i>No. of Hotel</i> | <i>No. of Rooms</i> |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Bhubaneswar | 5-D | 1 | 72 |
| —Do.— | 5 | 1 | 72 |
| —Do.— | 4 | 1 | 51 |
| —Do.— | 3 | Nil | Nil |
| —Do.— | 2 | 2 | 74 |
| Cuttack | 2 | 1 | 30 |
| Puri | 2 | 1 | 22 |
| —Do.— | Awaiting Classifica- tion | 2 | 90 |
| Gopalpur on sea | 2 | 1 | 20 |
| Total | | 10 | 431 |

Orissa would require additional hotel rooms with the growth of tourist traffic. For this, private sector is being encouraged to set up hotels by providing various incentives both by Central and State Governments.

Construction of floating Hotels in Maharashtra

1476. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra proposes to set up 'floating hotels' in the Arabian sea near Mumbai (Bombay);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any financial or other assistance have been sought by the State Government in this regard or Union Government propose to give some advice in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER

OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) The Central Department of Tourism has not received any proposal from the Government of Maharashtra for setting up 'floating hotels'.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Doordarshan Relay Centre at Katihar, Bihar

1477. SHRI YUVRAJ: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction work carried out at Doordarshan relay centre at Katihar, Bihar is being done with obsolete machine of Agra Kendra since 1988; and

(b) if so, the time by which transmission is likely to be started from there?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):

(a) and (b) The original transmitter released from Agra was decided to be installed at Katihar as a measure of optimal utilisation of resources. The equipment installed at Katihar is in perfect working condition and well within its useful life span. The transmitter at Katihar is expected to be ready for being commissioned into service shortly but it has been decided to put it to regular operation only after it is fully established that it is functioning satisfactorily in all respects.

Setting up of T.V. Tower in Himachal Pradesh

1478. **SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Television programmes are not properly viewed at various places in Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh due to diverse conditions in hilly areas and several representatives of the people have made a request to set up T.V. Towers at several places;

(b) if so, the names of places in Himachal Pradesh where setting up of T.V. towers have been requested during the period from 2 December, 1989 to 15 July, 1990; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):

(a) Parts of Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh are, at present, not covered by TV service. As TV signals travel in straight lines, reception from TV transmitters depends on the availability of clear line of sight. In hilly areas, certain places, though within the coverage zone of the TV transmitters installed there, do not receive satisfactory service due to

“shadow” caused by the terrain conditions. Requests for improvement of the TV service in hilly areas of Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh have been received, from time to time, from various quarters.

(b) Requests for extension of TV service to the following places in Himachal Pradesh have been received during the period under reference:

1. Palampur
2. Baijnath
3. Joginder Nagar
4. Jaisinghpur
5. Sunder Nagar
6. Dharampur
7. Rohru/Jubbal
8. Kelokar
9. Dev-Bradwa
10. Mata Chatubhurja (Basahi Dhar)
11. Gadhwali Mata-Mandir (Ehju)
12. Awahdevi
13. Tira
14. Jachch
15. Area between Baijnath & Ghatasani
16. Chopal tehsil
17. Sarkaghat & Chachyot.

(c) The VIII Plan allocation not having been made so far by the Planning Commission, it is not possible to indicate the extent to which the aforesaid requests can be complied with, under Doordarshan's VIII Plan.

Proposal for setting up of an opium factory in Maharashtra

1479. **SHRI HARI BHAI SHANKAR MAHALE:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give leasehold rights to poppy cultivators in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to set up an opium factory in Maharashtra; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Cultivation of opium poppy is presently not permitted in the State of Maharashtra.

(c) and (d) There is no such proposal.

[English]

World Cup Football Tournament 1990

1480. SHRI MANDHATA SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the World Cup Football Tournament 1990 certain aspects of the matches were telecast in the name of sidelight produced by Open Air Communication which was telecast on the National Programme;

(b) if so, whether the said firm got an exclusive invitation to do so or other agencies were also invited on a competitive basis; and

(c) the terms laid down for this facility?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal was made by the producer at his own initiative and was accepted by Doordarshan as it was of topical interest.

(c) The programme was telecast by Doordarshan as per standard terms

and conditions applicable to 'sponsored' programmes.

Management of Quota allocation and Demand Registration of Steel

1481. SHRI ANBARASU ERA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quota allocation and demand registration scheme is being managed by the Development Commissioner. Iron and Steel;

(b) if so, whether Steel Authority of India Ltd. has any role in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GO-SWAMI): (a) to (c) For supplies of Iron and Steel items by the main producers, the users have to register their demands with the main producers in terms of the provisions of the distribution guidelines of the Joint Plant Committee (JPC). The Development Commissioner for Iron and Steel makes allocations for distribution of pig iron amongst various users and iron and steel to the State Small Scale Industries Corporation.

Proposal to impose financial emergency

1482. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: SHRI KALP NATH RAI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is proposal to impose financial emergency for price freeze followed by wage freeze to tide over present difficult economic situation in this country; and

(b) if not, the steps Government are considering to face the financial constraints?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to impose financial emergency as contemplated under Article 360 of the Constitution.

(2) The Government have taken the following measures to contain expenditure:

- (i) all the Government Ministries/Departments have been asked to absorb additional commitments on Dearness Allowance within the provision made for establishment expenditure;
- (ii) the Ministries/Departments have been asked to locate savings within their budget to match the supplementaries sought for by them;
- (iii) the Ministries/Departments have also been requested to review the whole range of functions being performed by them with a view to reducing functions and activities which are no longer relevant or can be performed more economically in some other way;
- (iv) Ministries/Departments have been asked to wind up the foreign offices of promotional agencies under their control;
- (v) instructions have been issued to cut foreign travel expenditure so as to limit the total expenditure this year to 75 per cent of the actual expenditure in 1989-90 or the current year's budget provision whichever is less;
- (vi) instructions have also been issued to reduce consumption of petrol and diesel in Government vehicles by 20 per cent over the consumption during the year 1989-90;
- (vii) Additional DA for officers drawing a basic pay of Rs. 3500 and above would be impounded.

Export Profit Racket

1483. **SHRI HET RAM:**
SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH:
SHRI S.B. THORAT:
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a multi-crore export profit racket involving certain companies claiming 100 per cent tax exemption on profits from their exports which have actually been effected by other companies have come to light;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by Government against the companies involved in the racket?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, questions do not arise.

Appointment of Judges in High Courts

1484. **SHRI NANDU THAPA:**
 Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the policy to appoint the Chief Justices of the High Courts and one third of the judges in each High Court from other States has been implemented in Sikkim High Court for appointment as High Court Judges from outside the State; and
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GO-SWAMI): (a) and (b) The Government's policy of having the Chief Justice and some puisne Judges from outside the State has been implemented in the Sikkim High Court.

Raids on poultry farms

1485. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether raids were conducted all over the country in July, 1990 at the premises of leading poultry farms for tax evasion etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any further action is proposed to be taken against those involved in evasion of taxes, Customs duties, Sales tax etc.?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Increase in rate of interest on G.P. Fund

1486. SHRI RAM SAGAR (SAIDPUR): Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 20th April, 1990 to Unstarred Question No. 5715 regarding rate of interest on G.P.F. and state:

(a) whether the rate of interest on G.P. Fund has since been fixed; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The rate of interest on G.P. Fund for the year 1990-91 has been retained at 12% per annum.

[*Translation*]

Readjusting rupee-rouble Exchange rate

1487. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to readjust the Rupee-Rouble exchange

rate in context of the devaluation of Rouble in terms with dollar; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in that regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) The Rupee Rouble exchange rate is governed by the inter-governmental protocol entered into in November, 1978. The exchange rate parity between the Rouble and Dollar has no bearing on the Rupee-Rouble exchange rate.

[*English*]

Winding up of planning investment Bureau

1488. SHRI C. P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA:

SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:

SHRI KALP NATH RAI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a conference of the Chief Ministers held in New Delhi recently, some of the Chief Ministers suggested for winding up the P I B (Planning Investment Bureau);

(b) whether they have suggested some other machinery in place of P I B which can take quick decisions; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Union Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) During the recently held N D C, some of the Chief Ministers referred to the Public Investment Board (P I B) procedures in the context of delays in deciding investment decisions of certain projects and requested for greater freedom in this respect.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Savings from Public Sector:

1489. SHRI LALIT VIJOY SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether savings from the public sector and the corporate sector has declined continuously from 1986 to date;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether this will not affect adversely the quantum and quality of

investment for creating more job opportunities?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) The savings of public sector at current prices has declined continuously from 1986-87 to 1988-89. But the savings of private corporate sector has shown a rise, from 1986-87 to 1988-89 as indicated in the table below published by the Central Statistical Organisation.

*Savings (Gross)**(at Current Prices (Rs. crores))*

| | 1986-87 | 1987-88@ | 1988 89* |
|---------------------------------------|---------|----------|----------|
| 1. Public Sector | 7981 | 6861 | 6346 |
| 2. Private Corporate Sector | 5098 | 5715 | 7090 |

* Quick estimate.

@ Provisional estimate.

(b) The main reason for decline in the public sector saving is continuously rising negative savings by public authorities which include government administration and departmental commercial enterprises.

(c) As total saving of the economy has not fallen over the period 1986-87 to 1988-89, the quantum and quality of investment for creating more job opportunities is unlikely to be adversely affected.

maximise revenue receipts and reduce expenditure. All Ministries/Departments have been advised to make sustained efforts for reducing the burden of administrative expenditure and exercise careful scrutiny of all ongoing programmes and schemes. They have also been advised that they should not sponsor any supplementary demand proposals unless these are matched by corresponding savings or increased receipts.

Budgetary Deficit*[Translation]*

1490. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the deficit projected in the budget is increasing;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to control the deficit?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) For controlling budgetary deficit Government have initiated steps to

Grant to Five Star Hotels

1491. DR. SHAILENDRANATH SHRIVASTAVA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of five-star hotels granted financial assistance by Government during 1989-90 and the amount given to each Hotel;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to formulate any policy for the development of private hotels; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) to (c) Government does not give direct financial assistance to hotels. However, Government offers several incentives to the hotel industry. These include higher depreciation allowance, interest subsidy on loans advanced by Industrial Finance Corporation of India, Tourism Finance Corporation of India and State Financial Corporations; concessional customs duty for project import, certain income tax rebates, etc.

Steel Import

1492. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of steel plants operational at present in the country;

(b) the annual production of steel by these plants;

(c) the quantum of steel being imported annually; and

(d) whether Government propose to offer some exemption on the import duty being imposed on imported steel?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH

GOSWAMI): (a) There are six integrated steel plants and about 180 Electric Arc Furnace Units for producing mild steel.

(b) About 13 million tonnes of finished steel was produced in 1989-90.

(c) On an average about 1.5 million MTs of steel is imported annually.

(d) No, Sir.

[English]

Mica & Soap Stone Mines in Bhilwara (Rajasthan)

1493. SHRI HAMENDRA SINGH BANERA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Mica and Soap Stones Mines in operation and their production as on 1st July, 1990 in Bhilwara district of Rajasthan; and

(b) the value and quantity of Mica and Soap Stones respectively produced during calendar years 1988, 1989 and 1990 (up to June)?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) The number of mica and soapstone mines in operation on 1st July, 1990 are 24 and 21 respectively.

(b) The value and quantity of production of mica and soapstone are as follows:

| | Calendar Years | Production in metric tonnes | Value in Rs. Crores |
|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mica : | 1988 | 499.5 | 0.30 |
| | 1989 | 537.4 | 0.48 |
| | 1990 | 218.2 | 0.16 |
| | (Upto June 1990) | | |
| Soapstone : | 1988 | 70,643.2 | 2.37 |
| | 1989 | 76,215 | 2.67 |
| | 1990 | 41,354 | 1.58 |
| | (Upto June, 1990) | | |

[*Translation*]

Doordarshan Kendra in Madhya Pradesh

1494. SHRI SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the coverage given to various programmes and activities undertaken in Madhya Pradesh vis-a-vis other States, in the news bulletins and other programmes of Doordarshan since January, 1990, till date month-wise;

(b) the steps being taken by Government for giving due coverage to Madhya Pradesh on Doordarshan; and

(c) the number of Doordarshan studios in Madhya Pradesh in comparison to other States?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) Doordarshan, within the limitations of its existing resources, gives due coverage to events and activities taking place throughout the country including Madhya Pradesh. The information on relative coverage given to different States over a period of time is not maintained as such.

(c) Whereas a full-fledged TV Studio Centre and a Programme Generation Facility (PGF) Centre are under implementation at Bhopal and Raipur respectively in the State of Madhya Pradesh, two Electronic News gathering (ENG) units have been stationed at Raipur for field coverages.

The programme generation facility exists at present in 15 States and the Union Territory of Delhi.

Poor Reception of T. V. Transmitter Surat, Gujarat

1495. SHRI KASHIRAM CHHABILDAS RANA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware

of the poor reception capacity of the lowpowered television transmitter commissioned at Surat;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to improve the quality of transmission;

(c) whether Government propose to increase the power of existing television station; and

(d) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):

(a) and (b) While the TV transmitter at Surat is reported to be functioning normally, the reception of TV signals in certain parts of the city has deteriorated because of the obstruction caused by some tall buildings constructed in the immediate vicinity of the transmitter site. This situation can be rectified to a great extent by increasing the height of the mast carrying the transmitter antenna. With this in view, Doordarshan has obtained the clearance from competent authorities for increasing the mast height from the existing 100 feet to 200 feet. The follow up action to increase the mast height accordingly has also been initiated.

(c) and (d) The establishment of a TV transmitter of a higher radiating power depends upon the availability of funds for the purpose.

[*English*]

Opening of Tourist offices in Foreign Countries

1496. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to open more tourist offices in foreign countries to disseminate tourist information and attract tourists;

(b) the number of offices opened so far; country-wise; and

(c) the number of offices likely to be opened during the next five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL

MALIK): (a) to (c) At present, there is no proposal to open any more tourist office abroad. As on date, there are 18 overseas offices, as per details below:—

| Country | Place | No. of offices |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. U.S.A. | New York and Los Angeles | 2 |
| 2. Canada | Toronto | 1 |
| 3. U.K. | London | 1 |
| 4. Germany | Frankfurt | 1 |
| 5. Switzerland | Geneva | 1 |
| 6. France | Paris | 1 |
| 7. Italy | Milan | 1 |
| 8. Spain . | Madrid | 1 |
| 9. Sweden | Stockholm | 1* |
| 10. Netherlands | Amsterdam | 1 |
| 11. Australia | Sydney | 1* |
| 12. Malaysia | Kuala-Lumpur | 1 |
| 13. Singapore | Singapore | 1* |
| 14. Thailand | Bangkok | 1 |
| 15. Japan | Tokyo | 1 |
| 16. U.A.E. | Dubai and Bahrain | 2 |

(*These offices are being closed down due to economy measures).

Raising of Capital by Banks

1497. SHRI BABANRAO DHAKANE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether banks top in raising capital during the year ended March, 1990; and

(b) if so, the details of the share of the nationalised banks, private sector banks and foreign merchant banks, separately?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to the deposits raised by Commercial Banks in India. As on 23rd March, 1990 the total of the aggregate deposits of all Scheduled Com-

mercial Banks was Rs. 166066.2 crores.

The break-up of the same, bank group wise was as under:—

(Rs. in crores)

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| Public Sector Banks | 147311.3 |
| Other Scheduled Commercial Banks | 10765.1 |
| Foreign Banks | 7988.8 |

[Translation]

Number of serials and documentaries pending for Approval

1498. SHRI HARISH PAL:

SHRI NATHU SINGH:

SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL:

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

(a) the number of TV serials/documentaries pending with his Ministry for approval with the reasons for pendency;

(b) out of these the names of the serials/documentaries cleared for telecast during next six months;

(c) the names of serials/documentaries rejected during last one year; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to approve the pending serials/documentaries at the earliest'

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (d) The proposals for telecast of TV serials and documentaries are received at different Doordarshan Kendras on a continuing basis and no centralised list of such proposals received is therefore, maintained.

[English]

Liberalisation of Imports

1499. SHRI R. PRABHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to liberalise imports;

(b) if so, the effect of such liberalisation on the balance of payment situation;

(c) whether the foreign countries have assured Government to give more loans and aids to enable the liberalised imports; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) The Government policy on imports is governed by the three year import-export policy, April 1990 to March 1993, which may be modified

from time to time in the light of various factors including the balance of payments situation.

(c) and (d) Loans and grants made by foreign countries to India are not directly linked to the import policy.

Letters in Hindi by Banks

1500. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the number of letters written in Hindi from May 1, 1990 to May 31, 1990 in Head-Offices of the Central Bank of India, the Canara Bank and the Vijaya Bank separately?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): Central Bank of India, Canara Bank and Vijaya Bank have reported that during the period from 1st May, 1990 to 31st May, 1990 their Head-Offices have written 6530, 7607 and 4322 letters respectively in Hindi.

Seafood Exports from Orissa

1501. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUHDURY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had convened a meeting of the leading seafood exporters of the country on 24 April, 1990;

(b) if so, the problems raised by them to increase the export of seafood and specific problems raised by the seafood exporters of Orissa; and

(c) the action so far taken/proposed to be taken to solve their difficulties to improve the seafood exports from Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) A meeting of the leading seafood exporters had been convened at New Delhi by the Marine Products Export Development

Authority (MPEDA) on 24th April, 1990.

(b) and (c) A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(b) A number of problems had been raised by the exporters including exporters from Orissa. These include:—

- (i) Evolvement of suitable land allotment policy by the State Governments;
- (ii) Provision of adequate reefer sailing facilities at Paradip Port,
- (iii) Supply of adequate prawn seeds to farmers in West Bengal, Orissa etc. in peak production period, and
- (iv) Inclusion of representatives of Orissa exporters in the MPEDA Board,
- (v) Increase in the Replenishment (REP) percentage for marine products exports from 5% as shown in the Import-Export Policy.

(c) Action taken by the Government to solve these problems are:—

- (i) The Chief Ministers of coastal State Governments were requested to expedite evolvement of suitable land allotment policy for prawn farming activity.
- (ii) The case for providing reefer sailing facilities at Paradip was taken up with the Shipping Corporation of India, which did not find it economically viable to provide the same due to inadequate quantum of marine products being exported from Orissa.
- (iii) MPEDA has already taken action to synchronise the production in the Orissa Prawn Hatchery with the actual demand of the farmers.

(iv) The Board of MPEDA had already been reconstituted from November 1989 for a period of 3 years.

(v) Necessary Public Notice had been issued for increasing the REP percentage from 5% to 15% of FOB value of exports.

[Translation]

Loans advanced by Nationalised Banks to Farmers, Artisans and Agricultural Labourers

1502. SHRI CHHITUBHAI DEVJIBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have directed nationalised banks to grant special loans to farmers, rural artisans and agricultural labourers;

(b) if so, the percentage of total loan to be granted under the above category;

(c) the year-wise details of loans granted by the State Bank of India, the Bank of Baroda, the Dena Bank and the Bank of India from 1987 to June, 1990 in Surat district of Gujarat to farmers, artisans and agricultural labourers;

(d) whether the nationalised banks in Surat district were able to achieve the targets assigned to them in regard to loans advanced to above categories if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government will issue any special directive to these banks to fulfil these targets; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Banks have been asked to raise the proportion of their credit to priority sector to 40% of their net bank credit; 18% of the total credit in respect of direct finance extended to agriculture (including allied activities) by March,

1990; and the advances to weaker sections, which includes small and marginal farmers and landless cultivators and artisans, are to reach a level of 10% of total credit of 25 per cent of the priority sector advances;

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

(d) to (f) As mentioned at (a) and (b) above, the banks have to achieve the prescribed targets on an all-India basis; and no district-wise targets are fixed for this purpose. A number of steps have been taken with a view to increase the flow of credit to small and marginal farmers and weaker sections such as concessional rate of interest at 10% per annum, non-compounding of interest on current dues, non-insistence on third party guarantee, or collateral security in respect of loans upto Rs. 10,000. In case of short term crop loans to small farmers, the interest debited is not to exceed the principal amount. In case of crop failure, amount due is re-scheduled over a period of 3 to 5 years and fresh loans are given to farmers.

In view of the above, the question of issuing any special directive, at present, does not arise.

Retiring Judges in High Courts/ Supreme Court

1503. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the post of judges filled during the past six months in High Courts and the Supreme Court;

(b) the number of judges in the Supreme Court and High Courts due to retire during the next three years as per existing rules;

(c) the number of new posts likely to be created; and

(d) the steps taken or contemplated to fill the vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW

& JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Since 1-1-90 till 13-8-90, 93 fresh appointments in the High Courts and one appointment in the Supreme Court have been notified.

(b) From 1-8-90 till 30-6-93, 12 Judges of the Supreme Court and 153 Judges of the High Courts would retire on attaining the age of 65 years and 62 years respectively.

(c) As on 13-8-90, the creation of 83 new posts of Judges/Additional Judges in the High Courts has been agreed to; this is over and above the sanctioned strength of 443 Judges/Additional Judges.

(d) The process of consultation among the constitutional authorities is on for filling up the vacant posts of Judges.

Conditions for Foreign aid for Developmental Projects

1504. DR. BENGALI SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any conditions have been laid down in respect of the foreign aid to be provided for various developmental projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the countries from whom grants were received during the last six months for various projects?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) The details regarding terms and conditions of foreign aid to be provided will be determined only after the aid negotiations are finalised with each donor agency.

(c) The details of the countries from whom grants were received during 1989-90 and likely to be received during 1990-91 are given below. Information for the broken part of the financial year is not available.

STATEMENT

Utilisation of Grants during 1989-90 & 1990-91

(Rs. Crores)

| Country/Institution | Grants During 1989-90 | Grants (B.E.) During 1990-91 |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Canada | 23.55 | 111.65 |
| Denmark | 12.75 | 18.50 |
| France | 51.42 | .. |
| F.R.G. | 0.93 | 3.07 |
| Japan | 46.54 | 20.09 |
| Netherlands | 68.45 | 49.99 |
| U.S.A. (a) Aid Loans | 15.43 | 53.50 |
| Switzerland | 1.08 | 14.08 |
| U.K. | 125.89 | 218.05 |
| I.S.O. | .. | .. |
| E.E.C. | 111.20 | 35.44 |
| Abu Dhabi | .. | .. |
| Sweden | 162.24 | 56.65 |
| Spain | .. | .. |
| Norway | 19.65 | 35.62 |
| Australia | 0.10 | .. |
| U.N.F.P.A. | 3.98 | 28.64 |
| U.N.I.C.E.F. | 21.28 | 39.17 |
| U.N.D.P. | .. | .. |
| W.H.O. | .. | 0.08 |
| U.N.E.S.C.O. | .. | 0.03 |
| I.L.O. | 0.21 | .. |
| F.A.O. | 0.01 | .. |
| TOTAL | 664.71 | 684.56 |

[English]

Number of T. V. Serials Awarded by Doordarshan

1505. SHRI SHIKIHO SEMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of T.V. serials awarded by Doordarshan during the last six months;

(b) out of them the number of serials gone to enlisted producers/non-listed producers; and

(c) the criteria adopted for selecting serials both under commissioned programmes and sponsored programmes?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA) :
(a) The TV serials telecast by Doordarshan cover a wide range of subjects

and the proposals for their production are received at different Kendras under different schemes. No centralised list of proposals which have finally been accepted and assigned is, therefore, maintained.

(b) The empanelment of producers/directors has been made only in respect of telecast of 'sponsored' programmes over the national network of Doordarshan and this list has not so far been operated upon.

(c) The broad criteria observed for selection are:

- (i) Story line and its contemporary relevance;
- (ii) Treatment of the theme;
- (iii) Overall competence of the technical crew; and
- (iv) Relevance to Doordarshan's programme requirements.

Savings by Government

1506. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount Government propose to save during this year; and

(b) the measures contemplated to effect savings by way of reducing expenditure?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) The Government has taken the following measures to contain expenditure:—

- (i) all the Government Ministries/Departments have been asked to absorb additional commitments on Dearness Allowance within the provision made for establishment expenditure;
- (ii) the Ministries/Departments have been asked to locate savings within their budget to match the supplementaries sought for by them;

(iii) the Ministries/Departments have also been requested to review the whole range of functions being performed by them with a view to reducing functions and activities which are no longer relevant or can be performed more economically in some other way;

(iv) Ministries/Departments have been asked to wind up the foreign offices of promotional agencies under their control;

(v) it has been decided to close Supply Missions in Washington and London.

(vi) instructions have been issued to cut foreign travel expenditure so as to limit the total expenditure this year to 75 per cent of the actual expenditure in 1989-90 or the current year's budget provision whichever is less;

(vii) instructions have also been issued to reduce consumption of petrol and diesel in Government vehicles by 20 per cent over the consumption during the year 1989-90.

Full impact of these measures will be known only over a period of time.

Special Grants to Tripura to Implement Relief Scheme for Farmers, Artisans and Weavers

1507. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have announced the debt relief scheme in respect of farmers, artisans and weavers;

(b) whether Government of Tripura is facing constraints in compensating the cooperative banks for the implementation of this scheme;

(c) whether Union Government propose to give special grant to the State for the proper implementation of this Scheme; and

(d) if so, the amount of special grant proposed to be given?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (d) Government of India have formulated a Scheme known as 'Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990' for providing debt relief to farmers, landless cultivators, artisans and weavers upto Rs. 10,000/- by public sector banks and regional rural banks. In so far as the banks in co-operative sector are concerned, State Government including Tripura have been requested to frame schemes on a similar pattern.

The Central Government will bear full responsibility of debt relief in respect of loans taken from public sector banks and regional rural banks. In respect of Cooperative Banks and Land Development Banks, in order to assist the State Governments in regard to debt relief scheme on Central pattern, the Central Government will bear 50% of the burden of relief on loans taken from these banks in the State sector. The Government of India have also advised the State Governments in June 1990 that the State Cooperative Banks can also avail concessional loan from the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development to meet their share of 50% of the cost of debt relief of the Cooperatives.

[*Translation*]

Sale of Shares of Jokai Tea Holdings Ltd.

1508. **SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the shares of Jokai Tea Holdings Limited lying mortgaged with the Punjab National Bank are being sold to an offshore company, the Faroha Holdings;

(b) whether Government have made investigations into the matter;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) if not, whether Government propose to get the matter investigated?

10-1 LSS/ND/90

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Enforcement Directorate has recently started an investigation to find out whether any FERA violation has taken place.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[*English*]

Charges and Fees levied by Foreign Exchange Banks

1509. **PROF. K.V. THOMAS:**
SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Foreign Exchange Dealers' Association of India (FEDAI) has, with the approval of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), prescribed rules regarding charges and fees to be levied by the Foreign Exchange Banks from their constituent exporters for advising Export Letters of Credit, Transfer of Letters of Credit, handling of export documents, etc.;

(b) whether the FEDAI Rules have been officially released to them;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the remedy available to aggrieved exporters who are overcharged by the foreign incorporated banks; and

(e) if no such remedy is available to exporters, whether Government propose to open a Cell in the RBI to take speedy action on exporters' complaints?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (e) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the Foreign Exchange Dealers' Association of India (FEDAI) has, in consultation with RBI, prescribed rules covering charges and

fees to be levied by the authorised dealers in foreign exchange on their constituents for advising Letters of Credit, transfer of Letters of Credit, handling of export documents etc. These rules are meant only for the banks.

According to RBI, FEDAI has since segregated the rules relating to charges collected by authorised dealers on various foreign exchange transactions as applicable to general Public. These rules will be circulated to the public in due course. RBI has also reported that the exporters have been approaching the Bank for redressal of their complaints. Exporters/importers also seek remedy through all India organisations like Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Federation of Indian Export Organisations on the levying of the charges. These are sorted out through periodical meetings held by these organisations where representatives from FEDAI and RBI are also present.

Involvement of Secondary Sector in the Steel Industry

1510. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a scheme for greater involvement of the secondary sector in the steel industry of the country;

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

(c) to what extent, this decision will help the steel industry?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) It has been decided to allow creation of additional steel making capacity in the private

sector with unit capacity upto one million tonnes based on electric arc furnace/energy optimising technologies including small blast furnaces. Entrepreneurs will have the option to decide the plant size keeping in view the product mix and technology to be adopted.

(c) It is expected that this decision will help to increase the production of steel from the secondary sector to meet the demand supply gap.

Export Efforts by TDA

1512. SHRI J.P. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Trade Development Authority was set up to augment export efforts through trade;

(b) if so, the major achievements made by the Authority;

(c) the amount spent on its working till now;

(d) whether the Authority is working along the lines assigned to it;

(e) whether any evaluation of its working has ever been made; and

(f) if so, results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It has evolved a number of techniques to boost India's exports of specific products in specific markets by specific exporters e.g. India Promotion Programmes with prestigious Department Stores, participation in specialised overseas trade fairs, buyer-seller meets, contact promotion/integrated marketing programmes, etc. It collects and disseminates information on latest marketing developments.

Capital expenditure Rs. 78 lakhs
total expenditure upto 1989-90 is as under—

Capital expenditure Rs. 78 lakhs

Revenue expenditure Rs. 3236 lakhs

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) TDA's working is continuously reviewed by its Steering Committee and the Standing Committee.

Besides, the Government of India appointed a Group in 1986 to review the functioning of Trade Development Authority, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade and Trade Fair Authority of India.

(f) The Group has noted the importance of catalytic role of TDA. Most of the recommendations made by the Group in respect of TDA have been accepted by the Government.

[Translation]

Waiver of Agricultural Loans

1513. SHRI RAGHAVJI:
SHRI MANIKRAO
HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI R.N. RAKESH:
SHRI Y.S. RAJASEKHAR
REDDY:
SHRI K. MURALEEDH-
ARAN:
SHRI KODIKKUNNIL
SURESH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States which have submitted their debt relief schemes to Union Government; and

(b) the total amount of loans proposed to be waived and the number of beneficiaries under the debt relief scheme of Government, bank-wise and State-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) The following States have submitted their debt relief schemes for cooperative banks to the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD):

1. Assam;
2. Bihar;

3. Gujarat;
4. Himachal Pradesh;
5. Maharashtra;
6. Madhya Pradesh;
7. Rajasthan;
8. Tamil Nadu;
9. Uttar Pradesh;
10. West Bengal.

(b) It is not possible at present to make any estimates bank-wise and state-wise about the number of beneficiaries who are likely to be benefitted by the Debt Relief Scheme. The quick estimates made by NABARD and Reserve Bank of India indicate that the amount likely to be written off might be around Rs. 4,000 crores.

[English]

Permission to Peerless to sell its Certificates Abroad

1515. DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Ltd. has approached Government seeking permission to sell its certificates outside the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such permission to sell the certificates has been given or proposed to be given to the Company; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that M/s Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Limited had sought Bank's permission for selling certificates to non-resident Indians and for opening of sterling accounts abroad. The Bank had earlier given its no objection 'in-principle' to the Company for selling the certificates abroad subject to certain terms

and conditions. RBI has not given final approval as yet. However, it came to the notice of the RBI that the Company has already issued Endowment Certificates to certain non-resident Indians even before obtaining RBI's formal permission. The Company has been advised that till it gets RBI's final approval it should not sell such certificates any further. In order to mitigate the hardships of the non-resident investors, the Bank has permitted the Company to credit the maturity proceeds of certificates, already issued, to the Non-Resident Ordinary Accounts of the non-resident investors.

Exports to Rupee Payment Area Countries by EPZ Units

1516. SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD:

PROF. K.V. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any restrictions are currently imposed on Units in Export Processing Zones who export their finished products to USSR/Rupee Payment Area countries and import raw materials from dollar General Currency Area;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the date since when these restrictions have been imposed;

(c) the reasons for applying such restrictions; and

(d) the provisions of law, statutory order or public notice permitting such a practice?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) No, Sir. However, while approving proposals the Board of Approval attempts to ensure balancing of the inflow and outflow of free foreign exchange with a view to conserving foreign exchange, promote domestic industry and enhance direct trade with USSR.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Setting up a Pavilion on Beaches of Puvnamada Kayal in Alleppey District.

1517. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala Government has sent any proposal to set up a permanent pavilion on the banks of Puvnamada Kayal in Alleppey district, where the Nehru Trophy Boat race is held; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) The State Govt. have not requested to prioritise this proposal for 1990-91.

(b) Does not arise.

Survey for Development of Tourist Spots in Andhra Pradesh

1518. DR. VISWANATHAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any plans to develop new tourist spots in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the projects and the places surveyed and selected, particularly spots in the district of Srikakulam; and

(c) if not, the criteria to be fulfilled to undertake such a survey for the development of such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI

SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) to (c) In consultation with the State Govt. the following projects have been prioritised for consideration of central financial assistance during 1990-91.

1. Wayside facilities at Mawala, Addilabad, between Vijawada and Vishakapatnam, at Venukonda, and at Ellur.
2. Floodlighting of Borra Caves with public convenience.
3. Restaurant at Anupu.
4. Development of cultural complex at Sardar Mahal.
5. Restaurant at Warangal Fort.
6. Craft Complex around Hussainsagar Lake.
7. Snack Bar at Kondapalli Fort.

The Survey of Tourist Spots is taken up on the recommendations of the State Government which depends upon the tourism potential of the

place. However, no survey has been made for places in district of Srikakulam.

[*Translation*]

Loans Advanced by Banks in Delhi

1519. SHRI KALPNATH SONKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the details of loans disbursed to the traders, unemployed youths and others by Banks in Delhi during the last seven months category-wise and bank-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): The data reporting system from banks does not generate information in the manner called for. The total outstanding advances under Priority Sectors of lending by all scheduled commercial banks as on last Friday of December, 1988 (latest data available) in Delhi were as under:--

| <i>Category of advances</i> | <i>No. of accounts (in lakhs)</i> | <i>Balance outstanding (Rs. in crores)</i> |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| Total Priority Sector advances | 2.11 | 1509.16 |
| Of which | | |
| (i) Retail Trade | 0.33 | 29.29 |
| (ii) Small business | 0.47 | 28.09 |
| (iii) Self Employed and Professionals | 0.25 | 21.25 |
| (iv) Small Scale Industries | 0.41 | 974.86 |
| (v) Agriculture | 0.19 | 126.63 |
| (vi) Small Road Transport Operators | 0.13 | 103.83 |

[*English*]

Upgradation of Cities

1520. SHRI PRATAPRAO BABURAO BHOSLE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of towns and cities upgraded recently;

(b) whether upgradation will enable the Central Government emp-

loyees to get enhanced house rent and city compensatory allowance from 1 July, 1990;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the background for upgradation of the town and cities; and

(e) the expenditure expected to be incurred on this account?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (e) As per the statement given below.

STATEMENT

The Staff Side of the National Council (JCM) raised a demand for re-classification, upgradation of cities/towns for the purpose of grant of House Rent Allowance (HRA)/Compensatory (City) Allowance (CCA) on the basis of their mid-census popu-

lation estimates on the analogy of a similar exercise undertaken during 1979. The matter was considered and Govt. orders were issued on 5th July, 1990 to upgrade 48 cities, whose population fell short of the required mark for upgradation to the next higher class by 10% as per 1981 census, on the basis of their current population estimates. This decision is effective from 1-7-1990. The details of the cities covered under this decision are as follows:—

(A) (i) *Cities/towns upgraded to 'B-1' class for the purpose of House Rent Allowance only.*

State/Union Territory

City

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Bihar | 1. Patna (U.A.) |
| Gujarat | 2. Surat (U.A.) |

(ii) *City Upgraded to 'B-1' for both House Rent Allowance and Compensatory (city) Allowance purposes:—*

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Gujarat | 1. Vadodara (U.A.) |
|-------------------|--------------------|

(B) (i) *Cities/towns upgraded to 'B-2' class for the purpose of House Rent Allowance only.*

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Chandigarh | 1. Chandigarh (U.A.) |
| Rajasthan | 2. Ajmer |

(ii) *Cities/towns upgraded to 'B-2' class for the purpose of both House Rent Allowance and Compensatory (city) Allowance.*

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Andhra Pradesh | 1. Guntur |
| Uttar Pradesh | 2. Gorakhpur (U.A.) |

(iii) *City upgraded to 'B-2' class for the purpose of Compensatory (city) Allowance only.*

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Maharashtra | 1. Thane (U.A.) |
|-----------------------|-----------------|

(C) *Cities/towns upgraded to 'C' class for purpose of House Rent Allowance.*

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Andaman & Nicobar Island | 1. Port Blair |
| Andhra Pradesh | 2. Kavali |
| | 3. Manglagiri |
| | 4. Narasapur |
| | 5. Palacole |
| Bihar | 6. Chaibasa |
| Gujarat | 7. Petlad |
| | 8. Savarkundla |
| | 9. Viramgam |
| | 10. Visnagar |
| Haryana | 11. Palwal |

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| Karnataka | 12. Dandeli | |
| | 13. Doddaballapur | |
| | 14. Karwar | |
| Madhya Pradesh | 15. Balaghat | |
| | 16. Datia | |
| | 17. Dhar | |
| | 18. Sarni | |
| | 19. Betul | |
| Maharashtra | 20. Parli | |
| | 21. Ratnagiri | |
| Punjab | 22. Kot Kapura | |
| | 23. Nabha | |
| Rajasthan | 24. Banswara | |
| | 25. Jhunjhunun | |
| | 26. Nagaur | |
| Tamil Nadu | 27. Arani | |
| | 28. Chengalpettu | |
| | 29. Krishnagiri | |
| | 30. Kumarapalayam | |
| | 31. Mettur | |
| | 32. Pattukkottai | |
| | 33. Ramanathapuram | |
| | 34. Tenkasi | |
| | Uttar Pradesh | 35. Balrampur |
| | | 36. Baraut |
| 37. Mughal Sarai | | |
| 38. Shikohabad | | |
| West Bengal | 39. Bishnupur | |
| | 40. Rani Ganj | |

(2) The employees will get higher 'A', 'B-1', 'B-2' and 'C' class cities rates of HRA & CCA appropriate to as indicated below:—

Rates of Allowances

(I) *Compensatory (City) Allowance*

| <i>Pay Range in the revised scales of pay</i> | <i>Amount of CCA in class of Cities (Rs. p.m.)</i> | | |
|---|--|-------------|--------------|
| | <i>'A'</i> | <i>B-1'</i> | <i>'B-2'</i> |
| Below Rs. 950 | 30 | 25 | 20 |
| Rs. 950 and above but below Rs. 1,500 | 45 | 35 | 20 |
| Rs. 1,500 and above but below Rs. 2,000 | 75 | 50 | 20 |
| Rs. 2,000 and above | 100 | 75 | 20 |

(III) *House Rent Allowance*

| Pay Range in the revised scales of pay Rs. | Amount of H.R.A. (in Rs.p.m.) | | |
|--|-------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| | 'A', 'B-1' and 'B-2' cities | 'C' class cities | Unclassified places |
| 750—949 | 150 | 70 | 30 |
| 950—1,499 | 250 | 120 | 50 |
| 1,500—2,799 | 450 | 220 | 100 |
| 2,800—3,599 | 600 | 300 | 150 |
| 3,600—4,499 | 800 | 400 | 200 |
| 4,500 and above | 1,000 | 500 | 300 |

3. As the number of employees posted in the cities/towns covered under this Govt. order dated 5th July, 1990 is not centrally available, it is not possible to estimate the expenditure on this account.

