

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

**First Session
(Ninth Lok Sabha)**



सत्यमेव जयते

(Vol. I contains Nos. 1 to 9)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, December 26, 1989/Pausa 5,
1911 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MEMBER SWORN

Shri Bojja Venkata Reddy : (Nandyal)

11.05 hrs

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Funds for Pending Railway Projects in Karnataka

*21. SHRIM.V.CHANDRASEKARA
MURTHY:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have
recently urged State Government of Karnata-
kataka to contribute funds for completion the
pending railway projects in Karnataka State;

(b) if so; whether similar requests have
been made to other States; and

(c) the reasons for asking financial
assistance from State?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Requests were made for
expeditious completion of two Metropolitan
Transport Projects, one each in Tamilnadu
and Maharashtra, but the State Government
did not agree to contribute funds.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKARA MUR-
THY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the first part of the
question which the hon. Minister has replied
in the negative is also not true.

His request for seeking contribution from
the State Government has come out in most
of the prominent newspapers in Karnataka
as well as in Delhi. He had also a telephonic
talk with the Chief Minister of Karnataka
seeking contribution for completing the
Konkan Railway Project. In view of this, it
has become very unusual and for the first
time the Centre is seeking contribution from
the State Government to complete their own
projects.

I want to know from the hon. Minister
whether it is the policy of the present Gov-
ernment to seek contribution from the State
Government to complete their railway proj-
ects or whether it is due to paucity of funds.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : The
hon. Member has referred to some newspa-
per reports and also my telephonic talks with
the Chief Minister of Karnataka. It is true that
I did speak to the Chief Minister of Karnata-
kataka. What I suggested to the Chief Minister
was that I would like to have a talk with him
to find out whether Karnataka could also as
the State of Maharashtra has been doing—
this is on an initiative of the State Govern-
ment of Maharashtra itself—to make funds
available for new railway lines and also for
conversion of gauge. There was no specific

proposal that was made. I only said that I would like to discuss this matter with him. The next thing he told the Press was: that the Centre had urged him to do certain thing. There was no urging. There was only a suggestion and that was that I would like to discuss with him as to what had been implemented in Maharashtra.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKARA MURTHY: Then what is the policy of the government? He has not answered that.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: As far as I am concerned, I would like to pursue the initiative; which the Government of Maharashtra for instance had taken. If such initiatives come from other States also, I would like to pursue them.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKARA MURTHY: The work on this Konkan railways for the development of this Western Coast has commenced in 1977-78 at the instance of the then Railway Minister. But we from the Karnataka side made several efforts to start the work from the Karnataka side also, that is, from Mangalore. But it fell on deaf ears. In view of this, I want to know from the present hon. Minister—he is also interested, sometimes, in the affairs of Karnataka—whether he can use his good offices to start the work from the Mangalore side.

My second part of the question is regarding conversion of Bangalore-Mysore line and also Miraj-Bangalore line into broad gauge. It is pending since decades. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he is prepared to allocate more funds and complete this project very soon.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: So far as the initiative from Karnataka in regard to Konkan railway is concerned, on the Mangalore-Uduppi sector, some work has already started. Some funds were earmarked and there has also been some increase in the amount that has been earmarked for the current year. But the problem is that land has still not been made available. When land became available near Uduppi, the work

was started in November, this year. Now if the State Government could expedite the acquisition of land and make it available—the total allocation for this particular sector is Rs. 52 crores—then I am sure, it will be possible for us to see that the work on that is expedited.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKARA MURTHY: It is for the current financial year.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: No; that is the overall cost of the project.

Sir, may I also answer the second part of his question in regard to the Bangalore-Mysore section? There has been, so far, an outlay of Rs.17 crores for the year 1989-90 on this particular work, which amounts to 20% of the total Plan outlay for gauge conversion which was available for the current year. I believe that this work will be completed by December 1991.

Regarding the Miraj-Bangalore conversion, there was a survey which was carried out in 1984, and the project cost at that time was estimated to be Rs.500 crores—only for this conversion of 1934 Kms. The project was not taken up at that time because it was felt that it was not remunerative; but there have been, subsequently, more requests that have come from the people of that area, and a re-assessment of the whole project, including the traffic potential etc. is currently being done.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : The hon. Minister was pleased to refer to the West Coast Konkan railway. During the time of the then Railway Minister Mr. Dandavate, the railway work had started from that end—from Bombay to Roha. Now it has come up to Roha. From the Mangalore side also—it has been my constituency—the work has been started, as stated by the hon. Minister, in the month of November. The then State Government was not keen in acquiring the land. Now, the present Government is keen to acquire the land, and the proceedings have already been started.

Is the hon. Minister going to start this railway line from both the ends—from Roha to Udipi, and from Udipi to Roha? The total cost of the project is about Rs.850 crores. For this purpose, to seek funds, is the hon. Minister going to think of having financial resources from the Indian Railway finance Corporation which had floated bonds—which could be useful in this work—by setting up its branches in the project area, to collect necessary funds?

The hon. Minister was finding it very difficult to get the funds. There is the resource crunch. There is no doubt about it. Now, to overcome it, he can go in for this also. Is there any proposal? Is there any proposal to construct a railway line between Hubli and Karwar; will he have this railway line in Karnataka?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: The hon. Member was a little unkind to the previous Government of Karnataka because this project was cleared by the Planning Commission only in January 1989, by which time things had moved in Karnataka to a point where the previous Government was not able to do much; and the project was included for the first time in the budget for 1989-90—by which time there was no Karnataka Government. It was President's rule there.

Therefore, insofar as the hon Member's information about the previous Government not having done the necessary work to acquire land etc. is concerned, that is not correct.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: This is my constituency.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Therefore, he should know it better than. Then it is all the more reason why he should be more correct and accurate when he gives that kind of information to the House.

As I said, the moment the land became available—and that was for the first time in November—the work has begun. We have

earmarked a little more than what was the allocation in the Budget at the time the budget proposal was first made; and I would certainly seek the hon. Member's help in seeing that land acquisition process is completed, so that next year, we could put a little more money and expedite that particular sector.

Insofar as the other aspect of the hon. Member's question about money being raised is concerned, I would certainly seek the hon. Member's assistance to persuade the State Government to come forward with some initiative in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Mahadik.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: I have referred to the Indian Railway Finance Corporation.

MR. SPEAKER: I have already called Mr. Mahadik.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VAMANRAO MAHADIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Since the hon. Minister has made a reference to Maharashtra, I would like to put a question with regard to the railways in Marathwada and Konkan regions of Maharashtra. Have the Central Government permitted the Government of Maharashtra to raise loans for financing the project and if so, the amount thereof?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the matter was under consideration of the Planning Commission which has cleared the project recently. Since it is a matter between the State Government and the Planning Commission, I am not in a position to say anything in to the amount.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: I want to know whether it has come to the notice of the Government that in spite of a request from the State Government of Karnataka and me for an early completion of the Harihar-Kottur Railway line in Bellary district

of Karnataka the Government is not in a position to take up the project? They are saying that the project is not feasible. May I also bring it to the notice of the Government that the ore which is being produced in Hospet region is being transported to Madras while the Madras port is not in a position to absorb the entire ore? If this Harihar-Kottur line is completed, I think, half of the ore can be diverted to Mangalore Port. Keeping this in view, will the Government re-examine the whole matter and see that that this line is completed early?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I will look into this matter.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NAIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government has stated that it will be easier to take up such projects if the State Government could provide some funds. An experiment in this respect has been made in Maharashtra. I want to say that the State Government has also some priorities of its own. I represent Bombay city. No attention has been paid to the sub-urban services in Bombay for the last 10-12 years. Will the Government adopt a policy to raise funds by issuing debentures to the citizens living in Bombay and utilise the same for city's development so that they get their due and the Government is able to raise finance?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has raised a very basic issue. Before I give any reply to it. This point has to be examined thoroughly.

[*English*]

Quality of Edibles for Railway Passengers

*22. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the edibles sold on Railway station between Delhi and Nagpur are of poor quality; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to improve the quality of edibles made available for Railway passengers?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) There have been some complaints in this regard.

(b) Steps taken or proposed to be taken for further improving the catering services include introduction of casserole service and economy meals, modernisation of base kitchens, intensifying inspections and action against the contractors or staff responsible for lapses.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BANSWARI LAL PUROHIT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the new Government can conveniently say that it assumed office only 15 days back and previous Government was responsible for all.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr Purohit, please put your question.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: I have just come by A.P. Express. This train used to arrive at 7 o' clock. When Shri Madhavrao Scindia was the Railway Minister, the trains used to arrive on time. But today the train was late by 2 1/2 hours. I alighted at Nizamuddin Railway Station and I am coming here straight from there. I request the hon. Minister to pay attention towards punctuality of trains. The first thing is that food articles sold at the stations are spurious ones. I would like to cite the example of vendors at New Delhi Railway Station. I purchased a packet of Pan Parag for Rs. 2/- but it was found to be spurious one. It is harmful and the passengers are being cheated in this manner. Earlier, the vendors used to display rate charts, but no vendor at New Delhi Railway Station displays rate charts Now-a-days. I purchased a piece of chocolate for my child. The vendor started bargaining. He started from Rs.8 but ultimately sold the same for Rs. 4.50. There has been sharp deterioration in the quality of eatables. I purchased 'purees' which were fried in oil of

very inferior quality. I, therefore, request you to pay attention to it. (*Interruptions*) What is there to laugh about it? I am very serious. I request you to reprimand the hon. Minister that he should improve the situation.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Purohit, you address the chair.

[*Translation*]

Please address me.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: They are taking it as a matter of joke. It is a question concerning the general public (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I am not permitting you.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Mr. Speaker, Sir. I request the hon. Minister to do away with the practice of engaging vendors if possible and entrust this work to the department so that adulterated articles are not sold. Please break the monopoly of the contractors and entrust this work to the unemployed youths so that they could get some work. They will not only get employment but can earn profit also. Let such youth be employed on this work. They may be supplied with articles purchased for the railway department.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: There is one more question in your name. Please do not put all the question at a time.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: I request the hon. Minister to elaborate the medical measures he is going to take in this

regard. I am unable to understand as to what step he is going to take to remedy the system and how does he propose to do away with the practice of engaging vendors and what measures he is going to take?

SHRI PIYARE LAL HANDOO: When he chewed Pan Parag, there was non-representative Government. Then how could he expect pure things.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT: Do not support the contractors.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has raised the question of contractors. The contractors are there for a long time. So far as the question of catering is concerned, I would like to state that there are contractors at 2898 stations who supply food articles in trains and supply meals at stations. So far as the question of departmental catering service is concerned, it is available at 75 stations which cater to the needs of 65 pairs of trains. i.e. 130 trains. The hon. Member has asked for doing away with the practice of engaging contractors. It is a very basic issue. This matter has been discussed a number of time during the last many years. As things stand now, our decision is to maintain the status-quo. If the hon Member desires the matter to be considered afresh, we are prepared to do that. So far as the question of remedying the situation is concerned, he is aware that the casserole service has been in operation for the last 4 years and efforts are on to make further improvements in it. Beside, there are 75 to 76 modernised kitchens or dining stalls from where food articles are supplied and arrangements are also there for supplying them in a number of trains. We will introduce some modernisation and make some improvements in the existing system so that fresh food could be supplied to the passengers in the trains. Some concrete steps have

been taken in this regard. As regards the point raised in respect of Delhi-Nagpur section, I would like to state that special attention in this regard is being said to 4 big stations on this section viz. New Delhi, Jhansi, Itarsi and Nagpur. The hon. Members are aware that the right to implement the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act has been entrusted to the Railway authorities. Inspector and doctor examine the food articles and action has been taken in certain cases. There is a need to impart training to the staff and the process of imparting training to them has already begun. Efforts are also under way to ensure proper supervision.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the food supplied from base kitchens is satisfactory to some extent. But my question relates to the vendors, retailers, pan and cigarette sellers and what I wanted to point out is that the Government has no control over them. As I said, vendors carry as many as 20 to 25 items with them, but they do not display the rate chart. People are being cheated and the vendors charge the prices arbitrarily. I therefore, request the hon. Minister to exercise control over them and ensure that such cheating does not take place. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps he proposes to take in this regard?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the points raised by the hon. Minister would be examined and further action will be taken in this regard. (*Interruptions*) .

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: I would like to know from the hon. Minister if he proposes to make the Delhi Railway Station an ideal railway station. Lakhs of people come to Delhi from other parts of the country every year. Food articles on railway stations are prepared in very unhygienic conditions. Flies go on buzzing on these articles and people carry a very bad impression about it. I request the hon. Minister to make at least one station in the capital as an ideal railway station. You can well imagine the condition which might be prevailing in other stations

when the condition of the railway stations in the capital itself is so bad.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as the question of New Delhi Railway Station is concerned, we shall look into the complaints. But the issue is not confined to Delhi or for that matter to capital only. My view is that our effort should be to see that clean and best quality food items are made available on all railway stations throughout the country and people should get these things without any difficulty. But I assure the hon. Member that in case there is a need to pay special attentions towards Delhi, we will definitely do so.

[*English*]

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU: During the Janata Ministry, cheap and quality meals were served to the passengers. Immediately after Prof. Madhu Dandavate left the Railways and our young prince, Mr. Scindia stepped in, Railway had taken to monarchical look and the commuters were deprived of that quality and cheap food and there was a look air-conditioned bogies cars, saloons and all that. May I request the hon. Minister that from that monarchical look would he step down to the common people's look and revive cheap and quality meals which were given during Janata's time?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: The food that is presently being served through the departmental catering service has resulted in a loss of Rs. 71 lakhs during the last financial year. The total sales turnover was Rs. 65.71 crores and there is a loss of Rs. 71 lakhs. The last time when the prices of food items were revised was in October, 1987 and before that the prices has been fixed in 1985. So, it is obvious that the food that is presently being served on the Railways is causing a considerable amount of loss to the Railway system. So, I really do not know what the hon. Member has in mind when he suggests that we should serve food that does not cost more than what it costs at present. On the food that is being served at present, the Railways are losing money and

therefore, there is a reason for increasing the cost of the food rather than decreasing it.

SHRI IBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: There is a general deterioration as far as the quality of food is concerned. Now we have introduced the container system and given up the thali system. I think, 30 to 40 per cent of the cost of food goes to the container and actually what food we get costs much less. The container is thrown away and this 30 to 40% goes waste. Will the hon. Minister consider to give up that system of container and introduce the *thali* system again? That is much more beneficial. The container system is neither economic nor hygienic. Moreover, there should not be monopoly of contractors. But in case there is going to be monopoly of railway system, the departmental monopoly is going to be dangerous. Therefore, there should a consideration for the contractors and the Department both, and both should be allowed to serve the passengers. There should be competition. Once there is competition, then alone quality food will be improved. If there is monopoly either of the Department or of the contractors, food is going to get deteriorated. Therefore, this should be considered by the Railway Minister.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, I appreciate the general points that have been made by the hon. Member. I would like to put only one matter straight and that is the cost of the casserole. He felt that forty per cent of the money which the passenger pays for the food goes for the casserole. That is not correct. The cost of the casserole just now is Rs. 1.55. The vegetarian meal that is packed in it is served at Rs. 7 and the non-vegetarian meal at Rs. 9. I agree that is a fairly high price for the casserole and if you include the price of the little plastic or whatever tumbler that comes with it, which is also a disposable item, it comes to Rs. 1.85. But if you compare the price of the casserole with the investment in the *thali* and then the cost of keeping it in a proper hygienic, usable condition, I feel that it would either balance or perhaps weight more in favour of the casserole than against it. However, since the hon. Member

has made this suggestion, I will look into it, though my own feeling is, on the basis of the information that I have in my possession, that the casserole would be better proposition, more so because it is possible to serve hygienic food in the casserole. You can keep the food warm in the casserole and you can prevent all kinds of external pollution or any kind of dust, etc. settling on the food because of the casserole. So, the overall advantage, in my view, is in favour of the casserole and against the *thali*.

Payments to M/s Jyotsna Holdings Limited

*23. **SHRI. L.K. ADVANI:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of the inquiry made by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission about payments made by M/s. Sumitomo Corporation to M/s. Jyotsna Holdings Limited with reference to conditions in the tender documents in respect of an ONGC contract;

(b) whether the ONGC had also sought legal advice in this regard for taking necessary action; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMI): (a) to (c). ONGC has obtained the opinion of the the First Additional Solicitor General of India. According to this opinion, the remuneration paid by M/s. Sumitomo Corporation to Jyotsna Holding Limited is in violation of Clause 31 of the Tender Conditions. He has further opined that action can be taken by not giving further business of ONGC to the consortium of Japanese Firms which functioned under the name of M/s. Sumitomo Corporation. ONGC have been instructed to take action accordingly. ONGC have also been advised to resort to arbitration or to file a suit for appropriate relief.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, this question

relates to one of the major scandals that surfaced during the year 1989. Indeed, I am surprised at the answer that is given today in reply to my question because there were two parties involved in the scandal. First was M/s. Jyotsna Holdings, an Indian concern, about whose credentials in respect of this particular contract one knows anything, and the second was the Japanese firm Sumitomo Corporation. The reply given says that the ONGC has been instructed not to give further business of the ONGC to the consortium of the Japanese firm. So, the action is contemplated against the Japanese firm whereas there is no indication here of any action against the Indian firm, M/s. Jyotsna Holdings, about which the whole country was concerned. I would like to know in connection with the payments made, what was the amount paid to Jyotsna Holdings as commission in this deal. Is it a fact that this entire amount that Jyotsna Holdings received from Sumitomo was placed in foreign banks, in gross violation of FERA and is it a fact that the interest alone that Jyotsna Holdings earned out of this deal was more than U.S.\$ 6.3 million? What action is being taken in this regard? At least this answer does not give me any inkling of anything that the Government propose to do. All that it tells us is about the advice given by the former Additional Solicitor General of the country and on that basis the ONGC has been instructed?

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMI: Sir, today I am at the receiving end. I used to ask similar question from the Opposition side in the Rajya Sabha along with my colleagues. Sir, let me make the position clear. Here I am bringing in GAIL. He has not asked that question at all. But they are linked. ONGC and GAIL they were not aware of any remuneration or commission paid to Jyotsna Holdings Ltd. till it was published in the national press in July 1988. And according to the Tender agreement, the bidder, that is, here, the Japanese Consortium, had to indicate at the time of bidding whether there was any agent or any representative, any remuneration paid on the contract. Then, if there a violation, the contract could be cancelled and further action also could be taken. But till

July 1988, till the matter was published by a national *daily-Statesman* in this case—neither the ONGC nor the GAIL was aware of this remuneration of Jyotsna Holdings Ltd. Then investigation started and according to the investigation, we came to know that there were tow agreements between Jyotsna Holdings Ltd. and M/s Sumitomo Corporation.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You please place the two agreements on the Table of the House.

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMI: That is for the Finance Minister to do. I am speaking on behalf of my Ministry. Since he has raised this vital issue, I am just sharing this information with my friends here. There were two agreements. According to one agreement concluded between Jyotsna Holdings Ltd. and M/s Sumitomo Corporation, 4.5% of the total F.O.B. contract had to be paid. That was called consultancy fee and it had to be paid in stages and payments were made in all instalments. In the second agreement concerning another fee, the compensation clause says that Jyotsna Holdings Ltd. is to 3.5 per cent of the F.O.B. value of the contract to be split up in three instalments. I have got this information from the Finance Minister. I am sharing this information with you. The Jyotsna Holdings agreement with M/s Sumitomo Corporation was not all known, was not at all in the knowledge of my Ministry and I further share my information with my friends that we had taken action immediately when it came to our notice. Investigation as started and unfortunately by the time we keow about it, they had already supplied all the materials required and nothing could be done. I have asked the ONGC and GAIL to start legal proceedings.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: My question is not answered as yet. I asked what was the amount paid to Jyotsna Holdings? Is it a fact that this amount was kept in foreign banks in violation of FERA and is it a fact that the interest earned on this amount is more than 6.3 million US dollars? This is a very specific question and when I ask a question I am not

addressing it to any one single Ministry, I am addressing it to the Government, and therefore, I expect the Government to post the House fully with the matter which has been agitating the whole country for many months now. It is not just 10 days notice that I have given. The Government should have come to the House fully prepared with all the facts.

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, I am speaking on behalf of the Government. That is why I am giving more information. And if I have been replying on behalf of my own Ministry, the information would have been very much limited.

Sir, about the total amount my friends has asked, I have got this information with me. In Indian rupees it amounts to Rs.6.5 crores and it appears that they deposited the whole amount in Eijoy Consultants Incorporated, London.

AN HON. MEMBER: Is it the interest?

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMI: The interest cannot be that much.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has made a protestation of innocence of the ONGC and the Gas Authority in the entire matter and has suggested to the House that till such time as the newspapers divulged the fact, the Oil and Natural Gas Commission and the Gas Authority, by themselves were entirely innocent of how an agency had introduced itself into their affairs and in the process crores of rupees were shifted abroad. Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister a very specific question relating only to the functioning of his Ministry. I have here, Sir, in my possession a quotation, which is a quote from the agreement which has been arrived at between this infamous Jyotsna and the Sumitomo Corporation. A part of this agreement states that "Jyotsna Holdings Ltd. is obliged to provide Sumitomo Corporation with assistance, advice and other services which Sumitomo Corporation from time to time requests and otherwise uses the best endeavour of Jyotsna Holdings to assist Sumitomo Corporation in

the negotiation with the customers all for the purpose of successful conclusion of contracts". This is part of the agreement which is between Sumitomo and Jyotsna. Of course, the ONGC and the Gas Authority—to refresh the memory of the House, the contract concerned related to the supply of certain varieties of pipes. I will not go into the technicalities of those pipes. Now, if Sumitomo has gone to the extent of reducing in writing with Jyotsna about help, assistance etc. then I would like to know from the Government, because the Minister is protesting the innocence of the ONGC in the matter (a) how is Jyotsna technically qualified to assist a major international company like Sumitomo, in highly technical matters like supply of pipeline etc. (b) If Jyotsna is not so qualified then what did the ONGC or the Gas Authority of India, on whose behalf ONGC was acting, do to ensure that the nation is not defrauded by either the multinationals or by national companies of very dubious reputation?

AN HON. MEMBER: Why should you defend the previous Government?

SHRI Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY: Because there is nothing against the previous Government. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMI: I have to agree, it is a clear case of concealment.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Then pursue it. Don't take action only against the Japanese firm. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: With the permission of the hon. Minister, Sumitomo after all is a highly technical and major international concern. The Hon. Shri Lal K. Advani was very reticent in the choice of his words. It is like cutting your own nose to spite yourself. It hardly benefits the Government to punish Sumitomo for an offence which is committed by an Indian company and ONGC.

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, I also say that M/s. Jyotsna Holdings had no technical competence or expertise to advise Sumitomo on such matters, I am told M/s.

Jyotsna Holdings was dealing with supply of aircraft for the Delhi Flying Club. Therefore, I do not want to elaborate on this. But, it is true M/s. Jyotsna Holdings had no technical or professional competence to advise Sumitomo on such matters. Regarding the implication of the question of my friend, what the ONGC or the GAIL did not why were they sleeping, I have already replied. As soon as it came to their notice, the investigation was started and both the Attorney General and the Additional Solicitor General were approached in this matter. Both of them have given their opinion and we have taken action. Regarding another implication as to whether there was any collusion between my Ministry and M/s. Jyotsna Holdings, if there is any evidence or any proof on this matter, I am going to take action against any official or officials concerned. I have already instructed my Ministry to find out whether there is any proof in the Ministry itself. If any hon. Member here can give any evidence or any material in this regard, I am going to take action.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, It was supposed to be a commercial transaction between ONGC and GAIL on the one side and the Japanese concern on the other side. In that commercial transaction and the negotiations that preceded that, what could be the scope for any middlemen, if the transaction was done and the contract was entered into in a proper manner? Therefore, I do not appreciate how the hon. Minister says that the ONGC or the GAIL did not know anything about it. Unless there was a scope for intervention by middlemen like M/s. Jyotsna Holding—and that scope could only be made by the ONGC officials or GAIL officials here—there could not have been any intervention by any middlemen. Therefore, I would like to ask the hon. Minister not to accept the protestations of the innocence that may be made by his Ministry and to go deep into this matter to find out how could there be a scope for intervention or appearance of a middlemen in the scene. Further, I would like to ask him to assert what has been done by the Finance Ministry with regard to the money that

was illegally kept in foreign banks by M/s. Jyotsna Holdings whether it has been repatriated and what action has been taken with regard thereto, because there is admittedly violation of FERA.

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, taking the last point which my friend has made whether there was any violation of FERA and whether there has been a full repatriation of this money from the London bank to India, I think, he should address this question to Finance Ministry. The second part of the question was whether the Ministry is protesting innocence. By implication, he says, it is a cover up. Unfortunately, this has happened. But, if I come to know anybody in my Ministry as being in collusion with Sumitomo in the matter of employing middlemen, I am going to take very severe action. The enquire is going on. That is why, I pleaded with my hon. friends, if there is any material available with you, to pass it on to me I will take action.

Finally I will say that we have asked Sumitomo to explain their stand on the issue. They have said, 'It is true, we have appointed Jyotsna Holding as consultant.'

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: They were asked to appoint.

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: Our Additional Solicitor General has gone on record to say that they were not competent to be consultants. They might be extending liaison services and therefore, they should be regarded as agents. He has said that. Therefore, it is on record. We have taken note of this.

May I say finally that my friends have asked certain questions regarding FERA violation and Income-tax. They should put these questions to my hon. colleague, Prof. Madhu Dandavate.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the fact brought to light

with regard to Jyotsna Company, one thing is certain that the officials of the Ministry concerned as well as the previous Government were involved in the deal. The opinion of the Solicitor General is also pretty old one. On that basis, as has been rightly pointed out by Shri Advani, clarification has been sought from the Japanese Firm only. I would like to know as to what action has been taken against the Jyotsna Company? I would like to know whether under the change circumstances the Government proposes to hold a fresh enquiry after seeking the opinion of the new Solicitor General and take any action thereafter?

Besides, I would like to know the names of the Chairman, and the Managing Director of the Jyotsna Company.

[*English*]

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: I answer the last part of the question. I have with me the name of two directors of M/s. Jyotsna Holding Company One is the wife of Mr. Lalit Suri.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I would also like to know whether she is the same person who had exported rice and thereby swindled crores of rupees?

SHRI JANARDAN TIWARI: This matter may please be enquired into There is lot of bungling in it.

AN HON. MEMBER: A committee of the House may please be constituted for this purpose. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Take your seat please. The Minister is replying.

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: One is the wife of Mr. Lalit Suri, Mrs. Jyotsna; another is, Ms. Raj Kumari Nanda, mother-in-law of Mr. Lalit Shri.

I may give further information. Their equity capital is about Rs. one lakh. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I go to next question. Shri Mullappally Ramachandran.

(*Interruptions*)

Kayamkulam Thermal Station

*24. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on the Kayamkulam Thermal Power Station in Kerala has been completed;

(b) if so, when it is to be commissioned;

(c) the total allocation provided for this project;

(d) the countries assisting in setting up the station; and

(e) whether Government have any proposal to set up a thermal plant in North Kerala and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (e). A Statement is given below:-

STATEMENT

(a) No, Sir.

(b) The project is expected to yield benefits towards the end of the Eighth Plan period.

(c) An allocation of Rs. 5.20 crores exists in the Budget Estimates for the year 1989-90 for this project.

(d) The project is to be implemented with Soviet assistance.

(e) A proposal of the Kerala State Elec-

tricity Board (KSEB) to set up a Thermal Power Station at Trikaripur in North Kerala comprising 2 units of 210 MW each under Stage-I was received in the Central Electricity Authority in September, 1989. Due to its proximity to the Naval Academy, the KSEB have been advised to obtain clearance from the Southern Naval Command before the project is considered for techno-economic clearance by the Central Electricity Authority.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: About the Kayamkulam Thermal Power station, we are given to understand that it would be one of the largest thermal power stations in Indian, when it is completed. From the answer given by the hon. Minister, it is understood that an allocation of Rs. 5.20 crores exists in the Budget estimate for the year, 1989-90 for this purpose.

The previous Government has made an allocation for this. I am extremely happy about that. May I know from the hon. Minister what is the proposed installed generating capacity of this Project and whether the entire State of Kerala will be benefited from this project.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: I have already stated in my reply that this project is expected to yield benefits towards the end of 8th Plan period and an allocation of Rs. 5.20 crores exist in the Budget estimate for the year 1989-90 for this project. The proposed capacity of the project will be Stage one, two units of 210 MW each and ultimate 2,420 MW each. Since this project will be built by NTPC and it will be in the Southern region, so, the beneficiary of the Project will be all the States which come within in the Southern region.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: The State of Kerala is suffering from acute shortage of electricity and the northern part of Kerala, that is the Malabar area is the worst affected by this.

I am extremely happy to learn from the answer given by the hon. Minister that the Government of Kerala has approached the Ministry to set up another thermal plant at Trikaripur which is the home constituency of the Chief Minister. It is also understood that Kerala State Electricity Board is awaiting

clearance from the Southern Naval Command, for this project.

May I know from the hon. Minister whether the work for this project will be commenced as soon as we get clearance from the Southern Naval Command?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: The Central Electricity Authority has already given clearance but they have returned the project to the Karala State Electricity Board because the project site is very close to some naval establishments. After getting clearance from there, then the project will be passed on the Planning Commission and other Agencies for investment decision.

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR : Kerala has become chronically power deficit and apart from the question asked by the hon. Member, some of the more important priority projects relate to hydroelectric projects awaiting clearance from the Environment Department and I would like to mention in particular, the Athirapalli Project which will affect only 134 hectares of non-forest land. Will you give clearance for that immediately and also for the fuel linkage for the thermal power plant at Cochin which is very high in the list of priorities of the Government of Kerala. What is the present stage of the proposal for the atomic power plant in North Kerala recommended by the State Government?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: About the atomic power plant I am not in a position to reply and that question should be addressed to the Ministry of Science & Technology.

About Athirapalli Hydro-electric scheme, the Kerala State Electricity Board has submitted a proposal for the setting up of this hydel-power project which consists of two units of 80 MW in the Tiruchur district of Kerala. The latest estimated cost of the project is Rs. 92.90 crores.

I am concerned with the clearance given by the CEA.

About the environment angle, my colleague in the Environment Ministry can be address in the matter.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Accident of 8 Down Toofan Express

[English]

*25. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the accident caused to 8 Down Toofan Express near Mughalsarai on November 1, 1989;

(b) whether any report has been submitted about the reasons for the accident;

(c) the number of persons killed and injured in the accident; and

(d) the amount of compensation paid to the kith and kin of the persons killed and to the persons injured?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) On 1.11.89 while No. 3008 Dn. Udyan Abha Toofan Express was passing through Sakaldiha station of Eastern Railway, its engine and 10 coaches derailed. Of the 10 derailed coaches 8 capsized.

(b) The accident is being inquired into by the Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety.

(c) In this accident, 50 persons lost their lives while 66 persons sustained injuries including 43 grievous.

(d) Claims for compensation are to be preferred to and decided by the Railway Claims Tribunal. However, an amount of Rs. 5,57,250/- has been paid as ex-gratia by the Railway Administration.

Westland Helicopters

*26. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Westland WL-30 helicopters stationed at each place in the country;

(b) how many of them at each place were grounded as on 30 June, 1989 for want of spares and other reasons and how many were under active operation;

(c) the period of each aircraft (in days) during which it remained grounded since it landed in India;

(d) the estimated overall total loss incurred by the Pawan Hans and by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission, separately, as a result thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to ensure uninterrupted supply of spares for proper maintenance of the fleet?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Between 25.9.86 and 11.3.88, 21 Westland 30 helicopters joined the fleet of Pawan Hans Limited. One helicopter was lost in an accident on 14.7.88 at Sanjichhat near Jammu and the second was lost near Kohima on 7.2.89 due to an accident. Of the 19 Westland-30 Helicopters left in the fleet of Pawan Hans, 8 have been stationed at Bombay, 5 at Delhi and one each at Porbandar, Aizwal, Vijaywada, Shillong, Nazira and Agartala.

(b) On 30th June, 1989, 6 Westland-30 Helicopters were grounded for want of spares and 4 were grounded for scheduled inspections. The remaining nine helicopters were operational.

(c) The details of the days helicopters remained grounded from the date of induction of each helicopter upto 20.12.89 are as under:—

<i>Regn No.</i>	<i>Date of induction in fleet</i>	<i>No. of days of the helicopters in India</i>	<i>No. of days the helicopter remained grounded</i>
1	2	3	4
1. VT-EKE	24.11.86	1205	468
2. VT-EKF	21.09.87	820	373
3. VT-EKG	26.09.86	820	670
4. VT-EKH	25.09.86	1185	804
5. VT-EKI	24.11.86	1185	614
6. VT-EKJ	04.12.86	1095	332
7. VT-EKK	31.01.87	1085	448
8. VT-EKL	10.02.87	970	546
9. VT-EKM	25.03.87	957	456
10. VT-EKN	30.03.87	950	438
11. VT-EKO	02.06.87	414	92
12. VT-EKP	02.06.87	889	415
13. VT-EKQ	31.07.87	829	448
14. VT-EKR	31.07.87	515	201
15. VT-EKS	28.09.87	767	233
16. VT-EKT	11.11.87	729	231
17. VT-EKU	16.11.87	719	384
18. VT-EKV	29.01.88	681	210
19. VT-EKW	03.02.88	675	159
20. VT-EKX	02.03.88	643	105
21. VT-EKY	11.03.88	639	294
		17712	8001

(d) The year-wise loss on operation of Westland-30 helicopters was mainly on account of grounding due to lack of spares

and unscheduled grounding. The losses are as under:—

	(Rs. in crores)
1986-87	3.55
1987-88	5.15
1988-89	5.39
1989-90 (upto September, 1989)	3.90
Total (provisional actuals)	17.99

The total loss as on 31st March, 1989 comes to Rs. 14.09 crores.

When the Pawan Hans Limited is not able to supply the required number of helicopters to the Oil and Natural Gas Commission under the contractual obligations, it makes payment to the Oil and Natural Gas Commission by way of liquidated damages.

Shortfall in supply of helicopters by Pawan Hans Ltd. to the Oil and Natural Gas Commission makes the latter to take recourse to emergency deployment of Indian Air Force helicopters. Loss of flying hours on account of grounding of Westland helicopters has been met in full by PHL to ONGC.

(e) The following steps have been taken to ensure uninterrupted supply of spares for proper maintenance of Westland fleet:—

- (a) During the years 1988 and 1989, 265 and 272 urgent/AOG (Aircraft on ground) orders respectively were placed for the supply of spares on Westland Helicopters. U.K.
- (b) Bulk orders for 900 spares were placed in March-April, 1989.

- (c) Frequent meetings were held at the highest level with representatives/officers of Westland Helicopters and Rolls Royce Engines to ensure speedy delivery of spares and repaired parts. Exchanges also took place at bilateral level. However, despite these initiatives at Government to Government level and the Company's level the supply of spares and components remains unsatisfactory. Efforts are still going on to procure the spares through the help of all channels in orders that the manufacturers fulfil their contractual obligation.

Due to multiple problems in operating Westland-30 helicopters doubts have been expressed over its safety. Government have, therefore, constituted a Committee of Experts on 18.12.1989 to examine the various operational/safety aspects of these helicopters. The Committee has been asked to submit its report by 28.02.1990, pending which instructions have been issued to ground the entire fleet of Westland-30 helicopters.

L.P.G. Facility in Rural Areas

*27. CH. JAGDEEP DHANKHAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to introduce LPG facility in rural areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, particularly about Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b). LPG is being introduced at locations with a population of 20,000 and above (as per 1981 census) all over the country in a phased manner subject to the potential for viable marketing at each location and overall availability. Rural areas contiguous to and in the periphery of such locations are also being provided with LPG.

In Rajasthan to prevent the denudation of forests in desert areas, the use of LPG is being promoted by rostering 12 locations for development of LPG facility and releasing LPG connections for clearing of waiting lists in ten other locations.

Expansion of Haldia Refinery

*28. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for expansion of the Indian Oil Corporation refinery at Haldia in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b). At present there is no proposal for expansion of the capacity of the Haldia refinery in West Ben-

Lakshmikantapur-Namkhana Railway Line

*29. SHRI RADHIKA RANJAN PRAMANIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in respect of construction of Lakshmikantapur-Namkhana (W.B.) railway line; and

(b) the time by which the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Work has been taken up in first block section from Lakshmikantapur to Kulpi. Overall physical progress is about 7%.

(b) Completion would depend on the availability of resources in the coming years.

Profits Earned by Public Sector Undertakings

*30. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the public sector undertakings which have earned profits during 1988-89 and the estimated profit earned by each unit;

(b) whether the prices of products manufactured in these units were also increased during this period; and

(c) if so, the amount earned by this increase in each case?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The audited figures of profits earned by Central public Sector Undertakings during the year 1988-89 will be available after the annual accounts are duly audited and adopted by all Undertakings. However, as per the provisional results

available from 191 out of about 235 Undertakings, 106 have made an estimated net profit of Rs. 5034.34 crores during the year 1988-89. The names of such Undertakings along with the estimated amount of net profit earned by each one of them is given in the statement below.

(b) and (c). Except where prices are

administered by Government in respect of a small number of products, the prices of a very large number of products manufactured by the units are fixed by the Undertakings themselves on commercial principles. Government does not maintain information on the change in prices of products manufactured by them.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in crores)

S.No.	Name of Public Sector Enterprise	Estimated Net Profit earned by the PSE during 1988-89
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1	2	3
1.	Ferro Scrap Nigam Ltd.	3.01
2.	Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd.	0.10
3.	Sponge Iron India Ltd.	0.98
4.	Steel Authority of India Ltd.	305.00
5.	Hindustan Copper Ltd.	75.43
6.	Hindustan Zinc Ltd.	29.47
7.	Manganese Ore (India) Ltd.	0.42
8.	Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd.	78.00
9.	Pyrites, Phosphates & Chemicals Ltd.	0.86
10.	Uranium Corporation of India Ltd.	5.06
11.	Coal India Ltd.	4.19
12.	Northern Coalfields Ltd.	146.28
13.	South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	161.91
14.	Western Coalfields Ltd.	16.35

1	2	3
15.	National Hydroelectric Power Corpn. Ltd.	49.34
16.	National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd.	305.72
17.	Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd.	54.97
18.	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	96.26
19.	Bongaigaon Refinery & Petrochemicals Ltd.	19.73
20.	Cochin Refineries Ltd.	39.07
21.	Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	125.36
22.	Hydro-Carbons India Ltd.	2.73
23.	Indian Oil Blending Ltd.	0.67
24.	Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.	490.53
25.	I.B.P. Company Ltd.	5.65
26.	Lubrizol India Ltd.	6.87
27.	Madras Refineries Ltd.	50.77
28.	Oil India Ltd.	51.26
29.	Oil & Natural Gas Commission	1053.97
30.	The Fertilizers & Chemicals (Travancore) Ltd.	29.58
31.	Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd.	1.25
32.	Hindustan Insecticides Ltd.	0.21
33.	Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd.	13.64
34.	Indian Petrochemicals Corpn. Ltd.	95.80
35.	Karnataka Antibiotics & Pharmaceuticals	0.15
36.	Madras Fertilizers Ltd.	9.87
37.	National Fertilizers Ltd.	14.65

1	2	3
38.	Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd.	70.00
39.	Rajasthan Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	0.14
40.	Bharat Aluminium Co. Ltd.	10.20
41.	National Aluminium Co. Ltd.	10.14
42.	North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Ltd.	0.42
43.	Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.	103.00
44.	Bharat Heavy Plate & Vessels Ltd.	1.50
45.	Bharat Wagon & Engineering Co. Ltd.	1.30
46.	Bridge & Roof Co. Ltd.	0.37
47.	Heavy Engineering Corpn. Ltd.	12.93
48.	Jessop & Co. Ltd.	0.66
49.	The Lagan Jute Machinery Co. Ltd.	0.40
50.	Tungabhadra Steel Products Ltd.	0.46
51.	Andrew Yule & Co. Ltd.	3.90
52.	Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd.	6.00
53.	Bharat Dynamics Ltd.	0.99
54.	Bharat Electronics Ltd.	22.00
55.	Electronics Corpn. of India Ltd.	5.30
56.	Hindustan Cables Ltd.	18.08
57.	H.M.T. Ltd.	8.51
58.	Hindustan Teleprinters Ltd.	1.73
59.	Indian Telephone Industries Ltd.	13.30
60.	Praga Tools Ltd.	1.86

1	2	3
61.	Rajasthan Electronics & Instruments Ltd.	0.66
62.	Bharat Earth Movers Ltd.	41.50
63.	Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd.	2.50
64.	Goa Shipyard Ltd.	1.59
65.	Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.	26.54
66.	Maruti Udyog Ltd.	25.36
67.	Hindustan Latex Ltd.	1.73
68.	Hindustan Photo Films Mfg. Co. Ltd.	7.30
69.	Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corpn. Ltd.	7.34
70.	Trade Fair Authority of India Ltd.	1.37
71.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands Forest & Plantation Development Corporation Ltd.	0.17
72.	National Seeds Corporation Ltd.	2.46
73.	The Cashew Corpn. of India Ltd.	1.05
74.	Central Cottage Industries Corpn. of India Ltd.	0.82
75.	Central Warehousing Corpn.	30.92
76.	Electric Trade & Technology Dev. Corpn Ltd.	0.40
77.	Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Ltd.	5.50
78.	The Minerals & Metals Trading Corpn. of India Ltd.	19.49
79.	The Projects & Equipment Corpn. of India Ltd.	0.51
80.	The State Trading Corpn. of India Ltd.	19.00
81.	Tea Trading Corporation of India Ltd.	0.35
82.	Air India	30.04

1	2	3
83.	Dredging Corporation of India Ltd.	4.83
84.	Indian Airlines	14.10
85.	International Airports Authority of India	55.55
86.	The Shipping Corporation of India Ltd.	63.44
87.	Hindustan Prefab Ltd.	0.12
88.	Indian Railway Construction Co. Ltd.	15.03
89.	Minerals Exploration Corpn. Ltd.	1.04
90.	National Projects Construction Copn. Ltd.	0.30
91.	Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Ltd.	1.52
92.	Educational Consultants India Ltd.	0.18
93.	Engineers India Ltd.	6.57
94.	Hospital Sevices Consultancy Corpn. (India) Ltd.	0.17
95.	Metallurgical & Engineering Consultants (India) Ltd.	5.73
96.	The National Industrial Dev. Corpn. Ltd.	0.10
97.	Rail India Technical & Economic Sevices Ltd.	6.20
98.	Telecommunications Consultants (India) Ltd.	6.50
99.	Water & Power Consultancy Services (India) Ltd.	0.71
100.	The National Small Industries Corpn. Ltd.	0.90
101.	India Tourism Dev. Corpn. Ltd.	9.94
102.	Housing & Urban Development Corpn. Ltd.	17.41
103.	National Film Dev. Corpn. Ltd.	0.92
104.	Rural Electrification Corpn. Ltd.	38.50
105.	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.	268.21
106.	Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	51.42
Total :		5034.34

Clearance to Karnataka Hydro-Electric Projects

*31. SHRISRIKANTHADATTANARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the hydro-electric projects of Karnataka received in the Central Electricity Authority for techno economic clearance in 1988-89 and 1989-90;

(b) the number out of those projects

since cleared with their capacity and cost; and

(c) the funds allocated for those projects?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). Details of the Hydro-electric Projects of Karnataka received in Central Electricity Authority for techno-economic clearance in 1988-89 and 1989-90 (upto 21.12.1989) are as follows:—

<i>Name of the Project</i>	<i>Capacity (MW)</i>	<i>Estimated Cost (Rs. in crores)</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1	2	3	4
Sarapadi Barrage Hydro-electric Scheme	3x40	171.84	This is a multipurpose project. As the original Project Report covered only the power components of the Scheme, it has been returned to the State Government for re-submission as a multi-purpose project.
Bhadra RBC Power House (Addl. Unit)	1x6	6.9	Cleared by CEA on 12.12.1989.

(c) Allocation of funds to the hydro-electric projects are made after investment approval by the Planning Commission.

Rural Industrialisation

*32. SHRI NARSING SURYAVANSI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued guidelines to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations with a view to *unsure that the concerned departments/agencies in the States functions in a con-*

certed manner to promote rural industrialisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details may be seen in the statement laid on the table of the House. [Placed in Library See No. LT-246/89]

(c) As a follow up action an All India Industry Ministers Conference on 'Rural Industrialisation' was held on 8th July, 1989 in which inter-alia coordination of the various field level agencies involved in promoting rural industrialisation was discussed. There was a general agreement on the approach outlined in the joint instructions, circulated vide Department of Rural Development's Letter No. 11/4/87-IRD-II dated 5th May, 1989.

Panel on Oil Industry

*34. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted a panel on Eighth Plan on refining, exploration and marketing etc. in oil industry;

(b) if so, its composition and whether any report has been submitted by the panel; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c). The Planning Commission has constituted a Working Group on Petroleum and Natural Gas for the formulation of the Eighth Five Year Plan.

The Working Group has Shri Lovraj Kumar, Former Secretary, Petroleum as its Chairman, and twenty two other members. The Planning Commission has also constituted five Sub-Groups on (i) Exploration and Development, (ii) Refining, (iii) Demand Projections, distribution and marketing, (iv) Natural gas availability, utilisation & distribution and (v) Research, development and conservation. Reports of the Sub-Groups, excepting that on Natural Gas, have been submitted. The Report of the full Working Group is yet to be finalised.

[*Translation*]

Installation of Electrostatic Precipitator in Bokaro Thermal Power Station

*35. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to instal electrostatic precipitator in the Bokaro thermal power station in Kathara region of Bihar which falls under the Central Coal-fields Limited;

(b) if so, when the said precipitator is likely to be installed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). Bokaro-A station with 4 Nos. 50/55 MW units (de-rated) having mechanical precipitators has been in service for more than 37 years. Installation of electrostatic precipitators in these units at this stage is not techno-economically viable, because of the orientation of the various auxiliaries and the age of the plant. The mechanical precipitators have been recently renovated for better performance.

Unit-1 of Bokaro-B thermal power station of 210 MW was commissioned in March, 1986. Other two similar units of Bokaro-B thermal power station are at different stages of installation. All these units have electrostatic precipitators for limiting stack emission.

Conversion of Samastipur-Darbhanga Railway Line

*36. SHRI HUKMDEO NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations for conversion of Samstipur-Darbhanga rail line into broad-gauge line and early construction of Sakri-Hasanpur rail line;

(b) if so, the action taken so far in this regard; and

(c) the reasons for not completing these projects?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). These projects were approved in 1974-75. Construction work, however, could not be taken up due to acute constraint of resources and heavy commitments on hand. A survey for a parallel BG line from Samastipur to Darbhanga has also since been carried out recently. The cost was estimated as Rs. 26 crores. The project was found to be unremunerative. Sakri-Hasanpur new MG line project was dropped from 1988-89 Budget as there was no possibility of funding this project.

[English]

Concession for Rail Journeys

*37. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the names of organisations whose delegates are allowed railway concessions to perform journey for attending their annual conferences?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

Names of All India Bodies of educational, cultural and social importance regu-

larly getting concession for journeys for attending their annual conferences, as listed in IRCA Coaching Tariff No. 23, Part-I (Vol. II) are given below:—

1. Akhil Bhartiya Darshan Parishad, Jaipur.
2. Akhil Bhartiya Prakritik Chikitsa Parishad, New Delhi.
3. Akhil Bhartiya Vidyarthi Parishad, Bombay.
4. Akhil Bhartiya Sindhi Boli and Sahitya Sabha, Bombay.
5. All India Ayurvedic Congress, Delhi.
6. Indian Dental Association, New Delhi.
7. All India English Teachers Conference, Nagpur.
8. Homoeopathic Medical Association of India, Delhi
9. All-India Federation of Educational Association, Calcutta.
10. All India General Practitioners' Association, Calcutta.
11. All India National Languages Convention (Dakshin Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha).
12. All India Newspapers Editors' Conference, New Delhi.
13. All India Non-Edible Oil Industry Association, Pune.
14. All India Ophthalmological Society, Bombay.
15. All India Oriental Conference.

