

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## (English Version)

Second Session  
(Ninth Lok Sabha)



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## LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

[English]

Friday, March 23, 1990/Chaitra 2, 1912  
(Saka)

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

### STATEMENT

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

#### Development of Tourist Spots

\*162. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD:  
Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to  
state:

(a) the expenditure proposed to be  
incurred during 1990-91 for the develop-  
ment of tourist spots in the country;

(b) the places of pilgrimage in Uttar  
Pradesh to be developed under this scheme;  
and

(c) whether the scheme for the develop-  
ment of Pavanagar in Deoria district of Uttar  
Pradesh, where Lord Mahavira attained  
Mahaparinirvana, is also under considera-  
tion of Government?

(a) A sum of Rs. 67.50 crores has been  
proposed as Budget Estimates  
(Plan) for the year 1990-91 for  
Ministry of Tourism.

(b) Development of tourist destinations  
including places of pilgrimage are  
primarily the responsibility of State  
Governments. However, based on  
specific proposals received from  
the State Governments, the Minis-  
try provides financial assistance  
within available resources for the  
development of infrastructure.

(c) No proposal for financial assistance  
for development of infrastructure at  
Pavanagar in Deoria District has  
been received from the State Gov-  
ernment of Uttar Pradesh.

[Translation]

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Sir, in  
his reply the hon. Minister had stated that  
there is a scheme to spend Rs. 67.50 crores  
on developing the places of pilgrimage as  
tourist spots whereas at some other place he  
says that the Ministry considers the propos-  
als only when they are received from State  
Governments. Through you, I would like to  
know from the hon. Minister the names of the  
States in respect of which such proposals



are under consideration with him. Secondly, I would like to know whether the hon. Minister will call for a report from the states which have not sent any proposal so that proposals from such states are also included in the scheme before spending the proposed amount of Rs. 67.50 crores?

[*English*]

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: Sir, the first thing is, the amount of Rs. 67 crores pertains to the entire budget of the Ministry.

[*Translation*]

AN. HON. MEMBER: I am on a point of order. He said that a provision of Rs. 67 crores has been made.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order. The hon. Minister is replying.

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: Allocation of funds to various states is made out of the total budgetary provision. There was a scheme from the Government of Uttar Pradesh to spend Rs. 2 crores between the 2nd and the 6th plan. The proposal they have now submitted is being examined by us and we will do whatever is possible in this regard. The hon. Member has also desired to know whether such proposals have also been received from other states. In this connection I would like to inform him that proposals from all the State Governments have been received by us. We are examining the proposals and allocation of funds will be made keeping in view the overall Budgetary provision.

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the hon. Minister please also state if there is a proposal to construct a wall at Pavanagar in Deoria district which is the birth place of Lord Mahavir? There is also one more famous place in the same city where people come from every nook and corner of the country. I would like to add that a proposal which includes construction of a hotel and beautifying the construction site etc. was pending with the previous Government. Will the

Government give its clearance to the above proposal and start the work as per its policy and programmes?

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have not so far received any recommendation from the State Government in regard to Deoria. Now, keeping in view the demand of the hon. Member, we, on our own, will request the State Government to include it in the next year's plan.

PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the state-wise break up of the amount of Rs. 67.50 crores. In Himachal Pradesh, Chintpurani, Jwalaji, Naina Devi and Chamunda Devi are some of the famous places of pilgrimage. Has any proposal been received from the State Government to develop these places as tourist spots; if so, the decision taken by the Government in regard thereto?

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: Next year's budget figures are with me. I have got the figures in respect of each and every State. If the hon. Member so desires, I can read out the figures or otherwise I can place the information on the Table of the House.

PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL: Please tell about Himachal Pradesh.

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: We have received a number of proposals from Himachal Pradesh and the total expenditure involved is about Rs. 19 crores. We are examining these proposals. Here, I must say one thing that an amount of Rs. 20 lakhs was allocated to Himachal Pradesh from the centre during the 6th Five Year Plan. During the last 4 years, an estimate of Rs. 52 lakhs was submitted to Himachal Pradesh. Presently, we are holding consultations with the State Governments about this plan. It is, therefore, not possible to give details of individual cases right now.

[*English*]

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Sir, often

due to insufficient infrastructural facilities in terms of water supply or power or transport and other insufficient infrastructural facilities, the interests of tourism development conflict with the interests of the local population. This happens, for instance, in the State from where I myself come. Now, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, in view of this, whether he is coordinating or will coordinate with other Ministries, so that in areas which are of intense tourist projection like Goa from where I come, increased water supply, power, transport will be given so that the local population is not inconvenienced as a result of the tourist influx.

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: Sir, as far as Goa is concerned, it is one of our most important tourist areas; infrastructural facilities are of extreme importance to us. We are not only coordinating with various Ministries but also with the Ministry of Environment because environment protection is also extremely necessary. We have had nearly 250 thousand visitors in Goa. In fact, in the international map, it is the fourth or fifth most populous tourist spot in the world. So, every possible encouragement we can give, we are giving and I think if you see the Budget allocation, you will find that both the State Government in Goa and the Central Government are giving all possible encouragement to all facets of tourism in the State.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHHABIRAM ARGAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are several backward State where there is large tourist potential. The Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent a number of schemes to Central Government for the development of tourism in the State. Chambal, Gwalior and Sheopuri etc. are backward areas. The Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent a number of tourism schemes to Central Government with a view to removing the backwardness of these areas. So will the Government allocate funds on a priority basis for the development of those backward states, where there is more potential for the development of tourism?

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: As I said earlier, we have received recommendations from the State Governments and we shall convey to the State Government, the views expressed by the hon. Member and if any scheme for the development of Chambal comes before us, we shall consider it.

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the amount allocated for the year 1990-91, for the development of tourist spots like Sher Shah's Mausoleum, Salim Shah's Mausoleum, the Shergarh Fort, the Rohtas Fort, the Gupta Dham etc., situated in Rohtas District of Bihar?

SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU: The State Government has to send their schemes to the Centre. As I said earlier, we are holding talks with them on this issue. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Next question.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: It is a very important question and I want to ask... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have already gone to the next question. You can write a letter to the Minister.

(*Interruptions*)

#### Vijaynagar Steel Plant

\*163. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA  
NARASIMHA RAJA  
WADIYAR:  
SHRI . JANARDHANA  
POOJARY:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have revised the estimated cost of the proposed Vijaynagar Steel Plant in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the revised estimated cost;

(c) whether the construction work would be taken up during the Eighth Plan; and

(d) if so, the specific steps taken to expedite the preliminary work of the Project?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). This will depend on the availability of funds in the 8th Plan for this project.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Sir, the demand of steel by 2000 A.D. will be around 25 million tonnes. The present production is around 12 million tonnes. The Karnataka people were very happy when the hon. Minister made a statement in the month of December after taking over the charge as Minister stating that he would go before the Planning Commission with a proposal of Rs. 2,000 crores for two projects—one for Karnataka and the other for Orissa—during the Eighth Plan period. He had further stated that the capacity of each of the projects would be 1 million tonnes.

I would like to know whether there is a proposal to set up these two plants—one in Karnataka and another in Orissa. If at all it is true, is he going before the Planning Commission with the proposal to get Rs. 2,000 crores as stated by him in the Press.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, I had the pleasure of answering this very question in the last session of Parliament also. I agree with the hon. Member that today there is a gap between the demand and the supply almost to the extent of 2 million tonnes. It is our projection also that by the terminal year of the Ninth Plan, there will be a deficit of more than 2 million tonnes in so far as the demand and supply of steel is concerned. Therefore, it is the view of our Ministry that

we should have two more steel plants and the ideal sites of the two greenfields sites are: one in Orissa, that is, Daitari and the other is Vijaynagar.

We asked for a financial allocation this year of Rs. 2 crore for the two plants. The Finance Minister has been kind enough to give us instead of Rs. 2 crore only Rs. 1 crore. But that is not much of a problem because we can make an adjustment at the revised estimate stage as necessary.

It is also true that we have asked the Planning Commission for financial allocation of Rs. 1,000 crore for each of the two projects in the next Five-Year Plan. Even if funds are not available, then the Ministry is prepared to look to an alternatives. The entire thing is now dependent on the Planning Commission. If the Planning Commission includes it in the Eighth Five-Year Plan, then, we are very keen to go through those two projects. In fact, it is the Department's view that these two steel plants should be set up so that we may not have any deficit in the production of steel and the demand and supply of steel in the terminal year of the Ninth Plan.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: In order to avoid the strain on the State and also the Central resources, I would like to know as to whether the Government is going to think of going in for a joint sector or for private investments or for assistance from foreign countries.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Even while replying to the first question, I indicated that even if the funds are not available, we can explore the possibilities of getting funds. Of course, this is a major decision on which I cannot decide alone as to whether we should invite the private sector for integrated steel plants or not. But so far as my Ministry is concerned, these are aspects which are still under our consideration and we are exploring the possibilities. Primarily, it is now dependant upon the Planning Commission's approach as to whether or not the Planning Commission will include the two steel plants,

which we want to set up, in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

**SHRIBALGOPALMISHRA:** The people of Orissa have been expecting a steel plant from 1977 and the previous Government had given a pooja gift of a steel plant for many times. Many poojas have passed after the gift was given but the steel plant is yet to materialise. There is an organisation called Neelachal Ispat Nigam in Orissa. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how much money has been spent so far on this Neelachal Ispat Nigam and what are its achievements and whether it is a fact that earlier the Hyundai Corporation was prepared to have the second steel plant in Orissa. Due to some people's step-motherly attitude towards Orissa, this steel plant could not materialise. We hope that this Government would give us the steel plant at the earliest opportunity.

**SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:** I know that the people of Karnataka and Orissa are very keen for these two projects, one at Vijayanagar and the other at Daitari. The foundation stone for the Vijayanagar Plant was even laid as early as in 1970 and 1980. But, unfortunately, this foundation stone was laid even without any techno-economic feasibility report being prepared and without any allocation of funds. We are spending some money every year by treating these two organisations alike. I cannot give any assurance to the hon. Member unless the Planning Commission clears the two projects. I am not the Planning Commission but I am depending upon the Planning Commission. The only assurance that I can give to the hon. Member is that so far as our Department is concerned, we are pressurising and pleading with the Planning Commission that these two steel plants should be set up at the two green field sites already selected and for which foundation stones were also laid as early as twenty or ten years back. These are the requirements of the country to meet the demand and supply situation.

**SHRI BHAJAMAN BEHERA:** I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to

whether the Government of India is ready to accept any foreign resources, if available, to start these steel plants.

**SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:** The question of whether we will go in for foreign resources or whether we will change our policy in view of the States' financial position and other constraints in the country and regarding private capital are all matters which the Planning Commission will take into consideration while formulating its proposals regarding the Eighth Five Year Plan and regarding the inclusion of these two steel plants in the Plan.

**SHRI KOTLA VIJAYA BHASKARA REDDY:** The Minister has been repeating that they have sent the proposals to the Planning Commission and is awaiting the reply. The Finance Minister has given only one instead of two. While waiting for the Planning Commission's reply, why don't you take steps to simultaneously think of other resources for these two plants as you know that the gap for the Ninth Five Year Plan is going to be still vast? In view of this, are you exploring the possibilities of starting these two steel plants in other sectors?

**SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:** The Eighth Five Year Plan proposals have not been finalised. Therefore, we have to wait. But it is not that we are not taking simultaneous action. We are also approaching the Cabinet—I can disclose only this much—regarding the possibility of involving private capital in the matter of steel industry considering the resources constraints. But it is a major policy decision which must be taken by the entire Cabinet.

**SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:** Although other countries have gone beyond the steel age, we continue to be in the steel age. The problem with our steel industry in India is that our steel consuming industries have to bear a higher cost of iron and steel. There are many reasons for it. One reason is the tariff equalization policy. Additionally, we can generate problems by locating our steel units in areas where natural advan-

tages do not permit them to be established. My question is in connection with this. Orissa, for instance, which is the richest in resources, is very backward in terms of per *capita* income. Steel units should be established in Orissa also. But my question is in terms of cost. What is the unit investment cost in a new steel factory and what is the unit steel investment cost when we try to expand an already established unit, as in the case of IISCO and Durgapur, they are trying to expand their present capacity?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: So, far as the two steel plants are concerned, our assessment is that it will require an investment of Rs. 2500 crores. The first phase is for one million tonnes and from that the hon. Member can find out the per unit investment. He is a letter mathematician than me.

So far as the modernization is concerned, the amounts vary for both the plants. For Rourkela second phase, we have received the tenders. Nothing has been finalised for Durgapur also. For Burnpur also, it has not been finalised. Till that is finalised, it is not possible to give even the projected unit investment cost. But so far as Durgapur is concerned, I will give the figures to the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Sir, my question No. 172 relates to Burnpur. It may kindly be clubbed with this question.

MR. SPEAKER: You could have raised it in the beginning, not now.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: I did not know that the Minister would mention about Burnpur also.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Loknath Choudhury.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHARY: Since there will be shortage of steel to the extent of two million tonnes, I would like to know whether the Government feels that the two steel plants, one in Karnataka and the other in Orissa will be sufficient to meet the

needs in the 8th Plan.

Secondly, I would like to know whether the Orissa Government has examined and found that the steel industry in the coastal site would involve less cost of production due to the import of coal from other countries. If so, will the Government propose to change the site from Daitari to Pradeep in view of the less cost of production?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Before I respond to this question, I would like to give one information in answer to the previous question. The average cost per installed tonne of capacity of a new steel plant is Rs. 25000 to Rs. 30000 and for modernization, it is Rs. 12000 to Rs. 15000 per tonne.

I share the anxiety of the hon. Member from Orissa that a steel plant should be set up in Orissa. You also, Sir, come from Orissa and you have also pleaded for it. The hon. Chief Minister of Orissa is after me; the hon. Chief Minister of Karnataka is after me. I would plead with this House that you raise your voice so that the Planning Commission is compelled by the voice of this House to include it in the 8th Plan. Nobody will be more happy than me if they are included in the 8th Plan.

#### **Appointment of Chief Justice of India and Supreme Court Judges**

\*165. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to adopt the principle of making senior most Supreme Court Judge as the Chief Justice;

(b) whether the senior most Chief Justice of the High Courts is to be considered first for elevation to Supreme Court; and

(c) the number of senior most Chief Justice of the High Courts who have been superseded in the matter of appointment of Supreme Court Judges since December, 1989?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI):** (a) to (c). The appointment of Judge in the Supreme Court, including the Chief Justice of India, is made in terms of Article 124(2) of the Constitution of India.

The Government appoints the Chief Justice of India and other Judges of the Supreme Court after taking into consideration all aspects relevant to their suitability, including the relative seniority of the Judge concerned. Since these appointments are by selection, supersession is not involved.

**SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the past whenever the senior-most judges have been superseded like Justice Grover, Justice Hegde, Justice Shelat—by the then Government—by appointing Justice Ray and superseding Justice Khanna by appointing Justice Beg, is it not a fact that the entire country's judiciary, the Bar, the statesmen, the politicians have all protested against that? Would the hon. Minister give an assurance that there would be no supersession in the matter of appointment of Chief Justices by looking to the past experience? Particularly, because these supersessions had taken place on the grounds which are other than merits, namely political.

**SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:** It is true that, normally speaking, the senior-most judge of the Supreme Court has always been made the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, except on three occasions, i.e. 1964, 1973 and 1977. In 1964, of course, Justice Imam was superseded because of the physical incapacity. In 1973 and 1977—when Mr. A.N. Ray and Mr. M.H. Beg were appointed—there were some controversies. But the seniority of the Judge is always taken into consideration while appointing the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. And the recommendation of the outgoing Chief Justice is also important. Not only that. When he sends the recommendations, he also consults the other senior Judges of the Supreme Court. After this Government came into

power, one vacancy fell due, when Chief Justice Venkataramaiah retired. We had appointed the senior-most Judge Mr. Sabyasachi Mukherjee as the Chief Justice. But I do not think that a commitment like this can be given, i.e., at all times, the senior-most Judge will be appointed. Obviously, the senior-most Judge will have the strongest claim for being appointed as the Chief Justice. But I do not think I am in a position to give this commitment that the senior-most Judge will be appointed. I can assure this House that in the matter of these appointments, the political considerations will not play any part whatsoever so far as this Government is concerned.

**SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, my second supplementary is this. This is regarding second part of the question. While appointing the Judges in the Supreme Court, is it a fact that Justice Mukherjee, Justice Desai and Justice Gokul Krishan who are the senior-most Judges—who are working as Chief Justices in Bombay High Court, Calcutta High Court and Gujarat High Court from 1968-69, respectively—have not been appointed whereas Judges who are of 1979 batch and have retired, were appointed after their retirement? Would the hon. Minister consider that at least in future, this type of supersession—a glaring example of appointments other than merit by ignoring the seniority of the top-most brilliant Judge like Justice Mukherjee, Justice Desai, and Justice Gokul Krishan—would not happen? It is because when the new Government came to power, they have committed for judicial independence and also for curbing nepotism, favouritism, politicking in judiciary. Therefore, it could, never in future, so far as appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court is concerned, fall to such practices of politicking or favouritism as it happened in the past.

**SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:** As I said earlier, because this appointment is by selection and not by promotion, strictly the word supersession is not correct. It is also a fact that some of the senior Judges like Justice Chittatosh Mukerjee whose date of

initial appointment is 2.4.1969, or Justice P.D. Desai whose date of initial appointment is 19.2.1970 or even Justice Malimath whose date of initial appointment is 5.3.1970 has not come to the Supreme Court. But the fact remains that seniority cannot be the only consideration. In the matter of appointment to the Supreme Court, even the present the Chief Justice has laid down certain criteria, and according to him seniority, ability and to a certain extent regional balance are also required to be considered for being elevated to the Supreme Court.

So far as I am concerned, I have already made it public that I am giving the highest importance to the recommendations given by the Chief Justices of High Courts, because that reduces the possibility of political interference; and in all my appointments so far, I have always given the highest consideration, I will continue to give the highest consideration to the opinion of the Chief Justice of the Court; but as I said, again in the case of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court we cannot, as a matter of policy, take up a position that the senior most Judge will be appointed. The seniority should be given due consideration, along with the other considerations.

SHRIGUMAN MALLODHA: One more question, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: No, no; you have a right to put only two questions. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I would like to know whether this Government will follow the policy of transfer of Judges from one Court to another, and specially of the appointment of the Chief Justice of a High Court from another High Court. Regarding the importance that this Government is giving to the recommendations of the Chief Justice of a particular High Court, experience shows that the Chief Justice of a particular High Court who does not belong to that Court, but has come by transfer to a particular High Court, is not so well acquainted with the lawyers practising in that

High Court. Obviously, other considerations are coming in; that is our unfortunate experience. Therefore, I would like to know what is the policy of the Government with regard to that. No doubt, importance should be given the recommendations of the Chief Justice of a High Court regarding the Judges. What are the criteria which the Government is going to follow in those cases where different recommendations are there, coming from different sources?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: So far as this policy of a Chief Justice being from an outside State is concerned, I interacted with members both of the Bench and the Bar earlier. I found that there are differences of opinion. There is a very strong opinion in favour of this policy. There are opinions also against this policy. But we have decided not to depart from this policy, and we are following this policy.

You know that we have decided now to set up a National Commission for Judicial Appointments, a Commission which will appoint the Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts. We have asked for, and got the opinions of the members of the Bench. I addressed letters to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the Chief Justices of the High Courts, and also to the Bar Associations and the Bar Council. I have got their responses. We have examined these responses. We have formulated certain views on these responses. I hope to come before this Parliament with a Bill for a National Judicial Commission for appointment of Judges. I hope that I will have the support of this House, because I feel that many of these grievances which are often voiced against these appointments will be removed once we appoint such a National Judicial Commission.

SHRIMATI UMA GAJAPATHI RAJU: I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that ladies are being discriminated against in judicial appointments. I do not want to mention names; but 'India Today' has also mentioned this. I would like to know whether the Minister is prepared

to give an assurance in the House that this will not be done, and that character assassination of women will not take place.

**SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:** I am aware that the number of ladies I will personally like to see in the Bench is much less than what it is today. I can tell the hon. member that I have addressed letters to the Chief Justices as also State Chief Ministers telling them that while sending recommendations for appointment of judges they should particularly take care to see that suitable persons belonging to the SC&ST, minorities and women are forwarded. My problem is this. If the constitutional functionaries including Chief Justices—by constitutional functionaries I mean Governors, Chief Ministers and the Chief Justices—do not send any recommendations for appointment of a woman judge and if I appoint some woman as judge, then I may be accused of making a political appointment. Therefore, I hope that the constitutional functionaries will send their recommendations accordingly; and I can assure the hon. member that if the recommendation comes from the constitutional functionary, this will get the highest priority, so far as I am concerned. (*Interruptions*)

**SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:** It is necessary. (*Interruptions*)

**AN. HON. MEMBER:** How many vacancies exist in the Supreme Court as on today?

**SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:** In the Supreme Court, when this Government took over, there were four vacancies; and immediately we filled up three vacancies. One vacancy still exists in the Supreme Court.

#### **Vacancies of Judges in J & K High Court**

\*167. **SHRI PIYARE LAL HANDOO:** Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the sanctioned strength of judges for the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) the number of vacancies at present; and

(c) the time by which these posts are likely to be filled up?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI):** (a) and (b). The sanctioned strength of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court is 7 permanent Judges and there are two vacancies at present.

(c) It is not possible to indicate the time by which these vacancies are likely to be filled up. The State authorities have been asked to send recommendations for making appointments.

**SHRI PIYARE LAL HANDOO:** I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the two vacancies referred to in the answer. One is caused due to the death of Justice Shah and the other is caused as a result to transfer of Justice Bhatt.

**SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:** Actually I do not know how these two vacancies did occur. But I will check up and let you know.

**SHRI PIYARE LAL HANDOO:** Assuming that it is due to the transfer of Mr. Justice Bhatt from Kashmir to Allahabad, how is it that at the time of transfer, there is no replacement order? You transfer a judge and remain content with that.

**SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:** Obviously, this type of vacancies are filled up even by transfer. There may be difficulties for which the vacancies may not be filled up. But this was before actually I took over; and there are some difficulties. But I can tell you that so far as I am concerned, I have written to the constitutional functionaries and I am waiting for their replies. I will fill up vacancies as soon as I get replies both from the Chief Justices and the Governors.



**Loans Given by Public Sector Banks**[*Translation*]

\*168. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR  
MALHOTRA:  
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the public sector banks have taken a decision to distribute the loans on terms framed for the credit camps;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of loans distributed so far under the above scheme?

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

**STATEMENT**

Neither Government nor the Reserve Bank of India have formulated any specific terms or schemes for distribution of loans by public sector banks in credit camps. For the scheme of Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) the application forms of beneficiaries are to be prepared in a camp attended by the beneficiaries, the block functionaries, the other concerned departments including the revenue department and the bankers. The camp system is advisable to save time and energy of the beneficiaries in the completion of the applications, and procurement of requisite documents. The public sector banks have also been organising the credit camps in order to provide credit assistance to weaker sections. The data reporting system of banks does not yield any regular information in respect of such camps. However, on the basis of an estimate arrived at, during 1985 to 1989, the public sector banks had organised 38702 camps in which Rs. 1103 crores were disbursed to 28.43 lakh beneficiaries.

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know whether there is any provision for waiving the loans upto Rs. 5,000 each distributed in the loan melas, as has been done in case of loans of farmers upto Rs. 10,000?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you permit me, I can answer this question, otherwise this question is not directly related to the main question.

MR. SPEAKER: If it is not directly related, then leave it.

Shri Malhotra, you please ask the second supplementary question.

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: I would like to know whether the Government proposes to waive the loans of the poorer and weaker sections of the society, including artisans, craftsmen and small shopkeepers, who were given loans upto Rs. 5,000, each in loan melas on the lines of the provision made to waive the loans of the farmers? Some of them had received Rs. 2,500, some had received Rs. 5,000 and some others received just Rs. 1,000. It is true that these loan melas were organised by the Congressmen, with elections in their mind. Yet I would like to know whether any such proposal is under consideration of the Government?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you permit, I can answer this question.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, you may answer it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: It has been clearly stated in the Budget that we are waiving the loans, in consonance with the assurance we had given in our election manifesto. Accordingly loans upto Rs. 10,000 taken by farmers, weavers, artisans etc., which were due upto 2nd October, 1989, would be waived by the Government, but if

you go on including other new categories like petty shopkeepers, businessmen, students, scholars etc., then I think that it would not be possible for us to do so. First, let us fulfill the assurances we had given to some categories. We can think about others later.

**SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to tell the hon. Finance Minister that on 3rd August, 1989 Vijaya bank distributed loans worth about Rs. 3 crores at a loan mela organised by it in the Moti Nagar area and the Minister of State for Finance, who is now sitting in the opposition, distributed those loans. If you want, I have got proof with me in support of this. At that time also, I had produced evidence to prove that each person was given 40 cheques each, which they deposited in a bank situated in Janakpuri. Many irregularities were committed in those loan melas. The matter was brought to the notice of the then Prime Minister and Shri Malhotra, Governor of Reserve Bank, in writing. Perhaps, a brother of the then Minister of State for Finance was one of the beneficiaries. Through you, I would like to know whether the Government would order an inquiry into the complaints regarding the loan mela that was organised in Moti Nagar on 3rd August? I am prepared to provide the necessary evidence, if required.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** In the light of this question, I would like to make one thing clear in the House. I would also like to read out the provision made in the law so that the picture becomes clear. It has been clearly stated in the law that—

[*English*]

Section 13 of the Banking Companies Acquisition and Transfer of Undertaking Acts 1970, 1980 require public sector banks to observe the practices and usages customary among the bankers not to divulge any information relating to the affairs of the constituents.

{*Translation*}

Doing away with all secrecy, organising public

rallies and melas, announcing the amount of loans distributed to each beneficiary and the distribution of money in violation of all the existing laws might be fair from political angle but it is not fair in the eyes of law. The only assurance I can give to the House is that such things would not take place in future.

**SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:** You have not said anything about the inquiry. I would like to know whether any inquiry would be ordered to ascertain as to why so many cheques were given to each person at the loan Mela.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** I would like to tell the House that we would like to work within the rules in future. If on the basis of the old complaints, which are there before us, we start raking them up or constitute a commission to enquire into them, then we would get entangled in them and it would not be possible for us to do anything worth while during our term of five years. (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:** Are you trying to cover up all the scandals like this?

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** Whatever you are saying, is incorrect. We are not trying to cover up any issue.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, what Shri Malhotra is saying is not correct. We do not want to cover up any scandal. There is no need of appointing a fresh Commission of inquiry for this purpose. We will take it up at the level of our department and see as to what steps should be taken in this regard.

[*English*]

**SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:** The hon. Finance Minister was pleased to state that he has made a provision of Rs. 1000 crores in the Budget for giving debt relief to rural people particularly genuine defaulters. As stated by him earlier, the dues from the small and marginal farmers come to about Rs. 14000 crores. This is what he had said in a statement outside the Parliament. There is no limitation for the land holdings.

Even a person who is owning 100 acres of land will be covered by this debt relief. Further he had stated that there is a condition that they should not be wilful defaulters. This amount will not be sufficient to give any relief to the people there is already a provision in the existing system to give debt relief by the banks and already they have been giving debt relief. There is nothing new in this procedure.

MR. SPEAKER: What is the question?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Instead of relief given by the banks now there is a budgetary allocation. That is the only difference. May I know from the hon. Minister what exactly is the amount due from small and marginal farmers including persons who are having unlimited land holdings, who include big farmers? (*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Before I reply to the question that he has put I will read out again the original question:

- "(a) whether the public sector banks have taken a decision to distribute the loans on terms framed for the credit camps;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the amount of loans distributed so far under the above scheme."

I wish to make it clear that though I consider this extraneous to the main question if you permit me to reply to the question I will give the full reply.

MR. SPEAKER: Please do.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: He has raised a very significant question. He says that in the budget we have allotted only Rs. 1000 crores for debt relief and he has also raised the question of wilful defaulters. I wish to make it very clear that wilful defaulter is defined as one who has the capacity to pay but is not paying. Our contention and experience is that the poor people, those who

are in distress conditions and who deserve help and assistance from the Government, whatever we provide for them, should not be exploited by those elements which are in spite of good positions, trying to exploit them. On the other hand, those who affect the credibility of the banking system, I accept that they should be excluded. Then he has asked a second question how is it that different degree of debt relief has been explained. I made it clear in the Consultative Committee meeting and I make it clear here also that there can be various parameters. In some of the estimates they have taken into account the overdues and current dues. They have taken into account the short term loans and long term loans. They have taken into account even those loans of Rs. 10000 and less while the total size of the loan is Rs. 50,000 or Rs. 60,000. They have also taken into account various sizes of holdings. If you have the permutations and combinations of these factors, you have different estimates. I made it clear in the Consultative Committee which I will make clear here also that (i) if you take all the overdues up to 2nd October, 1989; (ii) if you take all the loans which are only below Rs. 10,000; (iii) if you exclude the wilful defaulters; and (iv) if you take into account kisans, artisans and weavers, the whole amount comes to be Rs. 2,800 crores, and out of that, the debt relief that is to be given by the Centre for those banks and institutions which are under its jurisdiction, that is, nationalised banks and also the Regional Rural Banks, it comes to almost fifty per cent or less than that. That responsibility we will take. For that, this allocated amount is sufficient. We have also been writing to the Chief Ministers that a similar scheme may be followed in the States for cooperative credit institutions and in that case if they want some assistance, we are prepared to negotiate that. That is the scheme that we have.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Sir, the Minister has rightly pointed out in his statement that the credit camps are usually being conducted by the banks with the cooperation of the Block officials and others. The applications which are finalised in the credit

camps are being forwarded to the banks but they are lying pending in the banks. They are not being cleared by the banks. So, I want to know whether the Minister will give strict instructions to the banks to distribute loans which are cleared in the credit banks.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, I will follow his guidance and necessary guidance will be given.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (Dhandhuka): Sir, in Gujarat, loans were granted by the banks for the purchase of tempos to the labourers, who were rendered jobless on the closure of mills there. But because of the increasing inflation, they fail to pay their weekly instalments of loan and resultantly their tempos are impounded by the banks, which deprives them of means of their livelihood. So I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether some leniency will be shown in their cases and they will be given some relaxation.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: This is a suggestion for action and we will also think over it.

[*English*]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Sir, according to a statement of the hon. Minister—statement relating to another question, that is, question No. 175, not this question—I find he has said that according to the latest data, the outstanding advances of public sector banks to the weaker sections, which include agricultural labourers and rural artisans, at the end of September, 1989, amounted to Rs. 8,825 crores, constituting 10.9 per cent of the net bank credit. May I know from the Minister whether this amount of Rs. 8,825 crores which covers only agricultural labourers and rural artisans and not the cultivating farmers—the small farmers and the marginal farmers—plus the amount which is outstanding from the small and marginal farmers—this is only from the public sector banks, therefore, I presume this has to be a

liability of the Government upto Rs. 10,000 loans—is to be written off? Obviously it cannot be written off in one year by providing Rs. 1,000 crores which he has provided in this year's budget. That falls considerably short of this figure. So, I would like to know from him whether there is some sort of phasing of the whole plan or how it is going to be done.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is good that Shri Indrajit Gupta has raised this question because it will clarify a number of doubts. As far as the announcement is concerned, it very categorically says that dues up to the 2nd October, 1989 are to be cleared. Now, some loans which are taken, whose current dues go beyond 2nd October, 1989, I can assure the hon. Member that we have gone through these loans also. Out of these loans, that is, Rs. 8825 crores, the component which falls under overdues up to 2nd October 1989, will be covered by the scheme that we are undertaking and we shall stand by them. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Next question. Shri Hannan Mollah.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Sir, he has not clarified the point.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Let me clarify that point. It includes current dues as well as over-dues.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: How much?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: We have gone through it and we have calculated the entire overdues including the artisans, landless labour and all that and that comes to Rs. 8200 crores. This includes the overdues as well as the current dues. As far as the current dues are concerned, we may evolve some other formula, try to find out whether relief can be given to them, but the component of Rs. 8825 crores which falls in the category, that is, overdue upto 2nd October 1989, will be completed.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please allow half-an-hour discussion on this question. The answer is not satisfactory.

MR. SPEAKER: Next question No. 169, Shri Hannan Mollah.

### White Paper on Foreign Debt

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\*169. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:  
PROF. RUPCHAND PAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to issue a White Paper on loans taken from the International Monetary Fund and other world bodies since 1980 and its utilisation;

(b) whether Government propose to seek further loans from the International Monetary Fund in 1990; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). No. Sir. Does not arise.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Sir, as it is widely discussed, the foreign debt of this Government is to the tune of one lakh crore rupees. That is the Government loan. But there are other loans also, that is, commercial borrowings are also there, borrowings from the International financial institutions are also there. I want to know what are those amounts and whether the Government have reviewed the last 10 years' loans from International Finance Institutions. What are the amounts of borrowing by both the Government and the private sector from the International financial institutions?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: As far as the total amount which has been given is concerned, it includes various components

of loans. We have loans from the World Bank, we have loans from the IMF, we have market borrowings and we have also Government to Government assistance and the figure that is given is aggregate.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: I want to know whether the Government has reviewed all the loans.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I have already said that as far as IMF is concerned, there is no fresh application for loans and no negotiations are going on for the fresh loans from the IMF at all.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, as you know, when the IMF contract loan was discussed in this very House, the hon. Finance Minister who was at that time on the other side of the House, had been discussing about the conditionalities imposed by the IMF. May I know from the hon. Minister whether those conditionalities imposed by the IMF which were vigorously pursued by the previous Government are standing in the way of pro-people budget and pro-people economy pursued by this Government?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I think it is a hypothetical question. I have made it explicitly clear, even when we formulated our budget there was no application for IMF loan, there were no negotiations and our budget has remained completely unaffected by cancellation of IMF loan.

MR. SPEAKER: Question Hour is over.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### Interest on NRI Deposits

\*164. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL:  
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for revision of the interest rates for deposits from Non-Resident Indians; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). The interest rates on deposits from NRIs remain under constant review and periodical changes, as may be considered necessary, are made by the Reserve Bank of India.

**Loan by Bank of Baroda to a Delhi Hotel**

\*166. DR. A.K. PATEL:  
SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bank of Baroda is remitting (to its branch in London) from its own funds the interest on the Euro-dollars given as loan to a hotel in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by Government for safeguarding the public money?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). It has been reported by Bank of Baroda that they are leaders of a Consortium of Bankers in

respect of Euro-Dollar term loans only for one Hotel in New Delhi, namely Bharat Hotels Ltd. They have not remitted any amount from their own funds so far to their London Branch towards payment of interest in this account.

**Minimum Support Price of Coffee and Cashew**

\*170. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the support price fixed for cashew this year;

(b) whether any representation has been received from Kerala to increase the minimum support price of coffee and cashew;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the decision taken by Government thereon?

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

(a) The Central Government does not fix support price for cashew.

(b) to (d). The question of increasing the support price of cashew does not arise in view of reply to part (a).

Representations have been received from time to time for increasing the minimum release price (MRP) of coffee. Based on the Cost Study Report of the Cost Accounts Branch the MRP has since been revised w.e.f. 8th March, 1990 as under:—

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Price</i>
Arabica	From Rs. 19.81 to Rs. 20.37/kg.
Robusta	From Rs. 15.90 to Rs. 16.64/kg.
Composite	From Rs. 10.18 to Rs. 10.57 per point.

[*Translation*]

**Formulation of Long Term Policy for Development of Cinema**

\*171. SHRIBALESHWAR YADAV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government for development of cinema;

(b) whether Government propose to formulate a long term and value based national policy for the development of cinema;

(c) whether any decision has been taken in this regard so far; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) A statement is given below.

(b) to (d). Yes, the matter is receiving due attention. Long term and value based national policy for the development of cinema is being evolved.

**STATEMENT**

The Central Government have taken several steps for the development of Cinema. Some of these are:

The Government have set up institutions like, National Film Development Corporation, Directorate of Film Festivals, Films Division, Children's Film Society, India, National Film Archives of India and Film and Television Institute of India for promoting the development of cinema.

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting constituted a Committee on 14.2.1989 with a view to studying the prob-

lems of film industry and making suitable recommendations to Central/State Governments for resolution of their problems. The Committee which consisted representatives of concerned Departments of Central Government/certain State Governments and film industry submitted its report to the Government in January, 1990. A summary of recommendations made by the Committee is given below as Annexure.

With a view to providing relief to film industry and combating video piracy, release prints of features films have been completely exempted from payment of excise duty in the budget proposals for 1990-91.

*Annexure*

*Summary of Recommendations*

*Entertainment Tax*

1. Compounding system of entertainment tax should be introduced by all State Governments/Union Territory Administrations on *optional* basis. The rates of entertainment tax under this system should be very low. The rates of entertainment tax under compounding system being levied in Andhra Pradesh and Kerala should be circulated among all State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for suitable adoption by them.
2. In view of the serious difficulties faced by the film industry due to video piracy, cable TV and spread of video, the show tax being levied on screening of films should be abolished. However, in case it is not possible to do so, it should be frozen at the existing level. While levying show tax, the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations should follow some

methodology in consultation with film industry.

3. Certain percentage of the entertainment tax collected by State Governments/UT Administrations should be ploughed back for the development of film industry in the respective States. As regards the activities for which this amount should be utilised and *modus operandi* thereof, National Film Development Corporation should make a detailed study in consultation with film industry.
4. Following categories of films as well as their dubbed versions should be granted exemption from payment of entertainment tax by the State Governments/UT Administration:
  - (i) Films which win international, national or state awards;
  - (ii) Films which are included in the Indian Panorama Section of the competitive as well as non-competitive international Film Festivals; and
  - (iii) Films certified as Children's Films by the Central Board of Film Certification.
5. Modalities of exempting films from payment of entertainment tax should be gone into in detail by a suitable committee.

*Excise Duty on Films:*

6. Excise duty on release prints of feature films should be abolished.

*Customs Duty on Cine Equipments and Cine raw stock*

7. With a view to importing the latest

cinema technology in the country, the rates of customs duty on the import of cinema equipment and spare parts thereof should be drastically reduced.

8. Customs duty on (i) Jumbo rolls of Cinematograph films unexposed (Positive) imported by Hindustan Photo Films, (ii) Cinematograph films unexposed (Negative) being imported by National Film Development Corporation, and (iii) various categories of cine raw stock including sound negative, sound positive and photographic material being imported by private individuals should be reduced.
9. Hindustan Photo Films should produce cine raw stock indigenously with the help of collaborators, if necessary.

*Supply of film raw stock of film industry by HPF*

10. Government should encourage setting up of units for manufacture of cine raw stock indigenously provided the interested entrepreneurs submit composite applications for the indigenous manufacture of cine raw stock.
11. HPF should consider distribution of cine raw stock direct to co-operative societies constituted by the Film Industry.
12. HPF should periodically call the meetings of the Industrial Consultative Committee to discuss the problems of film industry.

*Incentives for development of film industry*

13. Concessional institutional finance should be extended to areas like building of theatres, equipment in



theatres, studios and equipment to be installed therein.

14. All State Governments/UT Administrations should provide electricity to cinema theatres and film studios on concessional rates which are extended to industries in the priority sector and in the backward areas

#### *Exhibition*

15. Newly constructed cinema theatres should be exempted from entertainment tax upto the period, till the cost of construction is recovered by the theatre owner or for a period of five years from the date on which a cinema is commissioned, whichever is earlier
16. Institutional finance should be available for construction of theatres. Rate of interest applicable in such cases should be the same as charged by banks for long term loans extended to industries in the priority sector.
17. Theatre licensing rules should be amended so as to simplify the procedures for obtaining licence which should be valid for a period of five years at a time in the case of new theatres and 3 years for old ones. The licensing rules should prescribe a minimum period of three months for processing of the application and grant of the licence.
18. The current tendency of conversion of cinema theatre into commercial complexes promoted by the big gains through steep hike in land price, particularly in metropolitan and other big cities should be curbed to the extent possible.
19. Construction of multiple theatre

complexes with shopping centres and recreational facilities should be encouraged. For this purpose, financial participation by non-resident Indians, Indian industrialists and theatre owners should be enlisted.

20. The film industry should collect from the Government of UP the factual information about surcharge levied by the State Governments on tickets for maintenance of cinema theatres.

#### *Royalty for Telecast of Feature Films Songs Telecast on TV and Songs Broadcast on AIR*

21. The rates of royalty paid for telecast of feature films, songs telecast on TV and songs broadcast on AIR should be enhanced. The Ministry of I&B should in consultation with Doordarshan and film industry, evolve within three months, suitable criterion for determining the extent of enhancement.
22. Film Industry has made a demand that Doordarshan should allow more than one song, if the producer so wants, within the stipulated time for the purpose of advertisement. The Committee recommends that Doordarshan should consider identifying a suitable slot for the purpose.

#### *Facilities for shooting/co-production of films*

23. The film industry has demanded that in the case of foreign exchange sanctioned to film producers to meet expenditure on overseas shootings, subject to their earnings foreign exchange in the prescribed ratio, the air fare on tickets purchased against rupee payment and any other expenses connected with foreign shootings for which payment is made in

Rupees should not be treated as part of the expenditure on overseas shootings and should not be reckoned for the purpose of calculating the foreign exchange to be earned by producers. The Committee recommends that the Ministry of I&B should consider this demand of Film Industry in consultation with Department of Economic Affairs.

24. The rules and regulations for shooting films in restricted areas like defence installations, Railway Stations, historical monuments etc. should be liberalised.
25. Government should permit producers to avail all facilities for shooting in railways, airlines, ships etc. on reasonable charges.

#### *Compulsory Screening of films*

26. The scheme of charging from exhibitors, 1% of net box office collections (excluding entertainment tax) for screening approved films under compulsory screening of short films in cinema theatres should be reviewed.

#### *Certification of films*

27. The subject "Certification of films for public exhibition" should be transferred from the Department of Culture to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. (This recommendation of the Committee has already been accepted and implemented by the Government)

#### *National Film Development Corporation*

28. Government should provide budgetary support to NFDC by way of investment.

#### *Import of Cinematographic equipments*

29. Import of large scale Projection Systems should be permitted under Open General Licence.

#### *Sales Tax on leasing of films and Equipments*

30. Transfer of rights of a feature film from (i) Producer to distributor, and (ii) distributor to exhibitor and transactions relating to hiring of cinematograph equipments should not be subjected to sales tax.

#### *Piracy of Films through Video and Cable TV*

#### *Recommendations on Licensing and Regulations of Video Exhibition*

31. Industry representatives have expressed themselves against the institution of Video Parlours as according to them, these Parlours are showing video cassettes without having the authority to do so. On the other hand, there are hundreds of Video Parlours which have already been licensed in some States. Since de-licensing of such parlours may create some difficulties, parlours which are already in the existence must be made to show only legal cassettes with commercial video rights. No new Video Parlours should be licensed till a climate of confidence is created in the country.
32. State Governments, where Legislation on Video Exhibition does not exist, should adopt Legislation on the lines of Tamil Nadu and UP Acts but should not grant licences unless conditions as indicated in Recommendation No. 31 are created.

33. The State Governments should incorporate a provision in their Acts

dealing with Video Exhibition that the licence to exhibit films/video will be granted only for exhibition of those films/video for which rights have been acquired from the genuine copyright holder and which have been certified by the Central Board of Film Certification.

34. Adequate guidelines for licensing of video parlours should be evolved which should inter alia, provide for the following requirements:

- a) Proper hygienic conditions
- b) Proper ventilation
- c) Precautions against fire hazards
- d) Precautions against public health hazards
- e) Adequate distance of seats from screen
- f) Adequate lighting
- g) Adequate exits
- h) Comfortable seating, and
- i) Capacity restriction

The owner of a video parlour should obtain a No Objection Certificate from the State Government/Local authorities before setting up a video parlour.

35. Video Parlours should be made to give an undertaking that they will screen only legal cassettes authorised for commercial exhibition and legally obtained from the copyright holder or his licensee/assignee. Breach of this condition should entail cancellation of licence in addition to other liabilities under Law.

36. It should be obligatory on the part of Video Exhibitors to submit to the licensing authorities a list of films shown in the preceding calendar month.

37. Video Libraries should be licensed. They should also be made to give an undertaking that they will stock only legal video cassettes. Breach of this condition should entail cancellation of licence in addition to other liabilities under law.

38. For the purpose of commercial video rights, the censored copy of the video cassettes should clearly indicate "For Commercial Viewing only". Only such cassettes should be considered as are duly authorised for screening in commercial premises.

39. Rightholders should be careful while executing Agreements for their films by making distinction between Home Viewing and Public Exhibition.

40. Suitable Entertainment Tax should be levied on Commercial Video Exhibition on per entry basis or on compounding basis. This would not only form an appropriate source of revenue for the State Government but would also ensure that State Governments have an incentive in controlling Video Exhibition outlets adequately.

41. No existing theatres should be permitted to switch over to Video Exhibition unless conditions as indicated in para 12.8 are created i.e. till the existing theatres are made to show only legal cassettes with commercial video rights and till a climate of confidence is created in the industry.

42. The State Governments/Union Territories should set up Special Police Cells with a view to enforcing anti-

video piracy laws. The Cells should thoroughly study the related legislation, gather intelligence and take action against the pirates. This is necessary because the Police generally are pre-occupied with other matters of relatively higher priorities.

43. All the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations should issue necessary Instructions to enforcing agencies for vigorous implementation of anti-video piracy laws.
44. Film Industry should be persuaded to arrive at a consensus on the hold over period for various rights.
45. All duplicating units should be registered and licensed and be required to submit a regular statement to the appropriate Government agency indicating all titles duplicated as also the number of cassettes duplicated by them. They should be required to give an undertaking that their licence would be cancelled in case they are found to be duplicating unauthorised cassettes, in addition to any other liability accruing to them under law.
46. Government should support and encourage the Indian Federation Against Copyright Theft (INFACT), a body promoted by National Film Development Corporation and the Industry which has been duly registered under the Companies Act, in its struggle against piracy. The support can be by way of publicity against video piracy on Government channels such as Radio and TV and also financial support.
47. Where organisations similar to INFACT exist in other countries it would be useful for INFACT to become member of such organisations where

Indian films need help against video piracy. INFACT should, thus, become member of Federation against Copyright Theft (FACT), UK in the immediate future, because piracy in relation to Indian films in UK is at present rampant INFACT should examine the necessity or otherwise of becoming Member of other organisations after proper scrutiny of the situation in the concerned countries.

48. In countries where no Copyright Act has been promulgated efforts should be made to have Special Bilateral Agreements with the Government of that country to combat piracy of Indian films.
49. Wherever private parties from India want to proceed in a Court of Law for infringement of Copyright of their films in foreign countries, adequate foreign exchange for this purpose should be made available to these parties for this purpose.

#### *Amendment in the Central Legislation*

##### *Copyright Act:*

50. Definition of "Broadcast" under Section 2 (dd) should be amended by stating that a communication to more than one family in one dwelling simultaneously by wire or otherwise from one source would be deemed to be communication to public.
51. Section 52(1) (a) (i) exempts on unauthorised copy from being infringement of copyright if the copy is made for research or private study. Since a film including a video film is mainly for entertainment, this exemption is not applicable to it. To remove any doubt, however, this should be so stated

expressly by an amendment to this Section.

52. Mere possession of an unauthorised Video Cassette for commercial use i.e. to earn profit by any person at any place such as commercial premises or at Commercial Exhibition Centres, e.g. video libraries, Video Parlours, Cable TV Networks, Hotels, public Transport Systems, Pooja Pandals and Clubs should itself be made an offence not protected under Section 52(1) (a) (i)
53. The jurisdiction to try the offence punishable under Chapter XIII of the Copyright Act should be given to a Special Court to be called a Copyright Court to be established in every city in which a High Court is situated. The decision of the Special Court will be final, subject to the right of revision to the High Court on a question of Law only.
54. Provision to Section 51 prohibits import of Cinematograph films even for private and domestic use of the importer. Personal Baggage Rules prescribed by the Customs, however, permit 2 copies of Cinematograph into the country. Since this rule is being misused by unscrupulous persons to utilise cassettes so imported for piracy, the Customs authorities need to be informed about the legal position and instructed to change Personal Baggage Rules with immediate effect.

*Other Acts:*

55. The fee of Rs. 10/- payable for every duplicate copy of the Certificate under Rule 33 part 5(2) is exorbitant, giving an undue advantage to the pirates who pay no fees at all. The fee

on per copy should be abolished and a suitable, nominal fee on per film basis should be prescribed.

*Criminal Procedure Code:*

56. Civil remedies including suits for compensation for the infringement of copyright to make good the loss caused to the owner of the copyright by infringement are available. Contrasted with the civil remedies, however, a criminal prosecution is more deterrent and expeditious. Section 357 of the Criminal Procedure Code 1973 empowers the Court trying such a criminal prosecution to award compensation to the aggrieved person (the owner of the Copyright) for the loss caused to him by infringement out of the fine imposed on the accused, if he is convicted. Attention of the Courts, may be drawn to this provision so that a Courts award suitable compensation to the aggrieved party out of the fine imposed on the accused.
57. In view of the rapidly changing technologies, Government should review Legislation on Video Piracy and Cable TV every two years.
58. The Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933 may need to be reviewed in the light of changes necessitated by video technology. Besides all Cable TV operators should be licensed. No Cable TV operator should be permitted to set up Cable TV Network in any Group Housing, Co-operative Housing Society, etc. except after prior approval of the Competent Authority. Cable TV Operators should also be required to give an undertaking that in case they show unauthorised or pirated cassettes on their Network, their

licences would be immediately cancelled/suspended in addition to any of the other liabilities accruing under the Law. These recommendations/observations should be referred to the Committee constituted in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for studying the various aspects of the Cable TV Networks and Antenna System in the country

#### *Miscellaneous*

59. The name of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting should be changed to the ministry of Information, Broadcasting and Cinema.

[*English*]

#### **Modernisation of IISCO**

\*172. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) had decided to modernise the Burnpur plant of Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO) with Japanese Cooperation.

(b) whether an independent consultant has been appointed to verify the Japanese detailed engineering report; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (c). Modernisation of Burnpur Works of IISCO stands approved in principle by the Government. The Report from the Japanese Consulting Companies entails very high capital costs. Therefore M/s. Dastur & Co Ltd. have been entrusted with the task of giving a second professional opinion to Government on the approach to the modernisation invest-

ment. Government would like to have a more cost effective investment and optimum utilisation of indigenous capabilities.

#### **Sponge Iron Plants in Orissa**

\*173. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sponge iron plants in Orissa;

(b) whether there is any proposal for setting up some more sponge iron plants in that State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) There are two sponge iron plants operating in Orissa.

(b) and (c). Sponge Iron Industry is a de-licensed industry. Besides the 2 operating units, 14 more companies have registered themselves for manufacture of sponge iron in the State of Orissa

#### **Bank Loans to Agricultural Labourers**

\*175 SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of loans given by the nationalised banks to agricultural labourers, rural artisans and labourers in unorganised sector as compared to big industrial houses since December 1, 1989; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to improve the percentage of loans to agricultural labourers and rural artisans and labourers in unorganised sector?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). The present data reporting system of Banks does

not generate information in the manner asked for. However, according to the latest data furnished by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the outstanding advances of Public Sector Bank to the weaker sections which include agricultural labourers and rural artisans, at the end of September, 1989 amounted to Rs. 8825 crores, constituting 10.9% of the net bank credit. Similarly, the outstanding advances of major commercial Banks for all types of medium and large industry, at the end of September, 1989, was Rs. 35,225 crores.

A number of steps have been taken with a view to increase the flow of credit to small and marginal farmers and weaker sections such as concessional rate of interest at 10% per annum non-compounding of interest on current dues, non-insistence on third party guarantee, or collateral security in respect of loans upto Rs. 10,000/-. In case of short term crop loans, the interest debited is not to exceed the principal amount. In case of crop failure, amount due is re-scheduled over a period of 3 to 5 years and fresh loans are given to farmers.

[*Translation*]

#### **CBI Raids on Bank Branches**

\*176. SHRI KALPNATH SONKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the branches of banks in Bombay, Delhi, Madras and Calcutta, where CBI raids were conducted during last six months;

(b) the particulars of the officers and employees whose premises were raided and the amount seized from each of them; and

(c) the action being taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) CBI has re-

ported that during the period 1.9.89 to 7.3.90, residential as well as office premises of 16 bank officers/employees working at the branches located at Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras were raided by them. The names of these branches are as follows:—

#### **Bombay**

1. Bank of India, Express Towers, Nariman Point
2. Bank of India, Ballard Estate Branch
3. Bank of India, Churchgate
4. Bank of India, Mandvi Road
5. Central Bank of India
6. Central Bank of India, Vile Parle (E) Branch
7. State Bank of India, Churchgate Branch
8. State Bank of Mysore
9. Canara Bank, Mandvi Road

#### **Calcutta**

10. State Bank of Indore

#### **Delhi**

11. Bank of Baroda, New Delhi
12. Canara Bank, New Delhi

#### **Madras**

13. State Bank of Saurashtra

(b) The information regarding assets discovered as a result of searches by the CBI is given below:—

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Designation of Officer whose premises were searched</i>	<i>Amount of assets discovered as a result of search (in Rs.)</i>	
		<i>Moveable</i>	<i>Immovable</i>
1	2	3	4
1.	General Manager, Bank of India, Express Towers, Nariman Point, Bombay	1,35,628	—
2.	Branch Manager, Central Bank of India, Bombay	7,84,311	—
3.	Manager, State Bank of India, Bombay	5,77,800	2,55,720
4.	Branch Manager, Central Bank of India, Bombay	61,262	—
5.	Branch Manager, State Bank of Mysore, Bombay	7,37,694	23,000
6.	Chief Manager, Bank of India, Bombay	95,000	—
7.	Accountant, Canara Bank, Bombay	1,29,86,858	6 flats in Bombay & one in Delhi

No discoveries have been reported by the CBI from the search conducted at the premises of following bank officials:

1. Clerk, Canara Bank, New Delhi.
2. Branch Manager, State Bank of India, Calcutta.
3. Branch Manager, State Bank of Indore, Calcutta.

4. Officer, Bank of Baroda, New Delhi.
5. Chief Manager, Bank of India, Bombay.
6. Officer, Bank of India, Bombay.
7. Officer, Bank of India, Bombay.
8. Dy. Chief Manager, Bank of India, Bombay.



9. **Former Manager, State Bank of Saurashtra, Madras.**

(c) CBI has completed investigation in one case and has recommended to the concerned bank for initiating regular departmental action. In other cases, investigation has been taken up.

[English]

**Financing of Co-operative Societies**

\*177. SHRI A. ASOKARAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the recommendations made by the Agricultural Credit Review Committee appointed by the Reserve Bank of India for studying the issues relating to financing of cooperative societies and their functioning; and

(b) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b) The Agricultural Credit Review Committee (Chairman, Prof. A.M. Khusro) has reviewed the working of the rural financial system in the country and evaluated the major problems and issues currently affecting the same. It has made wide range of recommendations for strengthening the credit institutions and improving the quality of lending. The report is

under consideration of Government and the Reserve Bank of India.