TV Transmitters commissioned during 1988-89 in Tamil Nadu

1521. SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places where T.V. Transmitters have been commissioned in Tamil Nadu during 1988 and 1989 separately with capacity thereof;

(b) whether Government propose to commission more high power/low power T.V. Transmitters during the current year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) The requisite information is given below in the statement.

(b) and (c) Doordarshan's Annual Plan for 1990-91, *inter alia*, provides for the establishment of a number of TV transmitters but their locations shall depend upon inter-se priority for extension of TV service to different uncovered parts of the country.

STATEMENT**I. TV transmitter commissioned in Tamil Nadu during 1988**

High power (10 Kilo Watt) transmitter for Second Channel TV Service at Madras.

II. TV Transmitters commissioned in Tamil Nadu during 1989**(i) Low Power (100Watt) Transmitters:**

1. Courtalam
2. Cuddalore
3. Rameshwaram
4. Thanjavur
5. Thiruvannamalai
6. Tindivanam
7. Tiruchendur
8. Tirunelveli
9. Tirupattur
10. Tuticorin
11. Vaniyambadi
12. Villupuram

(ii) Transposer (2 × 10 Watt):

1. Kanchipuram
2. Udhagamandalam

[Transkution]

Proposal for Setting up of a Steel Stock Yard at Jodhpur

1522. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up a steel stock yard at Jodhpur Railway Station; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GO-SWAMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The current level of supplies in and around Jodhpur area do not justify setting up of a separate stock-yard at Jodhpur.

Promotions in Income Tax Department

1523. SHRI GOPAL PACHER-WAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 40 point roster at the time of promotions in the Income-tax Department is implemented:

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates have been promoted in their respective points, during the last three years;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the reserved posts of Inspectors in the Income tax Department, Delhi were filled up from general category inspite of the availability of suitable SC/ST candidates;

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

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir, except in very few cases where suitable SC/ST candidates were not available.

(e) No, Sir.

11-1 LSS/ND/90

(f) and (g) Does not arise.

[English]

Liberalisation of Steel Policy to encourage Growth of Steel Units in Private Sector

1524. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have liberalised the steel policy with a provision to encourage growth of steel units in private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of applications received State-wise for industrial licence for setting up such units and how many have been cleared so far; and

(d) the details of such proposal received from the State of Maharashtra, estimated cost of the proposals submitted, proposed, cleared and pending?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GO-SWAMI): (a) and (b) It has been decided to allow creation of additional steel making capacity in the private sector with unit capacity upto one million tonnes based on electric arc furnace/energy optimising technologies including small blast furnaces. Entrepreneurs will have the option to decide the plant size keeping in view the product mix and technology to be adopted.

(c) and (d) Applications are being invited.

Setting up of Nodal Agency for Pig Iron Distribution

1525. SHRI S.B. THORAT: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to set up a Nodal Agency for pig-iron distribution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time likely to be taken for final decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Export Potential of Export Processing Zones

1526. SHRI C. SRINIVASAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made on the export potential of Export Processing Zones;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps contemplated by Government to stimulate the exports of these zones; and

(d) the total investment made on the setting up of these zones?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) The Indian Institute of Foreign Trade in its study on "Free Trade Zones" in selected developing countries has noted that exports from the six Export Processing Zones during 1988-89 was Rs. 516 crores i.e. about 2.6% of our total exports. The Study has stated that the zones have a positive role to play in expanding net foreign exchange earnings from manufactured exports. To fully exploit their export potential, a number of suggestions have been made which, *inter-alia*, include improvement of infrastructure, streamlining of procedures, setting up of a national authority for the zones and a more liberal incentive package.

(c) Steps have been taken to revamp the Scheme of Export Processing Zones with a view to improve the incentives and to simplify the rules and procedures to further stimulate exports from these zones.

(d) The total investment made by Government on the setting up of the zones since inception is Rs. 99.20 crores.

Aid by Consciousness International Foundation

1527. SHRI DHARMESH PRASAD VARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Consciousness International Foundation has included India in their impressive plan to aid the poor and the destitute throughout the world;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) to what extent the poor and the destitute persons will be benefitted by their plan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) No information on this subject is available with the Ministry of Finance.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Financial aid to Small Rubber Growers

1528. SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the financial aid to small rubber growers for the first seven years of cultivation;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by what time the scheme is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) to (c) The Rubber Board has proposed for the enhancement of subsidy for the benefit of all rubber growers in the 8th Plan proposals submitted by them. The details of assistance proposed to be granted are pending finalisation of the 8th Plan outlays.

[*Translation*]

Corruption cases against gazetted Officers

1529. SHRI JANARDAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of gazetted officers in his Ministry against whom cases of corruption, irregularities and embezzlement etc. were detected during 1987, 1988, 1989 and upto June, 1990; and

(b) the action taken by Government thereon with full details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

[*English*]

Earnings from world cup soccer Tournament

1530. SHRI E.S.M. PAKEER MOHAMED: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of foreign exchange involved in televising the World Cup Soccer tournament through satellites;

(b) the total percentage of viewers of this game in India;

(c) the total revenue collected through sponsorships of the matches; and

(d) the revenue collected through various advertisements made during the televising of the matches?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):

(a) The expenditure incurred in foreign exchange in televising the World Cup Foot-Ball 1990 matches was equivalent to Rs. 18,15,309.00 in Indian currency as per details given below:

(i) TV Rights Fee: Rs. 17,32,424.00

(ii) Operational Cost: Rs. 82,885.00

(b) The details are given below in the statement.

(c) and (d) The gross revenue earned by Doordarshan from the sponsorship and commercial advertisements was Rs. 202.45 lakhs and Rs. 71.00 lakhs respectively.

STATEMENT

The Viewership of World Cup Football 1990 Matches

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Time</i> | <i>Channel</i> | <i>Details</i> | <i>All India viewership (%)</i> |
|-------------|-------------|----------------|------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 8-6-90 | 10.35 PM | I | ARG VS CAM | 19 |
| 8-6-90 | 8.15 PM | II | ARG VS CAM | 18 |
| 9-6-90 | 8.15 PM | II | COLOMBIA VS UAE | NA |
| 9-6-90 | 10.45 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 22 |
| 9-6-90 | 00.15 AM | I | ITALY VS AUSTRIA | 13 |
| 10-6-90 | 8.15 PM | II | U.S.A. VS CZECH | NA |
| 10-6-90 | 2.30 PM | I | RECORDING | 15 |
| 10-6-90 | 10.20 PM | | HIGHLIGHTS | 20 |
| 10-6-90 | 00.15 AM | I | BRAZIL VS SWEDEN | 16 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---------|----------|----|----------------------|----|
| 11-6-90 | 8.15 PM | II | C. RICA VS SCOT | NA |
| 11-6-90 | 8.05 AM | I | WORLD CUP RECORDINGS | 5 |
| 11-6-90 | 10.20 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 20 |
| 11-6-90 | 00.15 AM | I | ENG VS IRELAND | 15 |
| 12-6-90 | 8.15 PM | II | BELG VS S. KOREA | NA |
| 12-6-90 | 8.05 AM | I | WORLD CUP RECORDINGS | 8 |
| 12-6-90 | 10.40 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 19 |
| 12-6-90 | 00.15 AM | I | HOLLAND VS EGYPT | 9 |
| 13-6-90 | 8.15 PM | II | URUG VS SPAIN | NA |
| 13-6-90 | 8.05 AM | I | WORLD CUP RECORDINGS | 4 |
| 13-6-90 | 10.20 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 23 |
| 13-6-90 | 00.15 AM | I | ARG VS U.S.S.R. | 12 |
| 14-6-90 | 8.15 PM | II | CAMER VS ROMANIA | NA |
| 14-6-90 | 8.05 AM | I | WORLD CUP RECORDINGS | 6 |
| 14-6-90 | 10.20 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 20 |
| 14-6-90 | 00.15 AM | I | ITALY VS U.S.A. | 11 |
| 15-6-90 | 8.15 PM | II | AUSTRIA VS CZECH | NA |
| 15-6-90 | 8.05 AM | I | WORLD CUP RECORDINGS | 8 |
| 15-6-90 | 10.20 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 12 |
| 15-6-90 | 00.15 AM | I | ITALY VS AUSTRIA | 8 |
| 16-6-90 | 8.05 AM | I | RECORDING | 5 |
| 16-6-90 | 8.15 PM | II | BRAZIL VS COSTARICA | NA |
| 16-6-90 | 10.45 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 20 |
| 16-6-90 | 00.15 AM | I | HOLLAND VS ENGLAND | 11 |
| 17-6-90 | 8.15 PM | II | IRELAND VS EGYPT | — |
| 17-6-90 | 10.20 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 20 |
| 17-6-90 | 00.15 AM | I | BELG VS URUG | 11 |
| 18-6-90 | 8.05 AM | I | RECORDING | 9 |
| 18-6-90 | 10.20 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 22 |
| 18-6-90 | 00.15 AM | I | ARG VS ROMANIA | 14 |
| 19-6-90 | 8.05 AM | I | RECORDING | 3 |
| 19-6-90 | 8.15 PM | II | GERM VS COLOMBIA | NA |
| 19-6-90 | 10.40 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 21 |
| 19-6-90 | 00.15 AM | I | ITALY VS CZECH | 14 |
| 20-6-90 | 8.05 AM | I | RECORDING | 6 |
| 20-6-90 | 10.20 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 24 |
| 20-6-90 | 00.15 AM | I | BRAZIL VS SCOT | 13 |
| 21-6-90 | 8.05 AM | I | RECORDING | 7 |
| 21-6-90 | 8.15 PM | II | URUG VS KOREA | NA |
| 21-6-90 | 10.20 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 27 |
| 21-6-90 | 00.15 AM | I | IRELAND VS HOLLAND | 14 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---------|----------|----|-----------------------|----|
| 22-6-90 | 8.05 AM | I | RECORDINGS | 7 |
| 22-6-90 | 10.20 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 23 |
| 23-6-90 | 8.15 AM | II | CAMER VS COLOMBIA | NA |
| 23-6-90 | 00.15 AM | I | CZECH VS C. RICA | 12 |
| 24-6-90 | 8.15 PM | II | ARGN VS BRAZIL | NA |
| 24-6-90 | 10.20 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 20 |
| 24-6-90 | 00.15 AM | I | W. GERM. VS HOLLAND | 8 |
| 25-6-90 | 8.05 AM | I | RECORDING | 5 |
| 25-6-90 | 8.15 PM | II | IRELAND VS ROMANIA | NA |
| 25-6-90 | 10.20 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 22 |
| 25-6-90 | 00.15 AM | I | URUG VS ITALY | 11 |
| 26-6-90 | 8.05 AM | I | RECORDINGS | 5 |
| 26-6-90 | 8.15 PM | II | YUGOS VS SPAIN | NA |
| 26-6-90 | 10.40 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 22 |
| 26-6-90 | 00.15 AM | I | ENG VS BELGIUM | 10 |
| 27-6-90 | 8.05 AM | I | RECORDING | 6 |
| 27-6-90 | 10.20 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 15 |
| 30-6-90 | 8.15 PM | II | ARGN VS YUGOS | NA |
| 30-6-90 | 11.45 PM | I | SIDELIGHTS | 17 |
| 30-6-90 | 00.15 AM | I | ITALY VS IRELAND | 10 |
| 1-7-90 | 8.15 PM | II | W. GERM VS CZECH | NA |
| 1-7-90 | 10.50 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 18 |
| 1-7-90 | 11.50 PM | I | SIDELIGHTS | 10 |
| 1-7-90 | 00.15 AM | I | ENG VS CAMER | 8 |
| 2-7-90 | 8.05 AM | I | RECORDING | 3 |
| 2-7-90 | 10.20 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 21 |
| 3-7-90 | 10.50 PM | I | SIDELIGHTS | 23 |
| 3-7-90 | 11.15 PM | I | ITALY VS ARGENTINA | 21 |
| 4-7-90 | 8.05 AM | I | RECORDING | 5 |
| 4-7-90 | 10.20 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 19 |
| 4-7-90 | 10.50 PM | I | SIDELIGHTS | 16 |
| 4-7-90 | 11.15 PM | I | ENGLAND VS W. GERMANY | 19 |
| 5-7-90 | 8.05 AM | I | RECORDING | 5 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--------|----------|---|------------------|----|
| 5-7-90 | 10.45 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 20 |
| 5-7-90 | 11.15 PM | I | SIDELIGHTS | 14 |
| 7-7-90 | 10.30 PM | I | SIDELIGHTS | 15 |
| 7-7-90 | 11.15 PM | I | ITALY VS ENGLAND | 15 |
| 8-7-90 | 10.20 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 23 |
| 8-7-90 | 10.50 PM | I | SIDELIGHTS | 23 |
| 8-7-90 | 11.15 PM | I | FINAL | 28 |
| 9-7-90 | 8.05 AM | I | RECORDING | 3 |
| 9-7-90 | 10.20 PM | I | HIGHLIGHTS | 23 |
| 9-7-90 | 10.50 PM | I | SIDELIGHTS | 19 |

NOTE: NA means 'Not Available'

Source : MRAS TV Viewership Audit.

[*Translation*]

Hindi Medium in Central Training Institutes

1531. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Central Official Language Implementation Committee had taken a decision on 11 September, 1987 to impart training through Hindi medium in all central training institutes w.e.f. 1 January, 1989;

(b) whether the Indian Institute of Mass Communication has implemented the said decision;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the academic council of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication had taken a decision on 21 December, 1988 to make Hindi as alternative medium in courses of the Institute along with English;

(e) if so, whether the said decision has since been implemented; and

(f) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) The details are given in the statement below.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Question does not arise.

STATEMENT

As per the decision taken in the meeting of the Central Official Language Implementation Committee held on 11th September, 1987 under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Official Language, in the programmes where the trainees desiring training through Hindi are not sufficient in number and a sufficient number of trainees desire to have training through English then necessary arrangements for training through English should be made for them. Further, that a provision should also be made that in a training institution where it is not possible to impart training through Hindi, the training might be imparted in mixed language. The Committee

also decided that the training material should be available in bilingual form. It was also decided in the said meeting that the question papers should be bilingual and there should be option for the trainees to answer them in Hindi or English. The Indian Institute of Mass Communication have implemented the above decision of the said Committee in as much as that the medium of instruction for their Post-graduate Diploma course in Journalism (Hindi) is exclusively Hindi, for other courses wherever it is not possible to impart training exclusively in Hindi, the IIMC have made arrangements for imparting training in English and alternative medium has been kept as Hindi.

[English]

Trade Deficit

1532. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
SHRI MANDHATA
SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decline in the trade deficit during 1989-90:

(b) if so, to what extent the same has been reduced and the factors responsible therefor;

(c) the position of balance of trade at present; and

(d) the efforts made to reduce the trade deficit?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) According to current estimates, India's trade deficit during 1989-90 at Rs. 7731 crores is less by Rs. 161 crores as compared to Rs. 7892 crores in 1987-88. The main factor responsible is a higher growth of 36.5% achieved in India's exports while imports registered an increase of 27.9%.

(c) According to the provisional figures, India's trade deficit during the first Quarter (April-June) of the

current financial year 1990-91 amounted to Rs. 1877 crores as compared to Rs. 1734 crores during April-June, 1989.

(d) The Government has taken a series of initiatives to increase exports by making exports commercially viable, through upgrading industrial efficiency, ensuring supply of raw materials at competitive prices, strengthening the infrastructure and simplifying procedures. At the same time, steps have been taken to promote efficient import substitution and to reduce non-essential imports.

[Translation]

Setting up of Doordarshan Kendra in Banka, Bihar

1533. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Doordarshan Kendra in Banka (Bihar); and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) There is no approved scheme at present to set up a TV transmitter at Banka in Bihar. It is, however, the endeavour of the Government to strengthen TV service in the area, as expeditiously as possible, depending upon the availability of adequate resources for this purpose.

[English]

Mineral Deposits in Orissa

1534. SHRI NAKUL NAYAK: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of different kinds of minerals available in Phulbani, Kalahandi and Koraput districts of Orissa;

(b) whether the Geological Survey of India has discovered any new mineral deposits recently in these districts;

(c) if so, the approximate deposits of those minerals; and

(d) the steps taken to exploit them?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a). The names of minerals available in Phulbani, Kalahandi and Koraput districts of Orissa are as follows:

| <i>District</i> | <i>Names of Minerals</i> |
|---------------------|---|
| Phulbani district. | Bauxite, Graphite, quartz, felspar, limestone and precious and semi-precious stones. |
| Kalahandi district. | Bauxite, manganese ore, Graphite, lead ore, quartz, silica sand, limestone and gemstones. |
| Koraput district. | Iron ore, manganese ore, Bauxite, quartzite, silica sand, limestone and dolomite, tin, mica, Graphite and china clay. |

(b) Geological Survey of India has been carrying out investigations for Manganese ore in Koraput district and for Graphite in the districts of Koraput, Phulbani and Kalahandi in the recent past.

(c) A total reserve of 14.06 million tonnes Manganese ore with 25-32% manganese content has been estimated in the district of Koraput. Besides, 45 Graphite bodies ranging from small to medium have been located in the districts of Koraput, Phulbani and Kalahandi.

(d) Graphite is being worked in all the three districts and Manganese ore is being mined in the district of Koraput. Limestone is being mined in the districts of Koraput and Kalahandi, Bauxite is being mined in the district of Koraput. Quartz and Quartzite are being mined in all the three districts. Tin ore is being worked in the district of Koraput. Orissa Mining Corporation have taken exploratory mining on a limited scale in respect of precious and semi-precious stones.

Foreign Debt

1535. BABA SUCHA SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of foreign debt on India at present;

(b) the names of the countries and the amount of their share;

(c) the amount of debt to the agricultural and industrial sectors;

(d) the amount of annual repayment; and

(e) the share in repayment of the agricultural and industrial sectors?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) The total external debt outstanding as on 31-3-90 is estimated to be Rs. 80132 crores at the prevailing exchange rate.

(b) Information is given below in the statement.

(c) and (e) The accounts of the Government are kept on single loan basis and some times the single loan caters more than one sector. It is, therefore, not possible to segregate the debt outstanding and the share of its repayment to a particular sector.

(d) The amount of repayment of loan and payment of interest during 1989-90 is estimated to be Rs. 4808 crores and Rs. 3559 crores respectively.

STATEMENT

External Debt outstanding as on 31-3-90

| <i>Sl. No.</i> | <i>Country/Institution</i> | <i>Rupees Crores (Estimated)</i> |
|----------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Austria | 77.00 |
| 2. | Belgium | 179.95 |
| 3. | Canada | 981.40 |
| 4. | Denmark | 259.72 |
| 5. | France (Govt. Account) | 1940.38 |
| | (Non-Govt. A/C) | 4.55 |
| 6. | F.R.G. (Govt. Account) | 4835.06 |
| | (Non-Govt. A/C) | 434.75 |
| 7. | Italy | 209.04 |
| | Italy | 139.81 |
| 8. | Japan | 4532.20 |
| 9. | Netherlands | 1650.22 |
| 10. | U.S.A. | 4484.32 |
| 11. | I.B.R.D. (Govt. A/C) | 9693.82 |
| | (Non-Govt.) | 1083.07 |
| 12. | I.D.A. | 13962.51 |
| | I.D.A. | 7075.17 |
| 13. | I.F.A.D. | 265.01 |
| 14. | A.D.B. (Govt. Account) | 63.19 |
| | A.D.B. (Non-Govt. A/C) | 234.15 |
| 15. | Switzerland | 59.90 |
| 16. | Kuwait Fund | 321.14 |
| 17. | O.P.E.C. | 176.17 |
| 18. | Saudi Fund | 123.54 |
| 19. | Czechoslovakia | 35.96 |
| 20. | U.S.S.R. | 1703.52 |
| 21. | I.M.F. Trust Fund | 164.11 |
| | I.M.F. (E.F.F.) | 2362.00 |
| 22. | Iran | 423.21 |
| 23. | Poland | 0.02 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|--|----------|
| 24. | U.A.E. | 41.13 |
| 25. | U.K. | 458.99 |
| 26. | I.S.O. | 9.78 |
| 27. | E.E.C. (SAC) | 89.85 |
| 28. | Abu Dhabi | 12.43 |
| 29. | Sweden | 14.11 |
| | Sweden | 82.30 |
| 30. | Spain | 29.92 |
| 31. | U.S.A. (Non-Govt. A/C) | 6.52 |
| 32. | E.C.B. (External Commercial Borrowings) | 21912.00 |
| | Total | 80131.94 |

[Translation]

Making Amendments in Steel Policy

1536. SHRI RAM LAL RAHI:
Will the Minister of STEEL AND
MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to increase the steel production by suitably amending the steel policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) It has been decided to allow creation of additional steel making capacity in the private sector with unit capacity upto one million tonnes based on electric arc furnace/energy optimising technologies including small blast furnaces. Entrepreneurs will have the option to decide the plant size keeping in view the product mix and technology to be adopted.

- (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Promotion of Tourism

1537. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MEWAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to coordinate the efforts of various agencies viz., airlines, railways, the hotel industry and other concerned with the infrastructure for the promotion of tourism with respect to both domestic and foreign tourists;

(b) the steps being taken to encourage entrepreneurs well as Governmental entities to extend better facilities; and

(c) the specific steps taken for co-ordination in the preservation of authentic archaeological and anthropological heritage and the promotion of tourism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA

PAL MALIK: (a) The Department of Tourism is in constant touch with the various agencies, like the airlines, railways, the hotel industry, etc. to see that both domestic and foreign tourists are catered to in the most satisfactory manner. The Department liaises with the airlines and the railways to have special trains and bogies as well as increase in flights to selected destination when the need arises. Close touch is also maintained with the hotel industry with regard to services as well as tariff.

(b) The Government of India has recently liberalised the investment policy for non-resident Indians in the hotel industry making it much easier for them to invest in setting up new hotels. Also, the State Governments are funded by the Department of Tourism to set up specific projects, like Beach Resorts, Motels, Yatri Niwasas, etc. Government is also considering introducing a Paying Guest Scheme all over the country. The Department is running guide training programmes all over the country to provide well trained guides for tourists. To ensure comfort to tourists, both domestic and foreign, the Government has recently decided to import 300 A.C. units for coaches.

(c) It may be stated that monuments of National importance are under Central protection and these are being looked after and maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India. It is always the endeavour of the Archaeological Survey of India to ensure that adequate attention is paid, particularly to the monuments of tourist importance and wherever necessary such coordination/liasion is maintained with the authorities concerned with the promotion of tourism as is needed.

HRA to female employees living in Separation

1538. **SHRI SUKHENDRA SINGH:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether female Government employees who are living separately from their husbands are not entitled to House Rent Allowance if their husbands are allottees of Government residential accommodation;

(b) whether Government are aware that divorce cases take considerable time in the Civil Courts subjecting such employees to tremendous hardships;

(c) whether Government have received representations from female Government employees and Women's Organisations against Rule 5(C) of House Rent Allowance Rules; and

(d) the action Government propose to remove the anomaly and the response of Government to the representations received in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Courts are expected to decide divorce cases as expeditiously as possible.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The existing position is not considered anomalous, and there is no proposal for effecting any change in the present procedure.

Trade with Spain

1539. **SHRI K.S. RAO:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the volume of trade with Spain during the last three years;

(b) the details and break-up of the commodities exported to Spain during the above period;

(c) whether there is a proposal for establishing joint ventures with Spain; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) A statement is given below:

(c) and (d) At present there are 26 joint ventures with Spanish Collaborations in India. Government of India's policy is to encourage establishment of such joint ventures with Spain and other countries.

STATEMENT

(A) The volume of trade with Spain during the last three years is as follows:

| | <i>(Rs. crores)</i> |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1987-88 | 257.62 |
| 1988-89 | 266.26 |
| 1989-90 | 393.15 |

(Source : DGCI & S, Calcutta)

(B) Major commoditywise exports to Spain are as follows:

| | <i>(Million Pesetas)</i> | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------|-------|
| <i>Commodity</i> | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. Raw Hides & Skin Leather | 1,158 | 1,356 | 1,502 |
| 2. Articles of Apparels & Cotton Fabrics | 990 | 1,280 | 2,172 |
| 3. Pearls, Precious & Semi Precious Stones & Immitation Jewellery | 312 | 374 | 562 |
| 4. Organic Chemicals | 234 | 525 | 605 |
| 5. Coffee (raw) | 194 | 210 | 304 |
| 6. Pepper & Chillies Spices (Cardamom) Saffron Bay leaves | 142 | 389 | 211 |
| 7. Carpets, Mats, Tapestry, Lace & Embroidery material | 135 | 311 | 274 |
| 8. Leather Products | 143 | 511 | 538 |
| 9. Other made ups Textile Articles/ Garments | 28 | 1,280 | 2,172 |
| 10. Tea | 112 | 155 | 125 |

(Source : Embassy of India, Madrid, Spain)

Fictitious Accounts in Banks

1540. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether increasing number of instances have come to the notice of Government where deposit accounts in fictitious names have been opened in banks and black money transactions routed through them;

(b) if so, whether the Reserve Bank of India has recently issued directions to banks to ensure that deposit accounts particularly those of short duration are not opened in fictitious names; and

(c) if so, full details of the instructions issued by the Reserve Bank of India to the banks in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the banks have been impressed upon time and again to invariably obtain satisfactory and proper introduction in respect of all deposit accounts including short term deposits. The banks have been advised to record the full address of the depositors in their books. The banks have also been advised to incorporate a certificate in the account opening form in respect of all deposit accounts expressly confirming the identity, occupation and address of the depositors by the introducer. RBI in its recent instructions issued in October, 1989 has reiterated its earlier instructions in the matter. The banks have been told that any violation of the RBI's instructions would be viewed seriously. The banks have also been advised to take appropriate departmental action against their erring staff members.

Exploitation of Black Granite in A.P.

1541. SHRI RAJAMOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether black granite produced in Chittoor and some other districts of Andhra Pradesh is being exported;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Union Government propose to explore possibilities to improve production of black granite and help the State Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the year 1986-87 Andhra Pradesh produced 18,800 tonnes of black granite most of which was exported both as rough blocks and processed blocks.

(c) and (d) The Central Government has taken the following measures for promoting growth of export oriented granite industries:

(a) Allowing the export of granite stones through the Export Policy.

(b) Import of Capital goods, equipment, tools, consumables and spares.

(c) Development of stone industry under the liberalised licensed procedure, of the 100% export oriented units scheme.

(d) Encouragement for setting up medium-scale industries in backward areas and providing cash subsidies to those industries.

(e) Providing export finance at concessional interest to achieve better exports. Financial assistance for Term Loan is also provided.

(f) Liberalised foreign collaboration and foreign loan borrowal.

(g) Excise duties on indigenous equipment has been waived for

the purchases made by the 100% Export-oriented units.

[*Translation*]

Trade Delegations to foreign countries

1542. SHRI M.S. PAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allow the delegations of traders to accompany the official group as its part during the visits to foreign countries to boost trade and industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) Inclusion of non officials to accompany the official groups during visits abroad for promotion of trade and industry is considered on case to case basis depending on requirements.

[*English*]

Construction of Yatri Niwas to Kumaon Hills (U.P.)

1543. SHRI M.S. PAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government for construction of a Yatri Niwas in Kumaon hills (U.P.).

(b) If so, the location thereof; and

(c) the time by which funds are likely to be sanctioned therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*].

Replacement of Low Power Transmitter located at Nanital, U.P.

1544. SHRI M.S. PAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to shift the lower power television relay transmitter located at Nainital;

(b) if so, whether Government have received any memorandum in this regard; and

(c) the progress made in this regard so far and by what time the task of shifting the television transmitter is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The development of the new site selected for the purpose has been completed and the construction of the transmitter building is in progress. The project is envisaged to be completed during 1991.

[*English*]

Bank Fraud Involving Rs. 12 Crores

1545. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bank of Baroda, the United Bank of India and a number of other banks have been defrauded of about Rs. 12 crores by some Calcutta based firms;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the latest position of action taken by Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) RBI has reported that certain fraudulent transactions were perpetrated in accounts of several concerns at 3 Calcutta branches of Bank of Baroda and some other branches of other banks at Calcutta between June 1983 and March 1984. Bank of Baroda has filed suits against 25 parties for recovery of the dues.

(c) The parties involved are R.K. Jain and Poddar Group of Calcutta. The CBI has investigated the matter and recommended prosecution against 5 officials of the Bank and departmental action on 4 other officials. In the departmental proceedings, the bank exonerated the then DGM in-charge of Inspection, who retired from service in 1988. The then Chief Manager (Inspection) was compulsorily retired on 24-4-88. The then Manager was dismissed from the bank's service. Another officer was warned. Disciplinary proceedings have been taken up in respect of other 5 officials.

SC/ST Employees of H.Z.L. at Udaipur

1546. **SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government policy of providing reservation in promotions is followed fully by Hindustan Zinc Limited, Udaipur; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GO-SWAMI): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

TFAI Plan for Setting Up more Centres

1547. **SHRI PRAKASH BAPU VASANTRAO PATIL:** Will the

Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Trade Fair Authority of India (TFAI) plans to set up more centres like the one at Pragati Maidan in Delhi;

(b) if so, the names of the places where such centres are proposed to be set up; and

(c) In what way the exhibition infrastructure at the Pragati Maidan in Delhi is proposed to be utilised to the optimum capacity round the year?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) Trade Fair Authority of India aims at organising trade fairs not only in Delhi but also in other important cities and State capitals. Though there are certain proposals to develop exhibition infrastructure in the metropolitan cities like Bombay, no definite project has emerged.

(c) In order to utilise the infrastructure available at Pragati Maidan TFAI plans to increase specialised commodity fairs with export thrust. It also plans to encourage outside agencies to hire out exhibition space in Pragati Maidan for exhibition purposes.

Export and Import of Minerals

1548. **SHRI PRAKASH BAPU VASANTRAO PATIL:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the export figures of minor and major minerals during 1988-89 and 1989-90 along with the names of the countries to which the minerals were exported; and

(b) the details of imports of minerals during the above mentioned period along with the names of the countries from which such minerals were imported?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) Exports of

minerals and ores (both major & minor minerals) during 1988-89 and 1989-90 were as under:—

Qty: in '000' tonnes

Value in Rs. lakhs

| Item | 1988-89 (Prov.) | | 1989-90 (Prov.) | |
|--|-----------------|----------|-----------------|----------|
| | Qty. | Value | Qty. | Value |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Iron ore | 32,974 | 67250.47 | 35558 | 92755.67 |
| Mica | 47 | 2872.97 | 38 | 3000.50 |
| Coal | 175 | 1271.00 | 225 | 1682.51 |
| Other minerals & ores including processed minerals | NA | 31319.21 | NA | 40571.91 |

Source : DGCI & S

The main countries to which these minerals and ores have been exported are Japan, South Korea, Romania, Italy, Bangladesh, China, Hungary, Qatar, USA etc.

(b) Imports of minerals during 1988-89 and 1989-90 are given below:

Qty: in '000' tonnes

Value in Rs. lakhs

| Item | 1988-89 (Prov.) | | 1989-90 (Prov.) | |
|---|-----------------|----------|-----------------|----------|
| | Qty. | Value | Qty. | Value |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Metaliferrous and metal scrap | NA | 67742.01 | NA | 88295.68 |
| Coal, Coke & Briquettes | 4843 | 41971.06 | 4912 | 56915.17 |

Source: DGCI & S

The main countries from which these minerals have been imported are Canada, USSR, Australia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, France, West Germany, Peru, Netherlands, Singapore, United Arab Emirates, UK, USA, China, Poland etc.

Sick Iron Ore Mines in Karnataka

1549. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the names of iron ore mines, fallen sick in Karnataka in last three years;

(b) the number of workers who have been thrown out of employment following the closure of those mines;

(c) the reasons of their sickness; and

(d) the steps taken to reopen those mines?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GO-SWAMI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Performance of Indian Banks in London

1550. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the performance of the branches of the Indian banks in London is satisfactory;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the capital adequacy ratio of the above branches is very low as compared to other international banks, if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any monitoring of the functioning of these branches is done by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI);

(e) if so, the reasons for not taking corrective measures in time; and

(f) the action proposed to be taken by the RBI to set right the working of these branches?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (f) At present six Indian banks are operating 33 branches in the United Kingdom. Their total Balance Sheets (excluding contra items) which were Rs. 5098 crores as at the end of December, 1987 aggregated to Rs. 7271 crores as at the end of March, 1990. The Indian banks having foreign operations are by and large of a small size by international standards and have a low capital base. Government have been contributing more funds to the capital of the nationalised banks to bring their capital ratio to the desired levels.

The performance of the overseas branches of the Indian bank is continuously monitored by the Reserve Bank of India. During the last few years steps have been taken to strengthen the system of operations of the overseas sector in the areas of personnel policy, prudential norms for credit exposures, reinforcing of internal and supervisory controls, introduction of

system of portfolio inspections of international divisions in India of banks having overseas operations. Banks have also closed some of their branches which were considered non-viable.

Study of Generalised System of Preferences

1551. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any systematic study has been made of the extent to which the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) increases trade and how far it has proved beneficial to India;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The complexity of the schemes implemented by the principal industrialised countries under the GSP with extensive use of quotas, ceilings and maximum country amounts as well as lack of complete data from the donor countries make it difficult to estimate the beneficial effects by way of trade creation or acceleration of industrialisation for a particular country.

Import and release of Natural Rubber by STC

1552. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of natural rubber released by STC to the actual users during the first six months of 1990;

(b) the corresponding figures for the first six months of 1989;

(c) the quantity of natural rubber imported during 1989 and the first six months of 1990: and

(d) the total quantity of natural rubber proposed to be imported during 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) The total quantity of natural rubber released by STC to the actual users during the first six months of 1990 and the corresponding figures for the first six months of 1989 are 27,000 MT and 20,000 MT (including 4,279 MT of domestic rubber) respectively.

(c) The quantity of natural rubber imported during 1989 and the first six months of 1990 are 27,005 MT and 30,000 MT respectively.

(d) The total quantity of natural rubber proposed to be imported during 1990-91 is 40,000 MT. But the entire quantity may not be released which depends upon the market situation from time to time.

New Schemes for Air Travel Facility to Promote Tourism

1553. **SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:** Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India has proposed any new schemes for providing air travel facilities to promote tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there have been many cancellation of tickets under tourism promotion schemes this year and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government have introduced Multi entry Visa system for tourists; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) and (b) Air India has been promoting India practically since the inception of its international services and works closely with the Dept. of Tourism and Travel Industry in India. This has been an on going process. Air India has been offering special promotional fares from most tourism generating areas and other special packages for promotion of tourism like Stopover Tours etc. Special Schemes have also been launched along with Department of Tourism to promote traffic to India, for example Off-Season Promotion, Special Destination Promotions, Familiarisation Tours etc.