16. All India Primary Teachers' Federation, Patna.
17. All India Prohibition Council, New Delhi.
18. All India Rashtriya Bhasha Prachar Sammelan (Rashtra Bhasha Prachar Samiti), Wardha.
19. Association Society of India, Nagpur.
20. Association of Microbiologists of India, Bombay.
21. Association of Otolaryngologists of India, Bombay.
22. Association of Physicians of India, Bombay.
23. Association of Physiologists and Pharmacologists of India, Bangalore.
24. Association of Surgeons of India, Madras.
25. Balkan-ji-Bari, Bombay.
26. Bhartiya Admjati Sevak Sangh.
27. Bhartiya Hindi Parishad.
28. Bhartiya Natya Sangh, New Delhi.
29. Brihan Maharashtra Mandal (Regd.), New Delhi.
30. Gandhi Smarak Nidhi, Rajghat, New Delhi.
31. Harijan Sevak Sangh, Delhi-9.
32. Hind Kusht Nivaran Sangh, New Delhi.
33. Hindi Sahitya Sammelan.
34. Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore.
35. Indian Association of Pathologists and Microbiologists, New Delhi.
36. Indian Academy of Pediatrics, Bombay.
37. Indian Adult Education Association, New Delhi.
38. Indian Association for Research in National Income and Wealth, New Delhi.
39. Indian Association of Occupational Health, Bombay.
40. Indian Association of Physiotherapists, New Delhi.
41. Indian Association of Teachers of French, Pune-4.
42. Indian Association for the Advancement of Medical Education, Madras.
43. Indian Chemical Society, Calcutta.
44. Indian Commerce Association.
45. Indian Council for Child Welfare, New Delhi.
46. Indian Council of Social Welfare.
47. Indian Economic Association, Hyderabad.
48. Indian Federation of Working Journalists, New Delhi.
49. Indian Historical Records Commission, New Delhi.

50. Indian History Congress, Patna.
51. Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers, Calcutta.
52. Indian Institute of Personnel Management, Calcutta.
53. Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi.
54. Indian Library Association, Delhi-6.
55. Indian Mathematical Society, Ahmedabad.
56. Indian Medical Association, New Delhi.
57. Indian Orthopaedic Association-Section of Association of Surgeons of India, New Delhi.
58. Indian Pharmaceutical Congress Association, Calcutta.
59. Indian Philosophical Congress, Ranipur.
60. Indian Political Science Association.
61. Indian Psychiatric Society, Chandigarh.
62. Indian Public Health Association, Calcutta.
63. Indian Radiological Association, Madras.
64. Indian Red Cross Society, New Delhi.
65. Indian Roads Congress, New Delhi.
66. Indian Science Congress Association, Calcutta.
67. Indian Society of Agricultural Economics, Bombay.
68. Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics, New Delhi.
69. Indian Society of Anaesthetists, Ahmedabad.
70. Indian Society of Gastroenterology, Vellore-4.
71. Indian Society of Labour Economics, Patna.
72. Indian Society of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics, Kharagpur.
73. Indian Society of Soil Science, Delhi.
74. Indian Standards Institution, New Delhi.
75. Indian Statistical Institute.
76. Institute of Historical Studies, Calcutta.
77. Institution of Engineers (India), Calcutta.
78. The institution of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers, New Delhi.
79. Joint Annual Conference of—
- (i) Association of Physicians.
- (ii) Indian Society of Haematology.
- (iii) Cardiological Society of India.
- (iv) Neurological Society of India.

- (v) Diabetic Association of India.
- (vi) Indian Rheumatism Association.
80. Kannada Sahitya Parishat, Bangalore.
81. Marathi Sahitya Mahamandal, Bombay.
82. National Academy of Sciences, India, Allahabad.
83. National Council of Women in India.
84. National Institute of Sciences of India, New Delhi.
85. Neurological Society of India, Bombay.
86. Nikhil Bharat Banga Sahitya Sammelan.
87. Numismatic Society of India, Varansi.
88. Sevants of India Society, Pune.
89. St. John. Ambulance and Brigade.
90. T.B. Association of India, New Delhi.
91. T.B. Workers' Conference.
92. Textile Association (India), Ahmedabad.
93. United Schools Organization of India, New Delhi.
94. Young Women's Christian Association of India, New Delhi.
95. Assam Sahitya Sabha, Jorhat.

96. Bharat Krishak Samaj, New Delhi.
97. Gujarati Sahitya Parishad.
98. Indian Public Schools Conference, Indore.
99. Sane Guruji Kathamala Madhyavarti Samiti, Bombay.
100. Indian Association of the Teacher Educators, Delhi.
101. All India Secondary Teachers' Federation (Regd.) Delhi.
102. Maharashtra State Federation of Drawing Teachers Association, Nagpur.
103. Sarvodaya Samaj.
104. Indian Association of Dermatologists and Venerologists and Leprologists.

Requests from other bodies of educational, cultural and social importance are also considered and concession granted on case to case basis.

Modernisation of Central Public Sector Undertakings in Kerala

*38. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for the modernisation of the central public sector undertakings/setting up new industries in Kerala is pending before the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to clear the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c). There is no proposal pending for setting up of new Central Public Sector units in the State of Kerala in the Industrial and Mineral Sector in the remaining period of Seventh Five Year Plan;

However, the total plan outlay during the Seventh Plan for Kerala in the said sector was Rs. 408.79 crores, out of which Rs. 47.10 crores relate to new schemes. The details are given in statement below.

STATEMENT

Details of Seventh Plan Outlay in Industrial and Mineral Sector in Kerala

(Rs. in crores)

1.	Cochin Refineries Ltd., Cochin (Banzene Project)	56.50
2.	Balmer Lawrie Co. Ltd.	1.03
3.	Fertilizers & Chemicals Ltd. Udyogmandal and Cochin	
	(a) Caprolactum Project	140.34
	(b) Pollution Control, Cochin I	2.52
	(c) Replacement, renewal, revempings etc.	78.46
	(d) Other Continuing schemes	1.58
	(e) New Schemes	2.10
4.	Hindustan Insecticides Ltd. (Udyogmandal)	3.00
5.	Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd. (Phenol Project)	29.00
6.	HMT Ltd., Kalamassery	
	(a) New Schemes	5.00
	(b) Replacement, renewal, R & D etc.	5.00
7.	Instrumentation Ltd., Palghat	5.00
8.	Cochin Shipyard Ltd., Cochin	
	(a) Replacement and renewal	5.00
	(b) New Scheme	40.00

	<i>(Rs. in crores)</i>
9. Indian Rare Earths Ltd.	13.50
10. Marine Products (Export Development Authority)	16.00
11. Export Promotion Zones, Continuing schemes), Cochin	4.76
TOTAL	408.79

[*Translation*]

Contracts with Multinational Companies in Non-priority Sector

*39. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the question of terminating the contracts with multinationals functioning in collaboration with Indian companies in the non-priority sector; and

(b) if so, the time by which such contracts are proposed to be terminated?

THE MINISTER INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) and (b). No, Sir, Action to terminate any existing foreign collaboration approval can normally be taken only if there is any violation of the terms/conditions of the collaboration approval granted by the Government in view of the contractual nature of the foreign collaboration tie-ups.

[*English*]

Priority Sections for Electrification

*40. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to review the priority sections for electrification on railways; and

(b) if so, the details therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). Future Programme of electrification on Indian Railways is under review by a Committee in April, 1989.

Setting up of Sub-centre of Central Tool Room and Training Centre

36. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved the setting-up of a sub-centre of the Central Tool Room and Training Centre at Bhubaneswar and have also decided to finance it with the assistance from Danish Government;

(b) if so, the amount of assistance received/anticipated and the action taken to expedite the assistance;

(c) whether Government are contemplating to convert the sub-centre into a full fledged tool room for industrial growth of the State; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) An agreement for setting up a Central Tool Room and Training Centre at Bhubaneswar has been signed between Govt. of India and Govt. of Denmark. A part of it is to be financed by Govt. of Denmark.

(b) The Govt. of Denmark has agreed to provide an amount of approx. DK 38 million for the tool room project. Action is being taken to obtain clearance from various Departments on the project document.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The Government has agreed to set up a full fledged Centre.

Crash of Westland Helicopter

37. **SHRI KAMAL NATH:** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Westland helicopter belonging to the Oil and Natural Gas Commission and owned by Pawan Hans Limited crashed soon after take off at Juhu helibase in north-west Bombay on 11 December, 1989;

(b) if so, the total number of persons injured;

(c) whether an enquiry was ordered into the mishap and if so, outcome of the same;

(d) the total number of Westland helicopters with Pawan Hans Limited involved in crashes and engine failure in the past; and

(e) the action contemplated to avoid such recurrences?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Five passengers had received minor injuries.

(c) Yes, Sir. The incident is under investigation.

(d) There have been two notifiable accidents to Westland helicopters of Pawan Hans Limited and 95 cases of premature engine removals due to various defects.

(e) follow up action is taken on the findings and recommendations made in the investigation reports of the accidents. The Government have recently appointed a Joint Expert Committee to study the operational problems of Westland helicopters with a view to identifying suitable remedial measures.

Procurement of Aircraft for Indian Airlines/Air India

38. **SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the aircraft procured for the Indian Airlines and the Air India during 1988 and 1989 to replace the outdated ones;

(b) how many more aircraft are proposed to be procured for the purpose, indicating the class and category thereof; and the steps taken or being taken in that direction; and

(c) the details of the aircraft already grounded and lying with Indian Airlines and Air India and those proposed to be grounded on receipt of the replacement aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). During the years 1988 and 1989, no aircrafts were procured by either Indian Airlines or Air India to replace outdated aircraft.

For augmentation of its fleet, Indian Airlines placed orders with M/s Airbus Industries in March, 1986 for acquisition of 19 Airbus A-320 aircraft and in July, 1989, for 12 Airbus A-320 Aircrafts. Of these 31 Airbus A 320 Aircraft, 11 have already been delivered and the remaining will be delivered as follows:—

—8 by March, 1990

—6 by 1990-91

—6 by 1991-91

Air India has to augment its fleet, acquired 2 B-747-300 Combi aircraft during 1988-89 and has signed a purchase agreement for acquiring two Airbus A 310-300 Aircraft for delivery in August, 1990. Air India is also planning to procure 4 B-747-400 Combi aircraft during October-November, 1992 and October-November, 1993.

(c) None of the aircraft in Air India and Indian Airlines fleets has been grounded awaiting replacement.

Introduction of more Trains between Madras Central and Arakkonam

39. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering running of more EMU and fast passenger trains between Madras Central and Arakkonam Junction;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Constraints of resources.

Broad Gauge Rail Link between Jaipur and Khetri

40. CH. JAGDEEP DHANKHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any time bound programme to bring Jaipur and Khetri (distt. Jhunjhnu) on broad-gauge line; and

(b) if so, the present stage of implementation of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FARNANDES) : (a) and (b). The Planning Commission had desired that a Final Location Survey may be taken up for gauge conversion of Sawai Madhopur-Jaipur-Phulera-Jodhpur and Merta Road-Lalgah as a first phase for linking Jaisalmer and Barmer by broad gauge. The survey is in progress.

There is, however, no proposal at present to bring Khetri on broad gauge.

Night Landing Facilities at Raipur Aerodrome

41. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking some concrete measures for creating night landing facilities at Raipur Aerodrome; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The installation of Night Landing

Facilities is expected to be completed by May, 1990.

Construction of Double Lines and Electrification of Bandel-Katwa Section

42. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there has been a long standing demand of the people of West Bengal for the construction of double lines and electrification of the Bandel-Katwa section of Eastern Railways in order to achieve perspective industrial development and agricultural marketing; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed in this regard and the time frame laid down for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A techno-economic survey for augmentation of line capacity on this section has been taken up. Further action would be taken after the survey is completed, subject to availability of resources.

Proposal to set up Airport in each District

43. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to open airports in all the districts of the country; and

(b) whether Government propose to open an airport in Kanyakumari district?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

Stoppage of Kisan Express at Bilwai Railway Station

44. SHRI YADVENDRA DATT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kisan Express between Varansi and Jalandhar previously used to halt at Bilwai railway station is not halting there now;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to restore its stoppage at Bilwai station in view of the great public demand?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). It is proposed to restore the stoppage with effect from 1.1.1990.

Suspension of Train services between Patan and Kakoshi and Chanasma and Harij

45. SHRI KHEMCHANDBHAI SOMABHAI CHAVDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether train services were discontinued from Patan to Kakoshi and Chanasma to Harij in the Rajkot division;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to restore these train services in this backward region;

(d) if so, when; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (e). Railways were incurring heavy losses on operation of these uneconomic branch lines. Adequate road transport facilities are available to meet the traffic requirement of the people of the area.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Use of Alcohol in Petrol

46. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many countries are adding alcohol to petrol in order to give support to agriculture for better returns from farm products such as molasses, tapiaco, etc;

(b) whether Government have been

exporting alcohol and molasses;

(c) if so, whether a High Powered Committee is proposed to be set up to look into the matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Many Countries like U.S.A., Canada, Japan, Brazil and Newzealand etc., have favoured the use of surplus alcohol in admixture with petrol as fuel in automobiles mainly for purposes of reducing their import bill and reducing environmental pollution.

(b) Export of alcohol and molasses is permitted when availability exceeds the requirement within the country. The quantities of alcohol and molasses exported during the last three years are shown below:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Product</i>	<i>Quantity exported</i>
1987-88	Alcohol	Nil
	Molasses	Nil
1988-89	Alcohol	223.60 lakh litres
	Molasses	1.15 lakh tonnes
1989-90 (upto 30th Nov. 89)	Alcohol	375.00 lakh litres
	Molasses	1.71 lakh tonnes

(c) and (d). An Inter Ministerial Committee under the Chairmanship of a Joint Secretary which was set up to explore the possibilities of using alcohol as motor fuel in transport sector submitted its report in July 1989. The main conclusion of this Committee is that at present alcohols are not surplus to the requirement in sufficient quantity on a

steady basis. There is, therefore, no immediate prospect of promoting their use by blending in automotive fuels. The Committee has also concluded that alcohols basically should be used for producing value-added chemicals. These recommendations of the Committee have been accepted by the Government. In view of this, it is not proposed

to set up another Committee to look into the matter at this stage.

Railways Line from Karur to Tirunelveli

47. DR. THAMBI DURAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in laying the broad-gauge railway line linking Karur and Tirunelveli in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) the details of the proposal including allocation of funds, the expenditure incurred so far, the time schedule for the work and the time by which it would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). Broad Gauge lines on Karur-Dindigul and Tirunelveli-Maniyachchi sections have already been commissioned. At present work is in progress on providing parallel BG line between Dindigul and Madurai and after its completion work will be taken up on gauge conversion of Madurai-Maniyachchi section.

A sum of Rs. 4 crores has been allotted to this project during the current year and expenditure incurred upto 31.03.89 was Rs. 56.40 crores. No. target date has been fixed for its completion and the same will depend upon availability of sufficient resources in the coming years.

Public Sector units in Jammu and Kashmir State

48. PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether government are aware that only a small fraction of total investment in public sector is available for Jammu & Kashmir state;

(b) if so, whether any steps are proposed to increase the investment and set up

new industries in public sector in that State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Out of a total investment in terms of gross block of Rs. 82150.16 crores in the Central Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) at the end of March, 1988, Rs. 174.51 crores have been invested in the Central PSEs in the State of Jammu & Kashmir.

(b) and (c). Central Investment in Public Sector Enterprises in different parts of the country are made taking into consideration the techno-economic viability of projects while keeping in view the need for overall balanced regional development.

[*Translation*]

Adulteration in Petroleum Products

49. SHRI RAM LAL RATHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the large scale adulteration in petroleum products; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to check it and Government's policy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) While no large scale adulteration of petroleum products is reported, some cases of adulteration in petroleum products have been brought to Government's notice.

(b) The Government's policy is to supply products as per laid down specifications. Various measures have been taken to check adulteration in these products. These include:—

- (i) Implementation of Marketing Discipline Guidelines at retail outlets by the oil industry, which interalia deal with matters concerning quality control of products, steps to be taken against erring retail outlet/distributors.
- (ii) Regular and random inspections of retail outlets by joint oil industry teams with a view to curbing various malpractices and use of mobile laboratories for the same.
- (iii) Issuing of instructions to all State Govts./Union Territory Administrations to intensify checks on adulteration and other malpractices in the distribution of petroleum products in their State/UTs.
- (iv) Doping of **furfural** (a chemical additive) in kerosene at certain selected locations in the country to check adulteration of kerosene in

HSD.

[English]

New Hydro-Electric Projects on Chenab River

50. SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to start some new hydro-electric projects on River Chenab in Jammu Region; and

(b) if so, the details thereof thereof and the time by which these projects are likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). The details of the hydro-electric projects on main Chenab river in Jammu area are given in the statement below.

STATEMENT

Hydro Electric Scheme in the Chenab basin in Jammu Area

Name of Scheme	River	Installed Capacity	Remarks
1	2	3	4

A. Schemes under construction

- | Scheme Name | River | Installed Capacity | Expected date of commissioning |
|--------------|--------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Dul Hasti | Chenab | 3x130 MW | 1994-95 |
| 2. Salal-II | Chenab | 3x115 MW | 1993-94 |

B. Schemes awaiting Investment decision

- | Scheme Name | River | Installed Capacity |
|---------------------|--------|--------------------|
| 1. Sawalkot | Chenab | 3x200 MW |
| 2. Baglihar | Chenab | 3x150 MW |
| 3. Chenani II & III | Tawi | 2x1+2x2 MW |
| 4. New Rajauri | Tawi | 3x1 MW |

C. Schemes presently under techno-economic appraisal in CEA

- | Scheme Name | Capacity | Remarks |
|------------------|----------|---|
| 1. Naigad Nallah | 4x1.5 MW | Replies to comments on Planning and distribution aspects awaited from State authorities |

<i>Name of Scheme</i>	<i>River</i>	<i>Installed Capacity</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1	2	3	4
2. Bursar	Marsudar	4x255 MW	
3. Pakhal Dul	Marsudar	5x200 MW	
D. Projects under investigation in Chenab basin			
1. Lower Kalnai	Kalnai		
2. Ranja-Ala-Dunadi	Upper Kalnai Nallah		
3. Kirthai	Chenab		
4. Naunatoo	Chenab		
5. Upper Kalnai	Kalnai		
6. Lower Ans I & II	Ans		
7. Bichalary I & II	Bichalary		
8. Neeru I & II	Neeru		
9. Kalnai-Kligad	Kalnai/Kaligad		

Pending Railway Projects

51. SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to go ahead with the on-going railway projects in different States and complete them as per scheduled; and

(b) whether Government propose to give preference to the pending railway projects in various States in which the State Governments concerned are also prepared to contribute?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FENANDES): (a) The progress and completion of on-going railway projects will depend on availability of resource in the coming years.

(b) No, Sir.

Power Requirement in Delhi

52. PROF. VIJAY MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the present supply and requirement of power in the capital;

(b) the incidents of load shedding during the last two years and the reasons therefor;

(c) the effective remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken for the smooth supply of power in Delhi;

(d) whether any perspective plan has been prepared to meet the increasing power requirement of growing population in Delhi; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which action for its implementation will be taken?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). The requirement and supply of power in the capital for the period April to November, 1989 is as follows:-

<i>Requirement</i>	<i>Availability</i>	<i>Shortage</i>
5340 MU	5281 MU	59 MU (1.1%)

The power supply position in Delhi is by and large satisfactory. Load shedding is effected in the capital only in the event of multiple outages of generating units, unsatisfactory system parameters and to avoid grid collapse due to dangerously low voltage levels. Total load shedding of about 135 million units was carried out in the capital during the last two years.

(c) to (e). In order to augment the supply of electricity in Delhi, steps have been taken to improve the performance of the Indraprastha and Badarpur Thermal Power Sta-

tion, strengthening of the transmission & distribution system and establishment of 135 MW capacity at Rajghat Thermal Power Station. In addition, the National Capital Power Project (840 MW) is also being set-up to meet the long-term power requirement of Delhi. A 600 MW gas based project at Dadri and installation of 3X30 MW waste heat recovery units at the existing gas turbines in the Indraprastha Power Station are also envisaged. Both the units of the Rajghat Thermal Power station (2x67.5 MW) have been synchronized and are expected to give regular generation by January/February,

1990. The Thermal Power Station at Dadri (840 MW) is likely to be completed in 1991-92.

Regular flight to Dimapur

53. SHRI SHIKIHO SEMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether regular flight to Dimapur (Nagaland) has been disrupted;

(b) if so, when the flight will be resumed;

(c) whether Government propose to take any steps to provide Delhi-Dimapur connecting flight; and

(d) if so, when it is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). With effect from the 18th of December, 1989, Indian Airlines has restored the daily B-737 service between Calcutta and Dimapur via Guwahati.

(c) There is no such proposal at present. Passengers desirous of travelling from Delhi to Dimapur have been provided a daily connection at Guwahati.

(d) Does not arise.

Industrial sickness in West Bengal

54. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of industrial sickness in West Bengal;

(b) whether Government have examined several proposals for the industrial rejuvenation and revival of sick units in the State; and

(c) if so, at what stages those proposals rest now?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The data on sick industrial units in the country is collected and compiled by Reserve Bank of India. As per the latest information available from RBI, the number of sick units and Non-SSI Sick units in West Bengal is 21,409 and 151 respectively as at the end of December, 1987.

(b) and (c). Whenever proposals are received by the Government for revival of sick units, they are examined on merits with reference to the policy guidelines on sick industries. For tackling sickness in the Non-SSI sector, Government have enacted a comprehensive legislation namely "The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985". A quasi-judicial body designated as 'The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR)' has been set up under the Act to deal with the problem of sick industrial companies in an effective manner. BIFR has become operational with effect from 15th May, 1987. BIFR, after hearing the parties concerned, approves the rehabilitation package for the sick unit or recommends winding up, depending upon the viability of the unit. The details of the sick units of West Bengal registered with BIFR and action taken on them is given in the statement below.

Twenty Eight sick industrial units of West Bengal were taken over under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 and a statement showing the details of their present status is given in the Statement II below.

In so far as tackling sickness in the small scale sector is concerned, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to initiate measures for arresting industrial sickness. However, Government of India also give certain reliefs and concessions for the rehabilitation of sick SSI industrial units.

They are as follows:-

- (1) Government of India introduced a Margin Money Scheme with a view to supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in reducing the incidence of sickness in the small scale sector. Under the liberalised scheme the maximum amount of assistance per unit available to sick small scale units for rehabilitation has been increased from Rs. 20,000/- to Rs. 50,000 per unit.
- (2) Financial assistance is also available to potentially viable sick SSI units in the small scale sector from the National Equity Fund up in August, 1987 in the Industrial Development Bank of India.
- (3) A small Industries Development Bank of India is being established to function as an apex Bank for tiny and small scale industries. This Bank will function as the principal financial institution for the promotion, financing and development of industrial concerns in small scale sector and shall also coordinate

the function of institutions engaged in promoting, financing and developing industrial concerns in the small scale sector. The authorised capital of this Bank will be of the order of Rs. 250 crores and will be subscribed by the IDBI.

- (4) An Excise Relief Scheme for weak units has also been announced. The Scheme would apply to any unit in which 50% or more of the maximum net worth in any of the previous five accounting years has been eroded by accumulated losses. The unit should have a rehabilitation, modernisation or diversification package approved by a designated financial institution. The eligible unit would be entitled to an interest free loan, with a grace period of 3 years and repayable over seven years, amounting to 50% of its actual excise payments for three years subsequent to the approval of the scheme. The total amount given by way of such 'excise loans' will not exceed 25% of the overall cost of rehabilitation/modernisation/diversification package.

STATEMENT I

Details of the sick units of West Bengal registered with BIFR as at the end of June 1989

	<i>No. of cases</i>
1.. Scheme Sanctioned	4.
2. Approval accorded to the Company under Section 17 (2) of the Act, to proceed with their own scheme for revival	11
3. Cases dismissed as not maintainable	9
4. Recommended for winding up of the concerned High Courts	5

		<i>No. of cases</i>
5.	Draft scheme circulated	7
6.	Winding up notices issued inviting suggestions/objections	12
7.	Cases under different stages of process	46
Total		94

STATEMENT II

Details of 28 Sick Industrial Units taken over under industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951 in West Bengal

1.	Nc. of units nationalised by the Central Government	6
2.	No. of units nationalised by the State Government of West Bengal	10
3.	No. of Units denotified	6
4.	No. of units being operated under the (D&R) Act, 1951.	6*
Total		28

* This includes the case of M/s Bengal Potteries Ltd. On a Writ petition filed by workers and Others, Calcutta High Court stayed the implementation of the denotification order of the Government dated 30.10.1987.

More Facility at Boisor Railway Stations

55. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Boisor Railway station in Western Railway is lacking in passenger facilities like toilet for women;

(b) if so, the reasons for not providing it, though thousands of lady commuters travel daily from this station;

(c) the date by which the facility would be provided?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

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

Laying of Railway line between Dindigul and Tuticorin

56. SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in laying a railway line between Dindigul and Tuticorin in the Southern Railway;

(b) the principal reason for the delay, if

any, in completing the work; and

(c) the allocation for the said work during 1989-90?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Work of providing rail line between Dindigul and Tuticorin forms part of Karur-Dindigul-Madurai-Maniyachchi-Tuticorin/Talaiyuthu project. The progress made is as follows:

PHASE I

State (i): Parallel BG line between Talaiyuthu-

Milavittan : COMPLETED.

Stage (ii) New BG rail line between Karur and Dindigul : COMPLETED.

Stage (iii) Parallel BG line between Dindigul and Madurai : WORK IN PROGRESS.

Phase II: Gauge conversion of Madurai-Maniyachchi MG section into BG : will be taken up after completion of Phase I.

(b) Constraints in resources.

(c) Rs. 4 crores.

Fly-over at Jaipur-Keonjhar Road junction

57. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in construction of fly over bridge at Jaipur-Keonjhar Road Station (S.E. Railway); and

(b) the quantum of funds released, targeted date of completion and the action taken or proposed to be taken to provide

adequate funds to expedite the projects?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The plans and estimate for the work have been finalised. The tender work has been taken in hand by the Railways.

(b) An outlay of Rs. 10 lakhs has been provided for the work during the current year. Adequate funds will be allotted for the work commensurate with the investment and progressing of work by the State Government on the bridge approaches. The target time for the completion of the work is June, '91 which will, however, mainly depend on the completion of the bridge approaches by the State Government.

Power Rates in Delhi

58. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether power rates in Delhi are proposed to be further increased and if so, the details thereof indicating the existing rates, revised rates and the percentage hike in respect of different categories of power supplies in different areas under NDMC and MCD;

(b) the reasons for such a increase; and

(c) the estimated loss incurred due to power theft during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). The power rates in Delhi were last revised in April, 1985. A statement indicating the existing tariff which is the same in NDMC and MCD areas is given below. The DESU has been facing huge revenue deficits year after year due to the all round increase in the cost of inputs and operational expenses, without any corresponding increase in its tariff. With

a view to off-set the deficit, the DESU has proposed increase in power tariffs for approval of the Delhi Electric Supply Committee/Municipal Corporation of Delhi. However the details of the tariff have not so far been worked out by DESU.

(c) The total transmission and distribution losses in the DESU system during the last 3 years are as follows:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>% of loss</i>
1987-88	28.33%
1988-89	21.10%
1989-90	17.6%

The transmission and distribution losses consist the technical losses and commercial losses due to piffrage or theft of power. It is not possible to segregate theft of energy from the total transmission losses.

STATEMENT

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Rate Paise/Unit</i>
1	2	3
1.	<i>Domestic</i>	
2.	(a) Lighting, fan and power on first 100 unit per month.	27
	On next 100 unit per month.	32
	On consumption above 200 unit per month	75
	(b) Domestic power (where delivered on a separate meter for entire consumption)	75
2.	<i>Non-domestic</i>	
	(a) Low Tension (Mixed Load)	89
	(b) High Tension (Mixed Load)	Rs. 40/- p.m. per KVA plus 67 paise/unit.
3.	<i>Industrial</i>	
	(a) Small industrial power	75
	(b) Large industrial power	Rs. 40/Rs. 38 per KVA plus 85 paise/unit
4.	<i>Agriculture</i>	
	For entire consumption	15
5.	<i>Street lighting</i>	60

1	2	3
	(energy charges)	
	(For entire consumption)	
6.	<i>Night Load-tariff</i>	
	For entire consumption	40
7.	<i>Railway traction</i>	
	(66 KV supply)	85

Oil Production

60. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to step up oil production during the Eighth Plan period;

(b) if so, whether any specific scheme has been drawn up therefor; and

(c) the target set for oil production in Eighth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The tentative target for the crude oil production in the terminal year of 8th Plan, i.e. 1994-95, is about 50 million tonnes. The Eighth Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised.

Gas Production

61. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to increase the production of gas;

(b) if so, what are new gas deposit areas discovered during 1989-90 so far;

(c) the approximate gas deposit in those areas; and

(d) the specific steps proposed to be taken to step up gas yield in those areas?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) The objective of the Government is to increase the production of natural gas and its utilisation. As against the production of about 22 MMCMD of natural gas at the starting of the VIIth Plan period, it is expected to be about 40 MMCMD in the terminal year of the plan period.

(b) to (d). ONGC have discovered gas deposits in the following areas during 1989-90:

B-119 structure in Bombay Offshore, GK-29A in Kutch Kutch Offshore and Adiyakkamangalam in Cauvery Offshore basin. In B-119 structure approximately 1.5 billion M3 of gas deposits have been established, assessment of other structures are under way.

Oil India Ltd. have discovered gas at the Tanot area in Rajasthan. Present estimates indicate in place reserves of the order of 2 billion cubic metres.

All these structures are under delineation.

Refinery Unit in Kaveri River basin

62. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Madras Refinery Ltd. proposes to set up a refinery unit in the Kaveri river basin for processing the crude oil available from the wells there;

(b) whether Government also propose to set up gas bottling plant unit near the Kaveri basin; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c). Madras Refineries Ltd. (MRL) have submitted a Detailed Feasibility Report for setting up facilities for the distillation of 500,000 tonnes per annum of crude oil and separation of 16500 tonnes per annum of LPG from associated gas in the Cauvery basin. The project is estimated to cost Rs. 104.4 crores.

At present there is no proposal to set up a bottling plant near the Kaveri basin; the LPG available from the above separation unit is proposed for bottling in the existing nearby Bottling Plants such as Tuticorin.

Reservation Quota at Nagpur Railway Station

63. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is persistent demand for an increase in the reservation quota of different trains connecting Nagpur Railway Station;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to accede to the demand; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Some requests have been received.

(b) and (c). The reservation quotas at various stations are reviewed periodically based on the availability of reserved accommodation on trains and the demand pattern. Due to limited availability of accommodation and heavy pressure on quotas at other stations, at present there is no proposal to enhance the quotas at Nagpur.

Shuttle Trains between Nagpur and Badnera

64. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations to introduce a shuttle train between Nagpur and Badnera; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Presently not found feasible due to resource constraints.

International Status to Nagpur Airport

65. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide international status to Nagpur Airport in the near future;

(b) if so, when and the details of facilities likely to be provided at the Nagpur Airport; and

(c) the other steps taken by Government to modernise the Nagpur Airport?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The work on the installation of Air Routes Surveillance Radar at Nagpur Airport is now in progress. The National Airports Authority has further planned to modernise the Nagpur Airport by installing an Automatic Message Switch System and development of the runway, apron and terminal building to make it suitable for Boeing 747 operation.

Casual Employees in Railways

66. SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of casual employees in the Railways during each of the last three years and the current year and also the number of dismissed in the same period;

(b) how many of the dismissed ones, were re-employed after some time;

(c) whether Government have received representations from Trade Unions regarding the problem of casual employees; and

(d) if so, the salient points and the Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). The strength of casual labour on Railways during the last four years is as under:

(in Lakhs)

As on			
1.4.1986	1.4.1987	1.4.1988	1.4.1989
2.16	2.05	2.02	1.92

(Figures are approximate)

Presumably reference is to cases of retrenchment of casual labour for want of work and their re-engagement on reavailability of work. Information in this regard excluding those casual labour who are engaged only for a limited period for seasonal work like monsoon patrolling, summer watermen etc. for the years 1985-86, 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 is being collected from the Railway Administrations and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The main demands are that all casual labour should be absorbed in regular employment, retirement benefits should be made available to casual labour in full and the benefit of Group Insurance Scheme should also be given to casual labour.

The position in regard to these demands is that casual labour continue to be absorbed

in regular employment against normal vacancies arising from time to time depending upon eligibility and suitability. In addition about 52,000 posts have been created under the decasualisation scheme to absorb casual labour. It is, however, not possible to absorb all casual labour straight-way regardless of availability of vacancies and other relevant considerations.

Casual Labour are entitled to pensionary benefits on absorption in regular employment whereafter half the period of employment after attaining temporary status is reckoned for pensionary benefits. It has not been found feasible to liberalise these provisions.

The Group Insurance Scheme for Central Government Employees is applicable only to employees in regular employment. It does not apply to casual labour

Report of Inter-Ministerial Committee on Central incentive schemes for industrial development of backward areas

67. SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state;

(a) whether consideration of the recommendations made by the Inter-Ministerial Committee constituted to review and revise the Central incentive schemes for the industrial development of backward areas in its report submitted in December 1986 has been completed;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and the action proposed to be taken thereon; and

(c) the salient recommendations made by the Committee?

THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c). The Inter-Ministerial Committee's recommendations inter-alia deal with:-

- (a) Establishment of growth centres.
- (b) Identification of backward districts.
- (c) Revision of existing Central Incentive Scheme.

The Government has taken the following decisions which have a bearing on the main recommendations of the Inter-Ministerial Committee:

- (i) The Central Investment Subsidy Scheme has been discontinued with effect from 1.10.1988;
- (ii) A scheme to set up 100 new growth centres all over the country endowed with necessary infrastructural facilities in respect of power, water, telecommunication and banking has been announced.

The recommendations of the Inter-Ministerial Committee will be examined in the light of decisions already taken.

Jaldhara Scheme

68. SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of ISI marked energy efficient electric pumpsets installed during 1988-89 under the Jaldhara Scheme against the targeted number and the number of pumpsets actually energised so far;

(b) the State-wise, number of marginal and poor farmers in the drought prone areas who have been benefited from this scheme; and

(c) the total amount spent on the scheme, so far?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Under the Jaldhara Scheme, which was launched in 1988-89, 13 States have been identified where 50000 pumpset connections are to be released to the marginal and poor farmers in drought prone areas. Schemes in five States, namely Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and West Bengal covering a target of energization of 17958 pumpsets, were sanctioned during 1988-89. As the Jaldhara Scheme was cleared for implementation only in the last week of January, 1989, no progress was achieved in energization of pumpsets during 1988-89. Upto November, 1989, 1055 number ISI marked pumpsets have been energized.

(b) The statewise number of marginal and poor farmers under the drought prone areas who have benefited by the scheme are as given under:-

(1) Andhra Pradesh	378
(2) Orissa	677
	1055

(c) The Rural Electrification Corporation has released Rs. 6.03 crores as grant towards installation of 17958 pumpsets in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and West Bengal.

Industrial growth centres in Kerala

69. **SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial growth centres allocated to the State of Kerala;

(b) the districts in the State where

growth centres are proposed to be set up; and

(c) the allocation made for each of them?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c). Under the new growth centres scheme, Kerala has been allocated two growth centres, which are proposed to be set up in the districts of Alleppey and Cannanore. Each growth centre would be provided with funds of the order of Rs. 25-30 crores.

Vayudoot Services to Calicut

70. **SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the stations connected to Calicut Airport by Vayudoot service;

(b) whether these flights have been regular over the past three months;

(c) if not, the main reasons for irregularity; and

(d) whether Government propose to connect Calicut to any more Vayudoot stations and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) The stations connected by Vayudoot services operating to and through Calicut are as follows:

1. Madras; 2. Bangalore; 3. Trivandrum; 4. Cochin; 5. Agatti

(b) and (c). Vayudoot flights operating to and through Calicut were regular during the months of September & November, 1989. However, during the month of October, 1989, 5 flights were cancelled due to non-availabil-

ity of aircrafts.

(d) No. Sir.

Air Service Between Calicut and Gulf Countries

71. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

(a) where there is any proposal to connect Calicut Airport with any of the Gulf countries in view of the large number of Gulf passengers from the Malabar region of Kerala; and

(b) whether Government also propose to connect Calicut to the other airports in India from which international flights are operating and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Calicut is already linked with Bombay and Madras from where international flights are operated.

Development of Palghat-Mangalore Section

72. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme for the development of railways from Palghat to Mangalore in Kerala; if so, the details thereof;

(b) the total allocation during the current year for developmental work in Palghat Division; and

(c) what portion of the allocation has already been utilised and for what projects?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c). Information is not maintained section-wise or Division-wise. However, the detailed information about projects on Southern Railway is available in the Budget documents.

Conversion of Manmad-Aurangabad Section

73. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether conversion work of Manmad-Aurangabad railway line has been delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) when the work is expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (c). Manmad-Aurangabad is a part of the gauge conversion project 'Manmad-Parbhani-Parli Vaijnath' already approved. This section has been given priority. The progress of the work is commensurate with the allocation of resources. During the current financial year, Rs. 15 crores have been allocated for this project. Its completion will depend on availability of resources in the coming years.

Railway Link between Darwah Moti Bagh and Bhokar in Maharashtra

74. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Darwah Moti Bagh to Bhokar broadgauge line in Maharashtra was surveyed; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The proposed BG line 182 km long was estimated to cost Rs. 156 crores with a negative rate of return. The project could not, therefore, be considered for being taken up.

White Paper on Public Sector

75. SHRI SHANKERSINH VEGHELA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the time since the proposal for bringing out a White Paper on Public Sector has been under consideration;

(b) the aim in view behind the proposal; and

(c) when the White Paper is to be placed before the House?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The proposal to bring out a White Paper on Public Sector has been under consideration since March, 1987.

(b) The aim behind the proposal is to further improve the working of public sector enterprises as well as enhance their autonomy and make them accountable for results.

(c) The proposal is still under consideration of the Government.

Tidal Power Project in Gulf of Kutch

76. SHRI SHANKERSINH VEGHELA:
DR. A.K. PATEL:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any techno-economic evaluation of feasibility report was carried out for the tidal power project in Gulf of Kutch;

(b) if so, the findings thereof and the decision taken thereon; and

(c) whether such projects in other coastal places have also been considered and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) The techno-economic evaluation of the feasibility report for the Tidal Project in Gulf of Kutch has been carried out. However, the scheme was not yet been techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority.

(b) During the course of the techno-economic evaluation of the feasibility report, it was considered necessary to carry out further investigations and studies on certain aspects of the project to arrive at a final decision. These are under progress.

(c) Such projects in other coastal places have not been considered so far.

Introduction of Vayudoot Flights to Pilani/Jhunjhunu

77. CH. JAGDEEP DHANKHAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to bring Pilani and/or Jhunjhunu on the air map by introducing Vayudoot flights to these areas; and

(b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Budge-Budge-Namkhana Railway Line

78. SHRI RADHIKA RANJAN PRAMANIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in construction of Budge Budge-Namkhana railway line (W.B.); and

(b) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). The project, as approved, is for construction of a BG line from Lakshmikantapur to Namkhana. Construction work has been taken up in the first block section from Lakshmikantapur to Kulpi and the progress is 7%. Completion will depend upon availability of resources in the coming years.

Chari Committee Report

79. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the recommendations/observations made by the Chari Committee in its report 'Issues in Coal';

(b) whether views of Government have been finalised; and

(c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Briefly, the salient feature of the report are:-

1. Though the coal production has increased, the objective of nationalisation cannot be said to have been fully achieved.

2. Massive investments in import of technology and equipment have not reduced cost of production.

3. Import of coking coal can and should be avoided by improving the performance of washeries and delink-

ing the suspect sources of supply.

4. Quality base for statistical report should be in terms of standard coal.
5. Concept of OMS should include all inputs instead of manpower alone.
6. Undue emphasis on opencast mining should be avoided.
7. Gradewise price structure needs to be rationalised.
8. Exploration should be demand based and not project based for creating a shelf of projects from which a choice could be made base on least cost options.
9. Getting land, sand for stowing, adequate power, timely supply of equipments, delay in environmental clearance are some of the major problems.
10. In order to achieve the desired production level by 2000 AD, the projects need to be planned from today, considering the long gestation period.
11. Jharia Reconstruction project should include proper definition of scope for proper utilisation of coals from lower seams.
12. 'Decontrol' of coal has certain positive aspects that may commend its adoption.
13. Board of Directors of Coal India Ltd. needs to be reorganised and subsidiary companies should be freed from interference by holding company. Executives should be permitted extension till the age of 65 years.

(b) and (c). As per procedure prescribed, Advisory Board on Energy considered the report and submitted its recommendations to the Special Committee of Secretaries. The recommendations/observations made by the Special Committee of Secretaries have been received and are under consideration.

Performance of Central Public Sector Enterprises

80. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment on the performance of the central public sector enterprises during 1989;

(b) if so, the performance of each central public sector enterprise during the year in terms of profit, production resource mobilisation and employment generation; and

(c) the details of the steps proposed to be taken to improve the performance of those enterprises?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). Performance of Central Public Sector Enterprises based on their Audited Accounts for the year 1988-89 is being compiled/ assessed and will be available in the Public Enterprises Survey to be presented to the House in the Budget Session 1990.

(c) The steps taken for performance improvement of the Central Public Sector Enterprises are given at page 174 of Volume-I of Public Enterprises Survey 1987-88.

Modernisation Plan for Hindustan Cables Ltd.

81. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have rejected a modernisation plan for the Hindustan Cables Limited unit at Rupnarainpur;

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

(c) whether in that event the factory may face a closure and about 3000 workers might be retrenched; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

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

Indian Airlines Engineers Strike

82. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:
SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the engineers of the Indian Airlines went on a long strike recently resulting in cancellation of a number of flights;

(b) if so, what are their demands and what steps were taken by Government to settle the strike; and

(c) the estimated loss incurred by the Indian Airlines thereby?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Aircraft Engineers of Indian Airlines represented by the All India Aircraft Engineers' Association

were on strike with effect from 7th of November, 1989 to the 6th of December, 1989.

(b) The Association neither gave requisite notice nor put forward any specific demand before the management of Indian Airlines prior to their resorting to the strike. Efforts were made to make the Aircraft Engineers call off their strike both through direct contact with the office bearers of the Association and through conciliation before the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central).

(c) The estimated loss of profit during the period of strike works out to approximately Rs. 8.60 crores.

Exploration for Gas in Rajasthan

83. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take up fresh areas for exploration of gas in some of regions of Rajasthan during the Eighth Plan period; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Oil and Natural Gas Commission plans to take up some areas in Shahgarh sub-basin, Miajalar sub-basin and Jaisalmer arch for exploration in VIIIth Plan period in Rajasthan.

In addition to intensifying exploratory drilling in the already explored area of Jaisalmer basin Oil India Ltd. also proposes to take up exploratory drilling in the Bikaner-Nagaur Basin in Rajasthan during VIIIth Plan period. This is, however, subject to the programmes being finally included in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

Petroleum Prices

84. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether oil companies have demanded that for calculating petroleum prices, their capital base should be arrived at after taking into account the requirements of modernisation, replacement and expansion; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b). The Oil Industry Finance Secretariat on behalf of the refining and marketing oil companies has submitted an AIDE-MEMOIRE to the Government on incentives to the Oil Industry with the request that the same be examined by the Oil Price Review Committee. The Aide—Momoire inter-alia requests that in computing return on investment, the replacement cost of fair current value should be adopted in lieu of the historical cost while valuing the assets of oil companies in order to provide sufficient return. It has also been requested that compensation for the repairs may be allowed to refineries at an appropriate rate on the replacement cost of refineries, as, presently there is no mechanism to allow compensation for large scale replacement and renewals. The AIDE—MEMOIRE has been referred to the Oil Price Review Committee as per the request made therein.

Oil Refinery and Petro-Chemical Complex at Mangalore

85. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:
SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA
NARASIMHARAJA
WADIYAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a final decision to set up oil refinery and petro-chemical complex at Mangalore has been taken;

(b) whether project reports in this regard have been submitted; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). HPCL has submitted a Detailed Project Report for setting up 3.0 million tonnes per annum refinery and integrated petrochemical complex for producing 2,50,000 tonnes per year of Ethylene at Mangalore at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,540 crores.

Reimbursement to Petroleum Refineries

86. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's decision to make reimbursement to the petroleum refineries for the increase in the cess on crude oil only at the end of Financial year is resulting in liquidity problem for some of the refineries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b). Oil Coordination Committee has working arrangements with the oil refineries on adjustments in the pool account with reference to the existing pricing mechanism. It is being ensured that the oil refineries do not face undue liquidity problems.

[*Translation*]

Night Air Service from Ranchi and Patna

87. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start a night air service of Indian Airlines from Ranchi and Patna;

(b) if so, the time by which steps are proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Indian Airlines proposes to start air services after sun-set from Ranchi. It is already operating air services after sun-set from Patna.

(b) and (c). Though the Night Landing Facilities are available at Ranchi airport, frequent damage to runway light fittings and theft of associated systems has not made it possible to maintain the high intensity runway lights 100% serviceable. The assistance of the local administration is resolving the problem has been sought for at a high level.

Special Programme for Industrialisation of Bihar

88. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give priority to Bihar in the matter of industrial development through their special programmes during the Eighth Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c). It will be the endeavour of the Government to remove regional imbalances in industrial development during the Eighth Five Year Plan. The Plan is, however, yet to be formulated.

Modernisation of Bihar Sharif Railway Station

89. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to modernise Bihar Sharif railway station in Nalanda District in Bihar which connects tourist places of international importance like Bihar Sharif, Rajgrih, Nalanda and Pawapuri, during the Eighth Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Amenities provided at Bihar Sharif Railway Station are considered adequate, as per norms, based on the volume of traffic dealt with.

Introduction of Train between Narkatiyaganj and Hazipur

90. SHRI HUKMDEO NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations for introducing a train from Narkatiyaganj to Hazipur and to make improvements in Janaki Express; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Introduction of direct meter gauge train between Narkatiyaganj and Hazipur is not feasible due to resource constraints and lack of traffic justification in the context of fast road services after opening of Gandhi Setu Road Bridge. Provision of AC sleeper on Janaki Exp. is also presently feasible due to shortage.

Action is being taken to ensure regular running of 1st Class Coach on Janaki Express.

Modernisation of Sitamarhi Railway Station

91. SHRI HUKMDEO NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations for the modernisation of Sitamarhi (Bihar) railway station and for providing accommodation for the passengers there; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Amenities at stations are provided, as per norms, based on the volume of traffic dealt with. Adequate passenger amenities are available at this station, as per norms. Keeping in view the importance of the station, action is being taken to extend the cover over the platform and the work in this regard is likely to be completed in 1990.

Appointment of Lawyers on Railways

92. SHRI HUKMDEO NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of lawyers appointed by his Ministry during the last three years for dealing with litigation cases on various railway zones;

(b) the number of cases assigned to each of those lawyers and the amount of fee paid, year-wise;

(c) whether Government have fixed any criteria for allotment of cases and payment of fees to those lawyers;

(d) if so, whether such criteria have been uniformly followed in the allotment of cases and making payment of fee; and

(e) if not, the cases where deviation made and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Closure of Sales Office of IDPL at Calcutta

93. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sales office of the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL) in Calcutta has been closed down; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) The Regional Sales Office of Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited at Calcutta has not been closed down, but has to be locked out temporarily from 20.8.1989 to 20.11.1989 due to some labour problem.

(b) Does not arise.

Alleppey-Kayankulam Railway Line

94. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on the Alleppey-Kayankulam railway lines in Kerala is going on as per Schedule;

(b) the details of work remains to be completed; and

(c) the date by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 64% of work is yet to be done.

(c) 1991-92 subject to availability of funds.

International Airports

95. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to declare any airports a international airports; and

(b) if so, whether the Trivandrum airport is also being considered in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. However, international flights to Colombo, Maldives and Gulf are already being operated by Air Indian and Indian Airlines from to Trivandrum.

Resource Mobilisation Railway Projects

96. PROF P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to involve the public in mobilising resource for taking up/completing important railway project in the country

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of such project in Kerala which are proposed to be included in this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir,

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

[*Translation*]

Mini Hydel Project in Uttar Pradesh

97. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any comprehensive survey has been made to explore the possibilities of construction of mini hydel projects in hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the number of projects surveyed or proposed to be surveyed, district-wise in these areas; and

(c) the details of amount spent on these projects?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has undertaken a survey for mini hydel development in the hilly areas and a number of micro and mini hydel projects are already under implementation. This being a State subject, the

details of these projects and new projects planned to be taken up by the State Government have been requested for and will be placed on the table of House when received.

Dhauli Ganga Project (U.P)

98. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of Dhauli Ganga project in Uttar Pradesh has been cleared from environment angle and if so, when;

(b) the amount allotted during the current financial year for the construction of the project; and

(c) whether the construction of the project is likely to be completed during the Eighth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Dhauli-ganga HE Project, Stage-I was cleared from the environmental angle in April, 1989.

(b) A budget provision of Rs. 10 crores exists for the project during the current financial year.

(c) No Sir.