**Sponsored T.V. Serials**

\*178. SHRI KAMLUDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of sponsored TV serials which are still to be telecast during the current year with the particulars of the producers;

(b) the total number of episodes allotted to each of these sponsored serials;

(c) whether the Doordarshan Kendras are having sufficient number of sponsored TV serials for the year, 1990; and

(d) if not, the steps being taken to invite new proposals from the registered producers/directors?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). The particulars of sponsored TV serials which have been tentatively scheduled for telecast till March 1991 are given below. Telecast of these serials and number of episodes for each is, however, subject to the approval of the Review Committee recently appointed by the Government and availability of telecast time:

Sl. No.	Title of serial	No. of episodes	Name of Producer
1	2	3	4
1.	Tribal People of North east	13	M/s Omegavision
2.	Guniram	13	Ravi Films
3.	Sword of Tipu Sultan	40	Sanjay Khan
4.	Basera	13	Amarjeet Singh

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Title of serial</i>	<i>No. of episodes</i>	<i>Name of Producer</i>
1	2	3	4
5.	Panchtantra Se	13	Lens View
6.	Paramveer Chakra	15	Chetan Anand
7.	Kihas Ke Gawah	13	Pro Video
8.	Sunehere Warq	13	A. Hakim
9.	Sara Jahan Hamara	13	Odyssey
10.	Lahoo Ke Phool	13	Premji Suchitra
11.	Yugantar	26	Leela Films
12.	Sambandh (Revised)	13	Mopictel
13.	Janaki Jasoos	13	Meena Paliwal
14.	Sadhana (to be revised)	13	Hari Prasad Chaurasiya
16.	Maita Anchan	13	J.K. Dang
16.	Fatichar	13	Rajesh Films

The following serials are also under consideration for telecast before March, 1991 depending on the availability of telecast time:

1.	Panchtantra (animated)	8	Hindustan Thomson
2.	Saudha	13	B.R. Chopra
3.	Kayar	26	M.S. Sathyu
4.	Inkar	—	Bharat Rangachari
5.	Hum Se Seekho	13	Virander Sharma
6.	Ekai Dahai Saikada (re-titled Chalte Raho, Chalte Raho)	13	R. Jhalani
7.	Kisa Tota Maina	13	Chitra Gupta Movies
8.	Hitopadesh	6	Mudra Communication

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Title of serial</i>	<i>No. of episodes</i>	<i>Name of Producer</i>
1	2	3	4
9.	Shuttle Time	13	Parkash Padukone
10.	Kahan Gaye Ve Log	9	Dheeraj Kumar
11.	Potli Budhe Babe Ki	13	Sanjeet Ghosh

(c) Doordarshan has sufficient sponsored T.V. Serials.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Assistance and Stenographers Pay Scales**

\*179. SHRIBHAGEYGOBARDHAN:  
SHRI C.M. NEGI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have taken any decision regarding grant of pay scale of Rs. 1640-2900 to the Assistants and Stenographers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c). The representations regarding revision of pay scale of Assistants and Stenographers Gr. 'C' from Rs. 1400-2600 to Rs. 1640-2900 are under consideration of the Government and final decisions in this regard are expected to be taken soon.

#### **Tourism Strategies**

\*180. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:  
SHRI DHARMESH PRASAD VARMA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to review the strategies being presently followed for the development of tourism; and

(b) the estimated investment proposed to be made on the promotion of tourism in the Eighth Plan?

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

(a) The strategy for the Development of Tourism is constantly under review in an effort to further develop tourism in the country.

(b) The Eighth Plan has yet to be formulated and as such, it is not possible to indicate these details.

#### **Strength of SC/ST Judge in High Judicial Posts**

\*181. SHRI HET RAM:  
SHRI GOPAL PACHERWAL:

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

(a) the position about representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in high judicial posts; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government for increased representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the high judicial posts?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI):** (a) As on 15.3.1990, there were 2 Judges belonging to Scheduled Castes in the Supreme Court, and 9 Judges belonging to Scheduled Castes and 2 Judges belonging to Scheduled Tribes in different High Courts of the country.

(b) The Government have addressed letters to the Chief Ministers of States and the Chief Justices of High Courts, requesting them to locate persons from the Bar belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, who are suitable for appointment as High Court Judges so as to give them better representation on the High Courts.

[*Translation*]

#### Foreign Debt

\*182. **PROF. YADUNATH PANDEY: SHRI NATHU SINGH:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of outstanding foreign debts in the year 1980;

(b) the total amount of outstanding foreign debts as on 31 December, 1989; and

(c) the action plan drawn up, if any, to repay these debts?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):** (a) The total amount of the country's foreign debts outstanding excluding NRI deposits at the end of 1980-81 was of the order of Rs. 18400 crores.

(b) The total amount of the country's foreign debts outstanding excluding NRI deposits at the end of 1988-89 is estimated to be Rs. 68831 crores. Information as at the end of 31st December, 1989 is not available

as the accounts for the period are yet to close.

(c) The loans are being repaid on due dates according to the terms and conditions of each loan. The level of the country's external indebtedness and the likely burden of debt servicing are constantly kept in view to ensure that debt servicing liability remains within our capacity to meet these obligations.

[*English*]

#### Certificates of Deposits

\*183. **SHRI K.S. RAO:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'certificates of deposits' introduced last year by the Reserve Bank of India to give investors greater flexibility in the deployment of their short-term surplus funds has evoked a good response from industrial and corporate investors;

(b) if so, the categories of investors with whom the 'certificates of deposits' instrument has been popular;

(c) whether the State Bank of India and the other commercial banks have achieved the targets fixed in this regard, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the commercial banks have approached the Reserve Bank of India seeking its permission for allowing them to continue 'certificates of deposits'; and

(e) if so, whether the Reserve Bank of India propose to allow the continuation of the Scheme?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):** (a) to (e). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the scheme of 'Certificates of Deposits' (CDs)

has evoked a good response from investors like public sector corporations, large private sector companies, Port Trust, as well as various local bodies. There are no targets for issue of CDs and the stipulation made by RBI relates to the outer limit upto which a bank can issue CDs. The total of CDs outstanding as at the end of January, 1990 amounted to Rs. 846 crores which was equivalent to 67% of the total limit for the issue of CDs. Under the scheme at any point of time, total outstandings of all CDs issued by a bank should not exceed 1% of its fortnightly average aggregate deposits during the financial year 1988-89. As the scheme of CDs is a continuing one, the banks are not required to seek RBI's permission to continue to issue CDs. Some of the banks were reported to have approached RBI for enhancement of the limit for the issue of CDs who were advised that the enhancement of individual bank's limit for the issue of CDs was not possible as the scheme was applicable to all banks and the overall limits were periodically reviewed.

#### **Decontrol of Steel**

\*184. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN SINGH:  
SHRIBANWARILAL PUROHIT:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal under consideration to decontrol the distribution and pricing of certain steel items; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b). There is no direct Government control on the

price and distribution of iron and steel including those produced by the integrated steel plants. Prices of some items produced by the integrated steel plants are administered by the integrated plants under the aegis of the Joint Plant Committee. Secondary producers fix their own prices. Distribution of the products of the main steel plants is on the basis of the guidelines formulated by the Joint Plant Committee. Any decision to change the existing arrangement will take into account the legitimate interests of both the consumers and producers of iron and steel.

#### **Representation by Christian Women for a change in Christian Law**

\*185. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation for a change in divorce, adoption, maintenance and inheritance laws from Christian women; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Some representations have been received. As the policy of the Government in this regard has all along been not to effect any change in the personal laws of minority communities unless sufficient initiative therefor comes from the communities themselves, efforts are being made to ascertain the consensus or the majority view of the Christian community with respect to the amendments in the personal laws applicable to that community.

[Translation]

**Rewards to Informers of Black Money**

1796. SHRI RAMLAL RAHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the informers of black money holders are rewarded;

(b) if so, the number of informers who have been paid rewards during the last two years;

(c) the number of cases pending investigation on receipt of information from informers about holders of black money; and

(d) the steps contemplated by Government to make the informer system more effective and useful so as to curb the growth of black money?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) Yes, Sir.

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

(c) The informers furnish information regarding black money to officers at all levels spread all over the country. The information so furnished is processed by the officers for taking appropriate action. For ascertaining the number of cases pending investigation on receipt of information from informers, records pertaining to such receipts with each and every officer of the Income-tax Department would be required to be seen and the efforts put in and time consumed in this process may not be commensurate with the results sought to be achieved.

(d) Suitable reward to an informer is paid under the Reward Rules framed by the Government which are reviewed from time to time. The reward is based on the gains accrued to the Revenue which can be attrib-

uted to the information given by the informer.

[English]

**Exchange of Notes**

1797. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some exchangers flush out soiled bank notes and induce fresh ones into circulation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that some professional dealers/money exchangers accept soiled/mutilated notes from public against good notes and present them for exchange at the Issue Offices of RBI. According to the RBI, such professional dealers/exchangers are operating in almost all major cities of the country.

(c) It appears that a few people find it convenient to go to such professional dealers/money exchangers in the market rather than going to Issue Officers of RBI or Branches of Public Sector Banks to exchange their soiled/mutilated notes. There is no legal bar on such operations by dealers/money exchangers.

**Market Price of Rubber**

1799. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government consideration to enhance the market price of rubber; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b). The Government do not fix any market price. The Government however, fixes the bench market price under the buffer stocking scheme.

#### **Bank Branches in Tripura**

1800. **SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of banks which are operating in the Country as on 1 March, 1990;

(b) the number of bank branches operating in the Country as a whole and in Tripura as on the above date;

(c) whether the number of bank branches in Tripura are proportionate to the national average;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether, considering the requirement of progress, Government propose to open more branches in Tripura?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):** (a) 78 commercial banks were functioning in the country on 1st March, 1990.

(b) As on 31.12.1989 (latest figures available), 58417 bank branches were functioning in the country of which 158 branches were in Tripura.

(c) to (e). The average population per bank office for Tripura is 13,000 as against the national average of 12,000. Thus, the number of bank branches in Tripura is only marginally less than the national average.

[*Translation*]

#### **Exports by MMTC during 1989-90**

1801. **DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the goods exported by the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation during 1989-90 and the names of the countries to which these goods have been exported;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom; and

(c) the net annual income during 1989-90 till February, 1990?

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

(a) The Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (MMTC) has exported iron ore, chrome ore, manganese ore, coal and bauxite as canalised items and iron ore concentrates, barytes, graphite electrodes, agro products, industrial products, industrial projects, diamonds, gems jewellery, engineering components/equipment, leather products, etc. during 1989-90. The countries to which these exports have been made include Japan, South Korea, Romania, GDR, Pakistan, China, North Korea, Dubai, Australia, Czechoslovakia, Taiwan, Philippines, Switzerland, Bangladesh, Kenya, S. Arabia, UAE, USA, Bulgaria, Jordan, Iran, USSR, Italy, UK, Singapore, Senegal, Togo, Tanzania, Guinea-Bissau, Malaysia, Belgium, Hong-Kong, Thailand, West Germany, Kuwait, Zimbabwe, Iraq and Indonesia.

(b) MMTC has earned Rs. 914.76 crores in foreign exchange from its exports during the year 1989-90 upto February, 90.

(c) The estimated profit before tax for

MMTC during 1989-90 upto February, 1990 is Rs. 68.81 crores.

[English]

**Central Assistance for Tourism in Karnataka**

1802. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka had requested his Ministry to extend central assistance for providing boating facilities at Ulsoor, Belur and Karangi lakes in the State;

(b) whether the central assistance has been sought as a part of centrally sponsored programme for the promotion of tourism;

(c) if so, the details of the central assistance provided to Karnataka for that purpose; and

(d) if not, the steps taken to provide funds to Karnataka during 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) to (c). The Government of Karnataka has sought central assistance for purchase of boats for Ulsoor lake in 1985-86. The Central Government have sanctioned and released an amount of Rs. 1.23 lakhs for the boats.

(d) Does not arise.

**Irregularities in Delhi State Cooperative Bank**

1803. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received some complaints about irregularities and

corruption in the working of the Delhi State Cooperative Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the persons found responsible in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDEVATE): (a) to (c). NABARD has reported that the last inspection of the Delhi State Cooperative Bank (D.S.C.B.) for the period ending 30.6.1988 revealed serious irregularities/deficiencies in the Bank's functioning. As such Registrar of Cooperative Societies, New Delhi had referred the matter to NABARD seeking its permission for superseding the Board of Directors of the Bank under the provisions of Delhi Cooperative Societies Act 1972. NABARD is examining the proposal of the Registrar of Cooperative Societies, New Delhi.

**Bank Deposits**

1804. SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether banks are facing stiff competition from non-banking companies in the matter of attracting deposits from people; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to make bank deposits more attractive for people?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDEVATE): (a) and (b). The growth of deposits of non-banking companies does not necessarily result in an erosion of commercial banks deposit as these funds are ultimately transmitted through the banking system. The aggregate bank deposits have continued to grow maintaining an annual compound growth of about 18% during the



1980s which was comparable to the rate of growth during the 1970s. The broad factors which affects deposit growth are rate of growth of the economy, the growth of reserve money, the inflation rate and the relative attractiveness of other instruments of savings. These factors also operate with lags. The interest rate structure of bank deposits remains under continuous review of Reserve Bank of India and modifications, as warranted by circumstances, are made in it from time to time.

#### **Recruitment in Bokaro Steel Plant**

1805. SHRI A.K. ROY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the recruitment made in Bokaro Steel Plant in the last five years in details, year-wise and category-wise;

(b) whether new Government propose to lift the ban on recruitment; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Number of persons recruited by Bokaro Steel Plant during the last 5 years, year-wise and category-wise are given below:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of persons recruited</i>		
	<i>Executive</i>	<i>Non-Executive</i>	<i>Total</i>
1985	177	812	989
1986	111	323	434
1987	87	276	363
1988	122	182	304
1989	254	787	1041

(b) SAIL has not imposed a ban on recruitment. However, recruitment is being carefully planned in order to make optimal use of existing manpower through improved work-practices, retraining and redeployment. Recourse to outside recruitment if taken for filling positions which cannot be manned from within.

(c) Question does not arise.

[*Translation*]

#### **Free Trade Zone in Noida**

1806. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Free Trade Zone in 'NOIDA' has started functioning in full swing;

(b) the amount spent in establishing it and the amount of foreign exchange earned so far;

(c) the total number of plots and sheds in this area and the number out of them that have been allotted;

(d) the number of operating units in this Free Trade Zone and the facilities being provided to these units by Government; and

(e) the amount paid by units in the Zone so far to NOIDA Authority?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India has so far spent Rs. 17.75 crores on establishing the Zones and the exports so far are Rs. 92.40 crores.

(c) In phase-I of the Zone, all 32 sheds and 73 plots have been allotted to the units. Phase-II of the Zone is under development.

(d) The number of operating units in this Zone is 41. The facilities being provided to these units are broadly as under:—

1. Grant of single point approval.
2. Duty free imports of capital goods, raw-materials, consumables, spares, tooling or packing materials.
3. Unrestricted foreign equity participation upto 100%.
4. Facility for repatriation of profits and dividends earned by foreign investors.
5. Sale upto 15-25% of the production in the domestic tariff area, depending upon the use of indigenous inputs, to the exclusion of sensitive items and subject to the payment of applicable duties.
6. Cash Compensatory Support at the rate of 50% of the rates applicable to DTA units on the physical exports made.
7. Corporate tax holiday for a period of 5 years in the first 8 years of operation.

8. Exemption of excise duty, sales tax etc. on supplies made from the domestic tariff area.

(e) The units in the Zone are making payment directly to NOIDA Authority only in respect of water charges and for services e.g. approval of building plans etc. Zone Administration is not concerned with these payments.

[English]

**Special Allowance to Bank Employees**

1807. SHRI J.P. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether special allowance is not admissible for a period of two years to an employee who is transferred on compassionate grounds in the nationalised banks;

(b) whether Government propose to exclude those employees from the purview of the above rule whose transfer has been effected on marriage (couple) grounds i.e. posting of husband and wife at the same station, in view of declared policy of Government to station husband and wife at the same station; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANAVATE): (a) to (c). The provisions of Special Allowance payable to workmen employees of nationalised banks are governed *inter alia* by the Industry level Bipartite Settlements as also by bank level agreements, if any and hence eligibility of an employee for special allowance on transfer, including transfer on compassionate grounds will be governed by such provisions. At present these provisions vary from bank to bank.

**Turnover of Canara Bank in Kerala**

1808. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total turnover of the Canara Bank in Kerala:

(b) the percentage of the total turnover of the Bank being invested in Kerala,

(c) the proportionate total turnover and investment in each region in Kerala, separately; and

(d) whether there is any specification as to how much of the total turnover is to be spent in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) The amount of aggregate deposits and credit of Canara Bank in Kerala as at the end of December, 1989 was Rs. 658.25 crores and Rs. 381.86 crores respectively.

(b) and (c). The data reporting system of banks does not provide region-wise information in the States. The ratio of credit plus investment to deposits of Canara Bank in Kerala as at the end of December, 1989 was 66.98%. The district-wise information regarding deposits, credit and C:D ratio of all scheduled commercial banks in Kerala as on the last Friday of September, 1989 (latest available) is given below:

(Rs. in crores)

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of District</i>	<i>Deposits</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>C:D ratio</i>
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Alleppey	443.05	223.08	50.35
2.	Cannanore	319.07	182.14	57.08
3.	Ernakulam	1041.60	969.09	93.04
4.	Idikki	62.49	79.21	126.76
5.	Kasaragod	95.64	88.29	92.31
6.	Kottayam	454.09	264.93	58.34
7.	Kozhikode	319.21	276.43	86.60
8.	Malappuram	240.13	146.46	60.99
9.	Palghat	309.03	184.01	59.54
10.	Pathanamthitta	630.85	100.06	15.86
11.	Quilon	385.76	514.35	133.34
12.	Trichur	739.98	298.93	40.40

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of District</i>	<i>Deposits</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>C:D ratio</i>
1	2	3	4	5
13.	Trivandrum	873.76	465.60	53.29
14.	Wynad	33.58	78.52	233.83
15.	Kerala	5948.24	3871.09	65.08

(d) No, Sir.

**Construction of TV Transmitter at  
Pathanamthitta, Kerala**

1809. SHRI P.A. ANTONY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction of a TV transmitter at Pathanamthitta in Kerala has started; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). A low power (100 W) TV transmitter has been functioning at Pathanamthitta in Kerala since September 15, 1989.

**Language Problem in Bangalore  
Doordarshan Kendra**

1810. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:  
SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRI-  
YAPPA:

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

(a) the total number of employees in the Bangalore Kendra;

(b) the number of Kannada knowing employees;

(c) whether the quality of Doordarshan programmes from this Kendra has gone down;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether it is a fact that English proverbs and quotations are abundantly used in the regional programmes even though Kannada equivalents can be easily used for the better understanding of viewers; and

(f) if so, the steps contemplated to promote Kannada?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). There are a total of 320 employees in Doordarshan Kendra, Bangalore. Out of these 107 belong to the programme side of whom 94 are Kannada knowing.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Kendra has stopped the display of proverbs and quotations in English.

(f) It is Doordarshan's endeavour to reach the viewers in the language of the

region to the extent possible. Telecast of programmes in Kannada from Bangalore is an important step in this direction.

**Doordarshan Transmission for Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Haryana**

1811. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether all districts of Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Haryana are covered by the Doordarshan transmission;

(b) if not, the districts in the above States yet to be covered;

(c) whether work has commenced to link these remaining districts under the microwave system; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). All the districts of Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Haryana are wholly or partially covered by TV Service.

(c) and (d). The high power TV transmitters in Punjab have already been linked through microwave circuits for relay of programmes originating from Doordarshan Kendra at Jalandhar. However, the TV transmitters in Himachal Pradesh and Haryana exclusively relay, via satellite, programmes emanating from Delhi. The distribution of Regional TV Service in Himachal Pradesh and Haryana depends on availability of necessary microwave links or facility in the space segment.

[*Translation*]

**Development of Tourist Spots in Rajasthan**

1812. SHRI GOPAL PACHERWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop Boondi and Keshav Rai Patan town of Boondi district of Rajasthan as tourist spots; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b). The Department of Tourism has commissioned a study to have an assessment of the tourism potential of Boondi district.

[*English*]

**Grants-in-aid to Private Organisations/ Voluntary Associations**

1813. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry have given grants-in-aid to Private Organisations/Voluntary Organisations;

(b) if so, the details of such grants-in-aid indicating the total amount disbursed to each during last three years, year-wise and the purpose of the grant; and

(c) whether utilisation certificate have been received from each recipient and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

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

## STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of the Private Organisation/Voluntary Association	Grant-in-aid given during the last three years, year-wise	Purpose of the grant	Whether utilisation certificate has been if not, the reasons thereof
1	2	3	4	5
1986-87				
1.	Indian Law Institute, New Delhi.	Rs. 6,00,000/-	For promoting research and teaching in the field of law.	Yes.
		Rs. 2,00,000/-	For purchasing books for the library of the institute.	Yes.
2.	Institute of constitutional and Parliamentary Studies, New Delhi.	Rs. 6,00,000/-	For promoting research and teaching in the field of Constitutional Law and Parliamentary Studies.	Yes.
3.	Akhil Bharatiya Hindi Vidhi Pratishthan, Lucknow.	Rs. 25,000/-	For propagation and development of the official Languages of the Union and States in the field of law.	Yes.
4.	Bharatiya Hindi Sansthan, Jaipur.	Rs. 25,000/-	For propagation and development of the official Languages of the Union and States in the field of law.	Yes.

S.No.	Name of the Private Organisation/Voluntary Association	Grant-in-aid given during the last three years, year-wise	Purpose of the grant	Whether utilisation certificate has been if not, the reasons thereof
1	2	3	4	5
1986-87				
5.	Jagrata Bharata, Dharwad, (Karnataka).	Rs. 10,000/-	For setting up a mobile Legal Aid Clinic.	Matter is under correspondence.
6.	Indian University Association for Continuing Education, New Delhi.	Rs. 50,000/-	For holding 3 regional workshops under Legal Literacy Programme.	Yes.
7.	Legal Aid Services, West Bengal, Calcutta.	Rs. 25,000/-	For holding Legal Aid Camps, Lok Adalats, Legal Aid Clinics & Public interest Litigations.	Matter is under correspondence.
8.	Legal Aid Centre for Women (Regd), New Delhi.	Rs. 25,000/-	For promoting reconciliation, legal counselling and documentation etc.	Yes.
9.	Society for Social Action & Awareness (SACHETAK), Banswara, Rajasthan.	Rs. 20,000/-	For holding legal aid camps for tribal men & women and setting up of a legal Advice Centre.	Yes.
10.	PRAYAS, Deogarh (Devila), Pratapgarh (Rajasthan).	Rs. 7,900/-	For holding Legal Educations and awareness camps.	Yes.

S.No.	Name of the Private Organisation/Voluntary Association	Grant-in-aid given during the last three years, year-wise	Purpose of the grant	Whether utilisation certificate has been if not, the reasons thereof
1	2	3	4	5
1986-87				
11.	Free Legal Aid Clinic, P.G. Department of Law, S.V. University, Tirupati (A.P.).	Rs. 5,000/-	For holding Legal Aid camps in villages and legal survey.	Yes.
12.	Lawyers Forum, West Bengal, Calcutta.	Rs. 2,100/-	For meeting the air fare for attending the workshop.	Yes.
13.	North Bengal University Legal Aid Centre, N.B.U. Law College, Darjeeling.	Rs. 5,000/-	For functioning of the Legal Aid Clinic.	Yes.
14.	Lakhnu-Para Rural Integrated Project, Family Planning Association of India, Kurukshetra.	Rs. 10,000/-	For conducting para-legal training programme.	Yes.
15.	I.L.S. Law College, Pune.	Rs. 10,000/-	For organising the Legal Service Clinic in the College.	Yes.



S.No.	Name of the Private Organisation/Voluntary Association	Grant-in-aid given during the last three years, year-wise	Purpose of the grant	Whether utilisation certificate has been if not, the reasons thereof
1	2	3	4	5
1986-87				
16.	Department of Adult, Continuing Education & Extension, Delhi University, Delhi.	Rs. 70,000/-	For legal literacy programme and para legal Workers training Course.	Yes.
17.	Banwasi Seva Ashram, Govindpur, Mirzapur (U.P.)	Rs. 50,000/-	For meeting the expenses in connection with the National Workshop of Rural Entitlement and Legal Support Centre.	Yes.
18.	Transnational Centre (INC) Dharwad.	Rs. 10,000/-	For taking up of Public into Litigation.	Yes.
19.	Rural Entitlement & Legal Support Centre (REALS), Patna.	Rs. 20,000/-	For functioning of the centre.	Yes.
20.	All India Association for Christian Higher Education, New Delhi.	Rs. 15,000/-	For holding workshops, Legal Literacy Programme.	Yes.
21.	Socio Legal Aid Research & Training Centre, Calcutta.	Rs. 30,000/-	For holding 3 para legal training courses.	Yes.

S.No.	Name of the Private Organisation/Voluntary Association	Grant-in-aid given during the last three years, year-wise	Purpose of the grant	Whether utilisation certificate has been if not, the reasons thereof
1	2	3	4	5
1986-87				
22.	Tamil Manila Kattida Thozhilalar Sangam, Madras.	Rs. 10,000/-	For Holding workshops-cum-para legal training programme.	Yes.
23.	Nyaya Sahayak Samiti, Koraput, (Orissa).	Rs. 2,500/-	For legal aid to persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and para-legal training of Harijan and Tribal youth, etc.	Yes.
24.	Nyaya Sahayak Samiti, Koraput, (Orissa).	Rs. 10,000/-	For running legal literacy centre, legal aid and para legal training.	Yes.
25.	Mughalasarai Shiksha Prasar Samithi, Mughalasarai Distt. Varanasi (U.P.)	Rs. 15,000/-	For running legal aid centre, holding of legal aid camps, publication of legal literacy literature, holding of seminars, discussions, etc.	Matter is under correspondence.

S.No.	Name of the Private Organisation/Voluntary Association	Grant-in-aid given during the last three years, year-wise	Purpose of the grant	Whether utilisation certificate has been if not, the reasons thereof
1	2	3	4	5
<b>1986-87</b>				
26.	Kerala Law Academy Legal Aid Clinic, Trivandrum.	Rs. 10,000/-	For the functioning of the Legal Aid Clinic.	Yes.
27.	Kurinji Trust, Madras.	Rs. 30,000/-	For taking up public interest litigation cases in the state of Tamil Nadu.	Matter is under Correspondence.
28.	Women's Co-ordinating Council, Calcutta.	Rs. 50,000/-	For legal literacy, counselling centre and para legal training courses including legal aid and assistance in courts.	Yes.
29.	Registrar, Delhi University, Delhi.	Rs. 15,000/-	For meeting 50% of expenses incurred on the production of video films of the Lok Adalat by the Department of Adult Continuing Education and Extension.	Yes.

S.No.	Name of the Private Organisation/Voluntary Association	Grant-in-aid given during the last three years, year-wise	Purpose of the grant	Whether utilisation certificate has been if not, the reasons thereof
1	2	3	4	5
<b>1986-87</b>				
30.	M/s. Kishan Mahajan & Others	Rs. 2,000/-	For preparation of article for inclusion in the Booklet on Public Interest Litigation (PIL).	Matter is under correspondence.
<b>1987-88</b>				
1.	Indian Law Institute, New Delhi.	Rs. 6,00,000/-	For Promoting research and teaching in the field of law.	Yes.
2.	Institute of Constitutional and Parliamentary Studies, New Delhi.	Rs. 6,00,000/-	For promoting research and teaching in the field of Constitutional law and Parliamentary Studies.	Yes.
		Rs. 38,722,95/-	For implementation of Indo-GDR Cultural Exchange Programme.	Yes.
3.	International Law Association Regional Branch (India), New Delhi.	Rs. 25,000/-	For promoting research and conducting seminars in the field of International Law.	Yes.

S.No.	Name of the Private Organisation/Voluntary Association	Grant-in-aid given during the last three years, year-wise	Purpose of the grant	Whether utilisation certificate has been if not, the reasons thereof
1	2	3	4	5
<b>1987-88</b>				
4.	Akhil Bharatiya Hindi Vidhi Pratishthan, Lucknow.	Rs. 30,000/-	For propagation and development of the Official Languages of the Union and States in the field of law.	Yes.
5.	Bharatiya Hindi Sanstha, Jaipur.	Rs. 20,000/-	For propagation and development of the Official Languages of the Union and States in the field of law.	Yes.
6.	Faculty of Law, Saket P.G. College College, Ayodhya, Faizabad (UP)	Rs. 5,000/-	For meeting the expenses in connection with the National Seminar on Social Justice, Legal Aid Movement in India held from December, 6-8-1986.	Yes.
7.	Public Interest Legal Support and Research Centre (PILSARC), New Delhi	Rs. 10,000/-	For party meeting the expenses on case work, litigation etc. of the Centre.	The full amount surrendered unutilised. UC issued for nil amount.
8.	Chetna Legal Advisory, Women & Children Welfare Society, New Delhi.	Rs. 21,000/-	For holding six legal aid literacy camps.	Yes.

S.No.	Name of the Private Organisation/Voluntary Association	Grant-in-aid given during the last three years, year-wise	Purpose of the grant	Whether utilisation certificate has been if not, the reasons thereof
1	2	3	4	5
<b>1987-88</b>				
9.	Centre for Adult Continuing Education and Extension, Jamia Milia Islamia University, New Delhi.	Rs. 4,500/-	For holding 3 para legal-cum-legal literacy programmes.	Yes.
10.	Department of Adult Continuing Education and Extension University of Delhi.	Rs. 50,000/-	For conducting legal literacy Programmes in 20 colleges.	Yes.
11.	District Bar Association, Jabalpur, (Madhya Pradesh).	Rs. 10,000/-	For building a reference library for legal aid lawyers.	Yes.
12.	Bar Council of India Trust, New Delhi.	Rs. 10,000/-	For defraying expenses in connection with the workshop on 'Legal Aid to Poor Scheme'	Yes.
13.	I.L.S. Law College, Pune.	Rs. 2,500/-	For running Legal Clinic during 1987-88.	Yes.
14.	University College of Law Warangal.	Rs. 5,000/-	For running three legal aid clinics.	Matter is under correspondence.

S.No.	Name of the Private Organisation/Voluntary Association	Grant-in-aid given during the last three years, year-wise	Purpose of the grant	Whether utilisation certificate has been if not, the reasons thereof
1	2	3	4	5
<b>1987-88</b>				
15.	Free Legal Aid Committee, Jamshedpur.	Rs. 5,000/-	For organising a meeting of students and law teachers for establishing legal support and advice clinics in the colleges.	Yes.
16.	Free Legal Aid Committee, Jamshedpur.	Rs. 10,000/-	For holding para-legal training programmes during the year 1987-88.	Yes.
17.	Delhi Bal Manch, New Delhi.	Rs. 5,000/-	For partly meeting expenses in connection with the proposed mass awareness programme on legal aid education scheme on dowry.	Matter in under correspondence.
18.	Director, Legal Aid Clinic, Faculty of Law, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.	Rs. 15,000/-	For organising a short-term Institute for giving orientation to the law teachers.	Yes.
19.	Nav Bharat Jagriti Kendra, Baheta, Distt. Hazaribagh (Bihar)	Rs. 10,000/-	For holding camps and seminars on Legal information and preparation of booklets in local languages.	Yes.

S.No.	Name of the Private Organisation/Voluntary Association	Grant-in-aid given during the last three years, year-wise	Purpose of the grant	Whether utilisation certificate has been if not, the reasons thereof
1	2	3	4	5
<b>1987-88</b>				
20.	Indian Social Institute, Lodi Road, New Delhi.	Rs. 4,000/-	For holding Legal Aid/literacy camps.	Yes.
21.	S.N.D.T. Women's University Bombay.	Rs. 30,000/-	For legal training programme and Women Legal Cell.	Yes.
22.	S.N.D.T. Women's University Bombay.	Rs. 29,561/-	For holding para legal courses, legal aid cell and legal literacy programme.	Matter in under correspondence.
23.	Kanuni Salah Kendra, Patna.	Rs. 10,000/-	For organising summer school, mobile school, seminar and Legal Aid Camp.	Yes.
24.	Women's Co-ordinating Council, Calcutta.	Rs. 50,000/-	For holding seminars, legal education camps, tuning of counselling Centres.	Yes.
25.	Women's Co-ordinating Council, Calcutta.	Rs. 30,000/-	For legal awareness programme.	Yes.



S.No.	Name of the Private Organisation/Voluntary Association	Grant-in-aid given during the last three years, year-wise	Purpose of the grant	Whether utilisation certificate has been if not, the reasons thereof
1	2	3	4	5
<b>1987-88</b>				
26.	Committee for Legal Aid to Poor, Village Thoria Sahi, P.O. Tulsipur, Distt. Cuttack (Orissa)	Rs. 15,000/-	For training of para-legals, orientation courses and publication of booklets.	Yes.
27.	Rural Development Committee Association Trust, Mungeli (MP)	Rs. 25,000/-	For running of three legal support project.	Yes.
28.	Nyaya Sahayak Samiti, Koraput (Orissa)	Rs. 6,000/-	For holding para-legal training camps.	Yes.
29.	Vivekananda Education Society, Calcutta.	Rs. 5,000/-	For organising Legal Literacy programmes.	Yes.
30.	Socio-Legal Aid Research & Training Centre, Calcutta.	Rs. 10,000/-	For organisation Social Legal Awareness Building Course.	Yes.
31.	People's Council for Social Justice, Ernakulam, Cochin.	Rs. 20,000/-	For holding six Lok Adalats in the state of Kerala.	Yes.

S.No.	Name of the Private Organisation/Voluntary Association	Grant-in-aid given during the last three years, year-wise	Purpose of the grant	Whether utilisation certificate has been if not, the reasons thereof
1	2	3	4	5
1988-89				
1.	Indian Law Institute, New Delhi.	Rs. 6,00,000/-	For promoting research and teaching in the field of law.	Yes.
2.	Institute of Constitutional and Parliamentary Studies, New Delhi.	Rs. 90,000/-	For holding a national seminar on Nehru and the Constitution.	Matter in under correspondence.
3.	International Law Association, Regional Branch (India) New Delhi.	Rs. 7,50,000/-	For promoting research and teaching in the field of Constitutional Law and Parliamentary Studies.	Yes.
4.	International Law Association, Regional Branch (India) New Delhi.	Rs. 49,937.95/-	For promoting research and conducting seminars in the field of International Law.	Yes.
4.	Akhil Bharatiya Hindi Vidhi Pratishtan, Lucknow.	Rs. 10,000/-	For propagation and development of Official Languages of the Union and States in the field of law.	Yes.

S.No.	Name of the Private Organisation/Voluntary Association	Grant-in-aid given during the last three years, year-wise	Purpose of the grant	Whether utilisation certificate has been if not, the reasons thereof
1	2	3	4	5
<b>1988-89</b>				
5.	Bharatiya Hindi Sanstha, Jaipur.	Rs. 10,000/-	For propagation and development of Official Languages of the Union and States in the field of law.	Yes.
6.	Legal Aid Centre for Women (Regd) New Delhi.	Rs. 30,000/-	For Legal aid activities.	Yes.
7.	Socio-Legal Aid Research & Training Centre, Calcutta.	Rs. 30,000/-	For holding three socio-legal awareness building courses.	Yes.
8.	Socio-Legal Aid Research & Training Centre, Calcutta.	Rs. 17,120/-	For organising one socio-legal training course and fear one day workshops on "Women and the Law".	Yes.
9.	Rural Entitlement and Legal Support Centre (REALS) Patna.	Rs. 20,000/-	For organising legal literacy camps, survey of legal problems and for bringing out a quarterly newsletter.	Yes.

S.No.	Name of the Private Organisation/Voluntary Association	Grant-in-aid given during the last three years, year-wise	Purpose of the grant	Whether utilisation certificate has been if not, the reasons thereof
1	2	3	4	5
<b>1988-89</b>				
10.	Nav Bharat Jagriti Kendra, Village Behra, Distt. Hazaribagh, Bihar.	Rs. 15,000/-	For holding legal aid camps and publication of booklets.	Yes.
11.	Women's Co-ordinating Council, Calcutta.	Rs. 25,000/-	For running of three counselling Centres.	Yes.
12.	Women's Co-ordinating Council, Calcutta.	Rs. 25,000/-	For running of three counselling Centres.	Yes.
13.	Stree Adhar Kendra, Hadapsar, Pune.	Rs. 20,000/-	For conducting eight legal awareness camps for nomadic tribal women.	Yes.
14.	Department of Adult continuing Education & Extension, University of Delhi.	Rs. 68,200/-	For conducting legal literacy programmes in 20 colleges.	Matter is under correspondence.
15.	Director, Department of Adult, Continuing Education & Extension, Shivaji University, Vidyanaagar, Kolhapur (Maharashtra).	Rs. 10,000/-	For implementation of legal literacy programmes.	Yes.

S.No.	Name of the Private Organisation/Voluntary Association	Grant-in-aid given during the last three years, year-wise	Purpose of the grant	Whether utilisation certificate has been if not, the reasons thereof
1	2	3	4	5
<i>1988-89</i>				
16.	Vivekananda Education Society, Calcutta.	Rs. 15,000/-	For organising three legal education awareness building camps	Yes.
17.	National Women's Welfare Centre (NWWC), Poozhikunnu (Kerala)	Rs. 10,000/-	For organising two para-legal training courses	Yes.
18.	People's Council for Social Justice, Ernakulam, Cochin.	Rs. 50,000/-	For conducting Neethi Melas (Legal aid camps) and for holding legal literacy camps	Yes.
19.	I.L.S. Law College, Pune.	Rs. 5,000/-	For holding Seminars on Legal Aid and Legal literacy camps	Yes.
20.	Kanuni Salah Kendra, Patna.	Rs. 20,000/-	For running of summer school, mobile school, seminars, organisation of workshop and camp.	Yes.

S.No.	Name of the Private Organisation/Voluntary Association	Grant-in-aid given during the last three years, year-wise	Purpose of the grant	Whether utilisation certificate has been if not, the reasons thereof
1	2	3	4	5
<b>1988-89</b>				
21.	CHETNA, New Delhi.	Rs. 25,000/-	For organising legal literacy camps and publication of booklets on maintenance of women, children under the law and dowry Prohibition Act.	Yes.
22.	Principal, Bharatiya Vidya Mandir, College of Law, Banswara (Rajasthan).	Rs. 5,000/-	For setting up of Legal Aid Clinic.	Yes.

**Radio Station at Bhatinda, Punjab**

1814. BABA SUCHA SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Radio Station at Bhatinda has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether broadcasting from it has started; and

(c) if not, the time by which it will start broadcasting?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (c). The civil and technical work of Radio Station at Bhatinda has been completed. The scheme provides for a local Radio Station at Bhatinda with 2 x 3 KW FM Transmitters, Multipurpose studio, Receiving Facilities and Staff Quarters. Action for posting the staff for operation and maintenance has been initiated. The station will be commissioned into service as soon as the requisite staff start manning the posts.

**Booking of Economic Offenders**

1815. SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken during the last three months to book the economic offenders;

(b) whether economic offences have increased recently; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) Whenever any contravention of a Fiscal Act comes to the notice of the Government, on information or

otherwise, the concerned agency takes appropriate action in accordance with the law.

(b) It cannot be said that there has been an increase of economic offences in the recent past.

(c) In view of the reply to (b) above, does not arise.

**Amendment to Fera**

1816. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to bring forward a legislation to amend the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA); and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). The matter is still under consideration.

**Industrial Sickness**

1817. SHRI ANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether at a meeting of Trade Union Leaders with him on February 7, 1990 held at New Delhi, it was noted that the Sick Industrial Companies Act, 1985, had failed to prevent sickness of industries and on the other hand provided incentives to industries going sick; and

(b) if so, the modifications contemplated to check this trend?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). It is a usual practice with the Finance Minister to

hold Pre-Budget Meetings with various agencies where a number of suggestions are made. One such meeting was taken by the Finance Minister also with Trade Union Leaders on 7th of February, 1990. In this meeting various suggestions were made.

### **Tax on Green Tea Leaf**

1818. SHRI R.N. RAKESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news items captioned "Assam tea planters facing crisis" appearing in "The Indian Express" dated February 18, 1990.

(b) if so, whether the promulgation of the ordinance imposing a 50 paise per kg. tax on green leaf would adversely affect the indigenous tea planters in Assam; and

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

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). In view of the representations received from various tea associations regarding the implications of the ordinance, the Central Government have taken up the matter with the State Government of Assam.

### **Upgradation of Kanpur City**

1819. SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI ALI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to upgrade Kanpur as 'A' class city; and

(b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANAVATE): (a) and (b). Kanpur

is already classified as an 'A' class city for the purpose of grant of Compensatory (City) Allowance. Though Kanpur is classified as a 'B-1' class city for the purpose of grant of House Rent Allowance to the Central Government employees, the rate of House Rent Allowance admissible in 'B-2', 'B-1' and 'A' class cities is the same.

### **Raids on Five Star Hotels**

1820. SHRI KARIA MUNDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any raids were conducted on five star hotels of Delhi by revenue intelligence and also other law enforcing authorities during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the names of hotels which were raided and details of smugglers and the narcotic drugs taken into custody by these authorities?

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

### **Opening of Divisional Office of LIC at Berhampur, Orissa**

1821. SHRI A. N. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open a new Divisional Office of the Life Insurance Corporation of India at Berhampur in Ganjam District, Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANAVATE): (a) and (b). The LIC, under its Development Plan for the current year, has identified Berhampur as one of the places for opening its new Divisions in the near future. After ensuring its



economic viability and availability of infra-structural facilities, the proposed Division will operate on a fullfledged basis. The proposed new Berhampur Division will comprise the districts of Ganjam, Phulbani, Phulbani, Koraput and Kalahandi

#### **Tourist In Lakshadweep**

1822. SHRI P M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state the number of tourists both foreign and domes-

tic, separately, who visited Lakshadweep during the last three years (1987-88 to 1989-90)?

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

As per the information available from the Lakshadweep Administration, the number of foreign and domestic tourists who visited the Islands during last three years are as given below:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of Tourists</i>	
	<i>Foreign</i>	<i>Domestic</i>
1987-88	312	813
1988-89	366	1,868
1989-90 (Upto Jan. '90)	1,282	1,234

[*Translation*]

#### **Setting up of High Power T.V. Transmission Centre at Bareilly**

1823. SHRISANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:-

(a) whether Government propose to set up a high power T.V. transmission centre at Bareilly; and

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

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Besides establishment of a high power (10KW) TV transmitter, in replacement of the existing low power (100W) transmitter, a programme

production centre is also under implementation at Bareilly. This project, as per present indications is envisaged to be completed during 1991.

[*English*]

#### **MOU with Indonesia for Promotion of Bilateral Trade**

1824. SHRI M.V. CHANDRA SHEKARA MURTHY:  
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Indonesia have recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for promotion of bilateral trade and joint ventures in engineering goods;

(b) if so, the details of the MOU signed between them; and

(c) the extent to which the exports of engineering goods will be boosted as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU). (a) to (c). The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was not at Government level but between the Confederation of Engineering Industry (CEI) and the Indonesian Federation of Metal Work and Machinery Industries (FMMI) and was signed in Jakarta on 27th January, 1990. The MOU provides for cooperation between the two organisations in order to further strengthen and promote exchange of technology including in the field of marketing, joint venture and co-investment

While it is expected that the MOU will contribute considerably to closer ties between business and industrial organisations in the two countries, and serve as a catalyst for promotion of export of engineering goods, it would be difficult to quantify at this stage the extent to which exports of engineering goods will be boosted.

#### **Inclusion of Regional Programmes on Doordarshan**

1825. SHRI D. AMAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to include regional programmes in national network of Doordarshan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). Regional language

programmes are already being telecast on the national network as per the programme requirements. These broadly include regional feature film on every Sunday; 'Chitramala' a programme based on song and dance sequences from regional feature films, telecast on 2nd and 4th Monday of the month; 'From the States', a programme carrying developmental activities as well as socio-cultural scene of the States in regional language with Hindi or English captions/subtitles telecast on first Friday of the month; and a regional music concert telecast on 1st and 4th Wednesday of the month. Regional feature films are also telecast late in the night for adult viewers.

#### **Foreign Exchange for Import of Newsprint**

1826. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide some foreign exchange for import of newsprint;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government also propose to take steps to reduce the import of newsprint; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). Government have sanctioned foreign exchange of Rs. 296.60 crores for the current licensing year 1989-90 for import of newsprint

(c) and (d). Import of newsprint is resorted to meet the shortfall in indigenous production so that the requirements of news-

papers could be met. Steps have been taken to increase production of indigenous newsprint towards achievement of self-reliance in newsprint. The details are given in the Statement below.

### STATEMENT

Steps taken to increase the indigenous production of newsprint.

1. The installed capacity of newsprint industry, which was 75,000 tonnes per annum in 1979-90 has been stepped up to 3 lakh tonnes per annum by 1987-88.
2. An additional capacity of 4.93 lakh tonnes has been approved by way of industrial licences/ letters of intent;
3. Facilities have been extended to the existing paper mills to take up manufacture of newsprint subject to certain conditions;
4. A high rate of capacity utilisation of the existing installed capacity is being ensured.

### Proposal for Repealing Dramatic Performances Act, 1876

1827. PROF. MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state whether Government propose to repeal the Dramatic Performances Act, 1876, a draconian law of the colonial times?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): The subject matter of the Dramatic Performances Act, 1876 falls under the State List under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. As such, the State Govern-

ments are competent to enact their own laws and repeal the Central Act of 1876. As a matter of fact, a number of State Governments have already taken steps in this regard. The position in respect of the Union Territories is given in the statement below.

### STATEMENT

- (1) Andaman and Nicobar Islands:

The Dramatic Performance Act, 1876 has been repealed. This Union Territory has the Andaman and Nicobar Dramatic Performances Regulation, 1862 (10 of 1962).

- (2) Delhi:

The Act of 1876 has been repealed by the Dramatic Performance (Delhi Repeal) Act, 1963 (No. 33 of 1963). However, the Madras Act No. 33 of 1955 has been extended to Delhi by GSR 850 dated 6th June, 1964.

- (3) Dadra and Nagar Haveli:

The Dramatic performances Act, 1876 does not seem to have been extended to the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

- (4) Chandigarh

The Punjab Government had enacted the Punjab Dramatic Performance Act, 1964 (10 of 1964). It is presumed that the same Act is in force in the Union Territory of Chandigarh when it became a Union Territory in 1966.

- (5) Daman & Diu:

The Government of Goa Daman and Diu Dramatic Performance Act, 1970 (3 of 1970) is in force in the Union Territory of Daman and Diu.

(6) Pondicherry

The Pondicherry Government has enacted its own Law known as the Pondicherry Dramatic Performance Act, 1965 (9 of 1965).

**Writing off Bank Loans**

1829. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA  
SHRI L K ADVANI  
SHRI A VIJAYA RAGHAVAN

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the trend of writing off loans of the nationalised banks has been rising during the last three years.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor.

(c) whether banks are protected, under the provisions of the statutes governing them, from disclosing information relating to or to the affairs of their constituents

(d) whether irregularities in granting loans have been perpetrated under the above provisions, and

(e) if so, the action proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF MADHU DANDEVATE) (a) and (b) The public sector banks consider writing off of bad debts in individual cases on merits of each case, after exhausting legal and other remedies available to them. Banks being credit institutions, some amounts of bad debts do arise despite all systems and procedures to ensure safety of funds lent. Advances may also turn bad due to certain internal the external factors. With a view to reduce the amount of bad debts to the mini-

mum possible, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has exhorted the banks to strengthen their credit appraisal machinery and exercise close supervision and control over advances

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) and (e) Banks are required to follow the various guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India from time to time regarding sanctioning of loans. However, representations regarding acts of omission and commission in regards to banks credit operations are received at various levels. Corrective measures are taken by banks in respect of such matters

[*Translation*]

**Raids on Economic Offenders and Tax Evaders in Bihar**

1830 SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the steps taken by the Government to apprehend economic offenders and tax evaders in Bihar, district-wise, during the last two years,

(b) whether any raids have been conducted in Bihar during the last two years,

(c) if so, the outcome thereof, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF MADHU DANDEVATE) (a) Government have stepped up its efforts against economic offenders throughout the country including Bihar

(b) to (d) The results of Searches/Raids conducted by various Revenue agencies in Bihar are as under

	<i>No. of searches</i>	<i>Seizure of goods or assets /evasion or concealment detected.</i>
		<i>(Rs. in crores)</i>
Income-Tax (in 1988-89 and 1989-90).	386	2.62 (admitted un-accounted income)
		4.59 (un-accounted assets)
Customs (Anti-smuggling) (in 1988 and 1989).	5346	18.46 (goods seized)
Central Excise	7	4.16 (evasion detected)

[English]

**Guidelines for Setting up Joint ventures Abroad**

1831. SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOT-TAMDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry of India has called for liberalisation of the existing guidelines for setting up Indian Joint ventures abroad both in the manufacturing and service sectors;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to liberalise the guidelines on Joint ventures;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by what time they are likely to be issued?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The exercise to revise the existing guidelines on setting up of joint ventures abroad has been undertaken. No specific time frame for introducing the required guidelines can be given just now.

[Translation]

**Telecast/Broadcast of Programmes on Acharya Kund Kund BI-Millennium Celebrations**

1832. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special plan has been chalked out by Akashvani and Doordarshan to broadcast/telecast programmes on the occasion of the bi-millennium celebration year of the Jain Acharya Kund Kund on the completion of two thousand years of the Acharya;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the 'Acharya Kund Kund bi-millennium celebration committee' had presented three cassettes to Doordarshan based on his book 'Sammatsar' and if so, whether there is any proposal to make use of these and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). At the commencement of the bi-millennium celebrations, Delhi Doordarshan Kendra produced a special programme on Acharya Kund Kund which was telecast in National Programme on 28.11.1989. During the year long celebrations, Doordarshan has planned to telecast programmes on the preachings and contributions of the Jain Acharya in Krishi Darshan, Amrit Vichar and other special programmes.

All India Radio Stations will provide coverage to public functions in connection with the bi-millennium celebrations and to broadcast special programmes depending on local requirements.

(c) Does not arise; and

(d) Three cassettes were received by Doordarshan. As these were audio cassettes, these were sent to All India Radio. But these were not technically found suitable by All India Radio for use in broadcast.

[English]

### **World Bank's Report on Indian Economy**

1833. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the World Bank's report on India's present economic conditions;

(b) the total amount of loans so far taken by Government from the Bank and the payment made by India against such loan; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in the light of observations made in the report?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) No report from the World Bank of India's present economic conditions has been recently received.

(b) Till 31st December 1989, the World Bank group has disbursed \$ 20,576.56 million, including \$ 8140.03 million of IBRD loans, and \$ 12,436.56 million of IDA credits. The total amount of loans repaid is \$ 2801.06 million, which includes \$ 2276.56 million of IBRD loans and \$ 524.50 million of IDA credits.

(c) Does not arise.

### **Tourism Improvement at Digha, West Bengal**

1834. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state the steps taken or proposed to be taken to improve tourism at Digha, West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): The Department of Tourism have sanctioned a project for the construction of a Tourist Lodge at Digha at an estimated cost of Rs. 40.17 lakhs during the Seventh Five Year Plan. Out of this, an amount of Rs. 37.00 lakhs has already been released.

### **Foreign Banks Entering Real Estate Markets**

1835. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the foreign banks are contemplating to enter the real estate markets along with some Indian firms of Delhi and Bombay;

(b) Government's policy towards permitting these foreign banks to enter other consumer-oriented schemes apart from the operation of the normal banking business particularly the 'mortgage financing' for the foreigners, Non-Resident Indians and the domestic buyers; and

(c) the implications of this 'mortgaging financing' schemes of these foreign banks and their likely impact on the real estate prices?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANAVATE): (a) to (c). There is no bar on commercial banks, including foreign banks operating in India, to operate consumer loan schemes for items like Cars, Televisions, Refrigerators etc., for domestic buyers resident in India. The commercial banks, including foreign banks, also provide housing finance to their Indian resident constituents.

Reserve Bank of India has reported that one of the foreign banks has recently sought its permission for giving bridge finance loans to non-resident Indians for purchase of flats in India which would, inter-alia, involve levy of some charge from the builders for marketing the flats. No final decision has been taken by Reserve Bank of India.

[*Translation*]

#### **Low interest Loans for Development of Handicrafts**

1836. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to extend patronage to handicrafts to encour-

age artisans on the lines of Khadi and Village Industries and also to provide loans to the entrepreneurs at low interest to develop handicrafts; and

(b) if so, the time by which this scheme is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANAVATE): (a) and (b). Since 1978, banks provide loans to viable proposals from persons in the handicrafts sector in the normal course of their business under the composite loan scheme. At present composite bank loans upto Rs. 25,000 are available to artisans, village and cottage industries at a concessional rate of interest at 10% p.a. in backward areas and at 12% p.a. in other areas.

[*English*]

#### **Upgradation of TV Transmission Centres in Kerala**

1837. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to upgrade any TV transmission centre in Kerala during the current year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). Scheme for the replacement of the existing low power TV transmitter at Calicut by a high power (10KW) TV transmitter is already under implementation. Site for this project has been finalised and the required transmitter equipment ordered on the manufacturers. As per the present indications, the project is expected to be completed during 1992-93.

### **Development of Tourism in West Bengal**

1838. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a package programme for the development of tourism in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b). The Central Department of Tourism provides financial assistance for the strengthening of tourism infrastructure based on the proposals received from the State Governments on their merit, availability of funds and inter-se-priorities.

The following projects/schemes were sanctioned during the Seventh Five Year Plan in the State of West Bengal, which are at various stages of implementation

1. Tourist Lodge at Digha
2. Sound & Light Show at Rabindra Bharti University
3. Yatri Niwas at Darjeeling
4. Yatrikas at Mayapur and Gangasagar
5. Cottage Block at Gadiara
6. Tourist accommodation at Santiniketan
7. Wayside facilities at Durgapur
8. Development of Tourist/Trekking facilities in West track of Midnapur, Muktamanipur
9. Cruise-Vessel for Sunderbans

10. Launch for river Hooghly, Calcutta.

In addition, special assistance has been sanctioned for development of tourism in the hill areas of Darjeeling.

### **T.V. Relay Station at Bagalkot, Bijapur**

1839. SHRI S. T. PATIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a T.V. relay station was sanctioned for Bagalkot town of Bijapur district;

(b) if so, whether it has been completed, and

(c) if not, the stage at which it stands and the action being taken to expedite its completion?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (c). The VII plan of Doordarshan did not provide for establishment of a TV transmitter at Bagalkot. The establishment of such a project under the VIII plan depends upon the availability of adequate funds for the purpose.

### **Payment to IMF**

1840. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:  
SHRI AMAL DATTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'India repaying 82 per cent more to International Monetary Fund' appearing in the Telegraph dated 20.2.90; and



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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The amount of loan taken from IMF is fixed in terms of SDRs and as is the practice with loans designated in foreign currencies/SDR, the same amount has to be repaid in foreign currency/SDR. If the value of foreign currency/SDR rises in terms of rupees, it is to be expected that repayment will be more in rupee terms.

#### Setting up of Tourist Centres In Konkan Area of Maharashtra

1841. SHRI A. R. ANTULAY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal for setting up of a Tourist Centre in the coastal areas of Konkan region, particularly in Raigad district of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government will set up hotels and motels in the region to attract the tourists?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The State Government

of Maharashtra have identified 30 locations in the coastal area of Konkan region out of which 7 places are in Raigad district.

(c) The Central Department of Tourism does not set up hotels in the country. No proposal has been received from the State Government for setting up of a motel in the region.

#### Coffee Prices

1842. SHRI D.M. PUTTEE GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news-item captioned "Steep increase in coffee prices on the cards" appearing in the Indian Express dated 25th February, 1990;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to revise the minimum release price of coffee; and

(c) if so, the reasons for increasing the coffee price in the country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) to (c). Based on the cost study report of the Cost Accounts Branch, the Minimum release price (MRP) of coffee has been revised w.e.f. 8th March, 1990 as under:

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Price Before Revision</i>	<i>Price After Revision</i>	<i>% age increase</i>
Arabica per kg.	Rs. 19.81 per kg.	Rs. 20.37	2.82
Robusta	Rs. 15.90 per kg.	Rs. 16.64 per kg.	4.65
Composite	Rs. 10.18 per point	Rs. 10.57 per point	3.83

It would be seen that the increase can be termed only as marginal and not steep.

### **Ban on Recruitment to Government Departments and Public Undertakings**

1843. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had imposed a ban on fresh recruitment to Government Departments and Public undertakings as an economy measure;

(b) whether Government propose to lift the ban on recruitment; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) No ban as such had been imposed on fresh recruitment to Government Departments and Public Undertakings. As a part of anti-inflationary measures, Ministries/Departments of the Government of India and Public Undertakings were advised in January 1984, not to fill up existing vacancies.