(c) During the period April/June 1990, Air India Offices in Germany, France and Japan have reported several cancellations of inbound tourist groups. The total estimated loss during this period in terms of passenger numbers is 4250.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Visa rules have been liberalised to issue multiple entry visa valid for duration of 5 years to foreign travel agents and foreign tourists visiting India frequently and also foreign businessmen coming to India to establish industrial/business ventures. On each visit, foreign tourists and travel agents would be entitled to stay for a duration not exceeding six months. These facilities are not applicable to Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lankan nationals.

Harassment to Women Employees of Air Ahmedabad

1554. **SHRI BALVANT MANVAR:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the employees of All India Radio, Ahmedabad regarding harassment faced by women employees; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An enquiry was conducted in the matter and on the basis of findings of the enquiry, the contract of the employee at fault has been terminated.

Rise in smuggling activities

1555. **SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the comparative percentage of rise in the smuggling of contraband goods during 1988, 1989 and 1990 till date:

(b) the identified routes found to be vulnerable for smuggling; and

(c) the further steps taken to strengthen those weak spots?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) Smuggling being a clandestine activity, it is not possible to estimate whether the quantum of smuggling of contraband goods has increased or decreased over the last three years. However, the value of seizures of contraband effected throughout the country during 1988, 1989 and 1990 (upto 6th August) as given in the table show an increasing trend. This need not necessarily indicate a spurt in smuggling activities but could be due to intensified anti-smuggling efforts.

Available reports and seizures made indicate that both the West Coast and the East Coast of the country and the borders of India and Pakistan, India and Nepal, India and Bangladesh and India and Burma as well as the international airports and seaports all continue to be sensitive to smuggling. In order to combat smuggling, the anti-smuggling drive has been intensified and the anti-smuggling machinery throughout the country including those on the vulnerable spots of the coastline and the land borders and at the international airports and seaports has

been geared up. Close co-ordination is being maintained between all the agencies concerned in the detection and prevention of smuggling. The anti-smuggling formations have been equipped with vessels, vehicles, X-ray machines, metal detectors, night vision binoculars, fire-arms and telecommunication facilities wherever considered necessary:

| Year | Value of contraband seized (Rs. in crores) |
|--------------------|---|
| 1 | 2 |
| 1988 | 443.14 |
| 1989 | 554.59 |
| *1990 up to 6-8-90 | 387.78 |

*Figures are provisional

Opening of duty free shops

1556. **SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry have opened duty free shops at certain places in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on 30th April, 1990;

(c) the details of items being sold at those shops;

(d) whether Government propose to set up such more shops during the current year and next year for the facilities of common people; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Permission has been given by the Ministry of Finance to India Tourism Development Corporation and International Airports Authority of India to open duty free shops at specified places.

(b) As on 30th April, 1990, duty free shops are in operation at International

Airports at Bombay, Delhi, Madras, Calcutta and Trivandrum.

(c) Items sold in these shops include Cigarettes, liquors, electronic items, watches and perfumes.

(d) and (e) Permission has been granted for opening one more duty free shop at Dabolim airport, Goa. It is also proposed to set up show rooms/retail outlets at the international airports at Delhi and Bombay for the sale of jewellery to foreign tourists.

Withholding profit to Cine Workers Welfare Fund

1557. SHRI K. S. RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the grounds on which co-producers of 'Gandhi' film withheld payment of 5 percent of the net profit on 'Gandhi' film meant for Cine Workers Welfare Fund;

(b) at what stage did he object to the payment of share of profit to the Cine Workers Welfare Fund;

(c) whether Government pointed out at any time that the Cine Workers Welfare Fund cover the Cine-artistes also as per the Act of the Parliament; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the co-producer thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) The grounds on which Co-producers of the film 'GANDHI' are objecting to the transfer of 5% of net profits are as under:

(i) The Co-production and Finance Agreement provides for transfer of 5% net profits to *Cine Artistes Welfare Fund*. No such fund existed at the time of signing the Agreement.

(ii) Even the *Cine Workers Welfare Fund* was not in existence

at the time of signing the Agreement.

(iii) The Cine Workers Welfare Fund does not have the same character which Sir Richard Attenborough had in mind at the time of signing the Agreement.

(iv) The Cine Workers Welfare Fund can be utilised for the welfare of Cine Workers—skilled, unskilled, manual supervisory, technical, artistic or otherwise, for all, and is thus very broad based, whereas the intention at the time of signing the Agreement was to utilise the funds for the welfare of Cine Artistes only.

(b) The initial objections were raised by the Trustees who wanted to satisfy themselves that the profits are transferred strictly in accordance with the terms of Agreement. However, it was only in 1987 that after protracted correspondence, Sir Richard Attenborough objected to the payment of the amount by Trustees to the Cine Workers Welfare Fund.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Objections have been raised to the transfer of 5% profits on the grounds mentioned in the answer to part 'a' of the question.

Interest free loans to farmers

1558. SHRI B. RAJARAVI VARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give interest free loans to all farmers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Group Insurance Scheme for Landless Agricultural Labourers

1559. SHRI B. RAJARAVI VARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the operation of Group Insurance Scheme for landless agricultural labourers has been suspended; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the action proposed to be taken by Government for revival of the Scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Establishment of Family Courts

1560. SHRI K. S. RAO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Family Courts have been set up in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the Family Courts are likely to be established in Delhi;

(d) the number of such matrimonial cases pending in Delhi Courts; and

(e) the steps being taken for disposal of these cases expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (c) Steps have already been taken by Delhi Administration to set up 10 Family Courts in the Union Territory of Delhi, at an early date.

(d) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the house.

Smuggling of Drugs

1561. SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL:

SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the comparative percentage of the smuggling of drugs into the country since the beginning of 1990 upto July, 1990, monthwise:

(b) the quantity of drugs and other smuggled goods seized since the beginning of 1990 upto July, 1990:

(c) the areas identified where smuggling of drugs into the country is carried out;

(d) to what extent the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1989 has proved deterrent in curbing the drug smuggling; and

(e) the measures considered by Government to enforce the law rigidly to check drug smuggling?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) The quantity of drugs and other smuggled good seized in the period 1-1-1990 to 30-6-1990 are:—

| | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| OPIUM | 546 Kgs |
| Heroin | 1049 Kgs |
| Morphine | 2 Kgs. + 1388 ampules |
| Ganja | 762 Kgs. |
| Hashish | 1564 Kgs. |
| Cocaine | 1Kg. |
| Methaqualone | 682 Kg |

Other contraband goods seized valued at Rs. 379.87 crores (Provisional).

(c) Smuggling of drugs into the country is normally done from across the land borders with Pakistan, Nepal and Burma. Rajasthan, Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir States are vulnerable for Heroin and Hashish smuggling. as also Mizoram, Manipur and Nagaland for Heroin smuggling. Indo-Nepal border is sensitive for Ganja and Hashish. Stray incidents of smuggling

at other sectors of the borders also take place from time to time.

(d) and (e) The Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 as amended in 1988 provides a powerful tool to combat illicit drug trafficking in the country as also drug smuggling from across the borders. The penal provisions are very harsh. The drive against drug smuggling is a continuous process where all the enforcement agencies as well as the BSF and the State Police are involved. It is a continuous process which is being closely monitored. The Narcotics Control Bureau, the nodal agency, has been strengthened and the State Governments have also been asked to strengthen their enforcement agencies.

[Translation]

Amendments in Banks Fifth Bipartite Settlement

1562. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to incorporate some amendments in the fifth Bipartite Settlement between the banks employees' unions and banks' management;

(b) if so, whether Government have sought the approval of various organisations of banks' employees in this regard; and

(c) by what time Government propose to initiate action to revise the pay-scales of banks employees and to lift the ban on recruitment?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) The Indian Banks' Association who negotiates on behalf of public sector bank managements is reported to have signed a settlement with three industry level unions on 29th June, 1990 modifying certain provisions of the V Bipartite Settlement dated 10th April, 1989. Separate approval of unions is not necessary.

There is no ban on recruitment in banks.

Nomination of non-official members of Boards of Regional Rural Banks

1563. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to change non-official members nominated on the Boards of Directors of various regional rural banks;

(b) if so, the time by which the nomination process is likely to start; and

(c) the norms fixed by Union Government in regard to the nomination of its non-official members on Boards of Directors of various regional rural banks?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) In accordance with the provisions of the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) Act, 1976 (as amended), two non-official directors are to be nominated by the Central Government on the Board of Directors of each RRB. Persons having knowledge of Agriculture, Small Scale Industry and other related fields and belonging to the area of operation of the RRB concerned are being nominated as non-official directors on the Boards of Regional Rural Banks by the Central Government. Further as per provisions of the aforesaid Act, the non-officials nominated as directors on the Board of Regional Rural Banks shall hold office for a period not exceeding two years. The non-official directors will be replaced by Government on the expiry of their term. A non-official director will, however, continue to hold office until his successor is nominated

[English]

NRI Investment in India

1564. SHRI UDAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD:

PROF: K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total NRI investment in India as on date;

(b) whether with a view to encourage NRI investment Government have formulated any Policy to seek their participation in the form of collaboration with small scale industries; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to do so in the near future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) According to the Reserve Bank of India, the information available regarding the total NRI investments in India since April 1982 is as follows:

| | <i>Rupees in Crores</i> |
|---|-------------------------|
| (i) Direct Investment in Indian companies | 1815.92 |
| (ii) Portfolio Investment | 77.40 |
| (iii) Deposits received by Indian companies | 28.95 |
| (iv) Bank Deposits | 18378.00 |

(b) and (c) The NRI investment policy is kept under review. Government have constituted a Consultative Committee in the Department of Economic Affairs which looks into the various policy and procedural issues connected with NRI investments. As a result of the deliberations of this Committee, several Policy and procedural issues such as visa norms for NRI entrepreneurs, opening of subscription collection account at the overseas location and refund of money therefrom without bringing to India, foreign currency denominated bonds on non-repatriation basis, investments in Hotels and Air Taxis etc. have been initiated with a view to improving the Investment climate in India.

Rising Inflation

1565. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR:
SHRI T. BASHEER:
SHRI JANARDAN TIWARI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a steady rise in inflation during the past six months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the rate of inflation during the corresponding months last year; and

(d) the measures taken to contain inflation and the result thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (d) The requisite information in terms of monthly variations in the WPI (1981-82=100), during the last six months is given below:

| <i>Month end</i> | <i>Percentage Change over previous month end</i> | |
|------------------|--|-------------|
| | <i>1990</i> | <i>1989</i> |
| February | 0.4 | 0.1 |
| March | 1.2 | 0.6 |
| April | 1.4 | 1.5 |
| May | 0.6 | 1.0 |
| June | 1.7 | 1.0 |
| July | 0.7 | 1.3 |

Government has initiated several steps to contain the price rise. These include containing the budget deficit, introducing economy measures to curb Government expenditure maintaining supplies of essential commodities through PDS and strict action against hoarders and blackmarketeers.

Setting up of Cashew Board

1566. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR:

PROF. P. J. KURIEN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up a Cashew Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Kerala Government has objected to the formation of the Board; and

(d) if so, the details of the objections and the reaction of Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A revised draft proposal is under consideration by the Government of India in consultation with the Government of Kerala.

Insurance Scheme of Autonomous Bodies Employees

1567. SHRI S. KRISHNA-KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Kerala has requested Union Government to amend the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956 to enable it to carry out insurance scheme among the employees of statutory boards, corporations, co-operative societies, etc; and

(b) if so, the decision of Union Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) The Government of Kerala requested Government of India to extend the scope of its two Schemes viz. Family Benefit Scheme, 1977 and Kerala State Employees Group Insurance Scheme, 1984 so as to cover the employees of Boards, Corporations, Private Schools/Colleges, etc. As per the provisions of LIC Act, 1956 any independent insurance scheme for the employees of such local bodies, who are not Government servants, cannot be instituted outside the purview of Life Insurance Corporation of India. Accordingly, the Kerala Government's above request could not be acceded to.

[Translation]

Export of Tea

1568. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARASTE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of tea exported during 1989-90 and the amount of

foreign exchange earned therefrom; and

(b) the target fixed for its export for 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) The estimated level of quantum of export of tea during 1989-90 was 202.81 M. Kgs. and the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom was estimated at Rs. 862.45 crores.

(b) For export of tea during 1990-91, a target of 230 M. Kgs. has been kept.

Import of Edible Oil

1569. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARASTE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to import edible oil using the earnings from export of milk powder; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to export 30,000 tonnes of milk powder linked to import of edible oil of equal value.

[English]

Security of Income-tax Officials During Raids

1570. SHRI D. M. PUTTE GOWDA:

SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT:

SHRI M. V. CHANDRA SHEKARA MURTHY:

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether assistance of Central Reserve Police Force is being sought

for the security of Income Tax officials during raids:

(b) if so, whether a number of incidents of assault on raiding tax officials have been noticed recently during the current year;

(c) if so, the details and facts thereof;

(d) whether Government have also issued instructions/guidelines to State Governments to establish special courts to deal with offenders;

(e) if so the details in this regard;

(f) the number of cases of economic offences pending in each court (State-wise) as on 30 June, 1990;

(g) whether the Union Government have provided any help to the State Governments to set up such courts in their respective states; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and further steps taken by Government to dispose of such cases?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) During the calendar year 1990, one incident of assault on income-tax officials participating in search operations at Bairagad near Bhopal has been reported.

(d) to (h) The establishment of special courts comes within the purview of State Governments. The Central Government has been requesting the various State Governments to establish special courts for dealing with the cases of offences under the Direct Tax Laws.

Such special courts have already been established at Hyderabad, Muzaffarpur, Delhi, Bangalore, Indore, Ernakulam, Cuttack, Jaipur, Madras, Madurai, Allahabad, Kanpur and Ahmedabad.

Efforts are being made to establish more special courts for dealing with cases of offences under the Direct

Tax Laws at other places also so that these cases are disposed of expeditiously.

No separate statistics is being maintained with regard to court-wise pendency of proceedings relating to economic offences. However, it is reported that 35981 proceedings relating to offences under the Direct Tax Laws are pending in various courts throughout the country as on 30-6-90.

Consignment Tax

1571. SHRI D. M. PUTTE GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of States which are charging consignment tax for products sold in other States and the percentage of taxation;

(b) the major products attracting consignment tax and whether there is additional sales tax charged at the selling point causing double taxation;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Union Government propose to consult all the State Governments to bring uniformity in the consignment tax all over the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Consignment tax is not being levied in the country.

(b) to (e) Do not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

Lease by Trade Fair Authority of India

1572. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the terms and conditions on which Trade Fair Authority of India

has given some area to a private company for starting Appu Ghar in Delhi;

(b) whether a shopping complex has been set up within the Appu Ghar premises;

(c) if so, whether this was in contravention of the provisions of the agreement entered into with the company; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) A statement is given below.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

STATEMENT

The area has been given by Trade Fair Authority of India on licence basis to M/s. International Amusement Ltd., under an Agreement for an initial period of three years, from 14th November, 1984 and subsequently renewed for additional five years. The broad terms and conditions are as follows:

- (1) Licence fee of Rs. 16.50 lakhs for the first two years and Rs. 18.15 lakhs for the third year. Subsequently, for the extended period of five years, the licence fee will increase every year and reach the maximum of Rs. 25 lakhs in the year 1991-92. In addition, Trade Fair Authority of India is entitled to 50% of the Gate money.
- (2) All local taxes, levies, cesses etc. in respect of the Appu Ghar Complex shall be the sole responsibility of the licensee.
- (3) The electricity, and water charges shall be the liability of the licensee on actual basis.

(4) Complete maintenance of civil, electrical, horticulture works and security in the licensed area shall be the responsibility of the licensee.

(5) The licensee shall be liable for conformity with all labour laws and payment of labour/staff in accordance with the various Acts.

(6) The licensee is subject to the jurisdiction of the Estate Officer of Trade Fair Authority of India and to the Courts at Delhi.

(7) That the licensee shall not assign, sub-let or transfer the licensed premises.

(8) That the licensee shall pay Rs. 1,000 per kiosk/shop per month.

(9) Renewal/extension of the licence is at the discretion of the Trade Fair Authority of India.

Inclusion of Income from Royalty in Income-tax returns

1573. **SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of complaints against some high officials for non-inclusion of the income from royalty on books in their Income-tax returns, have been received by the Commissioner of Income-tax, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Payments made to Banks in respect of Agricultural Loans written off

1574. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount of waived agricultural loans has been provided to the various nationalised banks and regional rural banks; if so, the details of the amount provided to each of the banks;

(b) whether most of the rural banks are running in losses and are not able to maintain the Statutory Liquidity Ratio and have generally stopped giving loans;

(c) whether Government propose to provide the amount of waiving loans to these banks to salvage them from this situation and to provide crop loans to the farmers and people belonging to weaker sections immediately;

(d) if not, the steps proposed to be taken to improve the financial condition of these banks; and

(e) whether Government propose to continue the debt relief scheme in future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) The financial burden on account of debt relief provided by public sector banks and regional rural banks under the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990 will be borne by the Government of India. The scheme is under implementation and the amount of debt relief to be provided by individual banks and the compensation given by Government of India to them will be known only at the final stage of the implementation of the Scheme.

(b) to (d) 150 out of 196 regional rural banks (RRBs) incurred losses during the year ending 31st March,

1989. The total loans issued by RRBs during the period of 12 months upto September, 1989 amounted to Rs. 1064 crores. In order to improve the liquidity of RRBs, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) advised that advance payments would be made to them towards debt relief. As and when applications are received from them, a portion of the estimated amount eligible for relief would be given as advance and the balance amount would be made available to them on receipt of claim statements after providing the relief to the borrowers. As on 9th August, 1990, NABARD has sanctioned Rs. 102.19 crores to 99 RRBs as advance. In the case of beneficiaries under debt relief scheme, fresh credit will be given to them after providing relief under the scheme and the beneficiaries repaying the balance dues, if any.

(e) No, Sir.

New Bank of India Files

1575. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received reports to the effect that some important files of the New Bank of India have been stolen in Delhi;

(b) if so, the facts of the case;

(c) the names of the firms/persons to whom these files were connected;

(d) the name of the police station where F.I.R. in regard to the said theft has been lodged; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. New Bank of India has reported that 4 files were stolen from its office. In this connection FIR No. 138 dated 2-6-90 has been registered under Section 380, IPC at Police Station Prasad Nagar, New Delhi.

(c) The files related to M/s. KYJCC (P) Ltd. and M/s. Sunaina Sis Enterprises.

(d) and (e) FIR has been lodged with Police Station. The Watchman has been suspended by the Bank with effect from 5-6-90. Subsequently, when the office was opened on 26-6-90, these files were found to have been thrown inside the office room through a window. This matter was also reported to the police, by the bank.

[English]

Notes in Circulation

1576. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a sharp decline, in the circulation of notes during the week ending 29 June, 1990 and how does the same compare with the notes in the circulation during the last three months; and

(b) if so, the details thereof together with reasons for decline in the circulation of notes and its effect on the economy, inflation etc?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The notes in circulation recorded a decline of only 1.31 per cent in the week ending June 29, 1990. However, as the statement given below shows, they were higher than notes in circulation in the weeks ending April 6 and May 4, 1990. Further, notes in circulation started rising again from the week ending July 6, 1990. They are only one of the components of money supply (M3) which recorded a rise of 3.7 per cent in the fortnight ending June 29, 1990 over its level on March 23, 1990.

STATEMENT

| Week ending | Notes in circulation (Rs. crores) | Variation (Per cent) |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| April, 6, 1990 | 47,529 | .. |
| May 4, 1990 | 49,939 | 5.07 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---------------|--------|----------|
| June 1, 1990 | 50,659 | 1.44 |
| June 22, 1990 | 50,745 | 0.17 |
| June 29, 1990 | 50,082 | (—) 1.31 |
| July 6, 1990 | 50,519 | 0.87 |
| July 13, 1990 | 50,595 | 0.15 |

Deposits in Nationalised Banks

1577. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:
SHRI CHHITUBHAI
DEVJIBHAI:
SHRI GAMIT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether deposits in the nationalised banks have fallen sharply;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor together with details of steps taken to improve the situation and to make more funds available for investment in the planning process/developmental activities;

(c) the details of the areas from where nationalised banks are getting maximum deposits;

(d) whether there is any proposal to enhance the bank interest rates; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The areas and sectors of activities from where the banks obtain deposits varies from time to time depending on the overall growth of the economy.

(d) and (e) The currently applicable interest rates on bank deposits are considered appropriate at present. The structure of deposit rates remain under continuous review of the Reserve Bank of India.

Foreign Exchange Outgo

1578. SHRI RAM SAJIWAN:
SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI
ALI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the export earnings and foreign exchange outgo of the Colgate Palmolive Company since 1988, year-wise;

(b) whether the amount of foreign exchange sent by the Colgate Palmolive is in accordance with the law; and

(c) if not, the action taken or contemplated to stop foreign exchange drain by the company?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Abolition of Gold Control

1579. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY:
SHRI AJIT PANJA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how far the objective of abolition of Gold Control Act has been achieved and the existing position of gold market in India;

(b) whether Government have evolved any scheme to allow import of gold in the form of jewellery by Non-Resident Indians visiting India;

(c) if so, the details thereof:

(d) whether gold jewellery exporters are facing acute shortage of raw material; and

(e) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Gold

Control (Repeal) Act, 1990 came into the force on 6th June 1990, hence it is too early to assess the impact of abolition of Gold (Control) Act, 1968.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(c) In view of (b) above, question does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Shortage of gold is being experienced by gold jewellery exporters due to non-availability of gold with the State Bank of India and problems existing at the Government of India Mint which serves State Bank of India and other customers within the limitations of available capacity.

Export targets set by Engineering Export Promotion Council

1580. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the targets laid down by the Engineering Export Promotion Council (EEPC) for export of engineering goods till 1994-95;

(b) where does India stand in the matter of production of qualitative engineering goods for the world market?

(c) the amount of foreign exchange spent for importing engineering goods and the amount of foreign exchange earned through export of engineering goods during the last five years; and

(d) whether any new export targets were recently identified by any Government agency and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) Engineering Export Promotion Council, a Government sponsored organisation, set up to promote export of engineering goods and services, has set itself the following targets for export from engineering sector during 1990-91 to 1994-95:

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Export Target in Crore Rs.</i> |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 |
| 1990-91 | 3400 |
| 1991-92 | 3725 |
| 1992-93 | 4675 |
| 1993-94 | 5350 |
| 1994-95 | 6450 |

(b) India's export of engineering items to the different world markets has been steadily going up over the years reaching Rs. 2350 crores in 1989-90. However, the share of Indian engineering export in total world engineering exports is low and stands at about 0.11% at present.

(c) The export of engineering items and the import of engineering items during 1985-86 to 1989-90 were as follows:—

(In crore Rs.)

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Export</i> | <i>Import</i> |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1985-86 | 979 | 4285 |
| 1986-87 | 1044 | 5467 |
| 1987-88 | 1105 | 6566 |
| 1988-89 | 1589 | 6939 |
| 1989-90 | 2350 | 7251 |

(d) No, Sir.

Survey for Assessing Domestic Demand of Mild Steel

1581. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to assess the domestic demand of mild steel for the next five years;

(b) whether and plan has been evolved to meet the domestic demand for mild steel without importing; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW

& JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMY): (a) to (c) The VIII Plan Working Group has estimated the demand of all types of mild steel to be about 22.0 million tonnes by the end of the VIII Plan (1994-95). Private Sector is being encouraged to increase production of steel; SAIL Plants are being modernised to increase their production and productivity. Some imports will still be necessary with these efforts.

National Judicial Commission

1582. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY:

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:

SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT:

PROF. K.V. THOMAS:

SHRI B.N. REDDY:

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:

SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the reservations expressed by the Chief Justice of India in regard to the setting up of the National Judicial Commission; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) The Government have introduced the Constitution (Sixty Seventh Amendment) Bill, 1990 in the Lok Sabha on 18-5-90 regarding the setting up of a National Judicial Commission for appointment of Judges of the High Courts and the Supreme Court and for transfer of Judges of the High Courts. Earlier, the Chief Justice of India had expressed certain reservations about the proposed National Judicial Commission. He has now intimated that

the Conference of Chief Justices convened by him on 31st August and 1st September, 1990 will also consider the matter of appointment of Judges, and has requested the Government to await the views of the Chief Justices' Conference on the proposed Commission.

The request of the Chief Justice of India is receiving the attention of the Government.

[*Translation*]

Poor Reception of Doordarshan in Khandwa, M.P.

1583. SHRI AMRATLAL VALLABHDAS TARWALA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan programmes cannot be viewed clearly in Khandwa, (M.P.); and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and the steps being taken to remove these defects and the time by which these are likely to be removed?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) No, Sir. The low power TV transmitter at Khandwa is reported to be functioning normally and is providing satisfactory service within its service area.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Waiver of Agricultural loans in Mizoram

1584. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to waive agricultural loans up to Rs. 10,000/-;

(b) if so, the number of persons in Mizoram who are eligible for debt relief under the above scheme, district-wise;

(c) whether Government will bear the total amount involved in waiver of such loans granted to people of Mizoram since Mizoram is a non-industrial State and formed as a special category State; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (d) The Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990 formulated by Government of India provides for debt relief to the extent of Rs. 10,000/- to eligible borrowers from public sector banks and regional rural banks. The State Governments including Mizoram have been advised by Central Government to formulate a similar scheme in respect of cooperative banks.

The scheme is uniformly applicable to whole of India, and as such, the question of categorising the States according to their status of development, industrially or otherwise, does not arise. While the burden of debt relief to be provided under the scheme by public sector banks and regional rural banks will be borne by the Central Government, that in respect of cooperative sector will be shared equally by the Central and State Governments. The exact number of beneficiaries and quantum of relief provided under the Scheme will be known only at the final stage of implementation of the Scheme.

[*Translation*]

Loans Advanced by State Bank of India to industrial units

1585. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of loans advanced by the State Bank of India to

industrial units which was outstanding as on June 30, 1990;

(b) whether the financial position of some of these units is not sound and they are lying closed;

(c) if so, the number of such units and the amount of loans provided to these units;

(d) whether the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has chalked out certain plans for the revival of these units; and

(e) if so, the number of these units?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) State Bank of India has reported that the total amount of loans advanced by the SBI to Industrial units including small scale units which was outstanding as on June 30, 1990 is Rs. 16.497 crores.

(b) and (c) The number of units, including SSI units, whose financial position is not sound are reported to be 70,799 and loans sanctioned to these units amount to Rs. 413 crores.

(d) BIFR, which has been established under Section 4 of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 has jurisdiction for rehabilitating sick companies which are in the non-SSI sector. In the case of all such units the law provides that on a reference being made to them, BIFR must take cognizance of such companies in order to attempt their rehabilitation in accordance with the said Act.

(e) 181 units, of which:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| (i) rehabilitation packages finalised | 38 |
| (ii) winding up notices issued | 20 |
| (iii) rejected or yet be registered | 50 |
| (iv) hearing is in progress | 73 |
| Total | 181 |

Setting up of a unit song and drama Division in Pithoragarh, U.P.

1586. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a unit of Song and Drama Division in Pithoragarh district of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) whether this unit is likely to be set up during 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Doordarshan Tower at Pithoragarh (Uttar Pradesh)

1587. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the transmission of the Doordarshan Tower at Pithoragarh in Uttar Pradesh has been poor for quite a long period;

(b) if so, the details of the complaints received in this connection;

(c) whether steps have been taken to remove these complaints; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) The low power TV transmitter at Pithoragarh is reported to be functioning normally, but its coverage is somewhat limited because of the obstructions caused by the hilly terrain of the area.

(b) to (d) Complaints regarding poor coverage of the transmitter have been

received, from time to time, from various quarters. The TV coverage in Pithoragarh district is expected to improve with the commissioning of the very low power transmitter under implementation at Munsiri. Further improvement in TV coverage in the district depends upon the availability of resources for the purpose.

Smuggling of foodgrains on Indo-Nepal Border

1588. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaint in regard to the large scale smuggling of foodgrains etc. from Nainital and Pithoragarh districts of Uttar Pradesh into Nepal;

(b) if so, the number of cases of smuggling detected during last one year; and

(c) the further action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) Available reports do not indicate any instances of smuggling of foodgrains from Nainital and Pithoragarh districts of Uttar Pradesh into Nepal in the recent past. However, the Enforcement agencies remain alert against smuggling activities throughout the country including those on the Indo-Nepal border. Close co-ordination is being maintained between all the agencies concerned with the detection and prevention of smuggling.

[English]

Tax Evasion by Tobacco and Drug Companies

1589. SHRI KARIA MUNDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some foreign share holding companies, particularly tobacco and drug companies, have evaded huge Excise duty and other taxes

and opened their office abroad to legalise their black money;

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

(c) whether Government propose to direct these companies to close their offices abroad to meet shortage of foreign exchange; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Mis-Utilisation of Foreign Exchange Allotted to companies in Delhi

1590. SHRI KARIA MUNDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the foreign exchange allotted to M/s. ITC Ltd., Glaxo Ltd., Asian Paints Ltd. and to 5-Star Hotels in Delhi during the last two years.

(b) whether instances of misutilisation of the foreign exchange by the above companies/hotels have come to the notice of Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) No case of misutilisation of foreign exchange released to the named companies and five star hotels in Delhi has come to the notice of the Enforcement Directorate during the last two years.

Hotels with Foreign Share Holdings

1591. SHRI KARIA MUNDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the names of hotels in India with foreign share holdings;

(b) whether Government propose to fully Indianise such hotel;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) to (d) There are no share holding in hotels as such but in Companies that may own hotels, Foreign hotel chains are allowed equity participation under joint colla-boration agreement with Indian Com-panies with prior approval of Govern-ment of India. There are no proposal to reduce foreign share holdings.

Development of Pilgrimage places in Bihar

1592. SHRI KARIA MUNDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the pilgrimage places in Bihar proposed to be devel-oped during the Eighth Plan period; and

(b) the estimated expenditure and the target fixed to complete the devel-opment work at these places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) and (b) During the first year of Eighth Five Year Plan, the Government of Bihar suggested in-clusion of following pilgrim centres for infrastructural development:— Vaishali, Gaya, Bodh Gaya, Valmiki Nagar, Nalanda and Rajgir.

The State Government has not yet submitted specific proposals.

Cases pending in J&K High Court

1593. SHRI PIYARE LAL HANDOO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending disposal in Jammu and Kashmir High Court as on 1 July, 1990 and their break up into civil original, criminal (Appeals & References) with original, writs (appellate) and Miscellaneous; and

(b) the steps being taken by Go-vernment for the disposal of these cases expeditiously;

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOS-WAMI): (a) The pendency of cases as on 1st July, 1990 in J&K High Court is not available. However, as on 31-12-1989, 42099 cases were pending in Jammu & Kashmir High Court, the break-up of which is as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Civil Original | 7971 |
| Criminal (Appeals and References) | 1140 |
| Other Main Criminal Cases | 1664 |
| Writ Petition | 9519 |
| Miscellaneous cases | 21805 |

(b) Various steps like grouping of cases involving common questions of law, constitution of special benches etc. have been taken to reduce pen-dency of cases in the High Courts. A Committee of 3 Chief Justices of High Courts has been constituted by the Government in January, 1989 to study the problem of arrears in Courts and to suggest remedial measure.

Recovery of over payment for export of Frozen Meat

1594. SHRI YADVENDRA DATT: Will the Minister of COM-MERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Go-vernment has been drawn to the ob-servation of the C&AG contained in

para 8 of his report on Union Government (civil) for the year ended 31 March, 1988 (No. 13 of 1990) regarding irregular payment of cash assistance on exports of frozen meat below minimum export price; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken by Government to recover the over payment made to the parties concerned?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Comptroller & Auditor General of India has referred to the irregular payment of Cash Assistance totalling Rs. 28.49 lakhs on the export of Frozen Meat below the minimum export price. These payments related to 49 cases for the period 1977-78 to 1984-85 involving six firms. The matter is under investigation and steps are being taken to recover the amount from the firms concerned wherever the payments are found to be irregular.

Establishment of Vijaynagar Steel Plant

1595. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the establishment of steel plant at Vijaynagar in Karnataka has been delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) the progress made so far in the establishment of the plant;

(d) whether it could be set up during the Eighth Plan; and

(e) if so, the steps taken therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (e) Vijayanagar Steel Plant in Karnataka could not be implemented as adequate resources

were not available in the VII Plan. Implementation of the project during the VIII Plan will also depend upon allocation of resources.

Trade with South Korea

1596. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps have been taken by Government to increase trade with South Korea;

(b) if so, the major items being exported to South Korea and foreign exchange earned therefrom during the last three years;

(c) the foreign exchange outgo due to imports from South Korea during the same period;

(d) whether any new proposal for trade agreement has come from South Korea; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) Yes, Sir. Government have taken various steps to boost trade with South Korea.

(b) and (c) Iron ore, engineering goods, textiles, chemicals and pharmaceuticals, oil meals, leather and manufactures are the major items of Indian exports to South Korea. As per DGCI&S's statistics, Indian exports to South Korea and imports therefrom during the last three years were as under:

(Value in Rs. crores)

| Year | Imports | Exports |
|----------|---------|---------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1987-88* | 329.30 | 140.82 |
| 1988-89* | 432.12 | 182.56 |
| 1989-90* | 557.24 | 268.11 |

(*Provisional)

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Unearthing of Non-Ferrous metals Racket by Central Economic Intelligence Bureau

1597. SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau has unearthed a major racket cornering non-ferrous metals meant for actual users and their sale in the black market during June 1990;

(b) if so, the details of the searches carried out by the Bureau on the firms;

(c) the details of the frauds committed by these firms; and

(d) the further action contemplated by Government against the involved officials?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) The Central Economic Intelligence Bureau searched in December 1989, the business and residential premises of three persons allegedly involved in the sale of non-ferrous metals, obtained from MMTC under the guise of actual users. Investigations revealed that a number of fictitious firms were set up by these persons and the purchase of non-ferrous metals was financed through bank credit. The metals were sold at a premium in the open market by misusing the facility available to actual users under the Import and Export Control Policy. The cases so far detected, involve lifting of non-ferrous metals to the tune of Rs. 8.5 crores in 1988-89 from MMTC. Three persons have been arrested under the Customs Act, 1962.

(d) Investigations at this stage do not indicate the involvement of government officials.

Development of Tourism Through private sector

1598. SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT:

DR. ASIM BALA:

SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT:

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to promote tourism in the country through private sector during the Eighth Plan period;

(b) whether State Governments have chalked out any plans/schemes to develop tourism in the private sector;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what will be the contribution of private sector in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) It is proposed to continue the stress on encouraging private sector investment in developing tourism in the country during the 8th Plan period.

(b) and (c) Both Central and State Governments have announced a number of incentives for attracting private investment in the tourism sector. As many as 14 State Governments and 3 Union Territories have declared tourism as industry and 4 State Governments have declared hotels as industry which enables them to get various physical and financial benefits. The State Governments also provide basic infrastructure facilities like roads, water supply, electricity etc.

(d) The contribution of the private sector will be in the development of

hotels, restaurants, travel facilities and other tourism related activities. [English]

[Translation]

Conversion of partnership firm having liability of a Nationalised bank into a private Ltd. concern

1599. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any partnership firm having liability of any nationalised bank can convert itself into a private limited concern without seeking permission from the concerned bank;

(b) if not, the number of such partnership firms, which have converted themselves into private limited concerns without the permission of the Central Bank of India in Madhya Pradesh particularly in Vidisha and Raisen districts during the last three years; and

(c) the action taken against these firms?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Normally, it is expected that before change in constitution such as conversion of a partnership firm into a private limited company, prior permission of the financing bank will be required.

(b) Central Bank of India has reported that only one partnership firm was converted into a Private Ltd. company during the last three years in Vidisha and Raisen districts. The branch and the Regional Office of the bank had given permission for the above conversion and continuance of the limit since all the assets and liabilities were taken over by the company and there was no reduction in their net worth.

(c) Does not arise.

Development of pilgrimage centre in states

1600. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the names of pilgrimage centres developed in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat during the Seventh Plan period with central assistance:

(b) the details of pilgrimage centres proposed to be developed in these States during the Eighth Plan Period; and

(c) the amount earmarked for the development of each of these centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) The Central Department of Tourism have provided financial assistance for infrastructural and other developmental schemes for the following pilgrim centres in States of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat:—

1. *Madhya Pradesh*: Amar-kantank, Chitrakoot, Onkaresh-war, Bhoramdeo and Sanchi.
2. *Rajasthan*: Ranakpur, Talavriksha, Osian.
3. *Himachal Pradesh*: Chamundadevi, Rawalsar, Chintpurni.
4. *Gujarat*: Dwarka, Byet Dwarka, Somnath, Tithal, Dakor, Pawagarh and Patan.

(b) and (c) The list of proposals to be taken up during Eighth Five Year Plan has not yet been finalised.

[*Translation*]

Loans Advanced by Branches of Central Bank of India in Raisen and Vidisha Districts

1601. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of partnership firms and Private Ltd. concerns in Raisen and Vidisha districts against which the officers of the Central Bank of India have made complaints during the last two years in regard to the irregularities committed by them in their stocks;

(b) whether, in spite of that, the branches of the Central Bank of India in the above districts have provided the loan facilities to the said firms; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) Central Bank of India has reported that there was no specific complaint against any partnership or Private Ltd. firm in Raisen and Vidisha districts regarding irregularities committed by such firms on their stocks. However, performance of one of the firms enjoying credit facilities with its Vidisha branch was adversely affected due to continuous drought condition from 1986 to 1988 resulting in accumulation of stocks, delayed realisation of receivables, etc. However, need-based credit requirements were extended to it from time to time by the appropriate authorities of the bank.