Formulation of Solar Energy Scheme

99. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme to harness solar energy sources extensively in those parts of the country where supply of electricity through transmission lines is costly and transmission loss are also more; and

(b) if so, the details of this scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). A large number of solar photovoltaic systems have been installed in unelectrified villages as part of the solar photovoltaic programme of the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources. The system already installed include about 23000 street lights, 1100 water pumping systems, 590 community lighting/TV systems, 1500 domestic lighting units, and a few small Solar Power stations; these systems cover over 5500 villages and hamlets in 23 states and 3 Union Territories. The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has proposed expansion of the Programme so as to supply power from solar and other renewable energy sources extensively to villages and parts of the country where supply of electricity through transmission lines is costly and transmission losses are high. The extent of implementation of this proposal will depend on the funds made available.

Amalgamation of Indian Airlines and Air India

100. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for amalgamation Indian Airlines and Air India to be incorporated as single public undertaking; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Punctuality of Trains Running Between Delhi and Orissa

101. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons due to which the punctuality of superfast/express trains from Delhi to Orissa and vice-versa is not being maintained; and

(b) the corrective measures proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Alarm chain pulling, accidents and certain equipment failures.

(b) Intensive chasing and round the clock monitoring.

Rajdhani Type Trains to Orissa

102. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to introduce Rajdhani type trains connecting Delhi which Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir,
(b) Does not arise.

Petrochemical Project at Haldia

103. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of petrochemical project at Haldia in West Bengal; and

(b) when the project is expected to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY) (a) and (b). Industrial approvals have been given for the setting up of a petrochemical complex at Haldia in West Bengal. The implementation period for such projects is normally 3 to 4 years.

Bakreswar Thermal Power Plant, West Bengal

104. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to extend necessary helps to Bakreswar Thermal Power Plan in West Bengal;

(b) whether Government will allow the West Bengal Government to utilise foreign financial help for the project; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). The Bakreswar Thermal Power Project is being implemented in the State Sector. Any request from the Government of West Bengal to avail of external financial assistance would be considered in accordance with the policies in force.

Howrah-Amta Railway Line

105. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Howrah-Amta broadgauge line is not getting the necessary funds for construction since 1972;

(b) whether Government propose to construct the line early; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c). The Howrah-Amta/Champadanga (74 km) BG line project was approved in 1974-75. The first 24 km upto Bargachia had been commissioned in 1984. Funds for the remaining portions could not be allocated due to severe constraint of resources. The State Government has now been requested to make available land required for Howrah-Amta section.

Pending Railway Projects in West Bengal

106. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the pending railway projects in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the names of those Projects and how long they are pending;

(c) whether Government propose to construct those projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Eklakhi-Balurghat and Howrah-Amta/Champadanga BG line Projects are pending since 1984.

(c) and (d). This would depend on the availability of resources in the coming years.

**Thermal Power Project in Kanyakumari,
Tamil Nadu**

107. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish a thermal power station in Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). No proposal in regard to the setting up of a thermal power station in the Kanyakumari district in Tamil Nadu has been received in the Central Electricity Authority.

**Extension of Tanda-Akbarpur shuttle
upto Jaunpur**

108. SHRI YADVENDRA DATTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to extend the Tanda-Akbarpur shuttle upto Jaunpur so as to serve the entire area between Akbarpur and Jaunpur in view of a great public demand of the area; and

(b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Gas Based Power Station at Mehsana
in Gujarat**

109. SHRI KHEMCHANDBHAI SOMABHAI CHAVDA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage

of electricity in Gujarat;

(b) whether there is availability of Natural Gas in Mehsana District for the location of a gas based power station; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to meet the shortage of electricity in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Supply of Gas to Thermal Power
Station in Gujarat**

110. SHRI KHEMCHANDBHAI SOMABHAI CHAVDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wells producing crude oil and associated gas or only natural gas in north Gujarat;

(b) whether gas produced by these wells is not utilised to the extent possible; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to supply the gas to the gas based thermal power station in North Gujarat to meet the shortage of electricity in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) As on 1.11.1989 there were 916 wells producing crude oil and associated gas or only free gas in the North Gujarat fields of ONGC.

(b) Natural Gas produced from these wells is utilised to the extent possible, except for low pressure gas which requires compression, and when the consumers fail to

use the committed quantity of gas.

(c) ONGC have committed supply of 0.4 million cubic metres of gas per day from the North Gujarat to Ahmedabad Electric Supply Company for their proposed power station at Vatva. All the low pressure gas from North Gujarat will be compressed and supplied to this power station.

Utilisation of Wind Energy

111. SHRIP.R.KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a tremendous scope for utilisation of wind energy in the country;

(b) the details of the actual utilisation thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for utilisation of wind energy on a larger scale?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). A preliminary estimate has indicated a total wind power potential of over 20,000 MW in the country. Tamil Nadu and Gujarat appear to be well endowed States but significant potential is also likely in other parts of the country. Wind farm projects of capacity 10.10 MW have already been established in six states. These projects are generating on an average over 15 million units annually. Nearly 2500 windpumps have also been installed in 23 States. Wind battery chargers and stand-alone wind electric systems are under installation in different parts of the country. Wind survey projects are in progress in 19 States/ Union Territories.

(c) Additional wind farm projects of aggregate capacity 24.10 MW are under installation, including 10 MW projects each in Tamil Nadu and Gujarat. The Working

Group on New and Renewable Energy Programmes has recommended the establishment of 1500 MW wind power capacity and 10,000 windpumps during the Eighth Five Year Plan. The perspective Plan for Non-Conventional Energy Sources has indicated a total wind Power capacity of %5000 MW and 50,000 windpumps by 2000-01. The actual extent of utilisation will depend on the availability of financial resources.

LPG Connections in Salem District of Tamil Nadu

112. SHRIP.R.KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are over 12,000 applications on the waiting list for LPG connections in Salem district of Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to meet the demand and the target date fixed therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Enhancement of indigenous production and augmentation of imports by improving port facilities are being undertaken to meet the demand.

Acquisition of Aircraft by Vayudoot

113. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is tremendous shortage of Aircraft with Vayudoot ;

(b) if so, whether there are any plans to acquire/purchase aircraft from foreign sources; and

(c) whether tenders/negotiations are taking place and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) The aircraft capacity available with Vayudoot at present is normally adequate to sustain the existing level of operations. The temporary lose of capacity due to unforeseen groundings, however, affects the operations at time.

(b) and (c). To meet the capacity requirement for the planned expansion and to replace the ageing turbo-prop fleet and thus ensure better services, Vayudoot proposes to induct new generation 50 plus seats aircraft. The details have not yet been firmed up.

Delay in departure of flights of Indian Airlines

114. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about the general complaints regarding frequent delay in departure and cancellation of flights of Indian Airlines, causing great hardship to the passengers, besides financial losses to the Airlines;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in departure of different types of aircraft of the Indian Airlines by more than one hour during the current year till 30 November, 1989;

(c) the details of cancellation of flights of different Aircrafts of Indian Airlines with their reasons during the said period;

(d) the financial losses involved due to

the cancellation of flights; and

(e) the concrete steps taken or being taken to improve preventive maintenance of aircrafts to avoid such delay/cancellation of flights?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the current financial year till 30th November, 1989, in Indian Airlines, approximately 8% delays were on account of aircraft maintenance and handling, 8% due to inclement weather, airport facilities and other reason attribute to functioning of other agencies and the remaining 84% delays were consequential delays.

(c) Out of a total of 2108 cancellations during the current financial year, upto 30th of November, 1989, which makes 2.4% of the total departures, 130 flights were cancelled due to aircraft maintenance and handling, 803 due to weather, misc. and other reasons and 1175 flights were cancelled due to consequential reasons.

(d) It is not possible to quantify the loss due to cancellations of flights as on such occasions, large number of passengers travel by alternate schedule services of Indian Airlines. However, Indian Airlines incurs expenditure of passengers towards hotel accomodation, food and transportation. The expenditure on this account during 1989-90 (upto November, 1989) is estimated at Rs. 2.95 crores.

(e) A preventive maintenance programme based on the manufacturer's recommendations and as approved by the Director General, Civil Aviation is followed by Indian Airlines. In addition, all technical delays are investigated and suitable action is taken to avoid recurrence.

Measures to Control Increase in Medicine Prices

115. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979 was replaced by introducing the new measures of drug policy;

(b) if so, whether the new measures have benefited consumers or manufacturers; and

(c) the measures Government propose to take to control the increase in prices of medicine?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) The Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1987 which had replaced earlier DPCO, 1979, had been formulated with a view to ensuring abundant availability of essential life saving and prophylactic medicines of good quality to the consumers, at reasonable prices.

(b) The Industry has registered a good growth rate resulting in increased availability of essential drugs, thus benefitting both manufacturers and consumers. Consumers have also benefited by getting controlled drugs at Govt. fixed prices.

(c) Govt. are monitoring the prices of controlled and non-controlled drugs to check abnormal price rises.

Provision of Air reservation in emergent cases

116. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware

about the acute difficulties of the people in regard to the air-reservations for various places in emergent cases, namely deaths, medical treatment for serious patients and other emergent cases;

(b) whether the present arrangements of 'computer system' for air reservations is working satisfactorily; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to review the present system in order to provide air reservation in the emergent cases cited above?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Difficulties are sometimes experienced by the travelling public in getting reservations.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Details of Rail Accidents

117. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rail accidents during 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 (so far) and the reasons of each accident;

(b) the financial loss of railway properties and loss of human lives (year-wise);

(c) the effective steps taken or contemplated to avoid rail accidents; and

(d) the details of action taken or proposed to be taken against the railway personnel found guilty for these accidents?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). Number of train accidents, broad causes

thereof, approximate cost of damage to railway property and number of persons who lost their lives in these accidents during the

years 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 (upto November 1989) is as under:—

		1987-88	1988-89	1989-90 (upto Nov. 89)
I.	No. of train accidents	604	545	372
II.	No. of accident due to			
	(i) Failure of railway staff	375	355	238
	(ii) Failure of persons other than railway staff	68	58	31
	(iii) Failure of equipment	109	85	46
	(iv) Sabotage	5	15	16
	(v) Combination of factors	12	1	3
	(vi) Other incidental causes	27	21	17
	(vii) Causes which could not be established conclusively	8	8	2
	(viii) Causes under finalisation	—	2	19
III.	Loss of railway property (Rs. in crores)	11.09	17.95	10.71
IV.	Loss of passenger lives	103 (216)	140 (244)	134 (250)

Note : (1) Figures in Items II, III & IV above for 1988-89 and 1989-90 are provisional.

(2) Figures in brackets indicate total fatalities.

(c) The following steps have been taken to prevent accident on Indian Railways:—

(i) Greater emphasis on training, refresher courses, etc. to safety categories of staff viz., drivers, station masters/assistant sta-

tion masters, guards, switchmen and cabinmen, etc.

(ii) Revamping of training systems, methods and procedures, etc., through use of modern teaching aids like slide projectors, practical demonstrations, etc.

- (iii) Greater emphasis upon rehabilitation of rolling stock including passenger coaches.
- (iv) Increased pace of track renewals.
- (v) Induction of sophisticated technology to supplement human vigilance viz., auxiliary warning system, axle counters, etc.
- (vi) Ultrasonic testing of axles and rails.
- (vii) Modernisation of workshops to improve the quality of repairs and maintenance.
- (viii) Educative campaigns through the medium of All India Radio, Doordarshan, etc., for educating the road users about the precautions to be observed while negotiating level crossings.
- (ix) Enlisting the co-operation of

State Governments to educate road users before issue/renewal of driving licences.

(d) Suitable disciplinary action under the Discipline and Appeal Rule is taken against the railway personnel held responsible for accidents.

Railway Projects in West Bengal

118. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various on-going railway projects in West Bengal;

(b) the extent of progress made in each case; and

(c) the steps contemplated for the expeditious implementation of those projects?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). Details of on-going new line projects in West Bengal, with their progress, are as under:—

Projects	Length (km)	Approved cost	Physical Progress
1. Lakshmikantapur-Namkhana	47	Rs. 40.90 Cr.	7%
2. Eklakhi-Balurghat	91	Rs. 36.38 Cr.	3%
3. Howrah-Amta/Champadanga	74	Rs. 10.72 Cr.	43%
4. Tamluk-Digha	87	Rs. 43.72 Cr.	8.1%

(c) Completion of these projects depends on availability of resources in the coming years.

Composition of Boards of Directors of IA/AI

119. SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria to be followed by Government regarding the composition of the Boards of Directors of Indian Airlines and Air India; and

(b) whether it is proposed to reconstitute the two Boards consequent upon the resignation of the two chairmen?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). The Boards of Indian Airlines and Air India were reconstituted on the 1st of July, 1989 for a period of one year up to the 30th of June, 1990. The resignations of Shri Ratan Tata, as Chairman of Air India and Shri Rahul Bajaj as Chairman of Indian Airlines have been accepted by the Government on the 15th of December, 1989. There is no proposal at present to reconstitute these two Boards.

Dearness Allowance to the Staff of Various Public Sector Undertakings

120. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether to employees of various public sector undertakings like Jute Corporation of India are not getting the Dearness Allowance on the pattern of Central Government employees;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial measures proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The employees of some of the public sector enterprises like Jute Corporation of India are being paid Dearness Allowance as per recommendations of the 3rd pay Commission applicable to Central Government employees.

(b) and (c). Decision on the recommendations of the High Power Pay Committee regarding new Dearness Allowance formula applicable to these employees has not yet been taken as the matter is sub-judice.

Capital Investment in Paints and Varnish Industry

121. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of increase in capital investment in the paints and varnish industry during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) whether Government propose to further increase the capital investment in paints varnish industry during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) During the Seventh Plan period the installed capacity of this industry in the organised sector has increased from 1.65 lakh tonnes per annum to 2.79 lakh tonnes per annum. The total production during the Seventh Plan period was 7,87,500 tonnes in the organised sector. Production in the Small Scale Sector is expected to be of the same order. The capital investment in this industry during this plan period is estimated to be Rs. 35 crores for the organised sector.

(b) and (c). The capital investment and production in the industry during the Eighth Plan is expected to meet the demand scenario.

—————
(*Interruptions*)

12.00 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER: Will you please resume your seats? If you stand like that, I am going to allow you.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ajit Panja.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have called Shri Ajit Panja.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI AJIT PANJA (Calcutta North East): Mr. Speaker, Sir, when there was abduction of Dr. Rubiya Sayeed, the whole country was in turmoil and excited. All forces were taken there to see that she is released and set free. I would like to cite another incident in Asansol also where a boy of only seven years old by name Master Sohan Das (Alias Dip), reading in Class-I, son of Shri Somnath Das, a Congress local leader of Panchgachia, Burdwan District, West Bengal, was kidnapped by the Marxist anti-socials and others and after he was kidnapped, his body was found by the side of a pond. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It is a State subject.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI AJIT PANJA: Maintenance of law

and order is a State subject. But when the State becomes a party, we have to raise it here. (*Interruptions*)

Ten days were over. Not a single person has been arrested. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Election Commission have issued clear instructions that there should be no postings and transfers of administrative officers and police officers till elections in the State where elections are to be held. There has been gross violation of these instructions by Shri Jagannath Mishra Government in Bihar. As many as 50 I.A.S. and I.P.S. officers in the State, who are directly connected with the polls, have been transferred. The Chief Electoral Officer, Shri Bhatnagar has objected to this move. I, therefore, urge the central Government to dismiss the Jagannath Mishra Government for clear violation of Election Commission's instructions and failure in checking the communal riots which has resulted in deterioration of law and order situation in the State.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, about 2.5 lakh teachers of the Higher Secondary Schools in Gujarat have gone on strike for the last six days in support of the demands of Primary School teachers. The entire education machinery has come to a standstill in the State. The Government has no control over the situation. The present Congress Government is not paying any attention. Examinations of secondary and higher secondary classed are due to start in a few days' time. The Gujarat Government is engaged only in reshuffling, induction and removal of ministers. The teachers' strike has entered seventh day today. Neither the students nor the teachers go to schools. I would like to request the Central Government to intervene in the matter and ensure that the just demands of the striking teachers in the State are met. (*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRIMATI UMA GAJAPATHI RAJU (Visakhapatnam): Mr. Speaker Sir, there have been a series of accidents in the Vizag Steel Plant area which in the recent two weeks even have caused a couple of deaths. I would like to know from the Government what steps they are going to take regarding the safety of the workers there and also whether the members of the bereaved family would be accommodated in the Steel Plant area for employment.

MR. SPEAKER: Paper to be laid on the Table. Shri Ajit Singh.

12.06 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notification under Companies Act, 1956 etc.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 642 of the Companies Act, 1956:-
 - (i) The Cost Accounting Records (Cement) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 537 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
 - (ii) The Cost Accounting Records (Cycles) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 538 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
 - (iii) The Cost Accounting Records (Tyres and Tubes) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in

Notification No. G.S.R. 539 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.

- (iv) The Cost Accounting Records (Caustic Soda) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 540 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (v) The Cost Accounting Records (Room Air-conditioners) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 541 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (vi) The Cost Accounting Records (Refrigerators) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 542 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (vii) The Cost Accounting Records (Automobile Batteries) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 543 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (viii) The Cost Accounting Records (Electric Lamps) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 544 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (ix) The Cost Accounting Records (Electric Fans) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 545 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (x) The Cost Accounting Records (Electric Motors) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 546 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.

- (xi) The Cost Accounting Records (Motor Vehicles) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 547 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xii) The Cost Accounting Records (Tractors) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 548 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xiii) The Cost Accounting Records (Aluminium) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 549 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xiv) The Cost Accounting Records (Vanaspati) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 550 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August 1989.
- (xv) The Cost Accounting Records (Bulk Drugs) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 551 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xvi) The Cost Accounting Records (Sugar) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 552 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xvii) The Cost Accounting Records (Infant Milk Food) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 553 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xviii) The Cost Accounting Records (Industrial Alcohol) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 554 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xix) The Cost Accounting Records (Jute Goods) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 555 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xx) The Cost Accounting Records (Paper) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 556 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xxi) The Cost Accounting Records (Rayon) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 557 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xxii) The Cost Accounting Records (Dyes) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 558 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xxiii) The Cost Accounting Records (Soda Ash) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 559 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xxiii) The Cost of Accounting Records (Soda Ash) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 559 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xxiv) The Cost Accounting Records (Nylon) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 560 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.

- (xxv) The Cost Accounting Records (Polyster) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 561 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xxvi) The Cost Accounting Records (Cotton Textiles) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 562 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xxvii) The Cost Accounting Records (Dry Cell Batteries) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 563 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xxviii) The Cost Accounting Records (Sulphuric Acid) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 564 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xxix) The Cost Accounting Records (Steel Tubes and Pipes) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 565 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xxx) The Cost Accounting Records (Engineering Industries) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 566 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xxxi) The Cost Accounting Records (Electrical Cables and Conductors) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 567 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xxxii) The Cost Accounting Records (Bearings) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. 568 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xxxiii) The Cost Accounting Records (Milk Food) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 569 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xxxiv) The Cost Accounting Records (Chemical Industries) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 570 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xxxv) The Cost Accounting Records (Formulations) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 571 in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 1989.
- (xxxvi) The Company Law Board Members (Qualifications and Experience) Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 740(E) in Gazette of India dated the 4th August, 1989.
- (xxxvii) The Company Law Board (Bench) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 789 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th August, 1989. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—19/89]
- (2) A copy of Draft Notification No. 1/5/88-CL V (Hindi and English versions) regarding exemption to Government Companies from the applicability of section 209 (3) (b) of the Companies Act, 1956 under section 620 of the said Act. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-20/89]
- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English

- versions) issued under sub-section (2) of section 1 of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1988:-
- (i) G.S.R. 739 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th August, 1989 appointing the 4th day of August, 1989 as the date on which the provisions of section 4(c) of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1988 shall come into force.
- (ii) G.S.R. 788(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th August, 1989 appointing the 1st day of September, 1989, as the date on which the provisions of section 9 of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1988 shall come into force. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—21/89]
- (4) A copy of Notification No. S.O. 598 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st July, 1989 making certain amendments to Notification No. S.O. 629 (E) dated 30th June, 1988 under sub-section (2H) of section 29B of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-22/89]
- (5) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
- (a) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Hindustan Cables Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Cables Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT. 23/89]
- (b) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Andrew Yule and Company Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Andrew Yule and Company Limited, Calcutta for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-24/89]
- (c) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Rehabilitation Industries Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Rehabilitation Industries Corporation Limited Calcutta, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT. 25/89]
- (d) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Maruti Udyog Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Maruti Udyog Limited, New Delhi for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-26/89]

- (e) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-27/89]
- (f) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Bhari Udyog Limited, Calcutta for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-28/89]
- (g) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the National Instruments Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Instruments Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-29/89]
- (h) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Instrumentation Limited, Kota, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Instrumentation Limited, Kota, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-30/89]
- (i) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the HMT Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the HMT Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-31/89]
- (j) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the National Bicycle Corporation Limited, Bombay, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Bicycle Corporation of India Limited, Bombay, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-32/89]
- (k) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Nepa Limited, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Nepa Limited, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor

General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No., LT-33/89]

mission, Bombay, for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-36/89]

- (1) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-34/89]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Productivity Council, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the National Productivity Council, New Delhi, for the year, 1988-89. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-35/89]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Bombay for the year 1988-89 under sub-section (3) of section 24 of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act, 1956.

- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Khadi and Village Industries Com-

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Chapra): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the entire Bihar has come under the grip of Kala-azar and the State Government is not taking any remedial measures.

MR. SPEAKER: You give a notice under Rule-377.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please resume your seats.

SHRI ERA ANBARASU (Madras Central): Sir, LTTE people have abducted five Customs officials. So far no statement has come.... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You raised it the other day also.

SHRI ERA ANBARASU: We do not know whether they were kidnapped or they themselves went to velvettuturai. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have called Mr. Upendra to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Shri P. Upendra.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): We appreciate the anxiety shown by Dr. Y.S. Reddy in the matter. We are in touch with the State Government. The Prime Minister has spoken to the Chief Minister. I also got in touch with the Chief Minister. We requested the State Government to take all possible measures to get him released very soon. *(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the Central Government that there is no arrangement for the procurement of foodgrains at support prices from the farmers in Madhya Pradesh. There is no initiative to purchase millets and other foodgrains in the State with the result that the farmers resort to distress sale of their produce at Rs. 20 to Rs. 30 less than the support price. Similarly, there is no arrangement to purchase soyabean and other crops at support price. I would like to request the Central Government to make arrangement for this purpose (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Harish Rawatji, you have given notice for an Adjournment Motion. I have not allowed it. You can mention these things during the discussion on President's Address.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I do not permit. You can raise it during discussion on President's Address.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Speaker, Sir, though the Government has been issuing statements with regard to the implementation of the recommendations of Bachhawat Wage Board, yet it does not intend to implement them. One of the glaring examples of this is the "Indian Express".

MR. SPEAKER: You will get the opportunity to speak on this issue at the time of Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: They are not

implementing the recommendations of the Bachhawat Wage Board. It is because the Government has friendly relations with the Indian Express. The owners of the newspaper are committing excesses on its employees. I have given an adjournment notice on this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing your adjournment notice.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have rejected this Adjournment Motion. You can raise this issue in the course of the debate on the President's Address.

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR (Quilon): The new V.P. Singh Government has, by an order issued two days ago, taken away from the cashew workers of Kerala, the ESI benefits, which were specially given to them by the previous Government by promulgating an order. This is an anti-worker measure. (*Interruptions*) The benefits enjoyed by the cashew workers of Kerala have been taken away by this Government, two days ago. It is a serious issue. I request the Government to withdraw this order. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA (Jammu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, during the Indo-Pak war in 1947, 1965 and 1971 a large number of refugees has settled in Jammu province and other parts of the State. Their problems have not so far been solved. The Government of India had made a commitment that each of them would be given an assistance of Rs. 12,000 and in addition to that a loan of Rs. 12,000. I would like to request the Government to implement the above decision and provide money to these people so that their problems could be solved.

SHRI JANARDAN TIWARI (Siwan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Indo-Nepal relations have

strained of late. I would like to make some suggestions to resolve this tangle. Two treaties were signed between the Governments of Nepal and the Government of India; the first in 1950 and the other in 1965. Thereafter, Nepal imported arms and ammunition from a country other than India. These weapons include anti-aircraft missiles which have been positioned close to Indian border.

MR. SPEAKER: You are reading it out.

*(Interruptions)**

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have not allowed you to read it out. It will not go on record.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, we know that law and order is a State subject but the situation in Tripura is quite different and a serious one. Since Congress (I) and TUIS government came into power in Tripura hundreds of our party workers have been killed in a particular district of Billonia. Political activists are being attacked and democratic rights are being curbed in the State of Tripura. A serious situation is prevailing there. Last election was made into a farce under the leadership of Mr. Sontosh Mohan Dev. There was total rigging in Tripura. Now the democratic rights of the people of Tripura are being attacked and a reign of terror is prevailing in Tripura. Government of Tripura has forfeited its right to stay in power. The Central Government should intervene. We request that Home Minister should make a statement on the present situation in Tripura. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: He has mentioned my name that I have won the election by rigging.

(Interruptions)

If it goes on record of the House I challenge him; let a House Committee be formed by you and let there be an inquiry. Otherwise his remarks should not be al-

lowed to go into the record. *(Interruptions)*

I am seeking your protection. He has no right to give expression against me like that. Unless he withdraws his remarks I demand that you appoint a Parliamentary committee and let it go to Tripura and investigate and I will accept its verdict.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Let there be a House committee. We accept the challenge.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD (Arrah): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to Bhojpur district of Bihar, especially the Scenario that prevailed in the State during the recent elections. People indulged in booth capturing and ** at the behest of the Government. The acts committed by ** in the villages of Arrah district are a testimony to it. The Government had declared that voting would be free and fair. Our party, the Indian People's Front had also made similar statements that it would work for a free and fair poll and would fight the forces that disturb this process. We aroused public awakening against booth capturing and the Government set up 4 booths in Bihata High School whereas the provision was for two booths only. At the instance of Jwala Singh and the Congress ** 17 murders were committed. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: If there is anything unparliamentary in it, I shall look into it. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (Sasaram): In Bihar, the Congress ** engineered communal riots. Shops belonging to the members of minority community as well as Hindus were set ablaze in Sasaram, Darbhanga and Bhagalpur. The relief given to riot victims in these areas is too meagre. I would like to request the Government, through you, to grant sufficient relief to these victims. As

*Not recorded.

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair

regard the anti-reservation stir going on in Bihar, it has become clear that the Jagannath Mishra Government in Bihar....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please raise this point when you speak on the Motion of thanks on President's Address. Now, please take your seat.

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Therefore, Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I demand that the Government of Bihar be dismissed without any delay.

12.22 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—*CONTD*

[*English*]

Review of the working of and Annual Reports of Bengal Immunity Ltd., Calcutta, Hindustan Anti-biotics Ltd. and Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd. for 1988-89

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Bengal Immunity Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Bengal Immunity Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in the Library. *See* No. LT-37/89]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited, for the year 1988-89.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in the Library. *See* No. LT. 38/89]

- (c) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited, for the year 1988-89.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in the Library. *See* No. LT 39/89]

12.22 1/2 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER RE. ACCIDENT TO PAWAN HANS DAUPHIN HELICOPTER VT-ELO NEAR PATNA ON 15.12.1989

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): Sir, A Dauphin helicopter VT-ELO belonging to Pawan Hans Ltd., while operating ONGC chartered flight from Calcutta to Patna on 15.12.89 crashed into the river Ganges about six miles from Patna airport. All seven occupants on board are feared dead. The helicopter took off from Calcutta at 16.24 hrs. (IST) and was scheduled to arrive at Patna at 18.40 hrs. The last contact of the helicopter with Patna control was at 1828 hrs. Both the pilots were very

experienced and were holding current commercial helicopter pilot licence. Both were also Instrument Rated and night qualified. The Commander Capt. Ahluwalia had 5892 hours of total flying experience and 2168 hours experience on Dauphin helicopter. Major R.K. Baruah had 3244 hours of total flying experience and 1241 hours experience on Dauphin helicopter.

2. A report was received by Air Traffic Control Patna that an aircraft had crashed into the river Ganges about 10 miles from the airport. Airport officials immediately rushed to the site and a police guard was immediately posted. Salvage operation was organised thereafter. Next morning a team of Naval divers commenced salvage operation. Air Force helicopter and ONGC facilities were also pressed into service immediately to rescue the survivors and recover the wreckage of the helicopter. DGCA, Managing Director, Pawan Hans Ltd. and ONGC officials also reached the spot on the morning of 16th December, 1989 to co-ordinate the operations.

3. The depth of the water at the site was 20 feet. Further, local authorities, Navy, Air Force, Indian Inland Waterways Authority and Godawari Shipyard also participated in the search and rescue operation. Most of the wreckage of the helicopter has been recovered and has been brought to Patna airport for detailed examination. The bodies of five of the occupants had been recovered by 20th forenoon. The wreckage of the helicopter is being examined by officers of DGCA, Govt. of Bihar and Pawan Hans Ltd. Preliminary examination of the wreckage indicates the following:-

- i) There was no fire on board prior to the accident.
- ii) The tail portion of the helicopter was fairly intact with the tail rotor free to rotate.
- iii) The damage to the helicopter indicated a relatively low speed impact with water.

- iv) The altimeters of the pilot and co-pilot were not found set properly.
 - v) The pilot had not attempted an emergency landing.
4. Pawan Hans Ltd. has announced a compensation of Rs. 5 lakhs to the next of kin of both pilots and others. A sum of Rs. 1 lakh has already been paid in each case.
 5. Immediately after the accident the DGCA has appointed an Inspector of Accident to investigate the cause of the accident.
 6. Government has also decided to constitute a Committee of Inquiry to investigate the cause of the accident.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman & Nicobar Islands): Sir, during the first week of December, the service of 101 Lower Divisional Clerks were terminated in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. This has happened after the establishment of this Government. Another 40 Lower Divisional Clerks are facing the threat of termination now. In almost all the departments, the Government is retrenching the labourers who are working in various departments. I would like to draw the attention of this Government to restore the services of those LDCs immediately and to cancel the possible termination of other LDCs. Andaman and Nicobar Islands is a small territory and the main employment potential is with the Government. When the services of such a large number of people are terminated, it may have a serious repercussion in the Islands.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, now the House will take up Matters under Rule 377.

12.26 hrs.

[*Translation*]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to give remunerative price for Cotton in Andhra Pradesh

SHRI P. NARASA REDDY (Adilabad): Sir, the price of cotton produce in Andhra Pradesh State with particular reference to Adilabad district (Agency Area) has gone down to a new low. Earlier, the price per quintal of cotton produce was Rs. 1050 (One thousand and fifty) but it has now gone down to Rs. 700/- per quintal. This has created a great disappointment among cultivators of the dry areas. The Cotton Corporation of India is purchasing cotton only at Rs. 710/- per quintal while the Maharashtra State Corporation is purchasing at Rs. 839/-. Hence, agitation of farmers for remunerative price is going on.

Government is requested to go into the matter and do justice to the cotton cultivators in that area.

(ii) Need to take steps to re-open Punalur Paper Mills in Kerala

SHRI KIDOKKUNNIL SURESH (Adoor): Sir, Punalur Paper Mills, Kerala is a century old paper mills. It is one of the oldest paper mills in India and the State. It is the only paper mill in the world using Etta Reeds as raw material for paper making.

The mill is lying closed for more than three years now. The machinery are equipment would get rusted and damaged if they are allowed to remain idle for long.

About a thousand workers and their families are denied their livelihood because of the closure.

I urge upon the Government to take steps to reopen the mill.

(iii) Need to expedite the construction of Jamrall dam in Nainital district, Uttar Pradesh

SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH PAL (Nainital): The Jamrall dam in Nainital district in Uttar Pradesh is under construction since 1975 and crores of rupees have so far been spent on it by the State and the Central Governments. But the work has not taken any concrete shape as yet. Non-completion of the work has resulted in drought situation in the Tarai Bhabar area of Nainital district. The construction work should be completed immediately.

(iv) Need to ensure regular supply of electricity to Maharashtra State

SHRI BABANRAO DHAKANE (Beed): The farmers are not getting electricity according to their requirements because of short supply of electricity to Maharashtra. Consequently thousands of pump sets of the farmers have been burnt and have become worthless, causing heavy loss to the farmers. It is, therefore, requested that the Government of India should supply electricity to the State Government regularly so as to avoid loss to the farmers.

[*English*]**(v) Need to provide financial assistance for rehabilitation programme of Haldia Fertilizer Plant of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation**

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA (Tamluk): Sir, The Haldia Unit of Hindustan Fertiliser Corporation has been limping for production since the completion of its construction works. The project works were completed in 1979 but the plant could not be commissioned commercially because of technological defects and design problems. Operational activities were banned by the Government of

India in the year 1986 putting the workers idle and plant into uncertainty.

The Government engaged two foreign consultants, namely, Toya Engineering of Japan and Uhde of West Germany to study the matter of rehabilitation of upstream and downstream of the plant respectively. The reports submitted by them hinted about an investment of Rs. 500 crores for the rehabilitation of the plant to make it commercially viable. The matter has been pending before the Government for its consideration and investment decision.

If adequate fund is not allotted by March 1990, HFC will have to close down the factory. So, I urge upon the Government that full fledged rehabilitation programme of the Plant should be executed with immediate effect in accordance with report submitted by Toya Engineering and Uhde, allotment of funds should be made immediately for execution of at least one phase of downstream plant and ban on operational activities should be lifted.

(vi) Need to settle the border dispute between Karnataka and Maharashtra

SHRI VAMANRAO MAHADIK (Bombay, South Central): Sir, the border issue between Karnataka and Maharashtra regarding Belgaum-Karwar issue requires immediate solution before agitation flares up. This burning issue has been neglected during the last 31 years.

[*Translation*]

(vii) Need to reinstate the dismissed employees of D.T.C.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, nearly 3600 employees of D.T.C. were dismissed during March, 1988 strike. More than one dozen of them committed suicide out of frustration. Before the elections, they were assured by

the Hon. Prime Minister Shri V.P. Singh and the Deputy Prime Minister Ch. Devi Lal and by many other leaders that they would be immediately reinstated after the elections were over. But nothing has been done in this direction so far. The D.T.C. employees are in great distress.

It is, therefore, requested that the dismissed D.T.C. employees be reinstated immediately.

[*English*]

(viii) Need to expedite establishment of Vijayanagar Steel Plant in Karnataka

SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR (Mysore): Sir, the inordinate delay in the establishment of Vijayanagar Steel Plant in Karnataka has caused serious discontentment among the people of that State. The techno-economic feasibility report for the plant was approved by the Government of India in 1969 and the foundation was laid in 1971. The estimated cost of the plant was to the tune of Rs. 3000 crores. The State Government at the request of the Central Government have acquired about 10,000 acres of land. The Government of Karnataka has also assured the supply of the required quantities of water and power for the Steel Plant.

The Ispat Bharati Company was formed by the Government of India in 1982 to expedite the implementation of the project but the plant has not been set up so far. The delay in taking up this project is causing resentment among the people of Karnataka. Once the plant is set up, it will provide direct and indirect employment to about 70,000 persons.

As such, I request that every possible step should be taken to expedite the establishment of an integrated steel plant at Vijayanagar in Karnataka.

12.35 hrs.

[English]

CONSTITUTION (SIXTY-SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL—*CONTD.*

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, on the 22nd December, 1989, namely:-

“That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): Sir, we had a discussion the other day in your Chamber, when the whips of the opposition were also there. You were kind enough to decide that the voting on the Constitution Amendment Bill will be held at 2 p.m. today. I would request you to regulate the number of speakers accordingly so that we can have the voting at 2 p.m. All the parties have also issued whips for the Members to be present at 2 p.m. (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: He is saying that the reply will be given at 2 P.M.

[English]

SHRI K.S. RAO (Machilipatnam): Only thirty minutes are left before the lunch. It is a very important Bill and many Members want to speak...(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): You allow the members belonging to our side to speak. We are not concerned whether they press for being given an opportunity to their Members to speak or not.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: With your permission, Sir, as a matter of fact and information, I would like to submit that when the discussion was held on Friday, a number of speakers from the opposition benches then protested that they did not want to participate in the discussion on Friday because it was late in the evening, and their speeches would not be covered by the press and that they would like to participate on Tuesday. Even then, I submitted to the whip of the opposition that this would not be possible; either the number of speakers be curtailed or the time allotted to each of them be curtailed in such a fashion so that the voting can take place at 2 p.m. today. I am communicating this to you so as to establish the facts of the matter.

SHRI K.S. RAO: It is maligning the opposition by saying that they said that their speeches would not be covered by the press. It is wrong.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: It is not maligning them.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I have only communicated the facts.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: We may continue to sit during the lunch time.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: In fact, I will go by the will of the House.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (New Delhi): Normally the House should have prior information as to when the voting will take place on the Constitution (Amendment) Bill. It may also be clarified whether there will be any lunch hour or not.

MR. SPEAKER: The reply by the Minister will start at 2 p.m.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Will there be any lunch hour or not?

MR. SPEAKER: I will go by your advice about the lunch-hour.

[*English*]

SHRI P. UPENDRA: the reply by the Minister will be at 2 p.m. and then the voting will take place.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): We may dispense with the lunch hour today.

MANY HON. MEMBERS: Yes, yes.

MR. SPEAKER: We will sit through the lunch hour and complete the job.

DR. ASIM BALA (Nabadwip): We did not get the opportunity to speak on Friday. We hope you will kindly give us opportunity to speak today.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: As per the decision of the House, Members participating in the debate will be given 5 minutes each. The member allowed by me is requested to conclude his speech in 5 minutes time.

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA (Jhabua): Please give time to the Members belonging to our party. Only one Member from our party has so far been allowed to speak.

AN. HON. MEMBERS: He took 50 minutes.

MR. SPEAKER: I have done as per the decision arrived at with your party members.

SHRI RAM DHAN (Lalganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for the opportunity given to me to speak on this important issue. At the very outset, I would like to make it clear before the House and the country that reservation is not a charity. There is a wrong feeling in the country that reservation has been provided as a charity. In order to contradict this wrong notion, we should place all

the historical and other facts before the country.

While addressing the Minority Committee at the Round-Table Conference on 13th November, 1931, Mahatma Gandhi said that we did not want untouchables to be classified as a separate community in our society. Sikhs can remain as sikhs, Muslims can remain as Muslims and Christians as Christian for ever but the point is whether we want the untouchables to remain as untouchable for all time to come. He added that he would rather prefer extinction of Hinduism to continuance of untouchability in the society and if he had to sacrifice his life in opposing separate electoral provision for downtrodden, he would not mind it even if he might be alone in his pursuit. After his return from the Round Table Conference, Gandhiji tried to elicit public opinion on it but in the meantime he was arrested by the British Government and was kept in Yarvada jail at Poona. At that time question was agitating in his mind as to how the British Government's move to have separate electorate provision for the downtrodden could be thwarted as he was gravely hurt by that decision of the British Government. He wrote to the then Secretary of State for India that he is against this decision and if it was implemented, he would go on fast unto death. You are aware that a demand of separate electorate provision was accepted in the Minority Committee on communal basis which was termed as communal award. Under that award, separate provision was made for Muslims. Dr. Ambedkar, the leader of the downtrodden had also made demand for separate electorate provision in the Minority Committee at Round-Table Conference. When Gandhiji started his fast unto-death at the Yarvada jail, the caste Hindu leaders and the people of the country became concerned about the life of Mahatma Gandhi and all the leaders, whether they were moderates or anyother, held a conference at Bombay and it was decided to find a solution to that problem. The British Government permitted the people to meet Gandhiji while he was imprisoned in the Yarvada jail. In view of time constraint, I would like to make by submission in brief. At

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that time a pact was entered into between the Harijan leaders and the cast Hindu leaders. Gandhiji also somewhat relaxed his earlier stand. He said that he could not accept the proposal for separate electorate but the demand for reservation of seats in Lok Sabha and State Assemblies could be acceded to and an agreement was signed in this regard by Dr. Ambedkar representing the harijans on one hand and Pt. Madan Mohan Malviya representing the caste Hindus on the other. Alongwith them other leaders, from both sides also signed. Under this pact, which was called the Poona Pact, 30 seats were reserved in the Madras Assembly, 25 seats were reserved in the Bombay-Sindh Assembly (Sindh was then part of Bombay Province), 8 seats in Punjab, 18 seats each in Bihar and Orissa, 20 seats in the Central Provinces, 7 seats in Assam, 20 in Bengal and 20 seats in the United Provinces. In this way reservation of seats was made in the different State Assemblies. A total of 148 seats were reserved and it was decided at that time that instead of the joint system of elections, a system of primary elections may be adopted. Under this system, the elections for reserved seats would be conducted first and the electorate would only consist of the downtrodden. In this way, 4 candidates for one reserved seat would be elected who would later participate in the general election process. Whoever comes out to be victorious in these elections would become the Member of the legislative assembly. This kind of arrangement was made when there was a provision for 18 per cent reservation in the Central Legislature. I am trying to say that this is the manner in which the whole process of reservation started and which appeared in the shape of an agreement before the country. At that time it was said and an assurance was given that this reservation would continue so long as discrimination is not done away with and Harijans are not treated on equal footing. Shri Kalpanath Rai seems to be smiling. Untouchability is practised even today. This is a bitter fact. No one can deny it. It was said that until this system prevails, reservation

will continue. Our constitution upholds socialism, secularism and democracy but even after 42 years of independence the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have not been brought into the national mainstream. This is the hard fact. That is why demands are made again and again even today, for extending the reservation provisions of the constitution.

Article 46 of the constitution provides that the State shall promote with special care to educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people and, in particular of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation. In addition, certain other special provisions have been made to promote their interests and to protect them such as Article 15, 16, 17, 19, 29, 164, 244, 275, 330, 332, 334, 335, 338, 339, 341 and 342. These provisions contain such matters as ban on the practice of discrimination, reservation of posts in matters of appointment, removal of untouchability, administration and the control of Scheduled Tribe areas, reservation of seats in the Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabhas, the appointment of the Commissioner of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the constitution of the Commission, notifying the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes etc. The hon. Minister has not referred to the lists at all. In this House, Committees were constituted in 1968 and in 1977 for the revision of the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. But the reports of both these committees could not be placed before Parliament. Neither could it be placed during the Janata Rule nor during that of the Congress. This revision is very necessary because today demands are being raised in the States that such and such new castes should be included in the lists of some other castes which are sub-castes should be excluded from these lists. For example, one of our ex-Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai wanted that the cobbler caste in Gujarat, which inspite of being backward was well-off, should be excluded from the said list. A committee was constituted for revision of the list but the matter is still pending. During the

last Lok Sabha I had requested the then Minister, Shrimati Rajendra Kumari Bajpai, who is not present in the House at the moment, to take immediate steps in this regard. It was an urgent demand of the country and of its weaker sections but the Congress Government did not pay any heed to the matter. The hon. Minister should consider it as well and either get the report of the said committee, which was headed by Shri Suraj Bhan, at the earliest or it should constitute another committee and get this matter finalised. About 16 per cent of the population consists of the Scheduled Castes and about 8 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes. Today 1/4 of the population is deprived of their rights and they are compelled to suffer silently. They cannot fight for their rights because they lack the necessary resources for this purpose. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have observed during the various socialist agitations that this matter was taken up but the success was not achieved. You are aware that our country is agriculture oriented. Prof. Ranga refers to agriculture time and again. Out of the people engaged in agriculture, 52 per cent are agricultural labourers, 28 per cent are small and marginal farmers. There are certain occupations in which only one section of the people have been engaged for generations together. Scavenging is one such occupation in which has been earmarked for a particular class of people, generation after generation. Still we talk of human rights. We speak of human rights from the platform of the U.N.O. but in this country our own brethren carry might-sail on their heads. Nobody considers it a violation of human rights. Efforts are not being made today to do away with this system. Apart from this, the miserable condition of the farmers is often referred to and need to introduce land reforms is emphasised. But I would say that there are certain menial occupations such as tanning, which are reserved only for the harijans. No other section of the society takes up this work. Similarly, we are very backward in the matter of education. Therefore, I would like to say that the Government should pay attention to the harijans who are contributing to the progress of the country even under adverse

circumstances. Our socialist friend, hon. Shri Kalpanath Rai is present here and he had also raised the slogan during socialist movement that land and income should be equally distributed and there should be no unearned income. Where are those slogans today? Has equal distribution of land and income taken place? Are the tillers getting their due? This needs to be given serious thought. Therefore, I would like to say that little efforts are being made for their upliftment. But I would like to make one point that it will be said that Government has incurred considerable expenditure on their welfare. Funds are allotted by both the Central and the State Governments for the upliftment of these people and in this connection, I will not make any comment apart from reminding the House of the speech of the former Prime Minister in which he stated that only 15 per cent amount allotted is actually spent on the poor and the rest of 85 per cent is pocketed by middlemen and commission agents. This fact was accepted by the previous Government. Therefore, whatever funds are allotted for development do not reach the beneficiaries because of corruption. I would like to submit one more point. A provision has been made for the appointment of a special officer under Article 338 of the constitution. But what is the condition of the Special Officer? In 1978, the Janata Government has passed a proposal for setting up of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission. But I would like to submit that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission has no effective powers. What is the use of constituting such a Commission when it cannot even hold an enquiry into the atrocities committed on the weaker section in the rural areas?

I would also like to add that when the elections were announced certain people who could not be given tickets were assured of a position in that Commission. Such was the state of affairs. In my opinion, it is of no use to constitute such a Commission in this manner. Unless, it is given mandatory powers, the Commission cannot be effective.

I would like to submit one point in connection with untouchability. Untouchability is

[Sh. Ram Dhan]

practised widely in our country. I would not like to go into it apart from giving one illustration. When the hon. Minister was a member of a Parliamentary Committee, conversions took place at Meenakshi Puram. Thereafter, the 'Virat Hindu Samaj' conference was organised at the Boat Club. A lot of hue and cry was raised on account of the conversions. But what is this all about? The hon. Minister and hon. Member from the other side, Smt. Chandrashekharan, who used to be a member of the Parliamentary Committee were there. They went to Meenakshipuram. A youngman, perhaps his name was Yusuf, who had already changed his religion met them. These people talked to him and questioned him as to why he had changed his religion. He did not give any reply. Pointing to a person, the youngman said that he was his father. He further told them that if they could have him take a cup of tea from the tea stall situated in front of them, he could come back to Hindu religion. These people had the force of weaponry with them. The police was with them. The entire state force was with them. They went to the tea stall. The youngman told them that that day they could have him take a cup of tea from that stall, but the stall would be closed the next day. In order to avoid such a thing to happen, the tea stall owner pointed to a cup kept outside the stall and asked the youngman to pick it up and have tea. This thing happened at the time when the whole country was exercised over the issue of conversion. Today, may I ask the big wigs of religion who are bent upon resorting to armed encounters on the Babri Masjid and Ram Janma bhoomi issue to let me know as to what steps they are taking to check the menace of conversion being resorted to just because of the practice of untouchability by the followers of Hindu religion in different parts of the country. Nobody is prepared to say a word against these events. That is, to this day, the truth in respect of the conversion of Hindus to other religions. I would like to remind Prof. Ranga the words of Gandhiji in this regard. During the freedom struggle we used to sing a song "Achchuton ko gale lagao, varna ye lal gai-

ron ke ghar jayenge. (Embrace the untouchables, otherwise they will convert). That was the song. But what is happening today? Today conversion is taking place. Neither the Central Government nor the Hindu Society and the bigwigs of Hindu religion are paying any heed to this situation. Under these circumstances, I urge upon the Government to take some measures against this permanent menace. Moreover, no action is taken in case a report to this effect is made. Here, I would like to make a submission in regard to entry in temples. The hon. Sanayasini Member is sitting here. She knows that in Chhatisgarh region, some Harijans had gone to enter the temple in Shri Keyur Bhushan's village. Three of them were gunned down. What happened in Shrinathji's temple in Rajasthan? A legislator belonging to a particular party launched an agitation against temple entry. The Government of Rajasthan was not able to do anything in it. Then ensued a drama and an announcement to this effect was also made in the Parliament. In this connection, I would like to say this much only that today the Harijans have no right of entry into the temples. The Shankaracharya of Puri had said in this regard that in case untouchability is removed from Hindu dharma, it would become meaningless. These are the views expressed by the Shankaracharya. Today we talk of atrocities. In our country, it has been accepted that atrocity on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is a crime. But today, there is end to the atrocities being committed on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe in this country. Murders, rape and arson go on unabated and the police remains a silent spectator. Such atrocities on Scheduled Tribes and Adivasis are committed by the officials of forest Department and the Contractors. A campaign was launched in Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Orissa locally called 'Lota' 'Sota' and Jhota. 'Lota' symbolises the Marwaris, 'Sota' stands for the contractors and the transporters keep 'Jhota' (a buffalo). These people have been exploiting the Adivasis. The Adivasis have been deprived of their right of collection of flowers, leaves and firewood from the forests. Since the day the forests were put under the con-

trol of the Government, the Adivasis have not been allowed to collect flowers, leaves and fuel from the forests. It has rendered them helpless and they are not able to eke out their living. Rapes and atrocities of various other types are being committed on their womenfolk day in and day out. I would like to remind Prof. Ranga that it was in this House when I was sitting on these benches and one of the hon. Members of the Lok Sabha had called me 'chamar ka Bachcha' (son of Chamar) and rushed to assault me. This incident took place in the Lok Sabha at that time. Today, that man is not in this House. He has not been able to retain his seat in this House. He has been punished. The electorate has punished him. But this House remained a silent spectator to the aforesaid event. People view the Mahabharat and disrobing of Draupadi. But this most important and noticeable thing goes unnoticed by the people as to how atrocities are committed on us in the Lok Sabha. Then how can I expect that a good treatment will be mentedoul to us outside? With an agonised heart, I would say that when we cannot be given any protection in the Lok Sabha, how is it possible that we will be protected outside...*(Interruptions)*.....I would like to make a submission about land reforms. What is happening today in respect of land reforms? In Bihar, the State from which the hon. Minister hails, thousands of acres of land stand in the fictitious names. Land records have not been corrected in that state to this day. No Government records have so far been corrected. That is why I say that if this Government wants to achieve success in the field of land reforms, atrocities on Harijans should be stopped.