(b) and (c). In regard to Public undertakings, instructions were issued in October 1985 relaxing the ban on filling up of vacancies. In regard to Government Departments, modified guidelines regarding filling up of vacancies were issued in May/July 1986. According to the revised guidelines, subject to fulfilment of certain conditions, vacancies in Government Departments both plan and non-plan-arising due to promotion, retirement, death, resignation, dismissal/removal or deputation etc. can now be filled up.

### **Setting up of TV Studio At Vishakapatnam**

1844. SHRIMATI UMA GAJAPATI RAJU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a full-fledged TV studio and high power TV transmission centre at Visakhapatnam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). Whereas a high power (10KW) TV transmission Centre has already been functioning at Visakhapatnam since 2nd Aug'86, there is, at present, no proposal to set up a TV Studio Centre at this place.

### **Overdraft Facility to Kerala**

1845. SHRI K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala Government has requested to enhance the overdraft facility to the State and to increase the period for remitting the overdraft;

(b) if so, the action taken by Union Government thereon; and

(c) whether Kerala Government is remitting the overdraft in time?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) In December, 1989 the Government of Kerala requested for increase in Ways & Means Limit permitted by Reserve Bank of India as also in the time limit for clearing overdraft from 7 to 15 days.

(b) The State Government's requests were not agreed to.

(c) In the current financial year (1989-90) the State Government have been clearing the overdrafts in time.

**American Aid**

1846. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:  
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the economic and other aid sought by Government from the United States of America for the year, 1990;

(b) the amount of aid granted by the United States of America in response thereto; and

(c) how it compares with the US aid being given to Pakistan, Bangladesh and

other developing countries in the Sub-continent?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) The Government of India does not make any request for a specific amount of aid from the US Government.

(b) and (c). As per the information furnished by our Embassy in Washington the foreign assistance allocation made by the US Government for US fiscal year 1990 (October 1989 to September 1990) for India and other countries in the sub-continent is as under:

		<i>(In US dollars million)</i>				
		<i>India</i>	<i>Pakistan</i>	<i>Bangladesh</i>	<i>Sri Lanka</i>	<i>Nepal</i>
(i)	Development Assistance	22.473	43 000	52.500	18.000	12.393
(ii)	PL 480 Title II	83.204	80.000	77.460	16.844	2.160
(iii)	Economic Support Fund	—	229.011	—	—	—
(iv)	Foreign Military Financing Grant	—	229.011	—	—	—
(v)	International Military Education & Training	0.229	0.911	0.299	0.159	0.100
		105.906	581.933	130.259	35.003	14.653

[*Translation*]

**Income-Tax Raids on the Premises of Film Actors and Actresses**

1847. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:  
SHRI RAM SAGAR (Saidpur)  
SHRI K. PRADHANI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of film actors and actresses whose premises were raided by the Income-tax Department during the last three years;

(b) the details of the irregularities found during these raids;

(c) the action taken by Government in regard thereto; and

(d) the amount of arrears of more than rupees one lakh as Income-tax and other taxes pending realisation against film actors and actresses at present and the steps proposed to be taken to recover the outstanding dues?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). During

the financial years 1987-88, 1988-89, 1989-90 (upto February, 1990), the Income -tax Department conducted searches on the premises of the following film actors and actresses. The details of the assets seized and unaccounted income surrendered during such searches are also given against the name of the concerned persons:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Value of assets seized (Rs. in lakhs)</i>	<i>Unaccounted income surrendered (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
Bhanupriya	NIL	NIL
Vijayakanth	NIL	30
M. R. Radhika	NIL	NIL
M.R. Viswanathan	NIL	7.50
Anita Raj	2.93	NIL

Generally, instances of suppression of remuneration, under-stated/undisclosed investments and excess claim for expenditure, are found in such cases.

(c) Follow-up investigation, passing of orders under Section 132(5) of the Income-Tax Act retaining/releasing the assets seized, assessments and such other action as called for under the Direct Taxes Enactments is taken.

(d) As on 31st December, 1989, an amount of Rs. 7.03 crores was due as income-tax and other taxes from 45 film actors and actresses, who individually owed more than rupees one lakh each. The steps for liquidation/recovery of outstanding dues include:

- (i) expediting the disposal of appeals in cases where the tax dues are disputed;

(ii) granting of instalments for payment of taxes in suitable cases; and

- (iii) action for recovery in cases of defaulters, as provided in the Income Tax Act.

[English]

#### **Export of Electronic Products by Santacruz FTZ. Companies**

1848. SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the companies in the Santacruz Free Trade Zone exporting electronic products to the Soviet Union;

(b) the types of electronic products exported during the last three years;

(c) the types of products imported by

those concerns during the corresponding period; and

(d) the US Dollar value of imports by these companies and the value in US Dollars of exports to Soviet Union by them?

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

(a) Fourteen Units in Santacruz Electronics Export Processing Zone are exporting to the Soviet Union.

(b) Computers, Computer Peripherals, Photocopiers, Electronic Components, Colour Picture Tubes etc.

(c) Electronic Components, Sub-assemblies and Peripherals etc.

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(d) (i) US \$ value of imports made by the units during 3 years upto 3/89.	US \$ Value 604.97 lakhs. (Rs. 8457.56 lakhs)
(ii) Value of Exports to the USSR.	US \$ Value 721.12 lakhs (Rs. 9984.89 lakhs)

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[*Translation*]

**Income From Opium and Alkaloid Industry**

1849. SHRI JAGDISH SINGH KUSHWAHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total income earned by Government from Opium and Alkaloid Industry at Ghazipur district during the last five years;

(b) whether Government propose to allocate fifty per cent of income on the development of Ghazipur district, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):** (a) The Government Opium & Alkaloid Works, Ghazipur incurred a total loss of Rs. 240.63 lakhs during the last five years (i.e. 1984-85 to 1988-89).

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

[*English*]

**Setting up of a Film Council for Regulation of Film Industry**

1850. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN. Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for setting up a Film Council to regulate the film industry; and

(b) if so, in what respect the council will be different from the existing pattern in the industry?

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):** (a) and (b). Government is working on a policy paper to create a Film Council. Once the policy paper is finalised, Government will come forward with suitable legislation, if necessary, as early as possible.

**Global Infrastructure Fund**

1851. SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has joined the Global Infrastructure Fund (GIF) backed by the Federation of Economic Organisations of Japan;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to seek assistance from the GIF; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c). The exact position is being ascertained.

[*Translation*]

**Licence For Opening of City Cooperative Banks**

1852. SHRI HARSH VARDHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has formulated a policy that licence for only one city cooperative bank would be given in a district;

(b) if so, the details of the policy;

(c) the reasons for adopting such a policy; and

(d) the likely impact of this policy on the progress of cooperative movement?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (d). In terms of the licensing policy formulated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), a new urban bank is allowed to be established in a district which is devoid of urban banking facilities. The policy is implemented in a flexible manner

so as not to preclude organisation of an additional bank in the same district provided *interalia* the existing bank has achieved viability norms and there is requisite non-agricultural business potential for the subsequent bank to become viable unit in a given time frame. The emphasis of the policy is to fill gaps in districts without urban banks and to consolidate the working of existing urban bank on sound and healthy lines without undue proliferation keeping in view the overall banking development in the public sector as well as the cooperative sector.

**Construction of Radio Station at Pithoragarh, Uttar Pradesh**

1853. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction work of a sanctioned Radio station at Pithoragarh in Uttar Pradesh is likely to commence in 1990;

(b) if so, the amount earmarked for the work during 1990; and

(c) the reasons for delay in the construction of radio station and the remedial steps contemplated to expedite its completion?

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

(b) An outlay of Rs. 26.30 lakhs has been kept for this project for the year 1990-91.

(c) The delay in the construction of Radio Station was due to non-availability of the land for the purpose. Efforts are made to speed up the process of construction as the site is now available.

[English]

**Complaint and Grievances Cell to Monitor Tourist Complaints**

1854. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have set up a complaint and grievances cell to monitor the complaints received from the tourists in the country; and

(b) if so, the extent to which the cell has helped in removing the grievances of tourists?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Cell, with the help of field offices of Central Tourism Department and State Tourism Departments, tries to settle complaints received from the tourists to their satisfaction.

**Performance of Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited**

1855. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited has made record production in 1989;

(b) if so, the total profit earned by the Company; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve the profitability during 1990?

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

(b) KIOCL incurred a loss in 1988-89; however, profits for the current year are expected to be over Rs 20 crores.

(c) The Company has planned for higher production and export of its products for 1990-91; higher prices for this year have also been settled.

**Central Scheme on Religious Ghats of Orissa**

1856. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any Central Sponsored Scheme in which the States are assisted to develop/construct religious ghats;

(b) if so, the assistance provided under the scheme to various States during the last three years;

(c) whether the Orissa Government have submitted any proposal to construct/develop the Daswashamedha/Baruni Ghat in Cuttack District of Orissa which is a religious Ghat for the eastern region;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by Government thereon?

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

(a) The Central Department of Tourism consider proposal for providing financial assistance for improvement/development of ghats at important centres which have potential to attract larger number of tourists.

(b) In the last three years financial assistance has been provided to the State Governments for development/improvement of Varanasi ghats and Nehru ghats in Uttar Pradesh, bathing ghats at Srirangam in Tamil

Nadu, Indra and Karni ghats, Pushkar in Rajasthan.

(c) No, Sir.

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

#### **World Bank AID for Spinning Mills in Maharashtra**

1857. SHRI SUDAM DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank Review Mission has agreed to provide financial assistance to four Spinning Mills in Maharashtra; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). The proposal of Maharashtra Government for financing of four Spinning Mills, one each at Akot (Akola), Jalna, Daryapur and Wardha (Indira) under the IDA-assisted NCDC-III Project has been examined by a World Bank Review Mission. However, a decision by the World Bank would depend, among other things, upon the on-lending arrangements being finalized between NCDC and the State Government.

#### **Rupee Trade with East European Countries**

1859. SHRI YADVENDRA DATT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the East European countries have demanded change in the pattern of trade to hard currencies;

(b) if so, its likely impact on rupee trade; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to meet the situation?

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

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

#### **Export of Processed Food Items**

1860. SHRI M. BAGA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is great scope for export of food items especially "processed food"; and

(b) if so, the names of the countries where these food items can be exported?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, there is considerable scope for expanding exports of our processed foods to USSR, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, UAE, UK, Netherlands, Federal Republic of Germany, USA, Japan etc.

#### **Autonomy to Banks**

1861. SHRI MANDHATA SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend the statutes governing the nationalised banks so as to give greater autonomy to them; and

(b) if so, the time frame set up by Government for implementation of this decision and the manner in which it will gear up the economy?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). The Nationalised banks perform their functions in accordance with the provisions contained



in the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and 1980 and other relevant statutes. The performance of the Nationalised Banks is monitored on a continual basis by the Government and Reserve Bank of India in the light of their policies and such measures considered necessary including functional autonomy are taken to improve the functioning of the banks.

#### **Mega Issue of Usha Rectifiers**

1862. SHRI Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the mega issue of Usha Rectifiers was opened with the promise of three projects;

(b) if so, whether all the projects have been implemented;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether no interest for the period ending December 1989 has been paid; and

(e) the action Government are contemplating to take to make Usha Rectifiers to return the money to the investors?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c). In its Prospectus, the company had indicated the implementation of 8,00,000 tonnes of Sponge Iron Project with a captive power unit and a pelletisation plant. The debenture issue was not fully subscribed. The company have informed the Government that they propose to implement only the 8,00,000 tonnes Sponge Iron Project at present and would defer the implementation of the other activities to a later date.

(d) The information is awaited from the company.

(e) Government will take such action as necessary for any violation of the law that might have occurred, within the relevant statutory provisions.

#### **Export of Drugs**

1863. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of exports of Indian Drug Companies both in Public Sector and private sector separately, during last three years, year-wise;

(b) the names of countries to whom these drugs have been exported;

(c) whether the growth of India's drug industry is hampered in any way because of Super 301 and other ancillary provisions of the US Trade and Tariff Act; and

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

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

(a) The Value of export of drugs and pharmaceuticals during 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 is as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Rs. in crores</i>
1986-87	189.3
1987-88	228.0
1988-89	400.2

These exports were made mostly by private sector companies. Export data for public sector and private sector companies, separately is not maintained.

(b) The drugs and pharmaceuticals were exported to USSR, USA, FRG UK, France,

Japan, Italy, Denmark, Netherlands Switzerland and Australia.

(c) and (d). No, Sir, However, Government's strategy has been to generate the pressure of international public opinion to deter the US Government from taking any unilateral measures which may affect exports from India of any commodity including drugs to USA.

### Foreign Investment

1864. SHRIMATI CHENNUPATI VIDYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering proposals to create more attractive investment climate by defining its policy towards foreign investment in India in view of the recent happenings in Europe and South East Asian countries; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to identify the areas where the country needs foreign investment in order to improve economic development, particularly exports?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). The basic framework of our foreign investment policy is laid down in various documents including the Industrial Policy Resolution. Our approach is selective. In line with our priorities, the policy permits technical as well as financial collaborations over a wide range of industrial activities. The policy is well established and facilitates direct foreign investment in desirable areas, particularly areas of high technology and exports.

### Approval for Film on Savarkar

1865. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAV-  
INCHANDRA MEHTA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given their approval to the producers for making a film on Veer Savarkar;

(b) if so, the amount of grant sanctioned by Government for the purpose;

(c) whether Government have sanctioned any grant to Savarkar Darshan Prasththan; and

(d) if so, the amount sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) No, Sir. Production of films is largely in private sector and no prior approval of Government for production of feature films or documentaries by private producers is required.

(b) The Central Government has not given any grant for production of film on Veer Savarkar.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

### Opening of A Branch of Alaknanda Gramin Bank at Kherakhal Uttar Pradesh

1866. SHRI C. M. NEGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 21 April, 1989 to Unstarred Question No. 6477 regarding bank branches in Pauri district of Uttar Pradesh and state:

(a) whether a branch of Alaknanda Gramin Bank has been opened at Kherakhal in Khirsu block of Pauri Garhwal; and

(b) if so, the details of the staff working at the branch?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

The Alaknanda Gramin Bank has not yet been able to open the branch at the centre due to non-availability of staff.

[*Translation*]

#### Development of New Tourist Places in Rajasthan

1867. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:  
SHRI NATHU SINGH:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the inflow of domestic and foreign tourists in Rajasthan is continuously increasing;

(b) the percentage of tourists who visited Rajasthan out of the total number of foreign tourists visiting the country during 1989;

(c) whether there is any proposal for providing central assistance for development of new places of tourist importance in Rajasthan and provide more facilities to the existing tourist places during 1990-91;

(d) whether Government of Rajasthan has submitted any proposal in this regard to Union Government for its approval; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the proposal will be approved?

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

(b) As per the information available from the State Government, about 31% of the total foreign tourists to India, visited Rajast-

han during 1989.

(c) to (e). The Government of Rajasthan has submitted proposals for Central financial assistance for the development of tourism in their State during 1990-91. These schemes would be assisted during 1990-91 on the basis of their merit, availability of funds and inter-se-priorities.

#### Setting up of a Doordarshan Kendra in Godda and Banka, Bihar

1868. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Doordarshan Kendra in Godda District and at Banka of Bhagalpur District in Bihar; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). The high power (10 kw) TV transmitter under implementation at Katihar is expected to provide service in parts of Godda and Bhagalpur districts of Bihar. However, Banka in Bhagalpur district is not expected to be satisfactorily covered by this transmitter in view of the intervening distance. While it is the endeavour of the Government to extend TV service to uncovered parts as early as possible, this is essentially dependent upon the availability of adequate resources for this purpose under future plans of TV expansion.

#### Evasion of Taxes by Wholesale Traders

1869. SHRI HUKMDEO NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the wholesale dealers of edible oils, oil-seeds and food articles in Delhi are evading Central sales tax, income tax and other taxes on large scale;

(b) whether it is also a fact that goods are smuggled out to other States without paying sales tax due to which that State also has to bear the loss of revenue; and

(c) if so, the number of such cases detected by Government during the last three years, the details of the persons found involved and the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c). No such large scale evasion of sales tax, income tax and other taxes has come to the notice of the concerned departments. However, the Income-tax Department conducted searches in 29 cases of Dry Fruit dealers of Delhi, in November, 1988 and prima facie unaccounted assets worth Rs. 24.43 lakhs were seized.

#### Setting up of T.V. Relay Centre at Saptsharang Garh, Maharashtra

1870. SHRI HARI SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up any Television Relay Centre at Saptsharang Garh in Varna region of Nasik district to meet the demand of the people of this region;

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (c). There are at present three low power TV transmitters one each at Nasik, Malegaon and Manmad functioning

in Nasik district. With the commissioning of high power (10KW) TV transmitter under implementation at Aurangabad, the service in the Nasik district is expected to improve further. However, Saptsharang Garh is not expected to be covered because of intervening distance. It is Government's endeavour to extend TV service to uncovered areas as soon as possible, but this can be achieved only in a phased manner depending upon availability of funds for this purpose under future plans for TV expansion in the country.

[English]

#### FERA Companies

1871. SHRI E.S.M. PAKEER MOHAMED: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the companies holding the FERA status;

(b) the total value of the Foreign Exchange involved in these companies;

(c) whether Government have received any application from FERA companies to increase their FERA limits; and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether any of these FERA companies have violated the laws and if so, the action Government have taken in the matter?

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

[Translation]

#### Development of Tourist Centre in Kanpur

1872. SHRI KESHRI LAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to develop Bittor or any other place in Kanpur as a tourist centre; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Department of Tourism have sanctioned construction of wayside amenities at Fatehpur Roshnai and Maharajpur in Kanpur District.

#### **Parity in Pay Scales In All Banks**

1873. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is disparity in the pay scales of employees/ officers in different public sector banks;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to introduce parity in the pay scales of the employees/officers of all the banks?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c). The pay scales of workmen employees in all the public sector banks are identical. In the case of officers in Scale V and above, however, there are slight differentials in the pay scales between State Bank of India vis-a-vis the other public sector banks due to historical reasons. The revised pay scales for such officers in the State Bank of India have not so far been approved.

#### **Recovery of Agricultural Loans from Marginal Farmers**

1874. SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the nationalised banks/cooperative banks have started a large scale campaign to realise agricultural loans from marginal farmers;

(b) whether the campaign has been started as per the Government's directives; and

(c) if not, whether Government, under its declared policy, propose to issue directives to banks thereby saving marginal farmers from ruin?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c). Banks are required to take normal steps to recover their loans, including agricultural loans after the amounts fall due. Recoveries are made in respect of all categories of farmers, irrespective of whether they are marginal farmers and big farmers. Since this is a normal banking activity, Government does not issue any directives in this regard.

#### **Imports and Exports During December, January and February 1990**

1875. SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of total imports and exports (in crores of Rupees) in December, 1989 and January, February, 1990 main itemwise and country-wise; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to reduce imports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) The value of total imports and exports during December, 1989 and January, 1990 are as under:

	<i>Imports</i>	<i>Export</i>
December 1989 (P)	3186.30	2332.74
January 1990 (p)	3192.78	2605.20

(P): Provisional.

The figures of total import and export for February, 1990 and the item-wise and country-wise details of imports and exports for December, 1989, January and February, 1990 are not available.

(b) In order to reduce imports, Government have taken initiatives for efficient import substitution in the area of bulk imports. The Government has also taken measures to reduce the non-essential imports.

[English]

#### Export of Marine Products

1876. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the foreign exchange earned from the export of marine products during 1989;

(b) the state-wise percentage contribution to marine products export during 1989;

(c) whether export of marine products has increased during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) The foreign exchange earned from the export of marine products during 1989 was Rs. 613.54 crores.

(b) The state-wise percentage contri-

bution to marine products exports during 1989 is given below:

<i>State</i>	<i>Percentage (value)</i>
Kerala	35.68%
Karnataka	0.29%
Goa	0.28%
Maharashtra	20.49%
Gujarat	6.06%
West Bengal	12.22%
Orissa	1.03%
Andhra Pradesh	8.22%
Tamil Nadu	15.73%

(c) and (d). Export of marine product has increased during the last three years as indicated below:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Export Value (In Rs. Crores)</i>
1986-87	460.67
1987-88	531.20
1988-89	597.85

(Source: MPEDA, Cochin)

**Export of Sports Goods**

**1877. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of sports goods exported during 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 and the target fixed for 1990-91 respectively;

(b) the main items of sports goods that are exported;

(c) whether Government have offered any incentives to promote sports goods industry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) The value of sports goods exported during the last 3 years as reported by the Sports Goods Export Promotion Council is as under:

	(Rs. in crores)
1987-88	30.50
1988-89	38.11
1989-90	43.22 (P)

(upto January '90)

The Export target for 1990-91 has been tentatively fixed at Rs. 80/- crores.

(b) The main items of sports goods that are exported include Inflatable Balls, Cricket bats, hockey sticks, protective equipment for hockey & cricket, etc.

(c) and (d). The incentives offered to sports goods exporters include facilitation of easy access to imported inputs, grant of duty drawback, marketing assistance under MDA

and provision of Cash Compensatory Support.

**Introduction of Regional language as an Official Language in Courts**

**1878. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:** Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the States/Union Territories have introduced regional languages as the official language of the respective courts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b). Under Article 348 (1) of the Constitution of India, the proceedings of the High Courts and Supreme Court shall be in English. Under Article 348 (2) of the Constitution of India and Section 7 of the Official Languages Act, 1963, the Governor of a State may, with the previous consent of the President, authorise the use of Hindi or the official language of that State for use in the High Court in addition to English. Thus it is for the State Government to introduce Hindi or the official language of the State for use in the High Courts. The High Courts of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh Bihar and Rajasthan have been given permission of the President to use Hindi.

Introduction of regional languages as official language in the subordinate courts is to be considered by the State Governments.

**Telecast of Film on Subhash Chandra Bose**

**1879. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to telecast a film on Subhash Chandra Bose;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (c). A feature film in Bengali titled 'Subhash Chandra' which won the national award for the Best Feature Film on National Integration in 1967 has been offered for telecast on Doordarshan. Its telecast depends upon the programme requirements of Doordarshan and availability of good quality print.

#### Export of Leather Goods

1880. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the exports of leather & leather goods during 1989-90 (till date) as compared with 1988-89; and

(b) the measures taken or proposed to be taken to increase the exports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) Exports of leather and leather goods during 1989-90 (April-December 1989) as compared to the same period of 1988-89 (i.e. April-December 1988) have been as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Exports in Rs. Crores</i>
1989-90 (April-December, 1989)	1332.93
1988-89 (April-December, 1988)	1081.67

(Source: Council for Leather Exports)

(b) Market Promotion measures abroad and product development efforts in India or Indian Leather goods to be competitive in world market in terms of price and quality have helped in increasing exports and these measures are proposed to be continued and intensified, wherever required.

#### Incentives Package for Medium Steel Plants

1881. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for a comprehensive package of incentives for the medium scale steel manufacturing industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

#### Shortage of Natural Rubber

1882. SHRI PARASARAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether shortage of natural rubber and its increased price has put the continued operation of small and tiny rubber products units under threat;

(b) if so, whether Government have not yet released rubber at price fixed by them; and

(c) the details regarding the policy of Government in this regard?



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

(a) No, Sir, there is no shortage of natural rubber, as the gap between demand-supply is met by necessary imports and adequate quantities are released in the market as and when required.

As regards prices the Government is taking adequate measures to safeguard the interest of the growers on the one hand and the consuming industry on the other.

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

#### **USSR Import of India's Technical Know-How**

1883. SHRI PARASRAMBHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.S.S.R. is keen on importing from India technical know-how for computer printers and graphs plotters and for the manufacture of modern medicines;

(b) whether a delegation from USSR visited India recently in this regard;

(c) if so, whether any agreement has been reached in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (d). Necessary information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Indo-Japan Trade**

1884. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA  
NARASIMHARAJA  
WADIYAR:

SHRI DHARMESH PRASAD  
VARMA:

SHRISHANTILAL PURUSHOT-  
TAMDAS PATEL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the fields in which Indo-Japan bilateral trade has been established;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to expand trade relation with Japan;

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

(d) if so, the new areas identified for the expansion of trade between the two countries?

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

(a) to (c). India has a "Most Favoured Nation" Type of trade agreement with Japan which was signed in 1958. Consistent efforts have been made and are continuing at official as well as business levels to expand trade relations with Japan. Indo-Japan bilateral trade has grown from Rs. 2938 crores in 1985-86 to Rs. 4784 crores in 1988-89, as per DGCI & S, Calcutta statistics. Our exports of iron ore, shrimps and diamonds alone account for around 70 % of our total exports. Machinery such as electrical machinery, transport equipment, project goods, professional instruments, iron & steel etc., comprise the major items of our imports from Japan.

(d) Readymade garments, textiles, cotton yarn, home furnishings, giftware, chemicals, light engineering goods, gold jewellery, leather and leather products, computer software, auto ancillaries, bicycle components, carpets etc., are items identified for expansion of trade between the two countries.

#### **Trade Between India and U.K.**

1886. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a vast scope for

expansion of trade between India and the United Kingdom; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to promote bilateral trade?

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

(a) and (b). UK is one of the major trade partners of India in the West Europe region. However, in terms of the total global trade of U.K. our share is small. There is, thus, scope for expansion of bilateral trade between the two countries. Steps taken to promote bilateral trade include inter-alia, diversification of our export basket, implementation of trade promotion measures, exchange of trade delegations, organisation of buyer-seller meets, participation in trade fairs, publicity and facilitation of technical and financial collaborations, besides holding the periodic meeting of the Indo-British Economic Committee.

#### **Trade with Pakistan**

1887. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking steps to increase trade with Pakistan;

(b) if so, the areas in which Indo-Pak trade is going on; and

(c) the new areas identified for the expansion of trade between the two countries?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The principal items of trade are agricultural items including tea, iron ore and concentrates, chemical materials and related products and crude minerals, fruits and

nuts (fresh and dried), cotton, textile yarn fabrics.

(c) Expansion in trade with Pakistan in the areas of engineering goods, chemicals and spices could take place if Pakistan extends M.F.N. treatment to our exports.

#### **Indo-US Trade**

1888. SHRIGOPINATH GAJAPATHI: SHRI CHIRANJILAL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking steps for the expansion of Indo-US trade;

(b) if so, the new areas in which Indo-US trade has been established; and

(c) the items which are now being exported to and imported from U.S.A ?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The important new areas in which India has established its exports to USA are gems and jewellery, garments including fashion garments, leather products and computer software. India's imports from USA include machinery, metalliferous ores and metal scrap, fertilizers, inorganic and organic chemicals, professional instruments etc.

(c) (i) India's major exports of U.S.A. (1988-89)

1. Gems and Jewellery.

2. Readymade garments of cotton.

3. Engineering goods.

4. Basic Chemicals.
5. Leather and Manufactures.
6. Cotton yarn and fabrics.
7. Carpets.
8. Handicrafts.
9. Readymade garments of man made fibres
10. Marine Products

(ii) India's major imports from U.S.A (1988-89)

1. Machinery and machine tools
2. Wheat.
3. Metalliferrous ores and metal scrap
4. Organic and Inorganic chemicals.
5. Fertilizers manufactured.
6. Professional Instruments, optical goods, etc.
7. Vegetable oils fixed (edible)
8. Transport equipments.
9. Computers.

[*Translation*]

#### **Dacoities and Thefts in Banks**

1889. SHRI RAMLAL RAHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of nationalised banks

where the incidents of dacoities and thefts have occurred since 1st January, 1990;

(b) whether the bank employees/officers were also involved in such thefts and dacoities;

(c) whether any action has been taken against such employees; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has intimated that from 1.1.90 to 7.3.90, 17 incidents of bank robberies/dacoities have taken place in branches of seven nationalised banks.

(b) No, Sir.

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

[*English*]

#### **Reservation for SCs/STs in Nationalised Banks and Financial Institutions**

1890. SHRI HET RAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had issued any instructions in 1989 to all nationalised banks to conduct special recruitment drives for clearing the backlog of vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in various cadres;

(b) whether any special recruitment drives were conducted by nationalised banks and financial institutions;

(c) the position of backlog as on January 1, 1989, cadre-wise, in all nationalised banks/financial institutions, the number of vacancies filled, deserted, lapsed and position of backlog as on January 1, 1990; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to ensure proper implementation of reservation policy for SCs/STs in nationalised banks and financial institutions?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF.

MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The position as reported by the Public Sector Banks and Financial Institutions is as under:—

Sl. No.	Cadre	Backlog as on 1.1.89		Filled during 1989		Backlog as on 31.12.1989	
		SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Officer	532	429	440	303	146	149
2.	Clerical	2967	2729	3482	2790	86	327
3.	Sub-Staff	904	1452	1423	1537	1	65

(Note:— The numbers indicated as filled and the backlog as on 31.12.89 will not total up to backlog as on 1.1.89 as while there is some short fall in some banks the others have recruitment more than the backlog.)

Government has imposed ban on dere-servation of reserved vacancies in direct recruitment to Clerical and sub-staff cadres in the Public Sector Banks/Financial Institutions. Besides, the provision regarding lapsing after three recruitment years, has been suspended with a effect from 1.4.89. As per the information available with the Government, only one reserved vacancy in the Grade of Chief Security Officer (Scale-V) has been dereserved by one bank so far after the issue of the above instructions.

(d) The Government has taken the following steps to ensure proper implementation of reservation policy for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Public Sector Banks/Financial Institutions:—

(1) Public Sector Banks/Financial

Institutions have been advised to appoint Senior level Officers of the Banks viz. Deputy General Manager/Assistant General Manager to function as Liaison Officers and to set up Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes Cells in their respective Central Offices and also in the Zonal/Regional Offices to ensure proper implementation of reservation policy.

(2) The Public Sector Banks/Financial Institutions are required to place before their respective Boards of Directors, Annual Review Report in the prescribed proforma, on the progress made in the implementation of reservation policy during the preceding year.

(3) Government reviews the Annual Review Reports of the banks referred to above closely

for short comings if any.

- (4) The Liaison Officers in the Banking Division of the Government conducts in-depth examination on implementation of reservation policy in one bank every quarter.

#### **Reservation for SCs/STs in LIC**

1891. SHRI HET RAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total strength of employees, post-wise, in the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) as on 31st December, 1987, 1988 and 1989;

(b) the number of employees, post-wise, recruited/promoted to various posts and out of them how many vacancies were reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes as per roster points, how many were actually filled, dereserved, lapsed and carried over as backlog during the above three years;

(c) whether any special recruitment drive/promotion drive for filling of vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled

Tribes was undertaken by the LIC during 1989, if so, the details of vacancies filled by such drive; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to ensure proper implementation of reservation policy in the LIC?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) Figures are given in the Statement-I below.

(b) Details of the recruitment and promotions etc are indicated below in the Statement II and III respectively.

(c) and (d). Special recruitment drive for filling up of the backlog including carried forward vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (SCs/STs) as on 30th April, 1989, was undertaken by the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) during the period 1st June, 1989 to 31st August, 1989. Details of 1397 vacancies filled through this exercise are shown in the Statement IV below. In spite of the magnitude of the target set and the time constraint involved, LIC has accomplished the task within the time frame assigned, through close monitoring of the progress at each stage

**STATEMENT—I****Total Strength of Employees, Postwise in life Insurance Corporation of India**

<b>Class of Posts</b>	<b>As on</b>		
	<b>31.12.1987</b>	<b>31.12.1988</b>	<b>31.12.1989</b>
<b>Class I</b>	7,118	7,945	9,150
<b>Class II</b>	9,348	10,591	11,800
<b>Class III</b>	46,048	44,643	50,283
<b>Class IV</b>	8,571	7,906	9,836

**STATEMENT—II**

The number of employees "Post-wise" Recruited to various posts and out of them how many vacancies were reserved for Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes, as per Roster points, how many were actually filled, dereserved, lapsed and carried over as backlog during the three calendar year 1987, 1988 and 1989.

Class of Posts	Scheduled Castes							Scheduled Tribes				
	Total recruited	Reserved for SCs.	*Carried forward from previous year	S.Cs recruited	Dere-served	Lapsed	Reserved for STs.	*Carried forward from previous year	STs recruited	Dere-served	Lapsed	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
1987	I	197	29	—	33	—	15	—	2	—	—	
	II	1899	279	99	321	—	151	266	143	28	3	
	III	2019	298	122	323	58	167	242	154	42	18	
	IV	1005	137	11	251	5	75	33	48	6	—	

Class of Posts	Scheduled Castes					Scheduled Tribes					
	Total recruited	Reserved for SCs.	*Carried forward from previous year	S.Cs recruited	Dere-served	Lapsed	Reserved for STs.	*Carried forward from previous year	STs recruited	Dere-served	Lapsed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1988											
I	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—
II	2357	377	83	422	5	—	180	237	127	36	6
III	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
IV	8	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—



Class of Posts	Scheduled Castes							Scheduled Tribes				
	Total recruited	Reserved for SCs.	*Carried forward from previous year	S.Cs recruited	Dere-served	Lapsed	Reserved for STs.	*Carried forward from previous year	STs recruited	Dere-served	Lapsed	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1989												
I	231	36	—	—	53	—	—	18	—	18	—	—
II	1972	325	—	—	384	—	—	174	—	332	—	—
III	8137	1391	—	—	1572	—	—	643	—	970	—	—
IV	2304	397	—	—	540	—	—	207	—	281	—	—

\*All Carried Forward SC/ST Vacancies as on 30.4.1989 have been filled under the Special Recruitment Driver for SCs/STs.

## STATEMENT—III

The number of employees "Post-wise" Promoted to the various posts and out of them how many vacancies were reserved for Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes, as per Roster points, how many were actually filled, dereserved, lapsed and carried over as backlog during the three calendar year 1987, 1988 and 1989.

Class of Posts	Scheduled Castes							Scheduled Tribes				
	Total promoted	Reserved	Carried forward from previous year	S.Cs promoted	Dere-served	Lapsed	Reserved	Carried forward from previous year	STs promoted	Dere-served	Lapsed	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
1987												
I	369	53	—	11	—	—	27	—	—	—	—	
III	1870	267	442	233	417	43	128	327	52	260	39	
IV	56	10	2	10	2	—	3	4	1	3	3	

Class of Posts	Scheduled Castes					Scheduled Tribes					
	Total promoted	Reserved	Carried forward from previous year	S Cs promoted	Dere-served	Lapsed	Reserved	Carried forward from previous year	STs promoted	Dere-served	Lapsed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

1988

I	1078	162	—	162	—	—	62	—	19	—	—
III	3475	539	496	477	462	23	266	349	154	308	24
IV	78	13	1	21	—	—	3	2	8	1	—

Class of Posts	Scheduled Castes							Scheduled Tribes				
	Total promoted	Reserved	Carried forward from previous year	S.Cs promoted	Dere-served	Lapsed	Reserved	Carried forward from previous year	STs promoted	Dere-served	Lapsed	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1989												
I	1352	229	—	—	140	—	—	107	—	20	—	—
III	3115	462	573	417	386	31	219	405	111	234	24	—
IV	29	4	—	—	4	1	—	3	2	1	1	—

Note: Class II represents Development Officers which is only an Entry Cadre

**STATEMENT—IV**

*Number of Posts filled through Special recruitment drive Undertaken by life Insurance Corporation of India between 1.6.1989 to 31.8.1989.*

		<i>Scheduled Castes</i>			
<i>Classes of Posts</i>	<i>Number of Posts for which recruitment action taken</i>	<i>Number of Posts for which recruitment completed</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
I	—	—			
II	127	127			
III	405	405			
IV	26	26			
<b>Total</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>558</b>			

<i>Scheduled Tribes</i>		
<i>Classes of Posts</i>	<i>Number of Posts for which recruitment action taken</i>	<i>Number of Posts for which recruitment completed</i>
1	2	3
I	13	13
II	260	260
III	490	490
IV	76	76
Total	839	839
Grand Total	1,397	1,397

**Reservations for SCs and STs**

1892. SHRI HET RAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government directives relating to reservation in services for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as contained in brochure on reservation for SCs and STs have been properly followed in Income tax Department, Customs Department, Central Excise Department and Narcotics Department;

(b) the number of vacancies in those organisations which were identified in different posts in last three years and how many of them were reserved for SCs and STs in direct recruitment as well as promotions and how many of them were actually filled, dere-served, lapsed and position of backlog of reserved vacancies; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to avoid dereservation of reserved vacancies and filling of backlog?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Exports and Imports**

1893. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state: the total value of exports and imports during the last six months?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): The trade statistics are compiled on the financial year basis. According to the provisional figures available, India's exports and imports during April-January 1990 amounted to Rs. 22047.20 crores and Rs. 28937.49 crores respectively.

**Excise Duty on Electricity Generation**

1894. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government levies any Excise duty on electricity generated in different States;

(b) if so, the details of the rates of such levy;

(c) whether the net proceeds of the above tax from the States or equal amounts were being transferred to the respective States from year to year; and

(d) if not, the policy being followed in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (d). Central Excise Duty on Electricity was levied at the rate of 2 paise per KWH with effect from 01.3.1978. However, this levy was abolished with effect from 01.10.1984. Refund of net proceeds of excise duty on electricity generation was made to the States during 1979-80 to 1984-85 (upto 30.09.1984) in accordance with the percentage shares prescribed in the Union Duties of Excise (Electricity) Distribution Act, 1980.

**Steps to Boost Tea Industry**

1895. SHRI DHARMESH PRASAD VARMA:  
SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the suggestions from various tea Associations have been received by Government for boosting tea industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereon; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to boost tea industry?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Government has received representations from time to time from various Associations concerned with tea industry for improvements in the tea industry. The representations mainly relate to availability of resources and fiscal reliefs to the tea industry. To increase tea production and processing capacity, the Tea Board provides financial assistance to the tea industry through its various developmental schemes. Matters relating to fiscal relief are examined and a view taken in consultation with the concerned Ministries.

#### **Electoral Reforms**

1896. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD:  
SHRI KALP NATH RAI:

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

(a) the electoral reforms recommended by the Election Commission and other bodies during the last three years; and

(b) the changes made in the electoral laws during these years?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Numerous recommendations were received from the Election Commission and other bodies. The main recommendations are contained in Statement-I given below.

(b) The main changes made in the Electoral Laws, during the period, are contained in Statement-II given below.

#### **STATEMENT-I**

##### *Main recommendations made by the Election Commission on Electoral Reforms*

1. Introduction of Multi-purpose photo-identity cards to voters.
2. Amendment in the ceiling on election expenses.
3. Delimitation of constituencies and rotation of reserved seats.
4. Introduction of electronic voting machines.
5. Elimination of non-serious candidates.
6. Speedy disposal of election petition.
7. State funding of elections.
8. Registration of political parties and compulsory audit.
9. Reduction in voting age.
10. Ban on candidates contesting from more than two constituencies.
11. Disqualification of persons with criminal records.
12. Prevention of disturbances of election meetings.
13. Prevention of fraudulent filing of nomination papers.
14. Measures to control the offence of booth capturing.
15. Countermanding of elections not to be resorted to on the death of an independent candidate.
16. The expenditure incurred by a politi-



cal party to be included in computing the election expenses.

17. Separate electoral machinery under the control of Election Commission.

### STATEMENT-II

#### *Main Changes made in the Election Laws*

1. Reduction in voting age from 21 years to 18 years.
2. The Chief Electoral Officers, Distt. Election Officers and other Election Staff to be deemed to be on deputation to the Election Commission for the period of Election and to be subject to the control, superintendance and discipline of the Commission.
3. Disqualification section made more stiff by including offences under various laws.
4. Definition of political parties and provisions for their registration.
5. Provisions for use of electronic voting machines at elections.
6. Booth capturing made an offence with provision for countermanding of election.
7. Enhancement of punishment for causing disturbances at election meetings.
8. Number of proposers increased for election to Rajya Sabha and Legislative Councils.

#### **Concessions to Sick Shipping Companies for Repayment of Loans and Interest**

1897. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give concessions to the sick shipping companies for repayment of loans and interest;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of loans and interest overdue from them?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). The Government in consultation with Shipping Credit and Investment Company of India Limited (SCICI) approved Rehabilitation Packages for sick but potentially viable Private Shipping Companies in terms of which outstanding debts are to be rescheduled and/or restructured. The Rehabilitation Packages are under implementation in the companies. Such packages may include inter-alia; scaling down of outstanding Principal debt in line with current market value of the fleet, converting the excess outstanding debt over market value of fleet into interest free (Zero rated) debt, converting overdue interest to 6% subordinated debt repayable as and when cash-flow permits, replacement of overaged tonnage by modern fuel efficient vessels. Existing management of the rehabilitated companies are also required to bring in additional capital.

(c) Shipping Credit and Investment Company of India Limited (SCICI) has reported that the overdues of the companies financed by the erstwhile Shipping Development Fund Committee (SDFC) as on April 4, 1987 (SDFC) was abolished w.e.f. 3.4.1987 and March, 31, 1989 were as follows:—

(*Figures in rupees crores*)

	<i>As on</i> 4.4.87	<i>As on</i> 31.3.87
Principal and Interest amount overdue	319	214

[*Translation*]

**Damage caused to Poppy Cultivation in M.P.**

1898. DR LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether poppy cultivation has been adversely affected in Mandsaur (Madhya Pradesh) due to heavy hailstorm and disease;

(b) whether the poppy growers have submitted an application to the district Narcotics Department for getting relief due to these causes; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c) Reports received indicate that the opium poppy crop in Mandsaur (Madhya Pradesh) may have suffered some damage. The extent of damage can be assessed only after opium has been tendered to the Government. Some cultivators have expressed their apprehension that their yield may fall and that they may not be in a position to tender the prescribed minimum qualifying yield of opium for grant of licence for the next crop year.

While deciding the general conditions for grant of licence for poppy cultivation, the extent of damage suffered by the poppy crop in the preceding year is kept in view and appropriate relief is provided in terms of relaxation of qualifying yield.

**Number of Akashvani and Doordarshan Kendras**

1899. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Akashvani and Doordarshan Kendras at present;

(b) the number of Akashvani and Doordarshan Kendras proposed to be commissioned during 1990-91 separately; and

(c) whether backward and rural areas are proposed to be accorded priority in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) There are 100 Akashvani Kendras, 514 TV Transmission Centres and 18 TV programme production centres functioning in the country at present.

(b) Seventy one All India Radio Stations are likely to be completed during 1990-91.

As regards Doordarshan, 18 high power TV transmitters (including 13 in replacement of the existing low power TV transmitters), 22 low power and very low power transmitters/transposers and 19 Programme Production Centres initially approved under the VII Plan are scheduled to be commissioned by the end of 1990-91. In addition, Doordarshan's Annual Plan for 1990-91 also provides, inter alia, for establishment of 9 high power (including 4 for second channel service) and 25 low power/very low power TV transmitters. The gestation period for establishment of a high power TV transmitters normally ranges from 2 to 3 years after commencement of civil works.

(c) The coverage of backward and rural areas is given due priority in the expansion plans of Akashvani and Doordarshan.

[English]

**Bank Robberies in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir**1900. SHRI YASHWANTRAOPATIL:  
SHRI R.N. RAKESH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the bank branches looted in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir during the period January-February, 1990,

(b) the losses suffered as a result thereof; and

(c) the special measures taken to strengthen the security arrangements for the banks in these States?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has intimated that from 1.1.90 to 28.2.90, no incident of bank robbery/dacoity took place in the State of Jammu & Kashmir. Details of the bank robberies/dacoities which took place in Punjab during the same period and amounts involved therein are given in the statement below.

(c) Bank robberies/dacoities to a con-

siderable extent depend on the general security environment in the locality. Banks, however, have been taking steps to improve their security arrangements so as to offer as little scope as possible to miscreants to rob banks and also to deter them. As this is a continuous process, security measures implemented by public sector banks are being reviewed from time to time and whenever further improvements are considered necessary, requisite guidelines/instructions are given to the banks. Depending on the risk factor involved, steps have been taken to appoint security guards, instal appropriate alarm systems etc. in branches. Further, in order to motivate bank employees, the general public and the police to resist robbers/dacoits, a scheme for giving rewards and compensation is in operation.

In the State of Punjab, special efforts have been made to strengthen bank security by deploying para-military forces both for static guard duty as well as for escort of cash remittances. Besides, linkage of bank branches with currency chests has been rationalised. The security problems are also being reviewed in periodical meetings of State Level Security Committee. Due to recent developments in Jammu and Kashmir, instructions have been issued to ensure guarding of currency chests and certain vulnerable branches by para-military forces/armed police.

**STATEMENT**

*Statement showing bankwise information in respect of bank robberies/dacoities and amount involved therein which took place in the State of Punjab from 1.1.90 to 28.2.90*

Sl.No.	Name of the Bank	No. of cases	Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1.	State Bank of India	2	2.75
2.	Canara Bank	1	2.21

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Bank</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>	<i>Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1	2	3	4
3.	New Bank of India	1	0.13
4.	Punjab National Bank	5	3.94
5.	Punjab & Sind Bank	2	0.55
Total		11	9.58

(Data provisional)

[*Translation*]

**Export Promotion of High Quality Goods of Small Scale Industries**

1901. SHRIGUMAN MALLODHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government for promoting export of high quality goods especially by small scale industries in India;

(b) whether any arrangements have been made for direct contact with the consumers in other countries for these products; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) To promote export of high quality products, the Government assists the small and medium units by facilitating designer inputs and product adaptation required by consumers in the overseas markets. Special assistance is also provided for import of samples, catalogues and drawings of products demanded abroad. Technical experts and designers are also invited from abroad to

advise improvements in production processes and quality. Special training is provided to upgrade the quality of the products. All items manufactured in the small scale sector are given double weightage while judging the performance of the Export and Trading Houses for eligibility. Besides, exporters including the small scale units are provided incentives such as cash compensatory support, duty-drawback, concessional export credits, exemption of 100% of export profits, etc.

(b) and (c). Direct contact with the consumers in other countries is provided through contact promotion programmes, Buyer-Seller Meets, Participation in Trade Fairs and Exhibitions, India Promotion Programmes with Departmental Stores abroad, etc.

[*English*]

**Trade with France**

1902. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:  
SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJES-  
WARI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement has been reached between India and France in regard to increase in trade between the two countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):** (a) and (b). On conclusion of discussion in the Seventh meeting of the Indo-French Joint Committee held in New Delhi on 30-31st January, 1989. Agreed Minutes were signed and it was agreed to expand and consolidate bilateral trade and economic relations between India and France. It was, inter-alia, agreed that there should be diversification of the import export basket, cooperation in projects in third countries, and, establishment of Joint Ventures between Indian and French enterprises.

#### **Export Processing Zones in Orissa**

1903. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had a proposal to set up some Export Processing Zones in Orissa;

(b) the number of Export Processing Zones that were originally planned for setting up in Orissa;

(c) the places identified for locations of these processing zones;

(d) the number of Export Processing Zones that have been actually set up so far; and

(e) the steps taken for setting up the remaining Export Processing Zones?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):** (a) to (c). Based on the Feasibility Study carried out by the Trade Development Authority at the instance of the Orissa Government, the State Government made a proposal for setting up an export processing zone in Orissa. The Feasibility Report preferred Bhuvaneshwar to Paradweep as site for the zone. It had not been possible for the Union Government to accept this proposal.

(d) There are six Free Trade/Export Processing Zones presently in operation. The establishment of a seventh zone at Visakhapatnam has been notified on 15.3.1989.

(e) Setting up of more Export Processing Zones in the country can be considered only when it becomes possible for the Government to find additional resources besides finding the necessity for more zones in the country.

#### **Export of Iron Ore**

1904. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the export of iron ore during the last three years;

(b) whether the export of iron ore has been declining;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to increase the export of iron ore?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):** (a) Exports of iron ore during the last three years have been as under;

*(Qty: Lakh Tonnes)*

<i>Year</i>	<i>Exports</i>
1987-88	283
1988-89 (P)	333
1989-90 (P)	296 (upto Feb., 1990)

(P) = Provisional

(b) No, Sir

(c) Does not arise

(d) Some of the steps taken by MMTC to increase export of iron ore are market diversification, improvement in infrastructural facilities at major ports and tying up of export sales through long term agreements with major buyers of iron ore

#### **Performance of MMTC during Seventh Five Year Plan**

1905 SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements of the Minerals and Metal Trading Corporation (MMTC) in the matter of export earnings, both canalised and non-canalised items, yearwise during the Seventh Five Year Plan Period.

(b) whether Government have reviewed the performance of the Corporation during this period; and

(c) if so, the outcome of the review?

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

(a) Total value of exports by MMTC, of both canalised and non-canalised items, year-

wise during the Seventh Five Year Plan have been as under:

*(Value : Rs. Crores)*

<i>Year</i>	<i>Value of Exports</i>
1985-86	622.63
1986-87	711.69
1987-88	728.83
1988-89	872.62
1989-90 (Upto Feb., 90)	915.00

(b) and (c). Government has been periodically reviewing performance of MMTC during the Seventh Five Year Plan, and urging them to increase their exports, particularly, non-canalised exports. Non-canalised exports have increased from Rs. 19.74 crores in 1984-85 to Rs. 363 crores in 1989-90 (upto Feb. 90), while total exports have increased from Rs. 376 crores to Rs. 915 crores during the same period

#### **Assistance given Under Personal Accident Insurance Social Security Scheme in Orissa**

1906. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Personal Accident Insurance Social Security Scheme had been introduced by his Ministry for providing assistance to the victims from poor families;

(b) when the scheme was introduced in Orissa; and

(c) the details of the benefit given under the Scheme to the victims in Orissa during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Scheme was introduced in Orissa, in the first phase, in three districts viz. Bolangir, Kalahandi and Koraput w.e.f. 15.8.1985. It was extended to another four

districts viz. Dhenkanal, Ganjam, Keonjhar and Mayurbhanj w.e.f. 15.8.1986. It was further extended to all the remaining districts of Orissa w.e.f. 15.8.1988.

(c) The information relating to number of claims settled and amounts paid in Orissa during the last three years is as under:—

Year	No. of claims settled	Amount paid (In lakhs of Rupees)
1987	352	10.56
1988	729	21.87
1989 (upto November, 1989)	1229	36.87

#### Prosecution in Bank Frauds

1907. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India or Reserve Bank of India have issued any instructions to the nationalised banks not to launch prosecutions in fraud cases involving bank officials where it is found that the money involved had been recovered fully;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for which Canara Bank suggested to the CBI for non-prosecution of its General Manager;

(d) the present position of the case; and

(e) the action, if any, taken or contemplated by the Bank?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e). In the case of M/s Inter Corp Associates Bangalore, Shivaji Nagar, branch of State Bank of India and Colaba branch of Canara Bank, Central Bureau of Investigation, after investigation the case, had recommended Regular Departmental Action for major penalty against a General Manager of Canara Bank. However, when Canara Bank, as per the prescribed procedure, approached Central Vigilance Commission for advice, the bank had explained to the Commission that no malafides can be attributed to the General Manager for taking certain decisions relating to sanction of bills discounting facilities to the party. Having regard to the position explained by the bank, the Commission advised closure of the case against the General Manager.

#### Amendment to RBI Act, 1934

1908. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to amend the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 with a view to grant autonomy to the

Reserve Bank of India and to plug loopholes therein; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDEVATE): (a) and (b). Being a statutory body set up under the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has necessary powers to perform the functions assigned to it under the provisions of the Act. As such, no change in the Act is being proposed for this purpose.

#### **Merger of Agricultural Finance Consultant Ltd. with NABARD**

1909. SHRI VAMANRAO MAHADIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to merge Agricultural Finance Consultant Limited (AFC) with the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for to form a new apex body by transferring the Agricultural Finance Consultant Limited to the Agriculture and Rural Development Organisation; and

(b) if so, the status of the proposal at present?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDEVATE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Representation to Regional Films in Indian Panorama**

1910. SHRI A. ASOKARAJ: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether representation is given to all regional films in Indian Panorama at international film festivals;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

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

(b) The Indian Panorama films are selected every year keeping in view the cinematic, thematic and aesthetic excellence of the films. Every year a maximum of 21 feature films and a maximum of 21 non-feature films are selected for Indian Panorama by a jury of eminent film personalities and artist approved by the Government of India. The selection is made through Regional Panels of National Film Development Corporation at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras who have been allotted the languages. The final selection is made by Central Panel. A film in any Indian language certified by the Central Board of Film Certification between 1st September of the immediate preceding year and 31st August of the year in which Indian Panorama films are being selected is eligible.

(c) No steps are required to be taken, as merit of the film should be the sole criterion for selection.

#### **Setting up of Panels for Reviewing T.V. Serials, Films, Telefilms etc.**

1911. SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan has set up different panels to review TV serials, feature films, telefilms, current affairs documentaries and other programmes;

(b) if so, the names of persons appointed on each of the above panels and the



criteria for their appointment;

(c) the reasons for not appointing Members of Parliament on these panels; and

(d) the guidelines given to these panels for selection of different programmes?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (d). A panel of non-officials has been drawn up to review all the programmes which had already been selected for telecast on the national network. Their names are kept confidential in order to protect them from the possibility of outside pressures etc.

Since it is Parliament which is the ultimate authority to control and scrutinise the working of Doordarshan, appointment of its Members to committees which select the day-to-day programmes of Doordarshan is not considered appropriate. The Consultative Committee of Members of Parliament attached to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is already there.

Since all the members of the panel are eminent persons in the field of art, literature, communication etc., they are expected to select only those programmes which conform to acceptable standards of merit.

#### **Automated Teller Machines for Banks**

1912. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in pursuance of the recommendation for introducing computerisation and modernisation in banking industry, the chief executives of the public sector banks have recently decided to instal and manage Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) in banks between 1990 and 1994;

(b) if so, whether banks would share ATM net-work or acquire ATMs individually;

(c) whether the ATM net-work/ATMs would be installed in all the metropolitan cities in the first instance;

(d) if so, the estimated expenditure involved in installation of ATMs;

(e) the extent of savings and efficiency in customer service likely to be achieved thereby;

(f) whether these ATMs are presently being imported and huge import duty is involved therein; and

(g) if so, whether there is any proposal for manufacture of these ATMs by some Indian Companies?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (g). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it has recently received a proposal from the Indian Bank's Association (IBA) to establish a shared ATM network. No decision has been taken by the Reserve Bank of India on the proposal yet.

#### **Performance of SAIL**

1913. SHRI K.S. RAO:  
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURHTY:  
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:  
SHRI Y.S. RAJA SEKHAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production targets of the Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) were achieved during the last financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there was improvement in the financial performance of SAIL during the same period;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the SAIL propose to launch a special drive for improving its overall per-

formance in production and profitability; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b). SAIL's production target fulfilment during 1988-89 is given below —

(‘000T)

SAIL	Targets	Actual	%
1	2	3	4
Hot Metal	10018	9643	96.3
Crude Steel	8775	8476	96.6
Saleable Steel	7362	7261	98.6

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir The working results of Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL) for the year 1988-89 showed a net profit after provision for tax of Rs 302.00 crores, which was all time high, and substantially better than in previous years

(e) and (f) Effort for improving overall performance in production and profitability of SAIL through higher capacity utilisation, superior product-mix, better techno-economic performance and inculcation of greater cost consciousness at all levels besides plans to upgrade and modernise the plants technologically are an on going process

**Formulation of a Committee on T.V. Serial "The Sword of Tipu Sultan"**

1914. SHRI P M SAYEED.  
SHRI CHITTA BASU:  
SHRI LOKANATH CH-  
OUDHARY:

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

(a) whether Government have set up a Committee to approve the telecast of Serial 'The Sword of Tipu Sultan';

(b) if so, the composition of the Committee and its terms of reference;

(c) the time by which the Committee is likely to give its report,

(d) the reasons for which the telecast of the serial was earlier stalled; and

(e) the time by which the serial will be telecast?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (d). There is no special committee set up to review the serial 'The Sword of Tipu Sultan'. However, action has been taken to determine whether the serial represents an accurate depiction of events.