Opening of Bank Branches in Himachal Pradesh

1602. PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licences issued during the last one year for opening the branches of nationalised banks in

Hamirpur, Una, Bilaspur and Kangra districts of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) the number of branches opened out of these so far;

(c) the number of branches that could not be opened indicating the reasons therefor; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) The number of licences issued during the last one year, i.e. from 1-4-89 to 31-3-90 and the number of branches opened in the districts of Hamirpur, Una, Bilaspur and Kangra in Himachal Pradesh are as follows:

| <i>Name of the Districts</i> | <i>No. of licences issued</i> | <i>No. of branches opened</i> |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. Hamirpur | 4 | 3 |
| 2. Una | 5 | 3 |
| 3. Bilaspur | 6 | .. |
| 4. Kangra | 10 | 8 |
| Total | 25 | 14 |

(c) and (d) Licences for the remaining branches could not be utilised because of non availability of infrastructural facilities such as premises, connected roads, communication and security arrangements. The validity period of the licences has been extended upto 30-9-1990 to enable the banks to open branches at the remaining centres.

[*English*]

Deposits and loans advanced by banks in Himachal Pradesh

1603. PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of deposits in the nationalised banks in Hamirpur, Una,

Bilaspur and Kangra districts of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether the credit deposit ratio of nationalised banks in the above districts is below the national credit deposit ratio; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) The aggregate deposits, and the Credit Deposit (C:D) Ratio of all scheduled commercial banks in the following 4 districts of Himachal Pradesh as on the last Friday of March, 1990 (latest available data) are as under:—

| | <i>(Rs. in crores)</i> | |
|-------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| | <i>Deposits</i> | <i>C:D Ratio(%)</i> |
| 1. Hamirpur | 106.54 | 16.1 |
| 2. Una | 97.40 | 46.4 |
| 3. Bilaspur | 39.85 | 28.9 |
| 4. Kangra | 295.83 | 21.3 |

The C:D ratio for Himachal Pradesh on that date was 38.6% while the All India figure was 65.8%. However, the C:D ratio in an area is not an accurate indicator of the adequacy or otherwise of credit deployed in that area. The same is influenced by the level of economic activity, the extent of deposit mobilisation and the availability of suitable investment opportunities.

[*Translation*]

Poor Reception of Doordarshan Programmes in Districts of Hamirpur and Kangra

1604. PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints from people of districts Hamirpur and Kangra in Himachal Pradesh regarding poor reception of Doordarshan Programmes;

(b) whether there is a demand for setting up of a LPTs at Ashapuri of Kangra and another one in Sujampur Tihra of Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It is the endeavour of Doordarshan to extend TV service especially to hilly areas as expeditiously as possible but this objective can be achieved only in a phased manner depending upon availability of fund.

Foreign Tourist Visit

1605. PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign tourists visited India this year upto 31 May, 1990;

(b) the extent of increase or decrease in their number in comparison to figures of foreign tourists visiting India during the corresponding period last year; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) to (c) The number of foreign tourists who visited India during January-May, 1990 were 5,53,334, excluding the nationals of Pakistan and Bangladesh. The arrivals during the above period registered an increase of about 6.4% over the corresponding period of the previous year due to promotional efforts in the overseas markets.

Import of Gold

1606. SHRI MANJAY LAL:
SHRI Y.S. RAJASEKHAR
REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Times of India dated 25 July, 1990 captioned "Ministries differ on gold import scheme".

(b) if so, whether any final decision has been taken regarding import of gold; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN
THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Yes,
Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In view of (b) above, question does not arise.

[*English*]

Purchasing Power of Rupee

1607. SHRI MANJAY LAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the purchasing power of Indian rupee is declining continuously;

(b) if so, the position with regard to purchasing power of rupee by the end of 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90;

(c) whether the purchasing power of rupee has further declined in the country during the past six months; and

(d) if so, the specific steps taken to stabilise the rupee and with what success?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN
THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to
(d). The movements in purchasing

power of the rupee defined as the reciprocal of the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (1982=100) by the end of 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 and during the months January to June, 1990 are given below:

| <i>Period</i> | <i>Purchasing Power of Rupee (in paise)</i> |
|-------------------------|---|
| <i>Year end</i> | |
| 1987-88 | 65.36 |
| 1988-89 | 60.24 |
| 1989-90 | 56.40 |
| <i>Months 1990</i> | |
| January | 57.47 |
| February | 57.14 |
| March | 56.50 |
| April | 55.56 |
| May | 54.95 |
| June (latest available) | 54.05 |

Government have initiated several steps to prevent erosion in purchasing power of rupee as a result of rise in prices. These include containing the budget deficit, introducing economy measures to curb Government expenditure, maintaining supplies of essential commodities through PDS and strict action against hoarders and blackmarketeers.

Utilisation of Foreign AID

1608. SHRI NARSINGRAO
SURYAWANSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "unutilised foreign aid piling up fast" appearing in the Deccan Herald dated 6 April, 1990;

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

(c) the further steps taken by Government in this regard for full utilisation of foreign aid?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A number of factors have contributed to less than anticipated utilisation of external loans/credits. These include delay in securing mandatory approvals, resolution of technical issues, procurement and implementation delays and inadequate availability of counter-part funds.

The progress of projects financed with foreign assistance are constantly being reviewed. Procedures for approvals have been simplified and progress of projects is being monitored with a view to improving the disbursement of loans/credits already committed.

Waiver of agricultural loans in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

1609. **SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKATA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the agricultural loans advanced to the farmers in Andaman and Nicobar Islands would be written off;

(b) if so, the total amount involved in nationalised banks and co-operative banks, separately;

(c) whether the entire amount for Andaman and Nicobar Islands would be borne by Union Government, it being a Union Territory;

(d) if so, whether necessary directions have been issued in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (f) The Agricultural and Rural Debt

Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990 formulated by the Central Government covers the whole country including Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. While the burden of debt relief to be provided under the scheme by public sector banks will be borne by Central Government, that in respect of co-operative banks will be shared equally from the Central Government budget and the budget of Union Territory. All the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations including Andaman and Nicobar Islands have been requested to formulate a scheme for borrowers of Cooperatives on the lines of Government of India's Scheme. The exact number of beneficiaries and quantum of relief provided bank-wise under the Scheme will be known only at the final stage of implementation of the Scheme.

Promotion of adventure tourism

1610. **SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKATA:** Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have laid emphasis on the need for promoting adventure tourism so as to make people aware of environmental protection;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) to (c) The Central Department of Tourism is fully conscious of the need to make people aware of environmental protection and for that purpose all tourism related schemes are approved after ensuring that all requisite formalities are complied with and necessary clearances are obtained from concerned authorities. These include factors relating to environmental protection.

[*Translation*]

Loans advanced by State Bank of India and Allahabad Bank to women entrepreneurs of Uttar Pradesh

1611. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of women entrepreneurs of Uttar Pradesh to whom loans have been sanctioned by the State Bank of India and the Allahabad Bank during the last three years;

(b) the average time taken to sanction such loans; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken to further simplify the procedure in this regard to reduce the time taken in sanctioning the loans?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) The number of women entrepreneurs of Uttar Pradesh to whom the loans have been sanctioned by State Bank of India and Allahabad Bank during the last three years, as reported by them, are as under:

| Year | State Bank of India | Allahabad Bank |
|---------------|---------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| December 1987 | 9472 | .. |
| March 1988 | .. | 18825 |
| March 1989 | 15466 | 20849 |
| March 1990 | 20598 | 22615 |

(b) and (c) Reserve Bank of India has advised the banks that all loan applications upto a limit of Rs. 25,000 should be disposed of within a fortnight and those over Rs. 25,000 within 8 to 9 weeks and this time frame is usually being adhered to.

Financial Assistance for Beautification of Tourist centres

1612. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any allocation has been made by Union Government for the beautification of tourist centres during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the funds allocated for various tourist centres of Uttar Pradesh with the district-wise details of the tourist centres to be beautified; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[*English*]

Replacement of old Equipment of Bangalore Doordarshan Kendra

1613. SHRI H.C. SRIKANTIAH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the equipments of Bangalore Doordarshan Kendra have become obsolete;

(b) if so, whether Bangalore Door-darshan has requested Government for replacing the old equipments; and

(c) the steps taken to provide new equipments to Bangalore Doordarshan Kendra?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMA-TION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) The equipment installed at Doordarshan Kendra, Bangalore, is well with-in its useful life span and has not, therefore, become obsolete.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Financial assistance to Small Scale Units

1614. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small Industries Development Bank of India has decided to provide increased financial assistance while liberalising its single source scheme;

(b) whether it has been proposed to provide working capital upto rupees five lakhs through the State Financial Corporations to such small scale units which have project cost upto rupees ten lakhs; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has reported that it has liberalised its single window scheme from April 2, 1990. Under the revised scheme, working capital assistance upto Rs. 5 lakhs would be available to new SSI units having project costs upto Rs. 10 lakhs. This scheme stipulates sanction of term loan for appreciation of fixed assets as well as working capital assistance by the State Financial Corporations/ Twin-Function State Industrial Development Corporations to facilitate composite financing of SSI Units.

Consumption of Petrol

1615. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

SHRI HET RAM:

SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH:

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

DR. C. SILVERA:

SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of increasing consumption of petrol by Government offices/Ministries and other Public Undertakings, Government have issued orders to curtail its consumption;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the officers of the cadre of Joint Secretary and above will be provided Government vehicle for travelling to and fro between office and home on the payment of a fixed amount;

(d) if so, the cadre-wise amount fixed to be charged;

(e) whether the monthly expenditure on petrol from Government expenditure has also been restricted for such officers; and

(f) if so, the guidelines issued to the officers in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Instructions have been issued to Central Government Ministries/Departments and Public Sector Undertakings that they should reduce their petrol and diesel consumption by 20% compared to the consumption in 1989-90. These Departments and Public Sector Undertakings have also been instructed to evolve suitable modalities for monitoring compliance of these instructions.

(c) and (d) An order has since been issued that with effect from 1-6-90 an amount of Rs. 75/- p.m. will be recovered in respect of officers of the level of Joint Secretary and Rs. 100/- p.m. in respect of officers of the level of Additional Secretary and above, who avail of this facility.

(e) and (f) An overall reduction of 20% in consumption of petrol and diesel in Govt. vehicles has been imposed as explained in (a) and (b) above, which would include journeys between office and residences by officers of the level of Joint Secretaries and above.

New pay scales in Audit and Accounts Department

1616. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the former Comptroller and Auditor General of India had recommended new pay scales for the Audit and Accounts Officers of the Indian Audit and Accounts Department;

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

(c) whether these recommendations have been accepted by Government; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The recommendation is that 80% posts of Audit/Accounts Officers may be placed in a higher scale of Rs. 2200-4000.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The pay structure of Government employees has been gone into by the Fourth Central Pay Commission and its recommendations in respect of Audit and Accounts Officers have been accepted and implemented. The recommendations of the former Comptroller and Auditor General of India were considered and it was

held that the scale of Rs. 2375-3500 recommended by the Fourth Central Pay Commission is appropriate.

The present Comptroller and Auditor General of India has revived this proposal and the same is under consideration.

[English]

Concessional financial assistance by foreign countries to India

1617. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY:

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of concessional financial assistance provided by foreign countries to India during the years 1988, 1989 and 1990 (till date); and

(b) the projects assisted and likely to be assisted by the said assistance?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) The details of concessional financial assistance provided by foreign countries to India during 1988, 1989 and 1990 are given below in Statement-I part of FRG/FRENCH assistance is not concessional in nature. It is, however, not possible to segregate the amount.

(b) Details of project-wise assistance extended by foreign countries during 1988, 1989 and 1990 are given below in Statement-II.

STATEMENT I

*Country-wise assistance provided during 1988, 1989 and 1990**(In Rupees Crores)*

| <i>Name of the Country/ Institution</i> | <i>1988-89</i> | <i>1989-90</i> | <i>1990 (Upto June '90)</i> |
|---|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. Austria | 0.00 | 7.16 | 16.15 |
| 2. Belgium | 1.18 | 1.44 | .. |
| 3. Denmark | 9.54 | 7.36 | .. |
| 4. France | 128.67 | 161.57 | 34.79 |
| 5. F.R.G. | 262.07 | 266.09 | 56.36 |
| 6. Italy | 42.52 | 105.41 | 5.14 |
| 7. Japan | 318.26 | 420.96 | 27.59 |
| 8. Netherlands | 89.82 | 51.76 | 3.82 |
| 9. U.S.A. | 40.11 | 40.36 | 3.77 |
| 10. Switzerland | 4.37 | 17.48 | 4.23 |
| 11. Kuwait Fund | 1.82 | 1.33 | 1.29 |
| 12. O.P.E.C. | 28.97 | 6.92 | 4.91 |
| 13. Saudi Fund | 5.58 | 42.62 | 5.28 |
| 14. Czechoslovakia | 11.63 | 22.15 | 4.94 |
| 15. U.S.S.R. | 207.26 | 218.40 | 75.82 |
| 16. Sweden | 0.00 | 90.16 | 24.35 |
| 17. Spain | .. | 29.73 | .. |
| TOTAL | 1151.80 | 1490.90 | 268.44 |

STATEMENT II

*Assistance extended by bilateral donor agencies (Foreign countries during 1988, 1989 and 1990, Project-wise)**Figs. in
donor
currency
million*

| <i>Country</i> | <i>Project</i> | <i>Amount Yen Billion</i> |
|----------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | <i>1988-89</i> | |
| <i>Japan</i> | 1. Raichur Thermal Power Station Expansion | 23.14 |
| | 2. Ghatghar Pumped Storage Project | 11.41 |
| | 3. Tourism Infrastructure Development | 9.25 |
| | 4. Small Scale Industries Development Programme | 19.50 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|----------------|---|------------------------------|
| | 5. Upper Kolab Irrigation | 3.77 |
| | 6. Upper Indravati Irrigation | 3.74 |
| | 7. Ramagundam Fertilizer Plant Rehabilitation | 11.13 |
| | 8. Mysore Paper Mills Modernisation and Renovation. | 2.38 |
| | 9. Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Modernisation | 1.51 |
| | 10. Debt Relief Grant Aid | 1.11 |
| | 11. Medical Equipment for Regional Cancer Centres and for Cancer Institute, Madras. | 0.64 |
| | 12. Grand aid for improvement of Educational Technology Equipment for Indira Gandhi National Open University. | 0.61 |
| | 13. Cultural Grant Aid for import of Audio-visual equipment for the Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts. | 0.04 |
| | 14. Grant aid for import of Fertilizers (DAP) | 0.60 |
| E.E.C. | | <i>Million ECU</i> |
| | 1. Inland Fisheries Development | 22.10 |
| | 2. Tank Irrigation Phase-II, Tamil Nadu | 24.50 |
| | 3. Agricultural Markets, Kerala | 18.65 |
| | 4. South Bhagirathi Watershed Phase-II, U.P. | 8.40 |
| Denmark | | <i>Danish Krone Million</i> |
| | 1. Handpump Rejuvenation, Madhya Pradesh | 10.00 |
| | 2. Non-formal and Adult Education for Fishermen, Tamil Nadu | 3.00 |
| | 3. Optical Fibre Project - ECL/ITI | 112.70 |
| France | | <i>French Franks Million</i> |
| | 1. CPRI-SPIC Battigonolles | } 1230.00 |
| | 2. Eastern Railways, Calcutta | |
| | 3. DESU — Alsthom | |
| | 4. NTPC Stein Ind. Talcher STPs. | |
| | 5. Coal India CDF | |
| | 6. Coal India — CDF Kondwadi | |
| | 7. Coal India — CDF Kottadih | |
| | 8. Singerini Collieries | |
| | 9. Viral Vaccine Plant | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|--------------------|--|----------------------|
| <i>U.K.</i> | | <i>£ Million</i> |
| | 1. Uri Hydro Electric Project | 17.16 |
| | 2. A. P. Primary School Building | 0.63 |
| | 3. Indore Habitat | 14.40 |
| | 4. Hyderabad Habitat Phase III | 14.94 |
| <i>Switzerland</i> | | <i>SRF Million</i> |
| | 1. International Centre for Training and Research in Tropical Sericulture, Mysore. | 0.79 |
| | 2. Research on Improving Access to credit and Technology, Assurance and Ability of the Poor High Risk Environment. | 0.28 |
| | 3. Indo-Swiss Coop. in Biotechnology | 1.21 |
| | 4. Nettur Technical Training Foundation (NTTF) | 0.44 |
| <i>Canada</i> | | <i>US \$ Million</i> |
| | 1. Simulator for Indian Airlines | 16.8 |
| | 2. Rajmahal Opencast Coalmines project | 212.5 |
| <i>USAID</i> | | <i>\$ Million</i> |
| | 1. Bio-medical Research Support | 1.00 |
| | 2. Program for the Advancement of Commercial Technology | 1.70 |
| | 3. Child Survival Health Support project | 8.00 |
| | 4. Family Planning Communication and Marketing project. | 2.50 |
| | 5. Development Management and Training | 1.50 |
| | 6. Contraceptive Development and Research in Immunology. | 2.20 |
| | 7. Plant Genetics Resources | 2.60 |
| | 8. Technical Assistance and Support | 2.20 |
| | 9. Program for Acceleration of Commercial Energy Research (PACER) | 2.00 |
| | 10. Water Resources Management and Training | 2.00 |
| <i>USAID</i> | | <i>\$ Million</i> |
| | <i>1989-90</i> | |
| | 1. Technical Assistance and Support | 3.60 |
| | 2. Program for Advancement of Commercial Technology (PACT) | 0.80 |
| | 3. Child Survival Health Support | 5.70 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|--------------|---|--|
| | 4. Water Resources Management and Training | 12.30 |
| | 4. Vaccine and Immunodiagnostic | 1.00 |
| | 6. Plant Genetics Resources | 1.00 |
| | 7. Centre for Technology Development (CTD) | 3.00 |
| | 8. National Social Forestry | 13.70 |
| <i>Japan</i> | | <i>Yen Billion</i> |
| | 1. Basin Bridge Gas Turbine | 11.45 |
| | 2. Gandhar Gas Based Combine Cycle Power-I | 13.05 |
| | 3. Bhavani Kattalai Barrage Hydro-Electric-I | 5.41 |
| | 4. Anpara Power Transmission System Project-I | 19.32 |
| | 5. System Improvement Project of REC. | 24.38 |
| | 6. Engineering Services for Kolaghat Thermal Power Station Fly-Ash Utilisation Project. | 0.17 |
| | 7. Engineering Services for Indira Gandhi Nahar Project. | 0.08 |
| | 8. Karnataka State Comprehensive Land Use Management. | 16.05 |
| | 9. Rolling Stock Workshop Modernisation | 1.26 |
| | 10. Engineering Services for Modernisation of Burnpur Works of IISCO. | 5.55 |
| | 11. Grant aid for Improvement of Medical Equipment of Regional Cancer Centres in the country. | 0.62 |
| | 12. Grant aid for increasing food production—import of DAP. | 0.60 |
| | 13. Debt Relief Grant aid | 505.50 |
| | 14. Debt Relief Grant aid | 467.09 |
| | 15. Grant Aid for supply of auto-visual equipment to the Sangeet Natak Akademy. | 0.04 |
| | 16. Grant aid for improvement of fire fighting and rescue equipment. | 0.37 |
| | 17. Grant aid for exploitation of Ground water. | 0.50 |
| <i>USSR</i> | | <i>Russian Roubles Million</i> |
| | 1. Kayamkulam Thermal Power — Kerala | } 990.00 |
| | 2. Mangalore Thermal Power — Karnakata | |
| | 3. Maithon Thermal Power — Bihar and associated transmission lines for Vindhychal Thermal power Station Stage-II. | |
| <i>EEC</i> | | <i>ECU Million</i> |
| | 1. Strengthening of Veterinary Services for Live-stock Disease control. | 40.3 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|--------------------|--|------------------------------|
| | 2. Afforestation of Aravalli Hills | 23.2 |
| | 3. Bhimtal Integrated Watershed Development | 4.4 |
| <i>Denmark</i> | | <i>Danish Kroner Million</i> |
| | 1. Pudukottai Livestock Development — Tamil Nadu. | 23.54 |
| | 2. Women and Youth Training/Extension (WYTEP) — Karnataka — Phase-II. | 59.70 |
| | 3. Karnataka Watershed Development | 48.80 |
| | 4. Integrated Rural Water and Sanitation — Karnataka. | 50.00 |
| | 5. Integrated Rural Sanitation and Water Supply, Tamil Nadu. | 35.00 |
| | 6. Health Care Project — Phase II, Madhya Pradesh. | 62.90 |
| | 7. Health Care Project — Phase II — Tamil Nadu. | 66.30 |
| | 8. National Programme for Control of Blindness, Phase-II. | 103.80 |
| | 9. Setting up of Tool Room Jamshedpur, Bhubaneswar and Bangalore. | 142.00 |
| <i>France</i> | | <i>French Franks Million</i> |
| | 1. Dulhasti Hydro Electric. | 2582.60 |
| | 2. ICICI | 395.40 |
| <i>U.K.</i> | | <i>£. Str. Million</i> |
| | 1. A. P. School Building Phase-II | 27.90 |
| | 2. Orissa Family Welfare Phase-II | 18.00 |
| <i>Hungary</i> | | <i>\$ Million</i> |
| | 1. To finance commercial contracts between Indian Companies/Enterprises and GDR suppliers. | 200.00 |
| <i>Switzerland</i> | | <i>SRF Million</i> |
| | 1. Goat Development and Godder Production, Rajasthan — Phase-IV. | 0.82 |
| | 2. Participative and Integrated Development of Watershed (PIDOW), Gulbarga — Phase-II. | 0.80 & 0.71 |
| | | (through MYRADA) |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|--------------|---|--------------------|
| | 3. National Sericulture Project | 40.00 |
| | 4. Indo-Swiss Training Centre, Chandigarh (ISTC) (2nd follow-up Phase). | 0.02 |
| | <i>1990-91</i> | |
| <i>EEC</i> | | <i>ECU Million</i> |
| | 1. Alkaline Land Reclamation | 35.5 |
| <i>U.K.</i> | | <i>£ Million</i> |
| | 1. New Railway Sector Grant | 12.26 |
| | 2. HFC Rainfed Farming | 2.39 |
| <i>USAID</i> | | <i>\$ Million</i> |
| | 1. Plant Genetic Resources | 2.00 |
| | 2. Technical Assistance Support | 2.77 |
| | 3. Program for Acceleration of Commercial Energy Research (PACER) | 3.00 |
| | 4. Centre for Technology Development (CID) | 1.00 |
| | 5. Private voluntary Organisation for Health-II | 3.00 |
| | 6. Child Survival Health Support | 2.00 |

Films exported during 1988, 1989, and 1990

1618. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Indian films exported during the years 1988, 1989 and 1990 (till now) and the names of the countries to which these films have been exported; and

(b) the method/criteria adopted for selecting the films for export?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) The names of Indian feature films exported through the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC), a public sector enterprise under this Ministry, during the years 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90

and the countries to which these films have been exported are given in the Statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in the Library. See No. L.T. 1257/90]. The export documents are maintained financial year-wise by the Corporation.

(b) Selection of films for export is based on buyer's preferences, potential of films, star cast, thematic content, entertainment value, overseas demand, audience preference, business judgement etc., in respective areas.

Strike by Lawyers

1619. SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL:
SHRI RAGHAVJI:
SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH:
SHRI KISANRAO BABURAO BANKHELE:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times during the last three years the lawyers in Delhi Courts went on strike;

(b) the period of each of the strike resorted to by the lawyers; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to tackle the problem of strikes by lawyers to safeguard the interests of litigants?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Re-investigation of Films Division

1620. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to direct the Films Division to make feature films based on the stories of renowned writers and release them in the market in competition with commercial films;

(b) whether the activities of Films Division have come to a standstill since the emergence of Doordarshan on the scene;

(c) the time by which its activities are likely to restart vigorously; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to equip Films Division with sophisticated equipments?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):

(a) No, Sir. However, Films Division has a continuing plan scheme for production of special featurettes meant for rural audience in 16 mm.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) Films Division has a plan scheme for augmentation and replacement of cinematographic equipments which aims at replacing the old and obsolete equipment by the latest cine equipment.

[*English*]

Export of Cashew

1621. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the district in Kerala that produces the most and the best quality of cashew; and

(b) the quantity and value of cashew exported from Kerala during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) According to Cashew Export Promotion Council, exports of cashew kernels from India were as follows:

Qty. MTs
Val. Rs. Crores

| 1987-88 | | 1988-89 | | 1989-90 (Prov.) | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| <i>Qty.</i> | <i>Val.</i> | <i>Qty.</i> | <i>Val.</i> | <i>Qty.</i> | <i>Val.</i> |
| 36,949 | 322.71 | 34,023 | 276.48 | 44,857 | 360.34 |

The Council has estimated that about 95% of the country's cashew exports are effected through Cochin Port.

Waiver of interest on loans availed by Punalur Paper Mills

1622. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) has agreed to waive the entire interest on loans availed by the Punalur Paper Mills in Kerala;

(b) the main bankers/financiers of the Punalur Paper Mills;

(c) whether all concerned banks/financiers were consulted on the matter of waiver of interest;

(d) whether further advance for revival of the unit is proposed to be made by the banks, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the Unit is likely to commence functioning?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) has agreed to consider a one-time settlement proposal from Punalur Paper Mills (PPM) subject to certain terms and conditions.

(b) Canara Bank is the sole banker to the unit and ICICI is the lead institution. The other financial institutions involved are IDBI and IFCI.

(c) Bank and financial institutions were kept informed by ICICI regarding institutions' willingness to consider company's proposal for one-time settlement.

(d) The promoter of the company had recently indicated that he does

not require any financial assistance from institutions and bank for running the unit.

(e) In view of uncertainties regarding settlement and other factors to be taken care of by the promoters of the company, ICICI is unable to indicate a time for reopening of the mill.

[*Translation*]

Telecast of Life History of Great Personalities

1623. SHRI GULAB CHAND KATARIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allot more time to telecast the life history of great personalities who have inspired the people; and

(b) whether Government propose to make television the pivot of social change by making radical changes in its programming by telecasting patriotic programmes?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) It is the constant endeavour of Doordarshan to telecast programmes on personalities of national eminence to acquaint the viewers with the tremendous contributions made by them in the various fields of national life and to motivate them to emulate them in the interest of the overall development of the country.

Construction of yatri-niwas at Udaipur (Rajasthan)

1624. SHRI GULAB CHAND KATARIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to construct a 'Yatri Niwas' for the stay of domestic and foreign tourists visiting Udaipur in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and when the work thereon is likely to start;

(c) whether tourists face numerous difficulties due to non-availability of cheap place to stay because of a large number of tourists visiting Udaipur; and

(d) if so, the assistance likely to be provided by Union Government to solve this difficulty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) to (d) The Central Department of Tourism provides financial assistance to State Government for construction of Yatri Niwas on the basis of specific proposals. There is no proposal from the Government of Rajasthan for construction of Yatri Niwas at Udaipur.

[English]

Distribution of steel materials

1625. SHRI NANDLAL MEENA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether irregularities have been committed in the matter of allotment and use of quota of steel in violation of the prescribed rules causing financial loss to the country;

(b) if so, the details of the allotment of steel quota during the last three years party-wise, date-wise, and quantity-wise, use-wise etc.;

(c) whether investigations are made as to whether the quota of steel is used for the purpose for which it is allotted;

(d) whether cases have come to the notice that undue favours have been shown in the matter of allotment of steel, channels, angles, pig irons etc.; and

(e) if so, whether there is any proposal to probe the entire matter thoroughly and to bring to book the persons responsible for the undue favour and causing of loss to the nation?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (e) Inspections are carried out by the regional offices of DCI&S to check misutilisation of Iron and Steel materials received from regulated sources. The regional offices issue appropriate orders where such misutilisation is established. The Main producers also investigate allegations regarding violation of JPC distribution guidelines and take suitable action.

Correspondence between M.Ps. and Ministers

1626. SHRI NANDLAL MEENA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of letters received in his Ministry from Members of Parliament from 1 February, 90 to 31 July, 90;

(b) how many of these letters are pending replies;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) the details of steps taken to expedite the replies; and

(e) the time by which the replies are expected to be given?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) 205.

(b) 11.

(c) to (e) The references pending reply are in the process of examination and active consideration. The replies are expected to be sent shortly.

[*Translation*]

G.S.I.'s survey for finding metals in H.P.

1627. SHRI MAHESWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places in Himachal Pradesh surveyed by the Geological Survey of India during the last three years;

(b) the names of metals and the quantity thereof estimated to be found there; and

(c) when the exploitation work is likely to be started at places where metals are estimated to be found in large quantity?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) The names of places surveyed by the Geological Survey of India during the last three years are: Akpa-Yangthang area of Kinnaur district, Pandoh-Karsog area of Mandi district and Dalhousie area of Chamba district for Tin, Tungsten and lithium minerals, Ghumarwin tehsil of Bilaspur district and adjoining area of Una district for gold, Garsah and Sainj valleys of Kullu district for Copper, Padhan and Panuh areas of Solan district for base metals and Ambota-Ranat area of Sirmur district for Lead-zinc.

(b) and (c) The investigations being conducted are of preliminary nature. No significant deposits have been found to warrant exploitation.

Assistance for the Development of Tourism in Maharashtra

1628. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has submitted any schemes for the development of tourism in the State during 1990-91.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the financial assistance provided by Union Govt. therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYAPAL MALIK): (a) and (b) In consultation with the State Govt. of Maharashtra the following schemes have been prioritised for financial assistance during 1990-91.

1. Yatri Niwas at Latur.
2. Tented accommodation.
3. Tourist Complex at Kayanagar.
4. Water Sports equipment.
5. Purchase of additional tents.
6. Visitors Centre at Aurangabad.
7. Fairs and Festivals—Rural Craft Centre at Pune.
8. Buddhist Circuit—Tourist Complex at Karla.
9. Catermaron to ply between Elephanta and Bombay Harbour Cruises.

(c) Project proposals with detailed estimates are awaited from the State Government. Therefore, it is difficult to quantify financial assistance.

Increasing Royalty on Iron-Ore in Maharashtra

1629. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have requested Union Government to increase the royalty on Iron-ore; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOS-

WAMI): (a) and (b) Government of Maharashtra have proposed rates of royalty on iron-ore as follows:

| | <i>Existing Rate</i> | <i>Proposed Rate</i> |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|
| | Rs. | Rs. |
| (i) Ore Lumps | | |
| (a) with 65% Fe or more | 6.00 | 8.00 |
| (b) with 62% Fe or more but less than 65% Fe. | 3.50 | 5.00 |
| (c) with 60% Fe or more but less than 65% Fe | 2.50 | 4.50 |
| (d) with less than 60% Fe | 2.00 | 4.00 |
| (ii) Ore Fines | | |
| (A) Fines (including natural fines produced incidental to mining and sizing of ore) | | |
| (a) with 65% Fe or more | 3.50 | 5.00 |
| (b) with 62% Fe or more but less than 65% Fe | 2.00 | 4.50 |
| (c) with less than 62% Fe | 1.50 | 4.00 |
| (B) Concentrate prepared by beneficiation and/or concentration of low grade ore containing 40% Fe or less | 0.50 | 1.50 |

Telecast of Children Film During Last Year

1630. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of children films telecast during last one year;
- (b) whether Government propose to telecast more children films; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) Doordarshan had telecast, in all, 14 children's films over its national network during the period from June, 1989 to July, 1990.

(b) It is Doordarshan's endeavour to telecast good quality children's

films in increasing numbers to the extent possible.

(c) Does not arise.

Seized Goods at International Airports in 1989

1631. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details and value of goods seized from passengers at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras airports during the years 1989 and 1990 uptill now;
- (b) the total amount collected from the sale of those confiscated goods;
- (c) the value of goods which have not so far been sold; and
- (d) the reasons for delay in their disposal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[English]

Proposal to produce more Steel by Private Sector

1632. **SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: SHRIMATHI BASAVA RAJESWARI:**

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of steel being produced in the country by the private sector;

(b) whether Government propose to allow private sector to expand its production capacity and set up new steel projects; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steel expected to be produced through private sector by the end of the Eighth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) The quantity of crude steel produced by the secondary producers during 1989-90 was 3.13 million tonnes and that by the Tata Iron & Steel Company Ltd. (TISCO) 2.32 million tonnes.

(b) and (c) It has been decided to allow creation of additional steel making capacity in the secondary sector with unit capacity upto one million tonne based on electric arc furnace/energy optimising technologies including small blast furnaces. Entrepreneurs will have the option to decide the plant size keeping in view the product-mix and technology to be adopted. Six million tonnes of crude steel is expected to be produced by the secondary producers by the end of the Eighth Plan and 3.05 million tonnes by TISCO.

Promotion of SC/ST Candidates in NFDC

1633. **SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether no relaxation is given to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates in departmental promotions in National Film Development Corporation as provided in Presidential Directive;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of times the D.P.C. met for selection of candidates in promotion and the number of times when no SC/ST representative was included in D.P.C. and the reasons therefor;

(d) the total strength in National Film Development Corporation as on 30 June, 1990 and the number of SC/ST amongst them; and

(e) the steps taken to fill the backlog of reserved posts?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) The National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) gives relaxation in gradation to the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates for considering them for promotion.

(c) Since 1982 the DPC constituted for recruitment and promotion upto the level of Senior Assistants in the NFDC has met on 15 occasions upto March, 1990. There was no SC/ST member in the D.P.C. on three occasions prior to 1983. An SC member was nominated to the D.P.C. in April, 1983 who has been associated in all the DPCs meeting held thereafter.

(d) the staff strength of NFDC as on 30-6-90 was 283 out of which 30 employees belong to SC/ST category

(c) Steps have already been taken to fill the backlog of reserved posts under the special recruitment drive for SC/ST and consequently three backlog posts of SC/ST have been filled.

Audit of Profit to Cine Workers Welfare Fund

1634. SHRI G. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a mention of 5 per cent net profit on Gandhi Film to be credited to National Film Development Corporation in the audit report submitted by Baker Breaks Chartered Accountants, London;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the audit reports of N.F.D.C. pertaining of Gandhi Film has been received upto date from the Chartered Accountants of London;

(d) if not, the action taken by Government in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken by Government against the violators of the contract?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):

(a) and (b) 5% net profit on GANDHI film, which is payable to the Cine Artistes Welfare Fund, is separately retained by trustees in London. There is no mention either in the agreement, or in the audit report that the amount should be credited to the National Film Development Corporation since this amount is creditable to a separate account which is payable to the Cine Artistes Welfare Fund under instructions of the trustees to the joint account. The credit account is pen-

ding transfer owing to some objections raised by Sir Richard Attenborough regarding the nomenclature and appropriateness of the fund.

(c) and (d) Audited Accounts of GANDHI have been received upto 31-3-1985. NFDC have been repeatedly requesting for audited accounts of subsequent years and have been assured that the audited accounts for subsequent years are in the process of finalisation. In the meantime, amounts due to the partners including 5% of profits towards Cine Artistes Welfare Fund are being credited on the basis of unaudited accounts received.

(e) The transfer of 5% profit to Cine Artistes Welfare Fund is being held up at the instance of Sir Richard Attenborough. The Government is alive to the situation and making its best efforts to get 5% net profits from the film GANDHI repatriated and transferred to India to the Cine Artistes Welfare Fund.

[Translation]

Exports by Hindustan Lever Limited

1635. SHRI HARSH VARDHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the policy of Government for promoting export applies to the existing multi national companies operating in India; and

(b) the total production/sales of the products of Hindustan Lever Limited and the percentage thereof which is exported?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total production of the products of Hindustan Lever Ltd., the total exports, the percentage thereof during 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 are given below:

| Year | Production | F.O.B. value of Exports | Percentage |
|---------|--------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| 1986-87 | Rs. 829,87,10,000 | Rs. 52,51,14,129 | 6.33% |
| 1987-88 | Rs. 911,10,69,000 | Rs. 60,45,55,934 | 6.63% |
| 1988-89 | Rs. 1021,85,91,000 | Rs. 36,69,83,921 | 3.59% |

[English]

Son-Et-Lumiere Show Facility at Anand Bhawan, Allahabad

1636. PROF. MAHADEO SHIWANKAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Son-et-Lumiere show facility has been made available at Anand Bhawan in Allahabad;

(b) if so, since when and the number of people so far who have witnessed the programme;

(c) the names of firms which designed and supplied the equipment, total costs involved, terms of payment, balance amount to be paid; and reasons for non-payment of balance amount and the time by which full payment is to be made;

(d) the result of evaluation made, if any, regarding the quality of the equipment installed and deficiencies discovered if any; and

(e) the remedial steps taken or contemplated?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (e) The information is being collected from the Government of Uttar Pradesh and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Women's Rights to Property

1637. SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether various socio-economic groups of women at a meeting held recently felt that the present laws in regard to women's rights to property etc. were biased against women and wanted changes for their benefit; and

(b) if so, the details of the suggestions made and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) It would not be possible to state specifically about the details of the suggestions made in the meeting of socio-economic groups of women unless some indication is given of the date and venue of the said meeting. However, suggestions have been received by the Government, from groups of women to introduce legislation on women's right to joint matrimonial property. Enactment of law relating to joint matrimonial property, would involve intensive changes in the laws including personal laws applicable to minority communities. It has been the declared policy of the Government not to effect changes in the personal laws of the minority communities unless sufficient initiative therefor comes from the communities themselves.