It has been said that the provision of reservation for these categories in Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies is being extended. At the same time what I feel is that the Government should also appreciate of the people by extending the same provisions to Rajya Sabha and the Legislative Councils. The Government should also implement the provisions of reservation in these bodies. When Pt. Bibhuti Narayan Mishra used to a Member of Lok Sabha, he had time

and again moved a Resolution to the effect that either the institutions of the Rajya Sabha and the Legislative Councils should be abolished as it has been done in a number of States or the provisions of reservation for the downtrodden should be extended to these institutions also.

I would like to remind Prof. Ranga that I was there with him in the freedom struggle. In 1986, I was the General Secretary of the Congress (I) and I had told the Congress President in 1986 that since there was no reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Rajya Sabha, the sitting Members belonging to these categories from Uttar Pradesh, whose term was about to expire at that time, might be re-nominated for Rajya Sabha and if he was not satisfied with their performance other candidates might be selected in their place, but the number of such members should not be reduced. At that time instead of three persons only two were re-nominated. The decision of the Parliamentary Board was changed over-night. On that very day, as a protest, I resigned from the membership of All India Congress Committee and from the post of its General Secretary because I felt that if I could not safeguard the interests of the downtrodden while holding the charge as General Secretary, it was not desirable on my part to continue in that position.

I understand that the Congress Party is the largest party in the Rajya Sabha and it nominates the members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for Rajya Sabha. But the other parties do not have this practice. Thus I have placed these facts before you for your consideration.

I would like to tell you that when I became the national convener of the Jan Morcha and when the Congress Party did not re-nominate three of its members to Rajya Sabha in 1986, I had said at that time that the Congress Party would face a debacle and nobody would be able to check it. I would like to bring it on the record of Lok Sabha that in 1975 I had advised the then Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, to accept the court

[Sh. Ram Dhan]

verdict. My friend Shri Sathe is sitting here. But Shrimati Gandhi did not honour the verdict of the court and everybody knows its result in 1977. Today, also I would like to make it clear that in case the downtrodden are not given their due under the present circumstances, which even Government might come to power, it cannot last long. ..(Interruptions)...

Our struggle started in 1986 and after one year, Shri V.P. Singh joined us. At that time, he was much perturbed. I encouraged him. Therefore, a public awareness campaign was launched by Jan Morcha for a year and it is the outcome of that campaign that they are now occupying the treasury benches.

Was it the Congress Government or the Janata Government which remained in power only for a period of 2 1/2 years, all of them have been expressing their concern for free and fair elections in Namibia. But I would like to ask whether we are having free and fair elections in this country? A Member of the I.P.F. said just now that 30 Harijans, who were trying to prevent booth capturing, were killed in Arrah. We are not able to excise our franchise the right of which was given to us by Baba Saheb Ambedkar. The idle talk of providing reservation or giving other rights is a fraud. I would like to go into the position prevailing in Government services. I would, therefore, urge the Government to constitute a committee to go into the causes of agitation being launched all over the country. Anti-reservation stir is going on in different parts which has claimed several lives. Under these circumstances the Government should constitute a committee to find out the causes of this agitation. Finally, I would like to call upon the hon. Minister to take immediate steps to revise the lists of SCs/STs which has not been done by the Congress Government during the last 5 years. There are a number of communities which want to be included in the SC/ST list. I would not dwell on the special component plan and Tribal Sub-plan as it requires a lot of time. How-

ever, I want that the list should be revised and it should cover all the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under it.

I support the Bill.

13.13 hrs.

[SHRI JASWANT SINGH *in the Chair*]

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD (Bansgaon): I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on such an important issue. It is such an issue which deals with an historic moment of our past. When a need was felt to make reservations for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and about which many of the hon. Members, who have already spoken, and Shri Vasant Sathe have referred and which has also been referred to just now by Shri Ram Dhan. I will not take much time. But had Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's proposal to the British Government for the preparation of separate electoral rolls been accepted, it would have led to the division of the country. However, I would like to express my gratefulness to the eminent personality who provided leadership to the exploited masses, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar who withdrew his proposal after the fast unto death by Mahatma Gandhi. In this way, that great scholar, the founding father of the Indian Constitution, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar demonstrated before the people of the country and the world that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have full faith in the unity and integrity of the nation and would like to see India as one entity. Therefore, I would like to submit that the reasons, which compelled us in the past to provide for reservation for the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, still prevail. Today you are devoting your attention to communalism capitalism and other 'isms' but the need of the hour is to provide reservation to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

In my capacity as a Member of Parliament, I would like to submit that the President of AICC, Shri Rajiv Gandhi while laying the foundations stone of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

University on April 14, 1989, in Lucknow had made an announcement for the extension of the provision for reservation....(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly address the Chair.

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the previous Government could not install the portrait of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in the Parliament House and they are advocating his cause today.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Mr. Chairman, Sir, such are the people who do not seem to be interested in the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I was saying that the well intentioned bill brought by the hon. Minister and to which my Congress party is prepared to render support but I....(*Interruptions*)....

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member may please address the Chair.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the national poet Maithili Sharan Gupta had expressed it in following words.

"Peechhe pitar pristha poshak hain par bhavishya to aage,

Yadi apna parinam na dekhen to hum andh abhage".

(*Interruptions*)

I would like to submit only this much through you that we support the Bill which the Government has brought in order to set clear cut policy but I would also like to know one thing and the hon. Minister may clarify it in his reply. I also agree with this point that measures taken during the last 40 years for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are not enough but as per our policy we are ready to support this Bill inside the House and outside as well. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time is limited.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Mr. Chairman, Sir, kindly stop them. They are new to the House.

(*Interruptions*)

Shri Ram Dhan has submitted that a committee should be Constituted and that Committee will look into it as to who is behind all these agitations. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know as to what is the policy of the Government? The hon. Prime Minister has stated that reservation would continue until food, cloth and shelter is provided to all. The Deputy Prime Minister Shri Devi Lal has said that there would be reservation on the basis of economic condition both inside and outside the House. Shri Chandra Shekhar has stated that he supports Shri Devi Lal's point of view. I would like the Government to clarify its stand in this regard. I would like to know as to what type of reservation do they want. Do they want the reservation to be based on economic conditions or on caste or social basis. The House may kindly be apprised about the nature of the reservation which is desired. Secondly, I would like the hon. Minister to state whether this amending bill has been brought with a view to extend the special provisions which have been made for the Members of the Parliament and the Legislative Assemblies. I would also like to know that in view of Article 15 (iv) and 16 (iv) of the Constitution which provide for the welfare of the entire community of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, what would be the Government's stand and direction in this regard? We support this amendment but I would like to submit that the agitation taking place at present is the result of the confusion which exists regarding this amendment. It is felt that this amendment has been made for the benefit of MPs and MLAs only. Article 15 (4) and 16 (4) of our Constitution are of special significance for making India a welfare state. I would like to urge the hon. Minister that we will render full support to the Bill but we will not allow it to have any lacuna. You will not have to act under anyone's pressure and no changes should be made whatsoever in this regard. One point which Shri Ram Dhan made is..

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall not interrupt your speech but time is limited.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: I was trying to tell the hon. Minister that article 17 of the Constitution is the most important article which deals with social injustice. As the hon. member was saying and I also think that 25 per cent of the Indian population consists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Today, irrespective of the party to which a person may belong or he may uphold human rights in his speech, he does not give the respect to other human beings. It is a fact that untouchability has not been removed so far. Whosoever practises untouchability must be penalised. There should be no hesitation in awarding the stringent punishment to a person practising untouchability regardless of his party affiliations. As regards the agitations which are taking place today, to say that the Congress has a hand in these agitations is not a fact. On the contrary, all the people, having faith in any religion are behind it. This amendment relates to a serious issue. It is no less important issue than the Kashmir or the Punjab problem or that of Arunachal, Tripura and Srilanka. I would only like to submit that unless measures are taken immediately, it will be difficult to save the country from disaster which it is heading for in the name of religion, language and caste. Therefore, I would like the Government and the hon. Minister whom I have known for long and who is a socialist in his outlook to consider this matter and hope that the Government will not submit to any pressure howsoever strong it maybe. With these words, I render full support to this Bill.'

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support this Constitution Amendment Bill on the behalf of my party, the Communist Party of India. This measure is like taking quinine for the treatment of deadly disease like Malaria. The menace of untouchability deeply rooted in the society and it has assumed both social and economic dimensions. Even today, there are people in our society who strongly believe in and practise untouchability. They are conservative in their outlook. By these people, a

person is not considered untouchable when he is engaged by them as an agricultural labour or for the purpose of sowing, harvesting and storage of the produce. But he becomes untouchable or asked to keep away when it is the time of taking of the meals or serving foodstuffs to the people. Thus, such a treatment is meted out to a person who produces or grows foodgrains and who is virtually their 'annadata':

The same thing is true in the matter of construction of houses. One does not practise untouchability when it is a matter of cutting the woods and the bamboos or construction of houses to live in but when one starts living in that very house, he starts practising untouchability. What does this all mean? There are several other social and economic matters where untouchability is practised. In fact what I mean to say is that there are certain people who are not familiar with the ancient traditions and are concerned with present day circumstances or taking things according to the political thinking of their party. I do not want to take it as a political problem since this is not a problem concerned with any particular party. This menace is stigma on our entire Indian society which can not be removed unless we all are together to fight again it with full determination.

This was not so through the entire course of our history. People who speak of Hinduism, should know that the word 'Hindu' does not occur in any of the four Vedas. Upanishadas, the fundamentals of philosophy, the Ramayana by Valmiki or in the Mahabharata. When there was no word like Hindu, when there was no king or kingdom, rich and the poor, there was nothing like untouchability in our society. Even the sons born to a prostitute could attain the heights of a preceptor like Guru Vashisht. A shudra mother could have given birth to a son who could rise to the status of Maharshi Vyas. At that time the 'KARMA' was the basis of our society. When the concept of wealth and poverty took roots in the society and when the rich started exploiting the poor then the labourers, the producers of wealth were

termed as untouchables. This was done on one hand to deprive these people of the fruits of their labour and on the other to enable certain people to usurp the money earned by them. Thereafter, birth was made the deciding factor of the caste and ultimately the labour class was termed as untouchable. During the last few thousand years this evil has gone very deep and to remove it we will have to wage a war both on the economic as well as on the social born. In dealing with this issue great laxity has been shown till now and that attitude is still continue even today. I say so because the same situation is persisting and the matter is being raised here very strongly. The state mail made by Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, which I read in newspapers, was clearly worded in which he said that all this is happening owing to misunderstanding. This Bill is aimed at extending the reservation in Lok Sabha and in Legislative Assemblies for another 10 years. But under the present circumstances the problem can be solved if all the Members and all the Parties raise unitedly their voice inside as well as outside this House. It can take when the form of a national movement as it has in those days when Gandhiji had to sit on a fast unto death for 21 days, hear abuses, was termed as the dafier of Vedas and was also shown black flags. I have been witness to it as I had gone there to support it in my childhood. We will have to face this evil with courage and determination because its grip is very strong on the society. The position has slightly improved in urban areas, but it is not the same in rural areas. When a person residing in an urban area goes to live in a village and there he engages labourers, then his behaviour with them is not the same as it was there in the urban area or at other places.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there was a time when the sons of an individual were termed as brahmins, kshatriyas, vaishyas and shudras on the basis of the work allotted to them. I would not like to take the time of the House to illustrate it but I would like to submit that there have been some clumsy person was upgrading as learned people who gave their judgement without going into the root of

the problem. The problem of untouchability has been continuing from time immemorial. There was a time when the children of the same person could be termed as Brahmin, kshatriya viashya and shudra in the same way as the children of a person took up to different processions and were known as doctors teachers etc. Now when the feudal society came into being, man created untouchability and practised discrimination on the basis of birth with a view to protect himself against exploitation. In order to solve this problem, most of us have tried to fight against this evil ever since the days of independence struggle. Today, a person believing in untouchability is a wealthier person in the society. He is a rich landlord and is practising all kinds of illegal things in violation of the provisions of law. One, who should be behind the bars, is occupying leading positions in the society. There is not even a single village in our country, where money lending is not being practised openly. I am speaking about all the villages. I am not referring to the villages under any particular Government. I am speaking of India as a whole. If we want to do away with this evil of money lending for which we want to criticise the Government then we all, the poor, the labourers and those who have been termed untouchables or the backward classes and the so called swarnas will have to make collective efforts. Otherwise, we will not be able to make a dint in this regard. I am saying so because some of those who are wearing a sacred thread today have made fatal attempts on my life a number of times. But it is a fact that we can win this battle through the collective efforts of the backward classes, labourers and the swarnas etc. Provisions of the Constitution can also be met, if not fully, to a great extent. As Shri Ram Dhan has suggested, I would also like to request that the reservation facility should be extended to Rajya Sabha and the Legislative Councils keeping in view the requirement of our present circumstances. It has been said in the statement of objects and reasons that though we have made some progress in the post-independence era, yet it is not upto the desired extent. I feel that the Government should seriously consider the matter of ex-

[Sh. Bhogendra Jha]

tending this reservation facility to Rajya Sabha or the Legislative Councils so that their voice may also be heard. There are some tribes and castes which are backward and have not yet been included in the list of scheduled castes & scheduled tribes, like those of 'Khatway' and 'Tatma' in Bihar, 'Koli' in Uttar Pradesh, 'Pharu' and "Dhangar" in West Charuparan. They should be included in the list. I would request the hon. Minister to take action to this effect.

The affidavits submitted at the Gram Panchayat and higher levels should invariably include that untouchability would not be professed or practised action. Since this will percolate to the village-level, the 'pradhans' of the Gram Panchayat and members of the executive committee will also act upon it. This should not be limited to the Constitution alone but should be included in the oath-taking ceremonies for officials at all levels. As Members of Parliament, we should refuse to attend functions where invitees are segregated on the basis of caste. We should not attend because we are elected representatives of all people regardless of caste or creed. It is true that very few among us do so but I always adopt this line of action. The minimum, we can do is to boycott marriages, feasts or other such occasions where people of some castes are asked to sit and eat separately.

Lastly, I want to say a few words about the laws relating to land reforms. Implementation of these laws could not be successful unless Harijans are brought into the picture. Gifting them land through land consolidation is not enough. The Harijans are not in a position to fight the oppression even though they may be in possession of the allotment slips. So a joint effort is required. There are also some areas where people of higher castes are complaining of attacks by Harijans. For making a cohesive society, it is necessary that the working class is associated with the implementation of land reforms.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before I call other Members, I must in fact, emphasise that the time is extremely limited. Now most of the major Parties have had their intervention of two Members. I am, therefore, obliged to call some of the smaller groups whose Members have not got the chance to speak so far. Before I do so, there are two or three Members who were present here on Friday but could not participate. Now I would call upon Shri Laeta Umbrey to speak. I think he is not present.

Shri S. Sema.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): In view of what you have just said, I take it that voting cannot take place at 2 O'clock. I take it that the previous schedule which was fixed for voting to be taken at 2 p.m. would be automatically pushed back.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am afraid, it would be so because what the hon. Speaker said was that his intention was to get the hon. Minister start his reply at 2 O'clock. It would be my endeavour to try and see that the Minister starts his reply at 2 O'clock.

Shri S. Sema.

SHRI SIKIHO SEMA (Nagaland): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity.

While sharing the concern expressed in this House about the unanimity, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Members that tribal representative like me should also be given time to speak.

I would like to thank all of you on behalf of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people for whom this Constitution (Amendment) Bill is under consideration. Extending reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is not at all affecting the unity and integrity of this nation. This measure would rather strengthen the national unity and vitality of the nation pooled together. Therefore I

would rather say that instead of limiting it to 10 years, it would be much desirable if the proviso is incorporated in such a way that till such time as socio-economic conditions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes so warrant the provisions should be in force.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for being so brief and to the point.

Shri P.L. Handoo.

13.44 hrs.

SHRI PIYARE LAL HANDOO (Anantriag): Hon. Chairman, Sir, in view of the absolute unanimity of the House on such a very important Constitutional amendment, a Member from a small Party like mine would not have taken courage to encroach upon the time available to the House. But in view of the special reference to the people from the State of Jammu and Kashmir, I think, I would only make one or two observations.

The first observation which I would like to make is that from a Government which has held the prospect of an alternative model of Government, something better was expected. Shri Ram Dhanji drew our attention to 1931 communal award and later to the Poona agreement which perhaps is the genesis of the kind and quality of the reservation we are embarking upon today. But we must not forget that we are today dealing with the organic law of the land which is the Constitution and are seeking to amend it 62nd time. Great Britain has no written Constitution and we cannot count the number of amendments made in their Constitution. America, which has a Constitution as old as the British Constitution, has not yet made even the tenth amendment. We may accuse the earlier rulers of having dealt with this Constitution in a manner as they have rushed so fast as to need a 62nd amendment. But in respect of the provision like the one we are enacting today perhaps thought should have been given, the objectives and realities should have been examined and one question answered and that is, will this reservation for next two general elections

suffice and help us to achieve what we want to achieve by making such a reservation at present? My categorical reply would be that we will not achieve by keeping the reservation alive for ten years alone and I agree with my friend when he says that something better should have been brought on the statute book but perhaps that way we would have overcome the difficulty of seeking an amendment and reaching the 100th amendment in less than 50 years of the adoption of the Constitution.

The second observation I would make is that till 1989 Kashmir State had not identified its Scheduled Tribes in the State which has very recently been done. Recently on the basis of special census conducted in 1985 certain tribes have been identified to be in existence in the State of Jammu and Kashmir and those have been scheduled. In respect of the scheduling, I would request the Prime Minister who is here, that there are some pending matters in respect of Jammu and Kashmir State arising out of that special census. These need attention.

One is that the special census report has not been published nor has it been made public. As a result of it, in respect of those tribes which are scheduled, certain things are not intelligible in respect of Jammu and Kashmir particularly in the districts of Ladakh and Kargil. You have seen recently an agitation in Ladakh and certain exclusion of tribes on the basis of special census has not been intelligible to the people. Particularly the tribe Argon has been excluded and that exclusion is being confined to a religious minority and it has created some tension spots. I would request Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, the hon. Minister who is in charge of the Bill, to go through all the memoranda which have been submitted by the State of Jammu and Kashmir in respect of publication of special census report in respect of exclusion which have taken place in the course of scheduling of tribes in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

I thank you before I sit down and I again extend my fullest support on behalf of the

[Sh. Piyare Lal Handoo]

National Conference to the measure that you have brought and hope that it will bring something better in future.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Amar Roypradhan. Kindly be as brief as you can.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN (Cooch Behar): I rise to support the 62nd Constitution Amendment Bill which has been moved by the young and energetic Minister Shri Ram Vilas Paswan who is very much vocal and very much eloquent and very much knowledgeable about the subject of SCST when he was in the Opposition.

I welcome the decision of the Government to extend the reservation period for ten years in the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies with the hope that in the meantime the development of the SCST will be so much that there will be no necessity of further extension of time as has been expressed by Shri Vasant Sathe for a period of 500 years. I hope there will be no need for further extension of this but, at the same time, it is a matter of great regret that some anti-reservation movement is going on in different parts of the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. I think, it is very sad that some of the youth are being deliberately misguided by some frustrated politicians and some vested interests. But at the same time the students and youth should know that this particular Amendment under Article 334 has got nothing to do with the seat reservation in the schools and colleges and in respect of job reservation. But all of us should know that we have got some duty in this regard under Articles 15 (4) and 16 (4) under Fundamental Rights; under Article 46 of Directive Principle of State Policy and under Articles 330, 332 and 335 of the Constitution under the Special Provisions. Let us go through the figures regarding job reservation. Let us go through the figures to find out how many Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people are employed. I would like to place before you the extracts from the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled

Caste and Scheduled Tribes the 28th Report. The reservation for Scheduled Caste people is 15 per cent and in respect of the Scheduled Tribes it is 7 1/2 per cent. Here, I would like to place before you the actual persons employed so far in the Central Government Services. In respect of Scheduled Caste people, under 'A' Category it is 8.23 per cent; under 'B' Category it is 1.40 per cent; under 'C' Category it is 14.46 per cent; under 'D' Category it is 20.09 per cent. On the other hand, in respect of Scheduled Tribe people, when the reservation quota is 7 1/2 per cent, the number of people employed are: under 'A' Category it is 2.05; under 'B' Category it is 1.92; under 'C' Category it is 4.23 and under 'D' Category it is 5.84. In the case of Public Sector Undertakings, there is no full report available. It is shown only up to the level 211. Other particulars are not available. In the case of Scheduled Caste people, under 'A' Category, it is 4.86; under 'B' Category it is 6.17; under 'C' Category it is 18.54 and under 'D' Category it is 20.82. With regard to Scheduled Tribes, from Category 'A' to 'D' the figures are 1.17, 1.55, 8.82 and 17.7 respectively. In the case of nationalised banks, regarding Scheduled Castes in respect of officers it is 7.29, in the case of clerks it is 13.77 and in the case of subordinate staff it is 22.30. With regard to Scheduled Tribes, the figures are: 1.8, 3.77 and 4.61 respectively. If we go through the reservation quota in LIC, Food Cooperation of India, ONGC, Shipping Corporation of India and STC we find that the figures are very miserable in respect of these communities. If we go through the figures of these registered with the Employment Exchanges, three crores and thirty four lakh unemployed people are there. Out of this figures, we should know that there are about 31 lakh people belonging to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people who are standing in the queue for a job. There are also lakhs of graduates and post-graduates waiting for a job in respect of these communities. I would like to ask my friends who are sitting on the right side to me as to what they were doing for the last 42 years. This is time for them to say as to what they did for the Scheduled Caste and

Scheduled Tribes people during the course of 42 years. There was a massive recruitment recently. The Union Minister of State (Personnel) said on the 14th September in this august House that 26,048 vacancies out of the 35,647 vacancies had been filled up during the course of the three months' drive in the Central Ministries and Departments excluding Banking Sector, Insurance Corporation etc. Why didn't they conduct such a special drive in the case of Banking Service; Food Corporation of India and in the Insurance Corporation of India? There is so much of backlog. Who is responsible for that? Under Category 'A' and Category 'B' hardly one third of the total recruitment has been done. We should project this picture to the youth of the country. They should know as to what did the previous Governments do for the last 42 years for the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people. They did nothing for those people.

Finally, I would like to end my speech. I support this Bill.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Mr. Chairman Sir, Because of the time constraint, I would only like to make my points.

Firstly my party supports the Bill wholeheartedly.

Secondly, even in literate States like Kerala the oppression of Harijans and other backward classes are still in force. I can quote one example which took place about one and a half years ago in Kerala. There was an incident where one Krishnan Kutti, a Harijan youth, was taken into custody by the Kothamangalam Police Station which is in my constituency Muvattupuzha. The poor youth was tortured in the police station. In fact, when he at last uttered that he was a Harijan and that he will have to take some action, he was dealt with in such a way that he was forced to eat the human excreta. He was tortured and put to other difficulties also. The matter was taken up with the Kerala Government; but no serious action was taken against the police officials.

Again, this matter was taken up before the Central Government though this is purely a State subject. The local MLA took up the matter before the Union Home Minister and a petition was filed. Some kind of an enquiry took place; but I do not know what action has been taken. I would like to bring this aspect to the notice of the House.

Thirdly, I would also plead that when Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe groups are enlisted, certain groups were not taken into account. For example, backward people who are Christians are plenty in number. But these backward Christians and such other groups are not enlisted in the Scheduled Caste or in the Scheduled Tribe. In a secular State they are free to follow any religious practice. But just because of the fact that they adhere to Christianity or their ancestors had adhered to Christianity, they are not enlisted in the Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe. I would like to bring this fact also to the notice of the House.

Lastly, as stated by the learned friends on the other side, the anti-reservation agitation is going on. It is in fact for us to give serious notice to that strike. I am condemning the way in which the strike is going on and for the havoc that is being done in the areas where the strike is in vogue. But I would think that we have to give some thought to the demands which are being raised by them. There is a humanitarian aspect when people say that jobs should also be given on the basis of the economic backwardness and that educational facilities should be given on that count.

With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI VAMANRAO MAHADIK (Bombay South Central): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of my party Shiv Sena and on my own behalf, I rise to support this Bill. The party which ruled the country, for 42 years, could not do much for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes because it failed in surmounting the impediments which has always been

[Sh. Yamanrao Mahadik]

there in the way of helping scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. The fact is that the assistance meant for these castes could not reach them. There is a proposal to extend the reservation facility for a further period of 10 years.

14.00 hrs.

We support this proposal in so far as giving representation in Gram Panchayats, Zila Parishads and Assemblies is concerned but other such facilities would involve expenditure. The erstwhile Government could not do anything for the poor in the last 42 years. The poor in this country have been an oppressed lot for the last 2-4 thousands years. According to Manu, society should be divided on the basis of caste. The current situation would not have come about had we kept in mind what Lord Krishna had said. Secondly, the Government should pay attention to the public reaction on this issue. By providing facilities to these people, the Government is ignoring the rest of the poor sections of society. Assurances were given that the economically backward sections of society would be provided assistance.

[English]

I will quote only one example and finish, Sir.

[Translation]

When Newton was being troubled by a cat and her kittens in his house, he asked a carpenter to make a large house for the cat and a small house for the kittens but the carpenter made one very large house that could accommodate the cat and her kittens. Newton was angry but the carpenter explained that whenever the cat went into the house the kittens were bound to follow suit. Similarly, the poor sections of society should be given the same facilities as are being enjoyed by other sections of society. This is essential. So we favour that there should be new proposal of this nature for the next 10 years.

[English]

SHRI A.K. RAY (Dhanbad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support this Constitution Amendment Bill, on behalf of my Organisation, the Marxist Co-ordination and ask for more rigorous enforcement of all the socio-economic measures to fulfil the objectives.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the article 295(A) of the original Constitution has now become article 334 in the new Constitution. This Amendment Bill is not a certificate of our success, but the admission of our failure. So, in this way, it deserves some serious consideration, despite the rationing of time. I do not want to go into unnecessary details. At the same time, we must note the real points. What is the point? The real point is to see how to correct the distortions of the past and how to prevent the perversion of the present. Here, not only the past is hurting, but the present is also hurting. That is why, our caste ridden society, which started the movement in 1947, could not develop into an egalitarian society and today caste has become more important in every sphere of our life and hurting us everywhere. So, even outside a movement has been started against reservation. So it is a serious phenomenon and we must go deep into it. We are definitely to go with the reservation and this question was raised even in the Constituent Assembly and Mr. Ambedkar, who was the father of our Constitution, had said that ten years time should be given so that the down-trodden class could come up to the level of the advanced class and also to shake up its historical backwardness. Now it is to be judged as to what extent we could progress on that line or whether we are going backward. Two criteria are there. One is the educational level and their position in respect to the other castes. Let us see what was their position in 1961; 1971 and 1981. Whether the gap is increasing or decreasing. That is more important. In answer to a Starred question in Rajya Sabha it was said that percentage of literacy in SC & ST in India in 1961, 1971 and 1981 was 10.11 and 8.06, 14.54 and 10.89 and 21.38 and 16.35 respectively while the same for the general

was 23.93, 29.48 and 36.23, that is, the gap is remaining the same at 15 per cent. We are not progressing at all towards the egalitarian society or decreasing the gap.

The second criteria is their economic position, that is, the population below the poverty line in the rural and urban area was 57.82 and 44.98 per cent in Bihar; 67.89 and 41.8 per cent in Orissa; 58.31 and 34.6 per cent in West Bengal and 51.2 and 38.4 per cent in All India while the percentage for the same period for scheduled castes was 77.75 and 63.88 in Bihar; 80.05 and 71.63 in Orissa; 70.75 and 54.50 in West Bengal and 64.69 and 54.25 in All India. The percentage for the same period for scheduled tribes was 68.20 and 51.40 in Bihar; 86.38 and 70.90 in Orissa; 75.42 and 56.64 in West Bengal and 72.93 and 52.59 in All India. In the latest figures available, that is, for the year 1983-884 the percentage below poverty line in the rural and urban areas in general was 51.35 and 37.04 in Bihar; 44.76 and 29.29 in Orissa; 43.84 and 26.52 in West Bengal and 40.4 and 18.1 in All India. The percentage for the same period of scheduled castes was 71.1 and 52.2 in Bihar; 54.9 and 40.3 in Orissa; 52.0 and 41.3 in West Bengal and 53.1 and 40.4 in All India whereas in respect of scheduled tribes the figures are 64.9 and 39.8 in Bihar; 60.9 and 52.0 in Orissa; 58.6 and 33.1 in West Bengal and 48.4 and 39.9 in All India. So in that span there was no progress in decreasing the gap. Why is it? It is because the whole thing is being conceived in an exploitative system. Unless this exploitative system is smashed and feudalism and capitalism are attacked and their fusion is destroyed, nothing could be done by merely putting the reservation, though we support it. We are giving simply Cibazol treatment to a serious and cancerous disease. That's why I want my friend, the Labour Minister, that while extending the reservation, he should also do something to bring out some sort of socio-political revolution, social revolution or some cultural revolution.

It should be started amongst the downtrodden in this country so that economic, social and educational backwardness could be

taken up together and removed, and we are able to usher in a new egalitarian society.

With these words, I again extend my support to this Bill.

SHRI NANDU THAPA (Sikkim): Sir, I am a lone Member from Sikkim. In Sikkim there are 13 seats for scheduled tribes and two seats for scheduled castes out of the total strength of 32 in the State Assembly. Such an arrangement was provided in Sikkim in view of the understanding which the Government of India had at the time of merger of Sikkim with the Indian Union in 1975. The reservation is provided to the scheduled castes for two seats and the scheduled tribes for 13 seats of Sikkimese origin only. It has been categorically mentioned that the reservation should have been provided to all the ethnic communities of Sikkim as was envisaged in the Constitution or the Representation of People Act. The people of Sikkim have tried for this restoration of seats, a number of times during the last ten years. They requested the Central Government to see that the understanding reached at the time of merger or thereafter is not ignored. Thus, the people in Sikkim have taken this with a hurt feeling.

I urge upon the present Government and the Prime Minister to look into this request in detail when the State Government or its Chief Minister approaches them.

Let it be known in this House that I fully support the Bill placed before the House.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD. HASSAN COMMANDER (Ladakh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I draw your attention towards Ladakh where an agitation has been going on for the last 10 years concerning Schedule Castes and Scheduled Tribes. 12% of the poor in Ladakh have not been given the status of Scheduled Tribes. I request the hon. Minister to include those 12% also. The weather is extremely cold in Ladakh, which is on Indo-Pak border and this leads to many problems. In Jammu

[Sh. Mohd. Hassan Commander]

and Kashmir, Gujars and Bakarwals are also included in Scheduled Tribes. Nomads are the most backward community in Jammu and Kashmir. The Jammu and Kashmir Government had recommended that this community too should be given the status of Scheduled Tribes. I request the hon. Minister to grant them the status of Scheduled Tribes. With these words, I support this Bill.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister may reply now.

DR. ASIM BALA (Nabadwip): I as about to speak in this House but I could not get an opportunity.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I appreciate your concern. Time constraint has been placed upon me and I cannot break it.

SHRI JAGPAL SINGH (Hardwar): Sir, this is an important issue.

[Translation]

The list of our Members has been submitted to you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): Mr. Chairman Sir, it has been agreed upon more than once that we should go to voting at 2 PM and we have already exceeded the time: If they continue to speak, then there is a lot of business which will become pending. The should not extend the time every minute.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGPAL SINGH: Sir, you can, at least, call those, whose names have been

submitted on behalf of the party.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I cannot do that, please sit down. All of those, whose names have been submitted by the Party cannot be given an opportunity. This applies to all, not the opposition alone.

....(Interruptions)....

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot argue with the Chair, Please sit down.

[English]

I am on my legs. Please sit down. Time allotted to the respective parties has not been utilised by either the ruling party or the Opposition. There is no discrimination so far as calling the names of Members is concerned. There is a time constraint on the time available to the House and maximum accommodation has been shown. There were unattached Members whose views were necessary to be obtained and registered in the House. Every consideration has been shown. Every Member whose name has been given here cannot be asked to participate in the discussion.

[Translation]

14.19 hrs.

[SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE *in the Chair*]

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all I would like to thank and congratulate all the hon. Members of the ruling party and the opposition who gave valuable suggestions and supported this constitution Amendment Bill. Good suggestions have been offered by the hon. Members and I think almost all the proposals are receiving attention of our Government including the one which seeks statutory status for the Commission on Schedule Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Our friends have raised the issue of land reforms. The hon. Members know that on 6th December-the day on which

Baba Saheb Ambedkar achieved salvation—our Hon. Prime Minister had made an announcement to the effect that the laws relating to land reforms would be included in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution so that the people belonging to weaker sections and scheduled castes and scheduled tribes could get the possession of the land or the house which is allotted to them on papers and the landlords who manage to take such cases to the courts could be debarred from doing so. Many of the hon. Members have drawn attention towards the problem of untouchability. Today everybody knows that untouchability is a blot on the nation. It is the duty not only of the Government but also of the society and the social workers to work unitedly to remove this stigma. The hon. Members are aware that the existing laws are very complicated and their implementation is a difficult task. However, the Government would make efforts in this regard. Directives have already been issued to the effect that the Untouchability Act and the Civil Protection Act should be enforced strictly.

The hon. Members have also demanded the revision of the lists of Schedule Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The House is aware that the lists in the states are notified through Presidential notification but subsequent revision in the list can be made only through a constitutional amendment. Committees were constituted for this purpose and suggestions were invited. The suggestions so received were placed before the cabinet but nothing came out of that exercise. The Government is reconsidering the matter. So far as the question of addition of some new scheduled tribes in the list is concerned, the Government will consider the matter. At present only 15 per cent reservation has been provided to the scheduled castes and 7 1/2 per cent to the scheduled tribes. But the point which needs to be given attention is that according to the 1981 census, their number has increased and if more names are added to the list, the number will further increase. The percentage of reservation for them will have to be increased whether it is in the Legislative Assemblies, Lok Sabha or in Government jobs. These matters are of

great concern and the Government will have to consider all these points.

Some of the hon. Members have mentioned about the practice of carrying night soil. It is really a matter of disgrace for the country. Shri Sathe referred to Manu in this context. We do not want Baba Ambedkar's name to be mentioned in that sense. Baba Saheb Ambedkar provided reservation to the downtrodden of the society as against Manu who favoured higher castes in the society. Some of the Members want reservation to be provided to economically backward people also. Article 15 (4) of the Constitution clearly states that special opportunities would be provided to those who are socially and educationally backward. The present Constitution (Amendment) Bill, which seeks to amend section 334 of the Constitution would provide only political reservation, i.e. reservation in the Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies. This Bill has a limited objective. The economic, social and political condition of this section of the society has not improved even after 42 years of independence. This is with this end in view that this Bill has been introduced. Their number is negligible even today in the Rajya Sabha or in the Legislative Councils where no reservation has been provided for them. The reservation has been provided only in the elected bodies and their number in such bodies is proportionate to their actual population. We are proud that when our hon. Prime Minister was in the Jan Morcha and he was to select one person for the single seat in Rajya Sabha, he proposed the name of a scheduled caste candidate for the seat. The country neither lacks leaders nor policies. What it lacks is sincerity. Unless the Government is sincere in its efforts, weaker sections of the society cannot be uplifted. I feel that political will has been lacking somewhere, with the result that the people belonging to weaker sections, called scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, have been deprived of their due share in progress in the economic and other fields. The Constitutional provision is that in Government services, 15 per cent reservation will be provided to scheduled castes and 7 1/2 per cent reservation to

[Sh. Ram Vilas Paswan]

the scheduled tribes. But even this provision has not been fully implemented. Many of the hon. Members have suggested that the backlog of reserved posts should be cleared. I am of the considered view that if the erring officials are taken to task, the reserved seats would not be dereserved in future. Besides, if any officer deliberately declares an able candidate belonging to scheduled caste or scheduled tribe unfit even if he fulfils the criteria fixed for a particular post, the Government would take action against him. I am issuing instructions to my Ministry and other Ministries that they should ensure that no injustice is done deliberately to the people belonging to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes or weaker sections.

Some of our colleagues have demanded reservation in Rajya Sabha and Legislative Councils too. As I said earlier, this Bill is meant to provide reservation in Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies. On an earlier occasion also, I had made it clear to the hon. Members of all parties that the agitations that are being launched outside are based on one or the other misconception. We have been following a wrong policy even after 42 years of independence and the ill effect of that policy is that our youths are full of resentment. They are unable to get employment and if some section of the society is given a slight concession, they feel that their rights are being transgressed. The Constitution Amendment Bill which has been introduced in the House has nothing to do with the Government services. The matter regarding the Government services has been dealt with under section 15 (4) and 16 (4) of the Constitution, but no time limit has been fixed for that. A number of hon. Members have demanded reservation in Rajya Sabha and Legislative Councils too. The other day, I was going through a file and I found that a similar move was initiated long back. The Government would consider the matter. Right now, the matter relating to Legislative Assemblies and Lok Sabha is before the House.

Besides, I agree with the submission of

my friends who rightly said that reservation was not a charity, it was a constitutional right. I also agree with the view that neither reservation is a charity nor there is any conspiracy to create a separate class in the society. The framers of the Constitution felt that the castes and communities which had been deprived of their rights and social, economic and political justice for centuries should be brought to the mainstream of the society, and to achieve this objective there was only one way. Just as when a member of the family falls sick, the other members of the family see to it that medicines and fruits etc. are made available to him even if they have to go without food. Similarly, the poor and weaker sections of the society, the exploited and the oppressed should be provided special facilities. It was for this reason that reservation was provided. The provision of reservation was made in Government services, Legislative Assemblies and Lok Sabha.

So far as private sector is concerned, as you know, there is no provision of any reservation in this sector. Government wants that they should make progress in every field of life and should have reasonable representation in other fields also. Our efforts should not be confined to providing them reservation in Government jobs. It will be endeavour of the Government to bring them to the mainstream of life and to raise their standard of living. For this purpose, the Government will invite suggestions and place them before the House for consideration. As I said earlier, right now our objective is very limited and this Constitution Amendment Bill has been introduced for this purpose. Through this measure, section 334 is sought to be amended so as to extend the period of reservation in Legislatures i.e. Lok Sabha and Legislative assemblies for another 10 years. The reservation provision has been there for 40 years. Some of the hon. Members have suggested to make it a continuous process rather than extending it everytime for 10 years. A review shall be made after every 10 years but as you know there is very little time at our disposal. Reservation period is coming to an end on 26th of January. After the Bill is adopted by the Parliament it has to be ratified by the

State Assemblies. We could not go into greater details due to time constraints and so the Government has brought this Bill considering the unanimous support of Members from both sides for a 10 year extension. I thank all hon. Members for whole-heartedly supporting this Bill. While wanting that this Bill be passed unanimously, I would ask all hon. Members to work for the upliftment of the weaker sections of society. This deprived section should be brought into the mainstream of life. We should keep ourselves abreast with what is happening outside Parliament. I appeal to the people of this country that the anti-reservation agitation is weakening the country. It does not do the country any good if there is a sense of frustration among its poor. Therefore, all such agitations should be withdrawn and never launched again in future. I would like to inform the agitationists that the Government intends to combat problems like unemployment on a war footing...*(Interruptions)*.....

SHRI JAGPAL SINGH: Mr. Chairman,.....*(Interruptions)*... I am not expressing my views. Hon. Shri Devi Lal,.....*(Interruptions)*....the day a statement is given against it, the agitation will be withdrawn.....*(Interruptions)*.....

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Our Government shall bring forward such pro-poor proposals and you will find it difficult to oppose them. I can understand your feelings, hon. Shri Jagpal. I am fully seized of the feelings of this august House feels, and the feelings of the people at large. We intend to do more than what everyone expects of us to do. Please have patience and extends us your whole-hearted support.

Lastly I thank all hon. Members who participated in the discussion and others who wanted to but could not. I would like this Constitutional Amendment to be passed without any alternations whatsoever.

SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR (Dohad): May I know from the hon. Minister whether political reservations as in the Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies would be intro-

duced for the Rajya Sabha and Legislative Councils also?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, as I said, at present this is only for Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies. Introducing it in the Rajya Sabha and Legislative Councils shall be considered as and when the need arises.

SHRIG.VENKATSWAMY (Poddapalli): Mr. Chairman, when the antireservation stir began, a statement was made that this measure has nothing to do with the reservation in government jobs. May I know from the hon. Minister whether reservation in government jobs will continue or not?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr Chairman Sir, you may have heard the hon. Prime Minister saying in this House that reservation has been extended for the Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies only. As far as Article 15 (4) and 16(4) regarding government jobs are concerned, there is no time limit. It shall remain in force, as long as there is no improvement at the social, educational and economic levels.

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD (Hingoli): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to ask something about the revision of SC/ST lists.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, as I have said, the first revision of the SC/ST list is done under a Presidential order. As the SC/ST list has been made once for the entire country, it shall have to be presented before Parliament if a subsequent amendment is to be made. The suggestions were kept before the previous Government but it failed to act upon them. Our Government is now looking into the matter. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now I am on my legs; would you kindly listen to me?

Hon. Members, this being a Constitution Amendment Bill, under the provisions of the Constitution and the Rules of Procedure,

the motion for consideration of the Bill, both the clauses and the motion for passing the Bill, will have to be passed by the special majority, i.e. by a majority of the total membership of the House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Members of the House present and voting. Thus, four divisions will have to be held.

As you all know, Division Numbers have not so far been allotted to the hon. Members; it will not be possible to hold the divisions by the automatic vote recording system installed in the House, if you want the names to be recorded. Otherwise, divisions will thus have to be held under the provisions of Rule 367-AA by distribution of slips.

Normally, when a division is held, the names of the Members who vote for Ayes and Noes are specifically mentioned in the proceedings of the House. In case we hold the divisions today by operating the automatic vote recording system, it will not be possible to record the names of the hon. Members in the proceedings, just because the division numbers have not been given.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): We are not pressing for a division.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. (*Interruptions*)

But, there has to be a division in order to ascertain whether as many Members as two-thirds of them have voted or not. I suggest, subject to the concurrence of the House, that we may hold the divisions by operating the automatic vote recording system and dispense with the practice of recording the names of the Members. That is one alternative, viz. that the names will not be listed. The other alternative is to distribute slips, if you want the names to be mentioned; and then record Ayes or Noes; and we collect them and then declare the total.

SHRISONTOSH MOHANDEV (Tripura West): Sir, you can request all the Members to sign the attendance registers. From there you can take the name of afterwards. We

want it to be by division.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; if you want the names, the only alternative is that slips have to be issued. If you want to cut down on time, and if it is true, as the Minister was claiming a few minutes back, that the entire House has supported the amendments, then perhaps the names need not matter.

So, we can proceed to this automatic vote recording system.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now let me explain the procedure.

SHRI A.K. ROY (Dhanbad): *rose.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am on my legs. Do you want me, Mr. Roy, to sit down?

SHRI A.K. ROY: Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right.

SHRI A K ROY: There are two matters here. So, we want that as the House is unanimous, with a voice vote also you can take it. (*Interruptions*)

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much for the suggestion. But that is not acceptable.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): On such a very important discussion, the Leader of the Opposition is absent. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ranga, do you continue to be the Deputy Leader of the Opposition?

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur): Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He continues to be so.

You have seen in the papers that an overwhelming majority are new members. I saw it in the list and noticed that there are some 379 new members in the Lok Sabha. So, let me explain the procedure for operating the automatic vote recording equipment which is there installed before everybody's seat.

A push button set containing a pilot light and three push button—one of the colours is mustard button for 'Aye; red button for 'No' and a black for 'Abstention' together with a push switch suspended by a wire, have been provided at the seat of every member. Yes, both the hands are engaged his way so that no proxy is possible. With one hand you have to push a button and with the other you have the push switch. When the machine is made operational no announcement by the Chair, "Now Division"—a gong sounds which is the signal to the members to cast their votes. Each member has to press the push switch with one hand and then press one of the three buttons, i.e. for 'Aye', 'No' or 'Abstention', according to his own choice with the other hand. The push switch and the push button must be kept pressed simultaneously until the gong sounds for the second time after ten seconds. A pilot lamp on the push button set will glow simultaneously, with the pressing of the button and the push switch, and the glowing of this light indicates that the vote has been recorded by the equipment.

If a member is not able to record his vote—in case the equipment is defective and the member has not been able to either record his vote—the member has failed to record—he may please stand up at his seat and record the vote through slips to be given to him by the Division Clerk.

And then, since we have agreed to this procedure, as only Members of this House are entitled to participate in the Division to be held, I request the Ministers who are not Members of Lok Sabha not to operate the machine.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): Can I stay, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are permitted to stay, but by mistake do not use the machine.

Hon. Members, is it necessary, that I repeat the procedure?

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): May I make a request to you? I would suggest this. Because a large number of hon. members are new, if it is possible, we may have a sort of trial division, pressing that buttons once so that they know how to press it properly. If you can do that, it will facilitate matters.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): A rehearsal.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Yes, a rehearsal, because many hon. members are new.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There seems to be a way out. It seems that it is permissible to have a trial operation once. It means that there will be one trial division followed by four real divisions.

The suggestion has come from the biggest party.

SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY (Hoshiarpur): The members can also cross-check from here whether the light is glowing or not.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. He is very correct. What he is suggesting is that you can sitting in your seat find out whether the light is properly glowing or not. In case you have operated a wrong switch or in case there is no light then you can use the slip given by the division clerk.

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHOUDHURI (Serampore): That number is not visible from here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, let me proceed. Let us have a division. It is only a trial.

Let the Lobbies be cleared.

The Lok Sabha divided

MR. CHAIRMAN: Either some of the buttons are not working or some Members have mistakenly pressed them. There are two kinds of difficulties. One difficulty is that you are not doing it simultaneously and the other is that because of the high technology, some mistakes can be made. So, please sit down. We will give you slips.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Mr. Chairman, I am on a point of order...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, as you have rightly pointed out, the constitutional requirement is that there should be simple majority of the total membership of the House and two thirds majority of Members present and voting. My fear is that—this machine may be defective—we may not have 270 Members present here today. We must ensure that first...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I say, this machine is defective. Many votes have not been recorded. We shall find out now.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Chairman, the Division bell should be rung...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir, you must ensure that 270 Members are present. Only then, voting should be resorted to. *(Interruptions)*

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to remind this House of a very important convention...*(Interruptions)* I want you to listen to me...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Sir, I am on

a point of order. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Would you not listen to me?

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Yes, I will listen to you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then please listen to me. You see, the Lobbies have to be cleared. That has not yet been done...

(Interruptions)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Before that I want to remind the House of a very important convention. This is a Constitution Amendment Bill. The hon. Speaker should be in the Chair. That is the convention of this House. Let it go on record that this is a Constitution Amendment Bill and the Speaker should be in the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is right. May I take it that this is not a No-Confidence against me?

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: No, not at all. I respect you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: O.K. Thank you very much. Then we can proceed. Now, first the Lobbies have to be cleared.

AN. HON. MEMBER: Correct the machine, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, it is extremely difficult. This has been handed over from the past. So, now it is very difficult to correct it.

Now, let the Lobbies be cleared and let there be more hon. Members inside the House.

Now the lobbies are cleared. I shall now put the motion for consideration of the Constitution (Sixty-second amendment) Bill to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That the Constitution-(Sixty-second Amendment) Bill as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Now Division.