(e) No final decision has been taken

about the date of telecast of this serial.

[*Translation*]

**Target for setting up of Low Power Transmitters**

1915. SHRID. AMAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed for setting up of low Power Transmitters during the last two years of the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) whether these targets have been fulfilled;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (d). 292 low power/very low power TV transmitters and transposers were scheduled to be commissioned into service during the last two years of the VII Plan i.e. 1988-89 and 1989-90. Whereas 270 of these transmitters/transposers have, so far, been commissioned into service, the remaining ones are at various stages of implementation.

**Frauds in New Bank of India**

1916. SHRI RAMLAL RAHI:  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MAN-  
DAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether big frauds involving bank officials have come to light in the New Bank of India;

(b) if so, the modus operandi thereof;

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the delinquent bank officials concerned; and

(d) the remedial measures taken to prevent such frauds occurring in future in other nationalised banks?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has intimated that it does not maintain information/statistical data separately about cases of frauds in which bank employees themselves are involved. However, information in respect of number of frauds and amounts involved therein, as reported to RBI, by New Bank of India for the years 1987, 1988 and 1989 is as given below:

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of frauds</i>	<i>Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1	2	3
1987	13	24.01
1988	31	122.23
1989	17	185.46

The modus operandi adopted for perpetration of frauds varies in each case.

(c) Details of action taken by New Bank

of India against the delinquent officials for their involvement in cases of frauds during the years 1987, 1988 and 1989 are indicated below:

Sl. No.	Nature of punishment	Years		
		1987	1988	1989
1	2	3	4	5
1.	No. of employees awarded major/minor penalties	32	20	20
2.	No. of employees out of (1) above dismissed/discharged/removed	7	—	2
3.	No. of employees against whom prosecution is pending in the courts	3	13	14

(d) By and large frauds have occurred in banks not on account of any lacunae in the systems and procedures, but owing to non-observance of the prescribed procedures and safeguards. Both RBI and Government have taken several steps for prevention and prompt detection of cases of frauds. Banks have also prescribed detailed accounting procedures and safeguards. From time to time, banks are also taking steps to strengthen the control mechanisms including the internal audit/inspection machinery and to make them effective so as to eliminate the scope for frauds and malpractices. Banks have been taking a serious view of irregularities committed by their employees and initiating action to inflict punishment befitting the seriousness of irregularities on the delinquent employees. They have been taking steps to ensure quicker disposal of departmental enquiries. Banks have reviewed and revamped their vigilance machinery, taken steps to tone up control and supervision, strengthen management information system, follow up and inspection/audit arrangements and for clearing the arrears in balancing of books and reconciliation of inter-branch and other accounts on a continuous basis so

as to prevent frauds in these areas

#### **Fictitious Accounts in Banks**

1917. SHRI RAMLAL RAHI:  
SHRI PYARELAL KHANDEL-  
WAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some persons have opened account in different branches of banks in Delhi and other parts of the country in different names and illegal transactions are carried on through such accounts;

(b) if so, the number of such cases detected so far and whether these accounts were opened in connivance with the bank employees/officers;

(c) whether Government have awarded any punishment to such culprits so far; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### Bank Note Press at Mysore

1918. SHRI JANARDHANA  
POOJARY:  
SHRI C. SRINIVASAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has started the work for Bank Note Press at Mysore;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India has reported that the work connected with setting up of a Bank Note Press at Mysore has been taken up; that land has been acquired; and that fencing of the land has also started. Further, it will take about 4 years to complete the project.

#### Unsold Stock of Opium

1919. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:  
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have unsold stock of confiscated opium; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). 13,840

Kgs. (rounded off to Kgs.) of confiscated opium is available with the Government Opium and Alkaloid Works, Ghazipur/Neemuch.

[Translation]

#### Doordarshan Transmission in Bihar

1921. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the districts in Bihar are covered by the TV transmission facility;

(b) if not, the districts which are yet to be covered;

(c) whether the process to link these districts through Microwave has started; and

(d) the time by which TV transmission facility would be available there?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). At present, all the districts of Bihar excepting Godda, are covered wholly or partially by TV service. With the commissioning of on-going TV projects in Bihar, the service in the State is expected to improve considerably and parts of Godda district shall also stand covered.

(c) and (d). A firm demand has been placed with the Department of Telecommunications (DOT) for establishment of microwave links between Patna and Katihar and Patna and Ranchi to enable the transmitters at Katihar and Ranchi to relay programmes to be produced at the TV Studio Centre, Patna which is under implementation at present. In the mean time, all the transmitters in Bihar are linked to Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi via Satellite.

[English]

### **Expansion of Rubber Plantation**

1922. SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOT-TAMDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked the Rubber Board to prepare a programme for the massive expansion of rubber plantations in the North-East and other non-traditional areas during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether the programme has been prepared, if so, the details thereof;

(c) to what extent the rubber production will be increased during 1990-91, and

(d) the total number of production during 1980-90?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b). Large scale expansion of rubber cultivation in approximately 65,000 hectares in the North Eastern Region and other non traditional areas has been envisaged in the draft 8th Five Year Plan for rubber prepared by the Rubber Board. The performance would however depend on the availability of sufficient funds and suitable land.

(c) and (d). The natural rubber production is estimated to be approximately 327000 tonnes during 1990-91 against an estimated production of 292000 tonnes during 1989-90.

### **Advisory Committee/Screening Committee in Doordarshan Kendra**

1923. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director of a Door-darshan Kendra is the sole authority to select the various programmes of the Door-darshan Kendra;

(b) the effective steps taken or likely to be taken for the review of his decisions;

(c) whether there are any advisory committees/screening committees in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (d). The Director of a Doordarshan Kendra is responsible for day to day working of his Kendra. In selection of programmes, he is generally guided by various Committees attached to the Kendra and guidelines issued from time to time from the Headquarters. Details of the various Committees functioning at various levels in Door-darshan set up are given in the statement below. All Kendras have been asked to re-constitute these Committees.

### **STATEMENT**

#### **(A) AT THE KENDRAS**

(i) Drama Advisory Committee—For selection of script for production—consists of both official and non-official members.

(ii) Health and Family Welfare Advisory Committee—To advise the Director of the Kendra regarding participants, particularly experts, for the programme—consists of both official and non-official members.

(iii) Screening Committee at Door-darshan Kendra, Delhi—For

recommending proposals of outside producers for morning transmission to the Costing Committee at the Doordarshan headquarters for grant of financial assistance—consists of both officials and certain non-official members.

- (iv) Screening Committee at Doordarshan Kendra, Bombay—For recommending proposals of outside producers for afternoon transmission to the Costing Committee at Doordarshan Headquarters for grant of financial assistance—consists of official members.
- (v) Regional film selection Committee—For selection of regional language films for telecast locally and gradation of award winning regional language films for telecast over national network.
- (vi) Programme Advisory Committees (Only at Kendras which originate programmes)—To review the programmes broadcast by the Kendras and to make suggestions for improvement of Programmes and advise on matters concerning the planning and presentation of the programmes with reference to the Kendras to which they are attached.

**(B) AT THE DOORDARSHAN HEAD-QUARTERS**

- (i) Costing Committees—For considering the recommendations of the Kendras and decide about the quantum of financial assistance to be given to the producer

etc. for production of programmes—consists of officials.

- (ii) Screening Committee—For approval of the pilots of sponsored programmes of Doordarshan Kendras—consists of both official and non-official members.
- (iii) Screening Committee—To evaluate proposals from outside producers for production of programmes under the Commissioning Scheme—consists of official members.
- (iv) Selection Committee—For selection of Hindi feature films for telecast on the national network of Doordarshan.

- (C) In addition to above, there are Audition Committees for selection of artists for Dance, drama, news presenters, etc. etc.

**Performance of Durgapur Steel Plant**

1924. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of investment made so far in the Durgapur Steel Plant and whether its performance has been deteriorating from year to year.

(b) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited offered to render all help to Durgapur Steel Plant, to make it a viable unit; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard and how far this offer will help Durgapur Steel Plant, Steel Authority of India Limited and the State of West Bengal?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI):** (a) The total amount invested in Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP) as on 31.3.89, consisting of the gross value of fixed assets, capital works in progress and net current assets is Rs. 952 crores. In the last 4 years, the production of saleable steel in Durgapur Steel Plant has generally been improving though losses have also gone up. The increase in losses is mainly because of rising costs of production, which have not been fully compensated by an increase in revenue earnings.

(b) and (c). Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP) is an unit of the Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL). Sister Plants of SAIL provide support to DSP in the form of billets, thick plates, coke, etc. to enable better utilisation of the various shops in DSP.

Durgapur Steel Plant suffers from aged plant and equipment as well as technical obsolescence. The modernisation of the units which has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 2667.6 crores is expected to improve the physical and financial performance of the unit besides having spread effect of the regional development and increased work opportunities to ancillary, small scale and other down stream industrial units.

#### **Management Programme for Deep Sea Fishing**

1925. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the management programme for deep sea fishing is being sponsored by the Shipping Credit & Investment Company of India Limited (SCICI);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when and where such programmes

are likely to be held?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):** (a) to (c). Shipping Credit & Investment Company of India Limited (SCICI) has reported that they had taken steps to organise a Management Programme between March 17-22, 1990 at Visakhapatnam for the entrepreneurs and Senior Executives of the deep sea fishing companies. This programme has been deferred due to lack of proper response from the industry. Shipping Credit & Investment Company of India Limited has proposed to hold the programme in future at an appropriate time.

#### **Improvement in Media Services**

1926. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Research Wings of Doordarshan and All India Radio have conducted any study of media services;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether effective measures for further improvement in the media operations are proposed to be taken; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which such steps are to be taken?

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

(b) Lists of studies conducted by All India Radio during 1989-90 and Doordarshan during 1989 are given below in statements I and II respectively; and

(c) and (d). Keeping in view the feed-



back received from listeners/viewers through these studies/surveys, it has been the constant endeavour of the All India Radio and Doordarshan to take necessary remedial measures and thereby further improve the quality of programmes.

In so far as All India Radio is concerned, various schemes have been initiated which include experimenting with new formats, intensive training to different categories of staff, drama and music competitions to scout new talents, serialised productions, stereo transmission and introduction of compact discs. Transmission timings have been increased in many cases, basing on the feed back.

### STATEMENT I

#### ALL INDIA RADIO

(Referred to in reply to part (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1926 for 23.3.90)

#### LIST OF STUDIES CONDUCTED DURING 1989-90

1989-90

(1) Mail-cum-Field Survey on the Serial 'Vigyan Vidhi' (Method of Science)

The study was conducted in three rounds covering 12 languages at 13 places in the country.

1. Delhi
2. Bombay
3. Calcutta
4. Madras
5. Cuttack
6. Ahmedabad

7. Bhopal
8. Jaipur
9. Lucknow
10. Bangalore
11. Hyderabad
12. Trivendrum
13. Guwahati

(2) Feed Forward Studies conducted at 17 places—

1. Ahmednagar (Maharashtra)
2. Banswara (Rajasthan)
3. Balaghat (Madhya Pradesh)
4. Cannanore (Kerala)
5. Bilaspur (Madhya Pradesh)
6. Hospet (Karnatka)
7. Jorhat (Assam)
8. Jhalawar (Rajasthan)
9. Kathua (Jammu and Kashmir)
10. Lunglei (Mizoram)
11. Nizamabad (Andhra Pradesh)
12. Obra (Uttar Pradesh)
13. Purnea (Bihar)
14. Shahdol (Madhya Pradesh)
15. Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh)
16. Warrangal (Andhra Pradesh)

17. Baripada (Orissa)

2. Jaipur

(3) Mail Survey of Slow-Speed News Bulletins conducted at 5 places—

3. Hyderabad

4. Trivandrum

1. Nagpur

2. Bhopal

3. Patna

4. Lucknow

5. Jaipur

(5) Survey of AIR's National News Conducted at 5 places—

1. Bombay

2. Madras

3. Delhi

4. Calcutta

5. Patna

(4) Study of the programme 'Aaj Subah' (Morning information programme). Conducted at 4 places—

1. Ahmedabad

(6) Quick Feedback Studies (131)

**STATEMENT - II****DOORDARSHAN**

(Referred to in reply to part (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1926 for 23.3.90)

**IMPORTANT SURVEYS/STUDIES CONDUCTED DURING 1989**

- |  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. Survey on New Year Eve programmes                     | At 13 centres                 |
| 2. Survey on Morning Transmission                        | At 9 centres                  |
| 3. Survey on Doordarshan programmes in Andhra Pradesh    | at Hyderabad                  |
| 4. Survey on Feature films on TV                         | At 24 places                  |
| 5. Survey on telecast of World Poetry Festival at Bhopal | At 5 centres                  |
| 6. Survey on Societal Mission programmes                 | In 6 urban and rural areas    |
| 7. General Viewing Survey                                | In 15 urban and 5 rural areas |
| 8. Viewership on Afternoon Transmission                  | At 12 centres                 |
| 9. Survey on Panchayati Raj Programmes                   | At 14 centres                 |

In addition, regular monthly Panel Survey of General Programmes, analysis of viewers letters, data on Programme Composition and periodic production of document TV-India was also undertaken.

### **Exports by Plastic Units**

1927. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the Export Oriented Plastic Units functioning in Delhi as on 31.12.1989;

(b) the export made by these Units during the last three years (Year-wise);

(c) whether Government have given some incentives to these Units to increase their export; if so, details thereof;

(d) whether Government propose to give more incentives to these Units; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b). No approvals have been accorded for plastic units under the scheme of 100% Export Oriented Units in Delhi upto 31.12.89. It is, however, reported that there are some units engaged in the manufacture of plastic products in Delhi which cater to the domestic tariff area and also partially export their products. The details of such units and their export performance is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) to (e). Incentives available for exporting units in general such as the facility of duty free import of raw materials under duty Exemption Entitlement Scheme, Duty Draw-back, REP Licences, Exemption under section 80 HHC of Income-tax act in respect of export profits and cash compensatory sup-

port where applicable, are available to these units. There is no proposal with the Government to give any additional incentives.

[*Translation*]

### **Promotion of Jewellery Exports in Bareilly**

1928. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to promote Jewellery Exports especially from Bareilly District; and

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

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

(a) and (b). There is no proposal with the Central Government to set up any special Jewellery Exports facility at Bareilly. Based on suggestions received regarding the potential in the region, the Government of Uttar Pradesh has been requested to examine the prospects of promoting gold jewellery exports from Bareilly.

Under the scheme of 100% export oriented units, exports oriented jewellery projects are approved at locations of the entrepreneurs' choice. This facility is available to prospective entrepreneurs in Bareilly.

[*English*]

### **India's Position in International Market of Spices**

1929. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's position in the international market in regard to export spices has gone down considerably;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to remedy the situation.

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Various promotional measures such as publicity campaigns, delegations, Buyer-seller-meets, Trade fair participation, promotion of new end uses, quality improvement etc. have been taken up.

#### Price of Viscose Fibre

1930. SHRI KARIA MUNDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to place import of viscose in Open General Licence (OGL) to control the prices of indigenous viscose fibre; and

(b) if not, the steps taken by Government to reduce the price of viscose fibre?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):  
(a) and (b). The forthcoming Import and Export Policy, to be effective from 1st April, 1990 is under formulation and it will be premature to disclose the details at this stage.

#### Evasion of Payment by Big Aluminium Companies

1931. SHRI KARIA MUNDA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether big Aluminium producing companies have paid their arrears into the

Aluminium Regulation Account;

(b) if not, the reasons thereof, and

(c) the further action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (c). The Aluminium producing companies have paid their old arrears into the Aluminium Regulation Account by January 1988. Since there was delay on their part in paying such dues, interest on the delayed payment was demanded. However, as they have raised legal and other objections on such demand of interest, further legal opinion has been sought.

In addition one of the primary producers has withheld payment of an amount into the Aluminium Regulation Account (ARA) on account of State Electricity Duty on captive power generation. The Company has been asked to pay this amount to ARA. This company has also been asked to pay into the ARA another amount in respect of unwrought aluminium transferred to their auxiliary plant.

#### Evasion of Excise and Customs Duties

1932. SHRI KARIA MUNDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the companies against whom show cause notices for evasion of Excise and Customs duties for more than 25 crores have been issued.

(b) whether Government propose to take effective steps to check such evasion; and

(c) the details of top ten big business houses against whom cases are pending adjudication?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) Show cause notices for evasion of Excise and Customs duties for more than Rs. 25 crores have been issued to the following companies:-

- 1) M/s. I.T.C. Ltd.
- 2) M/s. G.T.C. Industries Ltd.
- 3) M/s. Godfrey Philips India Ltd.
- 4) M/s. Master Tobacco Co. Ltd
- 5) M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd
- 6) M/s. Mysore Paper Mills Ltd

- 7) M/s. National Tobacco Co.
- 8) M/s. International Tobacco Co.
- 9) M/s. Swadeshi Polytex Ltd.
- 10) M/s. Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.
- 11) M/s. Voltas Ltd.
- 12) M/s. Dunlop India Ltd.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Show cause notices for evasion of Central Excise and Customs duties of more than Rs. 25 crores are pending against the following companies belonging to the top 10 industries houses:-

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of company</i>	<i>Name of Industrial houses</i>
1.	M/s. Voltas Ltd	TATA
2.	M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd	RELIANCE
3.	M/s. Godfrey Philip India Ltd	MODI
4.	M/s. International Tobacco Company Ltd	MODI

### **Seizure of Gold from Turkish Buses**

1933 SHRID M. PUTTE GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) seized a large number of articles from two Turkish tourist buses at the Delhi-Haryana border on February 22, 1990 as reported in the Hindu dated 24 February, 1990;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the further action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Officers of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence intercepted two Turkish tourist buses at Delhi-Haryana border on 22.2.90. The buses had entered India from Pakistan through the Attari Land Border on 21st February, 1990, under carnet de-passage. Search of the buses resulted in the recovery of 50 foreign marked gold biscuits of 10 tolas each worth Rs. 20.12 lakhs, 252 silver bars of different weights and sizes worth Rs. 83.44 lakhs and 25493 pieces of tool bits of different sizes worth Rs. 12.50 lakhs. The aforesaid contraband collectively valued at Rs. 1.16 crores approximately and

the 2 buses valued at Rs. 25 lakhs were seized.

(c) Two Turkish nationals have been arrested and remanded to judicial custody.

**'BASATA' Offer for Exports to EEC Countries**

1934. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the British and South Asian Trade Association (BASATA) has offered the services of this organisation to Indian businessmen for increasing exports to EEC countries;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to utilise the services of BASATA to boost export to EEC countries;

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (c). No specific offer has been made by BASATA to Indian businessmen for increasing exports to EEC countries. However, meetings were held in the month of January, 1990 with some members of a visiting delegation from BASATA, which has a Memorandum of Understanding with Federation of Indian chamber of Commerce and Industry. The issues that were discussed at these meetings, inter-alia, included the question of expansion of bilateral trade as well as trade with third countries. In very general terms, the support of the British organisation was reiterated in this regard.

[*Translation*]

**Assistance to Small & Medium Newspapers**

1935. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of the Editors of Small and Medium newspapers was held recently;

(b) whether the Editors have urged upon the Government to provide adequate assistance to small & medium newspapers;

(c) if so, the other demands made at the conference; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) The Government did not organise any such Conference recently.

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

[*English*]

**Development of New Centres of Tourism in Kerala**

1936. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special scheme has been prepared under the Central Sector for developing new centres of tourism in Kerala during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total Central assistance being allocated to the State in this regard?

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

(a) to (c). The Central Department of Tourism have identified new circuits in the Southern parts of the country and the Kerala Circuit includes the development of tourist centres of Cochin, Alleppey, Kottayam and Thekkady. No separate Central assistance has been allocated to the State in this re-

gard. However, Central Department of Tourism provides financial assistance for the development of tourism infrastructure based on the merit of the proposals, availability of funds and inter-se priorities.

#### **Currency Note Printing Press Corporation**

1937. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank has decided to set up a currency note printing press corporation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANAVATE): (a) and (b). Government of India have entrusted to the Reserve Bank of India the setting up of two new note printing presses. RBI have reported that they intend to set up a wholly owned subsidiary company to manage the two presses.

#### **Commerce Minister's Visit to Jakarta**

1938. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he visited Jakarta in the last week of January, 1990 in connection with an Indian Exhibition;

(b) if so, his assessment about potential for expansion of trade; and

(c) the fresh collaborations, if any, underway or concluded so far?

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

(b) There is a good market in Indonesia for textile machinery and parts, mining equipments, tea processing machinery, workshop and factory equipment, water treatment plants, bulk material handling equipment, automobile parts, chemicals and dyestuffs & intermediates. Indonesia has also shown interest in the import of iron ore pellets soyabean meal, cotton, alumina, cement and projects. From Indonesia, there is scope for imports of palm oil, rubber, tin, non-metallic minerals and cold rolled coils.

(c) No fresh proposal for setting up joint ventures in Indonesia has so far been concluded or received by Govt. of India.

#### **New Item Captioned 'Concern at Tycoons Invasion of Press'**

1939. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a symposium on "Challenges before the Indian Press in the 1990's" organised by the United News of India was held in New Delhi on February 8, 1990;

(b) if so, the specific observations and suggestions made therein for a free and fair press in India; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

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

(b) and (c). In the symposium, the role of the Press and the freedom of the Press were the topics touched upon by most of the speakers. The question of delinking the press from the industrial houses and the need to set-up a fact finding committee to go into the pattern of ownership were also touched upon. The opinions expressed were the personal views of the speakers and the Government does not feel it necessary to react on these.

**CBI Raids at Residences of Bank Officials**

1940. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:  
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of recoveries, both in cash and kind, made during the past three months by Revenue Intelligence and other such agencies in raids conducted by them;

(b) the particulars of bank officials in Mandvi, Bombay whose residences were

searched by the Central Bureau of Investigation during January-February, 1990;

(c) the details of the recoveries made during the above searches; and

(d) the action taken against the bank officials so far?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) Details of searches conducted by various revenue agencies during the months of January and February, 1990 are detailed below:

	<i>No. of searches</i>	<i>Seizure of goods or assets/ evasion or concealment detected (Rs. in Crores)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
Customs	3795	170 (contraband goods)
Central Excise	134	4.6 (evasion detected)
Income-tax	341	23.51 (admitted unaccounted income)
		14.11 (assets seized)

(b) and (c). Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has reported that a raid was conducted at the residence of an Accountant of Mandvi branch of Canara Bank at Bombay on 31.1.1990. The details of the assets discovered are as follows:—

(1) Cash—Rs. 95,73,115/-.

(2) Fixed Deposit Receipts—Rs 34,13,743/-

(3) Ten full trunks of share certificates.

(4) 6 flats in Bombay and one house in Delhi.

(5) Pass books of various branches of the banks.

(6) A large number of incriminating documents.

(d) CBI has registered a case against



the Accountant and other officials and taken up investigation. The Accountant has since died on 4th February, 1990.

### **Voluntary Special Fund**

1941. SHRI ANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE pleased to state:

(a) whether India has presented to International Monetary Fund Executive Board a plan for a voluntary special fund that would enable IMF to clean up its books and at the same time provide third world countries to earn their way out under a monitored programme;

(b) if so, the salient feature of the plan, and

(c) the response of the IMF and the USA thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). During the discussion in the IMF Board on the question of arrears, our chair had made the suggestion for voluntary contribution in usable currencies by all members of the Fund in the form of long term loans bearing zero or minimal interest. The contributions would be in addition and in proportion to members' new quotas. The income from the pool of resources would be available to assist members in arrears in making current payments to the Fund during the period of a Fund monitored program and thus help alleviate the need for coverage of deferred charges through the present burden sharing arrangement.

(c) Many industrialised countries including USA are sceptical about adequate resources coming forth, as they would be voluntary contributors.

### **Production and Export of Diamond**

1942. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government for increasing the production and export of diamond?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): In order to increase export production of diamonds, Government has already taken a series of measures which include placement of tools, equipment and accessories of manufacture on the Open General Licence list for imports at concessional duty, improvement in Bank credit facility, easier access to raw diamonds, revision in the scales of import replacement against exports and exemption of profits from exports under Section 80 HHC of the Income-tax Act. Government maintains a close watch on the progress of exports with a view to providing adequate input support whenever necessary.

### **Development of Sea-beaches in Karnataka**

1943. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal for the development of sea-beaches in Eighth Plan; and

(b) if so, the details of scheme drawn up for the development of sea beaches in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b). The Eighth Five Year Plan has not yet been formulated and as such it is not possible for the Central Department of Tour-

ism to indicate any details.

28th February, 1990.

**Export of Vegetable and Fruits from Kerala to Gulf Countries**

[*Translation*]

**Foreign Banks**

1944. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

1945. SHRI HARSH VARDHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether export of vegetables and fruits from Kerala to the Gulf countries have come to a halt following the enhancement of freight charges by Air India;

(a) the names of foreign banks operating in the country and the places where they have their branches;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the number of officers and staff working therein and the number of Indians among them; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard to resume the exports?

(c) the total business transacted by these banks and the rate on interest allowed by these banks on deposits and also the rate of interest charged on loans advanced.

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANAVATE): (a) The names of the foreign banks operating in India as on date and the places where their branches are operating are given in the statement below

(a) to (c). According to information received from the Agricultural & Processed Food Exporters' Association Trivandrum, export of vegetables from Kerala came to a halt on 22nd February, 1990 as they were given to understand by Air India that from 23rd February onwards mandatory freight for vegetables would be increased by 50%. However, according to the Association, Air India subsequently clarified that old rates would prevail upto 14th March, and thereafter the revised rates with 30% increase would be applicable. Hence exports were resumed on

(b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that as per the data published by the Indian Banks' Association, as on 31.12.1987, the total number of staff of foreign banks in India, including expatriates, were as under:—

Officers	—	2955
Clerks	—	6295
Subordinates	—	11744

RBI has further reported that at present 75 expatriates are attached to the foreign banks in India.

foreign banks, as on 13.3.89, were Rs. 4378.1 crores and Rs. 6441.5 crores, respectively. The rates of interest allowed on deposits and charged on loans are prescribed by RBI from time to time and are uniformly applicable to all scheduled commercial banks, including foreign banks operating in India.

(c) According to RBI, the total advances and deposits with the Indian branches of

**STATEMENT***Location of Branches of Foreign Banks in India*

<i>Sr.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Bank</i>	<i>Location of Branches</i>
1	2	3
1.	Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank Ltd	Bombay
2	Algemene Bank Nederland N V	Bombay, Calcutta
3.	American Express Bank Ltd	Bombay, Calcutta, New Delhi
4.	Bank of America NT & SA	Bombay, Calcutta, New Delhi, Madras
5.	Bank of Credit and Commerce International (Overseas) Ltd	Bombay
6.	Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait BSC	Bombay
7.	Bank of Oman Ltd	Bombay
8.	Bank of Nova Scotia	Bombay
9.	Bank of Tokyo Ltd	Bombay, Calcutta, New Delhi

<b>Sr.No.</b>	<b>Name of the Bank</b>	<b>Location of Branches</b>
1	2	3
10.	Banque Indo-Suez	Bombay
11.	Banque Nationale De Paris	Bombay, Calcutta, New Delhi.
12.	British Bank of the Middle East	Bombay
13.	Citi Bank N.A.	Bombay, Calcutta, New Delhi, Madras.
14.	Deutsche Bank (A.G.) Bombay	Bombay, New Delhi.
15.	ANZ Grindlays Bank p.l.c	Amritsar, Bangalore, Bombay, Calcutta, Cochin, Darjeeling, Delhi, Kanpur, Madras, Tuticorin, Simla, Srinagar, Guwahati, Hyderabad.
16.	The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd (Hongkong Bank)	Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Visakhapatnam, New Delhi.
17.	Mitsui Bank	Bombay
18.	Oman International Bank SAOG	Bombay
19.	Societe Generale	Bombay

<b>Sr.No.</b>	<b>Name of the Bank</b>	<b>Location of Branches</b>
1	2	3
20.	Sonali Bank	Calcutta
21.	Standard Chartered Bank	Amritsar, Bombay, Calcutta, Cochin, Kanpur, Madras, Delhi, Goa, Calicut.
22.	Credit Lyonnais	Bombay

**Bank Branches in Himachal Pradesh  
and Hills of Uttar Pradesh**

ing of the branches of banks in these areas;  
and

1946. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the  
Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(a) the total number of nationalised  
banks and regional rural banks in Himachal  
Pradesh and the number of such banks in  
eight hill districts of Uttar Pradesh;

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF.  
MADHU DANDAVATE). (a) As on  
31.12.1989 (latest figures available) the total  
number of nationalised banks and Regional  
Rural Banks in Himachal Pradesh and in the  
8 Hill District of Uttar Pradesh were as fol-  
lows.

(b) whether Government propose to  
relax the present criteria laid down for open-

	<i>Nationalised Banks</i>	<i>Regional Rural Banks</i>	<i>Total</i>
Himachal Pradesh	368	127	495
8 Hill Districts of Uttar Pradesh	208	152	360

(b) and (c) Under the current Branch  
Licensing Policy, Hilly and tribal areas have  
already been given special consideration by  
relaxing the population criterion from 17,000  
to 10,000 average population per bank of-  
fice. The average population per bank office  
for the State of Himachal Pradesh is 6,000  
and the average population per bank office  
for the 8 hill districts of Uttar Pradesh is 8,000  
and both are substantially lower than the  
national average of 12,000 population per  
bank office. At present there is no proposal  
for further relaxing the criteria for these ar-  
eas.

[English]

**Average Growth in Arrivals of Tourist**

1947. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA.  
Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to

state

(a) the yearly average growth of tourist  
arrivals in India during the last three years,

(b) the number of tourists who visited  
during the period, year-wise, and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be  
taken to boost tourism during the Eighth Plan  
period?

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

(a) and (b) The number of foreign tourists  
who visited India during last three years and  
the percentage growth during each year are  
given below

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of foreign tourists (including nationals of Pakistan and Bangladesh)</i>	<i>percentage Change</i>
1987	14,84,290	2.3

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of foreign tourists (including nationals of Pakistan and Bangladesh)</i>	<i>percentage Change</i>
1988	15,90,661	7.2
1989	17,36,093	9.1

(c) The steps proposed to be taken to boost tourism during Eighth Plan include continued upgradation of infrastructural facilities, development of new circuits, diversification of tourist attractions and strengthening of publicity and marketing activities

#### **SAIL Imports**

1948 SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA. Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up any panel regarding the Imports by Steel Authority of India Limited, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI). (a) and (b) Government had in February, 1990, constituted an Inter-Ministerial Group consisting of representatives from Department of Coal, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of

Commerce (MMTC) and Department of Steel, to go into all the relevant aspects of import of coking coal on long term basis from Australia by SAIL.

#### **Recruitment in SAIL**

1949. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any recruitment has been made in different Steel Plants under the Steel Authority of India Limited during the last two years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Number of persons recruited in different steel plants during the years 1988 and 1989 are given below:-

<i>Plant</i>	<i>No. of persons recruited</i>	
	<i>1988</i>	<i>1989</i>
Bhilai Steel Plant	1025	946
Durgapur Steel Plant	115	262
Rourkela Steel Plant	517	280
Bokaro Steel Plant	304	1041

<i>Plant</i>	<i>No. of persons recruited</i>	
	<i>1988</i>	<i>1989</i>
Indian Iron & Steel Company	74	70
Alloy Steels Plant	97	50
Salem Steels Plant	24	70
Maharashtra Elektros melt Limited	46	70

VISL has been taken over by SAIL as one of its subsidiary w e f 1 8 89 No recruitment has been made by VISL after 1 8 89

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Hotels and Motels of I.T.D.C**

1950 SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA  
Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM(SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU)  
(a) statement—I indicating the names of the hotels/forest lodge/travellers lodge presently owned and operated by ITDC, their location and capacity is given below

(a) the number of hotels and motels under India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) and their locations,

In addition, ITDC is having four joint venture hotels providing 137 rooms and 274 beds. A list of these hotels with location/capacity is given in statement—II below

(b) whether Government propose to increase the number of hotels in the country, and

(b) and (c) In the Public Sector, ITDC has taken up the following projects to increase the capacity/number of hotels in the country -

(1)	Construction of Hotel at Gulmarg	31 rooms
(2)	Expansion and conversion of Travellers Lodge at Manali into a hotel	22 rooms
(3)	Expansion of Hotel Jaipur Ashok	37 rooms
(4)	Expansion of Kovalam Ashok Beach Resort	72 rooms

#### **Joint Venture Hotel Project:**

Hotel Lakeview Ashok, Bhopal

43 rooms (partially commissioned in Sept 89 with 23 rooms, balance rooms expected to be commissioned by 31 March 1990)

Donyi Polo Ashok Hotel, Itanagar soon

20 rooms, Likely to be commissioned

Statement III giving the target date of completion, star category and the present status II given below



**STATEMENT—I**

*The name of the Hotels/Forest Lodge/Travellers' Lodge Presently operated by I.T.D.C. with their Location*

Sl.No.	Name of the Unit	Location	Capacity				
			Room	Room	Room	Beds	Beds
1	2	3	4	4	4	5	
<b>A. Hotels</b>							
1.	Hotel Pataliputra Ashok	Patna, Bihar	46			92	
2.	Hotel Bodhgaya Ashok	Bodhgaya, Bihar	30			60	
3.	Ashok Hotel	New Delhi Union Territory of Delhi	571			1144	
4.	Hotel Samrat	New Delhi Union Territory of Delhi	268			517	
5.	Qutab Hotel	New Delhi Union Territory of Delhi	92			220	
6.	Hotel Kanishka	New Delhi Union Territory of Delhi	317			634	
7.	Hotel Janpath	New Delhi Union Territory of Delhi	213			360	
8.	Lodhi Hotel	New Delhi Union Territory of Delhi	207			255	
9.	Hotel Ranjit	New Delhi Union Territory of Delhi	186			226	

Sl.No.	Name of the Unit	Location	Capacity	
			Room	Beds
1	2	3	4	5
10.	Ashok Yatri Niwas	New Delhi Union Territory of Delhi	548	1238
11.	Hotel Jammu Ashok	Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir	48	96
12.	Hotel Ashok	Bangalore, Karnataka	181	362
13.	Lalitha Mahal Palace Hotel	Mysore, Karnataka	54	98
14.	Hotel Hassan Ashok	Hassan, Karnataka	46	92
15.	Kovalam Ashok Beach Resort	Kovalam, Kerala	125	250
16.	Hotel Aurangabad Ashok	Aurangabad, Maharashtra	66	132
17.	Hotel Khajuraho Ashok	Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh	38	76
18	Hotel Kalinga Ashok	Bhubaneswar, Orissa	64	128
19	Hotel Jaipur Ashok	Jaipur, Rajasthan	63	126
20	Laxmi Vilas Palace Hotel	Udaipur, Rajasthan	54	108
21	Hotel Madurai Ashok	Madurai, Tamil Nadu	43	86

Sl.No.	Name of the Unit	Location	Capacity	
			Room	Beds
1	2	3	4	5
22.	Temple Bay Ashok Beach Resort	Mamallapuram, Tamil Nadu	22	44
23.	Hotel Agra Ashok	Agra, Uttar Pradesh	55	110
24.	Hotel Varanasi Ashok	Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh	84	168
25.	Hotel Airport Ashok	Calcutta, West Bengal	149	298
			Total :	6920
<b>B. Forest Lodge</b>				
1.	Bharatpur Forest Lodge	Bharatpur, Rajasthan	18	36
<b>C. Travellers' Lodge</b>				
1.	Ashok Travellers' Lodge	Manali, Himachal Pradesh	10	30
			Total :	6986

**STATEMENT—II**

*Statement Showing Names of Joint Venture Hotels, their Location and capacity*

Sl.No.	Name of the Hotel	Location	Capacity	
			Room	Beds
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Hotel Nilachal Ashok Puri	Orissa	36	72
2.	Hotel Pondicherry Ashok	U.T. of Pondicherry	21	42
3.	Hotel Ranchi Ashok	Bihar	30	60
4.	Hotel Brahamputra Ashok, Guwahati	Assam	50	100
			137	274

## STATEMENT—III

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Unit</i>	<i>Target date of completion</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Status of schemes</i>
1	2	3	4	5
1.	*Hotel Lake View Ashok, Bhopal (by 43 rooms)	31 March 90	3-star	Partially commissioned since Sept. 89 with 23 rooms. Balance 20 rooms will be commissioned by 31st March 1990.
2.	Hotel at Gulmarg (by 31 rooms)	July 90	4-star	Structural works completed. Tubular trusses works over Rest. & bar are in progress. Wooden works started. Electrical, space heating and plumbing works are in progress. Completion date will now depend on law and order situation in J & K.
3.	**Hotel at Itanagar (20 rooms)	Likely to be commissioned soon.	3-star	Civil, electrical and plumbing works completed; interior works awarded. The hotel is likely to be commissioned soon.

*Expansion Scheme*

- (i) Expansion of Kovalam Ashok Beach Resort (by 72 rooms)
- Structural works are in progress. AC works awarded. electrical works likely to be awarded.
- (ii) Expansion of Hotel Jaipur Ashok (by 37 rooms)
- Oct. 90

3-star

Casting of terrace slab is expected within a week. Works on other building items i.e. electrical, sanitary etc. are in progress.

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Unit</i>	<i>Target date of completion</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Status of schemes</i>
1	2	3	4	5
(iii)	Expansion of TL Manali (by 22 rooms + 7 rooms).	April 91	3-star	Structural work in two guest room floor are in progress. Work on public areas and in service block in full swing.

\*In collaboration with Madhya Pradesh State Tourism Development Corporation

\*\*In Collaboration with Arunachal Pradesh Industrial Development and Finance Corporation

**Seizure of Gold at Delhi Airport**

1951. SHRI R. N. RAKESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Girl with gold biscuits held" appearing in 'The Hindustan Times' dated 21 February, 1990;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the further action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANAVATE): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. The Customs Officers recovered and seized 50 gold biscuits weighing 5832 grams valued at Rs. 2041,200/- at Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi on 20th February, 1990 from a passenger named Miss Kim Lien Scintgen aged 14 years, who was intercepted at the exit gate of Delhi Airport. These gold biscuits were wrapped with adhesive tape in 5 packets, kept inside a cloth pouch tied around her waist and concealed under her garments

(c) The passenger was arrested and produce before the Hon'ble Children's Court, Delhi on 20th February, 1990, She has since been convicted by the court on 13th March, 1990. The court passed sentence for 3 1/2 years i.e. till the date she attains the major status. She has been lodged in the observation Home for Girls.

**Regional Rural Banks**

1952. SHRI R.N. RAKESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of regional rural banks at present, state-wise;

(b) the policy regarding issue of licence for opening a rural bank; and

(c) the total amount deposited in regional rural banks at present?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANAVATE): (a). A statement indicating the number of Regional Rural Banks established state-wise is given below.

(b) The existing policy based on the recommendations made by the Kelkar Committee on Regional rural Banks (RRBs) envisages that more emphasis be laid on consolidation of existing RRBs rather than opening of new RRBs. Opening of new RRBs is therefore considered on a selective basis. Districts with concentration of SC/ST population are given preference for opening new RRBs. Even in such areas the opening of new RRBs is to be considered taking into account branch network in the area and the scope for further branch expansion, concentration of target groups, credit gap, prospective viability of the RRB with reference to scope of business in the area and the strength of existing cooperative credit structure in the area. A detailed survey is carried out by the State Government and the sponsor bank concerned for ascertaining the need and potential for opening a new RRB or for extending the coverage of an existing RRB.

(c) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has reported that as at the end of March 1989 the Regional Rural Banks had mobilised deposits of Rs. 3128.83 crores.

**STATEMENT****Annexure****Statements Showing Number of Regional Rural Banks State-wise**

<i>S.No</i>	<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>Number of RRBs</i>
1.	Haryana	4
2.	Himachal Pradesh	2
3.	Jammu and Kashmir	3
4.	Punjab	5
5.	Rajasthan	14
6.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
7.	Assam	5
8.	Manipur	1
9.	Meghalaya	1
10.	Mizoram	1
11.	Nagaland	
12.	Tripura	1
13.	Bihar	22
14.	Orissa	9
15.	West Bengal	9
16.	Madhya Pradesh	24
17.	Uttar Pradesh	40
18.	Gujarat	9
19.	Maharashtra	10
20.	Andhra Pradesh	16



<i>S.No</i>	<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>Number of RRBs</i>
21.	Karnataka	13
22.	Kerala	2
23.	Tamil Nadu	3
Total		196

### **Pending Labour Cases in High Courts and Supreme Court**

1953. R.N. RAKESH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Labour cases pending in the Supreme Court and each of the High Courts; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for providing speedy Justice to the people?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE: (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) As on 31.12.1989, 681 labour cases (Regular hearing matters) were pending in the Supreme Court. Similar information in respect of High Courts is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Various steps have been taken to reduce pendency of cases in Courts, such as, grouping of matter regarding common question of law and constitution of special benches. In the Supreme Court, labour cases are regularly taken up by specially constituted bench and are also being referred to Lok Adalts for settlement. Besides, the Judge strength of Supreme Court has been raised from 18 to 26; and of High Courts from 351 in 1977 to 462 in March, 1990.

### **Crisis in Mini Steel Industry**

1954. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the mini steel plants are facing a crisis due to non-availability of raw materials, higher prices of inputs and heavy levies; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE: (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b). The Mini Steel Plants have complained about high input costs i.e. imported scrap and power from time to time. They have also complained about inadequate supplies of imported scrap. Government, therefore, allowed increased imports of scrap against additional import licences. In the current year, production of Sponge Iron, which is the feed material of the industry, is also likely to go up substantially. These measures should help the mini steel plant industry.

### **Internal Resource Generation by SAIL**

1955. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India

Limited (SAIL) are contemplating massive internal resource generation during Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the main features of the proposed plan?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b). SAIL proposes to finance its massive modernisation programme without resorting to Budget support. The programme is to be financed by internal resources and borrowings. Internal resources will be generated by higher capacity utilisation, better techno-economic performance and cost reduction.

#### **Opening of new Mines by Bharat Gold Mines Limited**

1956 SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI. Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state.

(a) whether Bharat Gold Mines Limited has any plan for opening of new gold mines at Kempinkote and Gadag in Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b). The Gold bearing areas of Kempinkote and Gadag are being explored by GSI and MECL. Bharat Gold Mines Limited would exploit the deposits if commercial viability is established on the basis of results of the detailed exploration now in progress.

#### **Joint Publicity Committee of Nationalised Banks**

1957. SHRI NATHU SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the composition of the present and

former Joint Publicity Committees of nationalised banks;

(b) the details of the work allotted by the Committee during the last three months for publicity and the criteria for the same;

(c) whether it was allotted according to the criteria laid down; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) The composition of the present Joint Publicity Committee (JPC) is : (a) Core Committee consisting of 6 public sector banks and (b) Sub-Committee consisting of 14 public sector banks. The representatives of all 28 public sector banks are members of JPC Former JPC had also the same composition

(b) According to JPC, during the last three months, it undertook various publicity activities, such as, participation in an exhibition at Calcutta, rural publicity in various forms, TV spots on agriculture lending/women entrepreneurs, screening of Film "Be Wiser" on deposit mobilisation particularly in rural areas in 178 theatres in four Southern States in respective regional languages and Radio sponsored programme—13 episodes of "Chacha Ki Chaupal" in Hindi with themes of self-employment, assistance to farmers, rural credit, priority sector financing, etc.

(c) JPC has reported to have adopted the laid down criteria.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Criteria of Investment in Different States**

1958. SHRI NATHU SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the investment percentage of Union Government in different States, state-wise and the criteria for the same;

(b) whether Government propose to make this investment equal in all the States and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c). Information is being collected.

#### **Setting up of Radio/TV Station at Jaipur, Orissa**

1959. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a demand for setting up of Radio/TV stations at Jaipur in Orissa; and

(b) if so, Government's response thereto and the steps contemplated to fulfil this long pending demand?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). There has been a demand for setting up of Radio/TV Stations at Jaipur in Orissa.

#### **ALL INDIA RADIO:**

Jaipur Sub-Division of Cuttack district receives primary grade day time coverage from 100 KW MW transmitter of AIR, Cuttack. It also receives primary grade day time coverage from 100 KW MW transmitter at Calcutta. There is no felt need from communication point of view to set up another radio station at Jaipur.

#### **DOORDARSHAN**

At present the High Power 10 KW TV Transmitter at Cuttack provides service to almost the whole of Cuttack district. The reception of Jaipur situated at a distance of about 60 Kms. from Cuttack is satisfactory. Presently, a TV studio centre is functioning at Cuttack. Setting up of TV transmitter and studio in the same district do not appear necessary in view of the limited resources available for expansion of TV services.

#### **Dry Port Status to Nagpur**

1960. SHRI SUDAM DESMUKH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the various considerations which govern the grant of status of Dry Port for any city; and

(b) whether there is any proposal for granting the status of Dry Port to the city of Nagpur?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) The main considerations in setting up of an Inland Container Depot/Container/freight Station, popularly known as Dry Port, are the traffic potential, needs of the shippers and financial viability.

(b) Nagpur is one of the 71 locations recommended by M/s. RITES for setting up Container Freight Stations.

[*Translation*]

#### **Promotion of Exports by S.T.C.**

1961. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the month-wise details of imports and exports made by the State Trading Corporation during the last six months?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND  
TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):  
Month-wise details of imports and exports by

STC during the six months ending January,  
1990 are given below:-

	<i>Imports (cif)</i>	<i>Exports (Rs. Crores)</i>
August' 89	31	101
September' 89	52	62
October' 89	41	29
November' 89	60	114
December' 89	62	41
January' 90	45	64

(Provisional Figures)

[*English*]

1989 and 1990 and names of countries to  
which they are being exported?

**Exports of Potatoes and Onions**

1962. SHRI M. BAGA REDDY: Will the  
Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

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

(a) whether Government have permit-  
ted the export of Potatoes and Onions; and

(b) Quantity of onions and potatoes  
exported during the last two years and the  
names of countries to which the exports  
were made are indicated below:-

(b) if so, the quantity exported during

**Qty—Tonnes**

	<i>1988-89</i>	<i>1989-90</i>	<i>Names of Countries</i>
1. Onions*	(Prov.) 2,35,214	(Prov.) 3,04,000 (Figures for April 89- Feb. 90)	Maldives, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Gulf Countries, Seychelles, Bangladesh, Nepal.

	1988-89	1989-90	Names of Countries
2. Potatoes**	173	260 (Figures for April-Dec.89)	Nepal and Maldives.

Source \* NAFED, New Delhi.

\*\* APEDA, New Delhi.

[*Translation*]

**Shortage of Raw Material In Bhilai Steel Plant**

1963. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bhilai Steel Plant is facing shortage of coal and raw material; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to meet this shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Bhilai Steel Plant has been experiencing shortage of indigenous coking coal but there has not been significant shortage of other major raw materials.

(b) SAIL and Government have been impressing upon indigenous Coal companies the need to ensure adequate supplies of coking coal to the steel plants by improving rate of despatches. As a result, the availability of indigenous coking coal at the plants has somewhat improved. SAIL have also resorted to imports to match requirement.

**Opening of Regional Offices of United India Insurance Company LTD.**

1964. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United India Insurance Company Ltd. proposes to open regional offices;

(b) if so, the names of such places where these offices are proposed to be opened; and

(c) whether a proposal to open a regional office of the company at Bareilly is also under consideration?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE). (a) to (c). United India Insurance Company Ltd. is examining the feasibility of opening a second Regional Office in the State of Uttar Pradesh. However, no decision has been taken about the centre where the Regional Office is to be opened.

[*English*]

**Pending Cases in Delhi High Court**

1965. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending in the Delhi High Court as on 28 February, 1990;

(b) whether some posts of Judges are lying vacant in the Delhi High Court; and

(c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government to fill up soon the vacant posts?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI):** (a) The pendency of cases in the Delhi High Court as on 28th February, 1990 is not available. However, as on 31.12.1989, 1,09,495 cases were pending in the High Court of Delhi.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Action has been taken to fill up the vacant posts, in consultation with the Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court.

#### **Development of Wayanad Place as a Tourist Centre**

1966. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tourism Promotion Council has sent any proposal to Union Government for attracting tourists to Wayanad (Kerala) and converting the place as tourist centre;

(b) if so, whether there is any request from the Government of Kerala for Central assistance from India Tourism Development Corporation for implementing this proposal; and

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

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

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

#### **Investment in Companies by Cochin Stock Exchange**

1967. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Cochin Stock Exchange is rapidly developing its business; and

(b) the total amount invested in companies through Cochin Stock Exchange during 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 (till now)?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The total amount raised by companies for which Cochin is the regional Stock Exchange were Rs. 3.55 crores during 1987-88, Rs. 1.60 crores during 1988-89 and Rs. 188.02 crores during 1989-90.

[Translation]

#### **IMF Loan**

1968. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government borrow International Monetary Fund Loans unconditionally; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

[English]

#### **Cases Registered Under the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929**

1970. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases registered in 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 (till December, 1989) under the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929; and

(b) the steps taken by Government for campaign on mass-media against an early marriage?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI):** (a) The information is not readily available. The same will be collected from the State Governments/ Union territory administrations and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) A number of steps, including stress on education, have been taken by the Government for educating people about the consequence of the evil practice of child marriage through mass media, by involving voluntary organisations in the task and by other measures. These include radio programmes, exhibiting cinema slides posters and short documentary films on T.V, group discussions with rural women, etc.

#### **Extension of Air Timing**

1971. **SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAV- INCHANDRA MEHTA:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to extend timing of All India Radio Programme upto 24 hours;

(b) if so, by which time;

(c) the percentage of population covered by All India Radio programmes at present, and

(d) the action Government propose to take to improve the quality of All India Radio programmes?

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):** (a) and (b) This is Govern-

ment's long term objective which is being achieved in stages depending upon availability of technical facilities, financial resources, etc.

(c) All India Radio at present provides through Medium Wave coverage to 95% of population of the country.

(d) Improvement of programmes is a continuous process in All India Radio. The quality of programmes is periodically reviewed at All India Radio Stations and at All India Radio Headquarters. Various schemes have been initiated which include experimenting with new formats, intensive training to different categories of staff, drama and music competitions to scout new talents, serialised productions, stereo transmission and introduction of compact discs.

#### **Bank Deposits**

1972. **SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAV- INCHANDRA MEHTA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of deposits of nationalised banks and the State Bank of India as on June 30, 1987, 1988 and 1989;

(b) whether Government propose to take steps to attract more deposits in the banks; and

(c) the action taken by Government since December, 1989 in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):** (a) The amount of deposits of public sector banks as on the last Friday of June, 1987, 1988 and 1989 were Rs. 97318 crores, Rs. 113759 crores and Rs. 131703 crores respectively.

(b) and (c). Banks make deposits mobilisation efforts like organising savings weeks or fortnights and by introducing inno-

vative and attractive schemes. The rationalisation of interest rate structure by Reserve Bank of India also enables the banks to maintain a reasonable rate of growth of deposits.

[*Translation*]

#### **Pending cases in Rajasthan High Court**

1973. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of cases are pending in Rajasthan High Court for last several years; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to fill up the vacant posts of judges or create new posts of judges in view of the number of pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) The pendency of cases in Rajasthan High Court as on 31st December of 1987, 1988 and

1989 was 52998, 59374 and 70455 respectively.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Government propose to fill up the vacant posts and also to create new posts of Judges.

#### **Foreign Tourists Visited Rajasthan**

1974. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total number of foreign tourists who visited India during last three years and the number of those who went to Rajasthan, year-wise; and

(b) the scheme chalked out for the promotion of tourism in Rajasthan and also for Jaipur?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) The number of foreign tourists who visited India and Rajasthan during the last three years are as given below:

Year	Number of Tourists	
	India*	Rajasthan**
1	2	3
1987	11,63,774	3,48,000
1988	12,39,992	3,66,000
1989	13,37,232	4,15,000

\*Excluding nationals of Pakistan and Bangladesh.

\*\*As per information available from the State Government \*

(b) The schemes being taken up for the promotion of tourism in Rajasthan include continued wide publicity of tourist attractions of the State in overseas markets, production

of films and publicity material on Rajasthan and promotion of fairs and festivals. Jaipur forms part of the tourist circuit along with Delhi and Agra and is, therefore, being in-



cluded in almost all the major publicity campaigns.

### Import and Export of Foodgrains, Sugar and Edible Oils

1975. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of foodgrains, sugar and edible oils, imported and exported during 1989, item-wise; and

(b) the per unit price thereof in the Indian rupee?

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

(a) and (b). The foreign trade statistics are compiled on financial year basis.

The total quantity of foodgrains, sugar and edible oils imported and exported during April-November 1989, item-wise and the per unit price thereof in rupees are as under:—

Sl.No.	Name of the Item	Imports		Exports	
		Qty. (in 000 tonnes)	Unit Value in rupees (per tonne)	Qty. (in 000 tonnes)	Unit Value in Rupees (per tonne)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Foodgrains	686.9	4881.6	357.7	9467.1
2.	Sugar	129.4	7319.1	110.0	2397.0
3.	Edible Oil	148.5	7796.7	—	—

### Development of Tourist Spot In Sultanganj (Bihar)

1976. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop Sultanganj of district Bhagalpur in Bihar as a tourist spot;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) to (c). The Central Department of Tour-

ism provides financial assistance for strengthening of tourist infrastructure to the State Governments based on the proposals received from them, their merits, availability of funds and inter-se-priorities. No proposal for development of tourist spot in Sultanganj has been received from the Government of Bihar.

[English]

### Compensation to Exporting Companies

1977. SHRI E.S.M. PAKEER MOHAMED: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the companies exporting

various items are not getting the benefit of various compensations such as duty drawback CCP etc. if the delivery is made in India itself even though the export order is possessed by them:

(b) if so, whether many companies have given representation to the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports in this regard; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereon?

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

(a) to (c). Certain indigenous supplies made within the country are treated as deemed exports if they are covered by the provisions of Chapter XVI of the Import and Export Policy 1988-91. Such supplies are also eligible to get, the prescribed benefits of import replenishment, cash compensatory support, supplementary cash assistance and additional CCS, wherever admissible. Representations, if any, received in this regard, are dealt with in accordance with the Policy provisions.

**TV Relay Centre in Tanjore, Tamil Nadu**

1978. **SHRI E.S.M. PAKEER MOHAMED:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand from Tanjore district, Tamil Nadu for setting up a low power relay centre during Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the time by which the relay centre would be set up and the estimated cost thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA):** (a) and (b). A low power (100 W) transmitter is already functioning at

Thanjavur. However, requests have been received, from time to time, for the expansion of TV service in Thanjavur district. Provision of TV service to the remaining uncovered parts of the state of Tamil Nadu during VIII Plan period depends upon the availability of adequate funds for the purpose.

**Cess on Tin Industry**

1979. **SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recently imposed cess on Tin Industry in Assam has seriously hampered this industry;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to persuade Assam Government in withdrawing this cess on tin industry immediately;

(c) if not, whether Government propose to give some incentives to develop tin industry in Assam; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI):** (a) to (d). As no tin is mined or processed in the State of Assam, replies to (a), (b), (c) and (d) do not arise.

[*Translation*]

**Misuse of Doordarshan in Assembly Elections**

1980. **SHRI HARISH RAWAT:**  
**SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:**  
**SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV:**

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

(a) whether Government have received complaints regarding misuse of Doordarshan in recent Assembly Elections and its use in the interest of some particular parties;

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

(c) whether Government have taken any action against the erring officials for misusing this media?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (c). Doordarshan had telecast a news story fed by PTI-TV on 25.2.1990 which carried predictions about the likely results in elections to some State Assemblies. The protest lodged by Congress (I) to the Election Commission was conveyed to Doordarshan. An enquiry was ordered even before the party had protested against the telecast. Since the presentation

of such forecasts did not conform to the guidelines issued by the Government, the erring officials were reprimanded and guidelines once again been brought to the notice of all officers dealing with news.