Extra Expenditure due to Delay in Handing Over Work-Site

1638. SHRI GANGA CHARAN LODHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to para 14 of the Report of Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended 31 March, 1989 (No. 1 of 1990) regarding extra expenditure due to failure to hand over the work site of Calcutta television station;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The action to examine the observations made in the Report has been initiated.

[*Translation*]**Export of Garlic Powder**

1639. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the quantity of garlic powder exported

during the last three year upto 1989-90 and the names of the countries to which it was exported?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):

Export of Garlic Powder from India

| | <i>Name of Country</i> | <i>Qty. (Kgs.)</i> | <i>Value (Rs.)</i> |
|---------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1987-88 | | | |
| | Canada | 2770 | 71756 |
| | U.K. | 1000 | 22800 |
| | Singapore | 80 | 1924 |
| | TOTAL | 3850 | 96480 |
| 1988-89 | | | |
| | Taiwan | 30000 | 496466 |
| | TOTAL | 30000 | 496466 |
| 1989-90 | | | |
| | USA | 500 | 22381 |
| | Australia | 100 | 3500 |
| | West Germany (F.R.G.) | 28000 | 350020 |
| | U.K. | 1600 | 40828 |
| | Japan | 10000 | 160851 |
| | Singapore | 500 | 11611 |
| | Bahrain | 300 | 12301 |
| | TOTAL | 41000 | 601492 |

[*English*]**NRI Investment in India**

1640. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that NRI representative at the first meeting of the Joint Business Committee of Overseas Indian Economic Forum UAE with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, made a number of proposals of NRIs investments in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) Government receives various suggestions and representations from Non-Resident Indians and various Organisations about procedural and policy issues concerning NRI investment. These issues are examined in consultation with the concerned Departments and organisations and suitable action taken.

Frivolous Imports

1641. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Frivolous Imports" appearing in the English 'Blitz' dated 7 July, 1990 giving a list of 185 products, which cannot be regarded as essential and are available in surplus quantities in the country but have been allowed to be imported by Government;

(b) whether the import of aforesaid items is an unnecessary expenditure of foreign exchange; and

(c) if so, the reasons for permitting these imports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Under the current Import Policy, import of only those items is allowed which are not available indigenously or if available, the quantities are insufficient to meet the domestic demand. Some imports of indigenously available items are sometimes permitted to upgrade technology and modernise industry. Also, some imports become necessary for providing inputs for exports at internationally competitive prices. However, it is Government's clear objective to promote self-reliance and, therefore, maximum emphasis is being placed on import substitution.

Setting up of a Bench of Bombay High Court at Pune

1642. DR. DAULATRAO SONUJI AHER: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from Maharashtra Government for the establishment of a bench of Bombay High Court at Pune;

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

(c) the time by which the bench is likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GO-SWAMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Regarding Revenue Collection

1643. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has estimated the revenue collection that will be available on account of the retrospectivity to the amendment to Section 28 of the Income Tax Act and its usefulness with reference to the need to assist the exporters for their requirements of capital funds at cheaper rates instead of draining of their capital through such measures; and

(b) if so, the estimated figure and its value to the exchequer vis-a-vis the drainage of capital of the exporters?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) The amendments made to section 28 of the Income-tax Act were intended to clarify the existing legislative intention regarding the taxability of export incentives as revenue receipts. The Department's view has all along been that cash compensatory support, duty drawback and sale proceeds from import entitlement licences received by an exporter is taxable in his hand. Since this was only a clarificatory amendment and was not intended to raise additional revenue, no estimate of revenue collection was necessary or made. Since the Department has throughout been treating export incentives as taxable, the

question of such "drainage of capital" of the exporters because of the amendment does not arise.

Import of Medical Equipments

1644. SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether after announcement of the Import and Export Policy 1990-93, the import of all medical life saving equipments into this country has grounded to a halt;

(b) if so, to what extent the import of the life saving medical equipments have been affected due to this policy; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The condition in the new Import and Export Policy that importers of life saving equipments under Open General Licence should be certified to possess necessary after-sales service facilities has since been made applicable only where a single item is of c.i.f. value of Rs. 1 lakh or more.

National Wage Policy

1645. SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to evolve the National Wage Policy in order to remove disparities in the pay scales of employees of various organisations like Central Government, Public Sector Enterprises, Financial Institutions, Commercial Banks etc; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) The Government is examining the need for setting up a Commission to study, *inter alia*, the relative wage structures prevailing in various organised sectors under the Central Government. No decision has, however, been taken so far.

Publication of 'Yojna' in Oriya Language

1646. SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to publish "Yojna" (Fortnightly) in Oriya language;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in publishing the same?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A provision has been kept in the 8th Plan proposals of Publications Division for this purpose. The actual implementation of the Scheme would, however, depend upon the viability of the project and availability of funds.

(c) Does not arise.

Allocation of Funds to Hill States

1647. SHRI K. S. RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Ministers of the hill states have recently in a memorandum expressed disappointment over the allocation of funds by the Ninth Finance Commission and sought special grants from Union Government;

(b) if so, the details of demands made by the Chief Ministers of the hill states; and

(c) the reaction of Government to the demands of the hill states?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Chief Ministers/Governments of Special Category States (Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram, Sikkim and Tripura) submitted a Joint Memorandum to the Prime Minister on 17th June, 1990 regarding issues connected with the Report of the Ninth Finance Commission in which they expressed their reservations over some of the recommendations in the Commission's Second Report. These related to over-estimation of States' revenue receipts and contribution of State undertakings, under-estimation of revenue expenditure, methodology of estimation of normative revenue and expenditure, inadequate quantum of devolution and debt relief, non-provision of grants for covering Plan revenue gap, up-gradation of standards of administration, special problems, interest liability and committed liability for the Seventh Plan schemes etc. They, therefore, desired that the revenue receipts and expenditure need re-assessment on realistic basis and that devolution appropriately enhanced.

(c) The recommendations of the Ninth Finance Commission have already been accepted by the Govt. of India in keeping with the traditions and conventions and it is not proposed to make any changes now.

12.00 hrs

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat Mr. Santosh, please take your seat.....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): I am on a point of order.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Harish Rawatji, I am unable to follow what you are saying. Why are you raising a point of order when there is no issue? Please take your seat.

[English]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Kindly allow me to say something.

(Interruptions)

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Mormugao) : I have given several notices regarding this. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You have given the notice. But I have not permitted you.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Against the Chief Minister of Goa, Shrimati Maneka Gandhi wrote on the file on a petition...

MR. SPEAKER: I have not permitted you. You have given notice. But I have not permitted you.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You know the procedure. You have given the notice. But I have not permitted you. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

Mr. Faleiro, I have told you, please take your seat.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: She has made allegations on file against the Chief Minister of Goa...

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have told you. you have given a notice. That is under my consideration. Please take your seat.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: That is not the way of raising the point of order. You are not being permitted to say something in the name of raising point of order.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Please look at Direction No. 118(3). Under Direction No. 118(3) of the Directions By the Speaker, I am laying* this paper on the Table of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: No, no.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : I am entitled to.

MR. SPEAKER: You know the rules. I have not permitted you.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have called Mr. Kamal Chaudhry.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Tripura West): What about West Bengal incidents? *(Interruptions.)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing anybody. It is a State matter.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY (Mangalore): Sir, point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: You have said, Point of order. What rules have been violated?

(Interruptions)

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Please hear me. Here is the Agenda. You have permitted today a discussion on 'Atrocities on Women'.

Here is an example of a former M.P. of West Bengal who was beaten up.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No point of Order. Mr. Poojary, you were a Minister. You know that is not the way to raise a point of order. I am not permitting.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: You have permitted a discussion on 'Atrocities on Women.'

MR. SPEAKER: Under the garb of a point of order, you are going to raise an issue which I am not permitting.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:

She was a former M.P.

MR. SPEAKER: You can give a notice. I will consider it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: We have given a notice.

MR. SPEAKER: You want to raise a point of order but there is no point of order.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my point of order is that whenever adjournment motions, may be of different nature had been moved, those had been replied to in the House. Today's Adjournment Motion whether moved by our colleagues of West Bengal, or by Harish Rawat or by Shri Kumaramangalam, relates to violent incidents occurred during Calcutta bandh. The way in which police has committed excesses.....*(Interruptions)*.....

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a point of order. I have not given permission for Adjournment Motion.

[English]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: I will quote the rule and I will quote the

* As the Speaker did not subsequently accord the necessary permission, the paper/document was not treated as laid on the Table.

details also. I am just referring to that point. Kindly allow me to refer to that.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolgpur): They cannot raise the issue in this manner.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order.

[*Translation*]

I have not given permission for Adjournment Motion.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have some photographs which show that 4-5 policemen have caught hold of some poor women and one other person is beating them with lathis (*Interruptions*) It is a tragic incident and no words are enough to condemn it. . . . (*Interruptions*) My point of order is that we have given notice of an Adjournment Motion concerning a very serious matter. Please give your ruling on it. Are you going to accept it or not?

MR. SPEAKER: I told you that I have not accepted it. . . . (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I am not permitting you, please take your seat. . . . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if such heinous crimes are committed in Calcutta, this House cannot sit silent'y. Democracy is being murdered there. Please tell us as to what has happened to our adjournment motion.

MR. SPEAKER: I have listened to your point. Please take your seat.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: What is the ruling and what action have you taken, Mr. Speaker, on the documents I have given to you?

MR. SPEAKER: I have told you.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: What have you done?

MR. SPEAKER: I have told you that you have given notice. That is under my consideration.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Have you asked for the comments?

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot ask me to explain what I am doing. I have told you that it is under my consideration.

(*Interruption*)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, you are sitting in the judgement seat of Vikramaditya. It is expected from you that you will do justice and you are doing justice to all the Members irrespective of their ism. You have risen to the occasion in the past. In this House, on the basis of a report from a Governor, you have allowed certain hon. Members to raise an issue of a particular State.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): It was a question of atrocities on tribals. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please, order.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: I have got information from my source by a special messenger that the Governor of West Bengal has sent a report to the Central Government regarding Law and Order situation in West Bengal. . . . (*Interruptions*). As per the news, a former Member of Parliament has been beaten. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Dev, you are a senior Parliamentarian. Under the garb of raising a point of order, don't do this.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have not permitted Mr. Dev.

(*Interruptions*)*

MR. SPEAKER: Now I permit Mr. Kamal Chaudhry. Please take your seats.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY (Hoshiarpur): Hon. Speaker, Sir, Mr. Simranjit Singh Mann has given a call for Punjab bandh on 11th, 12th and 13th of this month followed by two more days' bandh called by the militants. The people in Punjab, particularly the people in Hoshiarpur, rejected this bandh call of the militants and Mr. Simranjit Singh Mann. I spent five days touring my constituency. The bandh was totally unsuccessful. People have kept their shops and business establishments open. The Government of Punjab has failed miserably. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): The same thing happened in Calcutta.

SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: On 15th, there was a bomb blast in Hoshiarpur and Dhasua where, in a bus, seven people were killed and 10 others were injured. What action is this Government taking on such militants who are terrorising the people? It is the Government which is protecting these criminals in this country. It is a matter of shame... (*Interruptions*) I would like to know from the Government what action this Government is taking in this regard. On 15th August at Lal Qila the Prime Minister had made his speech. What action is he taking on Punjab? I would like to know what the Government is doing. Why is it protecting such criminals in this country. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMAN-GALAM (Salem): Sir, I have given notice of an Adjournment Motion.

MR. SPEAKER: I have already told you about it.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMAN-GALAM: You have not heard me

even one second. Don't you give me an opportunity? (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: You have rejected my motion not his.

MR. SPEAKER: The subject matter of both the motions was same and you know, how serious is this matter.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMAN-GALAM: There is distance of 3,000 Kms. between our constituencies.... (*Interruptions*).....

[*English*]

PROF. P. J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): Sir, they have given notice of an Adjournment Motion. So, we expect you to understand their feelings. Kindly allow them to speak. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I told them that I have not permitted it.

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: One of our former colleagues, she is beaten up very badly. You should know the feelings. You please understand their feelings. Please allow them to speak. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I am on a point of order. Should every Member who is giving a notice of Adjournment Motion be allowed to speak here? Is this the rule? (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have told you that I have not permitted you. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI KALKA DASS (Karol Bagh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are listening to them only.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not listening to them. (*Interruptions*).

[*English*]

SHRI YADVENDRA DATT: (Jaunpur): You called Mr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra. But then how did you allow these gentlemen to speak? (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: The House must be in order to hear him. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI YADVENDRA DATT: You should ask them to sit down. These gentlemen who are holding the House to ransom. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM: I must be allowed to speak. You can reject it. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: It is not done. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: I have permitted Mr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra. Let him speak. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: He is raising an important issue. (*Interruptions*).

[*Translation*]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (Delhi Sadur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I can speak only when they will take their seats. Please ask them to resume their seats. They are not allowing anyone to speak. (*Interruptions*).

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: He is a senior Member. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Let us hear him. Please resume your seat. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY (Mangalore): Please allow me on this issue. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: I am not hearing you. I am not permitting you. Please take your seat. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: I ask you to take your seat. I have permitted Mr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra. (*Interruptions*).

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:
Mr. Speaker has allowed him. He has the right to speak.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI (Jhansi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, if there is violation of your orders, I will not allow anybody to speak. Whatever name you call, the Congress Members are not allowing him to speak. If they behave in this manner, I will not allow them to speak. The proceedings of the House are conducted under some rules and everybody should follow the rules of the House... (*Interruptions*).....

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: They are monopolising the House to themselves. This House belongs as much to us and to our supporters as to the Members of the opposition. We will listen to him. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: If Members will not allow me to carry on the business in the House in an orderly manner, then I will go to the next business. Now, Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: I tell you to take your seat. Mr. Pal, that is not the way. Take your seat

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Yes, Sir.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Yes Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Under which rule? You were not raising a point of order at that time.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: I am formulating my point of order. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Will you please take your seats?

[*Translation*]

Please take your seat. I am conducting business of the House. (*Interruptions*).

[English]

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Kindly go through your Agonda Paper for today. Please see Item No. 14.

MR. SPEAKER: I have already gone through it.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: You have created a precedent yesterday by allowing discussion on atrocities on women in different parts of the country. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Every Member has a right to have his say. The Speaker has permitted Mr. Poojary to raise his point of order.

[Translation]

He wants to raise his point of order. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Poojary, you raised that point of order five minutes back. I ruled it out.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: I am coming to that. Taking into consideration what the Chief Minister has stated, the hon. Chief Minister of West Bengal has admitted and I will read it out: "That the police had failed to act responsibly." (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a point of order. You are not referring to any rules or procedure and you are going on like this.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: He has admitted that the police of West Bengal completely failed to protect a lady. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): What is happening? There must be a limit. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order. Mr. Poojary, please take your seat. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Everyday they are interrupting the proceedings.

MR. SPEAKER: I ruled out his point of order. Now Mr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra to speak. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatsinghpur): I want to raise a point of order Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Under which rule? (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Poojary, I have heard you; I have not permitted your point of order. There is no point of order. I ruled it out.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: When anybody raising a point of order makes a statement here, that should not be recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Lokanath Choudhury, I have already ruled it out. Let us not waste the time of the House. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, an assurance had been given in this House in regard to holding UPSC examinations in Hindi and other Indian languages. Satish Chandra Committee was constituted and it had submitted its report also. But after receiving this report neither it has been published nor any steps have been taken to conduct UPSC examinations in Hindi and other Indian languages.

Sir, more than 300 members of Lok Sabha have given in writing that the U.P.S.C. examinations should also be held in various Indian languages. Most of the Rajya Sabha Members have also done the same.

Sir, we do not say that English should not be the medium of examination. Those who want to take the examination in English medium are free to do so, but why should there be any restriction for those who want to take examination in various Indian languages like Hindi, Bengali, Tamil, etc. Only 2% of our country's population knows English and these people are dominating all the services.

Sir, time and again it has been mentioned here in the House that people living in villages, the urban poor and those belonging to backward classes do not get jobs because the medium of examination is English in most of the major examinations. The I.A.S., I.P.S. and Forest Service for which examinations are conducted by the U.P.S.C. are bagged by 5%-10% of those who form the country's elite class.....(Interruptions).. . .

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He gives importance to your language also..... (Interruptions).....

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: English-medium public schools are run here and products of such institutions only are able to secure these jobs. Sir, 75% of the population consists of Scheduled Castes and backward classes.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, this is a very important matter. People are resorting to 'dharnas' and the Government has given several assurances. The House should be informed as to what has happened to the Report. 44 years have elapsed.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Madhu is listening.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Yes, Sir, Madhuji is present. I would like to say that even after 44 years of independence, we cannot hold these examinations in Indian languages. What can be more shameful than this? Under Shri Madhu's Ministry also, the examinations held by Banks and LIC do not have Hindi as an optional medium. Repeated assurances have been given about this and even the hon. Prime Minister mentioned this in his speech delivered from Red Fort. Why then examinations are not held in Indian languages. Government must make

an announcement in this regard at the earliest.....(Interruptions).....

[English]

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Mormugao): I also support it..... (Interruptions).....

[Translation]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, the point raised by Shri Vijayji has been raised several times by many hon. Members. I would like to give him a firm assurance that the Report submitted to us will be considered and a decision will be taken on it at the earliest.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Sir, the matter which I wanted to raise, for which I wrote to you, is directed principally for the attention of the hon. Railway Minister who is not here. But at least, a distinguished former Railway Minister being here, I am encouraged to raise this matter.

For the last two weeks, the Railway Workshop at Kharagpur which is well-known to him, Sir, and which is employing about eight thousand men, is virtually at a standstill; no production is going on. The reason is that there have been very serious allegations recently about corruption matters against some officers of this Workshop. And because some allegations were made, some trade union leaders inside the workshop have been suspended from service. As a result of this, for the last two weeks, work in the Stores Department has been stopped, due to a strike by the employees of the Stores Department, as a result of which, no stores are being made available for other Departments of the Workshop and all work has stopped. I had made representation earlier also, that some intervention is needed by the Railway Ministry urgently to see that this matter is settled through some negotiation and the dispute is settled. There is a recognised Union, which Prof. Dandavate at least knows very

well. That Union is also sending telegrams everyday to the Ministry with copies to me and to others saying that, immediate intervention is required; the charge-sheet should be withdrawn; the suspended people should be allowed to join work and the matter should be settled through negotiations. The whole Workshop, which is the biggest Workshop in the Indian Railways, is virtually at a standstill for the last two weeks. Therefore, Sir, I request that the Government should take early steps in this matter.

SHRI DINESH SINGH (Pratapgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are aware that there is a programme being run by Doordarshan called *Khula Manch*. Yesterday, some recording was done with the Minister for Railways as the Chief Guest. I believe that there is an effort to censor that programme and to restructure it in a manner in which it favours the Government.

Now, through you, Sir, I would like to appeal to the Government that either they maintain *Khula Manch* and let whatever is said there be telecast in that manner, or if they want to monitor it or if they want to censor it then it hardly is a *Khula Manch*. Then, it is a Government *Manch*. And then, they should change the name and run it as a Government *Manch*. Thank you. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS: (**SHRI P. UPENDRA**): Sir, I accept this. There would not be any censoring. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI ALI (Kanpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given notice of a motion under Rule 222 also. I request you to admit the same. It is a question of my privileges being an M.P. I believe that en-

tire district administration in Kanpur is putting restrictions on my movement around the factory manufacturing Lohia Scooters located in my constituency. This restriction on my movement was enforced to such an extent that when I went there to unfurl the tri-colour on the 15th of August, I was arrested in front of the workers who are my voters and who had collected there. The reason for my arrest was that I had entered a prohibited area. I believe that the district administration is obstructing me from performing my duty as a public representative. As you are the protector of our rights, I request you to refer this matter to the Privileges Committee so that my rights are restored to me.

[*English*]

SHRI P. UPENDRA: Sir, as per the agreement in the Business Advisory Committee and among the leaders, we have to stop this Zero Hour at 12.30 and take up other items*(Interruptions)*.....

MR. SPEAKER. Mr. Bhogendra Jha, will you please take your seat?*(Interruption)*.....

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, there is no such agreement at all..... *(Interruptions)*

I think, you know what happened*(Interruptions)*.....

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI ALI: A member of this House does not even have the freedom to unfurl the tri-colour on the occasion of Independence Day in her constituency. Please give your ruling whether you are admitting this Motion or not.*(Interruptions)*.....

MR. SPEAKER: It is under consideration.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (New Delhi): Sir, in reply to the matter raised by the hon. Member you have said that the matter is under consideration. I would like to know whether the information regarding the hon. Member's

arrest was sent to you and to the House?.....(*Interruptions*).....

[*English*]

DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL (Calcutta North West): Sir, I am on a point of order. (*Interruptions*). A motion has been tabled today. You have got the discretion to allow it or not. But I will draw your kind attention to the proviso to rule 60. I am reading it for your information:

“Provided that where the Speaker has refused his consent under rule 56 or is of opinion that the matter proposed to be discussed is not in order, he may, if he thinks it necessary, read the notice of motion and state the reasons for refusing consent or holding the motion as being not in order.” (*Interruptions*).

Sir, I am appealing to your discretion as a Motion has been tabled. The former lady Member, Kumari Mamata Banerjee had been injured seriously in yesterday's Calcutta Bandh which the Chief Minister himself has admitted. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have not given my consent.

(*Interruptions*.)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Debi Prosad, there is no point of order.

(*Interruptions*.)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order. Please sit down.

(*Interruptions*.)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

(*Interruptions*.)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOU-DHURY (Katwa): Sir, I am on a point of order. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Saifuddin Choudhury is on a point of order.

(*Interruptions*.)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pal, I have heard you and I have ruled out your point of order.

(*Interruptions*.)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. (*Interruptions*.)

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Sir, you have not heard the entire thing.

MR. SPEAKER: I have heard it. (*Interruptions*.)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You are repeating your point.

(*Interruptions*.)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Kumaramangalam, please take your seat.

(*Interruptions*.)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, it is a pointless disorder. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pal, will you resume your seat? I have heard your point of order and I have ruled it out of order. Mr. Saifuddin Choudhury.

(*Interruptions*.)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): Sir, it is not a point of order. It is pointless disorder. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: No Mr. Pal. Please resume your seat. I have not permitted you.

(*Interruptions*.)

MR. SPEAKER: Will you please resume your seat, Mr. Pal?

(*Interruptions*.)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pal, you are not going on record.

(*Interruptions*)*

MR. SPEAKER: Times without number I have requested you to resume your seat. You have to resume your seat. Mr. Saifuddin Choudhury, what is your point of order?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOU-DHURY: Sir, I am raising this point of order under Rule 376. Some hon. Members were trying to raise certain issues pertaining to the law and order situation in West Bengal and you have ruled them out. But I want to know whether or not it forms part of the record.....(*Interruptions*)I have to say something on what happened yesterday in Calcutta during the Bandh called by Congress(I) and also about the violence. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Is what the hon. Member now saying also going on record? (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOU-DHURY: The Speaker will decide that. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Saifuddin Choudhury, take your seat. Now, I call Mr. Bhogendra Jha.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOU-DHURY: Sir, I have not completed. The violence that took place yesterday is highly condemnable. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a point of order. Please take your seat. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Bhogendra Jha.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): My only fault is that I do not interrupt others that is why others do not let me speak. I assure everybody that even if they interrupt me to any extent, I would not interrupt anybody. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY (Mangalore): rose (*Interruptions*.)

MR. SPEAKER: I have ruled out your point of order as also, that of Shri Pal.

(*Interruptions*.)

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: I would like Poojary Sahib to cool down and kindly listen to me. Mr. Speaker, Sir, through the House and through you, I would like to inform the Government that broadly speaking we do support the provision of reservation in employment the announcement of which was made recently. However, two points have not been made clear. It has been the cause of gross resentment in Bihar and the situation is aggravating. Three persons have already died and today when I am going to visit the place I shudder to think what will happen when I hold public meetings at three places. The phenomenon of having socially and economically exploited people is not new to our society. Till today we have not been able to solve the unemployment problem. Recently our Government had announced to give employment to all but no Bill to that effect has been brought in this House. This subject was not discussed even outside. I would urge that a Bill in this regard should be brought here. It appeared in the newspapers that a notification has been issued, but detailed discussion has not taken place. When we discuss the problem of backwardness, we should strive to remove it also. In the last 55 years I have yet to come across a person who has toiled so much as I did for the socially, economically and educationally backward people. If financial limit is not imposed in this respect, the benefit of these reservations will flow only to economically well off people and the socially, educationally exploited people will remain as they were. They will have to suffer generation after generation. Today late Karpuri Thakur is not with us. During the Chief Ministership of Shri Karpuri Thakur large scale violence

erupted in which more than one hundred and twenty five people were killed. At last my suggestion helped in solving the problem. Shri Madhu Dandavate is here, he should ask for the same, it would be an ideal formula, the only exception is upper section. All sections particularly women and the extremely backward classes have been involved in it. The only exception has been made in respect of upper section who have not been involved in it. He should call for that formula so that we may fight the social repression. We should avoid a situation where the poor do not get an opportunity to improve their lot and which may lead to conflicts between them and the exploiters. The future and the past exploiters will try to divide the society and it is feared that it may result in internal strife throughout the country like Punjab. Hence the Government should act wisely and seek cooperation of all including those who are in opposition. We should work together for the upliftment of the socially, economically and educationally backward people and provide equal opportunity of freedom to all. The Government must take measures for this.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL (Faridabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order. I have been raising my hand for the last 45 minutes but you do not look to this side. I would like to put before you a very serious matter. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am going to draw your attention to a very serious matter. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : First, tell me as to which rule or procedure has been violated owing to which you want to rouse a point of order.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : I seek your indulgence to listen to me first. After all certain rules or procedure has to be observed by us. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a very heinous, serious and tragic incident took place in our area

towards which I would like to draw your attention..... *(Interruptions)*

Kindly try to listen.

MR. SPEAKER : Alright, speak.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : In our area a 16 years young girl became victim of gang rape. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : It is not a point of order, please sit down.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : Mr. Speaker, a 16 years young girl was gang raped and you say that it is not a serious matter.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not a point of order, please take your seat. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : That girl was accompanying her blind mother, she was detained and gang raped. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have said kindly sit down, this is not a point of order.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : It is a very serious matter. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : This is no point of order.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : Eight persons were killed and many injured in the police firing. *(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : There is no point of order.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is not going on record.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : Rao Virendra Ji, it will not go on record. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : When nothing is going on record why are you standing unnecessarily?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I do not permit him to speak, nothing is going to be recorded.

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : I have ruled out your point of order.

(Interruptions)

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barrackpore): I am on a point of order, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: What is your point of order? Under which rule you are raising the point of order?

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : Under the rule you have accepted to conduct the Zero Hour.

MR. SPEAKER : There is no Zero Hour, you know that.

Let us hear Mr. Advani.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : I would like to submit that the entire House should see—and you also conduct the House in such a way.....

MR. SPEAKER: I know how to conduct the House.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : You should conduct the House in such a way that the decision of the Congress (I), not to allow any Bill to be passed, should be thwarted.
(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the very first day of this session the hon. Prime Minister made an important statement, and as per the convention of the other House 2-2½ hours long discussion took place in that House to seek clarifications on the issue of reservation but here in

this House no discussion took place. I am glad that my friend Shri Bhogendra Jha raised the issue here. He is of the view that had the Government reviewed the situation before making a statement it would have been better. I am not revealing any secret here when I say that extensive discussion should have been taken place before making a statement. Everybody including the members of the opposition should have been consulted and then decision should have been taken because it would have far-reaching consequences in the country. The reaction being expressed all over the country today is not proper.

[*English*]

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): I would like to react on this.

[*Translation*]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I would like to submit that before the hon. Prime Minister takes a final decision and issues a notification or enforce some law, he should consult all sections of the House and then only take any step.

Myself and my party of course are of the view that if the proposal for reservation is to be approved, economic aspect must be included in it.

12.50 Hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the *Chair*]

That situation should not arise in which the backward remain as they are and few people get the entire benefit.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would reiterate that the statement which has been made had its adverse affects at some places. The situation at those places has also to be tackled and confidence to be restored in the society that whatever decision is taken would be in the right direction and only the exploited will be benefited. In view of this my submission is that we should not go into party politics and take steps only after national consensus.

SHRI DINESH SINGH (Pratapgarh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I welcome the sentiments of Shri Advani. I also welcome what Shri Bhogendra Jha has submitted. Reservation is an issue about which the Government should have made a statement after consulting all the parties. The matter should have been discussed in the House accordingly. The way in which this thing has been done by him, does not suggest that he is interested to work for unity. He has taken this step with an eye on the next elections. (*Interruptions.*)

[English]

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the last two weeks, all sections of the House have expressed grave anxiety about the situation faced by our Indian nationals in Kuwait. Prompted by the presence of our Finance Minister here today, I would like to spotlight one aspect which has not received the attention it deserves. The Kuwaiti Dinar has crashed. It is still legal tender. But our people are not able to buy anything in Kuwait. I believe our Foreign Minister is visiting Baghdad sometime today. I would like to urge the Government and Prof. Madhu Dandavate in particular, to advise our Foreign Minister to discuss the possibility of conversion of the Kuwaiti Dinars into Iraqi Dinars so that our people who are living in Kuwait, are able to buy their daily needs. This is necessary because the Kuwaiti Dinar has crashed and it no longer has any purchasing power. I would like our Finance Minister to kindly respond and let us know whether the Government is already doing anything in that direction.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I generally associate myself to what has been said by Advaniji and also Bhogendra Jhaji. The matter is serious. This is a matter which requires a very deep consideration by the Government also and it is true that there were no discussions generally with the different political parties before the announcement was made by

the hon. Prime Minister. We find that large scale disturbance is going on. Even the students have got genuine grievances. They have got their viewpoints also to express in the matter. They have also started agitation in the matter. We certainly want all help and support to be given to the people who are oppressed in this country, who need help, the people who are in great impecunious circumstances who do require some protection and help from the Government. But this is a matter that should be decided on the basis of as wide a consensus and as deep a consensus as possible.

Therefore, I would request the Government, through you, that in this matter, there should be a proper discussion with all the political parties and that no party can take political advantage as is sought to be done. Every attempt should be made to find out a solution so that all sections of the people in this country do get an opportunity for their advancement and progress and some economic criteria are fixed before a special dispensation is made in favour of any particular people. That is our position. Therefore, we request the Government to take appropriate steps in views as well. (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You are an ally of the Government and the Government's statements reflect your views as well. (*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Government should respond, not in the form as was stated in the Rajya Sabha, viz. let 40% of the seats be reserved.....(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The proposal is that it should be discussed. Let the proposal given by Mr. Advani be discussed

SHRI VASANT SATHE : On this proposal which Shri Advani has given,

I would like to support the idea of a full discussion in this House, either under rule 193, or 184 or in any form that the Government agrees to, because this is a subject that needs to be discussed and considered dispassionately and coolly in the interest of the country.

No one in his senses would ever oppose the idea of supporting the weaker sections of this country, and backward classes. The word used in Article 15(4), Article 46 and Article 16.....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Are we going into details?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let there be a discussion on that point.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir, I am saying that here, the word used is 'backward classes'. Specifically, caste was mentioned only in the case of Scheduled Castes, in the Constitution. So, the distinction is very clear please, let us not divide this country into so many castes, and start a caste war in this country. That is why I entirely support the idea and say *(Interruptions)* that some economic criteria, if they are there, will be helpful. Let us discuss this dispassionately. This is what I want to do. *(Interruptions)* Is Government today wanting, in a populist manner, to start a caste war in this country? *(Interruptions)* This is what I want to find out. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Krishna Kumar, this is not correct. Why are you stopping the hon. Member from Speaking?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH (Mahendragarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious matter and it is essential to have an indepth discussion on it. Such provocative statements incite caste war. I am used to taking very little time of the House, but today I am forced to present an

issue before the House which has become a matter of anxiety and concern for the whole country.

13.00 hrs.

Yesterday in my area a painful and disgraceful incident took place, which I am sure the whole House would ponder over and also condemn. In the Rewari-Hissar passenger train No. 2, which left Rewari station in the morning, two Jawans of the Railway Police, who were on duty in the train to protect the life and property of the passengers, compelled a young girl to sit in a separate compartment away from her parents, brothers and sisters, although her mother insisted upon sitting with her. Those two Railway Police Jawans outraged the modesty of that young girl in broad day light in that running train. The girl's mother shouted for help, when the train halted at the Kosli railway station. The passengers and the bystanders at the station, and the people from nearby market gathered there. They caught hold of the offending Railway Police Jawans and handed them over to the local police. The police not only refused to take them into custody, but also allowed the train to leave the station. The people resisted this move and resorted to agitation seeking an explanation for allowing the train to leave. The police not only put forward an excuse that the erring police personnel cannot be arrested, as they were on duty, but also allowed those two policemen to leave by that very train. This infuriated the people and they resorted to stoning. Instead of taking necessary action to punish the guilty, the police resorted to indiscriminate firing on the hundreds of people assembled there. Seven people died on the spot and many more are lying injured in the hospital. This is such an abominable incident that even the Government should be ashamed of it. The Government on its part should make arrangements to ensure the safety and security of the passengers for no respectable person would like to travel with his family in such circumstances. I would like to submit that the matter has become quite delicate, people are

very much infuriated and angry over this issue. All the towns of that area are observing a day's bandh today as a mark of protest. It is quite likely that the law and order situation may deteriorate due to this. The Railway Minister should visit the site and take strict action against the guilty. Preventive steps should be taken to check the recurrence of such incidents in future. Culprits should be punished. Let not the people of Haryana also be forced to take law into their own hands. The Government should also endeavour to bring about some discipline in the Railway Police.

I expect the Government to come out with a statement on this matter and also conduct a thorough inquiry into this incident. I also hope sincerely that after collecting all the necessary information, both the Home Minister and the Railway Minister would inform the House about the steps being taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in future.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wanted to raise the same issue, but I was not allowed to speak. *(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It was recorded.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is part of the record.

(Interruptions)

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: I submit that when you had allowed him to speak, then he should also be allowed to speak. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, no. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Prof. KURIEN, you should please understand that it is part of the record. What he said is part of the record. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: The Speaker had already ruled it out and said that it was not part of the record. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Well, I am told that some statement had been made. But you can rest assured that the facility which has been given to Rao Birender Singh on this point should be given to the hon. member on this side also. I will discuss it with the Speaker and we will take an appropriate decision.....

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I will make a submission.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will solve that problem.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Please allow him.

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If it is not there.....

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: If it is not part of the record, you may please allow me to speak.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your statement also will form part of the record. I will just discuss with the Hon. Speaker.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you please check it. It would be better, if the Home Minister replies to the debate after that. If it is part of the record, it is okay, otherwise, please permit me to speak on that. I repeat again that there is no problem, if it is part of the record. However, if it is not the case, then kindly allow me to speak. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): How can you get it recorded retrospectively?

[*English*]

It will be safer if you allow Shri Bhajan Lal. (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do not worry about it.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Retrospectively it will have to be allowed.

SHRI R. GUNDU RAO (Bangalore South): I am on a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is no point of order in Zero Hour.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Well, this is a very peculiar situation. Two Members have expressed their views on the floor of the House and the Hon. Speaker was here. I have not really heard what he has said on that point. What Mr. Bhajan Lal has said record. It is taped. I will discuss it with the Hon. Speaker and what Rao Birendra Singh has said is part of the record. In view of these facts we will try to see that both the Members get equal opportunity.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Thank you very much.

SHRI R. GUNDU RAO: My point is different.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is no point of order in Zero Hour. I will call you later.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: I sought special permission from the Hon. Speaker in writing and I was not allowed to speak till you allowed me to raise the matter.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I do not know what happened. We have no written things here. It was something which you were saying extempore.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I had sought permission from the Hon. Speaker to raise this matter, and he gave me permission for the same. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI J. P. AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk): Yesterday, a similar incident took place in Delhi also. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir please allow me to speak just for a second. Yesterday, a person was killed by a speeding bus and when the people protested against it, the police brutally and mercilessly beat them up with sticks. One of them is lying in the hospital.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only one Member can speak at a time. Let us hear what the Home Minister has to say.

[*English*]

I have called upon the Minister to speak. Whatever you have said will be part of the record. What more do you want?

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Agarwalji, please sit down. Now whatever you say, will not form part of the record.