The Lok Sabha divided

SHRI K.S. RAO: Sir, the point is, how can we rely on this voting machine? (*Interruptions*). The total numbers indicated by it is only 263. But now when you send the slips, the correct total number may be available. (*Interruptions*). So, it does not indicate the right trend. The total counted by the machine is only 263. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI (Amethi): There is a problem, Sir. Because Division Numbers have not been allotted, how can you know whether these who have voted already are not sending slips also? (*Interruptions*). You won't know because there is no Division Number. You won't know. How will you know it? (*Interruptions*)

15.00 hrs.

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN (Alleppey): Mr. Chairman, Sir, they are collecting some slips. We cannot be sure that the slips are coming from those who have not voted already. (*Interruptions*)

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): We are hon. Members. There will be no booth capturing. I assure you. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: We are supporting this Amendment. but the procedure must be correct. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir, I am on a point of order. We are in a confusion. Basically it is a Constitution (Amendment) Bill. We do not want later on that any technical flaw will fault the voting on this very important Bill on which there is unanimity on all sides. But we cannot make any latitude as far as the requirement of Constitution stands. Now, Sir, under article 368, the wording is very

clear, No.1, it has to be absolute majority...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: For the benefit of the House, initially I read it out. I hope you were present at that time.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Chairman, there is a ruling that while the procedure of voting is going on, there shall not be a point of order. What he raised amounts to a point of order.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I am not on the technicality of point of order.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: The procedure of voting is going on.

15.06 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER—in the Chair]

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir, I was pointing out that this is a Constitutional Amendment. Although on all sides, we are unanimous that this important amendment should be passed unanimously, we cannot do away with the Constitutional requirement. This is an elementary thing.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Now the voting process has started.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: It is being said in your interest.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order in this.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): When lobbies are cleared, no question is raised at all.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I am not on technicality of point of order, I am on the fundamental point of passing this Bill.

[Sh. Vasant Sathe]

[Translation]

Tomorrow the entire thing may turn out to be wrong.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude in one sentence.

[English]

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Article 368 says:

"An amendment of this Constitution may be initiated only by the introduction of a Bill for the purpose in either House of Parliament, and when the Bill is passed in each House by a majority of the total membership of that House..."

The total number of membership of this House is mentioned in the rules.

MR. SPEAKER: The question of point of order does not arise.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I am not on a point of order. My request is, you must know the total number of members and whether there is absolute majority. Unless that is known, this slip etc., is all wrong because what we are seeing is not absolute majority.

I would suggest in your interest, let us follow the traditionally known practice of going into the Lobbies so that everyone is counted. Then, we know the exact number in this voting. This is my request to you.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order.

Subject to correction, the result of the division is:

Ayes: 314**

Noes: Nil

The motion is carried by a majority of the total membership of the House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Members present and voting.

The motion was adopted

MR. SPEAKER: Before I put clause 2 to the vote of the House, I would like to say that this being a Constitution (Amendment) Bill, voting has to be by division.

Now, the Lobbies are already cleared.

The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

The Lok Sabha divided:

[Translation]

SHRI VASANT SATHE: What is all this? Do not take it so lightly. There are 260 members here and this is not the proper way to distribute the slips. What is the problem in going to the lobby?

[English]

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very important issue. The Bill is a very important Bill and I would request that there should be no lacuna in voting which would be questioned at a later date. If there is problem in number which is coming on the voting machine, it may be better that we have a proper old pattern of division and go out of the doors into the Lobbies —Ayes on this side and Noes on that side. We can go out to the Lobbies and it can be counted in a proper manner. This way we can deal with it.

MR. SPEAKER: What about slips?

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: There is a problem with the slip, Sir. The problem is we do not have Division No. Now. If I have voted from this seat, you do not know whether I have filled in a slip or not. If there are division

**316 as corrected names of members who had recorded votes have not been included as division nos, had not been allotted to members till then.

numbers, then they can be cross-checked with the Division Nos. on the slips and the No. on the machine, when there is final correlation. But today there is no Division No. So, you will not be able to cross-check.

I would request that on an important issue like this, we should not leave any question that can be raised at a later date. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Obviously there can be either of the two things. The machine is not working properly; or...

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: The Members are not working properly.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: ...or many of the hon. Members have not been able to give their votes properly. Either of the two things must have happened. I am requesting that the voting be taken by distribution of slips because names have to be written. There is no question of duplication there, as it apprehended on that side. Therefore, let it be on slips.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

AN HON. MEMBER: Are the slips to be distributed even for the Motion that has already been passed? I think it should not be done in its case it has already been passed. *(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): How can it be a substitute? *(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Voting should be done by distributing the slips leaving no scope for doubt.

MR. SPEAKER: slips cannot be distrib-

uted for voting on the Motion which has already been passed. I shall go by the sense of the House in regard to the voting on the question now before the House.

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: The ruling given by the Speaker is final. Courts cannot interfere with this...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

AN. HON. MEMBER: This procedure has never been adopted in the House. We cannot rethink and reconsider after the voting is over. If we do not have Division Numbers, we can use the I.C. number. Raising such doubts about voting is not good. *(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: For the information of the Members, I will read Rule 367AA.

"Where the Speaker directs under clause (c) of sub-rule (3) of rule 367 that the votes shall be recorded by members on 'Aye' and 'No' slips, the Division Clerks shall supply to each member at his seat, an 'Aye' or 'No' slip, according to the choice indicated by him. A member shall record his Vote on the slip by signing and indicating his Division Number thereon."

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: You give the number of the seat, where you are sitting.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: There would be difficulty in distributing the slips. As Division Numbers have not been allotted to the Members, it will create confusion and also violate the rules. I am saying this in the interest of all. All of you should agree with the views of our leader. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (New Delhi): The Chairman who was in the Chair when the voting began, took the sense of the House and adopted certain procedure. In accordance with the procedure, the first voting is over. After that, we proceeded to the second voting on clause 2. A point has been raised by an hon. Member and another point was also raised. I wish to draw your attention to what *Kaul and Shakhder* says in this regard; on the basis of earlier ruling, it says:

“At the commencement of a new House, before seats and division numbers have been allotted to Members, the division is held by distributing “Ayes” and “Noes” slips to members, on which they are required to put their signature.”

This is a ruling of the earlier Speaker even though there is no specific rule or direction in this regard. I would suggest that hereafter this procedure should be followed while the earlier voting should be regarded as valid in accordance with the sense of the House.

SHRI K.S. RAO: If the Speaker is to say that there is unanimity, does it mean that there is no doubt about it, even if the total number of votes is less than half? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Before I put Clause 2 of the vote of the House, let the lobbies be cleared.

Now the Lobbies have been cleared.

I want to make an announcement.

As Division Numbers have not so far been allotted to Members, it is not possible to hold the Division by Automatic vote Recording Machine. Division will now take place under Rule 367AA by distribution of slips. Members will be supplied at their seats with ‘Aye’/‘No’ printed slips for recording their votes. ‘Aye’ slip is printed on one side in

green, both in English and Hindi and ‘No’ in read on its reverse. On these slips, Members may kindly record votes of their choice by signing and writing their names, constituency and State/Union Territory and date eligibly at the places specified on the slip and also seat numbers where they are sitting. Members who desire to record ‘Abstention’ may ask for the ‘Abstention’ slip which is in yellow colour. Immediately after recording his vote, each Member should pass on his slip to the Division Clerk who will call upon his seat to collect the same for handing over to the Officers at the Table.

Now the Lobbies have already been cleared.

The question is:

“That clause 2 stand part of the Bill.”

Now Division. Let the slips be distributed.

The Lok Sabha divided:

Division No. 2

AYES

Abedya Nath, Mahant

Acharia, Shri Easudeb

Advani, Shri L.K.

Aher, Dr. Daulatrao Sonuji

Ajit Singh, Shri

Akbar, Shri M.J.

Ali, Shrimati Subhashini

Amat, Shri D.

Anand Singh, Shri

Anbarasu, Shri Era

Antony, Shri P.A.

Antulay, Shri A.R	Bhattacharya, Shri Nani
Anwar Ahmad, Shri	Bhoye, Shri Reshma Motiram
Argal, Shri Chhaviram	Bhuria, Shri Dileep Singh
Asokaraj, Shri A.	Brahm Bhatt, Shri Prakash Koko
Baig, Shri Arif	Brahm Dutt, Shri
Bais, Shri Ramesh	Chakravorty, Shri Susanta
Baitha, Shri Mahendra	Chandrasekhar, Shrimati M.
Bajpai, Dr. Rajendra Kumari	Chatterjee, Shri Nirmal Kanti
Bala, Dr. Asim	Chatterjee Shri Somnath
Bala Goud, Shri T	Chaudhary, Shri Ram Prasad
Banatwalla, Shri G.M	Chaudhary, Shri Rudra Sen
Banera, Shri Hemendra Singh	Chaudhary, Shri Kamal
Bankhele, Shri Kisanrao Baburao	Chauhan, Shri Prabhatsinh
Barman, Shri Palas	Chavda, Shri Khemchandbhai Somabhai
Basavaraj, Shri G.S	Chennupati, Shrimati Vidya
Basheer, Shri T.	Chinta Mohan, Dr.
Basu, Shri Anil	Choudhury, Shri Lokanath
Basu, Shri Chitta	Choudhury, Shri Saifuddin
Beg, Shri Yusuf	Chowdhary, Shri Dasai
Behera, Shri Bhajaman	Commander, Shri Mohd. Hassan
Benjaman, Shri S	Damor, Shri Somjibhai
Bhagey, Shri Gobardhan	Dandavate, Prof. Madhu
Bhajan Lal, Shri	Das, Shri Anadi Charan
Bhakta, Shri Manoranjan	Das, Shri Bhakta Charan
Bhargava, Shri Girdhari Lal	Dasgupta, Dr. Biplab
Bhartiya Shri Santosh	Datta, Shri Amal
Bhattacharya, Shrimati Malini	Delkar, Shri Mohanbhai Sanjibhai

Dennis, Shri N	Gupta, Shri Janak Raj
Deshmukh, Shri Ashok Anandrao	Handoo, Shri Piyare Lal
Deshmukh, Shri Sudam Dattatrya	Hannan Mollah, Shri
Dev. Shri Sontosh Mohan	Hansda, Shri Matilal
Devi Lal, Shri	Heera Bhai, Shri
Dhakane, Shri Babanrao	Hota, Shri Bhabani Shankar
Dhankhar, Ch. Jagdeep	Inder Ji, Shri
Dhumal, Prof Prem Kumar	Jagpal Singh, Shri
Dikshit, Shri Narsingh Rao	Jamod, Shri Shashibhai
Dome, Dr. Ram Chandra	Jamuna, Shrimati J.
Dore, Shri Raja Ambanna Nayak	Jaswant Singh, Shri
Fernandes, Shri George	Jatav, Shri Than Singh
Fernandes, Shri Oscar	Jena, Shri Srikanta
Gaikwad, Shri Udaysing Rao Nanasahab	Jha, Shri Bhogendra
Gamit, Shri Chhitubhai Devjibhai	Jorawar Ram, Shri
Gandhi Shrimati Maneka	Joshi, Shri Dau Dayal
Gandhi, Shri Rajiv	Ju Deo, Shri Dilip Singh
Gangadhar, Shri S.	Kabde, Dr. Venkatesh
Gangwar, Shri Santosh Kumar	Kalka Das, Shri
Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya	Kalvi, Shri Kalyan Singh
Giri, Shri Sudhir	Kapse, Prof. Ram Ganesh
Giriyappa, Shri C.P.Mudala	Kareddula, Kumari Kamala
Gokhle, Shri Vidyadhar	Keshari Lal, Shri
Gomango, Shri Giridhar	Khan, Shri Arif Mohammad
Gujral Shri I.K.	Khan, Shri Sukhendu
Gupta, Shri Dharampal Singh	Khandelwal, Shri Pyarelal
Gupta, Shri Indrajit	Khurana, Shri Madan Lal

Kirpal Singh, Shri	Meena, Dr. Kirodi Lal
Kodikkunnil, Shri Suresh	Meena, Shri Nandlal
Konthala, Shri Ramakrishna	Meghwal, Shri Kailash
Kotadia, Shri Manubhai	Mehta, Shrimati Jayawanti Navin Chandra
Kumaramangalam, Shri P.R.	Mewar, Mahendra Singh
Kundu, Shri Samarendra	Mirdha, Shri Nathu Ram
Kushwaha, Shri Jagdish Singh	Mishra, Shri Bal Gopal
Lakha, Shri Harbhajan	Mishra, Shri Janeshwar
Lakshmanan, Prof. Savithri	Misra, Shri Satyagopal
Lalu Prasad, Shri	Mohammed Shafi, Shri
Lodha, Shri Guman Mal	Mukherjee, Shrimati Geeta
Lodhi, Shri Gangacharan	Mukhopadhyay, Shri Ajoy
Mahadik, Shri Vamanrao	Multan Singh, Ch.
Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra	Munda, Shri Govindachandra
Mahale, Shri Haribhau Shankar	Munnan Khan, Shri
Mahata, Shri Chita	Muraleedharan, Shri K.
Malhotra, Shri Vijay Kumar	Murthy, Shri M.V. Chandrashekara
Malik Shri Satya Pal	Muthiah, Shri R.
Mallik, Shri Mangaraj	Naik, Shri Ram
Mallu, Shri Anantha Ramulu	Narayanan Shri K.R
Mandal, Shri Sanat Kumar	Narayanan, Shri P.G
Manjay Lal, Shri	Nathu Singh, Shri
Manvendra Singh, Shri	Negi, Shri C.M
Marbaniang, Shri Peter G.	Nehru, Shri Arun Kumar
Masudal Hossain, Shri Syed	Netam, Shri Arvind
Mayawati, Kumari	Nitish Kumar, Shri
Mayekar, Shri Gopalrao	Odeyar, Shri Channaiah

Owaisi, Shri Sultan Salahuddin

Pramanik, Shri Radhika Ranjan

Pal, Dr. Debi Prasad

Prasad, Shri Hari Kewal

Pal, Shri M.S

Prasad, Shri R.S.

Pal, Shri Rupchand

Prem Pradeep, Shri

Pande, Shri Raj Mangal

Purushothaman, Shri Vakkom

Pandey, Prof. Yadunath

Raghavji, Shri

Pandeya, Dr. Laxminarayan

Rahi, Shri Ramlal

Pandian, Shri D.

Rai, Shri Kalpnath

Pani, Shri Ravi Narayan

Rai, Shri M. Ramanna

Paswan, Shri Chhedi

Raje, Shrimati Vasundhara

Paswan, Shri Ram Vilas

Rajeswari, Shrimati Basava

Paswan, Shri Sukhdeo

Raju, Shri Bh. Vijayakumar

Patel, Dr. A.K.

Raju, Shri M.M.Pallam

Patel, Shri Arjunbhai

Raju, Shri S. Vijayarama

Patel, Shri Chandresh

Rajveer Singh, Shri

Patel, Shri Maganbhai Manibhai

Rajesh, Shri R.N.

Patel, Shri Natubhai. M

Ram Awadh, Shri

Patel, Shri Prahlad Singh

Ram Babu, Shri A.G.S

Patel, Shri Ram Pujan

Ram Dhan, Shri

Patel, Shri Shantilal Purushottam Das

Ram Prakash, Ch.

Pathak, Shri Harin

Ram Sagar, Shri

Patil, Shri Shivraj, V.

Ram Sajiwan, Shri

Patil, Shri Uttamrao Lakmanrao

Ram Singh, Shri

Patnaik, Shri Sivaji

Ramachandran, Shri Mullappally

Penchalaiah, Shri P

Ramakrishna, Shri Y.

Potdukhe, Shri Shantaram

Rameshwar Prasad, Shri

Pradhani, Shri K.

Ranga, Prof. N.G.

Rao, Shri J. Chokka	Sai, Shri Nand Kumar
Rao, Shri J. Vengala	Saini, Shri Gurdial Singh
Rao, Shri J. Ramamohan	Sait, Shri Ibrahim Sulaiman
Rao, Shri K.S.	Saran, Shri Daulat Ram
Rao, Shri V.P. Narasimha	Saroj, Shri Sarju Prasad
Rao, Shri Srinivasa	Sartaj Singh, Shri
Rasheed Masood, Shri	Sathe, Shri Vasant
Rathva, Shri Narayanbhai Jamlabhai	Sayeed, Shri Mufti Mohammad
Rathod, Shri Uttam	Scindia, Shrimati Vijayaraje
Rathor, Dr. Bhagwan Dass	Sekhar, Shri M.G
Rawat, Shri Harish	Selvam, Shri Kanci Panneer
Rawat, Prof. Rasa Singh	Selvarasu, Shri M.
Ray, Dr. Sudhir	Sema, Shri Shikiho
Raychaudhuri, Shri Sudarsan	Shah, Shri Jayantilal Virchandbhai
Reddy, Shri A. Venkata	Shakeelur Rehman, Shri
Reddy, Shri B.N	Shanta Kumar, Shri
Reddy, Shri Kasu V.K.	Sharma, Shri Chiranji Lal
Reddy, Shri Kotla Vijaya Bhaskara	Sharma, Shri Dharam Pal
Reddy, Shri M.G	Shastri, Shri Kapil dev
Reddy, Shri P. Narsa	Shekhada, Shri Govindbhai Kanjibhai
Reddy, Shri R. Surender	Shiwankar, Prof. Mahadeo
Reddy, Shri Rajamohan	Shrivastava, Dr. Shailendranath
Routray, Shri Nilamani	Shukla, Shri Vidyacharan
Roy, Shri A.K.	Silvera, Dr. C
Roy, Shri Haradhan	Singam, Shri Basavapunnaiah
Roypradhan, Shri Amar	Singh, Shri Ajay
Sai, Shri Larang	Singh, Shri Dhanraj

Singh, Shri Har Govind

Thomas, Shri P.C

Singh, Shri Jagannath

Thorat, Shri S.B.

Singh, Shri L.V.

Tiraky, Shri Piyus

Singh, Shri Lokendra

Tiwari, Shri Brij Bhushan

Singh, Shri Mandhata

Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran

Singh, Shri Maheshwar

Tyagi, Shri K.C.

Singh, Shri Pratap

Uma Bharati, Kumari

Singh, Shri Ramashray Prasad

Umbrey, Shri Laeta

Singh, Shri Ram Naresh

Unnikrishnan Shri K.P

Singh, Shri Ramdas

Vaghela, Shri Shankarsinh

Singh, Shri Sukhendra

Varma, Shri Ratilal Kalidas

Singh, Shri Surya Narayan

Vekaria, Shri S.N.

Singh, Shri Vishwanath Pratap

Venkatswamy, Shri G.

Singh Deo, Shri A.N.

Verma, Shri Dharmesh Prasad

Sinha, Shrimati Usha

Verma, Shri Phoolchand

Sodhi, Shri Mankuram

Verma, Shri Sheo Sharan

Sonkar, Shri Kalpnath

Verma, Shri Upendra Nath

Soz, Prof. Saifuddin

Vijayaraghavan, Shri A.

Srinivasan, Shri C

Viswanathan, Dr.

Subedar, Shri

Wadiyar, Shri Srikanta Datta Narasimharaja

Sultanpuri, Shri K.D

Yadav, Shri Baleshwar

Suman, Shri Ramjilal

Yadav, Shri Chun Chun Prasad

Sundararaj, Shri N.

Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad

Tandel, Shri D.J.

Yadav, Shri Hukumdeo Narayan

Tarif Singh, Shri

Yadav, Shri Janardan

Thambi Durai, Dr.

Thapa, Shri Nandu

Yadav, Shri Kailash Nath Singh

Yadav, Shri Mitrasen

Yadav, Shri Ram Krishan

Yadav, Shri Ram Sharàn

Yadav, Shri Sharad

Yadava, Shri Ramjilal

Yadvendra Datt, Shri

Yuvraj, Shri

Zainal Abedin, Shri

Mr. Speaker: Subject to correction the result of the Division is:

Ayes..... 342

Noes.....Nil

The motion is carried by a majority of the total membership of the House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Members present and voting.

The motion was adopted

Clause 2 was added to the Bill

MR. SPEAKER: The Lobbies have already been cleared. The question is:

"That Clause 1 stand part of the Bill."

Now Division. Let the slips be distributed.

The Lok Sabha divided

AYES

Division No. 3

Abedya Nath, Mahant

Acharia, Shri Basudeb

Advani, Shri L.K.

Aher, Dr. Daulatrao Sonuji

Ajit Singh, Shri

Akbar, Shri M.J.

Ali, Shrimati Subhashini

Amat, Shri D.

Anand Singh, Shri

Anbarasu, Shri Era

Antony, Shri P.A.

Antulay, Shri A.R

Anwar Ahmad, Shri

Argal, Shri Chhaviram

Asokaraj, Shri A.

Baig, Shri Arif

Bais, Shri Ramesh

Baitha, Shri Mahendra

Bajpai, Dr. Rajendra Kumari

Bala, Dr. Asim

Bala Goud, Shri T

Banatwalla, Shri G.M

Banera, Shri Hemendra Singh

Bankhela, Shri Kisanrao Baburao

Barman, Shri Palas

Basavaraj, Shri G.S

Basheer, Shri T.

Basu, Shri Anil

Basu, Shri Chitta

Beg, Shri Yusuf

Behera, Shri Bhajaman

Benjaman, Shri S	Damor, Shri Somjibhai
Bhagey, Shri Gobardhan	Dandavate, Prof. Madhu
Bhajan Lal, Shri	Das, Shri Anadi Charan
Bhakta, Shri Manoranjan	Das, Shri Bhakta Charan
Bhargava, Shri Girdhari Lal	Dasgupta, Dr. Biplab
Bhartiya Shri Santosh	Datta, Shri Amal
Bhattacharya, Shrimati Malini	Delkar, Shri Mohanbhai Sanjibhai
Bhattacharya, Shri Nani	Dennis, Shri N.
Bhoye, Shri Reshma Motiram	Deshmukh, Shri Ashok Anandrao
Bhuria, Shri Dileep Singh	Deshmukh, Shri Sudam Dattatrya
Brahm Bhatt, Shri Prakash Koko	Dev, Shri Sontosh Mohan
Brahm Dutt, Shri	Devi Lal, Shri
Chakravorty, Shri Susanta	Dhakane, Shri Babanrao
Chandrasekhar, Shrimati M.	Dhankhar, Ch. Jagdeep
Chatterjee, Shri Nirmal Kanti	Dhumal, Prof Prem Kumar
Chatterjee Shri Somnath	Dikshit, Shri Narsinghrao
Chaudhary, Shri Ram Prasad	Dome, Dr. Ram Chandra
Chaudhary, Shri Rudra Sen	Dore, Shri Raja Ambanna Nayak
Chaudhary, Shri Kamal	Fernandes, Shri George
Chauhan, Shri Prabhatsinh	Fernandes, Shri Oscar
Chavda, Shri Khemchandbhai Somabhai	Gaikwad, Shri Udaysingrao Nanasaheb
Chennupati, Shrimati Vidya	Gamit, Shri Chhitubhai Devjibhai
Chinta Mohan, Dr.	Gandhi, Shrimati Maneka
Choudhury, Shri Lokanath	Gandhi, Shri Rajiv
Choudhury, Shri Saifuddin	Gangadhar, Shri S.
Chowdhary, Shri Dasai	Gangwar, Shri Santosh Kumar
Commander, Shri Mohd. Hassan	Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya

Giri, Shri Sudhir	Kalvi, Shri Kalyan Singh
Giriappa, Shri C.P.Mudala	Kapse, Prof. Ram Ganesh
Gokhle, Shri Vidyadhar	Kareddula, Kumari Kamala
Gomango, Shri Giridhar	Keshari Lal, Shri
Gujral Shri I.K.	Khan, Shri Arif Mohammad
Gupta, Shri Dharampal Singh	Khan, Shri Sukhendu
Gupta, Shri Indrajit	Khandelwal, Shri Pyarelal
Gupta, Shri Janak Raj	Khurana, Shri Madan Lal
Handoo, Shri Piyare Lal	Kirpal Singh, Shri
Hannan Mollah, Shri	Kodikkunnil, Shri Suresh
Hansda, Shri Matilal	Konthala, Shri Ramakrishna
Heera Bhai, Shri	Kotadia, Shri Manubhai
Hota, Shri Bhabani Shankar	Kumaramangalam, Shri P.R.
Inder Jit, Shri	Kundu, Shri Samarendra
Jagpal Singh, Shri	Kushwaha, Shri Jagdish Singh
Jamod, Shri Shashibhai	Lakha, Shri Harbhajan
Jamuna, Shrimati J.	Lakshmanan, Prof. Savithri
Jaswant Singh, Shri	Lalu Prasad, Shri
Jatav, Shri Than Singh	Lodha, Shri Guman Mal
Jena, Shri Srikanta	Lodhi, Shri Gangacharan
Jha, Shri Bhogendra	Mahadik, Shri Vamanrao
Jorawar Ram, Shri	Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra
Joshi, Shri Dau Dayal	Mahale, Shri Haribhau Shankar
Ju Deo, Shri Dilip Singh	Mahata, Shri Chita
Kabde, Dr. Venkatesh	Malhotra, Shri Vijay Kumar
Kalka Das, Shri	Malik Shri Satya Pal

Mallik, Shri Mangaraj	Naik, Shri Ram
Mallu, Shri Anantha Ramulu	Narayanan Shri K.R
Mandal, Shri Sanat Kumar	Narayanan, Shri P.G.
Manjay Lal, Shri	Nathu Singh, Shri
Manvendra Singh, Shri	Negi. Shri C.M
Marbaniang, Shri Peter G.	Nehru, Shri Arun Kumar
Masudal Hossain. Shri Syed	Netam, Shri Arvind
Mayawati, Kumari	Nitish Kumar, Shri
Mayekar, Shri Gopalrao	Odeyar, Shri Channaiah
Meena, Dr. Kirodi Lal	Owaisi, Shri Sultan Salahuddin
Meena, Shri Nandlal	Pal, Dr. Debi Prasad
Meghwal, Shri Kailash	Pal, Shri M.S
Mehta, Shrimati Jayawanti Navin Chandra	Pal, Shri Rupchand
Mewar, Mahendra Singh	Pande, Shri Raj Mangal
Mirdha, Shri Nathu Ram	Pandey, Prof. Yadunath
Mishra, Shri Bal Gopal	Pandeya, Dr. Laxminarayan
Mishra, Shri Janeshwar	Pandian, Shri D.
Misra, Shri Satyagopal	Pani, Shri Ravi Narayan
Mohammed Shafi, Shri	Paswan, Shri Chhedi
Mukherjee, Shrimati Geeta	Paswan, Shri Ram Vilas
Mukhopadhyay, Shri Ajoy	Paswan, Shri Sukhdeo
Multan Singh, Ch.	Patel, Dr. A.K.
Munda, Shri Govindachandra	Patel, Shri Arjunbhai
Munnan Khan, Shri	Patel, Shri Chandresh
Muraleedharan, Shri K.	Patel, Shri Maganbhai Manibhai
Murthy, Shri M.V. Chandrashekara	Patel, Shri Natubhai, M.
Muthiah, Shri R.	Patel, Shri Prahlad Singh

Patel, Shri Ram Pujan	Ram Dhan, Shri
Patel, Shri Shantilal Purushottam Das	Ram Prakash, Ch.
Pathak, Shri Harin	Ram Sagar, Shri
Patil, Shri Shivraj, V.	Ram Sajiwan, Shri
Patil, Shri Uttamrao Lakmanrao	Ram Singh, Shri
Patnaik, Shri Sivaji	Ramachandran, Shri Mullappally
Penchalaiah, Shri P.	Ramakrishna, Shri Y
Potdukhe, Shri Shantaram	Rameshwar Prasad, Shri
Pradhani, Shri K.	Ranga, Prof. N.G.
Pramanik, Shri Radhika Ranjan	Rao, Shri J. Chokka
Prasad, Shri Hari Kewal	Rao, Shri J. Vengala
Prasad, Shri R.S.	Rao, Shri K. Ramamohan
Prem Pradeep. Shri	Rao, Shri K.S.
Purushothaman, Shri Vakkom	Rao, Shri V.P. Narasimha
Raghavji, Shri	Rao, Shri Srinivasa
Rahi, Shri Ramlal	Rasheed Masood, Shri
Rai, Shri Kalpnath	Rathva, Shri Narayanbhai Jamlabhai
Rai, Shri M. Ramanna	Rathod, Shri Uttam
Raje, Shrimati Vasundhara	Rathor, Dr. Bhagwan Dass
Rajeswari, Shrimati Basava	Rawat, Shri Harish
Raju, Shri Bh. Vijayakumar	Rawat, Prof. Rasa Singh
Raju, Shri M.M.Pallam	Ray, Dr. Sudhir
Raju, Shri S. Vijayarama	Raychaudhuri, Shri Sudarsan
Rajveer Singh, Shri	Reddy, Shri A. Venkata
Rajesh, Shri R.N.	Reddy, Shri B.N
Ram Awadh, Shri	Reddy, Shri Kasu V.K.
Ram Babu, Shri A.G.S	Reddy, Shri Kotla Vijaya Bhaskara

Reddy, Shri M.G	Shastri, Shri Kapil dev
Reddy, Shri P. Narsa	Shekhada, Shri Govindbhai Kanjibhai
Reddy, Shri R. Surendra	Shiwankar, Prof. Mahadeo
Reddy, Shri Rajamohan	Shrivastava, Dr. Shailendranath
Routray, Shri Nilamani	Shukla, Shri Vidyacharan
Roy, Shri A.K.	Silvera, Dr. C
Roy, Shri Haradhan	Singam, Shri Basavapunnaiah
Roypradhan, Shri Amar	Singh, Shri Ajay
Sai, Shri Larang	Singh, Shri Dhanraj
Sai, Shri Nand Kumar	Singh, Shri Har Govind
Saini, Shri Gurdial Singh	Singh, Shri Jagannath
Sait, Shri Ibrahim Sulaiman	Singh, Shri L.V.
Saran, Shri Daulat Ram	Singh, Shri Lokendra
Saroj, Shri Sarju Prasad	Singh, Shri Mandhata
Sartaj Singh, Shri	Singh, Shri Maheshwar
Sathe, Shri Vasant	Singh, Shri Pratap
Sayeed, Shri Mufti Mohammad	Singh, Shri Ramashray Prasad
Scindia, Shrimati Vijayaraje	Singh, Shri Ram Naresh
Sekhar, Shri M.G	Singh, Shri Ramdas
Selvam, Shri Kanci Panneer	Singh, Shri Sukhendra
Selvarasu, Shri M.	Singh, Shri Surya Narayan
Sema, Shri Shikiho	Singh, Shri Vishwanath Pratap
Shah, Shri Jayantilal Virchandbhai	Singh Deo, Shri A.N.
Shakeelur Rehman, Shri	Sinha, Shrimati Usha
Shanta Kumar, Shri	Sodhi, Shri Mankuram
Sharma, Shri Chiranji Lal	Sonkar, Shri Kalpnath
Sharma, Shri Dharam Pal	Soz, Prof. Saifuddin

Srinivasan, Shri C	Vijayaraghavan, Shri A.
Subedar, Shri	Viswanathan, Dr.
Sultanpuri, Shri K.D	Wadiyar, Shri Srikanta Datta Narasimharaja
Suman, Shri Ramjilal	Yadav, Shri Baleshwar
Sundararaj, Shri N.	Yadav, Shri Chun Chun Prasad
Tandel, Shri D.J.	Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad
Tarif Singh, Shri	Yadav, Shri Hukumdeo Narayan
Thambi Durai, Dr.	Yadav, Shri Janardan
Thapa, Shri Nandu	Yadav, Shri Kailash Nath Singh
Thomas, Shri P.C	Yadav, Shri Mitrasen
Thorat, Shri S.B.	Yadav, Shri Ram Krishan
Tiraky, Shri Piyus	Yadav, Shri Ram Sharan
Tiwari, Shri Brij Bhushan	Yadav, Shri Sharad
Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran	Yadava, Shri Ramjilal
Tyagi, Shri K.C.	Yadvendra Datt, Shri
Uma Bharati, Kumari	Yuvraj, Shri
Umbrey, Shri Laeta	Zainal Abedin, Shri
Unnikrishnan Shri K.P	MR. SPEAKER : Subject to correction, the result of the Division is:
Vaghela, Shri Shankarsinh	Ayes: 342
Varma, Shri Ratilal Kalidas	Noes: Nil
Vekaria, Shri S.N.	The motion is carried by a majority of the total membership of the House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of Mem- bers present and voting.
Venkatswamy, Shri G.	
Verma, Shri Dharmesh Prasad	
Verma, Shri Phoolchand	<i>The motion was adopted</i>
Verma, Shri Sheo Sharan	<i>Clause 1 was added to the Bill</i>
Verma, Shri Upendra Nath	MR. SPEAKER: The question is :

"That the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER : The lobbies have already been cleared. The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

Now Division .

Let the slips be distributed.

The Lok Sabha divided

AYES

Division No. 4

Abedy Nath, Mahant

Acharia, Shri Basudeb

Advani, Shri L.K.

Aher, Dr. Daulatrao Sonuji

Ajit Singh, Shri

Akbar, Shri M.J.

Ali, Shrimati Subhashini

Amat, Shri D.

Anand Singh, Shri

Anbarasu, Shri Era

Antony, Shri P.A.

Antulay, Shri A.R

Anwar Ahmad, Shri

Argal, Shri Chhaviram

Asokaraj, Shri A.

Baig, Shri Arif

Bais, Shri Ramesh

Baitha, Shri Mahendra

Bajpai, Dr. Rajendra Kumari

Bala, Dr. Asim

Bala Goud, Shri T

Banatwalla, Shri G.M

Banera, Shri Hemendra Singh

Bankhela, Shri Kisanrao Baburao

Barman, Shri Palas

Basavaraj, Shri G.S

Basheer, Shri T.

Basu, Shri Anil

Basu, Shri Chitta

Beg, Shri Yusuf

Behera, Shri Bhajaman

Benjaman, Shri S

Bhagey, Shri Gobardhan

Bhajan Lal, Shri

Bhakta, Shri Manoranjan

Bhargava, Shri Girdhari Lal

Bhartiya Shri Santosh

Bhattacharya, Shrimati Malini

Bhattacharya, Shri Nani

Bhoye, Shri Reshma Motiram	Deshmukh, Shri Ashok Anandrao
Bhuria, Shri Dileep Singh	Deshmukh, Shri Sudam Dattatrya
Brahm Bhatt, Shri Prakash Koko	Dev. Shri Sontosh Mohan
Brahm Dutt, Shri	Devi Lal, Shri
Chakravorty, Shri Susanta	Dhakane, Shri Babanrao
Chandrasekhar, Shrimati M.	Dhankhar, Ch. Jagdeep
Chatterjee, Shri Nirmal Kanti	Dhumal, Prof Prem Kumar
Chatterjee Shri Somnath	Dikshit, Shri Narsingh Rao
Chaudhary, Shri Ram Prasad	Dome, Dr. Ram Chandra
Chaudhary, Shri Rudra Sen	Dore, Shri Raja Ambanna Nayak
Chaudhry, Shri Kamal	Fernandes, Shri George
Chauhan, Shri Prabhatsinh	Fernandes, Shri Oscar
Chavda, Shri Khemchandbhai Somabhai	Gaikwad, Shri Udaysingrao Nanasaheb
Chennupati, Shrimati Vidya	Gamit, Shri Chhitubhai Devjibhai
Chinta Mohan, Dr.	Gandhi Shrimati Maneka
Choudhury, Shri Lokanath	Gandhi, Shri Rajiv
Choudhury, Shri Saifuddin	Gangadhar, Shri S.
Chowdhary, Shri Dasai	Gangwar, Shri Santosh Kumar
Commander, Shri Mohd. Hassan	Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya
Damor, Shri Somjibhai	Giri, Shri Sudhir
Dandavate, Prof. Madhu	Giriyappa, Shri C.P.Mudala
Das, Shri Anadi Charan	Gokhle, Shri Vidyadhar
Das, Shri Bhakta Charan	Gomango, Shri Giridhar
Dasgupta, Dr. Biplab	Gujral Shri I.K.
Datta, Shri Amal	Gupta, Shri Dharampal Singh
Delkar, Shri Mohanbhai Sanjibhai	Gupta, Shri Indrajit
Dennis, Shri N.	Gupta, Shri Janak Raj

Handoo, Shri Piyare Lal

Kodikkunnil, Shri Suresh

Hannan Mollah, Shri

Konthala, Shri Ramakrishna

Hansda, Shri Matilal

Kotadia, Shri Manubhai

Heera Bhai, Shri

Kumaramangalam, Shri P.R.

Hota, Shri Bhabani Shankar

Kundu, Shri Samarendra

Inder Jit, Shri

Kushwaha, Shri Jagdish Singh

Jagpal Singh, Shri

Lakha, Shri Harbhajan

Jamod, Shri Shashibhai

Lakshmanan, Prof. Savithri

Jamuna, Shrimati J.

Lalu Prasad, Shri

Jaswant Singh, Shri

Lodha, Shri Guman Mal

Jatav, Shri Than Singh

Lodhi, Shri Gangacharan

Jena, Shri Srikanta

Mahadik, Shri Vamanrao

Jha, Shri Bhogendra

Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra

Jorawar Ram, Shri

Mahale, Shri Haribhau Shankar

Joshi, Shri Dau Dayal

Mahata, Shri Chita

Ju Deo, Shri Dilip Singh

Malhotra, Shri Vijay Kumar

Kabde, Dr. Venkatesh

Malik Shri Satya Pal

Kalka Das, Shri

Mallik, Shri Mangaraj

Kalvi, Shri Kalyan Singh

Mallu, Shri Anantha Ramulu

Kapse, Prof. Ram Ganesh

Mandal, Shri Sanat Kumar

Kareddula, Kumari Kamala

Manjay Lal, Shri

Keshari Lal, Shri

Manvendra Singh, Shri

Khan, Shri Arif Mohammad

Marbaniang, Shri Peter G.

Khan, Shri Sukhendu

Masudal Hossain, Shri Syed

Khandelwal, Shri Pyarelal

Mayawati, Kumari

Khurana, Shri Madan Lal

Mayekar, Shri Gopalrao

Kirpal Singh, Shri

Meena, Dr. Kirodi Lal

Meena, Shri Nandlal	Pal, Dr. Debi Prosad
Meghwal, Shri Kailash	Pal, Shri M.S
Mehta, Shrimati Jayawanti Navin Chandra	Pal, Shri Rupchand
Mewar, Mahendra Singh	Pande, Shri Raj Mangal
Mirdha, Shri Nathu Ram	Pandey, Prof. Yadunath
Mishra, Shri Bal Gopal	Pandeya, Dr. Laxminarayan
Mishra, Shri Janeshwar	Pandian, Shri D.
Misra, Shri Satyagopal	Pani, Shri Ravi Narayan
Mohammed Shafi, Shri	Paswan, Shri Chhedhi
Mukherjee, Shrimati Geeta	Paswan, Shri Ram Vilas
Mukhopadhyay, Shri Ajoy	Paswan, Shri Sukhdeo
Multan Singh, Ch.	Patel, Dr. A.K.
Munda, Shri Govindachandra	Patel, Shri Arjunbhai
Munnan Khan, Shri	Patel, Shri Chandresh
Muraleedharan, Shri K:	Patel, Shri Maganbhai Manibhai
Murthy, Shri M.V. Chandrashekara	Patel, Shri Natubhai. M
Muthiah, Shri R.	Patel, Shri Prahlad Singh
Naik, Shri Ram	Patel, Shri Ram Pujan
Narayanan, Shri K.R	Patel, Shri Shantilal Purushottam Das
Narayanan, Shri P.G	Pathak, Shri Harin
Nathu Singh, Shri	Patil, Shri Shivraj, V.
Negi, Shri C.M	Patil, Shri Uttamrao Lakmanrao
Nehru, Shri Arun Kumar	Patnaik, Shri Sivaji
Netam, Shri Arvind	Penchalaiah, Shri P.
Nitish Kumar, Shri	Potdukhe, Shri Shantaram
Odeyar, Shri Channaiah	Pradhani, Shri K.
Owaisi, Shri Sultan Salahuddin	Pramanik, Shri Radhika Ranjan

Prasad, Shri Hari Kewal

Rao, Shri J. Vengala

Prasad, Shri R.S.

Rao, Shri J. Ramamohan

Prem Pradeep, Shri

Rao, Shri K.S.

Purushothaman, Shri Vakkom

Rao, Shri V.P. Narasimha

Raghavji, Shri

Rao, Shri Srinivasa

Rahi, Shri Ramlal

Rasheed Masood, Shri

Rai, Shri Kalpnath

Rathva, Shri Narayanbhai Jamlabhai

Rai, Shri M. Ramanna

Rathod, Shri Uttam

Raje, Shrimati Vasundhara

Rathor, Dr. Bhagwan Dass

Rajeswari, Shrimati Basava

Rawat, Shri Harish

Raju, Shri Bh. Vijayakumar

Rawat, Prof. Rasa Singh

Raju, Shri M.M.Pallam

Ray, Dr. Sudhir

Raju, Shri S. Vijayarama

Raychaudhuri, Shri Sudarsan

Rajveer Singh, Shri

Reddy, Shri A. Venkata

Rajesh, Shri R.N.

Reddy, Shri B.N

Ram Awadh, Shri

Reddy, Shri Kasu V.K.

Ram Babu, Shri A.G.S.

Reddy, Shri Kotla Vijaya Bhaskara

Ram Dhan, Shri

Reddy, Shri M.G

Ram Prakash, Ch.

Reddy, Shri P. Narsa

Ram Sagar, Shri

Reddy, Shri R. Surendra

Ram Saijwan, Shri

Reddy, Shri Rajamohan

Ram Singh, Shri

Routray, Shri Nilamani

Ramachandran, Shri Mullappally

Roy, Shri A.K.

Ramakrishna, Shri Y.

Roy, Shri Haradhan

Rameshwar Prasad, Shri

Roypradhan, Shri Amar

Ranga, Prof., N.G.

Sai, Shri Larang

Rao, Shri J. Chokka

Sai, Shri Nand Kumar

Saini, Shri Gurdial Singh	Singh, Shri Jagannath
Sait, Shri Ibrahim Sulaiman	Singh, Shri L.V.
Saran, Shri Daulat Ram	Singh, Shri Lokendra
Saroj, Shri Sarju Prasad	Singh, Shri Mandhata
Sartaj Singh, Shri	Singh, Shri Maheshwar
Sathe, Shri Vasant	Singh, Shri Pratap
Sayeed, Shri Mufti Mohammad	Singh, Shri Ramashray Prasad
Scindia, Shrimati Vijayaraje	Singh, Shri Ram Naresh
Sekhar, Shri M.G	Singh, Shri Ramdas
Selvam, Shri Kanci Panneer	Singh, Shri Sukhendra
Selvarasu, Shri M.	Singh, Shri Surya Narayan
Sema, Shri Shikiho	Singh, Shri Vishwanath Pratap
Shah, Shri Jayantilal Virchandbhai	Singh Deo, Shri A.N.
Shakeelur Rehman, Shri	Sinha, Shrimati Usha
Shanta Kumar, Shri	Sodhi, Shri Mankuram
Sharma, Shri Chiranji Lal	Sonkar, Shri Kalpnath
Sharma, Shri Dharam Pal	Soz, Prof. Saifuddin
Shastri, Shri Kapil dev	Srinivasan, Shri C.
Shekhada, Shri Govindbhai Kanjibhai	Subedar, Shri
Shiwankar, Prof. Mahadeo	Sultanpuri, Shri K.D.
Shrivastava, Dr. Shailendranath	Suman, Shri Ramjilal
Shukla, Shri Vidyacharan	Sundararaj, Shri N.
Silvera, Dr. C.	Tandel, Shri D.J.
Singam, Shri Basavapunnaiah	Tarif Singh, Shri
Singh, Shri Ajay	Thambi Durai, Dr.
Singh, Shri Dhanraj	Thapa, Shri Nandu
Singh, Shri Har Govind	Thomas, Shri P.C

Thorat, Shri S.B.

Yadav, Shri Ram Krishan

Tiraky, Shri Piyus

Yadav, Shri Ram Sharan

Tiwari, Shri Brij Bhushan

Yadav, Shri Sharad

Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran

Yadava, Shri Ramjilal

Tyagi, Shri K.C.

Yadvendra Datt, Shri

Uma Bharati, Kumari

Yuvraj, Shri

Umbrey, Shri Laeta

Zainal Abedin, Shri

Unnikrishnan Shri K.P.

MR. SPEAKER: Subject to correction, the
result of the division is:

Vaghela, Shri Shankarsinh

Ayes 342

Varma, Shri Ratilal Kalidas

Noes Nil

Vekaria, Shri S.N.

The motion is carried by a majority of the total
membership of the House and by a majority
of not less than two-third of the members
present and voting.

Venkatswamy, Shri G.

Verma, Shri Dharmesh Prasad

The Bill is passed by the requisite ma-
jority, in accordance with the provisions of
Article 368 of the Constitution.

Verma, Shri Phoolchand

Verma, Shri Sheo Sharan

Verma, Shri Upendra Nath

Vijayaraghavan, Shri A.

Viswanathan, Dr.

Wadiyar, Shri Srikanta Datta Narasimharaja

Yadav, Shri Baleshwar

Yadav, Shri Chun Chun Prasad

Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad

Yadav, Shri Hukumdeo Narayan

Yadav, Shri Janardan

Yadav, Shri Kailash Nath Singh

Yadav, Shri Mitrasen

16.10 hrs

[DR. THAMBI DURAI *in the Chair*]STATUTORY RESOLUTION *RE*: DISAP-
PROVAL OF REPRESENTATION OF
THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) ORDI-
NANCE 1989
AND
REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE
(AMENDMENT) BILL.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Soz.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: (Baramulla):
Sir, I beg to move:"This House disapproves of the
Representation of the People
(Amendment) Ordinance, 1989

(Ordinance No. 2 of 1989) promulgated by the President on the 21st October, 1989."

Sir, I consider this Statutory Resolution very important and I rise to move this Motion disapproving the Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 1989 issued by the President on the 21st October, 1989. I feel, this House is taken for granted. On a number of occasions, I rose more to say that it would be proper for the Government if it had come forward with a Bill rather than have the Ordinance passed by the President. But in this Ordinance particularly I found that certain things which, I feel, were in my opinion, disrespectful to this august House. Even now, I see that the Statement of Objects and Reasons has been drafted in a casual manner. That shows how the Lok Sabha is being taken for granted. This should not be done in future.

Sir, the basic question is that we have the Bill before us now and the Bill will get passed because elections will have to be held in Assam. But the primary question is: why were the electoral rolls not prepared, revised on time by the Election Commission and the State Government of Assam? It is very easy for the Election Commission of India to get an Ordinance issued. I have no objection to the Chief Election Commissioner holding Press Conference, attending Seminars, giving advice to the people of this country as to how the electoral reforms should be organised. But I want to raise a few questions. Why didn't the Election Commission do its home work? Why didn't the State Government do its own home work on time? When they did not do their home-work on time and properly, they found it very easy to get an Ordinance issued by the President. Now, they are coming before the House and wanting the House to pass this Bill. They have not done their home-work properly. Why should the Commission feel that it has so much authority? It could have got in touch with the State Government and ensured the preparation of those lists well in time. It is now only a matter of two or three months. They could not get more time even by pass-

ing thing Ordinance. But it is not proper that the House of the People has been constituted without the Members from the State of Assam. And it shows that the Commission also feels it is very easy to get ordinances passed, and get Bills passed from the Lok Sabha.

Even now, Sir, I am not sure—there is no guarantee that the lists have been properly revised. I am not sure whether all the people who are eligible to vote have been included in the list. Somebody should guarantee before this House that all eligible voters have been included in the revised list.

There was a complaint, particularly from the Muslim community in the past, and my information has been that many people from that community have not been included. So, when the Minister rises to reply, he must assure this House, particularly on the question of Muslims from Assam who had lodged their complaints with the State Government, who took recourse to legal action, and my information is that many of them have not been included. So, the hon. Minister cannot leave it to somebody outside the House, to the Election Commission. The responsibility is his, because he is now coming up. Earlier, the Commission was at fault. But now the responsibility will be that of the Law Minister. He is before us. He will have to assure us that all the eligible voters, and I refer particularly to the complaints from the Muslim community of Assam—all those people have been included in the list.

My purpose is not to cause any embarrassment to the Government; but it is a question of getting ordinances issued; it is a question of doing things in a casual manner that prompted me to move this Statutory Resolution, which I will be pressing.