#### I.T.D.C. Hotels in U.P.

1981. SHRI KESHRI LAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of I.T.D.C. hotels in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether Government are considering any proposal for opening of I.T.D.C. hotel in Kanpur; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) ITDC is presently operating the following hotels in the State of U.P.:-

	<i>Name of the hotel</i>	<i>Star Category</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	
			<i>Rooms</i>	<i>Beds</i>
1.	Hotel Agra Ashok, Agra	5 Star	55	110
2.	Hotel Varanasi Ashok, Varanasi	4 Star	84	168

(b) No, Sir.

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

[English]

#### Setting up of a Wage Board for Government Employees

1982. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of frustration among Government Employees over the delay in the establishment of a permanent Wage Board and merging of dearness allowance in the basic pay and consequent revision of pay scales; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) The Fourth Central Pay Commission suggested that

Government may set up a permanent body, which should be responsible for maintaining and updating the basic data on pay and allowances of Government employees and to review the pay scales and rates of allowances and other related matters. The Government after examination of the suggestion decided that Ministry of Finance may set up a compact unit, which should be responsible for maintaining and updating the basic data on pay and allowances of Government employees and other related matters. Not satisfied with this decision of the Government, the Staff Side of the National Council (JCM) raised a demand for implementing the recommendation of the Commission in this regard in full.

(b) A Committee, with the Finance Secretary as the Chairman, and including inter alia the staff members of the Standing Committee of the JCM was set up to go into this question further. Though the matter was discussed at a number of meetings of this Committee, it was not found possible so far to arrive at a consensus.

[*Translation*]

#### **Transmission Facility of Doordarshan for Rajasthan**

1983. SHRIGOPAL PACHERWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the districts of Rajasthan are covered by Doordarshan;

(b) if not, the names of districts which are yet to be covered;

(c) whether these districts are being covered through microwave system; and

(d) if so, the time by which these districts are likely to be covered?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). All the 27 districts of Rajasthan are wholly or partially covered by TV Service. With the commissioning of on-going TV projects in the State, the situation is expected to improve substantially.

(c) and (d). Rajasthan is one of the States in respect of which it has been decided to distribute, via satellite Regional TV Service (i.e. the programmes originating from the Studio at the capital) on availability of requisite facility in the space segment. In the meantime, while the high power TV transmitter at Jaipur telecasts programmes originating from Doordarshan Kendra at Jaipur in addition to relaying national network programmes, the remaining TV transmitters in the State exclusively relay, via satellite, programmes emanating from Delhi.

[*English*]

#### **Flood Relief Aid to Kerala**

1984. SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided to Kerala Government for flood relief during 1989-90;

(b) whether Government have received a utilisation report from the Kerala Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount utilised for Idukki District?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (d). A total ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 3,678.04 lakhs was approved for flood relief in Kerala in 1989-90. Against this, the State Govern-

ment reported an expenditure of Rs. 3,619.75 lakhs comprising Rs. 293.20 lakhs on relief, Rs. 523.60 lakhs on rehabilitation, Rs. 2,599.95 lakhs on repair and restoration of public properties and Rs. 198 lakhs for conversion of short term cooperative loans into medium term loans in flood affected areas. The State Government have reported that of this, an amount of Rs. 542.19 lakhs was incurred in Idukki District.

**Proposal to ban political parties with religious and sectarian appeal**

1985. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA  
Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in order to separate religion from politics, Government propose to ban all political parties with religious and sectarian appeal from entering into election fray; and  
(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal at present

(b) Does not arise.

12.00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

**Notifications under Life Insurance Corporation, Act, 1956, General Insurance Business (Notification) Act, 1972, Regional Rural Bank's Act 1976 and Income Tax Act, 1961, Annual Report and Review on the working of Export Import Bank of India for 1988-89, Annual Report and Audited Accounts of various Gramin Banks**

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): 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 48 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956:—

- (i) The Life Insurance Corporation of India (Reappointment of Terminated Development Officers) Rules, 1990 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 23 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 19th January, 1990.
- (ii) The Life Insurance Corporation of India Development Officers (Revision of Certain Terms and Conditions of Service) Rule, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 634(E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th June, 1989.
- (iii) The Life Insurance Corporation of India Class I Officers (Revision of Terms and Conditions of Service) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 711(E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th July, 1989.
- (iv) The Life Insurance Corporation of India (Agents) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 811 in Gazette of India dated the 4th November, 1989.
- (v) The Life Insurance Corporation of India (Daily Allowance and Hotel Charges to Employees on Tour) Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 934(E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th October, 1989.
- (vi) The Life Insurance Corporation of India Development Officers (Revision of Terms and

- Conditions of Service) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 968(E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th November, 1989. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—432/90]
- (2) A copy of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (Staff) Regulations, 1989 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 855(E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th September, 1989 under sub-section (3) of section 49 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956 together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1025(E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th November, 1989. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—433/90]
- (3) A copy of the General Insurance (Rationalisation of Pay Scales and Other Conditions of Service of Officers) Amendment Scheme, 1989 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 572(E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th July, 1989 under sub-section (5) of section 17A of the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act, 1972. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—434/90]
- (4) A copy of the Giridh Kshetriya Gramin Bank (Staff) service Regulations, 1985 (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 30 of the Regional Rural Banks' Act, 1976. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—435/90]
- (5) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 296 of the Income-tax Act, 1961:—
- (i) S.O. 2003 published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Calcutta Zoroastrian Stree Mandal' under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1988-89.
- (ii) S.O. 2004 published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Association of Medical Physicists of India' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1985-86 to 1988-89.
- (iii) S.O. 2005 published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1989 regarding exemption to 'The Indo-Arab Society, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1988-89.
- (iv) S.O. 2006 published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1989 regarding exemption of 'Mobile Creches for Working Mothers Children, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1988-89.
- (v) S.O. 2007 published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Akhil Bharatiya Gandharva Mahavidyalaya Mandal, Bombay' Under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1984-85 to 1986-87.

- (vi) S.O. 2008 published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1989 regarding exemption to 'The J.R.D. Tata Trust, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1988-89.
- (vii) S.O. 2009 published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Bharat Bhavan Nyas Bhopal' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1986-87 to 1988-89.
- (viii) S.O. 2010 published in gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1989 regarding exemption to 'The Muslim Education Society, Calicut' under section 10(23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1985-86 to 1987-88.
- (ix) S.O. 2011 Published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust, Brindavan, Bangalore' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (x) S.O. 2012 published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Institute of Marketing and Management, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1988-89 and 1989-90.
- (xi) S.O. 2013 published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1989 regarding exemption to Home Bhabha Fellowships Council, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (xii) S.O. 2014 published in gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1989 regarding exemption to 'People's Action for Development, Maharashtra' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (xiii) S.O. 2015 published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1989 regarding exemption to 'The Tata Agricultural and Rural Training Centre for the Blind, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (xiv) S.O. 2016 published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics Export Promotion Council' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1986-87 to 1989-90.
- (xv) S.O. 2017 published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1989 regarding exemption to 'The Family Planning Foundation, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the

- period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (xvi) S.O. 2018 published in gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1989 regarding exemption to the 'Royal Common Wealth Society for the Blind, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (xvii) S.O. 2019 published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Indian People's Natural Calamities Trust' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1986-87 to 1989-90.
- (xviii) S.O. 2020 published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Vivekanand Rock Memorial and Vivekananda Kendra, Madras' under Section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (xix) S.O. 2021 published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Bangiya Sahitya Parishad, Calcutta' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (xx) S.O. 2022 published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1989 regarding exemption to 'National Association for the Blind, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1988-89 and 1989-90.
- (xxi) S.O. 3081 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Indian National Theatre, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1984-85 to 1989-90.
- (xxii) S.O. 3082 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'The Institute for Financial Management and Research, Madras' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (xxiii) S.O. 3083 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'The M.P. Birla Foundation, Calcutta' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1987-88 to 1989-90.
- (xxiv) S.O. 3084 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Chief Ministers Relief Fund of Maharashtra, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (xxv) S.O. 3085 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th



- December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (xxvi) S.O. 3086 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'The Shardhanand Mahilashram, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (xxvii) S.O. 3087 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'The Jahangir Art Gallery, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (xxviii) S.O. 3088 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to the 'Navjivan Trust, Ahmedabad' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (xxix) S.O. 3089 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'The Kashturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust, Indore' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1988-89 and 1989-90.
- (xxx) S.O. 3090 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Tibetan Homes Foundation, Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1988-89 and 1989-90.
- (xxxi) S.O. 3091 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Rural Development Organisation, Nilgiris' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1984-85 and 1989-90.
- (xxxii) S.O. 3092 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Veda Rakshana Nidhi Trust, Madras', under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (xxxiii) S.O. 3093 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Andhra Pradesh State Council for Child Welfare, Hyderabad' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1986-87 to 1988-89.
- (xxxiv) S.O. 3094 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'The Nehru Trust for Cambridge University' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1986-87 to 1989-90.

- (xxxv) S.O. 3095 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Maharashtra State Women's Council' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (xxxvi) S.O. 3096 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Calcutta Pinjrapore Society' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (xxxvii) S.O. 3097 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Sangit Mahabharati, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (xxxviii) S.O. 3098 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'The Blind Relief Association, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87.
- (xxxix) S.O. 3099 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Little Sisters of the Poor, Calcutta' for the period covered by the assessment years 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87.
- (xl) S.O. 3100 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'National Association for the Blind, Bangalore' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (xli) S.O. 3101 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'D.A.V. College Managing Committee, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1987-88 to 1989-90.
- (xlii) S.O. 3102 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'The Mucherjee Nowrojee Banajee Industrial Home for the Blind, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (xliii) S.O. 3103 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'The Bombay Panjrapole, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (xliv) S.O. 3104 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Assam Rifles Group Insurance Scheme' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the

period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.

- (xiv) S.O. 3105 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Oil Co-ordination Committee on Pool Accounts' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (xlv) S.O. 3106 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Institute for Indian Labour Calcutta' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89.
- (xlvii) S.O. 3107 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1989 regarding exemption to 'Vivekananda Nidhi, Calcutta' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1987-88 to 1989-90. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—436/90]
- (6) A copy of Notification No. F. 2/14/89-NS. II (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th March, 1990 making certain amendments to Notification No. F. 2/14.89-N.S. II dated the 7th June, 1989. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—437/90]
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Export-Import Bank of India for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts under sub-section (5) of section 19 and sub-section (5) of section 24 of the Export-Import Bank of India Act, 1981.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Export-Import Bank of India for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—438/90]
- (8) A copy of Each of the following Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions):—
- (i) Report of the Alwar Bharatpur Anchalik Gramin Bank, Bharatpur, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—439/90]
- (ii) Report of the Thar Anchalik Gramin Bank, Jodhpur, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—440/90]
- (iii) Report of the Nalanda Gramin Bank, Bihar-Sharief, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—441/90]
- (iv) Report of the Kisan Gramin Bank Budaun, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—442/90]
- (v) Report of the Sri Sathavahana

- Gramin Bank, Karimnagar, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—443/90]
- (vi) Report of the Sri Visakha Gramin Bank, Sri Kakulam, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—444/90]
- (vii) Report of the Ganga Yamna Gramin Bank, Dehradun, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—445/90]
- (viii) Report of the Begusarai Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Begusarai, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—446/90]
- (ix) Report of the Shekhawati Gramin Bank, Sikar, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—447/90]
- (x) Report of the Patiliputra Gramin Bank, Patna, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—448/90]
- (xi) Report of the Balia Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Balia, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—449/90]
- (xii) Report of the Raylaseema Gramin Bank, Cuddapah, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—450/90]
- (xiii) Report of the Hisar-Sirsa Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Hisar, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—451/90]
- (xiv) Report of the Subansiri Gaonlia Gramin Bank, North Lakhimpur, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—452/90]
- (xv) Report of the Rawa-Sidhi Gramin Bank, Rawa, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—453/90]
- (xvi) Report of the Chitradurga Gramin Bank, Chitradurga, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—454/90]
- (xvii) Report of the Sultanpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Sultanpur, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the

- Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—455/90]
- (xviii) Report of the Mahakaushal Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Narsinghpur, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—456/90]
- (xix) Report of the Rani Lakshmi Bai Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Jhansi, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—457/90]
- (xx) Report of the Avadh Gramin Bank, Lucknow, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—458/90]
- (xxi) Report of the Bijapur Gramin Bank, Bijapur, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—459/90]
- (xxii) Report of the Tulsi Gramin Bank, Banda, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—460/90]
- (xxiii) Report of the Balasore Gramin Bank, Balasore, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Ac-
- counts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—461/90]
- (xxiv) Report of the Sarayu Gramin Bank, Lakhimpur, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—462/90]
- (xxv) Report of the Bhojpur-Rohtas Gramin Bank, Arrah, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—463/90]
- (xxvi) Report of the Arunachal Pradesh Gramin Bank, Pasighat, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—464/90]
- (xxvii) Report of the Aligarh Gramin Bank, Aligarh, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—465/90]
- (xxviii) Report of the Bareilly Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bareilly, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—466/90]
- (xxix) Report of the Srirama Gramin Bank, Nizamabad, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—467/90]

- (xxx) Report of the Adhiyaman Gramin Bank, Dharmupuri, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—468/90]
- (xxxii) Report of the Sarguja Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Ambikapur, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—469/90]
- (xxxiii) Report of the Durg-Rajnandganon Gramin Bank, Rajnandgaon, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—470/90]
- (xxxiii) Report of the Sharda Gramin Bank, Satna, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—471/90]
- (xxxiv) Report of the Mewar Anchalik Gramin Bank, Udaipur, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—472/90]
- (xxxv) Report of the Kutch Gramin Bank, Bhuj, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—473/90]

- (xxxvi) Report of the Raebareli Kahetriya Gramin Bank, Raebareli, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—474/90]
- (xxxvii) Report of the Bhandara Gramin Bank, Bhandara, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—475/90]
- (xxxviii) Report of the Dewas-Shajapur Kahetriya Gramin Bank, Dewas, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—476/90]
- (xxxix) Report of the Sriganaganar Kahetriya Gramin Bank, Sriganaganar, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—477/90]
- (xl) Report of the Madhubani Kahetriya Gramin Bank, Madhubani, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—478/90]
- (xli) Report of the Kapurthala-Firozpur Kahetriya Gramin Bank, Kapurthala, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989

- together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—479/90]
- (xlii) Report of the Bastar Kahetriya Gramin Bank, Jagdalpur, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—480/90]
- (xliii) Report of the Samyut Kahetriya Gramin Bank, Jagdalpur, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—481/90]
- (xliv) Report of the Jammu Rural Bank, Jammu, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—482/90]
- (xlv) Report of the Jamnagar Rajkot Gramin Bank, Jamnagar, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—483/90]
- (xlvi) Report of the Mizoram Rural Bank, Aizwal, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—484/90]
- (xlvii) Report of the Nainital Almora Kehetriya Gramin Bank, Nainital, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's
- Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—485/90]
- (xlviii) Report of the Langpi Dehangi Rural Bank, Diphu, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—486/90]
- (xlix) Report of the Alaknanda Gramin Bank, Pauri Garhwal, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—487/90]
- (i) Report of the Bardhaman Gramin Bank, Burdwan, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—488/90]
- (ii) Report of the Manipur Rural Bank, Imphal, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—489/90]
- (iii) Report of the Godawari Grammeena Bank, Rajahmundry, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—490/90]
- (iiii) Report of the Thane Gramin Bank, Thane, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—491/90]

- (liv) Report of the Nagarjuna Gramin Bank, Khammna, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—492/90]
- (iv) Report of the Kanakadurga Grameena Bank, Gudivada, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—493/90]
- (lvi) Report of the Sabarkantha—Gandhinagar Gramin Bank, Himatnagar, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—494/90]
- (lvii) Report of the Varda Gramin Bank, Kumta, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—495/90]
- (lviii) Report of the Cauvery Grameena Bank, Mysore, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—496/90]
- (lix) Report of the Kshetriya Kisan Gramin Bank, Manipuri, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—497/90]
- (lx) Report of the Tungabhadra Gramin Bank, Bellary, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—498/90]
- (lxi) Report of the Singhbum Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Chaibasa, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—499/90]
- (lxii) Report of the Krishna Gramin Bank, Gulbarga, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—500/90]
- (lxiii) Report of the Cuttack Gramya Bank, Cuttack, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—501/90]
- (lxiv) Report of the Vidisha Bhopal Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Vidisha, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—502/90]
- (lxv) Report of the Ranchi Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Ranchi, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—503/90]
- (lxvi) Report of the Hindon Gramin Bank, Ghaziabad, for the year



- ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—504/90]
- (lxvii) Report of the Mallabhum Gramin Bank, Bankura, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—505/90]
- (lxviii) Report of the Bhagalpur Banks Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bhagalpur, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—506/90]
- (lxix) Report of the Gurgaon Gramin Bank, Gurgaon, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—507/90]
- (lxx) Report of the Rushikulya Gramya Bank, Berhampur, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—508/90]
- (lxxi) Report of the Golconda Gramin Bank, Hyderabad, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—509/90]
- (lxxii) Report of the Biatarani Gramya Bank, Baripada, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—510/90]
- (lxxiii) Report of the Howrah Gramin Bank, Howrah, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—511/90]
- (lxxiv) Report of the Ellaquai Dehati Bank, Srinagar, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—512/90]
- (lxxv) Report of the Santhal Parganas Gramin Bank, Dumka, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—513/90]
- (lxxvi) Report of the Lakhimi Gaonlia Bank, Golaghat, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—514/90]
- (lxxvii) Report of the Marwar Gramin Bank, Pali, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—515/90]
- (lxxviii) Report of the Netravati Grammeena Bank, Mangalore, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—516/90]

port thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—516/90]

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—522/90]

(lxxix) Report of the Shahdol Gramin Bank, Shahdol, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—517/90]

(lxxxv) Report of the Uttarbanga Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Coochbehar, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—523/90]

(lxxx) Report of the Samastipur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Samastipur, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—518/90]

(lxxxvi) Report of the Champaran Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Motihari, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—524/90]

(lxxxii) Report of the Prathama Bank, Moradabad, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library See No. LT—519/90]

**Annual Report and Review on the working of the Agriculture and processed Food Products Export Development Authority for 1988-89 and Statement for delay in laying these Papers; Annual Report and Review on the working of Indian Diamond Institutes for 1988-89 etc.**

(lxxxii) Report of the Haryana Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bhiwani, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—520/90]

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):  
I beg to lay on the Table—

(lxxxiii) Report of the Tripura Gramin Bank, Agartala, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—521/90]

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority for the year 1988-89 along with the Audited Accounts.

(lxxxiv) Report of the Kashi Gramin Bank, Varanasi, for the year ended the 31st March, 1989 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority for the year 1988-89.

(2) A statement (Hindi and English

versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—525/90]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Indian Diamond Institute, Surat, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Indian Diamond Institute, Surat, for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—526/90]
- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Overseas Construction Council of India, Bombay, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Overseas Construction Council of India, Bombay, for the year 1988-89.
- (5) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—527/90]
- (6) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Export Inspection Council and Export Inspection Agencies for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts, (Volume-II). [Placed in Library. See No. LT—528/90]

**Annual Report and Reviews on the Working of Hindustan Copper Ltd. for 1988-89, Bharat Aluminium Company for 1988-89 and statement for delay in Laying these papers etc.**

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): 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 19A of the Companies Act, 1956:—
- (a) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Hindustan Copper Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Copper Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—529/90]
- (b) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Bharat Aluminium Company Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Aluminium Company Limited, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—530/90]

- (2) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
- (3) A copy of the One Hundred Thirty-Third Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Law Commission on Removal of discrimination against women in matters relating to Guardianship and custody of Minor Children and Elaboration of the Welfare Principle.
- (4) A copy of the One Hundred-Thirty-Fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Law Commission on Removing deficiencies in certain provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 [Placed in Library. See No. LT—531/90]

of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct Of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Punjab Appropriation Bill, 1990, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 20th March, 1990, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

SHRI M.J. AKBAR (Kishanganj): Sir, there are two issues in Punjab. The terrorists now are putting serious pressure on all the schools in many districts to drop Hindi from the syllabus and this is happening in a large number of schools. Hindi being our national language I think this must be taken up. And in Bhagalpur, conflagration has started again. Both the issues have to be taken up, Sir.

12.02 hrs.

#### MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

- (i) "In Accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Punjab Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1990, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 20th March, 1990, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."
- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE (Chandrapur): Sir, the Naxalites People's War Group Kidnapped three P.W.D. Assistant Engineers from Maharashtra to Andhra Pradesh. They demanded release of their seven colleagues from jail from Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh and withdrawal of Special Reserve Police Force. The Government of Maharashtra is negotiating for their release. This is the first incident in Maharashtra. I Demand from the Government of India and the Home Ministry to intervene in the release of the three officials .

SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARDHANAN (Tirunelveli): Sir, yesterday there was a news item in *The Hindu*. The Tamil fishermen from Rameswaram who were fishing in the sea were threatened by LTTE militants. It is a dangerous situation for the Tamil Nadu fishermen because the LTTE militants are threatening their lives. I want the Minister to make a statement regarding this.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, the pressmen are being attacked every-

[Sh. P.C. Thomas]

where. In Kerala recently two press offices, one of *Chandrika*, an official daily of Muslim League, the the other of *Veekshanam*, an official daily of Congress Party, were damaged, they were attacked by some CPI (M) workers and it has been stated by the Chief Minister of Kerala in the Assembly that four students belonging to the Students' Federation of India were the persons involved in That. I am submitting this only because this is taking place everywhere So, some very serious action has to be taken by the Information and Broadcasting Minister.

SHRI T. BASHEER (Chirayinkil): There was an interview published in *The Times of India*. The interview is with the Minister Mr Fernandes. Mr. Fernandes says: "Militants rule Kashmir. The Terrorists rule Kashmir." Such a situation prevails there. The Minister admits the facts. You know, he is the Minister for Kashmir affairs I can quote, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Don't quote like that.

SHRI T. BASHEER: He Says.

"Despite our best efforts we have not been able, so far, to bring about any appreciable change in Kashmir Now, the militants continue to rule that State."

This is stated by a Minister who is in charge of Kashmir Affairs. It is a very serious matter.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the people of Nepal have waged a struggle against the monarchy to herald democracy in that country. About 6,000 people have been imprisoned. India, the biggest democratic country has always supported the movements for democracy wherever they have taken place in the world. I want to request the Government through the House that it should express its support

for the struggle that has been launched in Nepal for the restoration of democracy.

SHRI GULAB CHAND KATARIA (Udaipur). Mr. Speaker, Sir, terrorist activities of ULFA are continuously increasing in Assam. 47 people have been killed during the last one year. We have informed the Government and the Home Minister that terrorists are entering the country after receiving training in Burma. Terrorism is growing in that State on the same pattern as in Punjab and Kashmir. The elements belonging to ULFA are killing the innocent people there after getting training in Burma. If timely attention is not paid to this problem, it would also take serious turn as has been the case in the States referred to above. I want to know what the Government and the hon. Home Minister propose to do about the problem of Assam. The Government should make a statement in the matter.

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are large stocks of spurious and sub-standard medicines in the country, as a result of which the people are dieing everyday. Central Government should enact an effective law under which capital punishment could be awarded to the sellers of spurious and sub-standard medicines. Otherwise, this problem is likely to take serious proportions in the country. I want to submit that Government should enact stringent laws for this purpose.

SHRI M.S. PAL (Nainital): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the terrorists have entered Tarai Bhambar area of Nainital district of Uttar Pradesh. An incident of bomb-explosion took place in a cinema hall in Haldwani a few days back in which 5 people were killed and 30 injured. In another incident of dacoity, a man was killed. In yet another incident, a policeman was killed. No attention is being paid by the Government to law and order situation. Neither Uttar Pradesh Government nor Central Government have paid any attention towards it. Besides, no compensation has been paid to the families of the victims. My

submission is that attention should be paid to it.

**SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (Sasaram):**

Mr. Speaker, Sir, foundation stone of Durgawati Jalashya Project being constructed with the Central Government assistance, was laid in 1976 in Rohtas district of Bihar. This project involves an outlay of Rs. 25.30 crores and it was scheduled to be completed by 1980. Till now about Rs. 67 crores have been spent on this project but it has not been completed. As a result, 10 divisions of Rohtas district are frequently hit by drought. I would request the Government to pay attention to it.

**SHRI ARVIND NETAM (Kanker):** Mr.

Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Information and Broadcasting towards the morning transmission of Doordarshan and pay that yesterday the Hindi news reader was not able to read out news properly. I would like to point out that in yesterday's Hindi news bulletin, the voice of the news reader was staggering. I would like that the hon. Minister should look into the matter.

[*English*]

**SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly):** Sir,

I have given a notice regarding a scandal involving the former Prime Minister and his Italian friends. The nation is losing Rs. 15 lakhs daily in the contract given with undue haste and in an irregular manner. Please permit a discussion.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA**

(Dhandhuka): Mr. Speaker, Sir, deaths due to consumption of spurious liquor have become frequent in the country. 25-30 people have died due to the consumption of spurious liquor in Rajkot district of my State-Gujarat. Hooch is sold even in prohibited areas. Consequently, innocent people are falling prey to it. I would request that com-

pensation should be given to the families of the victims and most stringent punishment should be awarded to the culprits.

**KUMARI UMA BHARATI (Khajuraho):**

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the problem of spurious drugs which hon. Shri Joshi raised, is also being faced in some districts of my area. It has been observed that the medicines which are supplied by medical stores are more effective than those supplied in Government hospitals. The Government should look into the reasons and find out whether there is some bungling in the medicines being supplied by the hospitals.

**SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora):** Mr.

Speaker, Sir, Nepal is our neighbouring country. We have traditional relations not only with the Government of Nepal but also with the people of that country. Every Government, whether it is of this party or that party, has its compulsions. But the way the people of Nepal are being suppressed for demanding democracy and human rights are being denied, this House should not remain silent because it is a question of democracy. I think that the entire House is unanimous on this issue. The Parliament should express its feelings in the matter.

[*English*]

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE**

(Bolpur): Sir, I support Mr. Harish. We have raised it earlier also...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

**SHRI MOHANBHAI SANJIBHAI**

DELKAR (Dadra and Nagar Haveli): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are 300 factories in Dadra and Nagar Haveli in which 7-8 thousand labourers are employed. They are being exploited by the industrial management. There is strike in 2-3 factories. Local Administration is not paying any attention towards it, as a result of which labourers are facing great hardship. Administration of the island should be woken up and labour problem

[Sh. Mohanbhai Sanjibhai Delkar]

should be solved so that solution to the difficulties of the workers could be found.

[*English*]

SHRIVASANT SATHE (Wardha): I have been listening since yesterday to some of our friends talking of enquiry into the scandal of some Italian connection. I would also like to know whether this Government is going to enquire into the scandal of the Chief Minister of West Bengal, his son and son-in-law with some American Company connection. The American company is Kuljian. Let them also enquire into that.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Can an hon. Member mislead the House by saying that the Chief Minister has son-in-law, when he has no daughter even. He is misleading the House deliberately...(*Interruptions*)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): Sir, I am raising a non-controversial subject and I want direction from you.

MR. SPEAKER: I think, you always raise non-controversial subjects.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: We have to raise so many problems with the Minister. But I want to approach them through you. They are not available to the Members of Parliament. How can they be available to the ordinary people?

I will give an example. During the session, they have to set apart some time for the Members of Parliament. On the very first day, when we met here...

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Who can ignore you? Who can ignore a Member of Parliament?

[*English*]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: So far, we

have received notices from only three Ministers. Until the Session is over, we shall continue to receive the notices. It is on the first day of the Session itself, that all Ministers should inform us about the time...(*Interruptions*)

The Parliamentary Affairs Minister should assure me that he will take it up. Please direct the Minister.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): This has been brought to my notice. It is a fact that some Ministers have not yet assigned some time. I will take it up with them and see that by tomorrow it is done.

[*Translation*]

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI (Sitapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the high level officers are being penalised by this Government although they work honestly. For instance, the tax notice has been issued to the Vishwa Hindu Parishad...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No, this is not issue. Please take your seat... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI ANIL SHASTRI (Varanasi): It was reported in the "Times of India" that at the swearing in ceremony in Namibia Mr. Rajiv Gandhi was referred to as Executive Prime Minister. If it is true, I would request the Minister for External Affairs to take up the matter with our envoy in Namibia who in turn should take this up with the authorities in Namibia to ensure that the error is regretted...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY (Mangalore): I have given an adjournment motion. You have not called me.

MR. SPEAKER: I have not given my consent to the adjournment motion.

**SHRI JANARDHANAPOOJARY:** There is another Call Attention also. I thought you will call me and I have been raising my hands. The hon. Minister in charge of Kashmir Affairs had given a statement outside the Parliament stating that the militants are ruling Kashmir. It is a very dangerous statement. He should have made the statement here.

**MR. SPEAKER:** It is coming up on Monday. I have listed that Call Attention for Monday. It has been listed for 26th.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

**MR. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member will be given time on Monday.

*(Interruptions)*

12.16 hrs.

## BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing, Monday, the 26th March, 1990 will consist of:-

- (1) Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's order paper.
- (2) General discussion on General Budget for 1990-91.
- (3) Submission to the Vote of the House of Demands for Grants on Account (General) for 1990-91.

(4) Discussion and Voting on Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1989-90.

(5) Consideration and passing of:

(a) The Commissions of Inquiry (Amendment) Bill, 1989

(b) The Criminal Law Amendment (Amending) Bill, 1989 as passed by Rajya Sabha.

(6) Discussion under Rule 193 regarding the accident to the Indian Airlines Airbus A-320 at Bangalore on Thursday, the 29th March, 1990 at 6.00 P.M.

**AN HON. MEMBER:** We would like to know when the voting will take place.

**SHRI P. UPENDRA:** The hon. Members are asking about voting on the Railway Budget. The Railway Minister will commence his reply today and complete it on Monday. The voting will take place on Monday.

12.17 hrs.

## JOINT COMMITTEE ON OFFICES OF PROFIT

**Motion for constituting the committee**

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): Sir, I beg to move:

"That a Joint Committee of the Houses to be called the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit be constituted consisting of fifteen members, ten from this



[Sh. Dinesh Goswami]

House and five from the Rajya Sabha, who shall be elected from amongst the members of each House in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote:

That the functions of the Joint Committee shall be-

- (i) to examine the composition and character of all existing "committees" (other than those examined by the Joint Committee to which the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Bill, 1957 was referred) and all "committees" that may hereafter be constituted, membership of which may disqualify a person for being chosen as, and for being, a member of either House of Parliament under article 102 of the Constitution;
- (ii) to recommend in relation to the "committees" examined by it what offices should disqualify and what offices should not disqualify;
- (iii) to scrutinise from time to time the Schedule to the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959, and to recommend any amendments in the said Schedule, whether by way of addition, omission or otherwise;

That the Joint Committee shall, from time to time, report to both Houses of Parliament in respect of all or any of the aforesaid matters;

That the members of the Joint Committee shall hold office for the duration of the present Lok Sabha;

That in order to constitute as sitting of the Joint Committee, the quorum shall be

one-third of the total number of members of the Committee;

That in other respects, the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committees will apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker may make; and

That this House recommends to the Rajya Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do join in the said Joint Committee and to communicate to this House the names of Members to be appointed by the Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That a Joint Committee of the Houses to be called the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit be constituted consisting of fifteen members, ten from this House and five from the Rajya Sabha, who shall be elected from amongst the members of each House in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote:

That the functions of the Joint Committee shall be-

- (i) to examine the composition and character of all existing "committees" (other than those examined by the Joint Committee to which the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Bill, 1957 was referred) and all "committees" that may hereafter be constituted, membership of which may disqualify member of either House of Parliament under article 102 of the Constitution;
- (ii) to recommend in relation to the "committees" examined by it what offices should disqualify and what offices should not disqualify;

- (iii) to scrutinise from time to time the Schedule to the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959, and to recommend any amendments in the said Schedule, whether by way of addition, omission or otherwise;

That the Joint Committee shall, from time to time, report to both Houses of Parliament in respect of all or any of the aforesaid matters:

That the members of the Joint Committee shall hold office for the duration of the present Lok Sabha;

That in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee, the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of members of the Committee;

That in other respects, the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committees will apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker may make; and

That this House recommends to the Rajya Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do join in the said Joint Committee and to communicate to this House the names of Members to be appointed by the Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee."

*The motion was adopted.*

12.19 hrs.

### ELECTION TO COMMITTEES

[English]

- (i) **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority**

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):  
Sir, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (4) (d) of Section 4 of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act, 1985 the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (4) (d) of Section 4 of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act, 1985 the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

*The motion was adopted.*

- (ii) **Coffee Board**

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):  
Sir, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (2) (b) of Section 4 of the Coffee Act, 1942 read with rule 4(1) of the Coffee Rules, 1955, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Coffee Board subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (2)

(b) of Section 4 of the Coffee Act, 1942 read with rule 4(1) of the Coffee Rules, 1955, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Coffee Board subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

*The motion was adopted.*

**(iii) Marine Products Export Development Authority**

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):  
Sir, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (3) (c) of Section 4 of the Marine Products Export Development Authority Act, 1972, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from among themselves to serve as Members of the marine Products Export Development Authority, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (3) (c) of Section 4 of the Marine Products Export Development Authority Act, 1972, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Marine Products Export Development Authority, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

*The motion was adopted.*

**(iv) Rubber Board**

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):  
Sir, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (3) (e) of Section 4 of the Rubber Act, 1947 read with rule (4) (1) of the Rubber Rules, 1955, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from among themselves to serve as members of the Rubber Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (3) (e) of Section 4 of the Rubber Act, 1947 read with rule (4) (1) of the Rubber Rules, 1955, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Rubber Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

*The motion was adopted.*

**(v) Spices Board**

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):  
Sir, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (3) (b) of Section 3 of the Spices Board Act, 1986, read with rule 4 of Spices Board Rules 1987, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Spices Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (3) (b) of Section 3 of the Spices Board

Act, 1986 read with rule 4 of Spices Board Rules 1987, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from among themselves to serve as members of the Spices Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

*The motion was adopted.*

(vi) **Tea Board**

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): Sir, I beg to move

"That in pursuance of sub-section (3) (f) of Section 4 of the Tea Act, 1953, read with rule 4(1) (b) of the Tea Rules, 1954, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Tea Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (3) (f) of Section 4 of the Tea Act, 1953, read with rule 4(1) (b) of the Tea Rules, 1954, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Tea Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

*The motion was adopted.*

(vii) **Tobacco Board**

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): Sir, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (4) (b) of Section 4 of the Tobacco Board Act, 1975, read with rules 3 and 4 of the Tobacco Board Rules, 1976, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Tobacco Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

12.23 hrs.

[DR. THAMBI DURAI *in the Chair*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion Moved:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (4) (b) of Section 4 of the Tobacco Board Act, 1975, read with rules 3 and 4 of the Tobacco Board Rules, 1976, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Tobacco Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prof. Ranga, do you want to say anything. This is a formal motion.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur): Sir, it is not so. Just because it has been treated as a formal matter it does not mean that we give up our right to say whatever we wish to advance in regard to this particular Motion. So far as this Tobacco Board is concerned, it has been brought into existence in order to protect the Tobacco growers. But then so many things have had to be done for their protection. I wish to mention only one thing just at present. I think my hon. friend is in charge of the STC—the State Trading Corporation also. It is also expected to come into the market in order to ensure that reasonable prices come to be paid to the tobacco growers in the open market. I have already written to the hon. Minister giving some

[Prof. N.G. Ranga]

details as to how today the tobacco merchants, international as well as national have been trying to depress the prices of tobacco and how they have succeed so far in exploiting our tobacco growers. I would like my hon. friend to pay some special attention and see that the State Trading Corporation which is brought into existence specifically in order to protect our growers of different crops and more specially the tobacco growers also from being exploited by the local merchants as well as foreigners and exporters. I hope, my hon. friend will take quick action, soon enough, to protect our growers who are placing their tobacco in the open market and who are not able to get proper prices fixed or offered thereof.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): We are aware of the problem which the hon. Member mentioned. We will do what we can in the next few days.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (4) (b) of Section 4 of the Tobacco Board Act, 1975, read with rules 3 and 4 of the Tobacco Board Rules, 1976, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Tobacco Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

*The motion was adopted*

#### MATTERS UNDER RULES 377

12.26 hrs.

[*Translation*]

- (i) **Need to implement the recommendation of Chattopadhyaya Committee regarding pay-scales of teachers**

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): It is the duty of the Government and the society

to provide adequate facilities to the teachers, who shoulder the responsibility of nation-building. From the very beginning, the teachers have been a neglected lot in our country. Some improvement has been made in their pay-scales, but it is not satisfactory. In many states, including Uttar Pradesh, a clear discrimination has been done with the teachers in regard to their pay-scales in comparison to the other State Government employees. Different categories of teachers from primary to high secondary level have expressed their dissatisfaction over this discrimination from time to time.

There is only one way to bring this situation to an end and it is to implement the recommendations of Chattopadhyaya Committee, which was set up by the Central Government a long time back.

I would request the Government to direct the State Governments to immediately implement the recommendations of Chattopadhyaya Committee in regard to the pay-scales of different categories of teachers and, if necessary, the Centre should bear the additional expenditure of the States as a result of the implementation of the recommendations of the committee.

[*English*]

- (ii) **Need to make optimum utilisation of natural resources of North Eastern Region**

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Tripura West): North Eastern Region, in spite of having very rich deposits of gas etc., has not received adequate attention by the Government for harnessing these deposits in an optimum way. Even the power situation could be improved in this region and elsewhere in the country, if we utilise all the resources of this region, including those found in the State of Tripura. No doubt much has been done, still the gas potentialities have to be further

utilised. I request the Minister of Energy as well as the Minister of Petroleum to look into matter.

- (iii) **Need to convert Gondia-Jabalpur narrow gauge Railway line into broad gauge and to take up survey work of Chandrapur-Gondia Railway line**

**SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE** (Chandrapur): Chandrapur-Gondia-Jabalpur is the narrow gauge railway line in Vidarbha region. There is demand for conversion of this into broad gauge.

The Government of India had informed the State Government in the past that conversion of Chandrapur-Nagbhir-Gondia-Jabalpur line from narrow gauge to broad gauge is 512 k.m. Further, bases on the recommendation of Uneconomic Branch Lines Committee, 1969 a traffic survey for the conversion of the Northern Sections of the Satpura narrow gauge system (including Jabalpur-Gondia) has been undertaken and survey has since been completed. The Committee, however, did not recommend conversion of the Chandrapur-Nagbhir-Gondia section the length of which is 242 Km.

It has been report that there is no proposal at present for conversion of Chandrapur-Gondia narrow gauge line in broad gauge due to constraint of resources and heavy commitment already in hand for gauge conversion works.

The Government of India is requested to convert Gondia-Jabalpur narrow gauge line into broad gauge and also to take up survey work of Chandrapur-Gondia railway line.

- (iv) **Need to open a Central University in Champaran district after the name of Mahatma Gandhi and to adopt economic development programme for Champaran on the lines of Gandhian philosophy**

**SHRI DHARMESH PRASAD VARMA** (Bettiah): The district of Champaran and its people have played the most vital role in the life of Gandhiji who recorded that in his meeting with peasants of Champaran, he was face to face with God, Ahimsa and Truth. This district has ever since remained an object of neglect resulting in its being called 'mini Chamba' i.e. Crime *Bhumi* in place of '*Karma Bhumi*' of the Mahatma. I, therefore, request the Government of India to open a Central University in the name of Mahatma Gandhi in Champaran and to adopt comprehensive time bound economic developmental programmes on the lines of Gandhian philosophy for Champaran which has considerable tribal and harijan population.

[*Translation*]

- (v) **Need to levy excise duty on yarn instead of processed cloth with a view to save 'Art Silk' Industry from Closure**

**SHRI KASHIRAM CHHABILDAS RANA** (Surat): Mr. Chairman, Sir, under Rule 377, I would like to submit that Surat (Gujarat) is world-famous for its art silk industry and a large number of people earn their livelihood from it. But today, like the mills of Ahmedabad, this industry is on the verge of closure. A favourable policy should be evolved for the development of this industry and the excise duty levied on the processed cloth should be levied on the yarn, so that this industry could be saved from closure and the Government's income may also increase. I would request the Government to take immediate action in this regard.

(vi) **Need to provide financial assistance to Bihar Government for paying compensation to farmers of Bhojpur district (Bihar) whose rabi crops have been damaged due to heavy rains and hailstorm**

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, under Rule 377, I would like to raise the following matter: 'The rabi crop in Rajpur Buxar, Itarhi, Navanagar, Damraon, Semati, Brahmipur, Shahpur, Bihiyan, Jagdispur, Peeron, Sandesh, Sahar, Koilbar, Barhara and Arrah areas under Bhojpur district of Bihar has been damaged due to heavy rains and hailstorm in February end. The farmers of Bhojpur district have incurred a heavy loss running into crores of rupees. Each farmer has to spend a sum of Rs. 500 to sow rabi crop. Thus, the standing crop on one lakh acres of land of the farmers of Bhojpur district has been damaged. So I demand from the Central Government that it should provide financial assistance to the Bihar Government, so that it could provide a compensation of Rs. 500/- per acre to the farmers of Bhojpur district.'

(vii) **Need to include 'Rajbhar' in the list of Schedule Castes**

SHRI RAM KRISHAN YADAV (Azamgarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to raise the following matter Under Rule 377. 'Lakhs of people belonging to Rajbhar casts live in Uttar Pradesh and other states. In respect of social, economic and educational background, these people are as backward as the Scheduled Castes, but it is ironical that neither they have been included in the list of Scheduled Castes, nor the facilities provided to the Scheduled Castes under the constitution have been made available to them. I have come to know that the Maharashtra Government has included this caste in the list of Scheduled Castes, I would urge the hon. Minister of Welfare that keeping in view the above facts, Rajbhar caste should be included in the list of Scheduled Castes ?'

(viii) **Need to establish a Bench of Allahabad High Court in Western U.P.**

SHRI HARPAL SINGH PANWAR (Kairana): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Uttar Pradesh is a very big state. The High Court of Uttar Pradesh is situated in Allahabad. The residents of Western Uttar Pradesh, especially those residing in hilly areas, have to travel a distance of more than 600 kilometres to reach the Allahabad High Court. Many a times, mass-agitations have taken place and the lawyers have also gone on strike in support of the demand for setting up of a Bench of Allahabad High Court in Western Uttar Pradesh. With a view to providing inexpensive and speedy justice to the people, it is necessary that a Bench of Allahabad High Court is set up at a suitable place in Western Uttar Pradesh at an early date. Jaswant Singh Commission has already submitted a favourable report in this regard.

So, I would request the Central Government that in deference to the sentiments of the people, action should be taken to set up a Bench of Allahabad High Court in Western Uttar Pradesh without further delay.

12.34 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE. APPROVAL OF FIRST REPORT OF RAILWAY CONVENTION COMMITTEE, 1989.  
RAILWAY BUDGET 1990-91 -GENERAL DISCUSSION  
DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (RAILWAY), 1990-91  
AND  
SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (RAILWAYS) 1989-90—  
CONTD.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take up Item Nos. 15, 16, 17 and 18 together.

I want to request all the Members to

cooperate with the Chair. The time left is very short. We are ready to accommodate most of the Members, we do not leave most of them. But they have also to cooperate only their points. It will be helpful to other also. I hope the Members will cooperate with the Chair.

Shri Palas Barman to speak.

[Translation]

\*SHRI PALAS BARMAN (Balurghat): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while speaking on the Railway budget 1990-91, I feel that this budget has disappointed the people of this country. The people had much hopes and aspirations from the National Front Government, but this budget has failed to fulfill their aspirations. The people of West Bengal have remained deprived of both new railway lines and new railway trains. By raising the cost of platform tickets and by raising the second class railway fares and railway freights, the Government is losing the goodwill and support of the common man.

Sir, as a result of increasing passenger traffic in Sealdah. South Division, the number of trains specially between Sealdah and Canning and between Sealdah and Lakhikantapur has to be increased considerably. The Sealdah Canning line is single track. Doubling of this line is very necessary to meet the load. I draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to this demand.

Sir, my constituency is Balurghat. As a result of partition of the country, West Dinajpur is a newly formed District. Balurghat is the District headquarters. From here people have to travel a distance of 130 or 140 Km. to Mada to catch a railway train. Even after 43 years of independence there is no railway connection at Balurghat. We have received unaccounted flood of assurances over the years. In 1984 due to the efforts of the then Railway Minister of Eklakhhi -Balurghat

railway line was approved and the foundation-stone was also laid. Some work on this project costing a small amount of money has also been done. The budget allocation for this was only Rs. 1000/- last year. This year also it is the same. This actually is a laughing matter. The people of this District which is adjacent to the Hilli area of Bangladesh, hear the whistle of trains and also see the smoke of railway engines running in Bangladesh across the border nearby. It is possible to construct this Eklakhhi-Balurghat railway connection if a small amount of money is sanctioned and that shall have to be sanctioned. This District of neglected North Bengal is mostly inhabited by Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and socially and economically backward people. On behalf of these neglected people of a backward District I appeal to the Hon. Railway Minister to immediately restart this ongoing Eklakhhi Balurghat Railway Project which has the approval of the West Bengal Government and also to complete it expeditiously. This urgent necessity may kindly be made a reality.

In the end I appeal that in view of the large increase in the number of railway passengers and their miserable condition, it is very necessary to introduce two passenger trains in North Bengal. One, from New Bongaigaon to Howrah Janata Express which was running earlier. During the last devastating floods this train was discontinued. This must be restored immediately. Another express train from new Cooch Bihar to Sealdah is also very necessary and should be introduced early. I do not want to prolong my speech. I, therefore, thank you and conclude my speech.

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (Malegaon): Mr. Chairman, Sir, railways are the backbone of India's economy and so its development is necessary. Railways are one of the main means of transport. It is essential that the Government pays attention to the problems being faced by people who travel

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\*Translation of the speech Originally delivered in Bengali.



[Sh. Haribhau Shankar Mahale]

in it. Second class fare has been increased, it should be reduced. The price of platform ticket should not be increased. The price of the platform ticket should be reduced to Re. 1 from the proposed Rs. 2.00.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I want to raise a matter in this House. Campa Cola company is in illegal occupation of railway land near the New Delhi railway station. Crores of rupees as licence fees has been due towards them for a long time. That company is a Congress (I) sympathiser and the owner is a friend of the leader of that party. That is why no action has been taken against them so far. Action must be taken against them. If a poor man had been in this situation, he would have been fined Rs. 500. The time of rajas and maharajas may be over in India but our railways have their own raja and maharajas. A lot of money spend on them and so they must be transferred. The recruitment committee should consist of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe representatives. The posts which are reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes but are vacant should be filled up immediately. The office of the Bhartiya Aadim Jaati Sevak Sangh is in Delhi. Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Shri H.N. Kunzru and Shri Morarji Desai had headed this institution at one time on the other. Since 1953, the Chairman and the Secretary were given a free first class pass and second class pass respectively. From 1970 onwards this practice was stopped. This facility should be started again. No attention has been paid to running of trains in tribal areas. Nasik and Dhuliya districts are both tribal districts. A new railway line is needed from Mansad to Malegaon, Nardana. Nasik Road and Valsad are also important places. Construction of a new railway line should be considered for this area. Previously, people came to Nasik to perform obsequies for ten days and for pilgrimage but today it is an important industrial centre. So I feel that it is necessary that trains

running between Delhi and Bombay halt at Nasik. In Nasik, as in Allahabad, a religious festival is organised. Therefore, I request that trains should be provided with a stoppage at Nasik also. A large quantity of onions and grapes is produced at Nasik and sent to Delhi, Calcutta and Bangalore. It is very difficult to transport the goods. So attention should be paid to this aspect also. No railway facility has been provided in tribal areas and when there are plans to do so, no funds are available. Will the tribal areas get railway facility only after dooms day has passed? The Maharashtra Government has sent the Maharashtra Rail Project to the Central Government for approval. Through you, I request the Central Government to grant its approval for this project.

Secondly, there is a demand for the stoppage of Punjab Mail at Nandgaon. I request for the stoppage of the Punjab Mail at Nandgaon.

I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur): Mr. Chairman Sir, one of the ablest members of the Ruling Party was appointed as the Railway Minister. I thought that some special attention would be given to the Railway Budget and Railway affairs by the Cabinet as well as by the Government. But what we find now is only a skeleton representation of the Government on that side and a skeleton representation of the Press Gallery also, that too on the third day, the last day of the discussion and when Items Nos. 15 to 22 are being put together before the House.

I wish to congratulate my hon. friend, Mr. George Fernandes, who is not present here today, on assuming this Railway Ministership. He has been espousing the cause of the railway workers for a long time and we have been hoping that railway workers would come in for a good share of Government's

generous attention which we do not find in actual practice .

Secondly, I am glad that the Status Paper has been circulated this time. Certain questions on policy have been placed before the public as well as Parliament for discussion and decision. Thirdly, I find not enough attention being paid to the needs of the North-eastern States. There are seven States in number. We have had special mention for the last three years on what the Government proposed to do in order to develop the railway communications there. This time, it has been neglected hopelessly. We would have liked to know and we would like to know even now as to what special steps are being taken for provision of money, material and personnel in order to develop the railway communications in the north-eastern frontier where seven States have taken shape and their elected representatives are running the local Governments. It is most important. And it is true that the railways have to be developed in most of the other areas also. But this region ought to be given the first priority. I am ashamed to think that even now the Railways are carrying on with narrow gauge railway lines. Sometimes, we were assured and the country was assured that narrow gauge was going to be given up. Why is the Government still hanging on with this? May I expect the hon. Minister to extend his suggestion for the removal of narrow gauge and converting all meter gauge lines into broad gauge lines and develop new railway lines in all other areas wherefrom the demands are coming? We can follow one or many new devices for raising capital for financing these projects. My hon. friend has come forward with a good suggestion. One such suggestion was made by me nearly 30 years ago, when I was a Member of the other House, when Lal Bahadur Shastri was the Railway Minister. Then I said that we should invite the cooperation of the local Governments, even the local boards and some sections of the private enterprise, to come forward and contribute to the raising of the finances for developing all these new railway

lines. I was not for managing these new lines but only for financing them. My hon. friend has come forward with some such suggestion. I welcome it. I want him to go ahead with it and invite the cooperation of local Governments and through the local Governments of other social elements which are willing to advance finance for the development of our railways.

I would like to have a special Cabinet Sub-Committee to be formed with the Ministers for Railways and Surface Transport so that we are able to have a coordinated transport system in our country for the railways, waterways and the sea. In that case, it would be possible for us to link many places which cannot be linked at present between the railways and the roads as also the waterways.

Thirdly, I want special attention to be paid by my hon. friend, who is a specialist in labour affairs in regard to the migratory labour. So many Members hailing from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are pleading for special additional representation for them on the railways passengers associations. I support them. At the same time, today from Bihar so many workers go to Punjab, from Orissa they go to Assam and other areas, from Konkan and other areas they go to Bombay etc. especially during heavy seasons for employment in agriculture as well as industry. No special efforts are being made in order to ensure minimum possible facilities for these people in regard to shelter, at least in such centres where they congregate first of all before they think of going to various places in the neighbourhood for labour. I have already made a suggestion in writing and the Railway Board and the officials there have given the usual unsatisfactory bureaucratic reply. But special shelters have got to be built up. Crores and crores of rupees are being spend on the improvement of railway stations with all the luxurious things, But certainly priority should be given for the construction of these shelters. They are needed throughout the year in

[Prof. N.G. Ranga]

different seasons. For different activities, labour are on the move all the time and they have got to be provided this minimum facility.

Another thing is that as in other country, special labour trains have got to be run during busy seasons from one part of the country to another and the railway people know from which places to which other places migratory labour move during agricultural season and during such seasons, special labour trains have got to be run.

Then, the cost of the platform ticket is being raised. I am very much opposed to that. On the top of it, these facilities have got to be provided.

Further, second class fares have been raised. I do not think it is reasonable. But if anyhow, they have to be raised, at least for journeys within 100 kms they should not be raised at all.

Then, the condition of most of the carriages including the airconditioned carriages is in a very bad shape. Special attention has got to be paid for their improvement.

Wherever you travel in India on the railways, you find a lot of debris; railway materials are being thrown there by the side of the railways and nobody thinks of salvaging them, making a capital out of it. In America they do it, why can't we do it here? Same is the case with the railway quarters also. They have got to be repaired. They are out of shape. There are so many people who are homeless. Why not make these houses available to those people to live otherwise remove them. But you do not do it. On the other hand, there are slums in Bombay, in Calcutta and in Madras by the side of the railways. Efforts are being made in order to drive them away. Why do you drive those who are already there?

Unless and until you provide them alter-

native accommodation or alternative house-sites, you should not drive them away. How to protect them? They are protecting themselves. You provide in addition to that, special iron railing, so that their Children would be protected and your passengers would also be protected.

There is a metre-gauge line which is running from Katpadi to Tirupati to be converted into a broad-gauge line. For a long time, we have been asking to convert this line into a broad-gauge line. Survey has been made. They have come to a very convenient conclusion that it is not profitable. How is it not profitable? Why should it not be provided? Already railway lines are there, railway stations are there and staff are there. What you have to do is that you have to do is that you have to broaden the gauge. Why should you not give special priority to that?

Recently, a survey has been made for the conversion of metre-gauge into broad-gauge from Guntur to Guntakkal, from Dronachalam to Hyderabad so that the Rayalseema people could be served. Today, Rayalseema people have been very much neglected. My fear is that, in usual fashion, the Railway Board would simply say that it is not economical and so on. For God's sake, go ahead with the conversion.

There is also a railway line from Kakinada to Kotipalli. It has been dismantled now. Why should it not be restored? All other things are available. If it is restored, it would help the Konaseema people, which is like an Island. They have no benefits from Railways, for a very long time.

I am glad that my hon. friend has come forward with some suggestions for the improvements in the supply of meals on the railways and the way in which the meals would be supplied in the containers and so on. I would like him to go ahead with that. Instead of using these beautifully priced containers, why not make use of the ordinary

things? Why not introduce earthen pots for the supply of water during summers? He has advanced a very sensible reason. It would provide employment for tens and thousands of our potters all over the country.

Now, coming as it does from George Fernandes, I said to myself for once a sensible thing is coming from this ruling group. For God's sake, go ahead and then do other researches also in order to see that more employment is generated by the Railways than at present.

Finally, I will come to Chandipur. The Chandipur people have a narrow gauge line. I do not know how long they have to suffer from this scandalous thing. You should begin to think that we are going to reach the next century. With these kinds of things still hanging on our heads, it would be a shame indeed for the country as a whole. I want the Government to get rid of all these shameful things which have come down from the British times which are still hanging on our heads. This narrow-gauge should go. Wherever it is possible, let them convert the metre-gauge railway lines into broad-gauge railway lines. Let them also introduce the earlier concept and that is the railways contribution towards social and economic development of the country. The areas which have been under-developed or un-developed and neglected must be paid special attention.

What is the contribution that the Railways are going to make for them.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ MANGAL MISHRA (Gopalganj): Hon. Speaker, Sir, I belong to North Bihar. State is divided into two different parts namely North Bihar and South Bihar. North Bihar is one of the poorest regions. Saran, Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur, Samastipur and Champaran regions fall in North Bihar.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a broad gauge

railway line between Barauni and Delhi via Gorakhpur. In all four trains including the Howrah-Gorakhpur, Vaishali, Assam-Avadh and two more trains ply on this route. You will be surprised to know that the Siwan station caters to a population of 1 crore in four districts namely Eastern Champaran, Western Champaran, Siwan and Gopalganj. The reservation quota for this station is merely two berths in AC 1st class and seven berths in second class three tier. Thousands of labourers travel to Calcutta, Assam, Kerala and Punjab to earn their livelihood. They live in utter poverty there. Nearly more than one lakh people go up and down from here but there is no provision of facilities for such a large number of passengers. The Railways earn not less than Rs. one crore from Siwan railway station, but even drinking water is not available there. The passengers are forced to travel on the roofs of the trains when they go to Punjab to earn their bread but they are shot dead by the terrorists there. When sometimes, they take seats in second class three tier of Vaishali Express, fourteen rupees are charged extra from every passenger and they are thrown out by the neck at the very next station. This is our condition. We are not asking you to lay a double line. Provide a single line there, but do pay attention to North Bihar.