(*Interruptions*)*

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): Rao Birendra Singh was referring to an incident when two Police personnel of the Railway tried to molest a girl and there was a great commotion. The Railway passengers were greatly disturbed and when the Railway Station people came to know about this incident, there was a great commotion. The police did not deal with this situation discreetly; they should have taken some action against these two police personnel by taking them in

custody. In that way they could have controlled the situation. Instead of doing so, they permitted the Railway Police Personnel to go and did not arrest them. So, there was great deal of commotion and thousands of people, collected and there was a police firing. It is a serious matter. Immediate action will be taken against these two police personnel and investigations will be made. As far as police firing on people is concerned, I will request the Chief Minister of Haryana to have an immediate inquiry in the matter.....(*Interruptions*).

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Judicial inquiry.

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: Whoever is responsible for this police firing, action after investigation should be taken against them..... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI RAJMANGAL PANDE (Deoria): Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is no point of order now. Let the Minister complete.

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: If railway police people behave like this, many people will suffer. So, prompt action will be taken against state police.

As far as the role of state police is concerned, I assure the hon. Members of this House that I will speak to the Chief Minister and an immediate inquiry will be ordered.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Rajmangal Pande, I am not going to allow you to raise your point of order. If you want to say something, then I will allow you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJMANGAL PANDE: Sir, the Home Minister has himself accepted that two constables of 'The Rail-

way Protection Force' attempted to molest a girl as per the information received by him. But despite this they have not been arrested. Instead they have been allowed to proceed on leave. No strict action has been taken despite so much resentment and commotion creating great fear among the masses... ..(*Interruptions*)... ..What can be expected from such a police? How can you talk of enquiry in such conditions? I would like to request that the hon. Minister of Home Affairs should assure that he would institute some high-level judicial enquiry... .. (*Interruptions*) ...because as far as we are concerned we have no faith in the police department.....

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Gundu Rao.

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ (Bara-mulla): Sir, I have a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is no point of order now. I have called Mr. Gundu Rao.

SHRI R. GUNDU RAO: Since one week there is an acute shortage of petrol, diesel and kerosene in Bangalore city. People are suffering like anything and no action has been taken from the Government side. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Dandavate: I am speaking about Bangalore city where neither petrol, nor diesel nor kerosene are available for the last one week.

[*English*]

Not hundreds of people, but thousands of people are suffering. The employees and the factory workers are suffering. Slum people and poor people are standing in queues from morning to evening but they are not getting kerosene, petrol and diesel. No action from the Government side either from

the Petroleum Ministry or whatever Ministry concerned has been taken so far. I request the Government that immediate action should be taken to ensure the minimum supply of these items. I want you to supply some quantity of these items if not in large quantity*(Interruptions)* Thousands of people met me yesterday in Bangalore. They wanted me to take up this matter to the concerned people. I am sorry that I could not reach here in time yesterday. I request the Government, through you, that proper arrangements are made to supply kerosene, diesel and petrol in time.

Otherwise, I have to sit on dharna here until you make these things available to the people there. This is a very serious matter. Bangalore city is one of the important cities in the country and it is a highly industrially developed city. I would like to request the Government through you to take steps to see that proper supplies are made available to the people there.

(Interruptions)

13.16 Hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Review on the working of and Annual Report of Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited Bangalore for 1989-90.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): I on behalf of my colleague, Shri Dinesh Goswami, beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (1) Review by the Government on the working of the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1989-90.

- (2) Annual Report of the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1989-90 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1223/90].

Notifications under Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SHREEDHARAN): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under section 3 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947:—

- (1) The Exports (Control) Fifteenth Amendment Order, 1989 published in Notification No. S.O. 758(E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th September, 1989.
- (2) The Exports (Control) Sixteenth Amendment Order, 1989 published in Notification No. S.O. 765(E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th September, 1989.
- (3) The Exports (Control) Nineteenth Amendment Order, 1989 published in Notification No. S.O. 877(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th October, 1989.
- (4) The Exports (Control) Twentieth Amendment Order, 1989 published in Notification No. S.O. 913(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd November, 1989.
- (5) The Exports (Control) Twenty-third Amendment Order, 1989 published in Notification No. S.O. 1058(E) in Gazette of India dated the 19th December, 1989.
- (6) The Exports (Control) First Amendment Order, 1990 Published in Notification No. S.O. 33(E) in Gazette of India dated the 11th January, 1990.

- (7) The Exports (Control) Second Amendment Order, 1990 published in Notification No. S.O. 43(E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th January, 1990.
- (8) The Exports (Control) Fifth Amendment Order, 1990 published in Notification No. S.O. 221(E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th March, 1990.
- (9) The Exports (Control) Sixth Amendment Order, 1990 published in Notification No. S.O. 227(E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 1990.
- (10) The Exports (Control) Eighth Amendment Order, 1990 published in Notification No. S.O. 330(E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th April, 1990.
- (11) The Exports (Control) Ninth Amendment Order, 1990 published in Notification No. S.O. 340(E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th April, 1990.
- (12) The Exports (Control) Tenth Amendment Order, 1990 published in Notification No. S.O. 359(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th April, 1990.
- (13) The Exports (Control) Eleventh Amendment Order, 1990 published in Notification No. S.O. 364(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th April, 1990.
- (14) The Exports (Control) Twelfth Amendment Order, 1990 published in Notification No. S.O. 402(E) in Gazette of India dated the 23rd May, 1990.
- (15) The Exports (Control) Fourteenth Amendment Order, 1990 published in Notification No. S.O. 463(E) in Gazette of India dated the 6th June, 1990.
- (16) The Exports (Control) Sixteenth Amendment Order, 1990 published in Notification No. S.O. 506(E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th June, 1990.

Notifications under Central Excises & Salt Act, 1944.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944:—

- (i) G.S.R. 434(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th April, 1990 together with an explanatory note making certain amendments to Notification No. 266/67-CE, dated the 28th November, 1967.
- (ii) The Central Excise (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 1990 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 454(E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th April, 1990.
- (iii) G.S.R. 576(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th June, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to provide that in accordance with a general practice that was prevalent at the relevant time, the excise duty on gold potassium cyanide, manufactured from gold and used in the electronic industry and as is equivalent to the duty of excise leviable on the value of gold used in the manufacture of such gold potassium cyanide, shall not be required to be paid during the period from 1st June, 1981 to 16th July, 1987.
- (iv) G.S.R. 577(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th June, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to provide that in accordance with a general practice that was prevalent at the relevant time, the excise duty on sheets, boards, blocks of thermocol shall not be required to be paid during the period commencing from 1st March, 1986 to 12th April, 1989.

(v) The Central Excise (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 1990 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 579(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th June, 1990.

(vi) G.S.R. 607 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd July, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to provide that in accordance with a general practice that was prevalent at the relevant time, the duty of excise and the special duty of excise on sulphur dioxide and sulphur trioxide when consumed captively in the manufacture of sulphuric acid, shall not be required to be paid during the period from 28th February 1986 to 15th May, 1989.

(vii) G.S.R. 608(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd July, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to provide that in accordance with a general practice that was prevalent at the relevant time, the excise duty and special duty of excise shortlevied on foam rubber lubricating pads shall not be required to be paid during the period from 1st March, 1986 to 28th February, 1989.

(viii) G.S.R. 616(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd July, 1990 making certain amendments to Notification Nos. 272/79-CE dated the 18th October, 1979, 237/85-CE and 238/85-CE dated the 15th November, 1985, 5/86-CE dated the 20th January, 1986 and 398/86-CE dated the 26th August, 1986.

(ix) G.S.R. 617(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd July, 1990 making certain amendments to Notification No. 186/75-CE dated the 21st August, 1975.

(x) G.S.R. 618(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd July, 1990 making certain amendments to Notification No. 123/81-CE, dated the 2nd June, 1981.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT--1225/90.]

13.17 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing Monday, the 20th August, 1990, will consist of:—

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
2. Consideration and passing of the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Bill, 1989.
3. Discussion and Voting on:—
 - (a) Demands for Grants for 1990-91 in respect of Punjab.
 - (b) Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1990-91.
 - (c) Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1990-91.
4. Consideration and passing of the Lokpal Bill, 1989.

(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What the hon. Member says will not go on record.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): I have an objection here because in the Business Advisory Committee—I hope, you were there—time was allotted for various business and then there was a discussion for extending the sitting after 6 p.m. which was not agreed to. Therefore, this deadline that this should be passed should be removed finally because there is no such decision. Secondly, BAC can say that the business may be completed. How can the BAC say that the Bill should be passed? There is no such decision.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What portion of it are you referring to?

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: It is the last item which says:

“Discussion and voting on Demands for Grants relating to Punjab for 1990-91 and Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) and (Railways) for the year 1990-91 may be taken up on Wednesday, the 22nd August and passed by 3.30 p.m. on Friday, the 24th August, 1990.”

Firstly, the BAC cannot decide like that and secondly, there was no such decision at all. At the most, we can say that the Bill should be completed. The deadline in regard to time has no meaning because we did not agree to the extension of the House after 6 p.m. If you want to utilise the total allotted time, then the deadline of time has no meaning because six hours have been allotted for J&K Bill. Then what is the meaning of deadline that it should be passed in one day?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): You do not want that it should be passed.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Supplementary Budget is always like that.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): I am talking of Jammu & Kashmir Bill and Prasar Bharati Bill.....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We are discussing the entire business transacted in the Business Advisory Committee.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: About completion of the business or passing of the business, there should not be any deadline. That is my objection.

13.19 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Fourteenth Report

(Translation)

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move—

“That this House do agree with Fourteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee, presented to the House on 16th August, 1990”.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:—

“That this House do agree with the Fourteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on 16th August, 1990.”

The motion was adopted

13.20 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till twenty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha reassembled after lunch at twenty-five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we shall take up Matters under Rule 377.

Shri Era Anbarasu—absent. Shri G. S. Basavaraj

(i) Need to supply adequate quantity of Coal to Cement factories in Karnataka to save them from Closure

SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJ (Tumkur): Sir, the cement factories in Karanataka State face shortage of coal from January, 1990. Cement plants cannot run satisfactorily with meagre linkage. The position from May, 1990 onwards has worsened so much that all Cement factories in Karnataka are on the verge of closure. Western Coalfields Limited, Nagpur are having instructions that coal should be supplied to power plants only. In case there is a further delay in supply of coal to cement plants in Karnataka, all of the cement plants will be closed and the shortage of cement will occur and the prices of cement will go up. I, therefore, appeal to the Hon'ble Minister to direct the authorities concerned to supply adequate quantity of coal to the cement factories in Karnataka to save them from the closure.

[*Translation*]

(ii) Need to take steps to save Northern Bihar from the fury of recurring floods.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the serious problems faced by 4 crore people of 17 districts of Northern Bihar caused by furious floods of Kosi, Kamala, Bhutahi, Adhwara, Gandak, Bagmati and other rivers. Every year life of four and a half crore people of Bihar living near Indo-Nepal border

is entirely disrupted. Every year, numerous people are drowned, rendered homeless and crops worth crores of rupees destroyed. Besides, people face acute problems of drinking water, shelter, eatables and road communication. The development works also get halted. Every year, crores of rupees are spent in the name of flood control measures, strengthening of embankment and flood relief works. But no step has been taken by the Government to ensure the permanent solution of this menace. This year also great havoc has been caused by flood.

I would, therefore, request the Government to constitute a high powered water commission to negotiate with the Government of Nepal in order to sign an agreement with them to construct a multipurpose dam in the catchment areas of Nepal so that there is a permanent solution to the problem of four and a half crore people of Bihar.

(iii) Need to take steps to check the growing menace of rats and monkeys

[*English*]

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS (Jajpur): Sir, rats and monkeys in groups are moving freely, eating considerable quantity of foodgrains and vegetables and causing damage to foodgrains, vegetables and other standing crops. Rural people are fed up due to this menace of the rats and monkeys.

It is suggested that the monkeys be captured and left in the jungles and the menace of rats also tackled suitably. This is necessary to provide some relief to the rural people who are fed up. It is also necessary to avoid national loss to our foodgrains, vegetables and standing crops.

(iv) Need to increase the speed of trains running between Delhi and Udaipur and reschedule their timings.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GULAB CHAND KATARIA (Udaipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Udaipur which holds a prominent position on the tourist Map of India and the World, is tribal dominated

[Sh. Gulab Chand Kataria]

area. Though, it has got a lot of mineral wealth, it lacks railway facility. Situated at a distance of 736 kms. from Delhi, Udaipur is a single place in Rajasthan which is connected with Delhi by a train viz. 'Chetak Express' which takes twenty hours to cover this distance. As a result traders and tourists and others have to waste two days. The train reaches Udaipur at 9.15 P.M. after leaving Jaipur at 6 P.M. As a result thereof the benefit of three trains becomes equal to that of 2 trains. Therefore, if the running time is reduced then, time, staff as well as a train would also be saved. This would save railway's expenditure as well. I have raised this question in the House on various occasions in various forms, but no action has been taken in this regard by the Ministry of Railway so far. Therefore, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Railways towards this matter.

(v) Need for special grants for carrying out proper repairs and preservation of ancient monuments in Orissa.

[English]

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatisinghpur): It is a matter of great concern that about 2328 monuments in the State of Orissa are in a very dilapidated condition. Most of these are likely to collapse if necessary repair measures are not taken immediately. A stone slab recently fell from Lord Jagannath temple, Puri which has not been refixed so far. Stone slabs are also falling from Sun temple, Konark. Adequate repair and protection measures are not being taken on the Lord Lingaraj temple at Bhubaneswar. Though a separate archaeological circle has been created exclusively for Orissa, it has failed to rise to the occasion. Due to negligence of the archaeological circle as many as 711 ancient temples and monuments in Puri district, 261 in Cuttack 187 in Sambalpur, 26 in Kalahandi, 90 in Balangol, 195 in Koraput, 585 in Ganjam, 48 in Sundargarh, 138 in Balasore, 41 in Phulbani and 45 in Mayurbhanj district are in a bad shape and may collapse any moment.

The Government of India is laying emphasis on the proper preservation of ancient monuments. Orissa is rightly called the State of temples. But it is regrettable that the ancient temples and monuments in the State will only be there as ancient remains if conservation measures are taken at the present pace and half-hearted manner. As these monuments are the symbol of ancient Kalinga or Utkal which has witnessed many glorious events of ancient Orissa, I request that the Government of India should make a special provision of grants for the proper repair and preservation of these monuments.

(vi) Need to link Kargil by air

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD. HASSAN COM-MANDER (Ladakh): It has been a long standing demand of my Constituency Kargil that it should be linked to other places by air service. But it is the misfortune of the people of this region that their demand has not been fulfilled even after 40 years of independence. The air service has not been started there despite their demand for it. Whenever any high dignitary from centre goes there he promises for bringing Kargil on air map, but nothing has been done so far. The result is that for full eight months this area remains cut off from the rest of the country, following heavy snowfall, and the State and Central Government remain unaware of the affairs of this area. Therefore, I fervently appeal to you that you should provide the inhabitants of this area an opportunity to reach in other parts of country by bringing it on air map so that they too become part of the mainstream.

Lastly, once again I would like to make an ardent appeal to you that this area should be linked by air-service.

(vii) Need to set up South-Western Railway Zone for Karnataka with its Headquarters at Bangalore.

[English]

SHRI C. P. MUDALA GIRI-YAPPA (Chitradurga): Karnataka

State has a vast area with a population of more than 4 crores. The development of railway line there is quite disproportionate to the area. It has a total of only 300 kms. railway line. Karnataka is split among 3 railway zones, namely, Southern Railway (HQ at Madras), South Central Railway (HQ Secunderabad) and Central Railway (HQ Bombay) resulting in total neglect of railway development activities in the State. The State has only 60 kms. of broad gauge double line, but there is no trace of triple or quadruple lines either in broad gauge or metre gauge as in other States like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

Railway Reforms Committee had recommended the creation of the South Western Railway (SWR) Zone for Karnataka with Headquarters at Bangalore, constituting Bangalore, Mysore, Hubli and Sholapur Divisions. The Railway Ministry had agreed to this in principle and in fact, while laying the foundation stone for the divisional office at Bangalore, the future requirements of housing the railway zone office was kept in view and 9-storeyed building had been planned. Owing to certain tragic events which took place in 1984, this proposal is still hanging fire in the National Planning Commission. Karnataka satisfies all the parameters required for setting up of a railway zone as recommended by the Railway Reforms Committee.

I, therefore, request the hon. Minister to set up South Western Railway Zone for Karnataka with its Headquarters at Bangalore at the earliest.

(viii) Need to construct Rehabilitation Centre for the leprosy cured at Koratty Leprosy Hospital in Trichur district, Kerala

PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN (Mukundapuram): Koratty Leprosy Hospital, Trichur District, Kerala is one of the oldest hospitals in the State. A proposal for open-

ing of a Rehabilitation Centre there was in the process and even foundation stone thereof was laid a few years back.

The patients from the Hospital after treatment are not accepted by the society. The proposed rehabilitation centre is the only place where the cured leprosy patients can work and live.

At present 25 wards in this Leprosy Hospital are occupied by nearly 800 patients. Out of this, about 4 wards are filled with those patients who are totally immobile. The conditions of these leprosy patients are very pathetic and they run from pillar to post for maintaining their livelihood.

As a representative of the Koratty, I urge upon the Government to take immediate steps to issue necessary directions to start the long pending construction work and rehabilitate the patients who are totally cured from the Leprosy in the rehabilitation centre.

14.38 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Position of Indians in Kuwait

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH): I wish to revert once again to a matter which has caused deep concern to all of us in this House, that is, the condition of our nationals in Kuwait. On August 2 itself, the day the Iraqi troops entered Kuwait, we issued instructions to our Ambassador in Kuwait to take all possible measures for the safety and security of our nationals. He was specifically instructed to devise a suitable mechanism to keep in touch with our community, especially so in view of the large numbers involved. As the House is aware, we have about 172,000 of our nationals in Kuwait. Simultaneously, our Ambassador in Baghdad

[Sh. Hari Kishore Singh]

approached the Iraqi authorities to ensure that appropriate instructions were sent to the Commander in Kuwait in regard to the protection of our nationals. Our Ambassador was assured by the Iraqi authorities that such instructions had been sent. Since then, we have been taking up this matter on a daily basis with the Ambassador of Iraq here and our Ambassador in Baghdad has been doing so with the Government of Iraq on a continuous basis. Our Ambassador in Kuwait is also in daily contact with the local authorities there in order to ensure the security and safety of our nationals.

The communication links between Kuwait and the rest of the world became inoperative starting from August 3. At first, the telephone lines went dead, and then the telex lines. Within two days, there occurred a total breakdown of communication which is still continuing. We have managed to establish a communication link which is not entirely reliable and cannot take much load. This explains our inability to transmit individual enquiries and get replies from our Embassy in Kuwait.

It is not only the telecommunication link that has been snapped; the airports and sea-ports were closed on August 2, and to this day they remain so. There can, therefore, be no exit from Kuwait and Baghdad except through Amman, which is the only route kept open by the Iraqi authorities.

We have kept the House and the general public regularly informed on the basis of the scanty information that we have been receiving from our Ambassador in Kuwait through the communication link that was established and on the basis of the information we have been receiving from the Iraqi Ambassador in India and our Ambassador in Baghdad. After the last statement on this subject made by the External Affairs Minister on August 10, we have received further reports which indicate that our community is generally safe and

sound. Water and electricity are available. Essential food items are available, though there are indications that there might be shortages of some items. Since banks are closed, there may not be enough money left to buy essential items. Law and order situation is generally satisfactory, but with the passage of time, there are signs of deterioration. Some cases of thefts and looting have come to the attention of our Ambassador in Kuwait. At the same time, he was reported that offenders have been severely dealt with on the spot.

In the unusual conditions currently prevailing in the area, we are trying our best to evacuate our nationals who are stranded or in distress. We had over 700 Haj pilgrims stranded in Baghdad. There are other Indians in a similar position, like the passengers of the British Airways flight which reached Kuwait on 1/2 August, members of Air India crew who were on lay-over at that time, etc. Since all the airports and sea ports in Iraq and Kuwait remain closed, and it is approximately 2,000 KMs drive from Kuwait to Amman via Baghdad, the task of evacuation becomes extremely difficult. It is difficult to mobilise transport for such a long journey. Besides, in the current conditions, it is a difficult task to ensure safety during the journey.

My colleague, Mr. Arif Mohammed Khan flew to Amman on August 13 to see for himself the arrangements made for evacuation from Amman and seek the cooperation of the local authorities. He met the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Interior, Mr. Salem Masa 'deh, and Minister for Transport and Civil Aviation Mr. Nabil Abu Al-Huda. He was assured of full cooperation by the Royal Jordanian Government. The first Air India flight carrying 210 Indian pilgrims and over 70 other Indians who had managed to reach Amman from Kuwait by road, landed in Bombay in the early hours of the morning of August 15. The next day another flight carrying 375 passengers

reached Bombay. Shri Arif Mohammed Khan is today proceeding to Saudi Arabia to have discussion with the local authorities on the question of the evacuation of Indian nationals from Saudi Arabia. According to the latest report, Some 500 Indians have crossed over from Kuwait to Saudi Arabia. Some of our nationals living in Saudi Arabia also want to return to India. Shri Khan would met our nationals in Saudi Arabia in order to assure them of the Government's determination to do all that is possible to ensure their safety and security.

We have taken steps to strengthen our Missions in Amman and Saudi Arabia. We shall strengthen our Missions in Baghdad and Kuwait as soon as we are enabled to do so by the local authorities.

The External Affairs Minister (EAM) left for Moscow on August 14 and met his Soviet counterpart Mr. Shevardnadze the same afternoon. The main points covered in his discussion were the safety and security of the Indian nationals in Kuwait and the adverse impact on India's economy of the problem of finding alternative sources of supply of oil and of the increase in oil prices. Approximately 50% of our total oil imports used to come from Iraq and Kuwait until they were stopped following the mandatory sanction applied by the UN Security Council.

While in Moscow, the Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mr. Tariq Aziz had a telephonic conversation with our EAM in which, apart from inviting EAM to visit Baghdad, he assured that the Iraqi Government would take the necessary measures to protect Indian nationals in Kuwait and Iraq and facilitate the evacuation of those who are stranded or in distress.

EAM went to Washington from Moscow on 15th August and met Secretary of State Mr. James Baker the same evening. There also, the principal focus of his discussion was the problems created by the current

situation in the Gulf for the Indian economy and Indian nationals in this region.

EAM is expected to visit Baghdad either tonight or tomorrow morning. In Baghdad, he will pursue with the Iraqi authorities the question of the safety and security of Indian nationals there and the evacuation of those who are in distress or stranded.

There is yet another matter relating to the Indian nationals in Kuwait which is causing concern to us. The UN Security Council has imposed economic sanctions against Iraq. Under the Security Council Resolution, the only exceptions are food and medicines on humanitarian grounds. Kuwait is heavily dependent on imported food; so is Iraq. I mentioned earlier about the signs of possible food shortage in Kuwait. We are worried that if this occurs, our nationals in Kuwait will suffer most. There are provisions in the UN Charter which enables a member State confronted with special economic problems arising from the implementation of sanctions imposed by the Security Council, to consult the Council with regard to the solution of these problems. We have instructed our Permanent Representative in New York to get in touch with his colleagues from countries placed in a similar position in Kuwait, to explore the possibility of convening a meeting of the Security Council for this purpose. Some of these countries have reacted positively to our suggestion. I also took up this matter with the UN Secretary General when I met him in New York on August 10 when he agreed that this issue could be raised under the relevant provisions of the Charter. But, as the House knows, the Security Council can act only if all the Permanent Members agree. We are, therefore, consulting these countries also before taking a final decision on this matter.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara):

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to.....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Generally it is not allowed. But as a special case, I am allowing you.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: I do not think the statement has given anything more than what has been read in the newspapers. You yourself have said that those who are in distress and are stranded should be brought back. Of course, you have taken some steps in regard to those who are stranded. But in regard those who are in distress in Kuwait and want to come back, I want to know whether your Ambassador there has made an assessment of the number of people who want to come back. According to the information which we are getting otherwise from other sources like telephone calls from U.S.A., etc., at least 50,000 of them want to come back immediately, i.e. about one-fourth of our population, mainly children and women. How do you assess that?

No. 2, what is the action plan you are taking to bring them back? You have not mentioned that at all. You have said that there is only one part Amman, only one gate-way through which we can bring our people, but it is 2,000 kms. away from Kuwait. But there are exit points in Iraq. We are in good relation with Iraq. Why don't you talk with Iraq Government, why doesn't our Prime Minister or senior Minister go to Baghdad, talk to the Iraq President so that Iraq Government can facilitate and help us in bringing our nationals from Kuwait? Kuwait is fully under the military control of Iraq. Therefore, what is the difficulty in taking up the matter with Iraq President and settling it? For bringing our people, if there is some expenditure, we should meet it, we should give the compensation.

DEPUTY SPEAKER: At 3 O' Clock, we start Private Members' Business.

P.J. KURIEN: I will be brief. Thirdly, you said actually not only that there is food shortage, you admitted that there is no money because Dinar is not exchangeable. So,

shortage of money problem is there. What are you going to do about that? You kindly clarify these three.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Mormugao): I have myself been to that area and there are two things that appear to be very important. One, we are not getting any information from Kuwait on specifics, on individuals. I understand that today or tomorrow Shri I.K. Gujral, the Foreign Minister, is going to be in Baghdad. He is being accompanied by a high-level delegation of officials. The important point on which I want to request the hon. Minister is this: Please send one of the Senior officials to Kuwait so that he can make an assessment, coordinate and bring us the information. He can be the Secretary himself. Shri I.K. Gujral or anybody can decide it. There is already food shortage. Therefore, will the Government send food supply to Kuwait, particularly meant for the Indian community but even otherwise. Please coordinate with representatives of different organisations like the Kerala Samaj and the organisations in Tamil Nadu and distribute food supplies. All these organisations are doing splendid work. Will you coordinate with them and will you send the representative of ours to report to us on what is happening there? These are the two things on which I want the reply of the hon. Minister. I seek a brief clarification.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Jodhpur): I am given to understand that some other country, particularly for example, Japan has been able to take their citizens out of Kuwait, those who are stranded there, they are able to take them to Baghdad and back. There are two separate aspects of this problem. One is that such Indians or people of Indian origin or people of Indian ethnic origin as are in Kuwait, have been working in Kuwait and now wish to move out.

The other relates to the stranded B.A. Airlines. All other passengers are on British Airlines whether they are Englishmen or Americans, have been taken to Baghdad. But Indian

passengers who were in transit and who are destined to India are now stranded in Kuwait. They fall in a separate category. They do not number more than 120. If you have made arrangements for the Haj pilgrim's return, surely you can make arrangements for these 120 odd passengers also to be flown back. They are stranded in Kuwait. This is an aspect which requires an urgent and immediate clarification.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Minister please.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: How many people want to come back? Not only 50,000 but, we presume, the entire population in Kuwait would like to come back.

SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanore): No.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: This is the present situation. You cannot be very sure. As I said, 50,000 want to come back. We have a contingency plan. There is a ship there which can carry 1,500 people at a time.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Haj people.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Haj people are coming back from other country. The main problem is how to get to Kuwait. This is the main problem.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Write to Sardar Hussein.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Our Foreign Minister Shri I.K. Gujral will be reaching either tonight or tomorrow to Baghdad. He is at the moment in London. From London, he will take flight to Amman and is on the way to Amman. This is my information. Probably, he will go to Baghdad tonight or tomorrow to speak to the Iraqi Government about the security and safety of our Indian nationals who are stranded in Kuwait or Baghdad.

About the food supply, it is very difficult to arrange for food supply on such a massive scale.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: You give something.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: There are 1,72,000 people. How to distribute it. You cannot go to Kuwait. There is no facility to reach Kuwait at the moment. The first objective is to meet Iraqi authorities at the highest level and to plead to them so that we can ensure communication with our nationals who are there. We have sent senior officials. One of the senior Joint Secretaries has gone there with number of staff. If we are allowed, they will be stationed there to enable our Missions both in Baghdad and Kuwait to function more effectively. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: You go to Kuwait.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: The senior Minister has gone. He will be more effective. (*Interruptions*)

Regarding the stranded passengers of the British Airways, in spite of our best efforts, we have not been able to get any information about them except that they are lodged in a hotel. After that, we have not been able to get any information. All these things are in the agenda. That is why, the senior Minister has gone, senior officials have gone. And number of staff is there. We are trying to establish direct contact with Kuwait. So, all the efforts are being done. Government is trying to do whatever is possible within its power to secure information. That is the basic and the first necessity so that we are able to get in touch with them. We have received about 1,000 names. We have got about 1,000 enquiries from different people. All the papers have been taken by them. As soon as we are able to reach Kuwait or Baghdad, we will be able to make individual contact. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: I went to Cochin Inquiry Office day before yesterday and the inquiry number was 4000 something. So, one thousand number is not correct.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: I am talking of the full address of those people which was provided to us. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will you come back on Monday with the latest information?

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: If we are able to establish contact, everything will be cleared by Monday. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ (Bara-mulla): I want to seek a clarification. First of all, everybody must come home. The Government is responsible for that. In fact, I do not agree with the Minister that nothing can be done so far as relief measures are concerned. Those who are infirm, old or sick must receive the priority in coming home. Second priority must go to Hajis because they had gone to perform a religious function. Would you assure the House that Hajis will receive proper facilities to come back after the infirms and old?

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Hon. Member must have read in the newspaper that Hajis are given the first priority and a number of them have already come. (*Interruptions*)

15.00 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE. BAN ON COW SLAUGHTER

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House shall now take up the Private Members' Business; further discussion on the following Resolution moved by Shri Guman Mal Lodha on the 4th May, 1990:

"This House is of the opinion that the Government should bring forward a suitable legislation to ban slaughter of cow and

its progeny throughout the country".

Before further discussion resumes on the subject I would like to mention that two hours and nine minutes have already been taken on this Resolution, thus exhausting the time of two hours allotted for this discussion. The House has now to extend time for further discussion on this Resolution.

Is it the pleasure of the House that the time allotted for this Resolution be extended by one hour?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: So the time is extended by one hour. Shri Harish Rawat to speak.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the cow has always enjoyed a very important place in our country since ancient times. We recognise it also due to economic considerations. In a sense cow forms basis of our family in the same way as agriculture is the base of our life. Therefore, as far as the question of proper protection and care of cow and its progeny is concerned, I think that Government should prepare a comprehensive plan for it because just operation flood I, II or III would not do. For this we would have to take every district as a unit. Presently, the situation is so bad that if a survey is conducted it will be found that 80 per cent of the cows give nothing except cow-dung. They give very little milk. All the programmes related to cattle development are under State Governments but due to paucity of funds they are unable to take up cattle development programmes. No facility for artificial insemination of foreign breeds of cow is available in districts and if they are available, the equipments are outdated and conceiving percentage is very low and if there is some conceiving the calving percentage is still lower. For example, if conceiving percentage is 20 calving percentage is just 2. The same situation

prevails in our regions. Therefore I would like to request that you should fully equip all such existing centres of artificial insemination by introducing modern instruments and new technology so that every cow may conceive and give birth to calf. There is a great need to take some steps in this direction.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to urge through you, that there should be a defrozen nitrogen plant not only at the district level, but at Tehsil level, or for a group of two or three blocks. In a similar manner, many containers in which the semen is transported get broken in the way, because the condition of roads is generally very bad and the semen does not reach its destination. Then there is no freezing facility available there. There is need to formulate a comprehensive scheme so as to cater to all these facilities. The situation in the districts, where Operation Flood II programme is in operation is also not satisfactory at present. I would like to request you that the Central Government should make available sufficient funds for this purpose in consultation with the State Government concerned.

In villages, a peasant and a villager is mostly dependent upon various products and by-products of cow because of his poverty and meagre purchasing power. That is why the condition of cows is deteriorating now-a-days and there is nobody who can protect those cows. I would like to request that one or two cowsheds should be constructed for every 3-4 villages where the unproductive cows could be kept. Those cows become a burden upon their owners, and the latter in turn think in terms of selling their cows off. They drive their cattle away to the streets and mohallas out of sheer frustration and anxiety. If you construct a cowshed for every group of three or four villages for such discarded animals, this will be a very good achievement on your part and there is need for you to take steps in this direction.

The hon. Member, Shri Guman Mal Lodha, has said a lot through this re-

solution with regard to the cow and its progeny. He has spoken a lot about its political aspect. I do not want to elaborate on his remarks. I leave it for him to elaborate but I would certainly like to tell him that cow is the base of our life today. If you make it a religious or political issue. You are neither going to do any good to the cow-species nor serve the country and the society. This will only contribute to the generation of mutual differences, mistrust and confusion. We have observed that usually the demand for imposing a ban on cow-slaughter is made with an aim of arousing the religious sentiments among the people, directed against the minorities. There may be differing values and viewpoints. There are compulsions in every field and the peoples habits are developed accordingly in different surroundings. I do not understand that in a country like India we can do any justice with ourselves or with the society as a whole, if we try to impose our values, viewpoints, opinions and faith upon others.

15.08 hrs.

[SHRI JASWANT SINGH *in the Chair*]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to request the mover of this resolution, that if after leaving aside his political prejudices and interest, he only confines his resolution to the aim of improving the condition of the cow, and its economic aspect, then the entire House and all of us express our solidarity with him, because cow is the very base of our life. We worship cow, because we understand that cow is as important to us as is our motherland, agriculture and farming to us. That is why we worship cow. We hold cow in no less esteem than the mover of the resolution or his supporters might be holding but I, by no means, agree with the narrow point of view with which he has delivered his speech while moving this resolution and the points he has tried to touch. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I think that by doing so he is neither doing any justice to the cow and the progeny of cow

[Sh. Harish Rawat]

nor is he doing justice to the country and the society.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would, once again, like to urge upon the hon. Minister of Agriculture, through you, that a comprehensive programme should be chalked out for improving the condition of the cow, its progeny and the livestock as a whole. Steps should be taken for earmarking sufficient funds for this purpose in the Eighth Five Year Plan and State Government should be consulted in this connection. If by formulating district level plans, the village panchayats and the regional committees are involved in this task, the Government should be rendering great service. This way, you will also be rendering a great service to the rural population the cause of whom you and your Government so often champion.

SHRI HAMENDRA SINGH BANERJA (Bhilwara): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the House should at the very outset, express its gratitude to the hon. Member, Shri Guman Mal Lodha, for moving this resolution in the House regarding imposing a ban on cow slaughter. The cow is not associated with the Hindu religion alone, but it is a symbol of our Indian culture and civilization and has remained the backbone of the economic development of this country. There have been frequent movements in independent India for cow-protection. Mahatma Gandhi had said that the foremost thing he would like to do in independent India was to impose a ban on cow slaughter.

(Interruptions)

It is deplorable that the cow is being slaughtered in our country today even after 43 years of independence. The hon. Members have expressed their viewpoints as to why there should be ban on cow slaughter and I would not like to repeat them, but one thing I would like to propose in the House is that the situation cannot be improved unless and until the Central Government enacts such a legislation by dint of which the laws

already enacted by those states that want to ban cow-slaughter in their respective areas do not get violated. For example, cow slaughter is prohibited in Rajasthan but somehow or the other, on the pretext of trade and commerce, cow is smuggled out of Rajasthan. The State Government cannot impose a ban on such an activity. The cow is carried out of Rajasthan in the name of cow trade and what actually happens is that as the cow cannot be taken out of Rajasthan in the name of cow-slaughter because this is prohibited in the State, but the fact remains that all the cows that leave Rajasthan are directly diverted to the slaughter houses. It is an irony that a state in which such a law banning cow slaughter exists, the State Government wants the law to get it enforced and complied with, the inhabitants of the state accept the law in its letter and spirit, but contrary to our sentiments and feelings, the cow is being slaughtered. The only reason as to why this is happening is that the Central Government has not enacted any such legislation. Today, I would like to request the hon. Minister to enact such a legislation as it would at least enable the states, that possess a feeling of reverence for the cow, and which want to ban cow-slaughter totally and have enacted laws to the effect in their respective jurisdiction, to enforce such laws completely and comprehensively. New schemes are today being formulated for the prosperity of our villages and the farmers and such schemes have proved to be beneficial to them. But, Mr. Chairman, Sir, there has been a thousand year old tradition of rearing the cows in our villages and it is most essential that a ban is imposed on cow slaughter. Shri Guman Mal Lodha has once again attracted the attention of the country towards this issue by bringing this resolution in the House. I would like to remind you as to how many movements were launched in our country in support of imposing a ban on cow slaughter. There was one such movement in 1966. More than one crore people submitted a signed memorandum to the hon. President demanding the imposition of ban on cow slaughter.