Now I will bring in the casualness. Mr. Dinesh Goswami has been a very good friend; he is intelligent enough to pilot Bills properly. I hope he will exercise his right to be the Law Minister alone, and not to be the Minister of Steel and Mines—I do not know what his other designation is. It is said that he

[Prof. Saifuddin Soz]

is holding this as an additional charge. I will advise him to hold this charge as the first charge, and give up that portfolio if he has to give up one. But I want to tell him that this statement shows that he did not get time, because he is intelligent enough. He will not present this statement in a casual manner. So, the impression should not go that he sees things casually.

I point out one lacuna in this statement. I invite his attention to the statement; and the statement says:

"In respect of general election for constituting the Ninth Lok Sabha, the Election Commission had recommended that the Presidential notification under section 14 (2) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 might be issued on the 23rd October, 1989 calling upon all Parliamentary constituencies other than those within the State of Assam to elect members in accordance with the provisions of the Act and of the rules and orders made thereunder."

It shows that the statement remained the same. Only the date and the Law Minister's name was changed. How can he say on 15th December 1989, much less on 26th December 1989, that the notification might be issued on 23rd October 1989? Even the statement was not revised and brought—it was not updated, when he is piloting the Bill i.e. on 26th December, 1989. This is the casual manner in which Parliament is being treated. This is sufficient. I do not want to take much of the time of the House, and I press this Motion disapproving the ordinance that was issued by the President on 21st October 1989.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES
AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): Sir, I beg to
move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951 be taken into consideration."

The Bill seeks to replace the Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 1989 (Ordinance No. 2 of 1989) which was promulgated by the President on 21.10.1989. As the hon. members may kindly recall, in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (2) of section 14 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, the Election Commission of India recommended the issue of a notification by the President under sub-section (2) on 23.10.1989 calling upon all parliamentary constituencies to elect members for constituting the Ninth Lok Sabha. At that time, the Election Commission had also recommended the issue of a notification separately, in due course, in respect of the parliamentary constituencies in Assam. The Election Commission had made this recommendation because the process of revision of electoral rolls had not been completed by then in Assam.

Sub-section (2) of section 14 does provide for issue of one or more notifications by the President for General Elections to the Lok Sabha. However, in Section 73, under which the Election Commission is required to notify the names of the members elected for the different constituencies, there is provision only to exclude the results in respect of those constituencies for which poll could not be taken on the date originally fixed or where the time for completion of the poll had been extended by the Election Commission. Section 73 also provided that upon the issue of a notification containing the names of the members elected for different constituencies, the House concerned shall be deemed to be duly constituted.

Therefore, in order that the President could issue a notification under section 14 (2) calling upon all the constituencies, except those in the State of Assam, to elect new members on 23.10.1989 and in order that this process could get completed with the issue of 'due constitution' notification by the Election Commission under section 73, it

was necessary to override section 73 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 suitably, the enable the Election Commission to issue a 'due constitution' notification under that section without taking into account the parliamentary constituencies in the State of Assam. As the matter was urgent and as the Parliament was not in Session, the Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 1989 was promulgated by the President on 21.10.1989. Therefore, the Presidential Notification, calling upon all the constituencies, other than those in the State of Assam, was issued on 23.10.1989.

The Election Commission has subsequently reported that the process of revision of electoral rolls have been completed on 23.12.1989 with the final publication of the rolls on that date. The Election Commission has also mentioned that thereafter it would be possible to hold elections for the parliamentary constituencies in Assam in February 1990. The Election Commission has advised that the Ordinance may be replaced by an Act of Parliament. Such a step will ensure the continued availability of the legal basis for the action taken and to be taken. Hence, the Bill is before the House.

So, far as the points raised by Prof. Soz. are concerned, I will reply to those points after the participation of the hon. members in the debate.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: (Tripura West): It is said that except in Kokrajhar voters' list in all other constituencies has been announced...

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: The Election Commission has informed us that 23rd October is the date on which the final publication has taken place.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Since we are discussing the matter, can you get all the relevant information?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Yes, I will get the information. I have got the informa-

tion. For the purpose of final publication, 23rd October is the date.

As regards the other points raised, I will reply to those points when I am called upon to reply.

I am sure that this House will pass the Bill unanimously.

Sir, I commend the Bill for the consideration of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That this House disapproves of the Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 1989 (Ordinance No. 2 of 1989) promulgated by the President on the 21st October 1989."

"That the Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951 be taken into consideration"

Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev:

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Tripura West): Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is nothing to oppose because, incidentally, I was a party to it. So, I cannot oppose it. But my good friend Mr. Dinesh Goswami who is dealing with it is well aware of the situation prevailing there. So, before coming to the provisions of the Bill, I would like to go into the background of the Assam elections since 1980. In 1980, when the elections in Assam took place, out of 14 constituencies, only 2 constituencies, went to the polls and they are Karimganj and Cachar.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: My information is that the electoral rolls in all the constituencies have been completed.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: That is all right. So, in other places—because there were names of the foreigners in the voters' list—the poll was boycotted by political parties including BJP, CPI(M) and also the then AASU. Subsequently, there was an election in 1983, when the voters' list was updated.

[Sh. Sontosh Mohan Dev]

The elections were held for the State Assembly as well as for the 14 Parliamentary constituencies. After that, the Assam Accord was signed. It was signed on the 14th August, 1985. In that Accord, there was a provision and, that is, the whole voters' list should be updated by excluding the names of the foreigners. One month's special time was given. Ten Central observers were appointed. The voter's list was prepared. The elections were held. The Party which was agitating there in the name of AASU then became a political party in the name of AGP. They came to power. Some Members from AGP were elected and some Members from Congress (I) were also elected. There one Member of PTC was elected as also one Member from United Minority Front and their representatives. After that the Government which came into power—when the question of having Lok Sabha election of 1989 came—again started creating problems by saying that this voters' list has full of foreigners and the AASU which is the student wing of the AGP tool an initiative that unless this voters' list was again updated by excluding the names of the foreigners, they will not allow any elections to be held. For the first time in the history of India and the world the employees who were entrusted to do the work of updating the voters' list going from house to house as has been done all over the country, the employees' Union of Assam passed a resolution saying that unless the base year of the electoral roll was made as 1966, they were not going to co-operate with the Election Officers of Assam and that they were not going to abide by the direction of the Chief Election Commissioner of India. Under the circumstances, the Chief Election Commission of India adopted a *via media*. They were in difficulties because they did not have their own machinery. So, whatever they wanted to do, they had to do through the machinery of the State Government. They started a process of neither going to 1966 nor 1985 voters' list. They said: 'for the purpose of identifying the foreigners, you may refer to 1966, you may refer to 1985 because some persons' names are not in the list of 1966,

they cannot be treated as foreigners and also because some persons' names are there in the 1985 list, they cannot be treated as citizens of India. It is because, if they are identified by the Tribunal, then their names should be deleted." Here in this case, there are two types of things which are going to affect the voters' list. Firstly, those persons who have come from East Pakistan or Bangladesh in between 1966 and 24th March, 1971, their names have to be identified by the Tribunal as per the IMDT Act. And from the date their names are identified and are entered in the register, their names should be deleted from the voters' list which is in force for a period of ten years. This is accepted in the Assam Accord and the people of Assam also accepted it in the right spirit. This is a *fait accompli*. For those people who have come after 1971, for them there is another Act, called Foreigners' Act. By that Act, they will be identified and tried by the Tribunal. Once they are identified as foreigners, their names will be totally deleted from the voters' list and they will be deported to Bangladesh and they will not be able to vote. But what happened in Assam? What made the then Government of India as well as the Chief Election Commissioner of India to accept this agitational stand of the AASU? What I have already stated is that both the Assam Government as well as the AASU took a stand that unless the base year is made as 1966, they will not allow the Voters' list to be updated.

I feel pity for the Chief Election Commissioner of India. His office had to accept and they have given 13 circulars, time and again, in between, whereby they have tried to appease sometimes the minority people, sometimes the Assam Government and sometimes the AASU. The *fait accompli* is the victim of the linguistic and religious minorities of Assam. Thirty lakh people of Assam were given notice as foreigners! Not only that; as per the latest circular of the Election Commission of India, two voters' lists were supposed to be published, one of those who are doubtful, and another of those who are not doubtful. The Chief Election Commissioner of India gave power under Section 21

of the Election law to the Election Officer in each district that he could issue notice and identify the voters.

During the course of this process—I do not know whether I am breaking the oath of the Ministry—I went to the Chief Election Commissioner and met him five times. I met the Chief Election Commissioner of India, I dare, say so, because I have seen that the present incumbent of the office of Prime Minister has broken his oath of secrecy many times and he has now become the Prime Minister. So, I do not think that I will be involved in this matter of oath of secrecy. But I went; I went for a cause. I am not making it a prestige issue that I went as a Minister of State for Home, or that I should not go to the Chief Election Commissioner of India. I must say to the credit of the Chief Election Commissioner of India that he was courteous, he was very sympathetic and he listened to the views and also agreed about the gravity of the situation. Now after 30 lakh people have been given notice, a voters' list has come. Mr. Goswami will know better because he is now at the helm of the affairs. The names of roughly six to seven lakh people have been deleted from the voters' list on the alleged plea of their being foreigners!

Now I would like to get a categorical answer from Mr. Goswami, because he is representing the Government and he is the Law Minister. My point of contention, therefore, is that after the Assam Accord and as per the Identity and Foreigners Act as passed by this Parliament it has authorised the tribunals or given them the machinery to identify the foreigners, under what law can the Election Commission of India or the Government of Assam authorised the Assam Police to send a list for each constituency numbering sixty to seventy thousands after the draft voter's list has been published, and thereby giving notice to the Head-master of a school who had taught to the present Chief Minister? In my constituency a retired Deputy Superintendent of Police has been given a notice that he is a foreigner, though he has retired from the Police Department only recently. Not only that; many Assamese

people who were having the titles of Bhat-tacharjee, Butto and Choudhury, were also given notices as foreigners!

Now, it is very easy to say, "What is there? We are trying to make a list which must be foolproof". But in the process you have hurt the sentiments of the real citizens of this country.

Sir, I would like to go on record about the latest circular of the Chief Election Commissioner of India. By an instruction issued on the 7th November 1989 he has directed the Electoral Officers to scrutinise the draft electoral list of 1989 as published, again to see if there is any deformity and to identify such deformity, if any, by communicating their stand *suo motu* as provided by the law and the electoral legislation officer has been asked to look into the list of doubtful citizens by the Police, on the basis of a comparison of the 1966 and the 1971 electoral lists and also to give the names of persons whose cases are pending before the tribunals.

My question is, who gave this right to the Chief Election Commissioner of India. The tribunals are there; they are formed by an Act of Parliament and the tribunals had been given powers to go ahead on the basis of the police reports. Out of 3,81,000 people—I am subject to correction—as per the records in the Home Ministry only 9,000 people have been identified as foreigners by the tribunals. Again, these 3,81,000 names have been sent by the Police in each district to the Chief Election Commissioner and everybody has been again subjected to harassment by the Election officers. Who is there to argue these cases before the tribunals? It takes three to six months to decide. Now in five days, 60,000 cases are being scrutinised. Not only that, there is a provision that on a plain piece of paper one can write a complaint to the Election Officer. But the Chief Electoral Officer of Assam or the Chief Electoral Officer of India had said that once you file an objection about a particular set of people, you have to come and prove whether they are Indian citizens or not. Not only that, some AASU activists sitting on Guwahati

[Sh. Sontosh Mohan Dev]

have filed objections about thirty to forty thousand persons in each district. Each one of them has been given notice. Giving notice is all right. But if you have filed an objection, you must appear before the court to prove that he is a foreigner. This has not been done. AASU is threatening each and every Electoral Officer that they have to take cognisance of their complaint. But the Electoral Officers are helpless. I do not blame them because there is no rule of AGP in Assam. It is the ULFA and AASU which are running the Government there and unfortunately lakhs of linguistic and religious minorities, including some Assamese people, have become subject of this harassment. As Home Minister, I myself had told the Law Ministry and others that we do not mind if the elections are held after six-seven months, but we want that some procedure should be evolved whereby no unnecessary harassment is done and a body, duly elected by the people of Assam is there, but, at the same time, the names of the real citizens are not taken out from the voters list.

Now, as has already been told by the hon. Law Minister, on 23rd of this month, the draft voters list has been converted into the final voters list. I would specifically like to know from the hon. Law Minister whether it is a fact that those who were once trialled before the Tribunal set up under the IMDT and Foreigners Act, have again been served notice and whether it is a fact that on the basis of the list given by the police, notices were served on the people and after taking cognisance of these notices, some more names have been deleted from the voters list and, if so, how many. I would also like to know whether it is a fact that this Government which is there in Assam, was elected on the basis of the 1985 voters list and, if so, after being elected on a voters list, how the Assam Government and the AASU, which is an organisation of the AGP, is objecting to the voters list which has already been published as the draft voters list. Now, from the draft voters list, you have the right under section 21 to file objections and claims. I do

not dispute that. But the objections must not have come from the police. The objections must not have come from those people against whom there is a Tribunal case. Objections should not have come and must not have come from those people who have been exonerated by the Tribunal that they are not foreigners. I can challenge the Electoral Officer of Assam and the Chief Electoral Officer of India that hundreds and thousands of names of those who are the citizens of India, have been deleted from the voters list. You will be surprised to know, Sir, that people went with land documents but these were not accepted, people went with their pay registers but these were not accepted. As per a circular—I do not remember the exact circular—the Election Commissioner of India has said that any document as per the Evidence Act, should be taken into consideration. Now, a man who has retired from public service, from the Government service after serving for 20-30 years, a man who has got a municipal licence and is running a stall, a man who is a rickshaw puller, just because he speaks Bengali, has been treated as a foreigner. I am very sorry to say that this sort of thing should not be tolerated by the Government. I will appeal to the Election Commissioner of India as well as to the Law Minister and to the Home Minister that before coming to a final decision about holding the elections, there should be a thorough inquiry again to see that any Indian citizen who has not been included, is not deprived of his voting right. Yesterday I saw a news item in the *Telegraph* on the front page saying that AASU has also objected. They still feel that this voters list is full of foreigners. If the Government thinks that AASU's objection is correct, then they must take cognisance of this. You go into these objections. I am one with you there. I do not want any foreigner to be in the voters list. But I also want from this Government that let there be an assurance that thus far, no further. Those who have settled in Assam, yes, they have come after 1947. They have accepted the Assam Accord for those who have come before 24th March 1971. But I would like to know from the Government of India, I would like to know from the Chief Election Commissioner of

India, whether this is the last time or every time in the name of identifying the foreigners the linguistic and religious minorities in Assam will be harassed. I think it is too much. In West Bengal, in Bihar, in Orissa there is a process laid down where the foreigners are not allowed to go in the voters' list. That process should continue; normally it is good. But in the name of the Assam Accord every time you come forward with lakhs and lakhs of notices, it is not possible. Why is this being done? Because the persons who became the Ministers and Chief Minister, they know, they came into power saying that there are 14 lakhs of foreigners in Assam. By signing the agreement with the Government of India, with Rajiv Gandhi, they have accepted that those who have come before 24th March 1971 are no more foreigners, they are accepted as citizens of India. It is a real fact that about 20 to 25 lakhs of people have come from Bangladesh after 15th August 1947 and naturally by signing the accord, they have accepted them. Now, they have to tell the other people that 'by signing this accord with Rajiv Gandhi we have accepted them as Indian citizens.' Now, in the name of so-called foreigners, if every time they are being harassed, I think from the point of view of unity and Constitution it is not fair. Just because we speak Bengali, just because we once belonged to East Pakistan or Bangladesh, we must not be subjected to this sort of harassment. We are not being harassed in Tripura, we are not being harassed in West Bengal, we are not being harassed in any part of the country. Why this undue harassment to the Bengalis? That should not be done. (*Interruptions*). Let me finish with whatever I say, you are most welcome to have your say.

Mr. Dinesh Goswami is there. I will not be very unhappy to see that he acts as a Minister, not as a representative of the AGP. He is now our Minister, he represents the whole country, not Assam Gana Parishad. Your quota as Minister may be from Assam Gana Parishad, but your duty as Minister is as a Minister of the country. Hence I would request, Mr. Goswami, if I remember aright you also came to Assam from Kanauj, Prafulla

Mohanta came from Orissa. Now you have become very much involved in Assam, as we have come, Bengalis and Hindus and Muslims from East Pakistan or from Bangladesh. Let us not, in the name of so-called foreigners, try to humiliate people in Assam.

Sir, last but not the least, since it is connected with election and election will be held very soon, I hope the Government of Assam and the Government of India will take care of the activities of ULFA organisation in Assam. There is a parallel Government now being run in Assam by ULFA. They are punishing people, they are extracting money, they are threatening Bengalis, Hindus, Muslims, Assamese Hill tribes people, businessmen and various other people, not because they are only against the Congress, but they are against even AGP. So, I would request Mr. Dinesh Goswami to make sure, when elections are held in Assam, that the law and order situation in Assam is congenial for all political parties to campaign properly and to see that the voters who will be in the voter's list can vote properly.

With these words, I will again repeat, Mr. Goswami, to answer me two specific questions apart from the others whether as Government of India you accept the stand that after a man is tried by a tribunal under IMDT and Foreigners Act the Election Commissioner has got the right to re-examine him. As Minister of State for Home I wrote a letter to Mr. Peri Shastri saying that it is not as per the spirit of the Assam Accord. Yes, if the Government of India have changed their stand, if the Ministry has changed its stand, I have no objection, they are at liberty to change it. But we as the involved party in Assam are entitled to know whether the stand by Muftiji, the present Home Minister of the country, has been changed. I would like to know how many cases have come before the tribunal under the IMDT Act and under the Foreigners Act and what is the number of people involved. He should not take protection under the umbrella that this is a matter which is to be replied by the Home Minister and not by the Law Minister. There is enough time and the officials are sitting.

[Sh. Sontosh Mohan Dev]

He should tell one of the officials to collect that information and tell us how many names have been deleted by the Election Officer of Assam from the list submitted by the Police. I shall again appeal that we are all for a correct voters' list, but in the process of making correct voters' list names of genuine Indian citizens must not be deleted. Those who are allowed to get protection as per the Assam Accord should be given protection. I do not say there is any intentional harassment from the Chief Election Commissioner of India or from the Assam Election Officer. I know their difficulties and I appreciate their difficulties because I have worked with them. But keeping in view the fact that the election was once deferred in order to see that the correct voters list is drawn, we should not have the old voters' list because AASU is objecting, Congress-I is objecting, Congress-S is objecting, CPM is objecting, CPI in Assam is objecting, BJP in Assam is objecting and everybody is saying that this voters list has been made in such a manner that many Indian citizens have been elected. Of course, ABSU and the AGP are the only two organisations which say that many of the foreigners are still there. If that is the position and even if we have the election, then we want a categorical statement from the Minister of Law that no further harassment in the name of Assam Accord will be done in future for the cause of identifying the foreigners. You do it as per the IMDT Act and do it as per the Foreigners Act. This is a continuous process and let it continue. Mr. Goswami, you are definitely continuously going to win in Guahati,

try to prepare a voter's list in such a manner that Bengalis in Guahati also vote for you, but do not try to harass. This is my request. I will not oppose the Bill because I was also instrumental to this Ordinance. So, I support it. I do parliamentarian with more experience. Both of us are cricket players and I request him to try to solve this problem in a sportsman's spirit.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is an ordinance promulgated by the President of India to postpone the election in Assam because the electoral

roll in Assam could not be revised along with electoral rolls of other States and once again the people of Assam could not exercise their franchise along with the millions and millions of other people of the country who participated in this democratic process. So, this House also has no representative from Assam. What was the reasons? Why was the voter's list not thoroughly revised as it was done in other States? The reasons stated by the Law Minister in the Statement of Objects and Reasons is not quite explicit. I would like to know why the electoral roll of Assam was not revised and why so much time was taken to have a thorough revision of the electoral roll in Assam.

The question of foreigners was raised long back. There was a movement and agitation and there was the Assam Accord. This House is aware that when this accord was signed, our Party—the Communist Party of India (Marxist)—did not support this accord. We did not accept the accord also. We explained our stand and we are very much—our party and other Left parties also—consistent on this point. We insisted at that time also that the cut-off year, the base year, should be 1971. Our stand was that 1971 should be the cut-off year as per the Indira-Mujib agreement. So there was an accord and we expressed our apprehension and misgiving that a large number of genuine citizens would be disenfranchised and their citizenship rights would be taken away. Then there was election and the AGP came to power.

The revision of electoral roll was started along with other States, so far as I understand. But it has taken time and just now the Law Minister has informed us that the final Voters' list—including Kokrajhar District—has been published. So, we will have to see whether in the final voters' list the apprehension expressed by various political parties that names of the genuine voters have been deleted has been considered or not. Because this was expressed by various political parties irrespective of their ideology. The Congress (I), the then ruling party, also changed their stand. They also came with

other political parties and jointly protested and expressed their reservation. I would like to know whether this apprehension and criticism regarding the deletion of some genuine voters has been taken into consideration or not. Genuine voters may be one or two; but none of the genuine voters' names should be deleted in the name of foreigners. That is our contention and that is our view which we strongly feel. None of the genuine voters who exercises his right of franchise should find that his name is deleted. I would like to know whether the apprehension and the criticisms expressed by the various political parties were taken into consideration or not, at the time of finalising the voters' list, because when draft voters' list was published, a number of complaints were received that three lakh, four lakh, five lakh even seven lakh genuine voters' names have been deleted. There was time for lodging complaint. I want to know whether this was also taken into consideration or not. We all know as to what happened in Tripura. Myself and Shri Somnath Chatterjee met the Chief Election Commissioner five times and we submitted thousands of names of genuine voters, whose names have been deleted, deliberately. They were not being allowed to file their complaints.

SHRI AJIT PANJA (Calcutta North East):

The same type of thing, that is deletion of genuine voters and inclusion of false voters continued in West Bengal State also. A complaint has been sent by me to the Election Commission and also Election Office in West Bengal. But no justice has been done.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The court went into your complaint and found that it was baseless.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: The Law Minister will kindly tell this House whether the points which were raised by political parties including my party, the Communist Party of India (Marxist) have been considered, at the time of publishing the final voters' list or not. We have categorically raised the points. Our representative met the Chief Election Commissioner and several times

we submitted memoranda and raised some points. I would like to know whether those points have been taken into consideration or not. That should be made clear by the Law Minister, while replying to our debate, because this was the apprehension of the minority community and even a single genuine voter's name should not be deleted from the voters' list. There was also a report that the last date for filing or lodging complaints was postponed, several times. When the last date was postponed, not a single objection was raised against any genuine voter that the name of the foreigner has been included. Then, the last date was postponed again and again to invite objections and complaints. After the last date was postponed, thousands of complaints were received. I would like to know how these complaints were entertained, how enquiry was made, how it was scrutinised and how many of these objections against the genuine voters, whose names have been deleted from the voters' list were scrutinised. I would also like to know whether the process of deletion—going through the complaint, holding a proper enquiry and hearing—was done or not before finalising the voter's list, that is, electoral roll of Assam.

17.00 hrs.

Then, Sir, there are two aspects. Yesterday in *Telegraph* on the front page AASU has complained that still there are large number of foreigners on the electoral rolls and on the basis of these electoral rolls no elections can take place. They have also said that they will boycott elections if the elections are held on the basis of the present electoral roll which had been finalised on 23.12.1989 as has been stated by the hon. Minister.

Another aspect is that there are complaints also that a large number of voters whose names were there in 1985 voters list and also in the previous voters list of 1966 and also later on when that voters list was revised their names were there in those electoral rolls, I would like to know, whether their names had been deleted. Their com-

[Sh. Basudeb Acharia]

plaint is that 4-5 lakh genuine voters' names have been deleted even in the final voters list. If it is so and if they are genuine citizens then something should be done so that they get an opportunity to exercise their franchise and get their names enlisted in the voters list. After the publication of the voters list how it can be done the hon. Law Minister can clarify in this House but there should not be any apprehension in the minds of the minority community that any such thing had happened.

Now, Sir, elections should not be delayed in Assam. Elections should be held there as soon as possible. Assam State should have its representatives in this House. Elections should be held as soon as possible but the genuine voters—if their names have been deleted—should get opportunity to get their names enrolled. They should not be debarred from exercising their franchise.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a fact that there is no representation of Assam in this House at present because of doubts raised with regard to revised electoral rolls. First of all, this work is being carried out in a hurry. Out of 381,000 electorates to be scrutinised, only nine thousand voters have so far been identified. I would like to submit, through you, that the Government should not delete the names of voters from electoral rolls without any valid proof. In the absence of any valid proof, voters should not be unnecessarily harassed. Secondly, the corruption is so widely rampant in our society that an honest citizen is the worst sufferer because a dishonest person manages to get the things done in such situation, whereas the former finds it difficult to get through from the morass of corruption. Therefore, names of genuine citizens should not be deleted from the voter list because it will be an improper act. It is being said that the AASU refused to take part in the elections. After all it is their Government in the State, so it is

their responsibility to identify the foreigners. Persons who have been living there for the last 50 years and have been brought up and grown up there and whose children are also living there for the last 20 to 25 years should not be asked to furnish proof for inclusion of their names in the voter lists. More the delay, more it is becoming complicated. I, would, therefore like to request that the voters list be revised and updated without any further delay so that early elections could be held in Assam and it could also have its representation in the House. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH PAL (Nainital): Mr. Speaker, Sir, while supporting this Bill, I would like to submit that the hon. Minister will pay attention to all the objections raised. It is hoped that the electoral rolls will be revised and updated keeping in view the objections raised.

As regards present revision of voter lists, I would like to submit that a number of refugees from Bangladesh have migrated to my district of Nainital. The Ministry should take appropriate action in order to obviate the situation likely to be created as obtaining in Assam. So some sort of rules and regulations are required to be made in this regard. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister in this regard.

I would also like to bring it to the notice of hon. Minister that the supplementary voter lists prepared for the use in the recent general elections were not given to the presiding officers. In Nainital district, it was not even supplied. I am bringing it to the notice of the hon. Minister so that such things could not happen in future. When I complained to the presiding officer about this, he expressed his helplessness and said nothing could be done at that stage as the voter lists sent by the returning officer had not reached them. What does it mean? All the new voters in the age group of 18-21 years whose names were included in the supplementary lists were deprived of their voting rights. Such thing should not happen in future. It should be ensured that no voter is deprived of his voting right.

With these words, I conclude and I express my gratitude to the hon. Chairman, the hon. Minister and the this august House.

17.08 hrs.

[SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE *in the Chair*]

[*English*]

SHRICHITTABASU (Barasat): Madam, I am one of those who strongly feel that the Ninth Lok Sabha should be completely constituted at the earliest possible opportunity. The Ordinance, which was promulgated by the President of the country, was under a very peculiar and piquant situation. Now there is no question of not holding the Lok Sabha election in Assam. The Lok Sabha election or, as a matter of fact, all other elections should be based on proper electoral rolls. The question of deferment of the Lok Sabha election in Assam was necessitated because of the failure of the Government of Assam to prepare fully revised electoral rolls of Assam. The Government had decided to have 1966 as the cut-off year. This decision was protested against by all sections of the minority community in Assam, be they religious or linguistic or otherwise. And they have been demanding for revising the electoral roll on the basis of 1985 electoral roll, the reason being quite valid, that it is on the basis of 1985 roll that the latest election was held in Assam and the present Government is there in power on the basis of the mandate given by the Assam people on the basis of 1985 electoral roll. Therefore, there are enough valid grounds to oppose the Government's decision for relying on 1966 electoral roll as its base. What has happened out of this decision of the Government for relying on 1966 voters list? It is reported, I am not sure, that about more than five lakh electors whose names were there in 1985 electoral roll have been struck off from the final list which has been published on the 23rd of this month. This is as reported by the hon. Minister. Now, this means, in other words, disenfranchising about five lakhs of eligible voters in Assam.

There were directions given by the Chief Election Commission which had not been properly respected. A large number of complaints have been made. The complaints have been made from the minority communities on the ground that they are being deprived of the right to franchise. The complaints are generally of this nature. Before that, I also want to bring to the attention of the hon. Minister that the Election Commission has specified that besides the poll list of 1966, documents like the national register of citizens, refugee camp registration cards and judgments by tribunals concerned with detection of foreign nationals should be taken into account while entertaining claims. My grievance or my complaint is that no document which was placed or submitted by the eligible voters has been accepted by the State Electoral Officers. I am told that a large number of people have produced certificates from the Panchayats proving their permanent residences. They produced certificate issued by Bastuhara Samities, from Gaon Budos and they produced refugee registration cards issued by Assam Government, affidavits in the judicial courts, appointment letters issued by the Government of Assam, references from the Deputy Commissioner's Office, Lakhimpur, court summons, tax receipts, bank accounts and ration cards, etc. I think, all this constitutes substantial evidence as to prove whether a particular person was there in a particular place in Assam, otherwise there cannot be a court summon issued against a person, there cannot be an appointment letter given by the State Government of Assam. The Assam Government has also issued refuse certificates. I am told when they produced all these certificates and documents, which I characterise as substantial evidence, the electoral officers did not take cognizance of that. And, there, they have been deprived of the right to vote or right to be there in the electoral rolls.

I am also told that there was a provision for linkage of 1966 electoral rolls. Even the proofs for linkages were established, but those were not accepted by the electoral officers. Then, you will agree that the Indian citizenship certificates should be accepted.

[Sh. Chitta Basu]

But there are reports that the Indian citizenship certificates have also not been accepted as proof. NRC extracts issued by the police have also not been accepted. All this has resulted in disenfranchisement of a large number of people in Assam, particularly belonging to the minority communities and linguistic communities.

I would now like to point out certain absurdities in some of the notices issued. Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev has mentioned some. I have also got with me certain names Ms Praveen Sultana, who is a classical music exponent has been issued a notice to prove whether she is an Indian citizen or not. Then the most astonishing and revealing is the fact that the former Chairman of Assam Police Commission, Shri Imdad Ali has been issued or served a notice to prove that he is an Indian citizen. If he is not an Indian citizen, how was he made the Chairman of the Assam Police Commission. Therefore, there are certain absurdities in issuing notices for the minority people. Is it because Shri Imdad Ali happens to be a Muslim or Ms Praveen Sultana has been issued a notice because she belongs to a minority community. I have got a large list and the whole bunch of papers.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: That list may be placed on the Table of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is what I was thinking also. I can allow that.**

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: I have no objection, but there are certain rules regarding laying of the papers on the Table of the House.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: But she has already allowed.

SHRIDINESH GOSWAMI: But there is a procedure for laying a document on the

Table of the House. Please see that those rules of procedure are followed.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDEVATE): The Member has to authenticate the papers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The documents before placing them in the House have to be examined. Authentication and proper examination, of course, must be done.

(Interruptions)

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Madam, there are reports in the press that certain organisation in Assam has already declared its intention even to boycott the elections, if the elections are held on the basis of the electoral rolls that have been finally published. This will further intensify the social tension in Assam. Nobody would be happy over it.

While concluding, I would say that of course it is a *fait accompli* and we are all for an early election. Though the electoral rolls have been finally published, there should be adequate scope to redress the grievances mentioned by me.

Even at this late stage, I would urge upon the Law Minister and the Home Minister to find a way out to provide some mechanism by which genuine Indian citizens are not debarred from exercising their electoral right. I cannot suggest a mechanism by which this relief can be offered. But I would only rely upon the hon. Minister who piloted this Bill to work out such a mechanism with the approval of the House. There should not be any occasion whereby a genuine Indian citizen is debarred from exercising his right to vote and his right to constitute the highest representative body like this Lok Sabha.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Madam Chairman, I would like to support this Bill on two grounds. Firstly, this Bill has

**The speaker not having subsequently accorded the necessary permission, the papers/documents were not treated as laid on the Table.

been brought by a learned and well-intended person like Shri Dinesh Goswami. Secondly, I am completing a mere formality as it has been proved by the speeches made by almost all the members who spoke preceding me that had the State Government cooperated and their political wings not created hindrance in finalisation of the electoral rolls, the elected representatives of Assam would have also been present in the House today and Shri Dinesh Goswami would also have been included in the Government as an elected representative of Assam. Madam it is regretful that the present Government in Assam and the ruling parties and the organisations which are putting obstacles in preparation of the voter lists are the same which have been elected on the basis of electoral rolls of 1985. In my opinion, there are some ulterior motives behind a large number of objections raised by them. The party in power in Assam wanted to divert the attention of the people as they did not fulfil the promises made to the people at the time of their election. In order to divert the attention of the people, they are again harping upon the same thing as they used to do before the Assam Accord concluded in 1985 and they created an atmosphere of hatred and turmoil under which the linguistic and religious minorities began to feel insecure. At the time of Assam Accord concluded in 1985, no other parties, except one or two took a clear stand. It is a different matter that even those parties are now not ready to take a clear stand on the issue. I heard Shri Basu, but he didn't make any mention of the fact as to whether the ruling party in the State has lent its sincere support in finalising the electoral rolls or not. I understand his problem.

Madam, it was hoped in 1985 that the Government voted to power in the state after the Assam accord would do their duties with greater degree of responsibilities and provide protection to the linguistic and religious minorities. But it is unfortunate, as it has become clear that instead of providing protection to the linguistic and religious minorities, the State Government is harassing them. Objections are being filed against thousands and thousands people. Even genuine citi-

zens of Assam are being treated as foreigners and are being subjected to verification on the basis of wrong information. Objections have been raised in respect of such persons who had been the Members of this august House. This is being done out of personal enmity. In 1985 also, this was made an election issue objections were filed even against a former Member of Lok Sabha who was attached to the ruling party in Assam. Nothing can be more unfortunate than this.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): That is not correct.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: If this is not correct, then I will certainly amend it.

[Translation]

Madam Chairman, the present ruling party i.e. Assam Gana Sangram Parishad is using its political wings who are filing objections against persons opposed to their party and might not vote for them in the coming elections. It is with this political motive; they are raising same slogans, as they have been raising in 1985 so that they could again come to power by terrifying the people.

Madam Chairman, there is yet another party known as United Liberation Front which is active in Assam. They are saying that they will oppose elections in Assam and sometimes they express their resentment against the Chief Minister of Assam also, but not in as harsh tone as they express against the Central Government. This was their earlier stand. I don't know their present stand, because I have not yet come across any joint statement issued by them. But they have not been dealt as an extremist organisation deserves to be dealt with. The harassment of people has not been stopped. They are still harassing the people. So, I would request Shri Dinesh Goswami whose ability and wisdom are beyond any doubt. Shri Goswami, on his own and through the Central Govern-

[Sh. Harish Rawat]

ment should convince the Government of Assam which is his own party's Government, to stop unnecessary harassment of the religious minorities. And on the basis of the information, he has given to this House that the electoral rolls are ready, we expect that elections in Assam will be held at the earliest and we will have the representatives from Assam also in this House and they will also participate in the proceedings of the House.

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Madam Chairperson: It is extremely sad that the 9th Lok Sabha had to be constituted without the elected representatives from a part of our country—from one State, viz. Assam. We would all have been happy if Assam also would have gone to the polls along with the rest of the country. The responsibility for this sad situation is, of course, with the agitationists over there in Assam, who have been trying to deprive the linguistic and religious minorities, of their right to franchise.

I, of course, sympathise with the position of the Election Commission. The Election Commission was in a very difficult situation; and in that difficult situation, the Election Commission also unfortunately wavered, thinking that perhaps some solution might come out of it. However, I am sure that I am echoing the opinion, the sentiments and the thought of each and every Member of this House when I say that we would like to have the representatives from Assam also to this House, as early as possible.

I was listening very carefully to our hon. Law Minister. He has been good enough to tell us that the final rolls have been published. But, then, we also know that despite the publication of the final rolls, there are still threats from certain quarters in Assam, threats from AASU and others who say, who contend that the present electoral rolls are still defective, and that they will not allow the

elections to take place on the basis of these finally-published rolls.

The hon. Minister of Law has not told us anything as to how he views their threats, and what is the Government's stand which the Government would like to communicate, *vis-a-vis* those threats. I am sure that these threats will not lead to any further deferment of the elections. The entire country cannot be held to ransom in this manner. The Government also must come forward with a strong statement on the floor of the House. That, unfortunately, has been missing from the statement of hon. Law Minister. I appeal to him that while replying to this discussion and asking this House to adopt this particular Bill, he should state clearly and categorically on the floor of the House that no one would be allowed to intimidate the Election Commission, and that such types of people who try to hold the entire country to ransom will not be tolerated and will be dealt with according to law. That is the only manner in which we can help the democratic norms. Of course, it is absolutely necessary that every person, every genuine citizen of our country now in Assam must have his name on the voters' list. And it is unfortunate that the manner in which the revision of the electoral roll has been done, or the procedure adopted with respect to the revision was very defective. I must though sympathising with the plight of the Election Commission, express my protest also at the manner in which the Election Commission went about in the matter of revision of the electoral rolls.

Madam, the points that I would like to bring to your notice are mainly three, as far as the manner in which the entire revision of the electoral rolls has been taken up. In the first place there was an attempt to link the names of the persons with the 1966 roll. This linkage was totally arbitrary, unconstitutional and not sanctioned by any provisions of the law.

Secondly, Madam, there was even a guideline to say that those who have encroached upon Government land should not be included—their names also—in the elec-

toral roll even if they are genuine citizens unless and until they get the clearance certificate from the State Government.

How can the encroachment on government land become a ground to disqualify a person, to deprive him of his voting right? It is something incomprehensible!

The third point that comes up with this respect is as I have pointed out, that only a limited number of documents could be accepted in support of any proof of citizenship.

Now, Madam Chairperson, we have the 1985 roll. This 1985 roll was prepared and then thoroughly revised after the Assam Accord which had the 1966 cut off date. At that time we protested and even now we protest against the Assam Accord but then the situation is that the 1985 roll was revised and published after the Assam Accord and even after the existence of the 1966 date as a cut off date published for the purposes of voting rights.

The Election Commission specifically, as I understand, extended and re-extended the date in view of the Assam Accord asking for objections. And as a result of this there was a thorough revision. And, therefore, there was no reason why the 1985 roll ought not to have been accepted as the basic roll at the time of revision of the electoral roll in 1989. Therefore, I say that going back to the 1966 roll was totally arbitrary, and not according to the provisions of the law. This 1966 roll, Madam, did not even exist in its entirety and I am sure several portions of the 1966 roll were missing. They were missing because you and I know very well that according to the provisions of law, an electoral roll is supposed to be kept for a period of six years. After that, it can be destroyed, according to the provisions of the law. Naturally, therefore, several parts of this 1966 roll did not exist. The Election Commission went about with a very surprising exercise of reconstructing the 1966 rolls. Reconstructing from where—those parts did not exist. There was no need also for the reconstruction. There were the 1985 rolls duly revised and

dates for objections extended against and again in view of 1966 cut-off date, in view of the Assam Accord. Therefore the present revision ought to have taken place without any attempt at linkages of names found in 1985 rolls with the old 1966 rolls, which had ceased to exist in its entirety. The reconstruction of the rolls is nothing but a fraud played upon the people of Assam. Madam Chairperson, I must say that with respect to the 1985 roll again, 10 lakh voters were omitted from the draft rolls and 12 lakh voters were omitted from the draft rolls and 12 lakh petitions were received against the entries. Ten lakh voters were omitted, twelve lakh petitions were sustained—I must say, 22 lakhs of people were kept out of the 1985 rolls... (*Interruptions*)

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur): By whom?

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: By the election Commission. Now the matter even went up to the court. The figures that I am giving are the figures from the petition that was placed before the court. They are not my figments of imagination. I must therefore say with great sorrow at my heart that there was nothing but an electoral genocide of the linguistic and the religious minorities there in Assam. Even after all this, we are having threats.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Banatwallaji, if you do not mind, can you be a little brief because of the time limit?

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: It is a question of franchise, the basic question on which the entire democracy stands. Please bear with me. There are so many things that one must understand in order to be able to see that our democracy is strengthened and in order to see that this House also is fully constituted as soon as possible.

Madam Chairperson, I must say that it was rather unfortunate that the Commission adopted a wavering attitude.

Special guidelines for revision of rolls

[Sh. G.M. Banatwalla]

were announced on May 18, 1989. It was unfortunate that these guidelines were the result of the Election Commission I must say succumbing and surrendering to the pressures from AASU and others. We objected, we went to the Election Commission, we wrote to the Election Commission, we told the Election Commission that the guidelines are arbitrary; they are not according to the law and a very discriminatory attitude is being taken up. As a result of that, another set of guidelines were issued by the Election Commission on July 18, 1989. We thought now that things will be all right. But then again pressure came from AASU and such others from Assam and there was again a somersault by the Election Commission. The Election Commission fumbled again and it went back to its May 18, 1989 guidelines. All this shows the unfortunate attitude, the unfortunate situation. Now what we want and expect from the Government is a categorical statement on the floor of the House that all such wavering attitudes will be given up and follow the procedure according to the law, which had been adopted. Now the final electoral rolls are there, but then the pressure has just started. Nobody will surrender to those pressures which are now being started and that every attempt will be made to see that the genuine voters do have their names on the electoral rolls because even now people can apply for their names to be included in the electoral rolls. Of course, they may have to pay a little fees, that is a different thing. I must say how the Election Commission unfortunately arrogated to itself the powers of the Foreigners Tribunal and the Tribunal under the Illegal Migrants Act, of detecting and deleting the foreigners. I must here refer to the Supreme Court judgement quoted in AIR 1984 SC 1911 and AIR 1986 SC 19861. I would like to quote extensively from all these in order to make the position very clear, but Madam Chairperson, you are also impatient...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I hope, Sir, you do not want me to discriminate since others are also there.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: I do not allege that. You are very fair in every respect, Madam.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Madam Chairperson, there was a contention that was made before the Supreme Court and the Supreme Court was told to give a direction to the Election Commission—a direction to detect all foreigners; after detecting, to delete their names from the rolls, and in the process of detection and deletion of the names, to take the help of even police officers and other governmental agencies. Such contention was made before the Supreme Court in the cases which I have just referred to. The Supreme Court refused. They said, nothing doing. They rejected all the contentions. They said that the Election Commission prepares the rolls and then if anybody has an objection against any entry, he can object, and it is the objector who will have to produce evidence. That is very important—the Election Commission itself sitting to decide who is doubtful and then trying to remove those doubtful names, or trying to issue notices asking them to produce documentary evidence. And documents only of four types—the Citizenship Certificate; or the extract from the 1966 roll which, as I said, had ceased to exist; or a birth certificate; or an NRC extract, which again does not exist. Only such four documents and no other documents would be accepted. So, a great hardship has resulted, leading to even, as I said, electoral genocide of the minorities over there. We are still being told about the question of encroachment on government land. How can that be a ground for disqualifying and depriving a person of his right to franchise? Now, I must say who, according to the law, is supposed to detect and get the names deleted. It was not for the Election Commission. The Election Commission had the 1985 roll prepared after the Assam Accord and on the basis of the 1985 roll, State Assembly elections have taken place and the State Government there is ruling. On the basis of that roll they want to rule but on the basis of that roll they do not want revision for

the purposes of parliamentary election. When an absurd stand that they take! It is according to the Assam Accord. I would refer to clause 5.3 of the Assam Accord and I quote:

"Foreigners who came to Assam after 1st January 1966 (inclusive) and up to 24th March, 1971, shall be detected in accordance with the provisions of the Foreigners Act, 1946 and the Foreigners Tribunals Order, 1964."

Then I will again quote clause 5.4 of the Assam Accord:

"The names of foreigners so detected will be deleted from the electoral roll in force."

It is, therefore, clear that it was for the tribunals under the Foreigners Act and the Foreigners Tribunal Order to sit down and detect and only when they have detected in accordance with the provisions of law, then their names so detected have to be deleted from the electoral roll. But it is unfortunate that the Election Commission itself sits down arrogating to itself the powers of these tribunals and the powers which, according to the electoral laws, do not belong to the Election Commission. I must, therefore, take strong exception to all these methods that have been adopted. And I must say that it is rather unfortunate that a propaganda has started that there is an abnormal increase in the number of voters in the 40 Assembly constituencies. This is more a propaganda without any basis. It goes on, *ad nauseam* the matter is being repeated that there is an abnormal increase in the number of voters and that this increase suggests and shows that there are foreigners over there. Madam Chairperson, I very respectfully submit that when the average annual population growth is 3.5 per cent, then the compounded annual increase of voters between 1966 and 1989 comes to 127.22 per cent. It comes to that on proper statistics. The increase of voters according to 1989 rolls is only 89.47 per cent. It is, therefore, important to note that the actual increase in the number of voters in the 1989 roll is 89.47 per cent while the compounded increase of voters could have

been 127.22 per cent. The figures, therefore, bring out the falsehood of the daily propaganda that is going on of there being an abnormal increase not linked with even the population increase, growth and the compounded rate, and therefore, it represents still the large number of foreigners over there. And I am happy that even the present State Government over there agrees with these figures which I have just placed before the House. Therefore, let sanity prevail upon the AASU and others. Let our rules be such as to include names of all genuine voters. We do not want foreigners to vote, we do not want that, but that does not mean that under the pretext of foreigners there could be electoral genocide that may be carried out. Now, of course, let the Government take the House into confidence, let us know that this Government, this Election Commission will not succumb to any pressures of AASU and others, that elections will be held as early as possible and genuine voters will be given the opportunity to exercise their franchise. I wish the Government well, I wish the Government well in its attempts to see that this House gets fully constituted as early as possible.

With these words, Madam Chairperson, I thank you very much.

SHRI MANDHATA SINGH (Lucknow): Madam Chairman, I would not take much of the precious time of this House although I have got provoked by the repeated utterances of our senior colleague Mr. Banatwallas then he was talking about the phrase 'electoral genocide'. I am one of the worst victims of that electoral genocide although in spite of all the genocide attempts I have been able to scrape my way through and come to this House. I support the Bill put forth before this House by the Minister of Law and Justice regarding making arrangements for holding early parliamentary elections in Assam. Why should we only talk about electoral genocide or AASU pressure in Assam. There are other pressures also working throughout the country and as I represent the State capital of Uttar Pradesh which is the biggest State in the Indian Union, I have

[Sh. Mandhata Singh]

had my own experience in this regard where about three lakh voters' names were deliberately removed. That is the real genocide. The names were there three months before when the Corporation elections were held and if you make a calculation, the total number of voters during the Corporation elections held three months earlier to the parliamentary election and the total number of voters who were called upon the exercise their right of franchise in the 1989 parliamentary election which has sent me to this House, there is a difference of more than three lakhs. Even a candidate like me, who was supposed to be a joint Opposition candidate in Lucknow, was not supplied with the list of voters and even the list of polling stations in the constituency for 12 long days after the electoral process started. Then, I had to send a very long telegram to Mr. Peri Shastri, the Chief Election Commissioner and then somehow I was given a truncated and tampered voters list. The story goes round in the State capital of Uttar Pradesh that the then Ruling Party candidate had a separate voters' list and the main Opposition candidate was supplied with another voters' list where more than three lakh names were missing. So, I have taken this opportunity of drawing the attention of this august House to this kind of electoral genocide being practised not only in Assam but in other parts of the country also. Assam has its own problems of foreign nationals issue, the AASU agitation and the stresses and strains through which the Assam people have passed. There has been a fear psychosis from which the AASU people are also suffering. It is not the result of a political conspiracy and certainly not a conspiracy engineering by our esteemed friend Mr. Goswami and his colleagues sitting on the Treasury Benches. So, the Government has to take note of the so-called electoral genocide that is explained by our senior colleague Mr. Banatwalla as well as the fear psychosis generated through years and years of different kind of rule. I do not want to exten the dimensions of the debate, but that fear psychosis was also deliberately created for which the then existing Govern-

ment at the Centre can be solely held responsible.

18.00 hrs.

Madam I have assured you in the slip sent to you, I want only a couple of minutes. But I am exceeding that limit out of vehemence and out of electoral genocide. Therefore, while taking the liberty of registering my protest and registering it on the records of the House, I want to draw the attention of our hon. Minister for Law and Justice to refer the matter to the Election Commission for a serious inquiry into the electoral genocide practised against me in my parliamentary constituency. All responsible Members sitting here will be shocked to know this. The benefit of last amendment to the People's Representation Act which was considered to be a revolutionary measure adopted by Shri Rajiv Gandhi in according the right of franchise to youngmen who have attained the age of 18 years in the State Capital, Lucknow was denied to these youngmen in this parliamentary election.

Therefore, I request that you will take serious note of the matter and all senior Members sitting here will take serious note of the matter that this kind of happening is not only confined to the city of Lucknow but I charge that such malpractices have been adopted at various places throughout the country. The Election Commission be asked to investigate the matter very seriously and if possible a report of their version be placed on the Table of the House by our hon. Minister for Law and Justice.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now before we adjourn the House, I will call upon...

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): Madam, there is a commitment among the Parties in the Business Advisory Committee to sit longer.

SHRI MANDHATA SINGH: There is also a precedent. As long as the chair is there, the House is supposed to be in session.