The quality of the tea and food served in the railway coaches is very poor. You will be surprised to know that Railway catering procures tea and food from outside to serve and charge the passengers for it. In most of the trains, there are no Pantry Cars and it becomes very difficult for the passengers to have tea or snacks.

We hope that hon. Minister of Railways will pay attention to our region, as he has won twice from Muzaffarpur constituency. North Bihar is the most neglected area in respect of railways. We are very grateful to the hon. Minister that he has shown interest in starting the constructions work of Chhitauni-Bagha bridge again. Members of the Congress Party claim that it started during

[Sh. Raj Mangal Mishra]

the Congress regime but I would like to remind them that the work started when late Shri Kedarnath Pandey was the Minister of Railways. It was stopped after his death and entire material was removed from the site. I request the Government to complete the construction work at the earliest. There are still some places where people have never seen the train. In 1952, a resolution moved by late Shri Girish Tiwari and Shri Prabhu Nath Singh regarding laying a new railway line between Thave and Bhatani was passed unanimously in the Bihar Assembly. The construction work has not started as yet and therefore, arrangements should be made to start it as soon as possible

We do not know till now as to what Government have done in this regard. We are relying upon you for this and you will certainly help us. I would like to say that if some one wants to go from Gorakhpur to Barauni, and vice-versa he has to get down at Hazipur and then have to travel by taxi, tempo, bus or by own cats to Patna. Earlier there was a narrow gauge railway-line between Sonapur and Pahlejaghat and from Pahlejaghat to Mahendrughat one has to go by steamer. Steamer service should be reintroduced there immediately. If one paisa is increased in the fare that would amount to Rs. two per passenger. I would like to request that steamer service should be restarted till the bridge on Sonapur-Pahlejaghat railway line is not constructed. Poor coolie who go to the other side for work are facing difficulty. The suspension of steamer service has caused loss to us. Passengers of all trains have to get down at Hazipur and then have to travel by other means of transportation.

Secondly, I would like to say that there is a railway line between Daronda and Maharajganj but no train is operating on it. I would request that a train should be run on this railway line. Mr. Chairman, Sir, the bell is ringing, I am a new member and do not know about rules and regulations of the House. Therefore, if there is any mistake on my part,

I may please be excused.

One more point I would like to say about the platform ticket. Earlier Shri Madhu Dandavate had reduced the cost of platform ticket but the Congress Government increased it to Rs. 1.50 and now our Government have further increased it to Rs. 2. Only poor people will be affected by this like. Therefore, I would say that the cost of platform ticket should be reduced from Rs. 2 to rupee one. The railway fare for second class should also be reduced. Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me time to speak.

[English]

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN (Cooch Behar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the railway lines of the country are the life-lines in the entire transportation system of India. I also appreciate that this is the best mode of transport system till today. I have gone through the Railway Budget. For the last two days, I have been listening to the speeches of the hon. members on the Railway Budget. I am sorry to say that I do not find any radical changes or fiscal changes in the Budget provisions. However, even then, definitely from the Janata Dal and the National Front, we expect that there must be some provisions of the new railway lines, particularly for the backward areas; definitely we may expect that there must not be any railway fare hike for the second class passengers or for the second class sleeper passengers; definitely we can expect that there must not be any fare hike which will shoot up the price level of the country—this freight hike. But the hon. Minister may say that he has to do all these things due to constraint of funds. There is some scope for curtailment in fare. My esteemed friend, Shri Basudeb Acharia, said something about it day before yesterday. The top heavy administration of the railway system should be completely eroded. This Railway Board is a 'white elephant'. It is only adopting dilly-dallying tactics. You can scrap this 'white elephant'.

At the same time I cannot understand what my Congress friends like to say. Yes-

terday I was patiently hearing the Congress Members particularly Shri Gani Khan Choudhari. Now I am quoting him. He said:

"In West Bengal particularly in North Bengal and in North Eastern Region there are a vast tracts of lands where people have not seen railways or the railway yards or the Railway Engineers' whistle."

I do not like to say that he is confused. I do not like to say that they are shedding crocodile tears. I do not like to say that they are speaking like hypocrites. But Surely I must say that they are now out of power.

I am sorry to say that the most neglected part in the Railway Map is the North Bengal area and the North East Region. Sir, if you go through the map you will find... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: In every Railway debate you are saying this.

SHRIAMAR ROYPRADHAN: I am sorry to say that nobody is coming forward.

Sir, if we go through the map of India we will find a small piece of land—length without breadth—in some points its width is only 10 KMS—a link between the North East Region and the rest of India—one side covered by Bangladesh and the other side by Nepal and Bhutan. This is the North Bengal which is a backward area mostly populated by with Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. This area is the most neglected one in the Railway Map.

I received a telegram from District Youth League, Coochbihar, a few days back. I quote:

"More than Fifty thousand volunteers participated in Rail Roko movement successfully at New Coochbehar station today the 14th March demanding introduction of an express train between New Coochbehar and Calcutta. Movement peaceful."

Mr. Minister, do you think that this is unjustified and absurd demand?

In North Bengal there are some long distance train just to feed the commuter of North East Region—Gauhati to Trivendrum; Gauhati to Cochin; Gauhati to Bombay; Gauhati to Jammu; Gauhati to Delhi. But these trains are just to see and not to board. There is not an inch space to stand even. Do not bother about the reservation. These are so overcrowded and much worse than the chicken cage. And we the passengers, the commuters, are to move just like the chicken. This is the condition of the country.

Sir, ten lakh defence and para military forces—BSF, CRPF and SSB are moving. If you question about the reservation, they will throw you out from the running train.

Sir, my Congress friend Shri Golam Yazdani who raised this issue in the Eighth Lok Sabha when you were the Deputy-Speaker, Sir, said how he was thrown away from the train by the defence people. I am sorry to say that even this Government are not looking at this part of the country.

There was a unanimous resolution of the West Bengal Assembly that there must be resumption of the Janata Express—New Bongaigaon, to Howrah—which was suspended after the floods of 1987.

Another proposal is that there should be a new train from New Cooch Behar to Calcutta, but nothing has been done. Regarding the Balurghat Eklakhi line, at the time of Lok Sabha election in 1984 the then Railway Minister was kind enough to put a hoarding there by writing "Proposed Eklakhi Balurghat Railway Line". But this time also only sum of Rs. 1000 has been allotted for this project. In this way, it will be completed not only in this century but in the 21st century also. My only request to the National Front Government is, please put another hoarding at least by writing "In days gone by there was a proposal for a Railway line from Eklakhi to Balurghat". In such a manner it will be like a memorial.

[Sh. Amar Roypradhan]

At this stage again, I would like to request you to consider the following proposals:

1. An Express Train from New Cooch Behar to Calcutta.
2. Re-introduction of Janta Express from New Bongaigaon to Howrah which was suspended.
3. New B.G. lines from Eklakhi to Balurghat; from Howrah to Amta, from Digha to Tamluk.
4. Conversion to B.G. line from Purlia to Kotshila. Also reduce the second class train fare and freight.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHARY (Gaya): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister for presenting a revolutionary Budget. He has exempted pulses, salt, oil, vegetables, sugar, milk etc. from the freight hike. It is good that he has promised to increase the number of second class berths but on the other hand reservation charges have been increased by Rs. 5 to Rs. 10 which has further increased the burden on the poor. Therefore, I would like to say that the hon. Minister should provide more facilities to the people but should not put more burden on them. Secondly, it has been said that in case of railway accident, a compensation of rupees one lakh to rupees two lakh would be given but can the hon. Minister tell names of a few ordinary people whose next of kins were granted claim in case of their death in rail accidents. Claims are given only to the known persons or the persons who can pursue their cases properly. Therefore, I would like to say that the families of the poor persons killed in railway accidents should be given compensation, only then we will think that affected families are getting benefit of this increase in the real sense.

Rs. 500 crores have been earmarked in the Budget for the current financial year for expenditure but no detail has been given as to how and where this amount will be spent. I hail from a world famous place Gaya which is located in the middle of the South and the Central Bihar. It is also known as Bodh Gaya and visited by lakhs of people from our country as well as from foreign countries but no attention has been paid by the hon. Minister to provide any facility to the people of this area. Barring two years, this area has remained neglected during last 42 years of independence. Grand Trunk line from Howrah to Delhi touches this place. Toofan Mail and some other trains running on this line from British time have now been denied to the people of Gaya. Therefore, these train should be re-introduced on this line. 12 new trains are proposed to be introduced but none of them has been given to Gaya. Adequate rail facilities have not been provided in Gaya and in this regard, I have been continuously writing to the Railway Minister. Some people of the Constituency have also submitted representations to the Minister and some delegations also met him personally but nothing has been done. Can this train not be operated via Gaya? I want that Government should think over it. The people of that area have become disappointed and agitated after listening to the Budget speech of the hon. Railway Minister. Taking into consideration, their agitated mood, the Government should make proper arrangement of trains for Gaya otherwise, I would warn the Government that no train would be allowed to run through Gaya in future. About the Rajdhani Express it is said that it runs at a speed of 130 Kms. for per hour, hence its stop cannot be provided at Gaya. In this regard, I would like to say that this train passes through the Gaya Station at a speed of about 30 Kms. per hour. Therefore, its stoppage can be provided at Gaya for one or two minutes. I think it will hardly make any difference to you but it will greatly benefit the people of that area. Therefore, I demand that taking into consideration the popular demand of that region, one or two minute halt should be provided at Gaya. You know that Gaya is a famous place of pilgrimage for

Buddhists and lakhs of tourists from our country as well as from foreign countries visit this place, so taking this fact into consideration, a stoppage to the Rajdhani Express is necessary at Gaya.

Though the Government of India have made arrangement for filling up the vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes but in the Railway Department, it is not being implemented. Reservations are not being given as per quota. Even today, several reserved posts are vacant in the Railway Department. I would like to draw the attention particularly towards Mughalsarai Railway Division. Gaya also comes under this Division. During the Congress regime, in 1974, a scheduled caste named Choudhary was allotted a piece of land by the Railway Department taking into consideration his unemployment but till now he could not get possession of that land though some money was also taken from him for this purpose. Whenever, the attention of the railway authorities is drawn towards it they repeat their stereotype reply saying that they cannot do anything in this matter. I am sorry to say that injustice is being done to a poor person. I want that physical possession of the land allotted by the Railway should be given to him immediately.

Now I would like to draw your attention towards 381 Up and 382 Down Deluxe train which runs three days in a week. It passes through several important places including Gaya. Therefore, my submission is that this train should be run all the seven days of the week. Earlier, we had made a demand that if it was not possible to run it on seven days of the week, two extra bogies should be attached to it. But till now neither two extra bogies were attached to it nor it was run seven days of the week. Therefore, I would request the Government to think over this long standing demand of the people of that region otherwise the situation will be come explosive.

I think that the Government will not have any problem in reintroducing a train like Toofan Mail from Howrah to Delhi. I would

thank you if a new train is introduced on this line which will provide more facilities to the people of that region.

Passenger fares for second class have been increased from 50 paise to Rs. 4. As you know, mostly the poor people and those belonging to weaker sections travel by second class and they cannot for-bear the burden of increase in the fare. The condition of second class coaches is already bad. The passengers travel on roofs of coaches, in the space between two coaches or by swinging. Instead of increasing the amenities and providing better facilities of water and electricity, you did a great injustice to them by increasing the fare. I want you to immediately withdraw the hike.

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am on a point of order that as and when some suggestions are offered during the course of a discussion one or the other minister must note them. I find that nobody is taking a note of these suggestions. The hon. Members are making very important suggestions.

SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHARY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit that the single line between Gaya and Patna, a distance of 100 kilometres should be doubled. It is a long standing demand of the people of that area. The hon. Minister of Railways has all along been saying that until and unless the passenger traffic, the movement of goods and the income likely to be accrued therefrom is increased, this line cannot be doubled. Today a train takes about 4 hours to cover this distance of 100 km. whereas it should hardly take 1 1/2-2 hours. This is a general demand. I would like to say further that my native place is Manpur. A temporary (kacha) railway line passes through my village which needs to be made permanent (pucca) immediately. Besides, the condition of the railway bridge in my locality is very bad. It has developed cracks at several places and so far claimed 30-40 lives. Its edges have also suffered damages. There is no certainty that a major accident might not take place at any moment there. The Rajdhani Express and



[Sh. Ishwar Chaudhary]

other express trains pass through this bridge. In view of this immediate arrangements should be made to repair this bridge. Gaya is a very famous place. Gaya station should be developed into a model station, because this is a very hot place and cold drinking water is not available here. I want that water coolers should be installed in the station so that passengers travelling on this route could get cold drinking water. I hope that all the facilities supposed to be available to a model station will be provided at Gaya.

Now I would like to draw your attention to the construction of over-bridges again. Over bridges, one each at watch tower No. 1, watch tower No. 2 and at Bageshwari site, should be constructed. It is a densely populated area apart from being an important place. It is the responsibility of the Government to construct bridges at these important places. I would like to draw your attention to the importance of Gaya. If the hon. Minister of Railways wants to earn a good name and reputation, he could do so by running Gaya-Budha express. Because of Gaya's importance I request you to consider this demand.

There is no provision of drinking water, quarters, roads, electricity and play grounds for the railways employees working in my area. I request the hon. Minister of Railways to consider these problems. At the headquarters, coal, cement, iron rods and steel worth lakhs or rupees are pilferaged, but there is nobody to nab the culprits. At the time of theft all the officers entrusted with the safe custody of these materials are away at Delhi, Mughalsarai etc. There is nobody to check the theft. Is it not their responsibility to check theft? If they will not check the theft, who else will do it? (*Interruptions*)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Gaya is a very important place. Hence a direct computer channel should be set up for Gaya. The strength of telephone hot lines should also be increased. More hot lines should be made available so

as to facilitate easy despatch of incoming and out going telegrams. I draw your attention to the above works because these are very minor and simple works and there should be no difficulty for you to implement them.

A great injustice is done to the hawkers moving inside the trains and those selling on the platform in my area. I feel that people selling on the platform in my area. I feel that people selling gram, groundnuts and other items should be given licences in view of the legal advice tendered in this respect. This will increase income of the railways and also provide justice to these hawkers. (*Interruptions*)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want that a direct line may be laid for Bodh Gaya-Rajagiri, a demand for which I had made in 1974. The survey of this line had also been completed. Now the proposed line should be laid immediately. Besides, survey of the railway line connecting Hazaribagh, Ranchi and Palamau had also been completed. I request that work on this line may please be started and railway line connecting the above three cities may please be laid immediately. I shall conclude after making one more submission. I demand that an additional bogie may please be attached with each of the trains bearing now 3 or 4 down, 159/160 down, 471/472 down, 301/302 and 151/152. I also demand that there should be one three tier and 1 first class coach in each of the trains bearing nos. 1471 up and 1472 down, 2159/2160 trains.

With these words, I hope that my sentiments as well as the hopes and aspirations of the people of my area will be given due regard.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES (Udupi): I rise to participate in the discussion on the Railway Budget for 1990-91 presented by the Hon'ble Railway Minister. I am sure Mr. George Fernandes would have started agitation against this budget through out the country if he was a member of the Opposi-

tion and not a Minister. In the year 1986 when there was a slight increase in the fares in the Railway Budget, Mr. George Fernandes started agitation at various places opposing the increase in fares. Infact the agitation received wide coverage in the newspapers which published even photographs.

It is very clear from the budget that the Railway Minister has forgotten the poor people. There is hike in freight and the passenger fares. This would definitely lead to high inflation. Therefore my humble request to the Hon. Minister is to restore the statusquo ante of the freight and passenger fares.

The railways should continue with modernisation and other developmental activities. We should have a new strategy for laying new lines. We are spending thousands of crores of rupees on various rural employment Schemes and relief works. These investments provide jobs to the people but they do not contribute to the progress of the national economy. Hence it is very essential to relate these relief works with the railway budget. The new routes in the country have to be indentified and ground work should be taken up well in advance.

The Hon. Minister has stated that the Konkan Railway would be completed in stages. I convey my heartfelt thanks to the Minister for making this announcement. In the previous railway budget it was proposed to complete the first phase of Konkan railway, between Mangalore and Udupi in four years time. The present Minister has promised that the phase I of the project would be completed in two years. I wish him well in his er.deavour but I want to remind him that he should take up the construction of all the five big bridges during the current financial year itself. The estimated cost of the first phase of the project would be Rs. 40 crores which I believe the Hon. Minister would provide in the current year's budget.

Hon. Minister has made a statement in Udupi that this Konkan Railway project wold be completed in five years. He also proposes to begin the work of the project at six different

places at the same point of time. The Hon. Minister may recall that it took more than ten years for the railway project at Kalinadi. Therefore I would like to caution the Minister that until utmost priority to technical works is given the project may not be able to be completed within the targeted period of five years.

The laying of Karwar-Hubli railway line is pending for a long time. This has to be taken up immediately.

The conversion of Bangalore-Mysore Metre gauge line into broad gauge is also a long pending demand of the people of Karnataka. the Govt. must accord top priority for this conversion project and complete it within a span of two years.

Now, it takes 16 hrs. to travel from Bangalore to Mangalore. The infrastructural facilities must be improved on this line so that the travel time would be reduced to 10 or 8 hrs. The speed of the Karnataka Express running from Bangalore to New Delhi should be increased so as to bring down the travel time from 42 hrs. to 36 hrs.

I am thankful to you for allowing me to speak though for 5 minutes and with a wish to stick to the time I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI PIYARE LAL HANDOO (Anantnag): Sir, normally the budget entitles the author to receive bouquets and creates the liability for the author to receive brickbats also. These are the twin-faced reception of the budget. If we try to find out the reason, it is inevitable because of the wide gap which every author of the budget presentation expects between the popular expectations and the objects set for achievements within the course of the year. I will not take much time of the House, but I would like to seek consideration for the railway services in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. I have had occasion to ask two questions from the Government in the session and both of them by ballot fell into two unstarred questions. In

[Sh. Piyare Lal Handoo]

reply to one question, the Central Government has said that since 1980-81 upto 1989-90, they have been able to complete 18.4 per cent of railway line from Jammu and Udhampur. That means during the period of 10 years, they could complete only 18.1 per cent of the railway line for a strategic place like Udhampur. I may remind the House of the recommendations of the National Transport Policy Committee of 1978, of the Railway Reforms Committee of 1981 and the criteria set by these two national committees for extension of railway lines. Fortunately, the present Railway Minister, being what he is, a socialist, a leader of the railway workers and a dynamic person, has included the criteria determined by these two national committees in one of the important paras in the Status Paper of the Railways. In paragraph 15, the following said and with your permission I may read:

"according to the existing policy, construction of new lines is justified in the following areas:

- (c) lines required on strategic considerations;
- (d) development of lines to establish new growth centres or give access to remote areas."

These two are very essential for the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Now, not in the remote past but in the very recent present, they have made Udhampur city of Jammu and Kashmir State as the Northern Defence Command headquarters. In spite of that, we are told by the Central Government that it had taken 10 years to complete 18.1 per cent of the railway line. This position is at the fag end of the 20th century, at the beginning of the 21st century. It may be true that there may be some constraints. It may be true that we have not been able to restructure our railway finances. But my humble submission before the House would be that we should have answered the questions which were posed in the Status Paper first before talking about

the difficulties. You should have answered the questions. These questions should have been answered first before presentation of the Railway Budget.

Now, let me take the House straight to Kashmir Valley. I asked one question and fortunately the reply came yesterday. This is in respect of part of the Kashmir State, known as Kashmir valley. The question is: "Whether a survey was conducted for construction of a railway line in Kashmir valley; if so, when. The reply is, "Yes Sir. a Bi-Modal Study of a BG rail/road link between Udhampur-Qazigund-Srinagar was completed in June, 1989." To my further question, "whether it is proposed to undertake this project during the Eighth Plan", the Minister gave the answer. Knowing fully well that I belong to the country which is suffering from agony of poverty, I did not ask about the survey being worked immediately, nor for any work in respect of Railway was done in Kashmir valley. Instead, I asked, "Do you propose to take it up in the 8th Plan?" The reply created greater agony for me because the reply is, "No decision can be taken at this stage". I am apprehending that in this way, they are not earnest about dealing with Kashmir as a sensitive area for still they are lacking full knowledge of the depth of the problem. The Central Government does not seem to be having full grasp of the problem. What intrigues me most is the reply given by them, namely, "No decision can be taken at this stage". Is it because of the present volatile position of the Kashmir valley that you are not able to take a decision or is it because you have not yet taken a decision to revamp or restructure the railway finance? When I asked the question, whether he will undertake this work in the Eighth Plan, you have given the reply not "at this stage". What is the meaning of this term "at this stage"? I request the hon. Railway Minister to tell me something about it when he comes to reply to the Railway Budget.

With these submission, I thank you again for having given me an opportunity to make a submission.

[Translation]

**SHRI MANJAY LAL (Samastipur):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Railway Budget-1990-91, presented by the hon. Minister of Railways in the House. Hon. Minister of Railways, George Saheb is a socialist. Hence everybody expected that the Railway Budget presented by him will help the poor reach the mark of equality and provide them better facilities. There are some indications to this effect in the Budget, for example, manufacturing of First Class A.C. and first class coaches has been stopped. But the increase in the cost of platform tickets, freight charges, daily second class passenger's pass and especially increase in the rates of student passes, for poor labourers small traders, salaried classes, has caused some hardship. I would like the hon. Minister of Railways to reconsider this point and withdraw the proposed hike in fares mostly borne by poor people.

Bihar is the most backward state. The hon. Minister of Railways always talked of removing regional imbalances. Besides, railway is the cheapest mode of transport. I would therefore, request him to spread the Railway network in Bihar by not only laying new lines but also converting narrow gauge lines into broad gauge ones so as to remove backwardness in the state. I also request that the narrow gauge line between Gorakhpur and Muzaffarpur via Chhitauni may please be converted into a broad gauge one. This is necessary from border security point of view also. Similarly the narrow gauge line between Hajipur and Bachwara may please be converted into a broad gauge line.

I come from Samastipur area. I may inform you that a big railway factory had been set up in Samastipur in 1884 by the B.N.W. Railway. This factory had been set up to attend to the repair and maintenance of locomotive engines. Later, it was shifted to Gorakhpur. A small section of this factory which was operating at Samastipur is also going to be closed. Earlier, 2,500 workers used to work in this factory, but now only 450 workers have been left. In Samastipur Rail-

way Division people who used to work as casual labourers are not being absorbed against regular posts. There was a panel of thousands of casual labourers with the Assistant Executive Engineer in Darbhanga. Out of the above number only, 125 casual labourers were given employment against regular posts. Panels were also drawn in Samastipur, Muzaffarpur and Saharsa. but these casual labourers have not been absorbed against regular posts. The railway work is being carried out by contract system. I want that the hon. Minister should do away with the contract system in which exploitation of labourers is done. I also request that the department should regularise the services of casual labourers who are working against regular posts. At the same time the closed railway factory at Samastipur may please be revived and expanded.

I would like to make a submission about the catering service. Earlier, food in the railways was being served in Thalies and now it has been replaced by casseroles. Quantity and quality of food both have suffered in the process. Casserole is a capitalist product. I would like that the casseroles system may please be withdrawn and the earlier system of serving food in thalis may please be restored. Catering service is also being run by the contractors and they are exploiting their workers. I want that catering service should also be run by the Department and quality of the foodstuff to be served by them should be improved.

Our Railway Minister is the leader of the poor and a socialist leader. He should make the provision of, right from Janata train to Janata meal, for the people. Generally, poor people travel in the second class and in Bihar 55 per cent of the people are living below the poverty line. Therefore, I would request the hon. Railway Minister to introduce Janata train and Janata meal for the people. By Janata meal we do not mean a very good meal but simply Roti and vegetables so poor people may get a meal at a cheaper rate. One more submission, I would like to make about Samastipur that a washing pit costing Rs. 8 lakh was set up there

[Sh. Manjay Lal]

and Mail and Express trains were used to be washed there but now it is going to be closed. Therefore, I would like to say that this washing pit on which they have incurred an amount of 8 lakh rupees should not be closed. Shri George Fernandes who is our Railway Minister and is also a leader of the poor, should pay attention to this also. Earlier there was only one officer in the name of Railway Bridge Staff and Gorakhpur was his head-quarter but now there are five zones of the railway bridge establishment and all the five zones have one officer each. Every officer has been provided with a good car which has increased the railway expenditure. I would, therefore like to submit that the number of officers there should be reduced and the strength of employees should be increased. I would also like to bring it to your kind notice that adequate train facilities has not been provide from Muzaffarpur. The poor workers from Muzaffarpur, Samastipur and North Bihar go to Calcutta, Punjab and Haryana to earn their livelihood and for want of trains, they have to face great difficulties. Therefore, I would like to make a request that Chhapra-Sealdah Express train which runs two days a week and is now proposed to run three days a week, should run on all week days. The Ganga-Yamuna Express, which has been extended upto Danapur should be further extended upto Patna. The Gorakhpur-Howrah Express which runs once a week should be run at least 4-5 days a week.

I hail from Samastipur. At present, there is only one train from Muzaffarpur to Samastipur at 7.00 AM and the other one is available at 2. P.M. and during the intervening period, there is no train available on this route. Therefore, a new train should be introduced on this line. Rajendra Agricultural University is situated in Doli, so I want that with a view to provide some facilities to the university, a stoppage of Express train and reservation facility should also be provided at Doli station.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank the hon. Railway Minister for providing work

to the potters by introducing the use of kul-lars in the Railway. Similarly, work has been provided to the weavers by giving priority to the handloom products. I want that some similar arrangements should be made in respect of catering services also. A lot of bungling is prevalent in the matter of issuing of licences to the coolies. Hence, some changes should be made in its procedure so that coolies may get licences easily.

SHRI J.P. AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me time to speak. Sir, through you I would like to make only two submissions.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as my first submission, I would like to say that soon after coming into office, the Railway Minister has suspended the Delhi Underground Railway Project which was under consideration and was to be constructed on priority basis in collaboration with USSR. Has it been suspended only on this ground that it was initiated by the previous Government? I hope that injustice will not be done with the people of Delhi and this project will be taken up again. Taking the present transport system of Delhi into consideration, it can be said that the condition will become worst in this city which has a population of 80 lakh people. I hope that the proposal will be reconsidered and steps will be taken to implement it.

Secondly, I would also like to say about the Railway colonies where Railway employees are residing in a very bad condition. The hon. Minister has been the leader of the workers and the poor, so I hope that provision will be made for making an improvement in the condition of Railway colonies under the current Budget. People living in these colonies are leading a miserable life. They are facing seepage problem in these 70 to 100 year old houses. Electric fittings and water pipe fittings have become loose which has multiplied their difficulties. I hope that the hon. Minister will certainly pay his attention to it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Chandni Chowk is a

big business centre and all kinds of business transactions are done here and railway facilities have direct bearing on it. But due to non-availability of clearing and forwarding agents, people are facing a lot of difficulty. What I want to say is that like Air and Sea transport, Railway should also provide clearing and forwarding agent facilities. Railway should authorise some agents, so that people may avail the facility of booking their articles through them.

[English]

SHRI RAJAMOHAN REDDY (Ongole):  
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity for making my maiden speech in this august House. Though many senior and learned colleagues have already spoken on this subject, I would also like to share my views with the hon. Members of this House.

Sir, this is the first Railway Budget presented by the socialist Minister in the National Front Government. Naturally, people's expectations were very high. But when the Budget was actually presented, all hopes of the common man were belied. They are very unhappy for raising the passenger fares in respect of all categories as well as the freight charges. Increase in freight charges means it is indirect taxation. It results in increase in prices of raw-materials as well as finished goods. Thus it burdens the commonman.

I am happy, the present Railway Minister is pursuing the policy of the Congress Government in dispensing with manufacturing of first class coaches and first class AC coaches.

Regarding passenger amenities, the present Railway Minister has proposed Rs. 28 crores for it. It is only Rs. 3 crores increase as compared to the last year's Budget. When we take the escalation cost into account, it gets nullified. I do not know how he is going to provide the passenger amenities with this meagre increase in the Budget.

Railways — largest establishment

and the biggest employer. It has got vast resources of earning as well as of spending. There are many departments where the expenditure can be minimised or scrapped with. I request the Railway Minister to constitute a committee to go into all the details and to find out the surplus amount. By this way, some crores of rupees can be saved and utilised on the on-going projects as well as on providing amenities to the passengers.

The corruption is rampant in many departments of the railway also. The Congress Government had taken many steps to minimise the corruption like computerisation in the reservation of tickets. But a lot has yet to be done in this respect.

Booking of goods is another source of corruption where the owner books the goods but it disappears from the way. And he prefers inflated claims with the help of concerned goods clerks. Some crores of rupees are being lost on this account.

Ticketless travel is rampant in many States. It has to be checked and curbed.

Generally, we see the same old contractors in the railway platforms who are working for years together, like, in the book stalls and tea stalls. I suggest to the hon. Railway Minister that it can be given to the voluntary organisations, unemployed youth, ex-servicemen, war widows, physically handicapped persons.

Regarding the safety of travelling public, unless we improve the track conditions, bridges, rolling stocks, we cannot avoid number of accidents.

This being the International Women's Year, it would have been nice on the part of the Railway Minister had he proposed some privileges or concessions to women in this country in the field of service and journey.

Regarding the new railway routes an extending of existing trains, he has ignored the South. He has proposed only one new train and only one extension of the existing

[Sh. Rajamohan Reddy]

train route. I am sorry to say that he has completely ignored the Andhra Pradesh in all respects. Regional imbalance, disparities and discrimination will always encourage secessionist and separatist forces and forces of disunity. We should not encourage this. I would like to go on record and I would like to request the Railway Minister to extend the existing Secunderabad-Nadikadi railway line up to Gudur connecting Madras via Vinukonda, Darsi, Podili, Kanigiri, Vinjamur and Atmakur, keeping in view the interests of Guntur, Prakasham and Nellore districts which are very backward and remote areas. This, when completed, will become an alternate route to the existing route of Hyderabad-Madras section. It is a shorter route by 200 Kms. It is an all-weather route and connects not only the backward areas of all the districts but also passes through Ayacut areas of Nagarjun Sagar where paddy and commercial crops are being raised in a big way. I request and impress upon the Railway Minister to kindly take up this project in this financial year itself. I am told, preliminary investigation has been completed in this respect.

There is also a demand from the public of Andhra Pradesh to start a new day train from Vijayawada to Madras and vice versa. This may kindly be looked into.

Lastly, I belong to Ongole constituency. I request the hon. Railway Minister to improve the Ongole station by providing all facilities.

11.40 hrs.

[SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE *in  
the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD (Arrah): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Railway Budget is being discussed. It is said that the Railway is an industry and generates employment opportunities. It is also a big source of income and

a means of development of the rural areas. But the present Budget is very much like the earlier Budgets presented by the Congress party and will also lead to the price rise. More funds have been earmarked in it for the development of metropolitan cities, for providing more facilities to the first class passengers and for the renewal of the railway track. In the present budget, crores of rupees have been provided for the development of big metropolitan cities i.e. Bombay, Madras and Calcutta and no attention has been paid to the rural development. Also it does not take care of the long standing demands of the people, for the doubling of the railway sections and construction of new railway lines in rural and backward areas. No attention has been paid to the narrow gauge railway section between Arrah and Sasaram and Fatwa-Islamapur railway line. Long standing demand for the doubling of Patna-Gaya rail section has not included in the Budget. Backward areas of Central Bihar have been neglected and no provision has been made in the Budget for the development of these areas. In this Budget 14 per cent of the amount has been earmarked for the new works and 6 per cent for the maintenance. This Budget is similar to that of the earlier Budgets which have contributed only 0.6 per cent increase in the employment opportunities during the last ten years. You, yourself have admitted it that till now Railways have not been able to play an improvement role in generating employment opportunities in the country. Unless and until new Railway stations and new railway lines are constructed in the rural areas, how this Budget can be an employment oriented Budget. In this Budget, nothing has been said about the permanent employment of the casual workers and of these working under the contractors. Instead a higher amount of allocation has been made for the provision of facilities for the officers. However, we oppose the proposed hike in the rates of second class season tickets and also oppose what you have said about the first class coaches. The Railway earns Rs. 2712.26 crores or 87 per cent of their total income from the second class and Rs. 401.5 crores from the higher class fares. Even then, you have proposed

to increase the second class fare. What kind of socialism it is? Certainly, you are extorting money from the poor. A meagre sum of Rs. 2753 crores has been earmarked for the provision of passengers amenities but I think a major part of this amount would be spent only for providing amenities to the first class passengers. The hon. Minister should have given the separate breakup of the receipts and expenditure so that it could reveal the source and amount of income under various heads and the proposed heads of expenditure. Increase in freight charges would adversely affect the general public and would increase the rate of inflation. I think the hike in diesel and coal prices would result in price rise by 25 per cent and that would have its adverse effect on the entire public all over the country. The hon. Railway Minister has presented a model of his socialism by increasing the second class fare. He has introduced the slab system. The proposed hike in fare for the general public is 10 per cent. All of us know that of the annual number of 347 crores railway passengers, about 82 per cent travel a distance upto 50 kms and most of the them are labourers who travel mostly in the second class. Most of the income under the Head of passenger fares comes from this class of commuters. Under the slab system, the rate of fare upto a distance of 50 km. has been increased by 30 per cent whereas the hike in the passenger fare for Rajdhani Express and Shatabdi Express is not even 16 per cent. The increase in fare rates in Rajdhani Express on Howrah-Dhanbad route is 14.11 per cent, on Howrah-Mughalsarai route, it is 11.4 per cent and on New Delhi-Howrah line via Kanpur Central, it is only 11.9 per cent. This will help the rich to add to their comforts at the cost of the poor. Sir, they talk of socialism but that is not the way of ushering in socialism. Sir, one thing I would like to say through you that here in this country even if the socialism is ushered in, it would be for the benefit of the rich at the cost of the poor.

**SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA** (Jaipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Railway Budget. At the same time, I would like to submit that I expect the hon.

Railway Minister to withdraw the hike in the freight charges announced by him. The hike in the fares of second class M.S.T. should also be withdrawn. Now that the price at Platform ticket has been raised to Rs. two, I would like to ask the hon. Minister that when people cannot buy platform tickets for even rupee one, who will buy ticket for rupees two? Therefore, I would like to suggest to the hon. Railway Minister to make available platform tickets at a flat rate of 50 paise each, instead of rupees two. In that case, people would not hesitate to spend fifty paise on a platform ticket and this would substantially contribute towards the revenue of the Railways. It has been observed in the law of taxation that more the taxation, lesser the payment and lesser the taxation, more the payment. Therefore, I request that the platform ticket should be priced at 50 paise, instead of rupees two. The decision of the hon. Railway Minister to increase the amount of compensation payable to rail accident victims is indeed a laudable one.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome the announcement of the hon. Minister to do away with first class coaches. A glimpse of socialism is in sight here and I would also like to know whether all people would be able to travel in A.C. or is it that the entire train would be airconditioned? The hon. Minister should do away with the A.C. class also and there should be only second class coaches in all the trains and only then we would be able to establish true socialism in this country. If the first class and air-conditioned coaches are to be done away with, then some minor facilities should be provided for the convenience of MLAs or M.Ps, if necessary. Otherwise, I believe that the MLAs and M.Ps should travel with the common people if socialism is to be established in this country. Therefore, I welcome his socialist Budget. One more thing I found strange is that Shri George Fernandes, who has been actively involved with railway agitations and who used to squat and lie on the railway tracks to protest against even a slight hike in the railway fares has himself raised the railway fares after becoming the Railway Minister. Why is there a difference between his words and deeds?



[Sh. Girdhari Lal Bhargava]

If this happens, I too would have to share the blame for I am also a part of the Government because I belong to the Bhartiya Janata Party, which supports this Government. Therefore, I would like to submit that the people have now learned to change the Government. When the people were able to change a Government, that reigned supreme for 40 long years, then it would not be difficult at all for them to throw out a four-month old or one year old Government. Therefore, the only request I would like to make is that there should not be any difference between words and deeds.

Sir, I represent Jaipur city in Rajasthan. Not only Jaipur but the entire Rajasthan has remained neglected, so far as development of railways is concerned. The majority of our people are poor. Broad gauge railway lines are virtually non-existent in this region. I thank Shri George Fernandes for his decision to convert the Sawai Madhopur-Jaipur line into a broad-gauge line, but the amount allocated for this purpose in the Budget is inadequate. Inadequate allocation means that even if the conversion work is started, it would not be possible to complete it within the next five years. So far, Jaipur was the only State capital which was not linked by a broad-gauge line. Now that the hon. Minister has decided to get it done, my request is that additional amount be allocated for this purpose in this Budget. I would like to tell you that according to the all-India average of the development of railway lines, only 18.81 kilometres of track has been laid per 100 square kilometre area in Rajasthan. It has been our long standing demand that the metre gauge lines from Delhi to Ahmedabad and from Jaipur to Sawai Madhopur should be converted into broad-gauge lines. This demand has been there for a long time now. When Shri Kamalapati Tripathi was the Railway Minister, he agreed to fulfill that demand. When Shri Madhavrao Scindia became the Railway Minister, he also agreed to do the needful. Apart from this, all the 25 members of Parliament, hailing from Rajasthan and belonging to the Congress Party,

including leaders like Sardar Buta Singh and Shri Natwar Singh also agreed with this demand, but nothing worthwhile was done. Now, we are fortunate that the present Prime Minister's in laws place is in Rajasthan and by virtue of this relationship, he is our uncle (husband of paternal aunt). While on the one hand, the Prime Minister is our uncle, on the other, the Deputy Prime Minister is our 'tau' (father's elder brother). Further, let me also establish my relationship with Shri George Fernandes by calling him my father's immediate elder brother, or let me say that he is my uncle. Despite, having all these relationship, how would you feel, if no developmental activity takes place in Rajasthan? If Rajasthan is not linked by broad-gauge railway lines at a time when there are so many of our relatives at the helm of affairs, then when would it happen? Therefore, my request is that during the tenure of the hon. Railway Minister, maximum areas in Rajasthan should be linked by broad-gauge railway line. This would not only make travel and transportation more convenient in Rajasthan, but it would also facilitate easier transportation of the produce of Rajasthan's irrigated areas to the market. Rajasthan is a dry and desert land. The expansion of railways in the State would pave way for the development of cement factories. Therefore, it is my forceful demand that the metre-gauge line linking Delhi with Ahmedabad via Jaipur, be immediately converted into a broad-gauge line. Keeping in mind, the interests of our tribal areas, Ratlam should be linked with Banswara. Another demand is that Agra, Mathura and Alwar should also be linked with a broad-gauge line. If Jaipur is linked with Ahmedabad through a broad-gauge line, it would help in easier transportation of agricultural produce to the market, apart from facilitating easier transportation of other goods. You are also aware that Rajasthan has always been a centre of attraction for the tourists. Tourists in large numbers, both from within and outside the country, visit Rajasthan and a broad gauge line would make their journey more convenient. If Rajasthan is also linked with Gujarat by a broad-gauge line, it would accelerate the development of industrial townships like Ahmedabad and Jaipur. We

require your support in this matter.

Lastly, I would like to request that a broad-gauge line should link Sawai Madhopur with Jaipur, Jaipur with Phulera, Phulera with Jodhpur and Jodhpur with Jaisalmer. It is essential, because tourists from all over come to visit the famous havelis of the Patwas in Jaisalmer and this railway line would help these tourists immensely. Apart from this, it would also help in the growth of industries based on limestone which is found in abundance there. Therefore, it is essential to link Jaisalmer with a broad-gauge line. In the 'Pink City Express' that runs between Delhi and Rajasthan, water is filled at Delhi only. After reaching Jaipur, it returns to Alwar, but there is no arrangement to fill water at Jaipur on its return journey. The water filled in Delhi is finished by the time the train reaches Alwar. Similarly, there is another train to Jaipur, by the name of 'Palace on Wheels'. The Government itself has admitted that the coaches of the train would not be in a running condition by the next decade, that is by the end of 90's. Now, where does this 'Palace on Wheels' go to? From Delhi to Jaipur, from Jaipur to Udaipur and from there upto Jaisalmer. Changes should be brought about in the operation of this train service and there should be proper provision for coaches, as well. Sir, similarly, there is a train named 'Chetak Express' which runs between Delhi and Udaipur via Jaipur. As such the distance between Delhi and Udaipur is just 734 kilometres, but this train covers this distance in 21 hours, that is to say at an average speed of 30 kilometres per hour. I am at a total loss to understand, why you have named this train 'Chetak Express'. Chetak was the name of Maharana Pratap's favorite horse, which used to run with the wind but this train runs at a very slow speed. You are saying that this train cannot run at a faster speed, then my suggestion is that you should rather change the name of the train. At least, you should not tarnish the fair name of that gallant horse, Chetak. If nothing else is possible, then at least, increase the speed of the Chetak Express.

I would like to make a request that the

departure time of Ashram Express should be 6.00 a.m. It will enable the passengers to go to Delhi by the Ashram Express. Similarly, a passenger train which runs between Phulera and Bikaner should be extended upto Jaipur so that the people can reach Bikaner early in the morning. In this context, I as a responsible worker of the party and faithful follower of the George Sahib, would like to make one more submission that as Jaipur is the seat of Rajasthan High Court and even otherwise milkmen go to Jaipur to sell their milk and businessmen, and non-Government employees go there daily and also an innumerable number of colonies have come up around Jaipur, two shuttle trains should be introduced between Bandikui and Phulera via Jaipur daily. One of them may reach Jaipur in the morning and the other one in the evening. It will solve the transport problem of Jaipur. It will be convenient for all sections of daily commuters. On the analogy of ring rail service in Delhi and quick local train service in Bombay, I would request you to introduce a ring rail service even in Jaipur for the quick and convenient journey of the passengers. It is very essential. Similarly, I would like to make a demand that the Chetak and Marudhar Express should be given a halt at Bassi Railway station which is a Suburban railway station of Jaipur. Moreover, Jaipur is a religious place as there is a temple of Khatu Shyamji just near the city. The people come here from the distant places like Bombay and Calcutta in Ghatu Shyamji Mela. Hence, I would like to make a request that a new train should be introduced between Reengus and Data ram garh via Ghatu Shyamji.

Although, there are over-bridges in the Jaipur city but as a number of colonies like Baees Godam, Hassanpur near the railway crossing, Malviya Nagar and Jhotwara have come up, constant train movements and shuttling rail engines hamper the free movement of public who has to keep on waiting at the railway crossing to go to the other side of the railway line. It has in a way disrupted the entire system of traffic in Jaipur city. I would, therefore, request the Government to take up this matter with the State Government and take steps to expedite the construction

[Sh. Girdhari Lal Bhargava]

of over-bridges at the aforesaid places namely Jhotwara, Hassanpur, Malviya Nagar and Baees Godam.

Sir, I regret to say that at a number of places at the level crossings, gates are kept closed for all the 24 hours for the pedestrians and other vehicular traffic. It is surprising that the railway authorities while laying the railway lines in the vicinity of a village did not take care of the hardships of the villagers who have been left with no option of the level crossing where they find the gates closed for all the time of the day and night. They should have taken care of it. There should be some or the other provision for the free movement of their passenger and vehicular traffic.

Besides this, I would like to welcome the steps you have taken to introduce the computer system of reservation in Jaipur city on an experimental basis. I would also like the Government to make a provision of dispensaries on the passenger trains. Sir, as at present, Jaipur is not directly linked by rail with any city of the country either in the North or in the East, though it is an important city on the tourist map of the world and a large number of people living in other parts of the country, also have to perform their homeward journey. Therefore, I would like the Government to fix a quota of seats for this city for the purpose of reservation in the following trains:

15 additional sleeper berths on North-East Express Guwahati and 16 additional sleeper berths on Guwahati bound Tinsukia mail. 8 Additional sleeper berths on the Deluxe express running upto Calcutta, 8 additional sleeper berths for Calcutta in Delhi bound Toofan Mail also a quota for Jaipur in the reservation of seats on other trains for Cuttack, Bhubneswar and Patna.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the end, I would like to make one more submission through

you that a dependent of the deceased railway employee should be given employment on the priority basis. Provisioning an adequate quantity of drinking water and adequate lighting arrangements should be made at every station.

Sir, I would also like to draw your attention to the condition of second class waiting rooms where you will not find proper facilities whereas in the first class waiting rooms, you will find all the facilities such as the bright-clean toilets etc. It is a socialistic Budget from hon. George Sahib who is also a prominent socialist leader of this country in whom we have cherished high hopes that he will make a provision in this Budget to ensure cleanliness and sanitary conditions, proper and comfortable seating arrangements for the passengers with the security of their luggage in the second class waiting rooms. As regards the provision of facilities in the second class waiting rooms, maximum attention should be paid to them.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, regarding the wagons workshop in Jaipur proposed to be shifted from that place, I would like to submit that it should not be shifted from here. In the end, I would like to make one more submission that the members of Parliament from all areas should be associated as members in the Parliamentary Advisory Committee or any other committee. Facility of railway passes for the retired railway employees should be introduced. Electric engines should replace the steam engines and process of modernisation should be undertaken by the railways. Passengers should be served good quality of food in their compartments. Demand of the railway employees should be accepted and fulfilled. In the end, I would like to submit that in view of all these things, the proposal of increase in the freight charges should be withdrawn and the rate of the platform ticket should be kept at the level of Rs. 0.50 instead of Rs. 2.00. As the hon'ble Railway Minister, Shri George Fernandes is a socialist Minister, he should reduce the price of the platform ticket in keeping with his socialist base. I would like to thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

DR. THAMBI DURAI (Karur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak a few words on the Railway Budget. In view of the time factor, I will restrict my speech only to a few points.

Everybody who spoke here said that Shri George Fernandes is a socialist. I also felt in the beginning that he is a real socialist, but after the presentation of this Railway Budget, I changed my opinion. This Budget is not a socialist Budget. When he presented the Budget, he said:

"It is as much to create an egalitarian atmosphere as to provide more accommodation in trains that I have decided to curtail the production of first class coaches and build more of second class coaches with cushioned seats."

It may be the socialist view, but if you go through the whole thing regarding the new tariff rates and fares etc., you will agree that it is not a socialist budget. An increase of 17 per cent in the fares for ACC first class and sleeper chair car is all right; it may be a socialist thing. The increase in the first class monthly season ticket ranging from Rs. 16 to Rs. 48 may be a socialist thing. But how can he convince us for the increase in the fare of second class mail/express trains ranging from Re. 1 to Rs. 20? Again the fare of second class ordinary is proposed to be increased by 50 paise at the lowest slab and Rs. 4 at the maximum. Similarly, the price of the platform ticket is proposed to be raised from Rs. 1.50 to Rs. 2. How can he claim that it is a socialist Budget?

Further, he says that the first class and ACC fare has been increased by 17 per cent only. But if you calculate, you will find that the fare hike for the second class is more than the first class fare. For example, the fare from New Delhi to Warangal for the second class sleeper berth by GT Express is Rs. 145. According to the proposed hike in the present Railway Budget, the fare will work out to Rs. 175, i.e. Rs. 20 for more than 1500

kms plus Rs. 10 more for the berth. Percentage-wise, it works out to 20 per cent. Therefore, how can he claim that he has presented a socialist Budget? If you go through the details, you will notice that it is not a socialist Budget.

Then, I want to make certain suggestions., If he actually wants to increase revenues for the new projects, there are so many ways. He can economise on the expenditure in the Railway Department; he can think of some loans; the pilferage can be curtailed. There are so many ways to increase the income, but there is no justification for raising the second class fare and other things, which directly affect the common man. Also, increase in the price of the platform ticket from Rs. 1.50 to Rs. 2 is unwarranted.

Yesterday, one of our members said that the hike in the platform ticket is only a token hike. The platform ticket is just to identify who is a regular traveller and who is not; who is the person who has come to the Railway Station for receiving the guest and who is the person who has gone to the Railway Station to see his guest off. That is all. In order to curtail all these things only, he had increased the cost of platform ticket. As a Socialist, he should have reduced the cost of platform ticket from Rs. 1.50 to Rs. 1.00. That would have been an economical proposition and also an advisable thing.

Another factor which I want to bring to your kind notice is the maintenance of platforms in the Railway Stations. If you go to the Madras Central Railway Station, then you will realise the difficulty. If you want to catch the train or if you want to come out from the Railway Station for going to your place, you will not find enough space. In the platforms you will find, lot of luggages and parcels are just carelessly kept. It is very difficult even for a common man to get out from the train and go to his place. Therefore, I would request the Railway Ministry to look into this complaint which we are facing in the Railway Station.

Now, I would like to give one more suggestion. You should also give employ-

[Dr. Thambi Durai]

ment opportunities for the educated youths. Instead of asking the Railway officials to stand at the exit gate for the collection of tickets from the people who are coming from other places, you can put these Railway officials in all train compartments as conductors. It will not only create employment opportunities but it will also help in regulating the passengers and act as security for the passengers.

Now-a-days, due to thefts, many passengers are facing a lot of difficulties while travelling in the trains. You can also control this by way of posting the Railway officials in all train compartments.

I want to say something regarding sanitation. In the trains, it is very difficult to get sufficient water for cleaning the lavatory. We are facing this problem very badly. So, top-most priority should be given to sanitation.

● Many hon. Members, here, have requested for separate Zones or Divisions for each State. It is an essential and also an important suggestion. If you do this, the aspirations of different States can be fulfilled.

Now, I want to bring to your kind notice certain points regarding laying of new railway lines. The hon. Minister of Railways has neglected Tamil Nadu in this regard. At the same time, I do welcome his announcement which he had made regarding Konkan Railway. In his speech, he has said that it is a long-standing aspiration of the people of that area. In the same way, he should fulfil the aspirations of the people of Tamil Nadu also. Take, for example, Pondicherry to Bangalore Railway Line. This is one of the long standing aspirations of the people of Tamil Nadu. Pondicherry can be connected to Bangalore via Villupuram, Tiruvannamalai, Samalpatti, Krishnagiri, Cauveripattinam, Hosur and so on. By means of this, you can connect two States and one Union Territory, i.e. Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Pondicherry.

When we are giving importance for

broad-gauge line, we should also have a connection to Salem and Karur. That is also very important. If you can connect Salem, and Karur via Namakkal, the south part of Kanyakumari can also be connected to Madras by this broad-gauge line. It is because everybody is feeling that metre-gauge line from Madras to Madurai has to be converted into a broad-gauge line. I do not know whether it is feasible at this stage, now. In order to satisfy this aspiration, the Minister should consider linking Salem to Karur. When we complete the Karur-Tuticorin broad gauge line, this aspiration can be fulfilled.

The allocation made by the Minister for the project, viz. Rs. 11 crores, to complete the conversion from Dindigul to Madurai, and from there to Tuticorin is not sufficient. Therefore, I request him to allocate more funds.

Similarly, about the Madras city, many Members have demanded that the Mass Rapid Transit System needs a greater allocation. The amount of Rs. 14 crores allocated, is not enough.

There are railway crossings which create a lot of problems for us. I request the Minister to provide a road overbridge in Lalapet in my constituency, and also one more road overbridge in Karur. This is a long-standing demand of the people of my constituency. I hope the Minister will consider this suggestion.

As I said in the beginning, the increase in tariffs and others will affect the common man, and also create inflation. So, I request the Minister to reconsider the tariff increase for the Second Class, and also make the cost of the platform ticket Re. 1/- instead of Rs. 2/-.

SHRI NANDU THAPA (Sikkim): As you all know, I come from Sikkim, a tiny Himalayan State. Sikkim has no railways, no air links and Sikkim is a State which is physically landlocked. It is connected only by one road route, viz. via Siliguri in North Bengal. We are surrounded on three sides by three international borders. So, there is no escape for

us. The people of Sikkim are very backward, and it is a very under-developed State. We are fed only by one railway station, viz. the New Jalpaiguri Railway Station in North Bengal. This station caters not only to the strategic State of Sikkim, but also to the entire North Bengal, parts of Assam, part of Bihar, a part of Nepal and the whole of Bhutan. The reason why I mention these two foreign countries is that the people of those areas also travel only from the station in New Jalpaiguri. The goodwill of the people of these areas has also to be kept in mind, for maintaining friendly relations with these countries.

The third point is that Sikkim has got two permanent Army divisions; and at Siliguri, in North Bengal, there is the Corps (33) Command. This is another reason why I want that the needs of development of North Bengal should be looked into.

The recent policy of relaxation of rules relating to overseas tourism has been announced by the Government for Sikkim. This demand has been there for the last 15 years. We have got this relaxation after 15 years. We are grateful to the Government of India for this. But I have to say at the same time that these facilities cannot be availed of, and the scope for tourism in Sikkim or those areas cannot be achieved, without an accessibility to North Bengal and without developing the areas in transport and communication of North Bengal, because unless we develop the latter areas, the access to Sikkim will not be there, or is difficult.

For Sikkim has to go either by rail or by air or by other means of transport upto Siliguri. There is no other way. This naturally affects our Defence interest also very much. So, both in the interest of the Defence and the development of the area, we have to develop North Bengal in communications. I am not asking for a new railway line in Sikkim; I am only asking from the Government or from the Minister for that matter to make a categorical statement with regard to adding one coach each with two tier AC Sleeper and Second-Class AC Chair Car in

the North-Eastern Express, Tinsukia Mail and Darjeeling Mail which goes to North Bengal from Calcutta. These three coaches only I am asking for Sikkim, I am not asking for a new railway line or a new station. It is also possible to have a railway line in Sikkim; perhaps it is not impossible, but it is not feasible at the moment. Therefore, I am not pressing for that. What I am asking for is that out of 1500 or 1600 coaches to be manufactured, I want only three coaches in these trains in the name of Sikkim for Sikkim State.

The present Delhi-Kathihar Express is there. This originates from Kathihar or terminates at Kathihar. So, from Kathihar to NJP, it takes only four hours. If this is extended to North Bengal upto NJP station this whole area deficiency or inadequacy of transport which prevails over there will be removed.

With these words I thank you Sir. I do not want to take time of the House-I expect that the hon. Minister will consider this demand of Sikkim.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am now calling a new member from the Congress I Party. But my only request would be that Mr. Deshmukh tries to complete his speech in five minutes there are other new members from his party also who will not get a chance otherwise.

Now Mr. Deshmukh.

SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH (Washim): Mr. Chairman, I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to make my maiden speech.

As you see, the Railway Budget has been divided into two parts over the years by two different governments. So, what is there in the first part is actually a contribution of the Congress I Government. But I must admit that the second part really belongs to them. It is their genuine work which has shown their real great concern for the common man in raising freight charges or increasing fare in the passenger trains.

In paragraph 6.2 the Minister has ob-

[Sh. Anantrao Deshmukh]

served that he is going to curtail the production of first class coaches unless this will provide about 15,000 additional seats. As you know, about 11 million people travel by railway every day. So, it would mean a rise of hardly .06 per cent every year taking into consideration 7500 seats this year and 7500 seats next year. In 1988-89 we had planned to add about 575 second-class coaches to the existing fleet; in 1989-90 we had planned to add 700 second-class coaches to our existing fleet which was a rise of 22 per cent. Supposing this pace continues, the Minister ought to be adding about 850 second-class coaches for the year 1989-90. Has the Minister planned for that? He is going to add about 15000 additional seats. Does it mean that for the year 1989-90 the Minister is planning to add about 950 new second-class coaches to the existing fleet and for the year 1990-91 about 1250 coaches. I would like the Minister to answer it while replying to the debate.

Now let us take up paragraphs 12.2 and 11.2. If you go through the first three years of the Seventh Plan you will find that the transport output has gone up by 77 per cent and the passenger kms by 90 per cent. This was achieved with a marginal addition of .9 per cent in man power as well as infrastructure. Naturally, this shows the administrative genius of Congress I. But I must tell them that even the Minister has acknowledged all this in his budget papers. I would not go into the details of them. You must have already seen the. But I may mention one thing over here.