In 1960, there was a similar movement and a demonstration was held in front of the Parliament. In 1966, his holiness Shankaracharya undertook fast unto death that continued for 68 days. An assurance that an appropriate legislation would be enacted to this effect was given at that time. He broke his fast but no appropriate legislation has been enacted till date. The incident of firing took place here prior to 1971 as well and our supporters were gunned down ruthlessly. They had held a demonstration in front of the Parliament on one and only one issue—that the cow slaughter be banned. The treatment meted out to them is a shameful stigma on this country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I understand that this stigma cannot be washed away from this country until irrespective of our religious and political considerations and affiliations and keeping in mind the culture, civilization, dignity and tradition of the country, we give a serious consideration to this issue and go into introspection to ponder over it honestly and until the centre takes steps to bring forward an appropriate, legislation to totally ban the cow-slaughter in our country. In our villages, in particular, the farmers and the poor people are associated with the rearing of cow. They do not have any knowledge of the modern techniques of agriculture as yet, and as such they can make no use of that. The Government does not have the requisite resources to make available such modern techniques and equipment to these people so that these poor villagers could develop their farming with the help of modern techniques. Cow rearing is their only means of livelihood.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I represent Rajasthan and the significance that is attached to a cow there in that state is well known to everybody. It is a universal fact that our rural farmers are exhaustively dependant on cow. I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards at least respecting the law made with regard to the cow in Rajasthan and the way our cattle-wealth is dragged towards the slaughter houses in other states. The

Government should come before the House with a appropriate legislation. Hon. Shri Lodha has not only drawn the attention of the House to this issue but that of the whole country by bringing forward this resolution here. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI RESHAM LAL JANGDE (Bilaspur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, whenever our hon. Members talk about cow-slaughter in this House, they see to it whether they are going to be politically benefited out of it in future or not.

MR. CHAIRMAN: One hour's time has been enhanced for this debate and five or six hon. Members still want to speak on it and then the hon. Minister will be giving a reply too. The mover of the resolution has also to speak. Kindly be careful about your time so that more Members can have their say.

SHRI RESHAM LAL JANGDE: They oppose it but their opposition is indirect rather than direct and they do not say in clear terms that the cow-slaughter should be allowed. There is a total ban on cow-slaughter in Kashmir. Why do not you bring it in this under concurrent list for such states whereas you are competent to do so. When I was an MP earlier, Shri Rafi Ahmad Kidwai had said that the Central Government should ban cow slaughter if the people of the country want it to be done in future. The state of mind of the then Prime Minister was not shaken at that time. At that time Shri Rafi Ahmad Kidwai had not agreed to it and ban on cow slaughter could not be enforced. I can go to the extent of saying that the economic condition of Brahmins is in ramshackles and the prices of the cattle are sky rocketing. The prices of the cattle have come at par with that of a motorcycle. The modern chemical fertilizers cause many diseases to the standing crops in villages and general health conditions of our people are showing a decline. On the one hand, there is the talk of bio-gas. Along with this, the use of manure is also talked about because of its yielding capacity and this manure should be brought to use so that

[Sh. Resham Lal Jangde]

the land does not lose its fertility at the time of the fertilizer reaching a saturated point and this can be achieved only when the cow dung is used. Some of our friends advocate the cause of banning cow-slaughter. But the quality breed cattle and healthy calves are sent to the butcher houses every six months. These are exported and soft leather commodities are made from their skin. The people abroad are very fond of these articles and pay a handsome price for them. The drive for this avarice impels them to stop the propagation of quality breed animals. Secondly, I would like to say that you could not check the trend of smuggling except for the intoxicating drugs. This argument is forwarded in this House. The smuggling of drugs should be checked only after the peoples' addiction to them is reformed and checked. People conceal the facts because of their political prejudices and present the argument of banning cow-slaughter and that way try to secure the future for themselves and their parties. The opinion of the House and of the crores of people outside is that if this issue is put to a referendum or a plebiscite in any state, majority of the country's population would favour a ban on cow-slaughter.

In spite of this, our narrow-minded thinking has only increased poverty among the crores of farmers in this country. Use of chemical fertilizers and destruction of rural areas through urbanisation has weakened the economic condition of farmers. We must refrain from politicisation of issues. In deference to public sentiments, I request this House to pass the resolution on banning cow slaughter.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Saharsa): Mr. Chairman, Sir, today's important discussion concerns a mute animal whose entire body, from head to tail, is utilized for some purpose or the other. Strangely, the Government has not been able to adopt a firm policy in this matter till now.

Sir, cow dung is used as a manure and the bones of a dead cow also have their utility. The cow plays a very significant role in the lives of this country's farmers and labourers. The farmer uses cow dung as manure in his field and villagers use cow dung cakes as fuel for cooking purpose. But cows are being slaughtered on a large-scale in this country. There is no check on this practice. True, some States have banned cow slaughter, but this ban has no meaning since the Central Government has not made any relevant provision. Today, the cow has been taken up as a subject of research. Besides being used as manure, cow dung is also a source of electricity. Indian and foreign scientists have proved that electricity produced from cow dung can be used in industry. Cow is the country's most valuable asset and cow slaughter is reducing the number of cows. In future this will deprive us of a valuable asset. I hope we don't close our eyes now and then repent later on. Like in the case of environment, where we initially remained unconcerned about widespread deforestation and are now spending crores of rupees on afforestation because pollution of environment threatens the very survival of mankind. If the Government does not give this matter serious thought, we shall lose a valuable asset. I demand that the Government enact a law to ban cow slaughter in the country.

More than being my demand, ban on cow slaughter is favoured by all MPs and the 80 crore population of this country. Non-existence of any such law is against public interest. The Government should promote industrial research related to cow and its progeny.

With these words, I conclude my speech and thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on the Resolution related to ban on cow slaughter.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GAN-
GWAR (Bareilly): Sir, I am very grateful to you for giving me an

opportunity to speak on this important issue. I shall take just two minutes to speak on this subject.

Sir, regarding the resolution moved by hon. Shri Guman Mal Lodha for a ban on cow slaughter, it is the country's misfortune that we are discussing a subject such as this, even 43 years after Independence. This is hardly a matter for debate. There are examples in history of Lord Krishna and Maharaja Dilip who were prepared to make any sacrifice for the protection of cows. After Independence, cows have been slaughtered at a number of places in the country. This matter has been discussed threadbare not only in this House but also on various fora across the country. It will be in the interest of protecting our environment the Government should introduce a Bill to ban cow slaughter or should establish a healthy convention by passing this Resolution of Shri Lodha and act accordingly. Without saying much on this subject, I urge the Government to consider this issue from the cultural and religious point of view and take a decision.

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (Malegaon): Sir, I support the Resolution regarding ban on cow slaughter. There have been two great souls in Indian history, namely, Lord Rama and Lord Krishna who protected cows. Lord Krishna loved cows so much that he was also seen in their company. The melodious notes of his flute drew cows towards him however far they may be. Hon. Shri Sathe is present and he too has strongly favoured a ban on cow slaughter. When I was six years old, I had looked after a cow for three years and so my love for cows remains as strong today.

Sir, cow progeny is very important for agriculture. Cow milk is also essential. What is the percentage of agricultural land tilled by tractors? 80% of the country's farmers employ bullocks to till their land and a little over 2% use tractors. Besides banning cow slaughter, we must ensure that cows are properly looked after also. The Resolution

regarding ban on cow slaughter does not concern Hindus alone but Muslims also. A tree provides shade to everyone without any discrimination. Similarly, cows are of use to everyone. So it is necessary to impose ban on cow slaughter for which I support this Resolution.

SHRI K. MANVENDRA SINGH (Mathura): Hon. Mr. Chairman Sir, first of all I thank my hon. colleague Shri Guman Mal Lodha who has moved a Private Members' Resolution regarding ban on cow slaughter. I whole-heartedly express my support for this Resolution. India's ancient culture, values and religious-consciousness dating back to thousands of years has been associated with the cow and these are the values that have led us all these years. The cow has always been deified and worshipped in this country. Our scriptures describe the various parts of cow's body as representative of various 'avatars' of God. So the cow is a symbol representing all the 'avatars' of God. And by worshipping the cow we are actually worshipping God.

I come from Mathura which is the birthplace of Lord Krishna. Lord Krishna's image always includes a cow in the background and this image has been in existence since the time of Lord Krishna and will remain so forever. It is this image of Lord Krishna, inclusive of the cow, which is worshipped. It is possible that there was a shortage of cows, milk, butter and buttermilk during that period and that prompted Lord Krishna to enact ballets to draw the attention of future generations. Another reason for this is that milk, 'ghee', butter, buttermilk etc. have been associated with farmers since times immemorial. Our country has been predominantly agricultural for centuries and these things have been the life-blood of farmers. Not only this, whenever a 'havan' ceremony is performed in an Indian home, cow dung is used for cleaning the house and cow dung cakes are used in the 'havan'. Cow dung is even added in the 'Panchamrit' preparation used for bathing the God. Cow dung is considered holy. When we talk of wel-

[Sh. K. Manvendra Singh]

fare of farmers, we find that development of villages depends on the prosperity of farmers and butter, buttermilk, curd etc. add to the prosperity of farmers. The health of their children depends on these things. Cow dung is used as manure and cow dung cakes are used as fuel for cooking purposes. In villages it is still considered sacred to prepare 'rotis' on such fires. Apart from this, cow dung is also used to clean houses in villages. All these facts show that the farmer is dependent on cow dung for most of his work. Bullocks are used to plough the land which produces foodgrain for the country. It is another matter that the advancement made by science has diverted our attention from cow dung but that does not undermine its utility. Compared to industrial fertilizers, cow dung is a much more potent manure. So the Government must ensure the protection of cows which are not only a religious symbol but also part and parcel of the life of farmers. Agitations against cow slaughter have been launched in the country from time to time. All religious leaders including the Shankaracharya have opposed cow slaughter and the entire country stands by them. I don't believe that any Indian citizen does not respect the cow, except some who are in the profession. I am sad to see agitationists in Mathura being lathi-charged and put in jail. Agitations against cow slaughter have not checked the slaughter of cows but it has led to the killing of the agitationists. I would urge the Government to enact a law banning cow slaughter. The cow is deeply associated with our national culture and strict laws must be made for its protection so that the coming generations do not have to make any sacrifices for this purpose.

Sir, even today beef is served in 5-star hotels in India. Regrettably, even so many years after Independence we have not been able to ban cow slaughter. The Government should also pass orders for immediately discontinuing serving of beef in 5-star hotels. You may be surprised to know that young cows, those

giving birth for the first time are sold in big cities like Calcutta and Bombay. A place like Mathura, which had traditionally been rich in milk, curd, ghee' and butter, has no good cows today. Healthy cows are taken in trucks to cities like Delhi, Calcutta and Bombay to be sold. Not only this, Sir, abortions are done on pregnant cows and the dead progeny's hide is processed and sent abroad to be sold at high prices because that hide is very soft.

Similarly beef is also being exported to other countries where it is eaten by the people. Bullocks, which symbolize agriculture are very important for farmers of this country, are also being slaughtered at young age and are sold to professionals. Therefore through you, I would like to urge the Government to enact a law immediately for banning slaughter of cow and its progeny.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we used to hear in our childhood days that improved breeds are being developed, by adopting the technique of artificial insemination. The semen was imported from other countries. In order to procure higher milk-yield our outstanding breeds were cross-bred to develop new breeds. But the result was that the bulls thus produced have not been of any agricultural utility. Due to the hot climate of our country they are not able to withstand the high temperature and are not proving useful for agricultural purpose. In this manner our ancient and good breeds of cows are being eliminated. We had some outstanding breeds of cows in Haryana and Rajasthan, but they are now vanishing. In President House too, earlier there were some well known good breeds but they are no more there now. Therefore I urge the Government to protect the cows belonging to the ancient breeds.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would also like to urge the Government that Gaushalas should be constructed for old decrepit and diseased animals who have out-lived their

utility and arrangements should be made for their feed and fodder. The Government is spending huge amount on other projects then why can't institutions like Gosadans can be established for providing protection to cow and its progeny which is symbol of our culture. With these words I express my gratitude to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I am also thankful to Shri Lodha for moving this resolution and I am confident that the Government will impose ban on cow slaughter, for, cow is a symbol of religion.

SHRI GANGACHARAN LODHI (Hamirpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all I would like to thank Shri Lodha for moving the resolution regarding ban on cow slaughter. In our Hindu religion not only animals even trees have been worshipped as incarnations of God. A number of incarnations have descended like incarnation of fish, tortoise, cow and various trees. Whenever these incarnations are referred to, they are related to religion, though of course, scientific basis lay behind all these incarnations. It seems at that time all the essential commodities required for the survival of mankind were somehow linked to incarnations, our religious scriptures stand testimony to this fact. For instance peepal tree provides oxygen during the day as well as at night so it was also considered as an incarnation. 'Tulsi' is worshipped as mother because scientific researches have revealed that this plant is an anti-biotic medicine and useful for life, and thus it is considered to be an incarnation. Similarly cow is of much importance in our life, for, when a child is born he is given cow milk. Milk of no other animal is so enriched with vitamins as is the cow milk. Therefore cow is also worshipped like mother, whenever we raise the issue of cow slaughter we are called fanatics. It was said that the issue was being made instrument of political manoeuvring to get more votes. Our Muslim brethren should also participate in the discussion because cow milk is useful not only to Hindus but for everybody whosoever drinks it.

Hindus worship cow as deity as the mother of prosperity and it is very sad that here we are discussing the issue of cow slaughter. The people in power will not hesitate to sacrifice their mother for the sake of power. The Jh... is dearer to them even than their mother's life. Our country and our culture which we have inherited is of more value to us than the power. I support this resolution moved by Shri Lodha. However, I would suggest a small amendment in it that besides imposing ban on cow-slaughter ban on slaughter of all other milch cattle should also be imposed. It should be made a punishable offence. Section 302 should be applied in such cases as is being applied in case of murder.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, as Shri Mandra Singh has just now pointed out that meat and beef is being served in five star hotels of this country. Actually five star culture is a western culture and this culture is influencing our country, it is very sad that this trend is becoming popular in the capital of the country. Ban should be imposed on serving meat in five star hotels—whether it is of cow, buffalo, or of any other milch cattle.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, with these words I conclude and extend my thanks to Shri Guman Mal Lodha for bringing this resolution in the House and providing us opportunity to express our opinion. By bringing this resolution he has reiterated his determination to protect our culture.

SHRI BABUBHAI MEGHJI SHAH (Kutch): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the resolution brought by Shri Guman Mal Lodha and extend my thanks to him for this. Today, cow slaughtering is taking place in many parts of the country. If ban is imposed on it people will welcome it. What the previous speakers have said is absolutely true. The number of cows is reducing gradually in the country. In Gujarat cows of Kakrech and Geer breed are found. There is a slaughter house in Bombay. It has proved very harmful for the

cows of this breed. Bullocks of good breed, used for agricultural purposes are available in Rajasthan and Gujarat. If ban on cow slaughter is not imposed bullocks of this breed will eliminate. Satheji will certainly agree to this.

Vinobaji is not amongst us today. He made great efforts to ban cow-slaughter. If we pass this resolution it would be the best tribute to Vinobaji. This is not a matter solely related to religion or culture, it is in the interest of the country. Cow is worshipped as 'Kamdhenu'. The bullock is of great utility in agriculture and enable us to earn huge money. Therefore slaughter of cow and its progeny should not be allowed at any cost.

Today very few members are present in the House. Every Indian irrespective of Hindu or Muslim religion should support ban on cow slaughter. Lodhaji has moved the resolution in order to protect the culture of the country. I thank him for bringing it in the House. I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I whole heartedly support the resolution regarding ban on cow slaughter brought by Shri Lodha for which he deserves to be congratulated.

Swami Dayanand Saraswati, a great social reformer of the modern age, has emphasised the value and importance of cow from the economic and agricultural point of view in his book 'Gokarananidhi'. He has dealt with it in detail. He has mentioned that every organ of the cow is useful for the mankind whereas human body is a waste after death. Cows are like mothers to living creatures and confer many benefit. All her organs are useful whether it is alive or dead. Can there be a greater curse than the slaughter of such a useful animal in free India?

When I was a student I had read that in the metropolitan cities like

Calcutta and Bombay there are big slaughter houses where huge number of cows—about thirty thousand are made to stand in a line for slaughtering. Fodder is put before them thereafter an automatic machine is put into operation which separates their heads from rest of the bodies, even the calf bearing cows are not spared, Calves are taken out from the wombs for processing calf leather. With the help of some instrument and chemicals calf leather is made and the so-called capitalists or people influenced by western culture((Interruptions)..... or those who eat beef wear such calf leather shoes and brag. I would like to submit to such people that the vedas containing divine knowledge say "Gau Vishwasaya Matra" i.e. cow is like mother of the world. They also preach to perform duties in a rightful manner and say "Sehridavam Saumanasyam Avidwesham Krinomeviv, Angoanyam Aviharyata Jatam Vatsamev Aghanya". In other words as cow loves her calf, every human being should love his fellow being in the same manner. Cow is an ideal symbol of the Indian culture, it has been the backbone of our economy. In an agricultural country like India 'Goverdhan Pooja' is celebrated on the next day of Deepawali and Indian women feel pride in cleaning their homes with cow dung as they feel it purifies their homes. If in such a country cow slaughter takes place nothing would be more shameful. I am the son of a farmer, I know how much precious the cow is for a farmer. When the cow returns home after grazing, her affection is worth seeing. She feels contented at the time of lactation. Man becomes healthy by drinking milk and by eating milk products. Our physical health, strength, the development of our brain and our physical, mental and intellectual development all depends on milk. But I regret to say that by using the things like Dalda and other such chemical products people have lost their wisdom. One's mind tends to inherit the quality of food one eats. So is the world as you see it. Nothing is wrong, but

today people do not take cow-milk or the pure ghee prepared from it. These are known as complete diet and contain all the nutrients required for a balanced diet. As a result, different types of diseases have taken deep roots. Today, West Uttar Pradesh yields a rich and bumper crop of wheat. The reason behind it was the importance given to cow-dung by the Late Prime Minister Chaudhary Charan Singh. It was for the first time in the agricultural fields of Uttar Pradesh that the following slogan was raised by the farmers "America ka tractor, Iran ka tel, Hindustan ke kisan ka inse kya mel." In fact, in those days, the fields were ploughed by oxen and cow-dung manure was used to produce a very delicious variety of wheat. But today, with the use of different varieties of fertilisers, the fertility of soil has vanished. It has brought in salinity and the crops so produced contain poisonous substance of insecticides. Hon. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would, therefore, like to request the House to adopt unanimously the motion moved by Shri Guman Mal Lodha regarding the ban on cow slaughter. I would also request the Government of India, the hon. Minister of Agriculture and the myriads of people of this country, who live from Kashmir to Kanya-Kumari and from Gujarat to Nagaland and who ardently believe in India culture, religion, faith and traditions and who are carrying forward the traditions of king Dileep and Nandini, Lord Rama and Krishna, Shivaji, Rana Pratap, Swami Vivekananda and Dayananda to take it as their first and the foremost duty to go in for a complete ban on cow-slaughter. However, those who eat beef should stop a while to think about it. They should see that when God created man, he gave him a different type of teeth which resembled with those of herbivorous animals, like cow etc. They are blessed with a type of teeth which are quite different from those who are carnivorous and have a sharp pointed teeth. That makes it evident as to what type of food the carnivorous should eat and our teeth are totally

unfit for eating meat. Today, it has been proved by the foreign scientists also that vegetarian food blesses a man with long life and strength and non-vegetarian food causes different type of dreadly diseases like cancer, blood pressure etc. So here this is in our country that so many saints and rishis took birth and preached us to be vegetarian. Later on some people added some other portions to their scriptures just to prove it that our saints used to take non-vegetarian food. But this is all baseless and false. I would like to make a categorical request that there should be a complete ban on cow slaughter

16.00 hrs.

whether on religious, economic, social or cultural considerations. We proudly take the name of 'Gaupalak'. Lord Krishna and sing in his praise. On the other side, today, people move about in their cars with their alsatian dogs, but they do not have any place for cows in their banglows. Those who own cats and dogs, if they are called as such, they will take it ill. It is the country of Gopal, where cow-breeders were given great regards and the cow was the backbone of our economy. The word 'Gaveshana' means the search for cow. However, the word 'research' came for it only later on. But today, we have forgotten all our traditions and by eating non-vegetarian food, we consider ourselves great. In the end, I would like to submit that this Private-Member's Resolution moved by Shri Lodha should be unanimously passed. I would also request not only the private members but also the members sitting on the treasury benches that while having a sense of respect, for our identity as Indians and religious tolerance, they should pass a resolution unanimously seeking a complete ban on cow slaughter in the entire country with the strict enforcement thereof where these laws have not been implemented, I would like to say to the people of those States that they should also take steps in this regard. During Asiad, beef was served to the foreigners just to please them. One of our

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

officials might have felt happy by serving beef to the foreigners but those people must have felt ashamed that a religious country like India which gave the message of knowledge to the whole world and was known as the Guru and preacher of Vedas and Upanishadas was serving beef. I would, therefore, say that cow slaughter should be totally banned. On the lines of promotion of piggery and poultry farming, cow-breeding should also be promoted, so that the operation flood may have an impetus. That will improve the general health of the people. They will be more sturdy. There is also a proverb. 'A sound mind in a sound body'. By that, people will be able to bring good name to India.

SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI (Raigarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I fully support the Resolution moved by the hon. Member, Shri Guman Mal Lodha regarding the ban on cow-slaughter and would like to submit some points in this regard.

Actually, the villages, the Ganges and the Gita are the basic identities of our country. But after independence, cow breeding has not been given its due attention and protection. However, some Members of the ruling party have just stated that efforts are being made to look at the points raised in the resolution from a different angle. Here in India we call a cow the 'cow mother' because of her utility. So, I would like to submit that our own mother feeds us with her milk only for 2 to 3 years, but the cow gives us milk for the whole life. So we call her mother. Cow dung increases the fertility of the soil. Cow urine is panacea. Cow milk is like nectar. That is why, our saints had said that cow is not only an animal, but is actually like our mother. In an exalted mood, they had prayed to the cow in the following words:

"Yatha sarvamidam vyaptam;
Jagat sthavar jangamam/
tam dhenum shirsa vande
bhoot matrasya matram".

Hon. Chairman, Sir, the importance of cow can be realised from this very fact that without them today agriculture is in a very bad shape. Cattle are not available. Agricultural land remains uncultivated. A survey can be conducted in this regard. The farmer is unable to cultivate as he has no cattle or ox to plough the land. It is for this reason, the crisis of foodgrains in our country is worsening. The importance of cow cannot be overlooked. Here I would like to give an instance. When Lord Indra was sent to the generous Karna for getting his sheath and ear rings, Karna had said that he would like to give him his most precious possession—

"Gunvadmrit kalpikshhir dhara-
bhivarni,
dwijvar ruchitam te tript va sanu-
yasham,
tarunamdhikamarthi prarthniyam
pavitram,
nihil kanak shringam gosahshram
dadaami."

Karna said that he would like to give him one thousand of such cows, whose milk was rich in nutrients and was like nectar and which could give health and humbleness to the young and which was liked by all the great people and whose horns were gold plated. Mr. Chairman, Sir, such words have been used in our scriptures to depict the significance of cow. But today, we find that in some States, cow-slaughter has not been banned, so a crisis is going to take such states in its grip in the near future because in that case, there will be no cultivation and with the constant use of tractor and chemical fertilisers, the quality of foodgrains will deteriorate and when the people consume such foodgrains, they will contract diseases. If we try to have a look at the future, it will present a grim picture.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, time given to me is very short. I am thankful to you for allowing me to speak and I want

to request the entire House to pass this resolution unanimously. I would also like to request both the Government and the hon. Minister that a powerful legislation to enforce a blanket ban on cow slaughter in the country, may be brought forward, so that cow slaughter throughout the country comes to an end.

With these words, I support this resolution.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time allotted for this subject is over. Not only that, more than one hour has passed since then. The leave of the House is necessary to further extend the time allotted for this discussion.

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD (Hingoli): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the next resolution on the agenda too is as significant as this one. That resolution should also get the necessary time, as it is in the larger interests of the farmers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are getting impatient. That resolution too is in my mind, that is why I am seeking the opinion of the House. One more hon. Member wants to speak on this resolution and then the Minister would reply to the debate and after him the mover of the resolution will speak.

[*English*]

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur): Sir, it can be extended by an hour.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If it is the consensus of the House, may I extend the time allotted to this discussion upto 5 o'clock?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time for this discussion is extended upto 5 o'clock.

[*Translation*]

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: I want to say that it should not go the way

the Shah Bano case went. It is a very important resolution as it is bound to affect the lives of the farmers, who are very much dependent on cow and its progeny.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall complete this discussion by Five o'clock and you will get half-an-hour for your resolution. I am as much concerned about your resolution as you are.

[*English*]

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG (Shillong): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose this Resolution. I beg to appeal to my friends that India is a country which has a number of different ethnic groups of people living and also people of different religions, beliefs and faiths. The people also have of different food habits.

I come from the Hills of North, Eastern region from Shillong and 95% of the people living in this part of the great country of ours live on cattle, on beef for their daily food.

Besides the food habit of the people, this Resolution is also very dangerous and mischievous. This Resolution may create a communal feeling in those parts of the country where the food habit is different from the other parts of the country. With the development of science, we must ensure that butchering is done scientifically so that the meat will be properly packed and also distributed to the people without hurting the sentiments of anyone. In our area, in Shillong, we find that in all markets but beef is sold but at a place completely away from the market area. In this way, we do not hurt the sentiments of anyone. There are Muslims who kill cows and there are Khasis who kill cows. Therefore, we should not be misled that the cow being a sacred animal where the Hindus have the religious sentiments, the food habit should be changed. We should remember that the cow is the food habit of millions of people of India and as a result of this, we should be broad-minded. We should take care of cows, if you go on the road, you see,

[Sh. Peter G. Marbaniang]

cattle are being let loose on the roads. We find that cattle have become speed-breakers. You go on national highway, on any national highway, in India. You find that cattle have become speed-breakers. This should not be. They should have been looked after better. We should have a better different way of treating cows. They are valuable for us.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG: My people from the North-Eastern region strongly oppose today's resolution on the ban on cow-slaughter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister.

PROF. N. G. RANGA: I want to speak before the hon. Minister answers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I always defer to your request. I have called the hon. Minister. You have now to ask him if he would yield.

PROF. N. G. RANGA: He would yield.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have now already called the hon. Minister, Prof. Ranga. I have already called him.

PROF. N. G. RANGA: He would yield.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If he would yield, then I would give my consent. I cannot ask him to sit down.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): Yes. I am yielding.

PROF. N. G. RANGA: Mr. Chairman, I am glad my hon. friend from one of the North Eastern region States has spoken out so frankly why he is opposed to this resolution. I

have been wondering for a long time why our statemen leading our Governments here have not thought of imposing this ban on our cow slaughter. One can see now the reason why they have been hesitant all this time and also there is another reason. Some of our people may take it as a kind of a religious slogan. Therefore, it may upset some other religionists. But, at the same time, I am a Kisan apart from all these religious bigotry. Kisan, as you know, in this country is very much attached to cattle, cows, sheep and buffaloes. As a Kisan, I have considered the buffalo also, to be a part of that generic conception of cows. We have always been very keen in protecting our bullocks, she-buffalo as well as he-buffalo because we need them very badly. Tractors have come but they are not going to eliminate the need of our Kisans for cattle and cattle are very much more important than anything else so far as our Kisans are concerned. We have to think about the Kisan's needs apart from the religious conception attached to it. If, by any chance, the people of our North-Eastern States are as much attached to cow slaughter as the others are opposed to it, the only solution would be, when it comes to be the duty of Parliament to pass necessary legislation in regard to this matter, they have to consider the great majority of the people and their wishes, very great majority of the Kisans and their needs. A proper solution then would be to give freedom to the State Governments and State Legislatures in regard to this matter. And at the same time have a general legislation for the whole of India leaving option to the States to opt out of it and have that general legislation against cow slaughter. After all, if it is wrong for the general majority of the people to impose their views upon the people of a few States, it is very much more wrong for a few States where the population is very small when compared to the great majority of people all over the country to insist that they should not have ban on cow slaughter in their own State. Therefore, the proper solution would be, so far as North-Eastern States are concerned or any other State, if they

do not want to put a ban like this let them be free. But so far as rest of India is concerned, we should certainly be free to impose this ban on cow slaughter. That is the only reasonable solution that we can have considering the fact that we are all citizen of this great motherland of ours. I hope the people of North-Eastern States would be democratic enough to agree to such a situation. And if the time comes for the Government here to have a legislation of this type for the whole of India, it would be open to them to give freedom to the State Governments and the State Legislatures. Subject to that, I am sure, the people of the North-Eastern States would be willing, would be democratic enough, would be cooperative enough to let the rest of us have this kind of a legislation. Where is the difficulty? Why should we have this legislation? So many Members have already given the reasons for it. I need not labour on that point. But one thing is very clear. It is very precious for our kisans and for that reason he is also emotionally attached to his dependence upon our cattle. Cattle and our kisans in our country have been going together and that is why all that poetry on Bala Krishna and cow, *Gow-mata* and the rest of it. It is not because our women were mad that they worshipped the cow or our mothers were foolish to use cow-dung in order to keep our house floors so very clean. It is because of economic necessity, hygienic conditions and all the rest. Therefore, I wish to make this suggestion to the hon. Minister to be willing to make this offer to the States, wherever they are, to have their freedom to opt out of it and for the rest of them to say that on behalf of the Government they are in favour of this proposal.

Last bit is this and that is my penance. I begin to wonder why I belong to the Congress. We all belonged to Congress at one time. Please remember that. So many of these young people were not born and their parents were there and they were the Congress people. The whole lot of us were together. But why is it that when we were attached to that the

Congress Government, the coalition Government or any Government, we did not have a ban at all. It is a kind of foolishness or a kind of mere political blindness. Just as we did not think of passing a legislation in regard to National Commission on Women we did not think of putting a ban on this. It is a kind of an inexcusable omission. I cannot say that it is an excusable omission on the part of all of us. Now I am glad that my hon. friend has brought forward this Resolution and our friends, including those representing the people of North-Eastern frontiers expressing their feelings so very honestly and boldly and freely, all of us are in favour of this propositions in so far as I can see from the tenor and trend of the debate that has taken place in our House.

If some of our friends would like to opt themselves out, I have no objection if their local legislatures also give them the freedom to do so. But nevertheless as a country, as a nation by overwhelming majority we are in favour of this Resolution. We would like a national legislation to be brought forward with freedom for those States which would like to opt themselves out of this ban order.

[Translation]

SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK (Durg): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing you.

SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK: I want to make an earnest appeal. I request that the words cow and its progeny mentioned in this resolution should be replaced by the words cow and its progeny and other cattle useful to the farmers, so that whatever Prof. Ranga has said in detail can be given a practical shape. There is one more thing. We all know that all the Hindus in this country look upon the cow as their religious mother and they would never eat beef, but when these very Hindus go abroad, they eat beef and upon

[Sh. Purushottam Kaushik]

being questioned they defend themselves by saying that they had consumed the beef of foreign cows. In this way, aren't they partaking the beef of our own cows? Therefore, I would like to say here that the issue of banning cow slaughter should not be looked upon from the religious angle, but from the economic angle.

[English]

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur): Sir, I just want a minute to speak on this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am under severe time constraint, please be very brief.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Sir, I disagree with this Resolution because I think that prevention of cow slaughter would not necessarily cause an improvement in the existing cattle wealth. I agree that basically in an agricultural economy like ours, the importance of cattle wealth is very great; but there are many other ways in which this wealth can be enhanced. I don't think that if this wealth is going down, it is because of cow slaughter that it is going down.

I would like to add that there is a special relationship between the *Kisan* and his cow or buffalo. There are certain sentiments associated with these animals. That is true; but what happens when a peasant is too poor to maintain that cow or buffalo and has to let that go or sell it? I would also like to say that we can think of many inhuman cruelties that are done to the cow for increasing the milk by artificial way etc. and at the same time cow slaughter is sought to be banned. I don't think that this is the right way of looking at things.

I would also like to say that at one time in Hinduism this cow slaughter was permitted. That was for certain economic reasons. Then there came a time when cow slaughter was prohibited. That again was for certain

socio-economic reasons that cow slaughter was prohibited. Now those reasons have become outdated. There are other ways in which we can enhance our cattle wealth. So in that sense the banning of cow slaughter is not necessary at all.

Finally I would say that the main reasons that have been given for the banning of cow slaughter seem to me to be sentimental reasons. It is true that there are people whose sentiments are associated with these and these people certainly do refrain from cow slaughter. I do not see why for that reason a certain ban should be imposed on people who have other kinds of food habits, as well. I do not think that is right. There are certain communities in our country which consider it irreligious to take pig meat. So, is it a valid reason that banning of pig slaughter for other communities should also take place? Thank you, Sir.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, many hon. Members have expressed their views on the resolution moved by Shri Guman Mal Lodha.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sorry for interrupting you for a minute. How much time do you want?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: I leave it to your discretion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I was asking it because only half-an-hour is left to complete this discussion and both you and Shri Lodha may share it accordingly.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: It is Okay. I don't need that much time. You may give more time to Shri Guman Mal Lodha.

Some Members, while expressing their views on this resolution had said

that a blanket ban on cow slaughter should be imposed throughout the country. Here, I would like to draw your attention towards a fact. So far as the questions of imposing a ban on cow slaughter and protection of cattle-wealth are concerned, they are state subjects. Moreover, in the entire country, cow slaughter is permitted only in Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Lakshadweep. In the remaining states and Union Territories, either there is a blanket ban or a partial ban on cow slaughter. Some hon. Members have tried to link the issue of cow slaughter with agriculture, but I would like to state here that the shortage created if any, due to cow slaughter, is met by cow breeding in other States. In no State, there is a provision permitting the slaughter of healthy cows. There is no ban in force in the above mentioned five States and Union Territories. There is a blanket ban on cow slaughter in Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Chandigarh, Delhi and Dadra and Nagar Haveli. There is a partial ban on cow slaughter in Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Manipur, Tripura, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Sikkim, Karnataka, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Pondicherry and Daman and Diu. However, cow slaughter is permitted in these States provided certain conditions, laid down by the Government are met. There are no such laws in three States viz. Assam, Kerala and West Bengal, but a lot of restrictions are in existence in these states also. In the five States or Union Territories, where there is no restriction at all on cow slaughter, it is a question of food habits of the people as correctly observed by the hon. Member from Shillong, while echoing the feelings and sentiments of the people of North-East in this regard. Mr. Chairman, Sir, here I have not stood up to argue in favour of anybody's food habit, but it is necessary to clarify the position. I myself do not eat meat not because of any religiosity, but because I don't like it. Moreover, the killing of any animal is not to my liking. Further one cannot question the food habits of

other people. I do not want to cast aspersion on anybody but I am sorry to say here that there are many such people who outwardly champion the cause for imposing a ban on cow slaughter, but do not hesitate to eat meat. There are also some people among them, who take all kinds of meat, except beef. As Shri Vasant Sathe rightly stated in the initial stages of this discussion, problems arise when efforts are made of give a religious colour to this issue. Then this issue acquires a religious dimension. Many hon. Members invoked the name of Mother Goddess during the course of discussion. This is reflective of the overwhelming influence of religion on their views. As there are many communities in the country it is but natural for them to have divergent beliefs. I don't want to go into details, but when we look at the issue of cow slaughter, from the economic point of view, then the need of the hour is to impose a ban on the slaughter of cattle as a whole including buffaloes, camels etc. and other draught animals whose utility to agriculture is invaluable. Permission should not be given for the killing of any kind of animal. We should have such an atmosphere in the country, but many issues are involved here. The question is that mere passing of laws cannot put an end to such killings. Right now, the hon. Member was demanding a ban on cow slaughter, but as I said that ban is in force, in complete or partial forms in many states, yet animals are slaughtered covertly in these places and this is very unfortunate. One hon. Member mentioned here that leather is made from the foetus obtained by the forcible abortion of cows. What can one do about such practices? There are laws prohibiting such practices and there is even a provision for capital punishment in such cases, yet such abominable practices continue and this is a pointer towards the fact that a ban on cow slaughter won't be helpful in solving this problem. I would say that the preservation of the entire livestock is at stake. Now, if in order to respect the feelings and sentiments of the people, a ban is imposed on cow slaughter, then what

[Sh. Nitish Kumar]

about the long term problems that may arise out of it? Shri Shopat Singh observed correctly that cows are left in the lurch once they become old and the hon. Member from Shillong, Shri Peter G. Marbaniang was also right when he said that these cows act as speed-breakers. Now the question is, whether it is the duty of the Government to build cowpens to look after all these cows left in the streets? Do you expect from Government to do all these things? Is it possible for the administration to do all the works under the sun? Is it possible? Is it the responsibility of the Government to look after all the cows left on the streets by their owners and provide them with food and shelter? I don't think even Shri Guman Mal Lodha would be able to do it, even if he is made the Prime Minister.

(Interruptions)

Nobody can handle this onerous task, even if the necessary powers and the administrative machinery are put at his disposal I repeat that leave alone Shri Lodha, no person would be able to do it as it is next to impossible.

Hon. Mr. Chairman, Sir, while participating in the discussion, one hon. Member mentioned that the Cattle Population is on the decrease. In comparison with the 1951 census of cattle, the 1982 census shows a definite increase of 23.9 per cent.