MR. CHAIRMAN; Shri Muttiah to present first report of the Business Advisory Committee. In that actually we will bring the extension of the time.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Is it that this Bill will be taken up tomorrow?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him present the report.

18.03 hrs

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

First Report

SHRIR. MUTHIAH (Periyakulam): I beg to present the First Report of the Business Advisory Committee before the House.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): Madam, in the Business Advisory Committee, it has been decided to take up the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address tomorrow after Question Hour. It has also been agreed that we will sit longer today and finish the Supplementary Demands for Grants as well as the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill.

I request the House through you to complete this business today so that we can start the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address tomorrow.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): The report of the Business Advisory Committee has only been presented. It has not yet been accepted. It is already very late. In this winter sitting so late and continuing with the business is punishing the serious Members here.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANAVATE): We share your sufferings.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: I seek the indulgence of the hon. Members. we have two choices—either to sit longer or extend the Session. The members of the Business Advisory Committee unanimously felt let the business be finished by 29th by sitting longer every day up to 7.30 p.m.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: We will discuss that report tomorrow. We will study the report, come tomorrow and discuss it. Till the report of the Business Advisory Committee is adopted, it does not apply.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: That is for tomorrow onwards. But today I am proposing this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is appealing to the House to extend the time of the House today....

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: I am appealing to the Parliamentary Affairs Minister not to make such an appeal.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have to extend the House in order to continue with the present business.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: How long?

SHRI P. UPENDRA : It was agreed to have only one hour for this Representation of People (Amendment) Bill and one hour for Supplementary Demands. That was the agreement. Accordingly, we extend the time.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Who made that agreement?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Among the parties.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: The House is not bound by all these things. My party was not there.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It seems to me that there is some objection to the appeal. But, in any case, I think through compromise, you will agree. I extend this House till this Bill is finished and Supplementary Demands would be taken up tomorrow. Do you agree?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Supplementary Demands would not take much time. Only a few members will speak.

SHRI P. UPENDRA : Shri Banatwalla is a very senior member and I know he is conscientious member. This has to be reported to the other House also and they have to take up in the other House also. Kindly cooperative with us. They are continuing from the previous regime. This should have been finished long time ago but they have come to us.

18.07 hrs

STATUTORY RESOLUTION *RE* : DISAPPROVAL OF THE REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1989
AND
REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL-*CONTD.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us proceed with the business. One more Member is still to speak. I would give five minutes to Shri Ajit..Kumar Panja.

SHRI AJIT PANJA : (Calcutta North East) : Kindly consider. We are discussing the rights of the people of Assam without any one representing in this House. Even the Minister himself is no representative of Assam except he is a citizen. He is not a Member in this House nor he is a member of Rajya Sabha. Therefore, the responsibility of the entire people of Assam is mine. Kindly give me some time. I am very much here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Already Shri Santosh Mohan Dev and Shri Harish Rawat have

spoken. I request you to be as brief as possible.

SHRI AJIT PANJA : That I will do. I usually do not take much time. Thank you. In fact, we are here discussing not only the rights of the people of Assam who are duly qualified to be voters and voting for the ensuing election but also—I am pointing out a very important factor to be taken into consideration a person when he becomes a Voter, he is duly qualified under the provisions of the Representation of People Act, 1950 read with Representation of people Act, 1951 and the Part 'C' of the constitution of India. But I am on another point. The very existence of this House is being questioned by this provision. Unless a person becomes an elector or a voter, he cannot be chosen to fill in a seat of Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha. Therefore, the very right to become a member of this august House, the whole basis of democracy, wherein we debate, that very right is being taken out from that very person who is entitled to get it. Therefore, first it is to be conceded that this House is constituted under Article 79 of the Constitution and so far as Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha together are concerned, it has to be read with Article 81 of the Constitution. While doing so, we must look into who are the persons who can become a Member of this very House.

Madam Chairperson, so far as the Representation of the People Act, 1950 is concerned, I do not know why so much confusion is being created with such a very essential right of democracy of an Indian citizen over the age of 18 years to become an elector not only to choose his representative but by himself representing either as an Independent candidate or a candidate of any other party. Therefore, you are the custodian to protect the right of such an elector who would have become a Member but for this illegal action.

Madam, Section 4 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 is absolutely clear—right from the Constitution up to the rules. The point is the Election Commission submitted to the illegal demand. I do not

blame any one except the Election Commission because they are created under the Statute and they are created with full power under Article 324 of the Constitution. There is none to fetter their rights which are given under the Constitution. It is they who will appoint the Chief Electoral Officer in the State, it is they who have got the power of Delegation of Power, not only from the Election Commission in Delhi to the Chief Electoral Officer in the State but from the Chief Electoral Officer to the Assistant Electoral Officer and from the Assistant Electoral Officer to the Returning Officer at the grass-root level. How can they say that they are not responsible and they have not got machinery? Why was this machinery not created? Who should make the demand for creating the machinery? A clear picture is provided in this regard under Article 324 of the Constitution.

Madam, you have to protect the right of the people to vote, to become a Member of this House. I place before you Section 4 which gives that right. Section 4 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 deals with the qualification for getting the membership of the House of the People. A person shall not be qualified to be chosen to fill a seat in the House of the People unless he fulfils the various qualification. Section 4, Sub-Section (d) says: "In the case of any other seat than the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe, he is an elector of any Parliamentary constituency..." "In Assam there are, for example, five lakhs or 10 lakhs of people who were deleted. Even if one person is illegally deleted, not only his right to vote is taken away but his right to become a Member of this House is taken away. This is the right specifically given and the Parliament made this law. Can this House says that we are helpless in giving protection just because the Election Commission has done something? This is the right which is without any ambiguity whatsoever. This is the right which is unfettered by any other Court or whatsoever. This is the right given by this very House by passing the legislation. What is the function of this House? Why are we elected? Why are we arguing? If our writ is not carried

to all persons everywhere, then what is the use of our spending so much of people's money? For the maintenance of this House or the Rajya Sabha or even the State Assemblies?

Now, I would like to come to other points. If he is an elector, he has the right to become a Member of a Parliamentary constituency. Then a question came as to who can be entitled to be an elector. There are two consecutive Acts. Kindly consider that these Acts were passed after getting Independence in 1947 and after 1950 when India became the Republic. In the same year, this Act was passed. Kindly consider this Act with the contemporaneous position. You have to consider those people who passed the Act, This very right was envisaged by the framers of the Constitution, by the leaders who gave leadership to our country. In the year 1950 not only this Act came into force but in the next year, the 1951 Act came into force. Kindly see the definition in the 1950 Act. The constituency itself has been defined. Section 16 is about disqualification for registration in an electoral roll. It says:

"A person shall be disqualified for registration in an electoral roll in he is not a citizen of India or he is of unsound mind, stands so declared by a competent court, if he is for the time being disqualified by a High Court or Supreme Court Order and the name of the person so disqualified is entered into."

Therefore, taking Section 16 and read it with Section 15 is very right which is given under Section 4 of the 1951 Act as envisaged under Section 15 of 1950 Act. About the electoral roll for every constituency it says:

"There shall be an electoral which shall be prepared in accordance with the provisions of this Act under the superintendence, direction and control of Election Commission."

Who is there in the State Government ?

[Sh. Ajit Panja]

Just because they create some so called popular sentiment, trying to take away the right a minorities whether linguistic or religious, can they throw them out branding them as foreigners?

Madam, in Indian a person becomes a citizen if he is born here. Even persons born in India were served with notices. Who has got this right? It is the Election Commission and this is a mandatory right of Election Commissioner who himself is a creature of this Constitution made and adopted by the people of India. Without amending the Constitution how can this Election Commissioner say that he has become powerless, when this mandatory right is still being kept today, not amended? When this mandatory right is given, the person who is chosen fills in the list names of five lakhs or ten lakhs or even fifty lakhs. How can they get deleted and under what circumstances? Did the Election Commission in Delhi apply its mind? Did it apply Section 15 read with Section 16 of the 1950 Act? Did it empower its officers there to decide the right of citizenship? If that is so, it is violative of Section 9 of the Citizenship Act.

Only a Tribunal take away my birth-right to become an Indian citizen. Madam, you know under Section 9 of the Citizenship Act a person who is born in Indian, by birth-right, becomes a citizen of India. But thousands who were born in India were given notices that they are foreigners ! Just because they speak Bengali, they should be thrown out; Just because they speak Marathi, they should be thrown out; just because they speak Kannada, they should be thrown out. Under what circumstances? This will be a farce. The Law Minister is present here. He should apply his mind to this question. It is not a question of saying that the final voters' list has been published and the door of the Supreme Court is closed because the Supreme Court has already opined that if the final voters' list is published nobody can question it. It is the Government which should do justice. They should issue directives to

the Election Commission to act in accordance with the law where everything is written down from the 1950 Constitution, then Representation of the People's Act 1950, Representation of the People's Act 1951 as amended by this very august House upto data.

With this, if you kindly go into a little detail, to the delegation of power, it has been stated that powers have been delegated to them. The Supreme Court very rightly observed that this is a machinery under the hands of the Election Commission which is a creature of the Statute and therefore you can go back and file your claims and objections.

Madam, in West Bengal thousands of claims and objections were filed. It is stated that five lakh genuine voters have been deleted in Assam. I would say that 50 lakhs genuine voters are deleted in West Bengal. If you want to check, kindly select one sample constituency.....

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: (Tamluk): This is not sure,

SHRI AJIT PAJNA: There is a saying in Bengali which says that a guilty conscience shouts much. I did not refer to them. Just as they shouted, there are many such people present here. This is the guilty conscience. Madam, in your known impartiality—now adorning this Chair—taking an example of one constituency. Out of 42 Assembly Constituencies in West Bengal. kindly select one and select the Members of this House; kindly examine the electoral rolls of any one particular constituency. I can challenge—in my Constituency, 30 thousand genuine voters....

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: It was challenged in 1982. They submitted a list before the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court went into it and said that without any basis baseless complaints were made by Mr. Panja. (*Interruptions*) This is the judgement of the Supreme Court of India. When they lose, they are taking this stand.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: This is the wrong statement made.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I will produce the Supreme Court judgement, tomorrow.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: The Supreme Court said that the process of election has started. Like the 1984 judgement, cited by Mr. Banatwalla, the Supreme Court stated that the Election Commission is a sort of body whatever you have got to say, you have to go there and file it. The Supreme Court cannot decide because the process of election—these are the exact words—has started. I know where the shoe has pinched Shri Somnath Chatterjee. (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): He was busy with his politics. He did not know, at that time. Let him educate himself first.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Panja kindly cooperate with me. You have taken 25 minutes. will you kindly conclude?

(Interruptions)

SHRI AJIT PANJA : Unless you control one section of the House, how can I do? (Interruptions)

There is no opposition from the Minister. Throughout the debate, the very senior Minister is present here. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please try to present your case. I request you to cooperate and conclude.

(Interruptions)

SHRI AJIT PANJA: I thought the opposition would come from the Minister and he would say, 'No' He is the custodian. I appeal to his conscience. Let him go personally, select and ask for one electoral roll of one Constituency from Assam and one from West Bengal. I appeal to his conscience. It is their

right to become Members of this House, which is remaining unrepresented so far as Assam is concerned. He is the citizen of Assam, sitting here. Knowing his legal background, knowing the manner and the details, the hon. Law Minister goes through—we were colleagues together, and we are colleagues—I appeal to his conscience; this has nothing to do with his law; not like Shri Somnath chatterjee, taking a technical a point in Supreme Court. (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I will stand, every time, he tries to mislead this House. I will oppose, every time, he tries to mislead the House. (Interruptions).

SHRI AJIT PANJA: I am not misleading the House. Madam Chairman, why one section is so much touchy about it ? I am talking about Assam. They themselves argue. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Panja, can you kindly go back to the debate Assam on and conclude?

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: They tried to stop the elections in 1982 in West Bengal. That was a nefarious game. They did not succeed. The Supreme Court pulled down. He had to apologise before the Supreme Court. (Interruptions) He himself had apologised to the Supreme Court.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: When they have said so, the judgement delivered by Shri Sabyasachi Mukerjee was in our favour, who is now the Chief Justice of India. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I request you to go back to the point on Assam and conclude.

(Interruptions)

SHRI AJIT PANJA: Madam, I want to . But unless you control them, what can I do? I want to argue. But they want to stand up and interrupt. What can I do? Let them

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answer my points, after my debate... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please go back to your subject and conclude.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI AJIT PANJA: They wanted to throttle the voice of the people of Bengal ; now they want to throttle my voice, in this House. That is their attitude. Now, let me go back to my point. If you kindly consider...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly do not get into another reading , please.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is my request to you to kindly conclude now. I have already given you enough time.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: Madam, if you ask me to conclude and do not ask them to stop intervening then I will sit down.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: Now Madam kindly come to Section 4 sub-section (d) of. The Representation of the People Act, 1951. Here qualification is given to fill in a seat in this House and unless that is done he cannot be a member of the House. Kindly read it. (*Interruptions*) Now Parliament at that time did not think only of the House of People. They thought of the Assemblies all over India and that is enshrined under Section 5 of The Representation of the People Act. Under part 4 of the Act of 1951 delegation of power is given.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now. There is constraint of time.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: These are very important points that I am trying to make. If you stop me like this then I will sit down. I need at least five minutes more to conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right but confine yourself to only five minutes.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: Madam, now I am drawing your attention to Section 19 (a)—delegation by Election Commission of their power. To make it short and put it on record this delegation is given from Section 19 (a) read with section 21 and 22. The main important thing is in section 24 of this Act, that is, the duty cast. In that duty there is no duty cast on the electoral registration officer while deleting. Unless somebody complaints to ask for any certificate of citizenship anybody has got right to complain and if anybody complains in my name that I am not a citizen and I produce birth certificate as a *prime facie* evidence that I am citizen of India then the only jurisdiction is Tribunal. The burden of poor is on the objector to get hold of the certificate from the Tribunal or strike down my right of citizenship and claim of citizenship by an order of the Tribunal constituted under the Citizenship Act and none else. Therefore, all these deletions which have taken place are just because they are speaking different languages than Assamese. We have been born and brought up together but just because handful of young boys make some claim the entire country will be submitted to them. This will not be a fair proposition.

Therefore, time has come to have a closer look as to the capacity of the Election Commission to conduct an election from the very process of starting the election, that is, inclusion and deletion of names in the voters' list. There are lists were there are names of voters who never existed. There are lists where genuine voters are there lawfully but just because out of fear that they will insult the family members when they go outside.... and that's why no complaints are lodged even after several extensions given in Assam. Madam about several extensions. People are writing letters and those letters being published in various other places in India. From every side, Assam is surrounded. The whole of India, including this House, will become speechless and say that we cannot do anything. That is the voice which was

given so eloquently by Mr. Chitta Basu when I was listening to him. The point to think of is whether the Election Commissioner has got the infrastructure to give justice. If not what is the Government going to do to give him the infrastructure? If yes, then why is it not utilising its power under what circumstances? Is there interference whatsoever? If the political pressure is so much that the independence of Election Commission, created with mandatory words under article 328 of the Constitution, is to be given a go-by, then the entire House falls, the entire democratic root is gone and the people who manipulate election, would start manipulating as they are doing in some places from the very start of making the voters' list. Is that the exercise which you are going to do? One party is doing, therefore, we should also do! I went to the Election Commission. They said, "If they are doing so, why don't you do the same thing? Why don't you go and become alert? Is that the answer? Then, we are the parties who have to do this. There is no alternative process of law. There is no prime facie thing. Government has not done things which are supposed to be done correctly unless contrary is provide. unless there is universality of procedure. Law made by thing House is there. Unless I have faith that I am born in India, I will attain the age of 81, I have not been disqualified, due to this very fact, I will become a voter. The officers come to residence. They sign that so-and-so is a voter. They give the receipt. Now, you find your name is not there. You go to the officer and ask, "Why have you not allowed?" In this country, we have to watch. I can give instances. You give an English letter or a Bengali letter to a lady who cannot do anything but waste a full day; For that letter, She will have to go four kilometres away to a house, called Election Commission house—of the electoral officer and sit there for four hours for hearing an objection filed by someone. Therefore, I appeal to you and through you to the whole House and all Members to think of that. Is this enough to carry on this election process? If not, what are the defects? I will appeal to the Law Minister to give a very patient thought and a close look about it, if necessary. There is no problem which is

impossible to solve. All parties may get together and find out a solution so that the impartial election takes place. Strong-arm people or whatever may be, or mischievous or malicious people trying to make the entire machinery absolutely corrupt from the very initiation of making voters' list have to be stopped.

With these words, I make this appeal to the hon. Law Minister to take into consideration these points and there is no use in saying finally voters lists have been published. He know the law. He will find out the process by which it could be done. Again, some impartial machinery—if necessary, outside the State—be formed so that people without any fear or favour come forward, become a voter or those whose names are bit deleted and have been voting since independence from the first election and who have become qualified but names have not been included. These are the things which may be considered by the hon. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): Madam Chair person, I am thankful to all the Members who have participated in the debate though I may not agree with the view points of some of the Members. I am also thankful to those Members who have expressed that it is unfortunate that the Members of Assam stand unrepresented in this House because nobody would have been more happy then myself if the Members of Assam would have been here today when the new Lok Sabha has been constituted. In fact, I had risen to complain when I resigned that it was rather injustice to the Members of Assam that we came one year late and had to go back six months early.

Madam, I begin with the points expressed by Mr. Ajit Panja and I will try to deal with some of his points. Fortunately, he has shifted the focus of this debate from Assam to Bengal. He has complained that 10 lakhs names have been deleted in Bengal which means that in a revision of electoral rolls, even though there is no linguistic or religious

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animosity as has been tried to be brought out, 50 lakh names can be deleted and it is so, to conclude merely because a few lakhs of names have been deleted from the voters' list of Assam and that it has been done because of linguistic and religious prejudice is very very wrong conclusion... (*Interruptions*).. Mr. Panja, I hope you will listen to me. He appealed to my conscience and said that I should give certain directions now to the Election Commission. He also said that it is time for us to look into as to whether the Election commission has sufficient inherent strength in itself to give to this country and whether it is a fair and independent election machinery. I would like to ask Mr. Panja as to why he did not give this direction when 50 lakhs voters were deleted from the names of voters list in Bengal as he was occupying the seat of a Minister on the Treasury Benches. You are asking me to give a direction which no Minister can give and so long as I am Law Minister, I want to make it apply clear, that this Government will not give any direction to the judiciary and to the Election Commission because it will curb the independence and the impartiality of the judiciary and the Election Commission... (*Interruptions*).. Now Mr. Panja has told that it is time for us to think on whether the Election Commission has sufficient strength or whether we have really given all the infrastructure that is needed so that it can function independently. Did you apply your mind to this at all, Mr. Panja? In 1988, you brought an amendment to the Representation of the People Act. If you remember, a number of Members from the Opposition gave amendments on this particular point which you rejected and your Government rejected and today you want such a thing suddenly. Now, the difficulty is when they were on this side, their conscience did not prick and when we are on this side, they want that we should act according to our conscience. We will act according to our conscience and since that conscience pricks us, I cannot give any direction to the Election Commission and if I give that direction, I will commit the violation of Article 324 of the Constitution. I will not give that direc-

tion. I will leave it to the good sense of the Election Commission but at the same time, we are bringing an amendment, we are considering amendments to the Representation of the People Act, 1988. We are thinking in terms of electoral reforms and if any Members has any positive suggestions to make for strengthening the Election Commission, that will get the highest consideration from this Government.

A young Member has spoken about electoral genocide. An impression has been sought to be created in this House that minorities, linguistic and religious in nature, are facing tremendous harassment in the State of Assam. My difficulty today is AGP is unrepresented. I am not speaking as an AGP Member. I am speaking as the Union Law Minister and that would put restrictions on what I am going to say. But I am proud of the fact that when the entire country including northern India is burning under communal holocaust, there is one State where there is no communal disturbance and it is the State of Assam. I believe... (*Interruptions*) ... Not in West Bengal. I am not referring to West Bengal. I believe, at least this House should congratulate and give credit to the people of Assam for this. They younger generation including the minorities remained undisturbed. Even when communal feelings were running high in the rest of the country, in a highly emotive State of Assam where the intensive revision of voters list was going on, there was no untoward incident. I congratulate the people of Assam. I think the minorities particularly in whose minds there are lot of apprehensions. I thank the Younger generation and in fact, the Election Commission is on record, he has thanked the entire people of Assam that the revision of the voters' list, though it does not satisfy all, has been carried out in an atmosphere of peace without any untoward incident whatsoever.

Today, there are two kinds of complaints in Assam; one from the minorities that a large number of names have been deleted from the voters' list and the other is from the All Assam Students Union that a large number of foreigners' names have been included in

the voters' list. It is wrong that the AASU is a political wing of AGP. Shri Banatwala was, to some extent, correct that if any political party has come under severe criticism in Assam, it is our Government because the complaint is that we were unable to present a voters' list which did not contain the names of the foreigners. Therefore, there are two kinds of attack both on the Government and on the Election Commission. Whatever assistance the Election Commission wanted from the State Government, we have given and I am sure, whatever assistance the Election Commission wanted from the previous Union Government, at least my record shows, that assistance was given. I have no reasons to complain.

I have been interacting with the Election Commission after I have come to power, as to what they are doing in order to see that these apprehensions are allayed, and the Election Commission has told me that even in a very difficult atmosphere, where emotions run high, where there are claims and counter-claims; one party claims that a large number of voters have been deleted from the voters' list and the there are claiming that lakhs of foreigners have been included in the voters' list, it is a very difficult exercise. He is on record that he has got the cooperation from all sections and it is because of the cooperation of the State Government that the Election Commission has been able to reach the stage of final publication of the rolls and the rolls have been published on the 23rd. It is Election Commission's stand also that the Chief Electoral and other officers of the State Government, particularly the Chief Secretary and the Chief Electoral Officer and the two Secretaries of the Commission have function in a team, in a full spirit of cooperation and understanding, making this process of revision of voters' list as smooth and free from harassment and as perfect as possible in the same spirit and with the same approach.

Now, the Election Commission also took certain safeguards. Every name that has been deleted has been deleted for reasons or speaking order. There is a speaking order

if any name has been deleted; there the facts and circumstances and reasons have been given, why the name has been deleted and those records have been maintained. The Election Commission directed that those records must be maintained and those records are maintained.

Shri Banatwalla asked me that I must assure this House that the elections would take place in Assam immediately. A contrary view was expressed by Shri Santosh Mohan Dev, who said that elections may take place after six or nine months, let there be a correct voters' list. What stand do I take? I do not intend to take any stand. I would like that in Assam, there should be a correct voters' list in which no names of any Indian citizen who is eligible to be a voter is deleted and equally no name of any foreigner who is ineligible should be included. Now, the final list of voters has been published. I am happy that this has been published, because the consequent of non-publication also would have been very serious. If the voters' list would not have been published by this year end, under the Election Law, if I have understood it correctly, there ought to have been another revision after 1.1.1990. After every new year, there is going to be a new revision. After the entire process has been carried out for more than a year in an emotive atmosphere, when the final rolls is almost at the stage of publication, if the Election Commission would not have published it during the month of December, the whole exercise would have been started again and in this exercise, I personally believe, apprehension of the minorities would have grown manifold. Therefore, the Election Commission has published a final voters' list. Now, the Election Commission has met a member of delegations and representatives making claims and counter-claims. I am aware that the minorities are saying that a large number of genuine Indian voters have been deleted. Even the representatives of the All Assam Students Union met the Election Commissioner and told him that the voters' list contained a larger number of foreigners. Therefore, the Election Commissioner has said that there are still provisions under the Representation of People Act for

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the correction of voters' list. He appealed to both the sides to exercise their power under those provisions and if there has been any anomaly, he would try to rectify it. The view of the Election Commissioner seems to be that this voters list, as far as possible and practicable, is correct. After all no voters' list can be perfect. Speaking from my own experience, when I went to give my application form, I found that my brothers names were not there in the voters' list. Not that it is intentional, but when the number of people enumerated is as large as one crore and twenty two lakhs, it is quite possible that some names may be left out. That is why though the Commission feels that it has done the best job possible, it had also made it clear that it is prepared to look into complaints, claims and objections according to the provisions of law.

But I do not want to give a commitment that the elections will take place as per schedule in Assam. Of course, I would like the elections in Assam to take place as early as possible because I like my State to be represented here. Not only my State, even if it were any other State, I would like to be represented here because all States should be represented in this House. But if the Election Commission feels that it may take some more time in case a large number of people intend to exercise their power which is available under Sections 22 and 23 of the Representation of People Act, it may find it difficult to hold the elections in time. It is for the Election Commission to decide the timing and I can only assure you that when the Election Commission decides the time for elections, whatever cooperation is necessary from the Union of India, that cooperation will not be lacking. We will provide all cooperation. But must leave it to the Election Commission to decide the timing on the basis of the number of persons that the Commission may have to deal with under Section 22 or 23 of the Act.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: Are you taking a

stand that the Election Commission is not even answerable to the Parliament?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: When the Parliament has framed the Constitution and given full rights to the Election Commission, it cannot say that though it has given them the rights, yet the Commission must be under its control. Of course, Parliament has the control. What I am saying here is that the Executive has no control. If you want to amend the Constitution, you are welcome to do so, So long as Article 324 of the Constitution is there, the Executive is bound under those constitutional provisions and it will act in accordance with those provisions only. It is upto the wisdom of the Parliament and Lok Sabha to amend the Constitution as it likes, because the overall power is there with the Parliament and it is for us to exercise that Power. But so long as our Constitution says that the Election Commission will have full rights under Article 324, the Executive has no control over it. May be, there were tendencies on the part of the earlier Government to infringe upon the judiciary of the Election Commission. We will not make any effort in that direction !

SHRI AJIT PANJA.: Election Commission is saying that the necessary infrastructure is not available. I want to know as to what you are going to do about it. The Commission is not saying that the previous Government has failed to do it. One wrong does not justify another.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: When did you come to know about it?

SHRI AJIT PANJA: I knew it for a long time. Anyway, you are no more a mere party member. Now you are a Minister and for me also you are a minister. You should not make sarcastic comments. Please let us know what you are going to do.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: For years and years, you did not do anything. Do you want me to do it just four days? This is one point.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: Today is 26th. You are very bad in arithmetic. How can it be four days? (Interruptions).

On the 5th you were sworn in. It is already 21 days. What has been done ? I want a prospectus under which everything will be done quickly. So, you have to perform

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: So, I take your point of view. Is it the view of the Opposition that we bring in an Amendment to the Representation of People Act, without consulting you and without consulting other sections of the House? Give me that power. We will do it. But later on don't complain. We want to talk, we want to interact with everybody.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: What are the Amendments?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: I am in touch with the Election Commission's office. We have promised to this House that we will be interacting with everybody.

Madam Chairperson, Mr. Chitta Basu raised certain questions. There have been some cases where spurious notices were issued to person of the minority communities, as if the notices had been issued by the administration. The officers who were deputed by the Election Commission had detected this and corrected the pages. There were some notices which were also issued and which were later on withdrawn. In Assam, can they ever think of a reputed artiste like Parveen Sultana to be a foreigner? Therefore, I will submit that let us not try to create an atmosphere through an emotional exercise which may harm peace and amity in the State of Assam. We know that Assam has to progress. It can progress through a very active cooperation of the minority communities. We want to prosper. For that, the cooperation and the assistance of the minority communities is essential. In this delicate exercise which the Election Commission has carried on admirably and which they have also to carry now in view of the representations and delegations which have

met the Election Commission, I believe, we must cooperate with the Election Commission and I can only assure that in all matters, I will cooperate. We will cooperate.

Another point was made by Mr. Banatwalla and that is, the power to see whether a person is eligible or not on the ground of being an Indian citizen. Well, it is not available to the Election Commission. The Election Commission can only make claims with the Tribunals that they are not the Indian citizens in terms of Assam Accord. But the Election Commission has also a duty which is thrust upon them under Section 16 of the Representation of People's Act. It says Over and above, what has been written in the Assam Accord, that a person before his name is included in the electoral roll should satisfy the Election Commission that he possesses the qualification which one must possess in order to be an Indian citizen."

Prof. Soz, brought this Motion of disapproval. You will appreciate that there was no alternative to the Election Commission. The Election Commission gave sufficient time to the intentions of this Clause because all the time, there were apprehensions, there were claims and counter claims. The Election Commission thought it proper that if they hurry up the matter in an atmosphere where there are a lot of apprehension and emotions, it may not help. Therefore, we have given the maximum time and if this Ordinance has not been brought before the terms of the last Lok Sabha expired, in that case, the elections would not have been possible and you all would not have been here.

Therefore, this Ordinance, was an absolute necessity and we have no other alternative but to come to this House also with a Bill to replace this Ordinance.

I hope in these circumstances, I get the unanimous approval of this House for the Bill to be passed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now Prof. Soz.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): He has not even assured that all eligible voters will be included in the list. At least he should feel sure of himself. Why should he feel helpless and shift the burden to the Election Commission ? He is answerable.

SHRIDINESH GOSWAMI: I want every eligible Indian voters to be enrolled in the voters' list.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Will you ensure that?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: If that is the task, sofar as I can ensure that I will, but primarily, the task is upon the Election Commission. In whatever manner my assistance can be taken, it can..(*Interruption*) You know the law better.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Who is the watchdog? The Election Commission is also answerable to this august House. The Government is answerable to us. You should assure us that all eligible voters will be in the list. You should ensure that. You must assure that; sofar as voters list is concerned, let me forget the delay that was caused by the Election Commission and the State Government, because they have not done their home-work. But at least Mr. Goswami should assure the House that he will ensure that all eligible voters will find a place in the electoral list.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has heard you. You are arguing.

SHRIDINESH GOSWAMI: I assure that whatever is possible from my end, under the law and the Constitution, to see that every Indian citizen is included in the voters' list, I will do.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you withdrawing your resolution, Prof. Soz?

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Has Prof. Soz the leave the House to withdraw his resolution ?

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

The Státutory Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951, be taken into consideration."

The Motion was adopted

Clause 2 Insertion of new Section 73 AA

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up clause-by clause consideration of the Bill. In Clause 2, there are three amendments by Mr. Charles, Mr. Thomas and Mr. Mahadev Rao Shri Sankar.

Mr Charles, are you moving.

SHRIA. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Yes, I beg to move;

Page 2, —

after line 4 insert—

" Provided that before the date of the election from the Parliamentary Constituencies in the State of Assam is fixed it shall be ensured that all citizens of the State of Assam who are eligible to vote under the law are to be included in the revised electoral rolls."

The amendment I have just moved to Clause 2 (b) is very simple. The very purpose of postponing the elections has been stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, viz..." as the revised electoral rolls had not been published in the final form..." Now that the list has been published, after hearing the reply of the hon Law Minister I feel there is no harm in accepting this amendment, because we are passing a Bill authorizing the Election Commission to proceed with the election, giving it all the powers for preparing the electoral rolls, in-

cluding all the eligible persons; and the Law Minister has already given an assurance that care will be taken to include all eligible citizens of Assam in the electoral rolls. So, what is the harm in accepting this?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have made your point and have also repeated.

SHRI A. CHARLES: I am not repeating because the Law Minister has stated that he had no control over the Election Commission we pass this legislation how are we going to ensure that?

Another point is that the 1985 rolls have been questioned. So, what is the legality of the present Government? That point has not been answered by the hon. Law Minister. We have to inform why the voters included in the 1985 list who still continue to live in Assam are not included. What is the justification for denying the voting rights to them? If that position is accepted, I am afraid, that for the last four years it has been an illegal government elected on the basis of an illegal voters' list that is functioning in Assam. This point has to be cleared, and I fully appeal to the conscience of the Law Minister to accept this amendment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri P. C. Thomas

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: (Muvattupuzha): I beg to move;

Page, 2 line 4,—

add at the end—

"Which will not at any rate exceed the first day of June, 1990". (2)

The amendment which I seek is with regard to the time limit that may be fixed with regard to the electoral process to be completed by the Election Commission. In fact, sentiments were expressed by several members in this House to the effect that the elections will be conducted at the earliest and if so, unless a time limit can be fixed, I would think that the wording as such that is

there in this clause (b) of Section 73AA is insufficient in the sense that now as it stands Section 73 AA (b) is to the effect that the elections from the Parliamentary constituencies of Assam can be conducted separately and in such a manner and on such date or dates as it may deem appropriate.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It has been circulated. If you have any further points, you may mention.

SHRI P. C. THOMAS: So, my proposed amendment is in relation to this. The sentence is like this:

"Which shall not at any rate exceed the first day of June, 1990". Or, if it is found that it is impossible, then the matter will again be taken up in this House where the representatives will get a chance to submit their views.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: I do not accept it because the existing law takes care of it that every citizen must be included. No time limit can be fixed at the present moment. I have already explained as to why. I would like the election to be held as early as possible.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): The law takes care of it.

SHRI.P.C. THOMAS: What about my amendment?

SHRI A. CHARLES: In view of the categorical statement of the hon. Law Minister I may be permitted to withdraw my amendment.

MR. CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE): Is it the pleasure of the House that the amendment moved by Shri A.Charles be withdrawn?

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Yes

The Amendment No.1 was, by leave, withdrawn

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment No. 2 to Clause 2, moved by Shri P.C. Thomas to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 2 was put and negatived

AN HON. MEMBER: Mr. Charles can withdraw himself now.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Mr. Charles cannot withdraw himself.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is up to him. I would like him to be here.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: We wish him a Merry Christmas !

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we are on clause-by-clause consideration.

The question is:

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill"

The Motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 3 stand part of the Bill".

The Motion was adopted.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is : -

"That Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The Motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The Motion was adopted.

19.07 hrs.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL), 1989-90.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will not take up discussion and voting on the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (General) for 1989-90.

Motion moved*.

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of May, 1990 in respect of the following demands entered in the second column therefor-

Demands Nos. 5,8,12,15,16,17, 18 and

78"

Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1989-90 submitted to the Vote of Lok Sabha

<i>No. and Name of Demand</i>	<i>Amount of Demand for Grants Submitted to the vote of the House</i>	
2	3	3
	Revenue Rs.	Revenue Rs.
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE		
5. Department of Fertilizers	400,00,00,000	...
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE		
8. Department of Commerce	200,00,00,000	...
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS		
12. Telecommunication Services		1,00,000
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE		
15. Defence Services— Army	384,75,00,000	...
16. Defence Service— Navy	15,00,00,000	...
17. Defence Services — Air Forces	50,00,00,000	...
18. Defence Ordnance Factories	50,00,00,000	...
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES		
78. Ministry of Water Resources	30,10,00,000	

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri G.M. Banatwalla has given a Cut Motion to Demands for Supplementary Grants (General).

SHRI G.M. BANATWALA (Ponnani): After sunset, it is not proper to sanction so much of money. Let us do it in broad day light tomorrow.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): That is why, we are asking for a small amount.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : I beg to move:

“That the Demand for a Supplementary Grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000 in respect of Telecommunication Service be reduce by Rs. 100.”

Failure to take up urgently projects for telecommunication development in the Ponnani Parliamentary Constituency of Kerala.(I).

MR. CHAIRMAN: I respect the Members to be very brief. I understand that was an agreement reached.

Please cooperate with me and be brief.

Shri Janardhana Poojary.

19.08 hrs.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY (Mangalore): Madam Chairperson this is the third Budget of the Supplementary Demand for Grant for the financial year 1989-90 and it has got a cash outgo of Rs. 830.15 crores and there is a charge to the extent of Rs. 1130.15 crores.

Supplementary Grants.

19.09 hrs

[SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE *in the Chair*]

I am complimenting the Chairman because he is an expert in economy. But we have got a Finance Minister who has become very shaky and in his Press Address or I can say in his talk to the Press particularly to *Blitz*, he has stated that he is bothered about the state of the economy which we inherited and he is going to produce a White Paper on it. At the outset, I may point out that it is very easy to criticise when the Member is on this side. When he goes to the Treasury bench, he becomes shaky, and he is also scared about the financial position. Mr. Finance Minister, if you are going to be an administrator, to a certain extent you are urged that you cannot be a person there to appease any section. You should be impartial and, at the same time, you should be very firm.

Coming to the criticism that you have got a bad state of economy that has been presented to you by the previous Government, that is not correct. There is a qualitative change in the Indian economy during the last five years under the regime of the former Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi. I am

submitting this not for making an observation or for scoring a debating point. To say that we have got a bad economy is an insult to the people of the nation, particularly the workers, the farmers, the factory workers and also to all citizens of the country, including our party. We have been told by some of the critics who profess themselves to a different philosophy. They say... (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): Mr. Chairman, shall I raise the procedural point? According to rule 216: "The debate on the supplementary grants shall be confined to the items constituting the same and no discussion may be raised on the original grants nor policy underlying them save in so far as it may be necessary to explain or illustrate the particular items under discussion."

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: There are procedures. I have gone through the earlier debates wherein the hon. Minister, when he was sitting on this side, has created a precedent saying that we can generally debate on this issue, and I am following his footsteps. So, he should please not talk about that.

Now, coming to the economy our critics have stated that we have run away from the policy of self-reliance and have depended more on foreign aid and assistance. I want to ask a question to the august House. We have got a massive Seventh Five-Year Plan outlay of Rs. 1,80,000 crores. What is the performance of the former government during these five years? As against these Rs. 1,80,000 crores, we have an expenditure of Rs. 2,22,169 crores during that five-year plan period. As an economist you will put a question whether this is current price or whether it is at the 1984-85 prices. Even there also I submit that at 1984-85 prices, the Central Government's performance was to the extent of 109 per cent.

Coming to this massive investment, what is the share of the foreign assistance? Foreign assistance is to the extent of seven to eight per cent only. So is it not the policy of

self-reliance? Can we say that our policy is against the policy of the Indian people? Now what is the policy so far adopted by the earlier Government? What is the rate of domestic savings and what is the rate of domestic investment? The rate of domestic saving last year was 21 per cent and the rate of investment was 23 per cent.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NAIK: (Bombay North): On a point of order, Sir, During a discussion, on Supplementary Demands for Grants, we should confine ourselves only to these demand because that is the rule as Prof. Madhu Dandavate has just told me about it. Anything could be explained even in short, but there appears to be a full debate on the subject. If it is so, the time fixed by you for this purpose would fall short of requirement. I am, therefore, on behalf of those who are to speak later, on a point of order that in case the discussion will be confined to supplementary demand for Grants only, there would be no injustice to us. If you want that there should be no injustice to us, the time to be allocated for the purpose should be increased. Before allocating time, you are requested to keep this point in view. Only that much is my point of order.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: (SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE): Thank you very much. But in any case, although he had no point of order, one can be kind looking at the time schedule.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Yes, yes, I will follow your direction. My submission, Sir, is that our Finance Minister is scared about the state of the economy of the country. I have to enlighten him because I had worked in that Ministry for six years and one month and for that purpose at least he must have some patience to hear me also, and I will follow your direction.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I want to learn from him, Sir. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just point. You don't exhaust all your teaching today. You will get more time later also today there is a time constraint.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: No, no I will not exhaust. If I exhaust, I will not be fit to become a Member of this House!

Sir, coming to the rate of ... (*Interruptions*) Somnathji, I have something to appeal to the Ruling Party. I have never interrupted while others were speaking, and you have seen me also like that. (*Interruptions*). Yes, yes, we know that. (*Interruptions*)

The rate of investment was 23 per cent last year and the rate of saving was 21 per cent. Here, this positive performance of the Government of India, the positive performance of the people of India cannot be ignored, whereas we can say that it is an exemplary one. Sir, even the rate of saving of developed countries like America is not more than 10 per cent whereas we have got more than 21 per cent. Are we to condemn the people of this country? Are we to condemn the economies of these people? Are we to condemn the performance of our Administration, our Finance Ministry?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): This sort of running commentary should be expunged, Sir. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is all right. In order to speed up, kindly make your points.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: (Almora): We are the real Opposition, they are the loyal Opposition.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Sir, coming to mere dependence on the investment pattern, what is the percentage? Only 2 per cent. Can we say that we are running away from self-reliance? If we take the hypothetical position saying that if even all foreign countries would withdraw tomorrow their technological assistance, if they are going to

[Sh. Janardhana Poojary]

withdraw tomorrow their assistance—technical assistance and also financial assistance, what will be the position? Are we to stand on our own legs? Yes, the answer is, we can stand on our own legs. We are in a position to produce 30 to 40 million tonnes of crude oil in the country, we are in a position to produce 15 to 20 million tonnes of steel, we are in a position to produce 40 to 50 million tonnes of cement and we are in a position to produce 117 to 170 million tonnes of foodgrains in this country. This is the strength of the economy. Our hon. Finance Minister is worried about the trade gap. Yes, there is a trade gap. We are also concerned about it. But what is the export performance? The latest performance is 38 per cent. It had never happened in the history of the country and the import growth rate in only 20 per cent. Now, the trade gap has gone down by 1,000 crores. Is it not an encouraging factor for any Finance Minister? Why should he create a scare in the country? Why should he do that? What is the purpose behind it? Let him produce the White Paper on it. We are not scared about it. Let the country know about it. We are for it, You cannot run away from that. He says debt trap is alarming. But we can manage, it is within the manageable limits and we have been managing it. Now, he is saying we are not in a position to manage it. "Then, why the hell you people have taken charge of it.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): I have never said it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: (Bolpur): Sir, the word 'hell' is unparliamentary.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: It is alright. It is unparliamentary, I will withdraw it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: When you say, it is parliamentary'.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Sir, he is a good parliamentarian and we have

got the highest respect for him. (*Interruptions*) Coming to the industrial-growth rate, let us compare the growth rate of our country with the growth rate of developed countries and the growth rate of developing countries. (*Interruptions*) This is the first time we are talking here and we have to bring to the notice of the people of this country what is the actual position of the economy. The growth rate of developed countries like UK from 1980 to 1987 is 1.6 per cent. So, we should be proud of our country and our people.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Mr Poojary, this is India's Supplementary Demands and this is not a general debate.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: We will come to India's Supplementary Demands also.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I am just pointing out to you in the past also during the Supplementary Demands we never raised a general debate. We raised a general debate only on Finance Bill, but on Supplementary Demands we never raised such a general debate. I just want to point out to you.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: In a developed country like U.K. the performance was 1.6 % France performance was 1.6% Germany's performance was 2.9% Canada's performance was 3.8%.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: (Calcutta South): May I know the source of this information and relating to which year?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: I will come to the World Bank report also.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Somebody has given him those figures.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Your Finance Minister is there. You are not in the Finance Ministry. He is competent to answer it. Please have the patience. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: If you act in this manner, we will also do the same. You are the leader of this group, at least, you should pacify them. This is not the way. If we also stand up in this manner, you will not be able to conduct the business. It is not good that you are doing. If you do so, we will, also do the same..

....(*Interruptions*)...

There is no threat. What you do, we will also act accordingly.

...(Interruptions)...

[*English*]

SHRI A.K. ROY (Dhanbad): He was a very experienced Finance Minister. I do not know what is the relevance of quoting World Bank report of 1987? How is it relevant?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Why are you bothered about my quoting figures?

SHRI A.K.ROY : I am bothered about time.

SHRI KALPNATH RAI (Ghosi): Why are you interrupting unnecessarily ?

SHRI A. CHARLES : A lot of controversy has been raised about the economy. Therefore, we have a right on this floor to explain our position. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI A.K. ROY: It is better you quote the figures of developing countries.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: I will quote the latest report also. Please wait. (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: I tell you, you are losing temper.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI A.K. ROY: Why are you subjecting us to all this torture?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Mr. Roy, don't interrupt. Otherwise his speech will be longer.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I want to know one point, Mr. Poojary Now it is 7.30 p.m

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are interrupting even me ! In how much time do you think, you will be able to finish?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: I have got also the duty towards the nation. I was particularly the Minister of State in the Finance Department. I cannot let down my officers. I cannot let down the people of this country. I have to say what it is.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In order not to let down your officers, how much time do you require? I am trying to plan the time.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: I want half-an-hour.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You want half-an-hour more. Initially it seems it was agreed in the Business Advisory Committee that a total time of one hour be given to the supplementary demands for grants. Of that one hour, you have already consumed half-an-hour. If you take another half-an-hour, that means one hour is already gone. One has to take the sense of the House. Where do we go from here?

SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Ruling party is interfering.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are entirely justified in saying that you are putting out the case. This is the first opportunity. Therefore, you want to indicate your position. At the

same time, there is something like time of the House. Can you help me by suggesting what should be done?

SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Tomorrow.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I suggest that he be given one hour and I require ten minutes for reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are other speakers. You are not the only speaker.

SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you interrupt him more, he will take longer time. I want the sense of the House.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Why should he get half-an-hour more? There is one time-limit according to the party. It cannot be indefinite. (*Interruptions*). If the BAC has agreed to one hour, then the proportionate time he will have .

MR CHAIRMAN: Can you carry on?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: I am herein Shri Somnath Chatterjee. I should not say about it. It is just a double talk.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): On the supplementary demands, we never had a long debate and we from that side never demanded longer time.

SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Prof. Madhu Dandavate has spoken more and more on the subject. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: (Tripura west): Even if you take half-an-hour, all of us will stay. We will be staying here. Let others stay. We will be here. We will get the Bill passed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Can you very quickly

come to supplementary demands in terms of arguments?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Yes. The growth rate during 1980-87 period was 3%. What is the percentage of our India? The average growth rate was about 5% and last year's growth rate was 9%. On we say that the performance of our people, particularly the people who are toiling in the fields and factories do not matter at all? Are we not proud of our own people and their performance?

Some people are critics. Persons like Prof. Madhu Dandavate when he was sitting here was telling that smaller countries have gone far ahead of our country. What is their performance? What was the state of affairs at that time when the present hon. Finance Minister was here. I would just like to answer that point. If all the multinationals companies of those small countries withdraw all their investment, the country will fall...

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Like a pack of cards. I am helping you.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: I know that. But it should come from you. So, this is the position. This is the difference between self-reliance and dependence on borrowed sources. This is the performance of the Government of India during the last five years period.

The industrial growth has gone up by 9 per cent last year. Up to this year, for six months it was about four per cent. During the last three months, because of election and other things, it has gone down. It is for the hon. Finance Minister to improve the position. He cannot run away saying that he is not in a position to do; he does not know what to do and saying that the state of economy is very bad. He can not say like that. We are not opposition this Supplementary Demand. We do not oppose it. On the contrary, we are

going to offer constructive cooperation to this Government in order to improve the economy of the nation.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You give destructive cooperation.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: This is not destructive cooperation. It seems to you like that.

Sir, what is the statement made by the World Bank.?

You may kindly read the World Bank Report, 1988 contained in page nos. 91-93. It says:-

"India, for example, has seen an acceleration of industrial growth over the past three years coupled with impressive performance in manufactured exports which in the past years grew at a buoyant 25 per cent in value (over 10 per cent in real terms), despite severe drought and reduced growth in Gross Domestic Product."

There is another portion also which I just bring to your notice.

"Overall, the growth capacity",—of Shri Rajiv Gandhi and not Shri V.P. Singh— "to manage successfully and finance a massive emergency relief programme is strong testimony to the development progress that India has made over the past 25 years..."

This is the testimony, not given by Poojary, not given by Shri Somnath Chatterjee but by the World Bank. Considering this performance, what are we to do? The hon. Finance Minister was pleased to state and his party has gone to the extent of stating that they are going to write off the loans. Kindly go through the President's Address where they have gone back and they have stated that

appropriate steps will be taken to provide debt relief, not writing-off the loans. I am not against that. He has got the deficit. This deficit has gone by Rs. 1135 crores. Sir, you know that this is the third supplementary demand. I do not know how he is going to meet the demand arising from writing-off the loans. May I ask the Finance Minister: Is there any definite proposal to write-off loans up to Rs. 10,000/- and if it is so, by what time is he going to implement it? If he is going to implement it, whether he is going to come before the Budget with another Supplementary Demand needing budgetary support for writing off the loans and if at all, then what would be the charge on the economy?

Another thing which they have stated is that they are going to incorporate in the Constitution the right to work. That means they have to provide work for all the people, whether it is for educated people or for uneducated people, whether for skilled workers or unskilled labourers. If they are not going to provide employment, then they have to give unemployment allowance. He has to state this before the House and the country should know whether he is going to implement these promises, if implemented what would be the charge on the economy and whether he is in a position to meet it. It is for him to clear it; not for the Opposition.

Coming to another point, the Report of the Economic Advisory Council on the Current Economic Situation and the Priority Areas for Action says;

"In 1988-89 the economy rebounded sharply from the setback of the countrywide drought experienced in the previous year. GDP is estimated to have increased by 9% or more in real terms with agricultural production increasing sharply by 20% or so and industrial production recording a growth of 8.8%."