Sir, in terms of wagon utilisation capacity, we had surpassed Japan. I am sorry that this fact has not been mentioned in the Status Paper.

Now I come to Paragraph 13. Here, I share the views of the hon. Minister. It says that the level of budgetary support works out to Rs. 1420 cores that is 28.4 per cent of total plan outlay, the lowest ever so far.

Sir, I had an occasion to go through the

last year's debate on the Railway Budget. Prof. Madhu Dandavate had observed that a Railway Minister has three mothers-in-law—the Finance Minister, the Finance Commission and the Planning Commission. Now see the irony of the fate. Prof. Madhu Dandavate is occupying a chair as one of the mothers-in-law and Mr. Fernandes is occupying a chair as daughter-in-law. Prof. Dandavate had also said that the three mothers-in-law should take proper care of the daughter-in-law. It seems that the mother-in-law has not really cared for the daughter-in-law.

I would like to tell the hon. Minister that he must show his displeasure just as it was shown by Tauji a couple of days back.

Now I come to paragraph 14. The Minister has observed that there are many demands for the new railway lines and he is not in a position to comply with them because of the financial constraints. I would like to remind the House about what Prof. Dandavate had observed earlier. He said: "If the Minister really intends, there will be more railway lines. Otherwise, there will be mere surveys." We do not want to be satisfied only with the surveys.

Sir, I will take this opportunity to tell the Minister about the problems of my constituency. The first problem is conversion of a narrow-gauge railway line—Achalpur to Yavatmal—into a broad-gauge line because this area is the most backward area industrially. This railway line has been looked after by Central Province Railway and the Government of India is incurring a loss of Rs. 2 crores every year. Unless and until you convert it into broad-gauge, you are not going to reduce the loss.

The second problem is about shifting of a level crossing near Washim-Akola to Washim metre-gauge. I request the hon. Minister to look into this matter and do the needful.

Sir, Members in this House have expressed about what they felt regarding hike in freight rates and passenger fares. So, I will

not take your time because I share their views. Instead, I will tell the hon. Minister what his colleague Prof. Madhu Dandavate might be feeling about it. As you know, Prof. Dandavate is very firm about his convictions and beliefs. Whatever he had said last year still holds good because the circumstances prevailing in the Railways have not changed and only the Government has changed. He said:

"When the freight charges are increased it will certainly escalate the prices, traders and manufacturers will take advantage of this situation and would increase their prices. It may have a tremendous impact on our socio-economical structure, and the person who would invariably suffer from this would be a common man."

He had also given an example as if while we are watching a show, clapping our hands and somebody putting a hand in our pocket and robbing us of our savings. Here you have not only increased the freight charges, but also increased the passenger fares. So, it is two prolonged attack. May I say now as was observed by Prof. Dandavate that your Government is robbing a common man of both his pockets?

Lastly I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to one paragraph in the Status Paper on Indian Railways, where he says:

"A former Minister in a State Government had told him that he lost the election to the State Assembly because he could not get a level crossing or an overhead bridge at a thickly populated point in his constituency."

I do not want this to happen to me. I have said what I wanted to say and the tool is in his hand. I only request the hon. Minister to be judicious and fair.

**SHRISIVAJIPATNAIK (Bhubaneswar):**  
 While welcoming certain measures like curtailment of production of first class coaches

and to build more second class coaches, etc. I strongly oppose the proposal to increase second class fares and freight charges and I urge upon the Railway Minister to withdraw them. Resources can be mobilised otherwise also. Some such suggestions have already been made by the hon. Members in this House. That apart, when railways are discharging some social obligations mainly by carrying goods and commodities at a rate which is less than the cost, why not they be reimbursed from the general revenues as is the practice in other countries? That cost railways Rs. 1653.31 crores per year. I think, this should be reimbursed or the loan to the railways be converted into grant so that the railways will not have to pay this heavy amount as dividend to general exchequer. I want to point out that in spite of 167 per cent increase in passenger traffic and still more in goods traffic and other goods, employment growth per year is only 0.6 per cent. This needs to be looked into. And the suggestion of the Railway's Corporate Plan to constrain manpower, that again in the country of crores of unemployed people need to be reviewed.

Railways must have a total view to develop every part of our country. I come from a State which has been neglected by the Railways. The total route length in Orissa is around 2000 kms which is one of the lowest among major States. For every 1000 sq. kms. area there is only 12.70 sq. km of railway line. This is the lowest among the major States. But the all India average is 18.85 sq. kms for every 1000 sq. kms of area. For every lakh of population, when all India average is 9.04 kms of railway line, in the case of Orissa it is only 7.50 kms. This is also one of the lowest among the major States. As a result of that industrial development is retarded in spite of tall talks by the Congress rulers all these years. In this Budget, there is no indication of change of that attitude. Because when I see Talchar Sambalpur railway line, a meagre amount has been allotted. In this way, when will it be completed? So also is the case of Jakhpura Banspani railway line which has stopped at Daitri. As a result of that, transportation of iron-ore from that area become costly and



[Sh. Sivaji Patnaik]

irregular and mines get closed rendering thousands of workers out of job and loss of revenue.

Then I come to the proposed Khurda Road Bolangir Railway line. The survey has been completed. But there is no proposal to take it up for construction. This will not only cover my constituency but this will also benefit the most backward and tribal dominated district of Phulbani where people have not seen a railway line so far. This will also benefit the backward districts of Kalhandi and Bolangir and augment the industrial growth in the entire area which is rich in mineral and forest resources. I hope, attention will be paid to this line.

I would again suggest that doubling of Paradip-Cuttack and Khurda Road-Puri railway lines are essential.

Puri-Howrah and Puri-Asansol passenger Trains which were earlier there, have been withdrawn. I would urge upon the Railway Minister that these should be restored.

I do not find any reason why electrification from Kharagpur to Vijayawada will not take place. Electrification must take place on the entire railway line.

People of Orissa are justified in thinking that because Calcutta and Madras, and Calcutta and Bombay had to be connected, so, some railway lines have gone through Orissa, otherwise, the Railways would not have cared for Orissa. I hope that attitude of the Railways will be changed.

Lastly, I would urge upon the Railway Minister to withdraw the victimisation. Since the 1981 loco-running strike, some seven hundred locomen are out of job. In the changed political situation, why should it be delayed?

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is a long list of speakers from BJP. I am told they are absent. Let me call their names in that order.

Shri Satya Narayan Jatiya - Absent

Shri Harin Pathak - Absent

Shri Dau Dayal Joshi - Absent

Shri Shailendranath  
Shrivastava - Absent

I would have called Janata Dal Members but you see on Fridays there is a Rajdhani Express constraint. Several Members want to go to either Bombay or Calcutta and their train leaves at around 4 O'Clock. So, please excuse me if I give them a little priority. Other names I will call certainly. How much time will you take, Mr. Ram Kapse?

PROF. RAM GANESH KAPSE: By 3 O'Clock I will complete, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: O.K. Please start.

[Translation]

PROF. RAMGANESH KAPSE (Thane): Hon. Chairman, Sir, every year the department of railways pays dividend to the Government. However, it is my suggestion that it should be taken up in a new way because it needs a change. Any increase in the passenger fare should be effected only after taking into account the economic condition of the passengers. There should be no random increase in the fares. Proposed increase in the freight charges may have all the chances of increasing the rate of inflation. Therefore, it needs to be reviewed. Here, I would like to make one suggestion that the estimated amount of annual profit of the railway has been unnecessarily on the high side this year, it will place burden on the people. However, I feel that the Railway Minister can take a decision not to propose an increase. The rate of monthly seasonal tickets have also increased. It is now just double of the rate it used to be ten years back. It is a sort of injustice with the daily commuters from the suburbs of Bombay because they come here from quite distant places as they are not able to get employment somewhere in the nearby areas. There-

fore, in view of all these things, it should be reviewed. It was very long ago when a decision was taken to issue monthly passes at concessional rates. But in the last 10 years the fares of the monthly pass have doubled. I register my protest against this. I would like to give some more suggestions for the hon. Rail Minister's consideration. The Central Railway has sent a proposal for the construction of the Dombivili terminus at an estimated cost of Rs. 1 crore. This proposal should be approved immediately. A local train should be introduced upto Man-Khurd-Belapur by the end of this year. Similarly, a local train should be introduced upto Diva-Vasai. There is a shortage of E.M.U. rakes. The Central Railway should be provided with eight rakes every year. Apart from this, passenger trains containing 12 coaches should be introduced as also frequency of shuttle service should be increased. The hon. Railway Minister should consider giving encouragement to passenger associations. It is a socially unjust step to increase the fare of season tickets. So this proposal should be withdrawn.

The Paranjpy Committee had commended that the fares of monthly passes be doubled over a period of 10 years but the fares have actually increased more than that.

The suburban train services should be handed over to the Urban Development Department. Four years back the suburban train services was handed over to the Urban Development Department. Later the Planning Commission conducted a survey to see whether anything had been done for suburban train services. Therefore the Railway Department should pay attention in this direction also. If this suggestion of mine is accepted, many of our problems could be solved. A separate zone should be created for suburban services. I welcome the assurance regarding the completion of the Konkan Railway line in the next five years. I suggest that tasty foodstuffs like 'Amrit-Kokum' soft drink and 'Hafoos' mango should be served to railway passengers in the trains.

These days R.A.C. has assumed a dif-

ferent meaning i.e. "Run After Conductor". Something should be done about this. Lastly, I want to give a well-meaning suggestion to hon. Shri George Fernandes that he should provide improved railway facilities to Bombay as was done by Shri Kamalapati Tripathi for his constituency Varanasi, Shri Madhavrao Scindia for Gwalior and Shri Abdul Ghani Khan Choudhary for Malda. Bombay has once been the hon. Railway Minister's constituency so it is his duty to provide improved railway facilities to passengers there. With these words, I conclude *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before I call other Members, I would like to inform the House that there are many more Members in the list who wish to participate in the Railway Budget debate. The hon. Minister will be here at 3.25 P.M. and he will start replying to the debate at 3.25 P.M. Now, I want to know whether it will be possible to complete the discussion on the Railway Budget if all the Members in the list are given a chance to speak.

DR. GOLAM YAZDANI: Sir, if you are able to give more time to each Member, the remaining Members can speak on Monday.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is because some Members want to go to their constituencies by Rajdhani Express, I think those Members can speak first. I would therefore request the hon. Members to be brief in their submission and make their points within 5 minutes or so.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please sit down. I will give you the reply. As far as I know, I can give you the reply.

SHRI K. MANVENDRA SINGH: You extend it by half-an-hour.. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you want to hear me or you don't? The difficulty is that today at 3.30 the Private Members' Resolution would be taken up and that cannot be changed in any way. Now, as has been announced in the morning, today at 3.25 p.m. the Railway Minister has to start giving

his reply so that he can finish it by 1 p.m. on Monday when the voting starts and if the voting cannot start by that time, it has to go to the Rajya Sabha there it has to be passed and then it has to get the assent of the President who is anticipated to be leaving on the 30th, before which the budget papers also have to be presented to him. This is the kind of time constraint. So we cannot go beyond 3.25 p.m. If that leads to some amount of dissatisfaction, that will be there.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:  
Please call somebody to speak... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Golam Yazdani, I will be severely strict with you—less than five minutes.

DR. GOLAM YAZDANI (Raiganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the Budget presented by the Railway Minister because I think this is an anti-people's Budget. This Budget is a proof of broad inefficiency of the Railway Administration, the Planning Commission, the Railway Reforms Committee and the Railway Board. Here, I would cite a few examples of inefficiency.

Sir, if you look at the Budget you will find that there is one project, the Eklakhmi-Balurghat project, and this project was sanctioned in 1984 and the estimated cost was Rs. 47.18 crores and up till now, that is, up till 1989-90 only Rs. 3,04,00,000 have been spent and the balance which remains is Rs. 44,13,99,000. What is the outlay this year? The outlay proposed for 1990-91 is Rs. 1000 only. Then, how are these people thinking about the Railways and developing the underdeveloped area?

Then Barsoi-Radhikapur line is in the West Dinajpur area and is practically of no benefit to the people for going to Calcutta. Everybody knows that at the time of Partition there was no railway in West Dinajpur district. There was one railway, of course, from Radhikapur to Barsoi. That is a metre gauge

line. Two trains run throughout the day, one up and one down and that does not meet the needs of the people of West Dinajpur District for going to Calcutta. So, this line is very much wanted and we want it to be converted into Broad Gauge. But this has also not been done. This outlay of Rs. 1000/- for Eklakhmi-Balurghat project for 1990-91 seems to be a joke.

There is no mention of Tamluk-Digha line in the Budget proposals. Another thing to which I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister is Dalkola Railway level crossing. If you ever have any chance to travel by NS-34, you will have to be held up there for hours together. If you go by bus also, you will be stopped at Dalkola railway crossing and you will have to stop there for more than one hour.

The next thing I want to tell you is about the Dalkola railway bridge. There is already a proposal for another alternative bridge at a by-pass. The land had been acquired but the bridge has not yet been completed. The level crossing at Kishanganj is creating a great problem for the traffic. So, it should be given priority. Side by side of the Kishanganj railway line there is National highway 34 and so accidents may happen any time. Hence, a fencing should be done along the railway line. Then, the Tinsukia Mail is always occupied mostly by the military people and it is very difficult to board the train at Malda and Farakka stations. So, there should be an alternative duplicate Tinsukia Mail. Now, I would like to inform that the State of West Bengal has been neglected in the Railway Budget. The Howrah-Amta line is of great necessity and the Metro Railway line should be extended from Tollyganj to Garia for the benefit of the People for coming to Calcutta.

Sir, I strongly oppose the passenger fare hike in the First Class and Second Class. There are plenty of resources. For example, wagon breaking at Howrah can be stopped. Crores of rupees are going waste in this regard. In big cities, the Railways have got so much land which are occupied by

unauthorised people. These lands should be recovered and it should be used for commercial purposes by building multi-storeyed buildings. These measures will give the Railways crores of rupees and so there need not be any increase in the passenger fares.

**SHRI K. MANVENDRA SINGH** (Mathura): Mr. Chairman Sir, I welcome the Railway Budget presented by the hon. Railway Minister. At the same time, I express my dissatisfaction over the proposal in increase second class fares. Instead there should have been a reduction in second class fares.

I congratulate you for granting concessions in respect of agricultural commodities. I hope that during his tenure the Indian Railways will make all-round progress. As there is very little time at my disposal, I shall speak on the problems being faced in my constituency Mathura.

Sir, being the birth place of Lord Krishna, Mathura enjoys a unique status at the national and International level. But I am sad to say that despite repeated requests made by me during my last term for providing more railway facilities there, Mathura has remained neglected. When Shri Bansi Lal was Railway Minister, a railway line from Mathura to Alwar had been sanctioned. For this I am grateful to him. But work relating to laying of the track has not really gathered momentum till now. So I request the hon. Railway Minister to get this work completed at the earliest. A number of trains of the Central Railway and the Western Railway which start from Delhi pass through Mathura. During my terms in the last Lok Sabha also, I had raised this matter. This is double track between Palwal and Mathura, whereas there is triple tracks between Delhi and Palwal. Nearly 180 goods and passenger trains pass on this route in 24 hours. There are nearly 8,000 daily passengers between Mathura, Agra, Bharatpur and Delhi. These people face a lot of inconvenience. Last time too, I had suggested that a Suburban railway division should be set up. A shuttle service should be started for the benefit of commuters. Yesterday there was a lathi-charge on M.S.T. passengers. Around

500 person sat on a dharna and their grievances are yet to be removed. Malwa Express arrives at Mathura at 7 O' Clock and reaches Delhi at 9 O' Clock. But for unknown reasons, this train is delayed between Mathura and Nizamuddin for one hour. I request that the Malwa Express leave Mathura at 7 O' Clock and arrive at Nizamuddin at 9 O' Clock. Alongwith this, the suggestion related to two trains is still under consideration. I had given a suggestion for a new line from Chhaata to Raya and Sadabad via Naudheen Matt. Nothing has been done about it so far. Now I would like to give a suggestion for the introduction of a new train from Brindavan to Matt Raya and Sadabad. This suggestion may be considered. With these words, I conclude my speech.

[English]

**SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI** (Berhampur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it was worth while waiting this long because you have given me this opportunity to speak when the hon. Railway Minister has just arrived and is also present in the House.

I wish to speak on a few point on the Railway Budget 1990-91. At the outset, I would like to express my appreciation for our former union Railway Minister, Shri Madhavrao Scindia, for the best performance of Railways in 1989-90. The Railway did well by ending 1989-90 with a surplus of Rs. 140 Crores.

Some of the features of the earlier Budgets under the Prime Ministership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi are worthy of highlight. They are, generous-cum-significant discounts which were granted to war widows, widows of policemen and IPKF men, eminent coaches in sports and games, Param Vir and Vir Chakra winners, the deaf and dumb, certain categories of cancer patients etc. Enhancement of compensation for death was already announced from Rs. One lakh to Rs. 2 lakhs. Now the hon. Railway Minister is just implementing it. Dividends were fully paid by the Railways during the entire Seventh Plan. The railway lines announced in

[Sh. Gopinath Gajapathi]

the present Budget were all committed by the Congress Government. For example, the Mangalore-Udipi second phase was sanctioned by the Congress (I) Government last year itself. Electrification during the last year was at 750 route kms. and this has fallen to 623 route kms. during the current year.

The Hon. Railway Minister, Mr. George Fernandes has presented a surplus Budget of Rs. 186 crores for Railways for the year 1990-91. However, some features of the Budget proposals have caused concern and anxiety for everybody. Steep increase in the passenger rail fares and 10% hike of the freight rate will have adverse impact on the people and hence these hikes must be reduced. It will otherwise lead to inflation. This is not my opinion alone just because I happen to be a Member from the Opposition party, but this in fact is a fact. Almost all Chambers of Commerce, Associations of industries, commuter organisations and others have vehemently criticised the sharp hike in passenger fares and freight rates proposed in the Railway Budget. The fares and freights should have been kept to the minimum by improving the railways operational efficiency and also through greater cost control.

Sir, the Hon. Minister has made a mention of several new trains proposed to be introduced. We, from Orissa, were expecting that the Hon. Minister will certainly announce the introduction of a Superfast Express train between New Delhi and Puri. In this connection, I would like to request the hon. Minister that he should at least speed up the Utkal Express and Neelachal Express into Superfast trains. In fact, superfast fare is being charged from passengers who travel by these trains. But these trains are actually running as ordinary Express trains, at an average speed of only 55 KM per hour, when the criterion of 60 KM. per hour minimum, for falling into the category of superfast trains. Even for an important train like the Calcutta-Bombay Express only Ordinary fares are

being charged at present. Further, the catering service in certain sectors of the South-Eastern and Southern Railway is far from satisfactory. This essential aspect of quality of food served, does warrant improvement. Drinking water facilities for the travelling public, both at Railway Stations and in Passenger coaches, also need to be enhanced with the growing demands. A significant number of passenger coaches, which are in very bad condition do need urgent attention and repairs.

The hon. Minister has referred to computerisation of passenger reservation system. This system was first introduced during 1985-86. In 1987-88, there was a proposal to computerise the reservation system at Cuttack and Bhubaneswar Railway Stations in Orissa. But, this has not been done so far. I am glad that the hon. Minister has mentioned in his Budget speech, that such a facility would be extended during 1990-91. In this connection, I request the hon. Minister to extend this facility to Berhampur Railway Station of South Eastern Railways as well.

Sir, the hon. Minister has informed the House regarding the construction of new lines. We were expecting that he will at least sanction the construction of Khurdha Road-Bolangir line which would have linked State capital Bhubaneswar with Phulabani and Bolangir, two backward districts of Orissa. I am also sorry that there is no mention about the Jakhpura-Banspani line. The vast reserves of minerals and ores of Orissa have remained largely unexploited on account of the absence of adequate railway facilities. At present iron ore, manganese etc., are being transported to Paradeep Port, either by truck or by train on a circuitous route from Banspani, covering a distance of about 500 KM via Tatanagar in Bihar, Kharagpur in West Bengal and again Balasore in Orissa. hence, it will be in the national interests to hasten completion of this project during the earlier part of the Eighth Plan period. Koraput-Rayagada line is an ongoing project. The hon. Minister has however mentioned it as a new line. But I am glad that this project has been included for 1990-91.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.  
(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE  
(Bolpur): These are small parties.

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Just  
two more minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The next Member to  
speak now.

PROF. N.G.RANGA (Guntur): It is not  
good being too mechanical.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not have time.

PROF. N.G.RANGA: He is cataloguing  
the local needs. Give him two more minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are a veteran  
Member. You see how many parties are  
waiting there. You must realise what the  
constraint is.

SHRI P.R.KUMARAMANGALAM (Sa-  
lem): I have a request. The request is that  
after the half-an-hour discussion, if we can  
continue the Railway Budget discussion and  
the hon. Minister can reply at 7.45 PM then  
it will give some new Members and smaller  
parties a little chance to speak. Otherwise  
not. (Interruptions)

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI  
GEORGE FERNANDES): Sir, if I am called  
to speak at 7.45 p.m. that is all right. (Inter-  
ruptions)

MR CHAIRMAN: After Half-an-Hour  
discussion, Members will get more chance.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir,  
please give chance to the smaller parties  
also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Well, I will give chance  
to them also.

SHRI GOPAL PACHERWAL (Tonk):

Hon. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the  
Railway Budget. I would like to thank the  
hon. Minister for some measures taken by  
him.

I thank the hon. Minister for increasing  
the amount of compensation for the persons  
died in railway accidents from Rs. 1 lakh to  
Rs. 2 lakh. The hon. Minister has also done  
something for the backward classes in his  
budget. It is proposed to use earthen pots to  
serve tea in trains. In this way, lakhs of  
potters will get a means of livelihood. Many  
hon. Members were saying that the hon.  
Minister is a socialist but this budget does  
not reflect his socialistic outlook. The hon.  
Minister has said that cloth produced by  
weavers only will be used by the Railways.  
Will this not provide employment to weavers  
who are part of the poor and backward class  
in this country? With this proposal, the hon.  
Minister will generate employment for a large  
number of weavers and potters in this coun-  
try. This proposal to provide employment to  
weavers and potters is most welcome. The  
budget also proposed to provide opportuni-  
ties for the cultivation of vacant land along  
the railway lines for growing trees and vege-  
tables.

The budget also mentions that unem-  
ployed people will be allotted tea-stalls and  
cafeterias at railway stations. May I know  
from the hon. Minister whether Scheduled  
Caste, Scheduled Tribe and backward Class  
person among the unemployed will be given  
priority in the allotment of tea stalls and  
cafeterias at railway stations? By doing so  
we shall not only do away with social ine-  
qualities but also solve the problem of un-  
touchability and discrimination which affects  
the backward classes.

There is yet one more point that I want  
to make. I welcome the decision taken in the  
budget to stop the manufacture of first-class  
coaches. This is an example of socialism.  
But I would like to urge the hon. Minister to  
introduce one or two trains which do not  
have first-class accomodation so that we  
can be sure that the Government is imple-  
menting its decision to stop the manufacture

[Sh. Gopal Pacherwal]

of first-class coaches. It would be better if the hon. Minister gives a statement that a few trains will be run without first-class coaches.

When the hon. Minister was a labour leader, he had opposed computerisation on the plea that it would stop the generation of employment. But now he himself is in favour of computerisation which was started by Shri Madhavrao Scindia. So I request the hon. Minister to use this opportunity that he has as Railway Minister to do away with computerised reservation in the interest of the unemployed youth of our country.

I want to raise a point regarding my constituency Tonk which does not have a railway line. This has hampered industrial development in the area. I request the hon. Minister to provide a rail link for Tonk.

SHRI SHIBU SOREN (Dumka): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while extending my support to the Railway Budget I would like to give some suggestions through you. I belong to the Jharkhund region, which is rich in mineral deposits. The hon. Minister is well aware of the dearth of railway services in this region. He has personally gone round the area. Time and again a survey has been conducted for the railway track from Deogarh to Ramgarhpur via Gaya, Santhal Pargana and Dumka, but nothing has been done in this regard. Recently, coal mines have become operational in Santhal Pargana and a new line has been laid from Lalmatia to Farakka which a distance of 88 kilometre. At the time of laying this line there was an agreement between the Ministry of Railways and the Bihar Government that passenger trains will be run on this section but till not no passenger train has been given on that line. Presently it is being used only for the transportation of coal. People of our region have been kept deprived of that facility. Our land was acquired for the coal mines, but the head office of NTPC was located at Malda. So, the benefit of employment opportunities has accrued to the residents of Malda and the people of my area whose land had been acquired have not been provided with a job.

I would like to request that a passenger train should be run on this line. There is no rail-link between Santhal Pargana and Ranchi and steps should be taken to run an express train on this line with four passenger coaches for this area. Central India is predominantly a tribal area. There should be the provision of a direct train between Tinsukia and Ranchi, as lakhs of people from our State go to Assam to work there as labourers. That train should be further extended upto Bombay via Sambalpur and Nagpur.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to make one more request through you. Though Santhal Pargana and Hazaribagh have been upgraded as commissionerary but the people of these areas have not seen a train as yet. Big sums are allocated for the constructions of railway lines and also assurances for the same are repeatedly given by the Ministers but nothing has been done in this regard to this date. My region is rich in coal deposits and coal requirements of the entire country are met by this region, so we want a train for the convenience of the people of this region. It will also facilitate the transportation of coal but for prospective development of this area there are chances of setting up factories at several places. However it is not feasible without the construction of railway lines. So, I would like to request that there should be the provision of railway lines in the region there and a direct train for Ranchi should be provided on this line. There is no dearth of railway lines in this region, as it is an area rich in mineral deposits. Provision of railway line is already there but presently it is used not for the transportation of passengers but for the transportation of coal only. With these words, I would like to thank you for giving me the time to speak.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now I call upon Mr. Arvind Netam. He can continue his speech after the half-an-Hour Discussion.

[Translation]

SHRI ARVIND NETAM (Kanker): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you for

giving me an opportunity to make my submission. In regard to the Railway Budget presented by the hon. Minister, I would like to say that in the history of Railways, the period of Seventh Five Year Plan has been a period of commendable achievements for the Railways. In the first paragraph of his speech, the Railway Minister has stated that the railways have constantly contributed dividends to the general revenues for the last four years. This is a big achievement of the Railways and for this, I would like to congratulate the railway officials and the employees. The hon. Minister of Railways has spoken in his speech about the first class coaches and passenger amenities. There is nothing new in it. It is two years back that the previous Government had already decided to stop the manufacturing of first class coaches. The hon. Minister has also mentioned about the increase in passenger amenities.

[*English*]

15.29 hrs.

[SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN *in the Chair*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can continue your speech after the Half-an-Hour Discussion.

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#### RESOLUTION RE. POLL REFORMS

15.30 hrs.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take up further discussion on the Resolution moved by Shri L.K. Advani on the 29th December, 1989. Before I call upon Shri Advani to resume his unfinished speech, we have to fix the time for this Resolution. Can we fix two hours?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: For the present we may fix two hours.

[*Translation*]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (New Delhi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I remember that a period of more than 20 years has passed that my senior colleague Shri Atal Behari Bajpai had formally raised the issue of electoral reforms for the first time in this House. On that occasion I was present in the Press Gallery. He had emphasized that for a healthy functioning of democracy in India, the electoral process should be free and fair. It should be free from all snags and he had also suggested that on the analogy of Britain where after every general election, they convene Speaker's Conference, which is really an all party meeting with a single point of electoral reforms on its agenda, there should be some such arrangement even in India. The then Minister of Law Shri Govind Menon had welcomed the proposal of Shri Bajpai and said that he fully agreed with it, however it was the sole discretion of the Speaker to associate or not to associate himself with such a process. Later the Speaker did not associate himself with it but a Parliamentary Committee was constituted but it stood dissolved with the dissolution of Lok Sabha in 1970. Again in the year 1971 a Joint Parliamentary Committee was constituted to review the entire gamut of electoral law. Shri Bajpai, and myself as a member from Rajya Sabha and my colleague CPI(M) leader Shri Somnath Chatterjee were also the members of the said Committee. In 1972, that Committee submitted its report to the House, after working on it for a period of two years.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, till now, most of the recommendations of that committee have not been implemented, except the one which was implemented last year when the voting age was lowered from 21 years to 18 years. Perhaps that was the only recommendation which was implemented last years.

After coming to power, the new Government has again reiterated its commitment to electoral reforms a reference to which as



[Sh. L.K. Advani]

been made in the President's Address also and this time the Government has constituted an All-Party Committee in which Shri Somnath Chatterjee and I get an opportunity to work with the Minister of Law Shri Dinesh Goswami and Shri Bhagat. Action is being taken in this direction. Meanwhile, we have got an opportunity to express our views in brief in the House I would also like to express my views.

There are two parts of my proposal. First part of it relates to the details of the reforms I would like to see through in the present electoral system

Secondly, I am in favour of a change in the existing system of elections. In my opinion, it is due to this system of elections during the last 40 years that the party system in our country has not been stable and just because of this very system, the politics in our country, I will say it in English in following words;

[English]

It has been oscillating between single party stagnancy and multi-party instability.

[Translation]

Firstly, I accept this process as it is, according to which there is single Member Constituency and whosoever gets the highest number of votes, even if it is only 35 per cent, he is elected from there. But, gradually the role of money power has increased in the electoral process over the last 40 years. It has assumed such dimensions that the phrase 'ceiling lock' has lost its meaning. The only effect of the same was that the previous Government had effected a change with a provision that in case the expenditure on the election of a candidate is borne by the party, it will not be taken into account. It means that if a party and not the candidate spends to the tune of crores of rupees then there will be no check on it. In fact this change has distorted the entire system.

Whenever there is a discussion on this issue, it is said that ours is a capitalistic structure, so the role of money power will also be there. One cannot avoid it Cynicism is a very dangerous thing and in my opinion, if the political parties are themselves determined in this regard and appropriate legal measures are taken-both are necessary only then I think, the role of money power can be checked to some extent, if not fully. Nothing effective can be done by legal measures alone.

In my bid to know about electoral reforms made in other countries, I got an opportunity to go through the history of electoral reforms in Britain; I was surprised to learn how corruption was prevalent in their electoral system during the 18th and 19th centuries, but with the advent of 20th century-I do not say that the role of money power has completely come to an end in Britain there had been marked degree of reduction in corruption, as a result no election petition has been filed there for the past 60-70 years on ground of corruption. In the course of my study, I happened to go through one of the Budget estimates pertaining to the 18th century. When on one occasion the budget estimates were passed by the House of Commons, a particular member of the House received letter from his electorate urging him to oppose certain budget proposal regarding excise duty. I would like to quote the reply sent by the M.P. to his electorate.

[English]

"Gentlemen,

I have received your letter about the excise; I am surprised on your insolence in writing to me at all. You know, and I know, that I bought this constituency. You know, and I know, that I am now determined to sell it. And you know, what you think I do not know, that you are now looking for another buyer; and I know what you certainly do not know, that I have found another constituency to buy."

This is the formal letter.

[*Translation*]

So this was the position in Britain. The constituencies were bought and sold there. According to a publication of the House of Commons entitled "*Our Parliament*" by Gordon:

[*English*]

"Between £ 1812 and 1832, £ 5,000 to £ 6,000 was the ordinary price of a seat purchased for Parliament or £ 1800 if rented for a year."

This is an official publication.

[*Translation*]

So at that time the price of a seat for Parliament was five to six thousand pounds and it was given on lease also at a price of £ 1,800 for one year. The term of the House in Britain is for 4 years and not for 5 years as is the position in our case. I am referring to this to show as to how Britain could be able to remove, though not completely yet to a great extent, loopholes in their electoral system. In our country, it is often said that the situation can not improve. Last year during the discussion on election reforms, we gave the suggestion of public funding of elections but it was rejected by the Committee constituted for this purpose by the Congress Party. That committee, after undertaking extensive tours of the country and holding seminars after seminars, arrived at a conclusion that though they appreciate the need of public funding of elections; yet it could not be done due to certain practical difficulties. I also know the difficulties in public funding of elections. It is not that I am not aware of it, but no one can deny the fact that the present system is very defective and steps are required to be taken to correct it. If the Government can not do it, it should say so and then we will reconcile with the situation. That is why I consider public funding of elections a dire necessity, but I do agree that it will make the elections more expensive. The rich countries like Japan, U.S.A. and Germany can afford it but we can't. If public funding in India is introduced, private funding will have to be banned but it

would not be possible to ban it completely. But at least, the external props in election as to how many posters and pamphlets are printed, how much is spent on advertisements in newspapers and how many motor vehicles are used, these visible aspects during election campaign can be kept under control. Japan has made a successful experiment in this connection and various other countries have also made such experiments in different ways.

If we are interested in bringing about electoral reforms, we should keep in our mind the experiments made in this regard in various countries of the world and the results achieved, before going in for electoral reforms. The shortcomings in our electoral system have already been identified and all the parties agree to remove them but that decision is yet to be implemented. Issue of multi-purpose identity card to voters is one of them. Many years ago, I don't remember exactly how many years ago, but Mr. Goswami might be knowing it, Representation of people Act was amended to make a provision for issuance of multi-purpose identity cards to voters. Therefore, there is no need to go in for constitutional amendment for this now. What is required to be done is to decide the purposes for which the multi-purpose identity card will be used. Being a member of Parliament, we have to append our signatures recommending applications for a number of purposes and sometimes we do not know the bonafides of the persons for whom we are making recommendation are bonafide or we may not be knowing whether they are actually residing these I put signature on the forms of ration card of five persons but I don't know whether the addresses given by them in the forms are correct or not. With the introduction of identity card to voters, a lot of information which we now expect the administration to provide us to discharge our duty will be directly available to us. I know that it is very difficult for us to know whether a person is actually living at the address he has given or whether he belongs to S.C./S.T., even then we certify his address and his status as a person belonging to Scheduled Caste.

**SHRI UTTAM RATHOD (Hingoli):** But it is supposed to be issued by the Tehsildar of the area.

**SHRI L.K. ADVANI:** Instead, if you provide identity card, it will not only stop the impersonation taking place on massive scale in elections but there will be other incidental benefits also. At present I am talking about the electoral reforms and therefore, I would like to suggest that first of all identity cards must be issued before the next elections and this practice should begin with cities and towns first where impersonation takes place most. The evil of impersonation and both-capturing can now be seen in the villages also. Individual impersonation is not the practice there. Infact, entire village or entire polling station is impersonated by way of booth-capturing which is yet another problem. That is why it becomes necessary to issue identity cards and strong will is required for its proper implementation. The law on this is already there and it is not lacking. The photograph of the person should also be pasted on the identity card. Similarly, I feel that delimitation of constituency should take place now and fresh delimitation is required to be made. Earlier, there was a provision in the Constitution that de-limitation will take place after every census but we had changed it. Now if the Government wishes to start de-limitation again, it will have to amend the Constitution first. Last de-limitation had taken place twenty years ago in 1973-74, the electoral rolls were prepared on the basis of the census conducted in 1971. Since then, no delimitation has taken place. Consequently, all the constituencies vary greatly in terms of size. In addition to it the Government should examine if there could be some rotation of the constituencies of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes? Rotation is a must. This demand is being made from both the sides. The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes have also pointed out that this exercise has been completed in certain districts. The population of Scheduled Castes has increased in some constituencies but they continues to be in general category and therefore it is necessary to have rotation and de-limitation of the constituencies. The House

might not share my viewpoint, but one thing I must say that the decision not to increase the strength of the Membership of Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies upto 2000 A.D. is not proper. I feel that there is a need to increase the present strength. Presently, the strength of Lok Sabha is 543. At the time of first elections which were held in 1952, the strength of Lok Sabha was 489. It went up to 543 during the last 30 years. There has been an increase of only 53-54 members during these years. I do not think that there will be any difficulty in increasing the strength. Some hon. Members are of the view that further increase in the strength may cause inconvenience to the House and this is the reasons that they prefer to maintain the present, strength. I think an additional line of chairs can be adjusted in the House. If the present strength of 543 goes upto 600, there will be nothing unusual about it. The present strength of House of Commons is 650. It is true that there are no Legislative Assemblies in the United Kingdom but even then the Parliament or the Lower House of the country has a strength of 650 Members. Why can't a vast country like India have 600 or 625 Members in its Lower House. I am, therefore, of the view that we should increase the strength of the House. Today there are constituencies which have 15-16 lakh voters on the one hand while there are also constituencies which have about 30 lakh voter. I do not think it proper that a population of 25-30 lakh should have one representative only. It is not at all good in terms of the size of the constituency and for the M.P. as well to represent such a huge populace. I, therefore, request the Government to give some fundamental thought to this matter. I have always expressed the view that the Election Commission should be independent like the Parliament Secretariat, the Supreme Court and the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. The Election Commission should be made an independent statutory body. Though the Election Commission has already been functioning as a statutory body, yet it works as a wing of the Law Ministry. In Parliament, the Minister of Law is answerable for the Commission. But its employees and officers should not be put under the control of the

Ministry of Law. Just as the officers and staff of Parliament are under the Speaker and none else, the officers and staff of the Election Commission should be fully under the control of the Election Commissioner. I feel that the process of nomination for the post of Chief Election Commissioner should be made in such a way so that nobody points a finger at it. Just as we have made provisions for the Press Council, we could also have similar provisions which could guarantee freedom to the Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners. I also feel that as in the case of Comptroller and Auditor General of India, the Chief Election Commissioner and the Election Commissioners should not be appointed to any other posts after their retirement as is being done now when some persons are appointed as Governors, Ambassadors after their retirement, or given some other assignments. Such an assignment is not good for the Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners.

I support the idea of having multi-member Election Commission. The original provisions in the Constitution also provide for a multi-member Election Commission. It has been the basic concept in the Constitution also. Of course, the words 'if any' have been used. But the original concept is not that the Election Commission should be a single body. It has therefore, been stated therein that-

[English]

The Election Commission shall comprise the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners, if any.

[Translation]

The words 'if any' have conceded the possibility that there could be a single member body also, but the original concept was of a multi-member body. Multi-member body has a number of advantages, but I would not like to go into its details now. Many years ago a case relating to payment of discretionary grants at the time of election was filed in the

court. While delivering his judgement in the case, the then Chief Justice of India, Justice Hidayatullah had said that though what was done was wrong, he did not think that it was covered by the term 'corrupt practice'. He had given his judgement in English which read:

[English]

Even though it is an evil practice, it is not a corrupt practice in the legal sense of the word.

[Translation]

Thereafter, the Election Commissioner prepared a code of conduct after discussing the matter in detail. He specified certain things as evil practices and advised not to follow those things. He wrote that:

[English]

This is the code of conduct for candidates, for parties drawn by the Election Commission.

[Translation]

This code of conduct is being followed for last several years and at the time of elections it is circulated and it stipulates certain things. No Minister should use his official vehicle. No minister should utilise the services of his staff for election work. He should not occupy the official guest house nor put the guest house at the party's disposal. A lot of such things have been written in it. By and large, it has been my experience that whichever Government or party may come to power, it makes gross misuse of its office and all the codes of conduct are violated.

[English]

It is observed only in the breach.

[Translation]

That is why the Election Commission

[Sh. L.K. Advani]

has time and again been demanding that the code of conduct should be given a legislative teeth. It should be given legal sanction. If somebody violates it, it will be treated as corrupt practice and not limited to evil practice only. I would like to recommend that whatever legislation the Government might bring to this effect, it must incorporate in it the terms evil practice along with corrupt practice, Government should also make suitable amendments in the Representation of People's Act incorporating in it suitable provision from the code of conduct prescribed by the Election Commissioner. Besides, leaving out the points which are of poor platitude, all other things about which it is felt that they should come within the purview of corruption, must be brought under it.

While repeating my view-point about the policy, I would like to say that India is the only country where the voting percentage is higher in the areas where the rate of literacy is low. The position is quite reverse in the areas with high literacy rate. The areas which have maximum number of educated people witness lower percentage of voting. It is harmful for democracy. In order to check this tendency I cannot think of any other measures except the suggestion that voting should not be treated just a right only but it should also be treated as duty. If a person does not cast his vote, a token penalty should be imposed on him no matter even if the penalty is Rs.100 only. If the penalty is Rs.100, a family which has 5 voters will have to pay a penalty of Rs.500. Nobody will like to pay the penalty. There are many who start talking about the elections in their houses, in clubs, parties drawing room and at various other places 20 days before the actual polling day; they pass comments on the merits and demerits of various candidates contesting the elections; but on the polling day they remain indoors and gossip about the elections rather than going to cast their votes. I know that it may create certain difficulties also but even then, like many other countries, we should experiment in this direction. In many countries,

voting is compulsory. I recommend compulsory voting.

In brief, I would like to revert to the same point which I mentioned in the beginning of my speech that fundamental change should be brought about in the electoral system. I remember that in the joint committee, of which Shri Somnath, Shri Vajpayee and myself were the members, I recommended the adoption of the List-System in India. I do not say that list-system should be adopted in totality but a mixed-system of the list-system and existing majority system could be adopted on experimental basis. Under the list-system, broadly, multi-member constituencies are formed and all parties present list of their Members, Suppose there is a ten Member Constituency each party will have the right to present a list of ten members. Voters see the list and vote for the party and seats are given to each party in proportion to the percentage of votes they get. Out of ten seats, one party may get three seats, the other may get four seats. I have been in favour of this system for the last many years. For the first time, it was advocated in 1967 by our Senior Party leader Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya in his Presidential Address of the Bharatiya Jansangh Session held at Calicut. Since then, I have been studying it. Now I know about its merits and demerits. I do not say that it has merits only and not demerits. Certain difficulties are also there and to get rid of these difficulties some countries, where this system has been adopted, have fixed a minimum percentage also and the party getting votes below the fixed minimum percentage will not be given representation and it is called threshold.

16.00 hrs.

[English]

List system is combined with the concept of threshold in order to prevent proliferation of the parties.

[Translation]

Otherwise the number of parties will

increase too much. That situation too needs to be avoided. West Germany and many other European countries have achieved success by combining the two systems. After adopting the system, many things happen automatically. Now-a-days, the people are discussing the question whether election should be held in Punjab or not. Gradually all parties are reaching the conclusion that favourable atmosphere is not there to hold the elections. What is the reason for it?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Advani, today alone, you have taken about 30 minutes. How many more minutes do you want?

SHRI L.K.ADVANI: I will complete in five minutes. With this last point, I am going to complete because I think it is relevant to the present situation, it is relevant to Punjab and it is relevant to Kashmir. Why?

[Translation]

I was thinking that I have always supported every element of democracy but today the situation in Punjab is such that even I am not in favour of holding the elections. Why I say so because I analysed the system and found that our present system is like 'Winner takes all'. The position of the winner is that they may have secured 25 to 30 per cent of votes but on the strength of this percentage, it is just possible that they may capture even 90 per cent of the seats. Some of my colleagues of Congress Party are sitting here and I would like to tell them that in recent Lok Sabha elections Congress Party secured 39.96 or say 40 per cent of votes in Rajasthan but it did not get even a single seat out of 25 seats in Rajasthan. Is it a fair system? I do not consider it a fair system. The system has a basic defect which sometimes favours one party and sometimes the other and it does not allow the people to have proper representation. Due to this system, Liberals have been ousted in Britain. Its critics say that-

[English]

The Englishman has an instinctive weakness for betting, for gambling and for horse-racing. And this weakness of the Englishman has found a reflection even in his electoral system. This electoral system has become a big gamble.

[Translation]

Even after securing 40 percent of votes the party could not win a single seat in Rajasthan. I consider it a defective system. We all have apprehension about Punjab that through this system a party securing 30 to 35 per cent of votes would sweep the polls and what would be the consequences of such elections. If the present system is changed, the true will of the people will be reflected in Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabhas. The position will not be that of winner takes all. In countries like India where the society is pluralistic and can never become monolithic, people of all faiths will definitely have their representation in the House and may not face the situation of total wipe out. The representation sometime may be slightly less and sometime slightly more but they will have representation. All the political parties will have sympathetic consideration for one another and will not try to eliminate anyone, rather they will be more accommodative. Therefore, the time has come to review the entire system. I remember that when I advocated the theory of list system in the Parliamentary Committee constituted for this purpose, many members were of the view that they were not much acquainted with the system and its consequences, hence they would not approve it but they all agree on one thing and unanimously recommended-

[English]

"That this Parliamentary Committee recommends that Government set up an expert body to examine the feasibility of adopting the list system in India". This was a unanimous recommendation of that Parliamentary Committee at that time.

[Sh. L.K. Advani]

[*Translation*]

Since the new Government has come to power and it is also thinking about electoral reforms, I think that all these things will also be taken into consideration.

The subject is very vast but the time is short. I am also a Member of that committee and I will get another opportunity to express my views on the subject when its report comes up for discussion.

SHRI YUVRAJ (Katihar): I beg to move:

That in the resolution,-

*add* at the end-

"and people's power in democracy may receive an impetus" (1)

SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV (Sitamarhi): I beg to move:

That in the resolution,-

*for* "money-power and muscle power"

*substitute* "many-power, muscle power, criminals, anti-social elements and persons attached with business houses and establishments" (2)

SHRI BHAJAN LAL (Faridabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the resolution that Shri L.K. Advani has moved in the House for a discussion deserves to be welcomed, I would like to congratulate and felicitate Shri Advani for it. It is imperative to bring about reforms in our electoral process. It would not be possible for a democracy to survive in a democratic country, if the democratic process itself is not in order.

In case democracy does not survive in this country, it will pose a serious situation before the country. Therefore, it becomes our bounden duty to stand united to protect

this democracy. However, the question as to how the democracy could be saved, needs our attention. I am in agreement with whatever Shri Advani has said on this subject. It is imperative to reform our electoral system. The previous Government had tried to do it to the best of its ability and had also constituted an all-party committee with the same purpose. The committee had deliberated on this subject but they have not been able to arrive at any conclusion so far. However, it is absolutely necessary. The suggestions, which Shri Advani has put forward in this regard are praiseworthy.

Shri Advani has suggested that identity cards with photographs should be issued to the voters, but I think that only identity cards will not do. Along with the provision of identity cards, there should be the provision for the installation of such foolproof machines at the polling booths, that would allow a voter to exercise his franchise only once. If this is not done, then any person can cast as many votes as he wants, by just pressing the button of that machine. So foolproof system should be devised so that the machine is not misused and a voter is able to cast his vote only once.

Right now, Shri L.K. Advani mentioned about Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The delimitation of constituencies was last undertaken in 1973. My suggestion is that a fresh delimitation of constituencies should be undertaken. I have been observing that a constituency one delimited as Lok Sabha Constituency or reserved for Scheduled Castes has continued to be the same, for the past 25-30 years. The people of these constituencies feel restless over the fact that they are not being treated equally. Constituencies should be delimited as 'Reserved' on a rotation basis. A Constituency having the largest number of votes should be first to be delimited as 'Reserved' then in the next turn the second largest constituency may be delimited as 'Reserved'. In that way, the process of rotation may go on. If the Reserved Constituencies go on changing on rotation then the Scheduled Caste population throughout the country would feel reas-

sured. Further, the work of delimitation should be undertaken along with that of the census. Whole the work of census was undertaken in 1971, the work of delimitation was undertaken in 1973. Similarly, the work of delimitation should have been undertaken in 1983-84, after the 1981 census. There would not be anything wrong, if on that basis the number of Lok Sabha Constituencies increases from 543 to 600. However, the term of office for Members of Parliament, which is currently fixed at five years is more appropriate than six years. Our entire system is based on a five year pattern, even our plans are formulated for a period of five years. The introduction of a six year term means, bringing about changes in the entire system. Moreover people would feel that the politicians want to stick to power for a longer period i.e. six years and that would not be fair. So, the term of office for the Members of Parliament should continue to remain five years.

Similarly, the Election Commission should be given full powers. There should be an independent Chief Election Commission well equipped with all the necessary powers. Elections held throughout the country, should be under its supervision and there should not be any interference of the State Government in its working. The interference of the state Government creates apprehensions about the large scale bungling in the elections. Recently, you have seen that elections were held in Meham... (*Interruptions*). There is no harm in it, you are free to make a mention of that, we will not stop you, you can make a mention of it as well, but be kind enough to listen to me. For some time... (*Interruptions*) if anyone says that electoral irregularities had taken place in my constituency, I am prepared undergo any punishment that you decide. Merely you levelling charges does not prove anything. You are staying near Delhi, if you are prepared, I will take you there.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Their approach changes with the change in their position. Similarly, when power changes hands, it also brings in a change in the thinking of an individual.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was saying that the Election Commission has its own limitations and under this law and due to these limitations, it cannot interfere. Now, when we ask the Election Commission for the deployment of C.R.P.F. and B.S.F., they get it deployed, but these forces work under the control of the State Government because the responsibility of law and order rests with the State Government. The State Government either deploys them or makes them sit idle in the Police Stations. As these forces are under the direct control of the State Government, the Election Commission is able to utilise the services of these forces only when it becomes necessary and they are not empowered to deploy these forces on duty. The State Government deploys these forces in those places where they are of no use. Therefore, the Election Commission should be fully empowered and the C.R.P.F. and B.S.F. should be under their direct control. The officials on election duty, who are drawn from various agencies, should also work under the control of the Election Commission. Thus, in order to conduct fair and impartial polls, the polls should be held under the overall supervision of the Election Commission.

Now, I will tell you about the Meham affair. It has taken a serious turn only because the State Government has got all the powers. Today, the situation in Meham is quite serious, but earlier too, in neighbouring areas of Uttar Pradesh also, there have been instances of booth-capturing in the Chhaprauli Constituency and something has been followed now in Meham, which is nothing but a Haryana version of the Chhaprauli incident. Our colleagues from Uttar Pradesh, who are sitting here in the House, are aware of this. Please go and see for yourself the Harijan locality of Chhaprauli. We had gone there, during the elections. The people there said that... (*Interruptions*) you are free to talk about Amethi too, we will answer it, but at the moment you should be kind enough to listen to us. The Harijans in Chhaprauli said that they had never exercised their franchise during the past 35-40 years. So many valiant sons of the country kissed the hangman's



[Sh. Bhajan Lal]

noose for the freedom of the country. Today is the martyrdom day of Shaheed-E-Azam Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev and on this occasion... (*Interruptions*). Those people had sacrificed their lives so that this country might see the dawn of independence and all its citizens might enjoy the bliss of full freedom of expression and choice of electing their own Government to entrust them the reins of the Union and the States. What sort of a situation is sought to be created in the country and who is trying to do so? What could be worse than the fact, that while the Chief Minister of Haryana, Shri Om Prakash Chautala, who is also the son of the Deputy Prime Minister, Shri Devi Lal, is contesting the elections, the Chief Minister's son, Shri Abhay Singh, who is also the grandson of the Deputy Prime Minister is indulging in fanning the flame of violence and killings. He did not allow the people to exercise their franchise and bogus voting was resorted to. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am not saying this if I say that, then you will say that Bhajan Lal is saying this because he is a congressman. This fact is vouched by the Election Commission report, the independent observers and the national press which had made its significant and immense contribution to the country's freedom. When the brave sons of the country were fighting for the country's independence, when our valiant youngmen were making sacrifices for the liberation of their country, it was the press which had aroused the sentiments of the masses by presenting the complete picture before the entire nation. Had it not been for the press, would it have been possible to arouse the sentiments of the masses and to make the freedom struggle a success? You look into what the national press has said, what the Election Commission report has said, not only this, but also what a senior cabinet Minister, Chaudhary Ajit Singh and the wife of Late Chaudhary Charan Singh, Shrimati Gayatri Devi, who had visited the place, have to say about it, they know it very well. Then, this Government says that it believes in value-based politics... (*Interruptions*) I am talking about the electoral re-

forms. It is concerned with the electoral reforms... (*Interruptions*) why has this matter come up? (*Interruptions*) Why are you feeling uneasy, when the truth is being spoken out?... (*Interruptions*).

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: If any hon. Member wants to ask any question, he can get up and ask the permission of the Chair for the same. But if you go on interrupting without my permission, that will not go on record.

[*Translation*]

SHRIBHAJAN LAL: I would like to submit before you that you are speaking in their favour. With folded hands, I would like to tell them that the Meham Parliamentary Constituency is not very far off. It is hardly a hundred kilometres away from here. I will take you there. You please go there. Of course, you can form a five member committee for the purpose. Please go and see the site of occurrence, even after that if you utter even a single word stating that Bhajan Lal is wrong, I would resign. Then you may ask me to tender my resignation. So many people belonging to the public, so many officials on duty including the policemen had been killed in that incident. The Election Commission has stated that Senior Police Officers were stamping the ballot papers... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am on a point of order. The hon. Member, Shri Bhajan Lal is speaking directly to us, whereas he should address the Chair. That is my Point of Order... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Kindly listen to me. Green Brigade indulges in booth capturing. The area of operation of Green Brigade of Ch. Devi Lal and Shri Om Prakash Chautala is not confined to Haryana only. Many people

belonging to the Green Brigade went to Allahabad also from where Shri V.P. Singh, the present Prime Minister of the country contested election. Many others went to Rajasthan and other places and the only work Green Brigade did was to resort to booth capturing. Would you call it a democracy? If democracy does not survive what would happen to the nation? We will again become slaves. Today you speak in support of them. If there is no democracy, all of us who are sitting here will not find a place here and it will be difficult to imagine what kind of persons will occupy our seats. (*Interruptions*) You cannot imagine the atrocities committed in Meham.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will not take much time and will conclude within 5 minutes. Electoral reforms are essential to save democracy but at the same time it is more important to consider the methods to be adopted for bringing about electoral reforms in order to preserve democracy. Recently an all party committee was constituted and this matter could be resolved after holding thorough discussion in that committee.

Some time back, a legislation was enacted which provides that if a person is found guilty of or is otherwise involved in booth capturing should be debarred for 6 years. The Election Commission has admitted that Government machinery was used for booth capturing in Meham and the son of the Chief Minister was involved in stamping of ballot papers. He ordered firing as a result of which a number of people were killed. Should he not be debarred for 6 years? You talk of morality but where is the morality? Not even a word has been uttered by the Prime Minister and Home Minister in this regard leave aside taking any action against them. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): Sir, I will like to only point out one thing that this power of debarment does not rest with the Govern-

ment. The power of debarment comes only after certain conclusions are drawn by the Election Commission in an election petition or through a criminal code.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Hon. Law Minister, I have not said any such thing yet, but kindly do visit that place. Assam is quite far off, but Haryana is very near. Kindly pay a visit there, see things for yourself, and then say if I am wrong.

[*English*]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, I am not making any comment, I am only pointing out that the Government has no power of debarment. The power of debarment is only if a case is disposed of either in an election petition or through a criminal code. It will be dangerous to give the power of debarment to the Government because in that case that may be used against the political adversaries.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will conclude in a minute.

So far as the question of giving recognition to parties is concerned, we should also consider seriously as to how the number of candidates contesting election could be reduced. Not only the election expenditure is a burden on the candidates but unduly large number of candidates create difficulties for the administration also. During last elections, I have seen that as many as 122 candidates were contesting from one seat. You can well imagine the difficulty faced in printing of ballot papers. It must be given a serious thought. It is true that in democracy everybody has got a right to contest elections and you cannot stop anybody from doing so, but certainly there should be some rules for giving recognition to a party. A minimum percentage of votes should be fixed for a party to get recognition. In the end, I would like to say some thing about inde-

[Sh. Bhajan Lal]

pendent candidates. So far as the question of holding elections in Punjab is concerned, some views have appeared in the newspapers and some political parties are also demanding elections in the State but the situation in Punjab is so bad that elections should not be held there as yet. Unless the situation improves, elections should not be held there. If elections are held there right now, the situation will deteriorate there and the terrorists will come to power with the result that nobody will be able to live peacefully in the State and the people will start migrating from there. Therefore, elections should be held there only after there is improvement in the situation.