As far as agricultural loss is concerned, as has been stated by many hon. members the agricultural area per animal has decreased from 0.37 per cent to 0.15 per cent as per the registered population of livestock. This means that number of animals has increased. Thus, there has been no decrease in cattle wealth. This does not mean that I am pleading for indiscriminate slaughter of cattles. I would rather plead for protection of entire cattle wealth. *(Interruptions)* I would like to say that there has been no decrease in cattle wealth. There was an agitation against cow slaughter in 1966 and even afterwards under the leadership of Acharya

Vinoba Bhave. In 1979 also a resolution was moved in the Parliament but the Parliament was dissolved and no such resolution could be adopted. After that there was continuous Congress rule and this question was avoided on the plea that under the existing communal situation it was not proper to bring forward such a resolution. The situation is no better today. The same situation exist even today. In the existing situation and considering the sentiments relating to cow slaughter the way this issue is being raised it is not conducive for any such legislation which seeks for a complete ban on cow slaughter. But as far as the issue itself is concerned there is some sort of restriction on it in almost every state barring the few North-eastern states. As far as economic loss is concerned it is compensated but yet the situation is far from being satisfactory. As far as I am personally concerned, I am for the restrictions which may protect our cattle wealth.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): I rise on a point of order. Mr. Minister is expressing here his personal views while we are interested in knowing the official view point.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. It is true that you are not participating in discussion in your personal capacity. Therefore being Minister you should express Government's view point.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: I mean to say that despite my different personal opinion it would not be proper to make a legislation in this regard. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI (Jhansi): I rise on a point of order. It is the personal opinion of Mr. Minister that it is not possible to impose such restrictions in the country at present.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have understood your point of order. I have been entrusted with the responsi-

lity of conducting the proceedings of the House. Please let me do so.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Chairman, it is not a personal question. I am informing you the Government's stand that it is neither possible nor proper.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Is it your personal stand or official?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: I am informing you about the Government's stand that it is not possible in present situation. Besides, I would like to appeal on behalf of Government that every concerned party should think over the ways not only to protect our cattle wealth but also to provide them with the better care as most of them are uncared for. It is everybody's concern and all should try to mobilise national opinion and on the basis of this national consensus, the Government would take suitable action in this regard. It should be legislated only after some national consensus emerges on it. With these words, I would like to request Mr. Lodha not to press for this resolution.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Saharsa): I rise on a point of order. Just now, Mr. Minister has said that it is not possible to put a ban on cow slaughter. I would like to ask him when there can be a ban on killing the elephants, snakes and wild-animals then why can't there be a similar ban on cow slaughter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not a point of order.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the different view, regarding cow-slaughter have been expressed in this House. Most of the members have expressed their opinion in favour of the ban on cow slaughter for economic, social, cultural and other reasons and I am thankful to all of them. Some members and hon. Minister also have expressed their apprehensions that imposing such a ban will worsen the communal situation in the country. In this connection I would like to ex-

press my regret over the fact that the hon. Minister did not consult the research wing in library on this subject. Had he tried to know the various views expressed in regard to this particular subject, he would have come to know about all the facts.

When our constitution was being framed, this question was put before the Constituent Assembly. On that occasion two leaders of minority community namely Saiyyad Mohammad Saidullah and Z. H. Ansari had expressed their opinions in its favour. Saiyyad Mohammad Saiddullah had stated:

[English]

"I am a Muslim as everyone knows. In my religious books, the Holy Quran, there is an injunction to the Muslims saying—*La Ikraba fid Din* or there ought to be no compulsion in the name of religion. I, therefore, do not like to use my veto when my Hindu brethren want to place this matter in our Constitution from the religious point of view."

I do not also want to obstruct the framers of our Constitution. I mean the Constitution Assembly if they come out in the open and say directly: "This is part of our religion. The cow should be protected from slaughter and, therefore, we want its provision either in the Fundamental Rights or in the Directive Principles."

[Translation]

Similarly Z. H. Ansari had also asserted that they would not oppose it. Again, I am surprised to see that no one from minority community has opposed this resolution in this House. Some of our persons are opposing it by asserting that it would disturb the situation. The great Muslim leaders like Rafi Ahmed Kidwai and Sulfan Ahmed Khan and others also said that they did not want to oppose it. But our Minister says that it would disturb the situation. Is it an example of appeasement policy? Dr. Rajendra Prasad who was not only a great national leader but also Rashtra Ratna, had said that the cow and

[Sh. Guman Mal Lodha]

the girls were nearer to God as they had no particular religion. Even Lala Lajpat Rai had also expressed his scepticism about the future of the child as a consequence of the slaughtering of the cows and buffaloes.

It has been very clearly stated that if cows are protected, keeping in view the economic point of view, our agriculture would be benefited. Our Prime Minister has announced from the ramparts of Red Fort that he has devoted this decade to the artisans and farmers and he appealed everyone to work for it. I am surprised to note that the hon. Minister is opposing this resolution despite this assurance given by the Prime Minister.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say that this is an opportunity for the Minister to rectify his mistake as he had done earlier by supporting the proposals about electoral reforms after opposing it in the initial stage respecting the feelings of the members in favour of electoral reforms. In the same way this resolution should also be supported and adopted. As far as suggestion by Prof. Sahim is concerned:

16.51 hrs. [MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER
in the Chair]

that would be incorporated at the time of legislation if it is in the national interest. This is just a resolution.

With these words, I would like to request that this resolution should be adopted in national interest.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Lodha, are you withdrawing it or you want to press it?

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have already requested him that there should be broad-based consultation and discussion at all levels.

SHRI L. K. ADVANI (New Delhi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I remember that I had moved a Private Member's resolution about electoral reforms and at that time also the Government had appealed for its withdrawal on the plea that the matter was already under consideration. At that time also I had requested that it had become a tradition to ask for the withdrawal of a Bill/Resolution despite the total agreement of the House. Let us set a new tradition today. The differences may come up at the time of the enactment of the Bill. If Government itself wants to introduce a Bill it is also a welcome step. There can be no two opinion about it as it is a part of constitution and it is enshrined in the directive Principles. Therefore, I would like to request the Government that it should not divide the House on this issue and facilitate the unanimous adoption of the resolution moved by my friend Shri Guman Mal Lodha. The shape of the Bill will be discussed at the time of the introduction of the Bill in the House.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Lodha.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Sir, I would like it to be passed.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, I would like to make an appeal to Mr. Lodha and also to Mr. Advani. Now, the Minister has assured that the Government will consider the matter and it is necessary that there should be a very broad-based consultation and discussion in this matter because there are various view points on this. When the commitment is to bring a bill and then starts discussion, it creates difficulty. This very morning Advaniji said that before Government takes a stand there should be a discussion. Therefore, before the Government comes with the Bill there should be a discussion and the matter should be taken into consideration because different view points are there. Therefore, I request the mover of the mo-

tion not to press it. He should rely on Government assurance that some consideration would be given to them on the subject. Therefore, this may not be pressed and the House may not divide on this. That is my request to him. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): Let me say something. It is not a debate. The question is about voting. They have already spoken. He and Mr Advani have spoken. I would like to give my view on this *(Interruptions)* I think it would be best if the Government, knowing the view of the House, agrees to bring a Bill about this banning. I entirely agree with Mr Advani that while the Bill is there, at that time, we can discuss as to what exemption should be made*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: Not for expressing an opinion of this kind; but for formulation of the Bill, I agree. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI VASANT SATHE: So, you can, before bringing a Bill, take all the parties into confidence. We do not mind. But the promise should be for bringing the Bill. If that is given, we have no objection. Otherwise, we will support the passing of the Resolution.

[Translation]

SHRI HEMENDRA SINGH BANERJA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while associating myself with the feelings expressed by hon'ble Advaniji and other Members I would like to say in this regard that the Government of India gave an assurance many a times after the country's independence that a bill will be presented before the House to impose complete ban on the cow slaughter. We would like to examine the intention of the Government if it really has the required will to bring forth such a bill. The Central Government has full control over the export of beef. *(Interruptions)*

Let the Government make an official announcement today itself that there will be no export of beef from today onwards...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to reiterate my request to the hon. Shri Guman Lal Lodha and hon. Shri Lal Krishan Advani not to insist upon division of vote on this resolution at this stage. So far as the opinion of the House is concerned, keeping in view this issue, a proposal should come up in this regard on the basis of the consensus arrived at after proper consultations with the political parties. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI VASANT SATHE: There should be a time-bound programme for this.....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: I would like to request Shri Sathe that.....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I had said it earlier too in 1978. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: I want to say that these are the people who were holding the seats of power for the past ten years, just now the question of Asiad was raised, they were in power, *(Interruptions)* I want to ask as to why are they so emphatic about this? Since he is a member of the supporting party. I would like to request him not to press for it. I would like to convey this to hon. Shri Advani as well. The Government will certainly consider and ponder over whatsoever conclusion is arrived at after comprehensive consultations and discussions...*(Interruptions)* ...Kindly do not press it emphatically today itself...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, whenever there is a proposal to bring forward such a bill, we will try to bring it after arriving at a consensus and after proper consultations are held keeping in mind all that was said by the hon. Minister and many other friends including Professor Sahib who is a very senior leader. Today it is just only a resolution, but my humble submission is that a legislation should be enacted at the earliest.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I now put the resolution to the vote of the House. The question is:

"This House is of the opinion that the Government should bring forward a suitable legislation to ban slaughter of cow and its progeny throughout the country."

Let the lobbies be cleared—

17.00 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the Lobbies have been cleared.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Once more, I request Mr. Advani—in view of the very clear statement by the hon. Minister that this is a matter which would be discussed further and as this is a matter concerning the whole country—not to press the matter now. Even the House is depleted now. Therefore, I would request that such a vital matter may not be pressed and on the basis of the assurance given by the hon. Minister this may not be pressed.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: This Resolution should be passed.

[Translation]

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH (Motihari): I would like to submit that this should be passed (*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, it will amount to a direction to the Government. It will create serious complications... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): Sir, on a very human consideration, I want to make an appeal to the mover of the Resolution

to withdraw it. At the last moment, I appeal to the mover of the Resolution not to divide the House because we have many more important issues than this. Human slaughter is going on in our country. We should try to stop that first. We should be more concerned about human slaughter... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the Lobbies have been cleared. We are on the point of voting.

The question is:

"This House is of the opinion that the Government should bring forward a suitable legislation to ban slaughter of cow and its progeny throughout the country."

The Lok Sabha divided:

Division No. 2

17.06 hrs.

AYES*

Advani, Shri L. K.
Argal, Shri Chhaviram
Banera, Shri Hamendra Singh
Bhakata, Shri Manoranjan
Deshumukh, Shri Chandubhai
Dhuma', Prof. Prem Kumar
Gangwar, Shri Santosh Kumar
Janardhanan, Shri Kadambur M. R.
Jangde, Shri Resham Lal
Jaswant Singh, Shri
Kapse, Prof. Ram Ganesh
Kataria, Shri Gulab Chand
Khurana, Shri Madan Lal
Lodhi, Shri Ganga Charan
Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra
Maheshwar Singh, Shri
Meena, Shri Nandlal

* The following members also recorded their votes for Ayes through Division clerks:

Shri Guman Mal Lodha, Shri Rajendra Agnihotri, Shri Babubhai Meghji Shah, Shri G.S. Basavaraj, Shri Srikanta Datta Narasimha Raja Wadiyar.

the interests of farmers

Naik, Shri Ram
Patel, Dr. A. K.
Patidar, Shri Rameshwar
Raghavji, Shri
Raje, Shrimati Vasundhara
Ram Awadh, Shri
Ram Sagar, Shri (Saidpur)
Ranga, Prof. N. G.
Rao, Shri K. S.
Rawat, Prof. Rasa Singh
Sai, Shri Nand Kumar
Sathe, Shri Vasant
Shakya Dr. Mahadeepak Singh
Sharma, Shri Dharm Pal
Singh, Shri Radha Mohan
Tarwala, Shri Amratlal Vallabh-
das
Thakore, Shri Gabhaji Mangaji
Verma, Shri R. L. P.
Yadav, Shri Surya Narayan
Yadvendra Datt, Shri

NOES*

Ali, Shrimati Subhashini
Bhattacharya, Shrimati Malini
Bulara, Shrimati Rajinder Kaur
Chatterji, Shri Somnath
Choudhury, Shri Saifuddin
Chowdhary, Shri Dasai
Das, Shri Anadi Charan
Datta, Shri Amal
Dome, Dr. Ram Chandra
Giri, Shri Sudhir
Handoo, Shri Piyare Lal
Hannan Mollah, Shri
Hansda, Shri Matilal
Khan, Shri Sukhendu

Mahale, Shri Haribhau Shankar
Mallik, Shri Mangaraj
Marbaniang, Shri Peter G.
Mishra, Shri Balgopal
Misra, Shri Satyagopal
Nitish Kumar, Shri
Pacherwal, Shri Gopal
Pande, Shri Rajmangal
Paswan, Shri Chhedi
Patnaik, Shri Sivaji
Puroshothaman, Shri Vakkom
Rai, Shri Lalbaboo
Rai, Shri M. Ramanna
Ramakrishna, Shri Y.
Roypradhan, Shri Amar
Singh, Shri Danraj
Singh, Shri Ram Prasad
Sodhi, Shri Mankuram
Thapa, Shri Nandu
Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad
Zainal Abedin, Shri

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The result of the division is:

Ayes: 42

Noes: 50

The motion was negated

17.15 hrs.

**RESOLUTION RE. MEASURES
TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS
OF FARMERS**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up the Resolu-

* The following members also recorded their votes for Noes through Division clerks:

Shri Bhagey Gobardhan, Shri Yuvraj, Shri Het Ram, Dr. S. P. Yadav, Shri Mandhata Singh, Shri A. N. Singh Deo, Shri Ramendra Kumar Ravi Yadav, Shri Ram Sharan Yadav, Shri Bhabani Shankar Hota, Shri Ravi Narayan Pani, Shri Bengali Singh, Shri Sarwar Hussain, Shri Ram Naresh Singh, Shri P. C. Thomas and Shri Heera Bhai.

tion on Measures to protect the interest of farmers' to be moved by Shri Dileep Singh Bhuria. Before I ask Shri Dileep Singh Bhuria to move his Resolution, we have to fix the time for discussion of the Resolution. Shall we fix two hours time for this Resolution?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No, No. Let it be 4 hours.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, let us, for the present, fix two hours time.....(Interruptions).

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur)... (Interruptions). No, that is not good. Four hours should be allotted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All right. Let us discuss it for four hours. Now, Shri Dileep Singh Bhuria may now move his Resolution.

[Translation]

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA (Jhabua): I beg to move that:

"This House is of the opinion that in order to protect the interests of the farmers in the country, the Government should announce the prices of different crops at least three months before the sowing season; make available the agricultural inputs and implements at reasonable prices and purchase the entire produce of the farmers."

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the farmers enjoy a majority representation in our House. Hon. Rangaji is present here; he is the most respected Member of the House and is the leader of the country's farmers. The farmers of the country have been able to achieve a huge agricultural production target in the post-independent India. The target was 172 million tonnes in 1988-89, 175 million tonnes in 1989-90 and for 2000 A. D. it has been fixed at 225 million tonnes. This is a testimony

of the farmers' development. Yet, even today, the poorest man in this country is nobody else than the farmer. 90 per cent farmers live below poverty line in our country. In reply to one of our questions asked in the morning the hon. Minister of Finance Stated that a loan amount of Rs. fifteen thousand eighty two crore of the nationalised banks and an equal amount of the co-operative societies is yet to be realised from the farmers and the farmer is reeling under its weight. The farmer remains a poor fellow even after producing so much of food-grains and putting in so much of labour. His wife and his children also work along with him be it the scorching heat of the summer, the chilly cold of the winter or the rainy season, he remains absorbed twenty four hours in his fields and yet he continues to be as poor as he was earlier.

The previous Government formulated many welfare schemes for the farmers. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you are yourself a farmer. Many people tend to become the leaders of the farmers, deliver speeches and talk of farmers and about farmers but they do not know how to do farming. The purpose of my bringing forward this resolution in the House is to have a debate on the condition of all the farmers of the country so that an agricultural policy is framed to determine the path for farmer in order to enable him to increase production and that way make our country stronger. At what price is the fertilizer being sold to the farmers today? What was its selling price a decade ago? There is a manifold increase now. At first, the tractor was sold for Rs. 20,000 and now its cost has gone up to Rs. one and a half lakh. The price of the fertilizer has increased ten times. All other agricultural implements too have undergone a manifold price increase. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir we should not bring the farmer at the crossroads of poverty and misery after somehow making

an evaluation of all the above mentioned facts. He works with honesty. He is the producer of food. Even today, he lives in a hutment. His children remain devoid of education. He is not able to afford even one time meal. He braves the heat of the sun as well as the Monsoon showers in the hut. He is subject to every type of political exploitation and he is caught in the whirlpool of politics. It is the same hutment that he is living in after 43 years of country's independence. His village remains devoid of a road, a hospital or a school. The powerful sections of the society who indulge in politics have for themselves all the amenities. The same farmer goes to beg before this powerful person. But it is regretful that the farmer cannot have a satisfactory meal in this country even after producing 175 lakh tonnes of foodgrains. This is the plight of the country's farmers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir the National Front Government was found in this country. It gives us pleasure to see the aspirations of the country's people for a change being fulfilled and this will lead us to the right path. This Government is committed to its pledge of writing off of the loans of the farmers. Our Minister of Agriculture is present here. He is perhaps unaware of the fact that not a single farmer's loan has been waived till date. If the farmer's loans are written off, then our hon. Minister of Finance who has talked of Rs. 16 crore, will not be able to give reply to our question in this Parliament. The farmer is termed as a defaulter. The farmers did not get the fertilizers or the money from elsewhere. We had freed the farmer from the clutches of his exploiter, associated him with the commercial banks and co-operative movements but what is the outcome today? There are 15 crore such people in our country today. If the farmer becomes a defaulter and mortgages

his fields, buffaloes, oxen etc., what will be his condition reduced to? This Government has left the poor farmers at the mercy of trader for their exploitation. That is why the present condition prevails. Neither the Government nor the banks give him any benefit. After all to whom would the farmers go? Today he is going to the exploiters only.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as such I would like to say that in this country, exploitation of the farmers will not be allowed any more. If the farmers are exploited any more in this country then a volatile situation would develop because of the very high growth rate at which population in our country is growing. What would be country's population by the time it reaches the year 2000?

The farmer has worked honestly and laboured hard and produced foodgrains to meet the requirements of 80-85 crore of people of this country. When we became independent the population of this country was 36 crores and we imported foodgrains to feed our people. Today we have a population of 80-85 crores but we do not import foodgrains from outside. Today we have attained the capability of producing 175 million tonnes of foodgrains in our country and for this the entire credit goes to the farmers of this country. It is due to these farmers that we have reached a stage where after meeting our own requirements, we help those countries where food crisis takes place owing to famine etc. In essence, by virtue of hard work put in by the farmers we have been able to hold our heads high before the world. We have emerged stronger and we get honour. This is the result of the labour put in by the farmer. As such we will not allow any injustice towards them. Can any farmer repay the loans to the banks? The farmer is reeling under the burden of

[Sh. Dileep Singh Bhuria]

debt. His land is auctioned. Interest is recovered from him, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if we want to increase the production of foodgrains in this country and if we want to help the farmers then we shall have to try and see that a very nominal rate of interest is charged from him. We may even think of granting him interest free loans. Government's announcement regarding waiving of loans of farmers, is not going to help them and they will not gain anything. I can say all this on the basis of my experience since I am myself a farmer.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the day the Government made this announcement, the price of cotton was Rs. 1200 per quintal. I myself grow cotton and I fully know about its cultivation. On that day I was really pained to bear the announcement made by the Government. I raised this issue here. After I left the House I kept on thinking about the situation that will develop as a result of this announcement. Can we make the farmers stronger in this manner? Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you will be surprised to know that immediately after this announcement the farmers reduced the price of cotton and it came down to Rs. 500-600 per quintal. Whenever the produce of the farmer reaches the market, the price of that item is reduced to half. This happens only in India and nowhere else in the world. If we take the example of Japan we will see that the support price of the product is fixed six months in advance. In Japan the price of each product is declared in advance as the price of wheat will be this and for other items it will be this much. If they fix the price of wheat at Rs. 500 or 600 per quintal then they will subsidise the consumer, in the process they may have to sell the foodgrains at Rs. 200-250 per quintal. The gap of the price is subsidised by the Government. But in our country the process is reverse. We buy wheat for Rs. 150 and sell it Rs. 300 we will keep the price of cotton

at Rs. 10-12 per kilo but it will be sold at Rs. 150 per kilo after the cotton is manufactured. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a huge margin and it is exploitation and injustice. Today itself I told Chaudhary Devilaji that since he claims to be the leader of farmers, he should tell us the ways by which we can make the farmers stranger but he said that since he had not been allotted any seat he was not in a position to say anything. I asked him to come to this side and speak or speak from any place in the House or to come to our seat as it does not make any difference. I would like to say that instead of entering the race for becoming a leader we should care for the welfare of the farmers and frame schemes for them accordingly.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when the question of providing electricity in our country arises the industrialists are given electricity during day time.

[English]

SHRI K. S. RAO (Machilipatnam): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Ex-Member of Parliament, Kumari Mamta Banerjee has expired.

SHRI BRAHM DUTT (Tehri Garhwal): Because she was beaten by the police yesterday.

SHRI K. S. RAO: It is quite unfortunate. In the morning when we raised the issue...

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYAPAL MALIK): The Minister of Home Affairs is coming in a short while. It is necessary to confirm it.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Tripura West): This is not confirmed. They are verifying.

SHRI K. S. RAO: It is confirmed and the other House was adjourned.
(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): Please go and confirm and then inform the House.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: My suggestion is, give them 10 minutes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let them confirm the news of anybody's death. We should not rush to that conclusion.

SHRI K. S. RAO: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Rajya Sabha adjourned.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, you kindly direct him to get it confirmed.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have asked him to do it.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Bhuria, you may continue tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have got this information after talking to the Chief Secretary of West Bengal that she is all right.

[English]

She is all right and she is recovering.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would rather believe his statement and I will not rush to any conclusion now. I would ask some responsible members from the Minister's office to talk to the Chief Secretary and the

Collector of that area to confirm about it.

SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK: Sir, within 10 minutes, one more confirmation is expected.

17.31 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

Establishment of separate Development Boards in Maharashtra

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Before I take up Half-an-Hour Discussion listed for today, I wish to explain briefly the procedure. As the name of the device "Half-an-Hour Discussion" indicates, this discussion is required to conclude within half-an-hour.

Honourable Prof. Ram Ganesh Kapse in whose name the discussion is listed may kindly make a short statement bringing out the points of fact on which he would like to have elucidation from the Honourable Minister.

Honourable Members who have given notices of their intention to ask a question and whose names have been notified may ask a question, which should be relevant to the discussion, brief and pointed. Then, I will call the Honourable Minister to answer all those questions together.

I would repeat that this entire process has to conclude within half-an-hour and is not to go beyond.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Since, we are not exactly aware of this procedure, we should be allowed to ask questions.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The procedure is that you give a notice and other Members also ask for permission to ask questions. If your

names are notified, only then you will be allowed to ask questions.

(Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): Sir, one of our officer has talked to the Home Secretary of West Bengal and he has told that she is all right and she is recovering.

[Translation]

Despite this we shall once again confirm it. (Interruptions).

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Mr. Ratnaker Pandey has announced in Rajya Sabha. (Interruptions).

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We will not go by anything happened in the other House. We will rather like to come to the conclusion that somebody is surviving. So, let it be confirmed.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Home Minister does not know anything. He will not speak unless he enquires about it.

(Interruptions)

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION—
Contd.

Establishment of separate Development Boards in Maharashtra—Contd.

[Translation]

PROF. RAM GANESH KAPSE (Thane): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a decision on the subject on which I want to speak today has recently

been announced by the administration. The administration has taken a decision on 15th August that Statutory Development Board shall be constituted in respect of backward areas of Vidharbha, Marathwada and Konkan in Maharashtra. I welcome this announcement but I feel that it would have been better had the announcement regarding the decision been made in the Parliament when the same is in session. Still, I welcome the decision. The decision for constituting a Statutory Board for MARATHWADA and VIDARBHA regions has been pending since 1956, as is evident from the course of events. Efforts for this have been made by several persons. Shri Vasant Sathe is sitting here, he also gave notice of a Bill relating to this subject. Though his Bill on it did not come in the ballot. But he continued his efforts in this regard. Now that our long cherished desire is being fulfilled by this decision, I welcome this. In July 1984, though it was very late, the Legislative Assembly of Maharashtra after having considered this seriously had unanimously came to the conclusion that there was need for constituting such a Statutory Board. I would like to read clause 22 of the Report of Joint Select Committee, 1956 which states as under:

[English]

“It was urged before the Committee by its members from Vidarbha that the agreement entered into in September, 1953 known as Nagpur Agreement should, to the extent practicable, be given Constitutional recognition. The members from the other Maharashtra area gave the full support to this proposal. A new clause has accordingly been added to article 371 with the consent of the Members from Maharashtra.”

[Translation]

Nagpur Agreement was not implemented despite the mass support for its earliest possible implementation in the whole of Maharashtra.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): I think the hon. Members wanted some information. I have just spoken to the Chief Minister of West Bengal. He has told me that she is hale and hearty. She is in the hospital. But a large number of people are going to visit her and it might lead to some infection and all that. But she is hale and hearty.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): We wish her a long life.

[*Translation*]

PROF. RAM GANESH KAPSE: We pray for her good health.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION— *Contd.*

Establishment of separate Development Boards in Maharashtra—Contd.

SHRI RAM GANESH KAPSE: Now I begin my speech. Shri Pataskar, the then Law Minister had stated in his reply to the discussion held in the Lok Sabha on 6 September:—

[*English*]

“I would like to make it clear at the very outset that this has been done not because there are any fissiparous tendencies or any interference from outside the State but because of the intention to remove any apprehensions which might have on account of historical causes, found some places in the minds of some people.”

[*Translation*]

Marathwada and Vidarbha were backward areas and the reasons for their backwardness lie in the History. We wanted a separate Statutory Board for VIDARBHA, KONKAN AND MARATHWADA in Maharashtra and no one wished to be sepa-

rated from Maharashtra. There is a lot of backlog and in view of this the proposal deserves to be considered. Till now nothing has been done in that direction. In the meantime backlog went on increasing constantly. Be it jobs, roads industry or technical education everywhere the backlog is increasing in each of the districts of these three areas despite recommendation of various Committees like Dandekar Committee, Pandey Committee and Chakravorty Committee in this regard. It means that the expectations with which the people of Vidarbha, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra and Marathwada opted for merger with Maharashtra could not be fulfilled. Shri Yashwant Rao Chavan the then Chief Minister, had welcomed the formation of Maharashtra province and though he had promised that he would abide by the provisions providing for the constitution of the Statutory Board but nothing was done to implement that. Six years have already passed but nothing has been done in this regard. Anyway it is better to be late than never. Whether there would be President's Rule in these spheres due to the existence of the Statutory Board doubts like this will continue to plague the minds of the people. This apprehension can be removed by involving local people associated with developmental activities in this statutory board.

Today, in the Editorial of “The Hindu” it has been stated that this issue must be referred to the Supreme Court. But I think it is not necessary at all.

The Maharashtra Government want to form four Boards. Konkan is a very backward region. This region has power shortage and there are neither industries nor sources of employment. In every sphere it is backward. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you know the condition of Marathwada better than I. The condition of Vidarbha is no better. Shri Vasant Sathe and Shri Banwari Lal Purohit who are sitting here can testify it. I belong to Konkan. The situation of this area differ from that

[Sh. Ram Ganesh Kapse]

of Poona and Bombay. There are many questions which merit consideration. However the solution does not lie in the constitution of the Board alone. But there should be a thorough discussion on it in which the Prime Minister, the Union Home Minister, the Finance Minister and the Members of Parliament representing those areas should participate. Besides them, the leaders of the different parties in the Legislative Assembly of Maharashtra also should be consulted and a consensus should be evolved for early constitution of the Statutory Board. It can be constituted in the Current session if we wish. We have waited for long we cannot wait any longer. It is requested that the State's views must be ascertained in this regard. It should be constituted at the earliest in order to end the struggle there. I hope that the Government will make efforts to achieve it.

I would like to mention about the article I have read in the "Maharashtra Times". I have its Hindi translation which I would like to bring to your knowledge. It has referred the statement of the Home Minister to the effect that no proposal for the constitution of the Board by the Maharashtra Government has been submitted to him yet. Shri Ram Rao Adik, the Minister of Commerce claims that the proposal has been submitted to the Governor by them and the office of the Governor says that the same has been forwarded by them to Delhi. I would like to know from you whether or not such proposal for constitution of the Board has been submitted to you by the Maharashtra Government? If so, now will you decide it? While replying a question you had told that you will take a decision on it after consulting us. I hope that we will be invited by you in the next week and we will meet to take a decision unanimously. I finish my speech with the hope that Maharashtra Government will not create any hurdle on it.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am also interested in this subject because there is the same problem in my constituency also and the Board... (*Interruptions*).

[*English*]

I will come to the point. I am interested in this subject.

[*Translation*]

There are many complaints against the ineffectiveness of the Board that was constituted in our area. I would like to say to the hon. Minister about the relevant points on this issue. Actually I was just discussing this thing with Shri Sathe Saheb. After all, you are going to constitute this Board by a Presidential order under Article 371 (2) in order to satisfy the people of Vidarbha and fulfil of their feelings and aspirations regarding the development of their area. In future many complications will arise if the public and their representative of the concerned areas are not taken into confidence by and large regarding each and every clause of the subject. There may be certain shortcomings in the provisions and details you propose to include which the people of Vidarbha might disapprove and feel that such and such thing should have been there. They might like to insert something or some new provisions. So I would like to say to the hon. Minister that he should circulate the draft order in the public and their representatives and thereby he should take them into confidence because it will be of no use if you present only the final draft in the legislative Assembly of Maharashtra. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he will take the public and their representatives into confidence regarding the details of the provisions? Now the question before us is as to why the public is making a demand for that in that region? This is only because their area is under-developed. Their complaint is that they have not been allotted sufficient funds needed for the development of

their area. Due to some or the other reason the funds ought to have been made available for the development of the area could not be made available as a result of which these areas have become backward in comparison to other areas and their development has not been balanced. The slackness on the part of the Government during the last 30-40 years contributed for the imbalance in the development. Government should take steps to look into that. The section B of article 371 (2) also directs you or the Government in this regard. It says:

[*English*]

“(b) the equitable allocation of funds for developmental expenditure over the said areas, subject to the requirements of the State as a whole;

[*Translation*]

This is not only related to the present but also to the future and the backlog. Hon. Sathe Saheb had mentioned all about this while presenting his Bill on it. Using his words I would like to ask as to what steps are you going to take for removing the backlog of the development and would you like to say something about the steps you propose to take after taking the Planning Commission, the Union Government and the Government of Maharashtra into confidence?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): There should be some beginning in every direction. You talk of the backlog and that too of 30-40 years.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: You do not understand, everything will be done only on the basis of their drafts as they put in the Presidential order. Nothing can be done once the order is released. Please, consult us at least once, Sir.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you have inter-

rupted me. I have practical experience about it. The steps taken in my area under this scheme gave rise to many grievances of different nature.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I read out the subject to you to tell you as to what is the actual subject under discussion.

[*English*]

(i) Delay in setting up the Statutory Boards in Maharashtra; and

(ii) Conflicting statements by Union Home Minister and the Finance Minister, Government of Maharashtra.

This is the subject.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Anyway, it is well-connected to that question.

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Half-an-hour discussion is on Vidarbha.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: I have almost finished. I was just requesting to the hon. Minister that if any lacuna is allowed to remain there today, it will affect the future. The people who are facing frustration for years together have pinned great hopes with this Board. It would be very difficult to rectify the fundamental lacunae and shortcomings which you might allow there in a hurry without taking the people's representatives of the area into confidence. Your Government is accustomed of such things. I, therefore, request that you should move very cautiously in that regard. It is not necessary that you should reply to it today itself, you may reply to it even tomorrow. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT (Nagpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we welcome the announcement of the Prime Minister which he made on the 15th August to constitute the Development Boards for the regions of

[Sh. Banwari Lal Purohit]

Vidarbha, Marathwada and Konkan. But even today some doubts persist in the minds of the people of Vidarbha and Marathwada. I would like that the persisting doubts in the minds of the people of these backward areas should be removed. Hon'ble Home Minister should look into it.

In 1956, there was a constitutional Amendment Under Article 371 for Vidarbha-Marathwada. As one of our hon. Member has stated that a Resolution passed unanimously by the both Houses of Maharashtra Legislature had been brought here. The problem was that the draft submitted by them carried certain defects and that draft in turn used to be returned to them for rectification of the defects. This happened on two or three occasions. This made the people of the concerned areas angry and they are in a mood to adopt the path of agitation. At last the Home Minister of Maharashtra on behalf of his Government stated that if the draft under the Article 371(2) submitted by them is going to be approved by the Union Government. We confer full rights on the Union Government for preparing the draft to its liking under the Article 371(2) in order to do justice to the people of our areas concerned and that they would accept the draft as it is. So the role of Maharashtra Government has been made clear. We say to you again that we welcome the announcement about the constitution of the Boards for the backward regions of Vidarbha, Marathwada and Konkan. It is understood that some people wish to bring pressure on the Central Government to constitute a Board for the developed area of the Western Maharashtra also. However the root cause of the injustice lies in the fact that the entire funds including those meant for backward regions were spent on Western Maharashtra. I want to convey to you the feelings of the public. If you yield to the pressure the very purpose of constituting the Boards for those areas would be nullified. The people will not remain silent over this.

As far as backlog is concerned, it is above Rupees ten thousands crore for Vidarbha only according to a rough estimate. Justice demands that this backlog should be removed. These areas can be brought upto the level of the development only when the funds are made available to them. You should issue an order for making the provision for that. Article 371(2) provides for three things more. Firstly, equitable distribution of the funds, secondly, technical education i.e. engineering colleges and thirdly, the backlog in the Government services. Justice should be done at all levels. I would like to cite an example. In Maharashtra, 137 sub-inspectors were selected. Only six candidates out of 137 sub-inspectors belonged to Vidarbha, whereas the population of Vidarbha is 23.8 per cent of the total population of Maharashtra. You should keep cases of injustice of this type and the factual positions in this regard in your mind. Government should state whether it will incorporate it in the order or not? I want to say only by this much that you should look into it and see that no injustice is done to any region. Who is committing such injustice? The Maharashtra Government has been in the habit of doing it for years together. Such injustice has continued due to the dominance of the Western Maharashtra there as a result of which rest of the areas are neglected. I want to make it clear to you that we shall not accept the proposal that the Chief Minister will nominate the Members as has been proposed by the Maharashtra Government. Please elaborate it. What we want is that this should be placed in the hands of the elected representatives of the people of that region. Suppose you have to select three Members from Vidarbha region, you may do it among the M.L.As of different parties according to their respective strength. The strength of the public representatives in the Board should not be less than fifty per cent of the total membership of the Board. The rest of the Members should be nominated by the Government and the persons so nominated should be eminent scholars having

sufficient knowledge and experience in the field of development. It should be ensured that those who have committed injustice have no hand in constituting the Board. If you authorise the Chief Minister for nominating the Members of the Board, he will select every Tom-Dick and Harry among his own men. Can there be any justice in this way? Justice demands that you should not nullify it under any pressure. *(Interruptions)* I have given all the suggestions. *(Interruptions)* The Governor should nominate the eminent scholars who possess wide knowledge and are beyond any pressure. By doing this only you may do justice to the people there. You should nominate 50 to 60 per cent members from the elected representatives of the people including the M.Ps of the concerned areas and rest of the 40 per cent from the eminent scholars possessing wide knowledge and experience. I request you to do justice to the people of those areas by removing the backlogs.

I have confined myself to important points only. The people there are very hopeful now that justice will be done to them. So immediate steps should be taken in this regard. I would like to say that if there is any delay in respect of the Amendment regarding Konkan, it should be done soon. You should act in such a way that the Development Boards for Konkan, Vidarbha and Marathwada are constituted before the end of this Session. If you do this job before the end of this session it would be so nice a thing.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK: Please give me two minutes to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would have allotted two minutes to you but others also will ask for the same.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I have already said the Chief Minister of Maharashtra alongwith Shri Rama Rao Adik and other

senior officers had met me on 5th June and put forward a proposal. That proposal did not fulfill the provisions of the Constitution. According that proposal, the Chief Minister was proposed to become the Chairman of the Board and his senior cabinet Ministers its Members. I had told them that they could do it themselves.

[English]

This does not fulfil the provisions of Constitution.

[Translation]

Thereafter they as well as we agreed for taking the advice of the constitutional experts in this regard. I am happy that their present proposal is fully in accordance with the Constitution in which special powers have been given to the Governor.

[English]

To oversee equitable distribution of funds and other affairs.

[Translation]

On the very basis of their proposal, a proposal will be submitted to the Cabinet after fulfilling the provisions of the Constitution for constituting three Boards i.e. Vidarbha Development Board, Marathwada Development Board and Development Board for the rest of Maharashtra.

18.00 Hrs.

[English]

The area of the respective Development Boards shall be as specified hereunder:

(a) The Vidarbha Development Board shall cover the areas of Nagpur and Amrawati Revenue Divisions.

(b) The Marathwada Development Board shall cover the area

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