[Sh. Janardhana Poojary]

Even there also they have highlighted certain deficiencies. So far as deficit is concerned, in a developing economy, to certain extent deficit is required. Last year our deficit was Rs. 7337 crores. Our former hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi had promised to the nation that he will bring down the deficit. As promised, he has brought down the deficit from Rs. 8220 crores to Rs. 7337 crores. Even if there is deficit to the extent of Rs. 7000 to Rs. 8000 crores, it is manageable, But now you say that it is Rs. 10,000 crores. From your action it is very clear that you cannot confine to that figure also and you are going beyond that figure. It is going to be fatal for the economy.

The way in which they are proceedings, there is no direction. The Government is rudderless and practically nobody knows to which direction the Government is moving. One statement is given by the Prime Minister, another Statement is given by the Deputy Prime Minister, and a third statement is given by the Finance Minister. One statement is given at Chandigarh, another statement is given at Delhi and the third statement is given at Bombay. How are you going to reconcile? What is your policy so far as the economy is concerned? It is not our folly, it is your folly.

I do not want to take much of your time Sir. I will stock my points to other debates. The hon. Finance Minister has stated that he is going to provide 50% of the budget to rural India—a very pertinent point—as if they are doing it for the first time and as if the earlier Government has not allocated 50% of the budget to the rural India! Now, they are saying as if they are going to give a new thing to the economy.

Sir, you know as to what is the provision. The provision is Rs. 1,80,000 crores for

the Seventh Plan outlay. Now, let us find out, whether we have provided more than 50 per cent or whether we have provided less than 50 per cent. Now, in the Seventh Five Year Plan, for agriculture—both Centre and State—we have provided Rs. 10,574 crores. For rural development, we have provided Rs. 9,074 crores. For irrigation and flood, it is Rs. 16,979 crores. For special areas, investment, desert, tribal etc., we have provided Rs. 3,145 crores. For village and small scale industries, we have provided Rs. 2,753 crores. For minimum need programme component of education, health, housing, nutrition etc, it is Rs. 9,873 crores. For rural water supply, it is Rs. 1,201 crores. For fertiliser, it is Rs. 2,661 crores. For backward class, scheduled caste welfare schemes, it is Rs. 2,450 crores. For energy—even electricity is found in the rural areas—we have allocated 45 per cent. That is out of Rs. 54,822 crores,—both Centre and State—it is Rs. 24,540 crores. For social services, namely women welfare etc, who have allocated 40 per cent of the outlay. That is out of Rs. 10,756 crores, we have allocated Rs. 4,302 crores. For post offices, we have allocated 30 per cent, out of Rs. 295 crores. Then, for tele-communication, we have allocated about 10 per cent out of Rs. 4,530 crores, and for railways, we have allocated 15 per cent out of Rs. 12,344 crores.

So, it will be more than 55 per cent.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already consumed more than half-an-hour.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Now, Mr. V.P. Singh is making statements, day in and day out and our Finance Minister is also making statements, day in and day out, saying that 50 per cent of the budget will go to rural India. Mr. Finance Minister, in the Seventh Five Year Plan, we have provided more than 55 per cent for rural India. If the Finance Minister is going to provide more than 60 per cent for rural India, then I can

accept that here is a Finance Minister who will stick to his words.

I thank the hon. Finance Minister, through you, Sir, for his patient hearing.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (Malegaon): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was hearing Mr. Poojary's speech with rapt attention. He has been a Minister of Finance and has made a forceful speech. However, I would like to say only this much that 80 per cent people in the country are poor. As such the economic policy should be formulated keeping their interest in view. The previous Government had not formulated the policy properly as a result of which prices of all the commodities *viz.* sugar, tea etc. had shot up. But our Government, within 15 days of assumption office made efforts to bring down the prices and in fact that prices of sugar, tea and groundnut oil have come down. The economic policy of the country should ensure remunerative price to the farmers for their produce. A review should also be made at frequent intervals to ascertain the prices which the farmers get for their produce. I would like to express my thanks to the Government for its decision to take measures in this regard. My second point is regarding grant of loans to farmers and traders. The traders can offer maximum guarantee whereas the farmers cannot do the same. In this connection, I would like to suggest that while granting loans to farmers, the cost of their land and other assets should be taken into consideration and they should be granted loan for agriculture quickly. When the farmers receive loans in a phased manner, they spend the loan amount for meeting petty household requirements other than the purpose for which they secured the loan. In Maharashtra, you will come across a peculiar situation. If father draws loan for digging a well, his children and grand children have to make the repayment. Such was the policy

of the previous Government. It was a wrong policy which needs to be changed. That is why our Government has brought out a white paper on the state of economy in the country to make it clear as to what the previous Government had done in that field. It was an error committed by big people and no common man was involved in it. Hence, the House should know the contents of the white paper. I would, therefore, like to reiterate that economic policy should be in the interest of the farmers and for the general welfare of the people of this country. I am grateful to you for granting me time to speak.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while supporting the Supplementary Demands for Grants, I would like to place my views before the House. Without going into the details of the economic policy, I would like to draw your attention to the Supplementary Demands for Grants only and also request the House to fully cooperate with me in this regard.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are only two points. Of these points, the first one is very important. There are three demands. First one for Rs. 830 crore, the second demand is for Rs. 300 crore which will be required for payment of dearness allowance to the defence personal and the third demand of Rs. 600 crore relates to grant of small loans. While drawing your attention as well as that of this august House to these points. I would like to submit that Rs. 300 crore relate to Supplementary Demands for the payment of dearness allowance to defence personnel. What I find is that in the notes it will be offset by surrender of an equivalent amount from the lump sum provision of Rs. 1000 crore made for dearness allowance payments in the grants of the Ministry of Finance. It has been further stated that the balance amount would serve the purpose. In this connection, I would like to know as to how this amount of Rs. 300 has been saved. The main reason behind this is that the working class gets

[Sh. Ram Naik]

dearness allowance on the basis of price index. But for the past two years the policy of the previous Government has been such that the system of computation of the price index did not reflect the correct position. Every effort was made to show distorted figures. As a result of which, though market prices went up but the price index prepared by the Government did not reflect the correct position. In this way the previous Government Committed a great economic fraud on the salaried class as they are granted dearness allowance on the basic of price index prepared by the Government. The computation of price index has been so faulty that in Bombay city alone, which I represent, the workers have suffered a loss of Rs. 500 crores during the last one year. These 500 crore rupees have gone into the pockets of the industrialists and capitalists of the city. Therefore, first of all, I would like to demand that the price-index should be re-structured and it should be computed on the basis of actual prices at which an ordinary person purchases commodities in the market. If the price index is prepared in this way, I would say that it would be the first right step taken by the new Government. Therefore, I would like to request the Minister of Finance to consider this point seriously. This demand has not been raised by me or by my party—Bhartiya Janata party alone but all the Central Trade Unions have raised it, whether it is Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh, AITUC, INTUC of congress party or Hind Mazdoor Sabha and a big agitation was launched for this purpose last year. The previous Government did not bother for the feelings of the people. That is why they did not pay any attention to it. But this is the unanimous demand of all the employees. In view of this, I would like to request that price- index should be restructured. I was the Member of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly and I raised this issue in the Assembly in the last session. The Minister of Finance and the Minister of La-

bour of Maharashtra had accepted my point and said that it was correct to say that price-index was prepared in such a way that it did not truly reflect the price-rise with the result that the workers were not getting increase in the allowances proportionately. Therefore, we are raising this issue before the Central Government. We had submitted a memorandum also to the Central Government in this regard. I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister of Finance whether the Government of Maharashtra had raised any such demand before the previous Government and whether any memorandum was submitted by the Government of Maharashtra in this regard? If so, what are the views of the Government in this regard and whether the Government is considering to re-structure the price-index on scientific basis and while doing so, whether all the Central Trade Unions will be taken into confidence? I would like to request that all the Central Government employees' Unions and Central Trade Unions should be taken into confidence and a time bound programme should be formulated in consultation with them. If it takes six to eight months or more for this work to be done, the people will think that this Government too is not doing anything. Therefore, I would like to submit that it should be given immediate attention and action taken expeditiously. I would also demand that the price-index should be re-structured from the very day the new Government took over and the increased dearness allowance should be paid to the employees from that very day.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is my first point. Sir, in the state of Maharashtra, the word 'Maharaj' is very respectable. In your state, cook is also called 'Maharaj'.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You should appreciate that a Maharashtrian is speaking very good Hindi.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my second point is that a provision of Rs. 600

crores has been made for the Small Savings Scheme. This item appears at Demand No. 3 in the Supplementary Demands. It reads as follows:-

[English]

"A supplementary grant of Rs. 600 crores for loans to States towards share of small savings which are matched by increased small savings collection is also sought."

[Translation]

20.00 hrs.

In this regard, I would like to point out that there is no indication in the Supplementary Demands as to the state-wise break up of Rs. 600 crores proposed to be allocated as loan. I want that state-wise break up should be given for the information of the House. At the same time I would like to say that gross injustice is being done to our State. The previous Government had made some changes in the guide lines in Small Savings from 1st April 1986 and as a result thereof of the State of Maharashtra has been subjected to gross injustice. This injustice has been done in the matter of Provident Fund contributions. Due to the changes in guide lines, the Government of Maharashtra has not been able to get a loan of Rs. 1600 crores during the last two years. This led to a large deficit in the State of Maharashtra. I would like that changes in the guidelines should be reconsidered and assistance to States should be provided accordingly. During the course of reconsideration, all the Chief Minister should be taken into confidence and consultations held with them. Last year, some *ad hoc* grant was provided to the State of Maharashtra by the Central Government. *Ad hoc* grant for the year 1988-89 has not been given so far. The Government of Maharashtra is of the view that the State should be provided with an *ad hoc*

grant of at least Rs. 150 crores on the basis of earlier guide lines. I would like to know the views of the Government in this regard. I would like to know whether the State of Maharashtra has any share in Rs. 600 crores proposed to be given as loan by the Central Government and whether the Government would reconsider the guide lines? The previous Government, which was instrumental in running the campaign for savings under the Small Savings Scheme, made some changes in it in April 1989 and discontinued the National Saving Certificate series 6 and 7. As a consequence the money got diverted to other field and the State Governments were deprived of the loans which they were receiving under Small Savings Schemes. Last year, Government of Maharashtra did not get Rs. 300 crores, which was to be provided to the State in seven months, because Small Savings Certificate scheme has been discontinued by the Central Government. In short, the State of Maharashtra has suffered a loss of Rs. 1600 crores due to the changes effected in the guidelines in 1986 and this State alone has suffered a loss of Rs. 1950 crores due to discontinuation of small savings and National Saving Certificate Scheme. It is just possible that other State Governments also might have suffered similar losses. The previous Government failed to discharge its responsibility to provide financial autonomy to the States and to make them self-reliant. I want that the new Government should consider it. For the sake of justice, I would like to submit to the hon. Ministry of Finance that previous Government gave step motherly treatment to the Government of Maharashtra and the State did not get even the sanctioned share of grant. The then Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi had announced a grant of Rs. 100 crores for the development of Bombay city during the Congress Centenary Celebrations. Five years have since passed and we were waiting eagerly that the State would get Rs. 100 crores but out of Rs. 100 crores only Rs. 40 crores were provided to the State.

[Sh. Ram Naik]

Besides, the interim report of the Ninth Finance Commission which was submitted to the Government 5-6 days ago, suggests that in view of the needs of Bombay city Rs. 50 crores should be provided by the Central Government by 31st March, 1990 for the development of Bombay. It also says that Maharashtra Government should also provide Rs. 50 crores as matching grant. It means in addition to Prime Minister's project, a scheme of Rs. 100 crores has to be formulated and the amount has to be spent by 31st March 1990. The recommendation of interim grant which has been accepted by the Central Government has not been reflected in the Supplementary Demands for Grants. I would like to know that when this amount has to be spent by 31st March 1990 why it has not been shown in the supplementary Demands for Grants? And when no reason has been given for that, how the Government will provide money?

In the end, I would like to say that small savings is a people's movement. The small savings of ordinary people are collected under this scheme. Therefore, this small savings scheme which has been discontinued should be extended instead. The Government should provide all encouragement in this respect. If the Government takes this steps, the economy of the country will prosper in the true sense of the word and the country will get a new direction. As I mentioned, you should do justice to Maharashtra and make announcement about the measures to be taken, not because you hail from this state but in the capacity of Finance Minister.

With these words, I support the supplementary Demands for Grants.

[English]

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (Calcutta

South): Mr. Chairman, Sir I am making my maiden speech at the fag end of the day in front of empty benches and empty Press galleries. This is depressing enough. But even more depressing is the present state of the Indian economy which has been pushed to the brink of disaster. Our country's economy has been mortgaged to the foreigners. Our economic sovereignty has been compromised. The conditionalities which have been imposed by the foreign agencies are the ones which have become the national Economic policy of the Rajiv Gandhi Government and which we will have to discard. Just at this moment when I was in a very depressed state, there was some silver lining in the cloud and that silver lining came in the form of light entertainment which was provided by our friend Shri Janardhana Poojary. For example, he said, that there has been a qualitative change in the economic situation under Mr. Rajiv Gandhi. In fact, there has been a qualitative change but the change has been for the worse. Because although Mr. Janardhana Poojary seems to be an ardent supporter of self-reliance, exactly the opposite has happened which is why the country has become even more dependent on foreign resources, even more dependent on the diktats of the foreign agencies than it was never been before. So, I am finding it very amusing that when Mr. Poojary says if we criticise the economic policy of the previous Government, that would be an insult to the workers, to the peasants and to all the parties. I just could not understand this-how can the criticism of Rajiv Gandhi's economic policy be an insult to the Indian people? There is nothing wrong with the Indian people. Indian workers are fine Indian peasants are fine. What was wrong was the rotten Government of Rajiv Gandhi and his policies politics. So, the Indian people are not going to be upset by our opposition to the economic policies of Rajiv Government. They will not take it as an insult. In fact, it is an insult to them that despite all the resources they had, all the skill they had, those

abilities and assets were not utilised by them earlier. In fact, the economy remained one of the poorest in the world.

My friend Mr. Janardhana Poojary has quoted extensively from the World Bank report. He has been very selective in his quotations. He has chosen only those bits which he liked. He did not mention those bits which he did not like. Even the bits he liked, he did not understand. Regarding some of the figures he gave, he either did not understand them, or he misinterpreted them. Take the World Bank report. I just will mention one figure: GNP *per capita* which is supposed to be an indicator of the economic well-being of country. The World Bank listed 109 countries on the basis of that particular indicator. Out of the 109 countries, what is the position of India? The position of India, out of 109 countries, is 16th. But don't be happy: 16th from the bottom. That is what India had become under the Congress regime. What are the 15 countries which are below India? In Asia, Bangladesh is below India, of course. Nepal is after India. Maybe 1 or 2 other small countries are below India. But Pakistan? It not only defeats India in cricket; it also defeats India as far as GNP *per capita* is concerned. Sri Lanka? We can send our army to Sri Lanka; but Sri Lanka's GNP *per capita*, literacy, expectancy of life or mortality rate—take any indicator you like, Sri Lanka is way above us in terms of all the indicators. I am not mentioning Malaysia, Indonesia, Japan or Korea—not any of those countries. India is one of the poorest countries. (*Interruptions*) I am coming to China. You will be ashamed if I mention China. We are one of the poorest countries in Asia.

Come to Africa. There are only about ten countries in Africa which are poorer than India; and which are those ten countries? They are located around the Sahara: Semi-desert countries where there is a very high incidence of drought. There are the only countries which are lower than India. India is

one of the poorest countries in the world. This is despite the natural and human resources that we have; it is because of the policies which have been followed by the Indian Government for the last four decades. So, don't quote the World Bank report.

He has mentioned about the rate of growth. He has tried to show that the rate of growth of India is superior to the rate of growth in some of the developed countries in the world. Apart from the fact that any economist will tell you that it is much harder to maintain a high rate of growth at a high level of development, it is much easier to have a high rate of growth at the low level of development—any economist will tell him that, take the whole period of four decades in India there is a joke among economists world over that the rate of growth will never exceed 3% though they call it jokingly as the Hindu rate of growth. India has got a Hindu rate of growth of 3% whereas most of the developed countries he mentioned have exceeded that rate: 4% or 5% is usually the rate of growth of these countries over a long period. I am not saying that that comparison is valid, because in India's case we need a much faster rate of growth to overtake these countries, because we are 40 or 50 years behind them. We must have a much higher rate of growth to come anywhere near these countries. We will never be able to this, with the kind of rate of growth that we have.

Coming to this particular report, my friend Mr. Poojary has referred to the fact that there are some passages here and there in this particular White Paper where they mention about some success of the Indian economy. He deliberately did not mention the other parts which were very critical of the present state of the Indian economy and very strongly criticized the strategy which has been followed by the Indian Government and the Indian economy over the past five years. For example, he talked about industrial growth. What does this report say? It says:

[Dr. Biplab Dasgupta]

...the provisional data on the index of industrial production for April to August 1989 indicates a growth of only 3.8% over the corresponding period of the previous year, indicating a substantial deceleration in the industrial growth."

Then he mentions about the high rate of GDP in India: 9% and all that. This report says:

"It is unlikely that GDP growth in 1989-90 will exceed 4% in real terms."

I can go on quoting like this. It says that the condition has gone worse.

He mentioned about the improvement in the trade situation. He says that the exports are going up and that the imports are going down. He even mentioned about some kind of improvement in terms of trade deficit.

I will just mention here about a chart which is given in this report. You can see this chart. This chart clearly indicates that the deficit is actually growing; it is not coming down. It is actually growing. One can go on getting this kind of data for information from this report. But the fact is that it also says that the present trend is for the gap to grow. *(Interruptions)*

I will tell you. I will quote; since you are asking, me I will quote.

It says, "taking everything into account, the underlying import growth would look substantially larger." That is what this report says. I do not know where you were quoting from, whether some Minister has produced something in private—I do not know. This is the figure which is given in this paper.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): I did not tell him.

SHRISOMNATH CHATTERJEE: some ex-minister might have told him.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: In any case something is wrong with his statistics. There is a joke which I may narrate. There are three kinds of lies: Lies, down lies and statistics. My friend on the other side is quite aware of this thing and he has used some statistics, from where he got them, I do not know and misinterpreted some of them, and he has come out with these figures which do not mean much.

If you look at the prevailing situation in the commerce sector—I am coming to this broad allocation given here—the situation is very alarming. It is alarming because the foreign debt has amounted to Rs.83,000 crores. I do not know how this economy would be able to get rid of this high burden of debt. You have inherited—I am talking to the Finance Minister of this country—an economy which is in such a bad shape that it will be a hell of a job for him to really improve on it and lift it out of the problems—which have been created by the previous regime.

For example, foreign reserves may be taken. When Shri Rajiv Gandhi became the Prime Minister of the country, the foreign reserves in the country were of the order of 5951 million dollars. By the time he left the foreign reserves stood at 3542 million dollars. That was a decline of 41 per cent over the five-year period.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: where did he take all that?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Italy or Switzerland.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Let us take the debt service ration. When he took over it was 9.2 per cent; by the time he left it was 23 per cent. The amount of debt service is Rs.

1100 crores when he took over and now by the time he left it was Rs. 7000 crores.

Let us come to deficit in trade account. In the Sixth Plan the deficit was 1.2 per cent of GDP. By the time he left it was 2.8 per cent, much more than double. So, what do these figures show? Not only that the country is now in a state where you have the burden of foreign debt which you do not know how to get rid of. Enormous internal debt is there. I do not know how this internal debt also will be taken care of. A severe debt trap, internal debt trap and also external debt trap—these are some of things which have been imposed on the country by the World Bank and the other agencies.

I forgot another interesting point which has been made by Mr. Poojary. He says that the rate of savings has been quite high, about 21 per cent or so. What he did not say was this, that it was higher earlier, it has gone down, and that this particular report expresses concern about the decline and stagnation in the savings ratio.

I can go on like this. Now coming to China, one of the friends on the other side asked about China. I suggest that you do not talk about China. In 1949 when China became liberated people talked about a race between India and China—India pursuing the path of capitalism and China pursuing the path of socialism. They all said, "Let us see who wins". And in 1949 in terms of production of the basic material—whether you take iron and steel or coal or other things—actual output there was not much. Just, now between China and India, if you look at the figures you will see that in terms of most of the indicators, China produced four times, five times, six times more than what India does. Both of them started from the same base. India and China I mean. China is now producing much more than India does at the moment. Not only this, if you look at the food production figure, China is three times bigger than India but the cultivated land available in India is bigger because India does not have so many deserts, mountains, and all that. Still China produces

more than double the food which is produced in our country. So, what I am saying is this. Let us not go into the World Bank report, let us not go into the kind of comparisons which would not hold under proper examination. If you look at the present state of the economy, you will find that it is in a very serious stage. I would very much sympathise with the Finance Minister, who has taken over the reins because he is not going to find his job very easy. His task is a very unenviable one. I would rather give a word caution. A word of caution is this. One of the major mistakes made by Mr. Rajiv Gandhi was opening up of the economy. He opened up the economy; imports became too high; exports were increasing but not at the same rate as imports. The gap became enormous, which meant the country became dependent on the foreign sources. They imposed their conditionalities. That became the national economic policy. Now, what is happening today? This opening up of the economy has also led to the penetration of the multi-nationals in terms of Pepsicola and other deals. The point that I am making is this. I heard of the statement of Prof. Dandavate. I do not know where it appeared. I do not remember it. He said that the economy would be even more open than it had been under Rajiv Gandhi's. I do not know whether he was properly quoted. If not, please correct me. I find that that will be very very alarming because it is very important to control the imports. In this report, another point has been made and it is very important. It is said that whatever industrial growth has taken place has been for the benefit of a small section in the Indian population, the richer section who can consume expensive consumer durables...*(Interruptions)*

THE FINANCE MINISTER (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): When I used the words 'openness in the economy', I said that there will be no clandestine transactions...

(Interruptions)

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: That is fine. It also says that all the consumer durables have high import intensities. Unless you

[Dr. Biplab Dasgupta]

control the imports to a certain extent, unless you curb the consumption of the richest section of the population, unless you make an attempt to bridge the gap between imports and exports, the country will be in for a serious trouble. Even a country like the United States is closing their frontier. They are imposing restrictions on imports. They are becoming more and more protective. In fact there is a fear running throughout the world economy—supposing the United States become even more restrictive in order to adjust their balance of payment difficulties, then what will happen to the rest of the world. When even the United States itself is going for a very restrictive policy, for us to open up the economy would be very risky. On the other hand there is need to be very cautious about the judicious use of our foreign exchange and also to see that imports are not wasted. A lot of imports are actually wasted. Also enough attention has to be given to the export promotion so that the country's economy can recover from the damages which had been inflicted on it by Mr. Rajiv Gandhi's Government.

Before I conclude I will just make two more points. One is the demand for fertiliser and water resources. It is a very right one, more so because in the last Budget of the country to Parliament in last April, the real expenditure on agriculture and irrigation actually went down. I do not know to what extent that reduction in real expenditure has been partly compensated by this augmentation here in terms of fertiliser and water resources. There is a word of caution about fertiliser. The World Bank lobby, International Monetary Fund and then some of the economists in the Planning Commission want the fertiliser subsidy to be taken away. They want the subsidy to be cut. I will be very much opposed to it. My Party will be opposed to it. The organisation also which I represent, All India Kisan Sabha will be opposed to it because we think that if the subsidies are cut, that would mean either the consumer will have to pay a higher price or the agriculturists will have to accept a lower price. Both

will be wrong. For this reason, there should be no cut in the subsidy. I would request the Minister to take into account this point.

As far as Defence expenditure is concerned, I will just make two points. One is that it is possible to reduce the Defence expenditure by improving relations with the neighbouring countries. The Government of India has already taken some initiative in this direction, whether it is China or Pakistan or Nepal or other countries. I think we should take things very seriously in terms of avoiding whatever expenditure can be avoided as far as Defence is concerned because Defence expenditure does not produce anything for the economy. So, for that reason, if this expenditure can be reduced by improving the relations in terms of a collective understanding with the countries in this region, that will be good for all of us and that is something which should be taken into account. I am sure, under this new regime there will be no kickbacks, no money stashed away in the Swiss bank accounts and this kind of things would be avoided, and if it is avoided, of course, that will make our Defence much more effective with the same amount of money. It might even be possible to reduce the amount spent on Defence. Thank you very much.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee. We hopefully will be concluding by 9.30.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Mr. Chairman, Sir, since I am committed to brevity, I rise, first of all, to support the Supplementary Demands and take this opportunity of wishing the revered Finance Minister a successful career in his very difficult circumstances. I will observe on three points within two minutes. One is regarding Demand No. 8, that is, Cash Compensatory Support. I wish the hon. Minister will examine as to whom this Cash Compensatory Support is going and, if possible, to giving aid to the rural agricultural industries which can be brought into export.

Secondly, I do not grudge the Supple-

mentary Demand on Sutlej Canal, but in this respect I would request the Finance Minister in future to think about declaring Tista project as a project of national importance so that Central Government can bear its cost and West Bengal can put its own resources to really improving the production by providing smaller irrigation projects in wider areas.

My last observation is regarding tele-communications. West Bengal's particularly Calcutta's as well as other districts' almost dead telecommunication systems can be brought into some life through really absolutely changing its very age-old equipments. I believe the hon. Minister will give his attention in future to this.

With this, I support these Demands.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Mr. Banatwalla.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will be very brief.

MR. CHAIRMAN: As brief as Mrs. Mukherjee was?

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Yes, as brief as she was.

We have just heard our Janardhana Poojary on this side and also Dr. Dasgupta, and I was wondering that our Janardhana Poojary who also worked under the then Finance Minister, V.P. Singh, was complimenting him for the present state of economy and our Dr. Dasgupta was criticising the then Finance Minister for the present state of economy. They both scored off. I have just risen to wish well to our Madhu Dandavate Ji, the present Finance Minister, to congratulate him and just to make a point that now every time talking about who did what, is not going to save the situation. Let us grapple with the situation.

The present Government will be judged according to its own performance. With such an able person as Madhu Dandavate Ji—Madhu also and Dandavate also—we are

hopeful that there will be a balanced developed approach to the entire situation. Wishing him well, I may only say that the Supplementary Demands involve a cash outgo of Rs. 836.35 crores. I have risen only to strike a note of caution. Who is responsible is not the question. But unfortunately, the budgetary deficits are going out of control. And right now we are in a difficult position—if I am not wrong, the economists and other experts say that budgetary deficit should not cross more than 1.5 per cent of the G.D.P., but here we find, even it was brought out in this paper also, that the revenue deficit has gone well above 3 per cent of the G.D.P. Now, that is a serious situation that requires strict budgetary control over deficits and I must ask the hon. Finance Minister as to what measures are there in his mind in order to have this strict budgetary deficit control.

Now, Mr. Chairman, Sir, I may briefly refer to Demand No. 12 which is with respect to tele-communication services. I have nothing to oppose that Demand as such. My point is that not sufficient material has been given along with the details of this Demand in order really to help the Members to make up their minds as to whether it is justified or not. So, it is a technical objection that I make that when you come with the Supplementary Demands it is necessary that all the relevant details should be given in order to enable the Members to come to a conclusion as to whether the particular Demand is or is not justified. We are told that "11 projects each costing Rs. 50 lakhs and above as detailed below which were not budgeted originally have been taken up now on the basis of post-budget developments." Why were not they taken up originally? What were those post-budget developments? What are the basis on which you selected only these nine projects and none others? We are simply in the dark, we know nothing. In the future please see that all the relevant details are given. I do not want to oppose these projects, but I must make it a point that for example, in my own constituency we have such pressing need for projects, but they are not being taken up. Some projects were taken up, a telephone exchange is commissioned for example, at

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Tanalur in my constituency. We pursued it, it was granted, a telephone exchange was commissioned with a capacity of 100 connections, but only 56 connections were given and now we are being told, 'No material'. Now, what is the idea? Those projects with capacity are not being fully utilised and new projects are being taken up. Similarly, at Tanur telephone exchange, with upgradation, with a capacity of 900 connections, hardly 200 are given and we are told there is 'No material' and therefore, there is no maximum utilisation. At the same time we have the Supplementary Demands for newer and newer projects being taken up. So, this is a chaotic state of affairs. I must insist upon a proper balanced development, I will not go on multiplying all these instances, we will approach the relevant Minister also there, but then we want to draw your attention to this particular fact. Pull them up also to see that there is a maximum utilisation of resources.

With these words, I wish well the Finance Minister in order to see that there is real development, economic development, of our country. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have a cut motion. Is it not?

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Yes.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants subject to three conditions. First, the payment of dearness allowance, for which grant has been sought should be made in time. A payment of 30 days ad-hoc bonus to those who fall in this category, and for which funds have been demanded, should be made. Besides, regarding the ex-defence personnel, the Government has promised to implement one-rank-one pension scheme but in the Supplementary Demands for Grants, no mention has been made of it and it seems that the matter has

been forgotten. Therefore, the Government should try to take steps to fulfil it. Similarly, if share of states in small savings is increased from proposed 75% to 90%, it would prove beneficial for backward states such as Uttar Pradesh, I have no hesitation in supporting the supplementary Demands. I have prepared a charge sheet against the Government. First I thought that I would get it prepared by the best legal luminary of the House Shri Somnath Chatterjee but when I found that he was in a semi-defection condition, I got it prepared with the help of Shri Kalpnath Rai. My charge sheet is that an effort to create an atmosphere of awe in the economic field has been made through issuance of White Paper on Indian economy. The Government has invited economic stagnation through it and it appears that the Government intends to kill two birds with a stone in its cover. First, that they want some sort of pretensions for not fulfilling all the numerous promises made to the people at the time of elections so as to gain time for it because it was pledged in their manifesto that all promises would be pledged in their manifesto that all promises would be fulfilled immediately after elections. But I feel that they are in search of some sort of escapist route. Secondly, they want to find out a way get loans from foreign countries or international institutions. For a socialist Finance Minister, some or the other pretext are required. All right, I consider it as the weakest point in my charge-sheet. This apprehension of mine got strength from the time chosen by the Government to issue this White Paper which was issued just before the Assembly elections. People will make them reply as to what measures they have taken to fulfil those election promises. In order to satisfy the people, they will take the shelter of the White Paper. The Government should initiate the discussion in the House. It should be answerable to the House and if need be, sitting of the House should be extended beyond 29th of this month..(*Interruptions*).....Despite presence of an eminent lawyer like V. Pallav Das Gupta in the House from their side, we are prepared to say that both the sides should present their points so that the people of our

country may know the fact. Before I conclude, I would like to say that this White Paper issued by the Government deserves no attention and I apprehend that after some time it may prove to be a black paper. It seems to me that it may become a black paper within 3-4 months. After all, they are 'Kal Patra' expert and I am afraid that this might prove to be 'Kal Patra' (death warrant) for them. Three conditions put by me should be considered. Subject to these conditions I support these Supplementary Demands for Grants.

[English]

SHRISONTOSH MOHANDEV (Tripura West): Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the very outset, I congratulate Shri Janardhana Poojary on making his maiden speech as Opposition Member and also Shri Biplab Dasgupta. Both of them have done well from their Parties' point of view. But I would request Prof. Madhu Dandavateji to consider one point. A good number of articles are coming in the National Press, specially in the Eastern India—not by political men but by journalists—that there is an attempt to put economic pressures on the Northeastern States to achieve political gain. I sincerely believe, it would not happen since you are the Finance Minister of the country.

The Northeastern States depend on the Central Government in their economic development and most of the States do get 70% to 90% of finance as grants and others may be getting little low. Keeping that in view the financial position of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya Mizoram and Tripura, there is a tendency in the Finance Ministry by some jovial officers to tell our Government officials, that "We have to consider whether money will be released". It is bringing a crisis. Therefore, whatever has been committed, whatever has been possible for you to pay should not be stopped from political consideration. This is my only appeal to you.

20.42 hrs.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE) : Mr. Chairman, Sir,

because I announced the decision to have the Vote-on-Account in the next session, and the Budget Session later on, probably with vengeance our former Finance Minister decided to initiate the Budget discussion in anticipation. I have no grouse. On economic and financial matters, I do not want to carry any political acrimony at all. Issues have to be discussed coolly and I would only like to point out to him that if at the outset I have pointed out rule 216 of the rules of procedure, it is because rule 216 is specifically framed to ensure that all basic discussions on economic and financial matters take place during the general debate, Finance Bill, Appropriation Bill and general discussion under rule 193. I would only like to remind him—I do not want to make any allegation against him. If you go through all the past debates even when I was occupying the Opposition Benches, I made my major contribution on economic policies, during the General Budget Debate, on Finance Bill debate, on Appropriation Bill debate and also when I initiated discussion under rule 193. I scrupulously stuck to the discussions during supplementary grants on specific items which were raised, and also in that context, we raised certain issues. In this context, I am very happy, that Shri Ram Naik and also others scrupulously stuck to the items that were raised.

But since some of the issues have been raised, if I do not touch them at all, our friend, Mr. Poojary may feel that I am shaken and I am panicky and that is why I am trying to avoid the debate. I am the last man to avoid debate. In the last several years, I think, maximum special discussions under rule 193 have been under my name. I have never avoided debate. I have always welcomed it.

Shri Poojary tried to point out to the House that I am shaken and I want to create an atmosphere of panic. If I am holding the Finance portfolio, even from the selfish angle, it is not advantageous for me to create an atmosphere of panic. On the contrary, it is advantageous for me to create a spirit of confidence, strength and stability in the economy because that alone will be able to

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serve the much proclaimed objective of self-reliance. You tried to indicate a number of indicators...

SHRIKALPANATHRAI: But your Prime Minister is misleading.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Nobody is misleading. I myself and the Prime Minister are talking exactly in the same tune. Only you are trying to put different interpretations. Any-way I do not take your allegation very seriously.

Friends, I was just referring to this. Shri Poojary tried to give certain indicators to indicate that everything is all right as far as the economy of the country is concerned. He tried to indicate what is the growth rate. He tried to indicate 30% increase. He tried to indicate 20% increase in imports and by quoting a number of figures, he tried to indicate that we are going in the direction of self-reliance.

SHRIJANARDHANA POOJARY: Is it a wrong figure?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: No. I am coming to that. Let me put the interpretation. I have very carefully listened to you.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: We do not want to interfere in your maiden speech.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: No. This is not my maiden speech. This is my speech for the nineteenth year of my parliamentary life. This is not at all maiden speech. I do not accept that. But I am trying to tell you that I have not challenged your indicator but I am trying to put forward before you certain background material which will indicate that the economy is not as stable and as strong as you tried to interpret. For instance, you talk of self-reliance. What a tragedy of our time that as far as our external borrowings are concerned, even the document you have quoted has candidly accepted that the exter-

nal borrowings in the country are Rs. 83,000 crores and I have not the least doubt...*(Interruptions)*. Wrong or right you decide. Not only that. But by the end of the financial year, I am afraid, this will be about Rs. 100,000 crores. That will be external debt. It is accepted by all the economists—I would like to quote Mr. Gupta here that all the economists have accepted that as far as the external debts are concerned, 20% debt service ratio is the set limit. It does not go only beyond 20%. But if you take the NRI contributions and also external borrowings which, by the end of the financial year are likely to be Rs. 100,000 crores....

SHRIJANARDHANA POOJARY: Here, whether the Finance Minister can say, that we have been the defaulters at any time? What is our standing in international market? Whether we are not in a position to secure the loan at commercial and reasonable rate? Yes. But there is debt service ratio. It does not mean that we are in an alarming position. We have never been defaulters. We will strengthen the economy. This is our strength in the economy. Because we do not interfere in his maiden speech, he felt that growth rate in exports has gone over 38% and, for your information, up to August, our trade gap has gone down by Rs. 800 crores. Latest position is Rs. 1,000 crores. You strengthen it. This is the position. You are the Finance Minister of the country.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I hope you will yield to me and not again and again get up. Let me develop the theme and, after that, if you have any objections, you can raise them. I am trying to develop an argument. Though you take an isolated figure and try to put your interpretation and what I am trying to point out is that as far as the foreign borrowings are concerned, economists have accepted that 20% debt service ratio is the fake ratio. We have gone beyond a few years and accepted 23% and, I am afraid that if our foreign borrowings go to the extent of Rs. 100,000 crores the debt service ratio is likely to cross 30%. What would it mean? It would mean one third of the foreign exchange earnings that we will be getting

from our exports, we will be able to spend not for the developmental activity of the country but they will be spent mainly in the interest payment to the countries. One of the professors of the Gokhale Institute, Prof. Dandekar has said "Very often to me, it appears, that we borrow to pay." That is what is happening today. This is one dangerous one. But I do not want to create a scare and merely saying that we are defaulters or not does not absolve us from the burden. Prof. Gupta used the term debt trap. Many people have been using the word debt trap and we are very close to that and, therefore, we will have to avoid that. This has been much talk of International Monetary Fund. I wish to make it explicitly clear that if we talk of self-reliance, as we increase the degree of self-reliance in the country, the degree of foreign external borrowings will go down and even where we are forced by circumstances to borrow, my government will observe the norms. Even from some financial institutions, by force of circumstances, if we are likely to borrow, we will try to avoid that. We will never accept the conditionality which will actually destroy the basic policies of the Government and they will be humiliating as far as nation's honour and dignity is concerned. My contention about the IMF is the IMF loan was accepted with a conditionality. That means that we have become the bonded-labour of those from whom we are getting the loan. That is exactly what is objectionable. They try to "prescribe for us and say: you try to freeze the Direct Taxes." They try to tell us: "You change your Bonus pattern." They try to tell us: "Change your arrangement about those subsidies." They try to tell us: "Give more encouragement to the multinationals." They also obliquely try to suggest that let there be devaluation. We will never accept such a conditionality. That is one important aspect.

As far as the inflationary pressure is concerned, it is an accepted fact that greater the widening deficits, greater will be the inflationary pressure on the economy. I hope my friend Mr. Poojary will admit it. The other day while I was speaking in the beginning in reply to a question, I said: "There are various targets which the previous Government has

fulfilled. But there is one target they have overhit the target and that was the target of deficit financing." In the last Seventh Five Year Plan, in the course of the entire five years, the target fixed for the deficit financing was of the order of Rs. 14,000 crores and with one year left for the completion of the Five Year Plan, the deficit Financing was had crossed to Rs. 27,000-30,000 crores. When we are having such a widening deficit, it is bound to cause an inflationary pressure on the economy and therefore this is also one of the reasons why despite some good crops earlier, whatever was achieved, it was neutralised at a later stage. So, these deficits are to be curtailed. It does not mean whether 'X' is in power or 'Y' is in power. Our economists have accepted that deficits go up to such an extent and in that case they are bound to have inflationary pressure on our economy. Therefore our entire approach and perspective will be to contain the deficit financing. When we have to do that, it is an accepted fact that the money supply is increasing. Production level is not in tune with the money supply increase and as a result of that, we find that the inflationary pressure on the economy is there. Therefore, we will have to go out of the way to see that extravagance in our country and in our economy is avoided so that we will be able to contain the increase in the money supply in our country which will be in tune with the production level and thereby we will be able to contain the inflationary pressure.

Sir, he has quoted a number of figures. I wish he had quoted the figures from one of the Reports which was laid on the Table of the House during his own Government and that was the Report of the Institute of Public Finance and Policy. That Report was laid on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament and that Report said: "Excluding smuggling, blackmoney is of the order of Rs. 40,000-50,000 crores. "If that is the order of blackmoney in the country, in that case there is bound to be an parallel economy which will exert an inflationary pressure on our economy and to that extent, the price rise will go up. Therefore, one of the problems of containing the inflation in the country is also

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containing the blackmoney proliferation. I am not going to elaborate just now what concrete steps we are going to take. I was shocked and surprised the other day when the former Finance Minister asked me a question with months in advance before the budget. He asked: "Will you like to have demonitisation in the country?" Demonitisation is a shock treatment. It is not a treat that is announced in advance like a treatment for cancer. It is not the way we go in with that. But he wanted me to say that. I will not elaborate the various steps that we are likely to take to contain blackmoney economy which will reduce the inflationary pressure on the economy and a lot of problems can be solved. So, this is the broad perspective.

Then, he referred to the growth. I do not want to go into general problems. We can have a general discussion. But since he referred to growth, I would like to refer to one particular perspective of our new Government and for the moment for that reason, all forces which are Left to the Centre, they have been adopting a common strategy and perspective. What is the perspective? As a Finance Minister, I will continue to ask myself even as a Finance Minister: not how much growth but growth from whom? We are not interested in the elitist growth in the country. We reject the percolation theory. We reject the trickling theory. Today, the traditional thinking of development and growth is: Let there be elitist growth at the higher echelons. Let the gains of development percolate down and trickle down and those at the grass-root level, let them stand with a begging bowl in their hands... (*Interruptions*) Please do not obstruct.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Sir, the hon. Finance Minister has stated that he is not interested in the growth.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: No, I did not say like that.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: I

mean growth in the production. There should be demand for the production, then only can we compete in the international and also in the internal market. If there is no demand and if you are going to produce certain things which are not of the market's interest, then they are not going to be attracted in the market. I would like to know whether he is going to produce such goods for the international market to gain the foreign exchange. He has to find out which is the product that is required by the market and that is the kind of growth which is required

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I was coming to that point, but the former Finance Minister is very impatient. Let me develop that point. I said, I will not ask to myself the only question as to how much growth. I want growth, but growth for whom? There is a vertical growth, there is a horizontal growth, there is growth for the elitist and there is growth for the poor people. When we try to encourage certain commodities—I am sure many amongst you will accept and my former socialist colleagues will also accept—we are not interested in the manufacture of those luxury commodities which might be for the consumption of the elitist section of the society, but we are more interested in augmenting and manufacturing those commodities which are required for mass consumption so we reject totally the trickling theory. We do not want the people at the grass-root level to wait with begging bowls for the gains of development to percolate from the top to come to the bottom because that would not be any gain for the lowest class at the grass-root level. We reject that theory. Therefore we want the better orientation of growth, not merely the numerical aspect of growth but the qualitative aspect of growth in favour of the toiling millions in the country. That is the anti-poverty approach which we would like to take, and that is our perspective. If you take this totally of the perspective you will understand what is the distinction between your perspective and our perspective. I only summarily tried to point out these problems because this is not the major portion of the subject on which we are discussing.

I am very happy that some of the Members have referred to certain specific questions. For instance, after Shri Poojary, Shri Ram Naik pointed out that as far as our allocation for DA payment is concerned, we have supplementary demands.

SHRIJANARDHANA POOJARY: What about writing off the loans?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I have already referred to that in one of the questions. If you want me to repeat everything, for instance right to work, loans and all these issues, in that case the supplementary demands for which I am rising before the House I think will go in the background and a general debate will proceed. I will face those issues also. I have already replied that question in one of the Houses of Parliament. There is another question which is coming in the House and I will give an elaborate answer as far as that problem is concerned. I have also talked about it in the Press.

There are certain aspects to which Shri Ram Naik had touched. For instance we have made certain allocations for the payment of DA. He has rightly said that the DA is given on the basis of indices which are computed on the basis of the outmoded model. There was the Raj Committee and there were so many other Committees also. They wanted the reconstruction of the indices. I can assure them that our Ministry will examine in depth this particular problem of revising the index in such a manner that it must correctly reflect the inflationary situation in the country and the working class can gain by that.

He has talked about the loans. He said specifically Maharashtra and other States, how much they get by way of release of loans. Releases are made to States on the basis of the actual net collection in each State. The present supplementary demand is on the basis of the overall trends of collections so far. How the amount will be distributed among States cannot be stated at this stage; but we will examine that problem in depth and I shall write to him separately to

point out what will be the quantum that will be available for Maharashtra and also for the respective States where the loans are to be released.

Then there is one more problem to which I would like to make a reference. There was a reference particularly to Defence. I almost share Das Gupta's analysis—as far as Das Gupta is concerned I fully share his perspective of the economic thinking—and therefore I do not want to go on saying, I agree with this or that. There is one aspect to which he has made a reference and I think it is very relevant and we will examine it in depth. As far as Defence is concerned, very often we try to appeal to the nationalist sentiments and say that every time the Defence expenditure must go up.

21.00 hrs.

But defence expenditure is also a function of our external affairs policy—foreign policy. What attitude we take towards our neighbours—whether we have got the friendly relations with our neighbours or not—will also determine the quantum of the defence expenditure. It will be the constant endeavour of my Government to ensure better and friendly relations with our neighbours, including China and Pakistan so that there shall be no mutual threat by these countries to each other and by the amicable understanding, we should be able to contain our defence expenditure. Also it is a tragedy that if we look at the total defence expenditure, the major component of that is the import component that we have to spend as a result of the sophisticated defence equipment which we import from foreign countries. We are nowhere near self-reliance in defence. Therefore, with the full cooperation and the sanction of this House,—I think on that nobody, neither the Congress nor the Janata Dal differs—we will make earnest efforts to see that greater degree of self-reliance is obtained in the field of defence, so that we will be able to contain the defence expenditure which is also one of the sources which exports an inflationary pressure on our economy.

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As far as Shri Santosh's suggestion is concerned, he is right that we should not try to utilise the political leverage out of the assistance that we are giving to hilly States or backward States and I can assure him that while giving the legitimate assistance to the States in the North Eastern States, we shall never try to exploit the political...

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman & Nicobar Islands): Islands should also be considered as backward.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Yes. That is right. I think Islands which exist today are also considered as backward areas and backward regions.

I do not want to say derisively, but in terms of the economic development, whether it is Andaman or Lakshadweep, all these areas and regions are considered as backward and you can be rest assured that while extending this financial assistance to north eastern region or any other backward regions, no political leverage will be utilised and we will judge the issue only on the degree of backwardness and the requirement of that State.

Sir, as far as all other demands are concerned, there is a foot-note below every demand. We have tried to provide rationale for having that particular demand and as a result of that, taking into account the recovery savings and other factors, we have said that outflow will be only of the order of Rs. 820 crores. It is only a marginal amount that we have asked and I am sure that this House will not be divided.

One more point is there which I have forgotten to make. Our friend Shri Banatwalla has extended his full support to the demands. He has only pointed out that for communication department, certain demands are sought. He said that certain projects are neglected particularly in the Constituency which he has mentioned. I only try

to tell him that besides those projects for which we have made the demands, in his Parliamentary Constituency also, there are certain projects on which expenditure is there. But we will try to augment that expenditure in times to come. For instance in Tirur, Tirur Exchange is a 1000 line exchange having 933 working connections. There is an expansion plan to convert this exchange into 3000 lines by 1991-92.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: This is getting bogged down because of the bureaucratic approach and unrealistic terms about the acquisition of land and all that. So, I hope that you will give necessary directions to see that these projects are also expeditiously carried out, over there.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: If these projects are bogged down by bureaucratic approach, I will give a touch of a Ministerial approach so that actually whatever is stuck up will be removed.

Similarly, Tirurangadi, Perintalamanna, Kuttipuram, Edapal, Tanur and Kalpakancherry projects are there. You can be rest assured that as far as these projects—exchange projects, communication projects—are concerned, if we find that whatever allocations are found inadequate, our general strategy will be that we will not spread away the allocations on a large number of projects, we will take up those projects which are ongoing projects, try to give them better allocations, see that the gestation period is reduced, try to complete them and commission them within the definite time and when they are completed, we will go on to the next working project, so that that will give the optimum results. That is the assurance that I would like to give to Mr. Banatwalla.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Thank you very much.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I accept your thanks. I don't think at this late hour in the evening anything more is needed. I am thankful to the hon. Members. I am also satisfied that I have said enough.

I once again thank all the Members of this House who have extended wholehearted support. (*Interruptions*) The hon. Member has put forward certain demands. In substance, those demands will be met. I appeal to the House to pass these demands unanimously. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the cut motion moved by Shri Banatwalla.

SHRIG.M. BANATWALLA: I seek leave of the House to withdraw my cut motion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it the pleasure of the House that the cut motion moved by Shri Banatwalla be withdrawn?

SOME HON'BLE MEMBERS: Yes.

The cut motion No. 1 was, by leave, withdrawn

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) to the vote of the House. The question is:

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1990 in respect of the following demands entered in the second column thereof—

Demand Nos. 5, 8, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 78."

The motion was adopted

21.07 hrs.

APPROPRIATION (NO. 6) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): I beg to move for

leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1989-90.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1989-90."

The motion was adopted

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I introduce** the Bill.

I beg to move ***

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1989-90, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1989-90, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill. The question is:

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary part II, Section-2 dated 26.12.89.

** Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

*** Moved with the recommendation of the President.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:—

“That the Bill be passed.”

“That the Schedule, Clause I, the Enacting Formula and the Title Stand Part of the Bill.”

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

“That the Bill be passed.”

The motion was adopted

The motion was adopted

The Schedule, Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill

21.10 hrs.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I beg to move:

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, December 27, 1989/Pausa 6, 1911 (Saka)