SHRI PREM PRADEEP (Nawada): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while we talk of electoral reforms in this democratic country of ours, we have to see where we have reached after so many years of independence. Today bullet has replaced ballot and ballot is for sake of name only. Today most of the people get elected through the power of bullet. We should think over the reasons which led to the present situation. The people who believe in bullets, wield power. We should bring about such electoral reforms that criminals do not interfere in elections and they are not able to get elected to Assemblies or Lok Sabha. We have to consider such a thing. In the prevailing conditions, we see that on the one hand there are hired persons who help in the victory of their candidate by stamping the ballot papers and on the other hand there are persons who want that elections should be conducted in a fair manner. I am sorry to say that under these circumstances, the work which cannot be carried out in police stations is got done through courts. Similarly, if stamping of ballot papers is not possible through goondism, the presiding officers and his team is won over and bogus voting is done at night or during the day time. I can give you one example.

Such a thing was noticed in one of the Assembly segments of the constituency from where I have been elected. The S.P. himself

apprehended the culprit. I am presenting this fact before you. In these circumstances, we have to evolve a way through which free and fair election could be held in a peaceful atmosphere. We do not say that people of a particular party adopt corrupt practices. We do not believe in it. If we get an opportunity we will also do it, others can also do it, whenever they get an opportunity. We feel that people of all parties have assembled here to consider ways and means to check this corrupt practice in elections. Some people have suggested that identity card should be issued. Can fair elections be held only by issuing identity cards? I have my doubt about it, as I said earlier, if the intention of the staff on election duty was malafied, they would manoeuvre voting in favour of their candidate ignoring the identity cards. To avoid it, arrangements for double vote should be made whereby a voter should be given a ballot paper in advance which he may carry with him while going to cast his vote and the Presiding officer should return it after putting his signatures. In this capitalistic system, this could be an alternative. However, proper voting cannot be ensured even under this method because people belonging to weaker sections, Harijans and Adivasis are not allowed to come out of their houses to cast their votes. Only those who wield lathi or muscle power would be able to cast their votes. Therefore, special arrangements should be made for them. Booths should be set up, if possible, at the places where people belonging to weaker section live in large number so that they could cast their votes.

Just now, Shri Advani suggested imposition of penalty on the voters who abstain from voting. I do not agree with him that penalty of Rs. 25 should be charged from the persons who do not cast their votes. In that case it would not be called an election. What will happen if all the candidates have a dubious past? Harijans, Adivasis get Rs. 5 after working the whole day and the day on which he has to go for casting vote, owners invariably give them work for that day. On that particular day, they engage the labourers on their own field saying that their is a lot of work to be done. Exercising one's fran-

chise means exercising the right to vote in favour of the candidate of one's choice. It does not mean casting our vote under coercion or pressure. I believe that we have certain rights as the citizens of a democratic country and it is the duty of the Government to ensure that we are able to use those rights. As compared to educated abstaining from the exercise of their franchise, better are the villagers who are keen to exercise their right. The electoral process should be fair and, right from the level of the election commissioner to the level of those who manage the polling booths, impartial persons should be deputed with a view to ensure fair elections. There should be a provision of punishment for those who are found guilty of committing irregularities in this regard. Only then can we ensure the free and fair elections. Constituencies in the hilly areas have been delineated on the basis of the lower density of population in the area. But the constituencies in the desert areas like Bikaner and Jaisalmer are even bigger than those in Haryana, Punjab or Kerala. These areas have to be protected against floods as well as drought. But that very criterion of population as is applicable in the case of hilly areas, from where representatives are elected on the basis of the low population should be made applicable even in the case of desert areas. As regards, the preparation of Party's list of candidates, it can also be prepared in a better way if it is also based on the factor of public awareness. At the moment, all the parties can do this much. There should be either a check on the large number of independent candidates who come forward to contest elections or they should not be allowed to contest elections. They will then be compelled to contest the elections under the banner of a political party. As you have rung the bell, now I conclude my speech.

**SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV** (Sitamarhi): Just now hon. Shri Advani has moved his Resolution. There is difference between what we profess in the public outside this House and what we actually say here as the member of the House. The issue of electoral reforms has been raised here time and again but there has been no im-

provement in this regard till now. It is for long that a voice is being raised in this regard and parliamentary discussions are held on this issue. In the past, committees have also been appointed to report on the reforms but to no avail as it has not brought about a change in the election process. Some people say that a particular leader had raised this issue of electoral reforms. But hon. Shri Kalpnath Rai, I am a witness to the events, during the struggle for a socialist structure in this country. It was in those days that late Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia had first raised the issue of electoral reforms. Whenever, he raised the basic issues, he was labelled as a lunatic by the intellectuals of this country who termed it something impractical. Late Dr. Lohia was for sometime a Member of this House. Today, the entire country is celebrating his birth anniversary. Dr. Lohia had raised these issues in this House and when a person talks of the upliftment of the poor and the weaker sections or bringing about a radical social change, he is called an eccentric. However, I would like to say that Electoral reforms have not been brought about in this country because of the feudal character and dictatorial and dynastic composition of political parties in this country. These political parties have on them the effect of narrow minded and reactionary elements. You may say that you are a political party with a liberal outlook then how could you be labelled as reactionary. Anybody can say that. But let me explain the meaning of both the terms—action and reaction. In the words of my Guruji, and action is an act which is done by an individual on his own—whereas reaction is an act which is done in response to an act done by another individual and when we copy the action of an individual, it is called imitation. I was listening to hon. Shri Bhajan Lal who was talking of morality. He may talk like that but his position is similar to that of Karna in Mahabharata, whose chariot's wheel had become jammed and Arjuna had started shooting his arrows at the defenceless Karna. At that moment, Karna had inquired of him about his sense of 'dharma' and gyan. Then referring to an earlier occasion, Arjun asked him as to why he had not acted according to that 'dharma'. To this question Lord Krishna

[Sh. Hukumdeo Narayan Yadav]

replied and Arjuna pierced his arrows into the body of Karna. Similarly, the hon. Member is talking of morality! On an earlier occasion, he was the Chief Minister of Haryana and had defected from the Janata Party along with his entire Cabinet. Why had he forgotten his meaning of Dharma, honesty, character, decency and values on that occasion? Still you talk of moral values? Kabir had also said that "Darshan Karna chahiye to darpan Manjat rahiye, darpan mein laaga kaai to daras kahan se paai?" Only those for whom democracy is a way of life, may have a moral authority of upholding the cause of democracy values. Such persons will not hesitate to sacrifice their lives before allowing the degeneration of democratic values. Only a man with that level of courage can steer through while upholding the cause of democracy and take his country ahead on the path of progress. But a self-centred person can never be the saviour of democracy. So these are the factors that have hampered the way of reforms in our electoral system. If electoral reforms are brought about then I can say with surety that 60% - 80% of the hon. Members who have been elected to this august House, will not be able to get elected again. Instead farmers, labourers, grasscutters and cowherds will be elected as the representatives of the people to the Parliament. If Shri Om Prakash Chautala cannot get elected to this House from Mahem then Shri Rajiv Gandhi too cannot be elected from Amethi. Tell us if there is any point of morality in it. If an incident has occurred in Mahem, then the Janata Dal... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am on a point of order. First thing is that he has made personal remarks about me and hon. Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Two years back, this very person whom the hon. Member has accepted his leader was in our party. Now that he has started wearing a green turban he has become an honest and noble man. And as regard, Shri Devi Lal, he should be awarded Padmashree for changing his loyalty a number of times. Barring 3-4 persons, there is no person in their party who has not

changed his loyalty at least 5-7 times. Elections in Amethi have been fair... (*Interruptions*) There is no point in making baseless statement in the House. He has referred to Amethi and commented on hon. Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Does anyone doubt the sacrifices, hon. Shri Rajiv Gandhi has made? Nobody can forget the sacrifices made by his family.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please resume your seat. A senior Member cannot just stand up like this and deliver a speech. There is no point of order.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV: Mr. Chairman, Sir, a respected leader of the Congress Party has been the Chief Minister of a State. I would like to ask him as to how could he have been the Chief Minister of a State like Haryana when he does not know the meaning of 'a point of order'? They talk of green turbans, red turbans or of white caps but such things do not make a person reformist. However, I am narrating a fact i.e. the actual situation. That is why I have said "Darshan Karna chahiye to darpan maanjat rahiye, darpan mein laaga kaai to daras kahan se paai." When your own face is blackened how can you see a clear image of yourself in the mirror. First, clean up your face and then talk of democratic values.

I was putting a question as to what are the main impediments in the way of electoral reforms? There are three impediments: firstly the feudal outlook, secondly the use of money-power in elections and thirdly, want of sense of dedication among people for ideals and values. The entire structure of our political system in India is such that it does not allow for a truly democratic system of Government for this country.

If we want to develop really a true democratic set up in this country, the Government will have to represent the majority of the people and that being the case 80 per cent of the elected representatives will be

from villages, because 80 per cent of the country's population lives in villages and represents those poor masses of this country who cannot afford even proper food, cloth and shelter and lack in the modern ways of living. As such they cannot be adjudged as the civilized people on the basis of the afore-said criterion of falsehood of modern life. So, you do not want to change the character of this country by electing your representatives from that section of the society, who have to live without food and cloth. That is why you do not want that such representatives should come here. So, I am saying that if we want to bring in a change, we should change the society. Shri Pradeep has just suggested that they should be issued identity cards. In this way reforms can be brought about in the electoral system. Some Members have suggested that votes should be cast for the parties which will in turn send their representatives on the basis of the percentage of votes cast in their favour but so far as the very set up of political parties is concerned, I think there is no political party which allows a dedicated labour, grass root level worker or farmer to emerge as a candidate of the party. His name will never appear on the list of candidates. No doubt such lists will be prepared one after the other but as soon as the name of an influential candidate appears on the list, he starts thinking that only such candidates should be given priority who could place him in a secured position. Such persons or leaders who take care more of their political stability weaken the very fibre of democracy. Such a thirst of power brings in the degeneration of democracy. Only the selfless work will strengthen the roots of democracy. Only then, the reforms can be brought in the real sense of the term. Until the leader, rises above all these things, no reform can be done. So, in the end, I will conclude with the following words of Tulsidas:

*"Moh sakal vyadhin kar moola"*

Today, one has no love for democracy or for the country, but it is for one's own position, political power, caste and community. So,

we have not been able to bring any reform in the electoral process. I would like to see that a Committee is constituted to give its suggestions in this regards. Our Government is genuinely interested in bringing about a reform in the electoral process and there should be reforms in the electoral system.

[English]

SHRI T. BASHEER (Chirayinkil): Mr. Chairman, thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in this discussion. The subject matter of this Resolution moved by Shri Advaniji is of great importance especially in the context of recent happenings in the Assembly election including what happened in Meham. Our Bhajanlalji said about that. I do not want to repeat it.

We are all proud that in India we have a strong democratic system and we must be grateful of our national leaders. We must pay tributes to our architects of the nation and of the Constitution for having such a strong democratic system. In many parts of the world, the system of democracy is vanishing, diminishing and dictatorial rulers are coming in. Military rule is coming in. But in India, for the last 42 years, after independence, we could be proud that the roots of democracy are deep and we should congratulate the previous Government, Panditji's Government, Indira Gandhi's Government and Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Government and our other leaders. Especially when we look at the recent happenings in the world, in the neighbouring countries and, of course, to our Marxist and Communist friends I should like to say that, events in the East European countries and, of course, in China even, the slogan rose for democracy and for multi-party system. The countries all over the world look to India for the real content of democracy and the experience of India and to take lessons from us. We had gained lot of experience. We had coalition Government. We have a minority Government. We are having a new experience here, a Government which has no people's mandate. Of course, this Government has no people's mandate.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Birbhum):  
Why?

SHRI T. BASHEER: I will tell you. You have no majority. This Government has no majority.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: Have a vote of confidence.

SHRI T. BASHEER: I will tell you.

DR. SHAILENDRANATH SHRIVASTAYA (Patna): I am on a point of order. The hon. Member says that the Government has no majority. The Government has proved its majority. Perhaps you mean that Janata Dal is not having the required majority.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is certainly a minority Government.

SHRI T. BASHEER: May I repeat? In the words of Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh himself, it is minority Government supported by each majority parties. What I mean is, the people never visualised such a Government. They never wanted such a Government. If they wanted such a Government, they would have voted for that. Here there is no such Government. This Government is the creation of the leaders who came here for their endeavours, for their personal endeavours and for their political endeavours. Nothing more than that I would not like to go further.

What I said was that we had so many experiences in the past. Of course, there are weaknesses in our system. But I will not agree with Advani-ji that there should be a fundamental change. Fundamentally, I think our democratic system is correct. But there are some weaknesses. There are shortcomings. There are lapses. So, we have to rectify them. All these years, we have been trying to strengthen this system. We have been trying to strengthen this system. We have been trying to rectify our weaknesses. We know that the previous Government headed by Shri Rajiv Gandhi did two great things... (Interruptions)

Please listen to me. You can have your

say later on. Now I come to my point. The previous Government did two important things to strengthen our democratic system. We have been, time and again, discussing the electoral reforms here. I was telling that the previous Government did two important things. What were they? The first thing that it did was bringing a legislation to stop defections. That was a major issue. It is Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Government which brought forward the Anti-Defection Bill for curbing defections. We must congratulate Shri Rajiv Gandhi and his Government for bringing forward such an important legislation during the last Lok Sabha. The next point is that we have been discussing about the electoral reforms in this House. Every section of this House as also the people outside this House belonging to every section desired that we should reduce the voting age and it should be 18. People felt that we should bring the youth of this country, the young blood of this country to the mainstream of democracy in order to strengthen this democratic system. It is Shri Rajiv Gandhi who did it. It is the previous Government which did it. We gave the voting right to the youngsters of 18 years age.

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA (Tamluk):  
This House gave it.

SHRI T. BASHEER: It is because of Shri Rajiv Gandhi's initiative. It is because of the Congress Party's Initiative. It is we who moved that Bill... (Interruptions) Of course, I agree that this House in its wisdom gave that right to the youngsters. So, two major things were done by the previous Government headed by Shri Rajiv Gandhi. I am proud to be a party to it in the last Lok Sabha. Of course, some more steps would be necessary and they would take more steps. After coming to power, this Government is trying to find out some measures for improving this system. They are going to take measures for the reformation of the electoral system in our country. They have constituted an All-Party Committee for that. I welcome it. Let us see what they are going to do; what they are going to contribute and what results they are going to achieve. Regarding issue of photo-identity cards, everybody has

said it. There are no two opinions about that. There are no differences about that. There is near unanimity in this issue. What I would like to say is that we should take steps at the earlier stages and not on the eve of elections. Our efforts will not materialise because a lot of efforts is required, a lot of finance is required. So, we have to start now itself as far as issue of photo-identity cards is concerned. Everybody agrees to the suggestion of issuing photo-identity cards. The photo-identity cards will serve other purposes also. They will be multi-purpose cards because we can use them for other purposes also. Therefore, putting some money in this venture is definitely useful for the people of this country. I also like to add here that this scheme of issue of identity cards was introduced in the Sikkim election. To my knowledge, it was a success. And again, it was tried in Nagaland and Manipur elections. There also, it was a success. So, that could be a good proposal. You can accept that.

I come from Kerala. The booth-capturing and all that is not a common phenomena there. But our CPM is very expert in bogus voting. We just had a by-election. My colleague Shri Ramesh Chennithala was representing that constituency. When he came to this House, he told us about that election game, about that bogus voting.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T. BASHEER: What happened in Meham? They talk of value-based politics, value-based politician. What happened there? Our Bhajan Lal ji said that some team should be sent to Meham. Why should such a team be sent? An hon. Minister Shri Ajit Singh had gone to Meham. What did he say? He said: "Whar happened in Meham is a murder of democracy". That is what had happened. That is what Mr. Ajit Singh said. That may be the reason for his losing the job in the Janata Dal Party.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Come to the point.

SHRI T. BASHEER: I say that booth-capturing and bogus voting should be stopped.

Another thing is about the election expenditure. Everybody knows that election is a costly affair. Common people cannot afford it. Advaniji asked whether it was possible to have a State funding. My request to the hon. Minister is that we should do something. Otherwise, it will spoil the whole election process. We should find out some ways and, I think, the State funding is possible. We must put our mind to it and find our some measures for that. Government must find out some ways for this State funding. I have some more points to say. But there is a shortage of time. So, I conclude my speech. I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak. Thank you.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would also like to express my view during this discussion on the resolution moved by the learned member Shri L.K. Advani:

First of all, I would like to submit that it is the most opportune moment for reforms in the electoral system. In case we do not bring any change in it, it will have an adverse effect on the unity and integrity of this country because here we have adopted the system of democracy and every person has got his political rights.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we all have been elected to this House through the present electoral system only. Several

17.00 hrs.

Members have expressed their views here today. All this discussion, which is going on here, is not a purely academic but ideology based discussion and as long as we continue with these narrow political consideration, unity of the country can not be maintained. Our hon. Member Shri Hukumdeo Narayan has rightly said that this is a feudal-



[Sh. Ramashray Prasad Singh]

istic ideology. The question is how to save the country and keep and democracy alive, so all the members who are present here irrespective of their political affiliations, should take it as their duty to make a unanimous demand for such reforms. No doubt irregularities have been committed in the elections which had led us to present state of affairs. Had there been no such irregularities how would have such person been elected as the Member of this House, who had once hijacked the aircraft. How was it done and who did it needs no elaboration. However the question remains as to how such persons are getting elected. After all what are the underlying reasons. The reason is that the system has been riddled with many shortcomings. Money and muscle power are contributing to it today. Particularly, I would like to say about those who were in power for the last 42 years. During the elections of 1952 there were no such irregularities. But when they started losing ground, they were left with no option except to use muscle power to stick to the seat of power in this House. They care a fig for the country. It has no meaning for them, be it the question of Meham or anywhere else. We have been elected through this electoral process and representatives of the people, we come to this august House to represent represent the country, not to represent the parties. If someone speaks about poverty, others also speak on the same issue. I would like to request you to act on the suggestions you have received.

17.02 hrs.

[DR. THAMBI DURAI *in the Chair*]

There should be reforms in the electoral system today. Our party has always maintained that there should be system of proportional representation. Then there will be no tussel on the basis of caste. Instead there will a contest on the basis of symbols and the winning party will decide its candidates on the basic of percentage of votes it has won. We can accept the suggestion of Shri

Hukumdeo upto an extent, but it cannot be so in everybody's case.

As we are bound by our party organisation in which we have full faith that it will take judicious decision in this matter. However, I would like to submit that steps should be taken to remove the drawbacks in our electoral system. To my view, introduction of identity card to voters would go a long way in rooting out the evil of booth capturing and bogus voting. Now whole village is impersonated and bogus votes are cast. With the introduction of identity cards, this could be checked as so long as identity card holder remains in his home, his vote can not be cast by another person. At present money power plays a great role in the elections and there have been instances in which some candidates have spent money to the tune of Rs. 75 to 80 lakhs or even Rs. 10 million on their elections. After all what is the logic behind it that a person who fights election in the name of serving the nation spends crores of rupees? If the present Government really considers itself to be a progressive and a custodian of common man's rights, it should order enquiry into the assets of all persons who were or are the Members of this House, so that it could be known as to how much money has been minted by them or how much money has been deposited outside the country. This has led to the corruption in the administration and all this is due to of our faulty election system. Meham issue is being raised with all vigorousness that a lot of irregularities and bungling have been committed there. But their party at least has shown courage to accept this fact. It is also no less significant that the incidence of Meham has come under severe criticism from the Prime Minister and the Election Commission also but what had happened in Amethi, nobody in the Congress Party has courage to criticize it. These things were started in their time only and they should think honestly in this connection. The second thing I would like to ask as to whether the elections were held anywhere under curfew? Muzzafarpur was under the curfew on the day of elections and Shri Bhajanlalji and all the hon. members of Congress Party also admit this fact, so a

survey should be undertaken in this connection. I was an eye witness to the incident taken place in the Ghosi Assembly Constituency in Bihar in which a Police Sub-inspector, An Asstt. Police Sub-inspector and the bodyguards of the candidate of the Congress party were arrested red handed by Shri Manohar Ram, D.S.P. and the B.S.F. personnel while they were resorting to gun shots in favour of the congress candidate. A large number of arms and ammunition and bombs were recovered from their possession. These people get elected through such tactics and that is why we are not getting true representation of the people in the Lok Sabha. All such incidents which are taking place either in Punjab or in Kashmir or in Mizoram are the outcome of the misrepresentation of the people.

This is a hard fact. If this Government thinks that it will complete its full five years terms with the help of one or the other dramas; then they are mistaken. This sort of drama is not going to help them for long. In their zeal for mutual infighting, they are playing with the nation as children play with a toy. They are hardly concerned for our people who are reeling under poverty. They are better occupied with their internal bickering and fighting. They don't have courage to face the people of our villages who are deeply agitated and are making open show of their anger. Therefore, I would like to submit that when such incidents take place, people of villages also take note of them and the situation assumes serious proportion and becomes out of control. Therefore, it is essential that the election system, which is vital for a democracy, should be reformed at the earliest. With this, I conclude.

[*Translation*]

DR. SHAILENDRANATH SHRIVASTAVA (Patna): Mr. Speaker, Sir, India to the largest democracy of the world and elections are the very basis of democracy. This motion has been brought forward to bring about certain reforms in our electoral system. It is very important from the point of view of democracy as well as the future of India.

How much importance we are going to it is evident from the thin attendance in the House. Be it members of the ruling party or the opposition or the people sitting in the galleries it seems that we are interested in merely having a discussion on the electoral reforms but are not at all serious about its proper implementation. It is definitely condemnable that we do not show any interest in discussing it. If we want to safeguard the democracy we should give due importance to this discussion and extend constructive suggestions to make the electoral system of India more effective. Where does this election process start from? If the electoral system gets polluted then it will in turn pollute the entire democracy. We can always prepare a scheme and spend millions of rupees to clean the polluted Ganga but once the entire democracy and the system gets polluted, the damage would not be undone even if billion of rupees are spent.

The process starts with electoral rolls. I do not want to go into the details. Hon. Shri Advani has mentioned about de-limitation and I fully agree with him, though it is an altogether different issue whether this constituency will be reserved or that and whether the area would be fifty square kms. of fifty five square kms. Now I want to draw your attention to the way the electoral rolls are prepared, on basis of which the elections are held.

Today if an enquiry is conducted at any level, then you will find that more than ninety five percent of the electoral rolls are either incomplete or incorrect or misleading. Thousands of names are either added to or deleted from the electoral rolls at one's own will in various streets and colonies. Although, sometimes it is done by mistake but we all know it that mostly these changes in electoral rolls are politically motivated. The reason for this is that the tedious job of preparing electoral rolls is allotted to the low paid employees and teachers, particularly primary school teachers. Besides, adding or deleting any names is not a punishable crime. Preparing electoral rolls is the most important work and the foremost step of electoral

[Dr. Shailendranath Shrivastaya]

system. Persons preparing electoral roll know it very well that so and so person is fighting the election from a particular constituency and they deliberately leave his name. Afterwards, it becomes very difficult to get the name added to electoral rolls. The procedure of getting one's name included is very difficult and there are many instances that a number of important personalities were deprived of their candidature only because their names were not there in the electoral rolls. The vice-Chancellor of Bhagalpur University Dr. Toheed was given Congress party ticket by Dr. Jagannath Mishra the former Chief Minister of Bihar who is known for his shrewd political moves. But Dr. Toheed could not fill up the nomination form because his name was not on the voters list of Bhagalpur. Just now Shri Hukumdeo Narayan Yadav said that educated people don't go to cast their votes and that is why we are compelled to elect a different kind of Government. I am citing an example. The names of even educated people are not included in the electoral rolls and this is because it is not a punishable crime. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to demand that it should be the foremost responsibility of the returning officer to bring out a correct electoral roll and if any error is found in it, the returning officer whether he is district commissioner or S.D.O., should be punished without fail.

Until the electoral rolls are corrected, the elections will continue to be unfair.

There is also a proposal to issue identity cards. The government might find it to be a very expensive exercise while starting the process of issuing identity cards afresh. It will be an object of ridicule for several of our friends including Shri Kalpnath Rai. They are the people whose photographs are shown on the television and published in the newspapers daily. They will never appreciate the very idea that a common man's photograph should be displayed in the ration card. I may tell you that even today ration cards are not available with most of the people especially those living in rural areas. I, therefore, want

that while people should be provided ration cards for making both ends meet, they should also be allowed to take the ration cards affixed with their photographs to the polling booths to exercise their democratic rights.

I would like to make yet another submission. As per present practice, a Returning Officer has been empowered by the Election Commission to reject as many as 10 nominations out of total of 20 nomination filed. We cannot say anything whether the grounds on which the nominations were rejected were valid or not, but one thing is certain that the Returning Officer has got the powers to reject anybody's nomination. Thereafter the elections are held. Then the person whose nomination papers were rejected may go to the court and file a case. The law of the land provides that in such an event the election of the person who wins the election will be declared null and void. The decision to reject the nomination papers was taken by the returning Officer but it is the person winning the elections who receives the punishment though he is no way involved in accepting or rejecting the nomination papers.

I am reminded of the caption of an old cartoon published in the *Dharmyug* which said that some 'Ram Swaroop' committed the theft but it was 'Phalswaroop' who was apprehended. If a situation like this emerges in which the Returning Officer commits the mistake and the winning candidate is punished, naturally everybody will suspect the wisdom of the Election Commission. If the Election Commission is, really a permanent body, it must have its permanent offices in each State. Right now, its position is really funny. What happens actually is that at the time of the elections, offices are opened in the camps for about 5 days only. The officials work round the clock. Even then it is not possible on their part to dispose off all the cases in a proper way for want of sufficient time. Therefore, permanent arrangements in this regard should be made throughout the country and so far as Bihar is concerned it should be done immediately. Discussion on Meham alone has taken a lot of time of the House. If we take up a full debate on elec-

tions in Bihar, it will take much more time.

Some reform should be made in the process of nomination so as to reduce the number of unattached legislators and Members of parliament. Finally, I would like to make a submission which many of my friends in the House including my party colleagues might oppose. My submission is that when advocates, doctors professors and several other categories belonging to the salaried class have been permitted to contest elections why not the Government employees get the same opportunity? How far is it true to say that only because they are Government employees, they have no plans, they are not concerned for the country and they have no dreams. A large number of highly educated and sensible people cannot contest the elections only because they are in Government service. If they are given this chance and consequently they win the elections, they should be relieved of their duties in the Government. But if they are not given this opportunity, it will be a great injustice to them.

Now I would like to make my final submission. I call upon all the hon. Members present in the House to seriously think over the measures as to how to reduce the number of criminals entering the election arena. Today such a situation has emerged in Bihar. The hon. Prime Minister was informed by some people in writing that some criminals had been given tickets by the Janata Dal in Bihar and, as such, he should not come for election earring. He was pained to hear this and felt ashamed to say that if such people have been given party tickets, it is the people who will decide their fates. I do not say that this charge is applicable to Janata Dal only. There are other parties also which have given party tickets to criminals. When people raised their voice against this move, they were pacified with the logic that a person whose offence has not been proved in the court of law is not a criminal and till such time he could be given a party ticket. In this way, there were 193 candidates in Bihar put up by various parties for the elections against whom cases of murder, dacoity, abduction, rape

have been registered or were under trial in the courts. Because their offence could not be proved, they could become candidates for the elections. But I know that even the courts do not establish charges against the persons who win the elections, because there people can influence the circumstances.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to make an appeal to the Election Commission to take stringent measures so as to curb criminalisation of politics and debar the criminal elements from filing nomination papers in the elections. Otherwise, the people of this country will loss their faith in the elections. People openly say that if today Mahatma Gandhi were to contest the elections in Meham, he would have lost his security deposit. If even Dr. Rajendra Prasad were to contest the elections in Bihar today under the present process of elections, he would have lost his security deposit. It is therefore, necessary that reforms should be made in the election process, if the Government wants the people's confidence in democracy to be maintained.

[English]

SHRI MANDHATA SINGH (Lucknow): I rise on a point of information. I do not know what is the procedure adopted here on the non-official business days. I myself sent you my slip round about 12 O'Clock and I can see with my own eyes people approaching you personally and their names being called out. I have had enough patience... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot cast aspersions on the Chair like that. You may have your own objection, but I want to tell you that I am not just entertaining the slips like that. We call the Members in the order as the slips are received.

SHRI MANDHATA SINGH: Can you assure me that some Members gave their name before I sent my slip?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That I do know; I will find out.

**SHRI MANDHATA SINGH:** It is a serious matter and I lodge my serious protest.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** It is the prerogative of the Chair to call the Members. There is no particular rule that I have to call you because you sent the slip at 12 O'Clock, according to you. That is not fair on your part. It is left to the Chair.

**SHRIMANDHATASINGH** I do not challenge your discretionary powers.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** We are getting names from the Whips of the various parties and the Members are called according to that list.

**SHRI MANDHATA SINGH:** But the Whip says that he does not give names on the non-official business days.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Generally, the Whips send the names. Sometimes, individual Members also give their names. We add these names after the list and not before that. We call the Members, if time permits.

**SHRI MANDHATA SINGH:** Today, the Whip told me that he does not give any names on the non-official business days.

**SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA (Bolangir):** We are new Members and should be made acquainted with the correct procedure.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI RAM SAGAR (Bara Banki):** Mr. Chairman, Sir, we should be given an opportunity to participate in the discussion on the P.M.B. which has been taken up today.

[*English*]

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Individual Members also send their names. We go on adding them to the list. We never give preference to anybody over the other Members. We call the Members only in the order the slips are received. Before you, somebody else might have sent the slips. I have taken the Chair only 10-15 minutes back. I do not know when you sent the slip. I did not receive your slip.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The time allotted for this Resolution is already over. Now, we have to take a decision as to how much time is required.

**SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem):** You may please extend it by another half an hour, i.e. upto 6 O'Clock.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** We cannot like that. We cannot finish it by 6 O'Clock. In my list, there are 20 to 25 Members who want to speak on this Resolution. How much more time do you require—whether one hour or two hours—this we have to decide. If we could not finish it by 6 O'Clock, then we have to have another extension.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha):** I think we will need another two hours.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** If all of you accept, we will extend the time by another two hours for this Resolution. Then, we will see after two hours what can be done. Today, upto 6 O'Clock, you discuss this Resolution. Today, it is not possible for us to go beyond 6 O'Clock for this Resolution. The remaining time can be adjusted when this Resolution comes up for discussion next time.

**SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat):** The time should be extended by another two hours.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** If you all agree, I have no objection.

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI):** I have no objection to the extension of time because the Government is very keen to listen to the views expressed by the different hon. Members. Because on the basis of the views expressed by the different hon. Members, we are going to formulate our opinion. Therefore, I will go by the decision of the House.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI YUVRAJ (Katihar):** Mr. Chair-

man, Sir, if the time is extended by two hours and the hon. Members agree to it, let us extend it. If we take up Private Members, Resolutions the other day, what will the fate of the business listed for that day. I, therefore, want that let it be completed today itself.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I can understand your feelings. Because there are so many other hon. Members who are waiting for their Resolutions. If the time is extended, then your Resolution will get delayed. That is your view. But still when most of the members want to participate in this Resolution—since they are feeling that it is very interesting and they also want to contribute something—that is why we want to extend the time for this Resolution. If all of you agree, we will extend the time. As far as the next Resolution is concerned, that we will see when it comes.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): We also want that the time for this Resolution be extended. Let us extend the time by another two hours.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Yes, we agree.

MR. CHAIRMAN: For one Member we used to give five minutes but nobody is listening. We have to go on ringing the bell. They take a lot of time. Therefore, if you cooperate with me, we can finish it. I have received names of nearly ten Members from each party. They are interested to participate in this Resolution. So, you think it over. In order to accommodate all the Members, you have to cooperate with me and be very brief. You make only points.

Is it the sense of the House that the time for this Resolution be extended by two hours?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR CHAIRMAN: The time for this Resolution is extended by two hours.

[English]

Now, the time has been extended. I request all of you to cooperate with me and make only points. Then only we will be able to take up other Resolution next time. Mr. Sathe.

[Translation]

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Resolution moved by Shri Advaniji is being discussed here and it is a resolution on a very important subject. It has been under consideration for a pretty long time and several committees were constituted for this purpose but every time the matter is shelved. I do not want to say that the matter is put off deliberately but it is true that so long as basic changes are not brought about in the electoral system and election processes, our system will not prove to be truly democratic in the real sense of the term. We have adopted Parliamentary form of Government and we adopted a written constitution for this England does not have a written constitution and with the constitutional development over the years they enacted their laws but in India we have a written Constitution. While framing the constitution, we forgot the very basic thing of the Parliamentary democracy and that is the Party system. I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards party system. Without party system, the parliamentary system will come to nought because if 80 crore people say that they have right to come here, how will that be possible.

[English]

"Parliamentary democracy is essentially a party democracy, a party system."

[Translation]

They all cannot sit here and discuss the matters. Therefore, on the basis of representation, members are elected. Regarding the party system, you can see that there is no mention of political party in the Constitution.

[Sh. Vasant Sathe]

[English]

There is no mention of political party in the constitution of India.

[Translation]

Where the basic defect lies! You know that the mention of political parties has been made in electoral laws. In electoral laws, recognition of political parties and other things about the parties have been mentioned.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Now it is there in the anti-defection law.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: It is still not there. Theoretically, in the Constitution, everyone, everyone here is an individual who has been elected to the Parliament.

[Translation]

We, all 544 or 545 hon. Members come here as people representatives in individual capacity. Some represent 10 lakh population and some represent 15 or 17 lakh of population and the number thus goes on increasing. I am telling you the basic defect of this system. Nobody knows as to who would become their leader or Prime Minister of the country. Though we know it in practice but here I am talking about the theoretical aspect of the problem. At the time of election it is not known as to who would become the Prime Minister. We all are elected by 10 or 12 lakh people without knowing about their leader. And here we see that day by day not only the democracy but the unity of our country is coming under threat. Nobody knows that which party would come in power, what combination would be formed and which party would remain in minority, whether the majority party really enjoy the majority support of the people of the country or not. If such drawbacks will come up in our system, it will go on becoming weak day by day. Therefore, my submission is that this matter

should be considered seriously. My friend Shri Goswami is well acquainted with the law. I want that with a sense of urgency, he should try to have an unanimous decision on it. If all parties extend their support to it, it would be possible. Though it has been delayed much but still we can do it. We should think as to what Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia had said about it. I had the privilege to work with him for sometime. He propagated a theory of "Choukhamba Raj" which is a fundamental democracy that a uniform set up should be there at all levels i.e. at the central level, the state level, the District level and the village level, only then country would become strong. We need to think seriously if we want to introduce that system in our country. If we want to have Party System of democracy, I agree with my friend Shri L.K. Advani. Under that system only party will contest the election. I remember those days when Gandhiji used to say that it was the Congress Party which would get vote. What I mean to say is that under this system party is important. Corruption can easily be rooted out because party is contesting and not the individual. Any person who wants to win the election by money power, muscle power or by any other unfair means will automatically lose his importance. It would be a good thing if the party announces the list of their members to be elected so that people may at least know that so and so are there in the list. If it is done, the party will enjoy a close public relation with the people. In this way, the list-system is good and can be adopted but what I am saying here is that we have a federal system and have diversity of languages, religions, castes etc. and therefore, if we want to live as one nation we should have at least two parties at the Centre so that people may have an alternative before them. This can be achieved only when the people all over the country seriously think over it. Asian countries and other countries are adopting this system and therefore, if it will not function well in our country the others will also not follow it. The entire country from Kashmir to Kanyakumari and from Goa to Guwahati should have right to elect its leader otherwise what is happening today—a person is elected from Kerala or from Manipur by ten

lakh people but they do not know who is going to be their leader. Therefore, my submission is that we should think over it seriously because it strengthens the democracy and does not affect the Parliamentary system. You may call it a Presidential system or anything else. In this system the person will be identified and as regards the parties you will find that—

[English]

Two parties or at the most one party will emerge at the national level.

[Translation]

It is very important for the country and therefore we should also think over it. If list-system and party system are important, parties should be recognised in the constitution, so that

[English]

The party will also have a certain character.

[Translation]

Shri Humumdeo Narayan Yadav has rightly said that it is a moral obligation on all the political parties to have inner-party democracy. When all the parties will have recognition, it will be obligatory on their part to follow the democratic norms and hold party elections.

[English]

Is your party itself democratic? If it is not a democratic party, then you have no right to participate in the democratic processes of the country.

[Translation]

I would like to say one thing here in the interest of the country and not with an intention to throw mud at any one or to cast aspersion on any one for which we have many other platforms. We are sitting here to make law for the welfare of the entire country and should hold discussion on the problem

with all seriousness. Congress Party is the biggest party and should have set an example for others to follow but if the organisational elections have not been held in it for the last 17 years, how can we talk about the democracy in the country? But where have elections been held? The condition of other parties in this regard is also the same, so who should be blamed for this? I have mentioned about the party system. I would take up the issues one by one because there is shortage of time. When the committee will be constituted, all things will be discussed in detail. There is one more thing which is important for the efficient functioning of the Parliamentary system. There are 542 members in the House but how much time each one of us gets to speak on any subject. Even if we wish, everyone cannot get chance to speak and those who get chance, get only 5 to 7 minutes. What can be done in such a short time? It is merely a formality. Therefore, we should have committee system. Each department should have a statutory parliamentary committee. Members can be included in these committee as per their interest. Extensive study and detailed discussion should be held in committees first and then matter should be brought before the House. Not only this, even important Bills are brought to the House and discussed in a hurry and got passed. We have seen that even constitutional amendments cannot be discussed seriously in the House. Whosoever remains in the Government, our bureaucracy does not want a check of the Parliament on the executive but if we want to have a check on the executive committee system should be adopted.

It will make no difference whether there are six hundred or five hundred members because a Committee of 25 to 50 members will study it. I am saying so because Parliament is a forum where members exchange their views and such an issue will surely come up for discussion. Therefore, it should comprise capable, right thinking and learned people. World is changing fast and science is making great strides. You do not want that learned people should come as Members. You want that only illiterate people may come to this House to rule the country. Why



[Sh. Vasant Sathe]

does it happen? It is so because we do not have such system. We know that we have come here only to raise our voice without advancing any logic and as such there is no need to study the subject matter. In such a situation who will come to this House as a Member? Therefore, in my view, Committee system must be there to make the parliamentary system strong and efficient.

*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI CHITTA BASU: That is after the election of Parliament. You are putting the cart before the horse...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Committees can be formed after formation of Parliament. Not earlier...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHITTA BASU: The issue is how to elect Parliament and the Legislature...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VASANT SATHE: That is what I am saying. I have already said about Party System and List System. And after adopting all those methods, when you come into Parliament, you will have to go into Committees.. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I support your Committee System.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Then the question is about Election Commission. I entire agree that the Election Commission should not only be statutory body of multi-member committee but should have all the powers of an independent statutory body and should be able to conduct elections from the centre right up to the grassroot Gram Panchayat level. A whole new system will get evolved and election should be held as far as possible simultaneously and not all the year round. This can be done only when you have a proper machinery.

We have talked about money power,

muscle power in this Resolution. I beg to submit that if you adopt party system, then in that you can think of state funding to the party also. Individual importance will get reduced. You can straightaway allow not only state funding but party funding also. But I do not think, under the present circumstances, by merely limiting or introducing state funding, the influence of unaccounted money will in anyway be reduced. You will have to bring about structural changes in the electoral process. That is what I am deriving at. Simultaneously, heavy punishment should be given to criminals. Unless we do that and really say that any person belonging to whatever party, if he is a criminal or is having a colourable character, will be disqualified for even a longer period, the problem will not be solved. Such provisions should be made if you want to bring sanity in the electoral process. The way we are seeing things, muscle power and all that, I think, it is high time that we introduce these elements structurally firmly. But only superficially dealing with that will not help solve the problem. In order to strengthen democracy, basic structure changes in the entire electoral process is essential. So let us form a committee-and the Government can take initiative in that—in which you can give a time bound programme because so much thought has gone already. I have a feeling that upto now somewhere people are trying to avoid facing the real issue because of their own interest. There are vested interests in the existing system. That is why, people want to avoid that. I have a feeling now that the hon. Minister would be able to take an initiative. Have a small committee formed from all parties with a time bound programme. They must give the report within three months or whatever period you would like to give them and see that proper Bill is brought before this House to really revamp our electoral system to strengthen parliamentary democracy in this country.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: A Committee has already been constituted of the major opposition parties. It is deliberating on this issue. We hope to conclude our deliberations in the shortest possible time. The hon. Member, Mr. Sathe, and others are raising

the basic questions in their individual capacity. Obviously any electoral reforms should be based on the general consensus of all the political parties. Therefore, I will appeal to hon. Members to kindly discuss these issues within their parties so that from the party they can put forth their views on the basic issues and while bringing the Bill we may be guided by these basic issues.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI MANDHATA SINGH (Lucknow):** Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me 10 minutes to speak. I want to thank you for this. I had to use bitter words because you have allowed me to speak at the tail end. I have a lot to say.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** Better late than never.

**SHRI MANDHATA SINGH:** All right, it applies to electoral reforms also. One of our colleagues mentioned about the voter list. I have myself passed through this experience. Three months ago the names of 4.5 lakh voters especially employees and teachers who were considered to be my vote bank were deleted from the voters lists at the time of elections to the Municipal Corporation in the Parliamentary Constituency of Lucknow, which I represent. I only want to point out that whether the voters list is prepared by Patwari (Lekhapal) or in some states by the primary teachers, we have to develop a new thinking about it. While hinting towards all these reforms, I want to say that if we have to make democracy a success in this great nation of diversified culture, languages and religions, no purpose will be served merely by discussing the composition, powers and autonomy of the Election Commission which is located in Delhi only. We shall have to create an independent agency for making voters lists right from the level of Election Commission in Delhi down to village level. All work relating to elections to panchayats, blocks, zila parishad, Legislative Assembly or Council etc. should be entrusted to this independent machinery.

Secondly, hon. Shri Sathe has hinted towards the basic issues, hon. Shri Hukumdeo Narayan has tried to speak his heart out and hon. Shri Advani has also tried to raise the level of debate, but it is unfortunate that hon. Shri Bhajan Lal has tried to lower the level of discussion by restricting it to a particular area. I feel sorry for it. In this connection, I want to say that the reality is that there is a degradation in the political culture and we should all admit it. Gandhi and Lohia are no more with us and so are some other by borders. But when many names are left out, it becomes a subject of special mention that some particular name was deliberately left out. Since Shri Sathe mentioned the names of only Gandhiji and Lohiaji, I also want to restrict myself only to those two names. I was fortunate enough that I participated in the struggle of 1942 in the company of freedom fighters who led us during the freedom struggle. The dreams of democracy in free India seen by us while sitting in the solitary cells in jail, have all been shattered now, when I have been elected to Parliament. Therefore, we have to resurrect that political culture. The government or Shri Goswami or Shri Sathe or the Prime Minister or the former Prime Minister alone cannot accomplish this task. Workers who are politically conscious and totally devoted will have to start a struggle afresh in order to re-establish that old political culture.

Thirdly, so far as man and muscle power is concerned I have an original suggestion to make. I was waiting that some hon. Member would say something about it. I will just touch upon the issue of muscle power later because there will hardly be any time to go into the details. So far as checking the influence of money power or restricting the expenditure is concerned, is it not possible to for a limit? America is a very developed country and the elections of the President in that country is decided through a debate on the television. I do not say that television has reached every house or cottage. It is not possible here to follow the suggestion of Shri Hukumdeo Narayan who said that all these facilities should be provided in every poor

[Sh. Mandhata Singh]

farmer's cottage. Shri Sathe was also, in a way, advocating the Presidential system when he referred to presenting a particular leader. This in concrete term is the Presidential System. There is a controversy about this system today and I do not want to be dragged into the debate whether it will take the form of dictatorship or not. I am saying another thing. Restriction on the expenditure and use of money can be put only through a legal provision. The principle of state funding can be made applicable, constituency-wise, whether it is a Parliamentary constituency or Assembly constituency. I do not talk of crores and hundreds of crores of rupees. It will be the responsibility of the Collector or SDO or DM or an officer of the new autonomous system or whosoever is your returning officer to see that the area under the constituency is divided into 10 to 15 sectors. A common platform should be put up there for making publicity and appealing for votes. There is no need to run with loudspeakers and motors. Such things should be legally banned. In the public meeting, all the candidates should put forward their view point before the public directly from the same platform. If he is able to satisfy the public, the public will vote for him, and hundreds of crores of rupees will thus be saved.

[English]

But it needs a legal sanction which is a must for any electoral reform

[Translation]

This is my brain wave. I may be wrong. Now you will say that muscle power will interfere in that public meeting. The people who have money power even otherwise indulge in such things. Stringent punishment could be provided for that. The only remedy is to debar from the election process such candidate who misuses it.

Now I want to say yet another thing.

When we fill up the forms here or take an oath, Shri Kashyap gives us the papers and we take an oath.

[English]

In the name of secularism and socialism and democracy we file our papers. But the next morning when we go we forget all the three principles.

[Translation]

At the time of filing the papers, we express our allegiance to all the three principles but the very next day when we go out for publicity, we forget all the three principles. We go by caste and religious considerations and make inflammatory speeches. I have experienced these things in my election. That is why I say that the practice of oath taking be scrapped. There should be a provision to the effect that if anybody advocates against secularism, he should be debarred from contesting during the election process itself. There is no other remedy to it.

Sir, money is needed to get the symbols allotted. In order to provide the electorate with complete information, the work of wall-writing and sticking posters mentioning the names and also symbols (as long as the majority of the voters remain illiterate) of the contesting candidates should be done with the funds provided for the purpose by the State and it should be the exclusive responsibility of the returning officers of the constituencies. Sir, a point has been made that no discussion is taking place on the Amendment, which has been moved here in the House for consideration. I had asked my friends to tell us about a system that would make democracy a meaningful proposition. Though people are saying that even the Soviet Union, has now a multi-party system, but I would not like to make a mention of it as an example.

18.00 hrs.

[English]

### HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

#### Pepsico Food Project

MR CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up Half-an-Hour discussion. Shri Harish Rawat.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT(Almora): Mr. Chairman, Sir, as such it is a very auspicious day, as it is the birth anniversary of Shri Ram Manohar Lohia, who fought against multinational enterprises throughout his life. Though, we could have had a discussion on the Pepsico Food Project, but many of our hon. Members were saying that they would like to attend the birth anniversary celebrations of Shri Ram Manohar Lohia, being held at the Parliament House Annexe. I am ready to initiate this discussion only next week provided you and the House agree to a discussion on this subject, with the same ballot, in the coming week.

[English]

MR CHAIRMAN: The House has to decide it. I am leaving this matter to the House to decide. If all of you agree, there is no objection, we can take up this Half-an-Hour Discussion...(Interruptions)

SHRI A.N. SINGH DEO (Aska): The discussion on the Railway Budget will go on after this.

MR CHAIRMAN: Yes, yes. Why he wants us to postpone this discussion is to enable the Members to participate in the Meeting.

SHRI VASANT SATHE(Wardha): Everybody wants to participate, everybody wants to go there.

MR CHAIRMAN: Then we have to

adjourn and re-assemble. We can't adjourn the House for the day. If you want, we can take up this topic afterwards, if all of you accept.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it was agreed when I was in the Chair that this Half-an-Hour discussion would take place between 6.00 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. After that the discussion on Railway Budget would continue and at 7.45 p.m. the hon. Railway Minister will begin his speech for five minutes and then we will take it up again on Monday.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: If you go to attend Dr. Lohia's function, then the whole agenda will get disturbed.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: If there is an adjournment now, everything would be topsy-turvy.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I would submit that those who want to go and attend that function can go and attend that function, but let us not disturb the agenda of the Parliament because that would be a wrong thing to do because the Railway Budget and all that, in fact the Government's whole schedule of business will get disturbed. That is what I am saying. Let us think of that.

[Translation]

What difference does it make? The Government has got a time schedule of its business and if that is not adhered to, entire schedule will be disturbed. My suggestion is that those, who want to attend the function, may go and attend it.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Being in the Opposition he is becoming entirely right!

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Thank you very much.

MR CHAIRMAN: If you are deciding like that, we can continue. What about you, Mr. Harish Rawat? Do you want to continue?

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Yes, Sir, I am ready.

MR CHAIRMAN: Then you start.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is the third occasion when members sitting on both sides of the House have expressed their concern on this important subject. Not only this, even people outside the House have expressed their views with great anxiety. We had raised this issue many times including one on 12 August, 1986 through a Calling Attention and the other on 6th December, 1988. Members sitting on both treasury and opposition benches held the same view that it would not be feasible to set up such a low-technology project in a non-priority and sensitive area like Punjab. At times, I feel surprised that though in a democracy, it is assumed that it is we, the public men, who lay down the policies, but it seems to me that there are some other powers, which are in the hands of secretaries and others and those powers are able to influence, the thinking of ministers, now and then. They influence the thinking of the Policy-makers. When this Government assumed office, Shri George Fernandes had apprised in advance the nation of his thinking and there is no doubt about it. He had said that he is prepared to go to Punjab to protect against the setting up of the Pepsi Cola project. I had even heard Shri Sharad Pawar saying in a Doordarshan interview, that they were against the setting up of this project and many doubts have been raised in this regard. However only the Cabinet would take the final decision regarding this project. It is correct that a decision can be taken only at the cabinet level and not at a personal level, but the other day, when I read the statements made by our friend during a discussion on the subject, it seemed to me that those very powers which earlier used to influence the policy makers just before their

arriving at a final decision, are even today influencing the policy makers.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: You were there.

[English]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: You know better than me.

[Translation]

If that had not been the case, why on 11 August, 1986, the Minister stated that there was no question of inviting a multi-national company in a low-technology and non-priority area. He had categorically stated: 'No Pepsi Cola'; 'We cannot even think about it. Through a systematic Publicity Campaign. Pepsi Cola has created such an atmosphere that people have started feeling that the setting up of this factory would automatically solve the Punjab problem, that the problem of unemployment would come to an end and consequently the extremist problem, which is gaining ground due to the problem of unemployment, would also be solved. They have also started believing that this would also solve the problem of Punjab's farmers whose income has remained stagnant for quite sometime now and also that the market value of agricultural produce would increase as a result of setting up of this project. But today, what is the situation, the hon. Minister is aware of it and understands it much better than I. I would like to emphasize only this much that the point raised through the Calling Attention was not that the project was being set up in a sensitive area but the doubts which we had when we used to sit on the treasury benches. We had made it clear, very firmly that we were inviting trouble by inviting Pepsi Cola to set up its project in Punjab, because in the past, Pepsi Cola had played dubious role in changing Governments in Helsinki, Phillipines and in many other countries. A look into all these things would frighten any sensible person. All these doubts persist even today. Now, you have

got a chance, an opportunity to find out as to what extent Pepsi Cola which has now set up a joint venture in Punjab, has abided by the Commitments it had made in its application and the terms and conditions it had agreed to fulfill, at the time of obtaining the licence. Please go through the whole thing in detail i.e. the way they went about with the work, the basis of the commitments it had made in the application, the way they tried to influence the Government, the way they violated those commitments and the way they violated the terms and conditions, they had agreed to fulfill, at the time of obtaining licence. First of all, I would like to draw your attention to as to how they have violated and ridiculed the commitments. When they submitted the application and also when they obtained the licence, it was said that they would give top priority to the establishment of an agro research centre. Through this, they made an attempt to convey that they would bring in a revolution in the agricultural sector. Now, I am distressed to see the meagre amount they have allocated for the purpose of agricultural research. Today agricultural research has relegated to the back ground. The Potato-grain processing unit and Food vegetable processing units have also taken a back seat and perhaps they are processing maize etc. Today, only the production of soft drink concentrate is in the forefront, for which they had tried to exert much influence. Now, they have completely changed their priorities. Not only this, this project though located in Punjab has its Head Office in Delhi. Why don't they establish it in Jalandhar, Ludhiana or Ferozpur? If Punjab's destiny is to be changed, then why has the headquarters been set up in Delhi? Sir, it was said that through this project 50,000 people would get employment and it would bring about a revolution, with regard to indirect employment, but will the hon. Shri Sharad Yadav kindly let me know whether even one thousand people have got employment so far, or whether the project has created a potential to provide employment to 2000 people. We were also told that it would be an export oriented project and the country would get a fairly good amount of foreign exchange from the export earnings,

but today the situation regarding export-orientation, is such that they themselves have started saying that the potato produced in Punjab is not that of export quality due to its high sugar content. Similarly, they say that there is a marked difference between Kinoo and Matta because of the former's richness in its citrus content. They are even saying that there cannot be any international market for those products, but at the time of setting up this project and when they were making propaganda on a war-footing, were they not aware of the fact that kinoo and Matta were sour enough and the sugar content in the potatoes produced in Punjab was high, but at that moment their sole aim was to obtain a licence one way or the other and to start the production of soft drink concentrate somehow or the other, so they did not pay any attention to this aspect. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have strong exception to the second isolation they have made—i.e. violation of brand name on 11.8.1982 Shri Narain Dutt Tiwari had said in this House:-

[English]

The Government would not permit introduction of any foreign brand soft drink in Indian market.

[Translation]

Thereafter on 1.4.1986 the then Minister of State for Industry had said:

[English]

The Government is not permitting the use of trade mark on items meant for internal sales.

[Translation]

and thereafter he said that necessary amendments have been made for the reason that law stipulates that:-

[English]

Foreign brand name will not be allowed for the use of the product for internal sales,

[Sh. Harish Rawat]

although there is no objection to the use on their product for export.

[Translation]

Sir, what is happening today? Anybody can see that the Pepsi Cola management are writing 'Pepsi Soft Drinks' clearly in their project and below that they write "ERA" in small letters. Otherwise. The style, logo and everything of Pepsi is the same. Their foreign brand has gained much popularity all over the world. Just to deceive the people of our country, they write it in small letters so that no one could read it. They have not yet started production on a large scale. The present production is only for name sake. When the new Government assumed office, they became apprehensive that they may not be able to influence it. So, just to throw dust in the eyes of the Government they said that they have started production. What have they done? They write the word 'ERA' below the word Pepsi. It is a gross violation of the Central Government's directives. Therefore, I urge the hon. Minister to take stern action against this violation. Otherwise, their product is likely to enter the market in 2 to 3 months' time and they will start making full profit. If you want that the Indian producers should survive, your Ministry should take prompt action in this regard and enact a legislation for this. If you do not do so, it will create a number of problems.

The second violation they made is in respect of cost. If you go through their activities for the last 2 1/2 years, you will find that initially they said that the entire plant would cost about Rs. 22 crores. Hon. Minister, Sir, if there is a little variance in my figure, you can rectify it. But what is the estimated cost of the plant today? Officials of your Ministry have raised the cost to Rs. 75 crores. You have to identify the area in which the cost is increasing. In the snacks food area, the initial estimate was Rs. 7.75 crores. Now its revised estimate has been worked out at Rs. 18.42 crores. Soft drink concentrate was their last priority. While giving details of this

project they had said that it was their last priority and they would not take up any work in the State Sector under this project. The only thing they would do was to make use of the rotten tomatoes, potatoes and similar other things and make them saleable all over the world to save the farmers from being ruined. The original estimate of the soft drink project, their last priority, was Rs. 5.5 crores, but now, they have revised the cost and increased it three times. They have a proposal to spend Rs. 16.5 crores on fruit processing. In the research field, they have made a slight increase over their original estimate. Please do not think that I welcome the cost escalation. Rather I request you to seriously think over the whole issue. The cost which escalated from Rs. 22 crores to Rs. 75 or 76 crores is likely to go up further. Mr. Minister, Sir, why don't you ask the officials of your Ministry to make a thorough inquiry into the project before giving your clearance? It will satisfy many hon. Members including I and Shri Nirmal Chatterjee. An enquiry will make it clear whether or not any misappropriation of funds was done because I have always been apprehensive about it. The reason being that the cost of the other plants of soft drink concentrate which have been set up with modern technology has not gone beyond Rs. 2.25 to 3 crores. Then extraordinary equipment has been installed in Pepsi Soft Drink Project that its cost has reached Rs. 12-13 crores. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am hopeful that the hon. Minister will clarify the whole thing. Today a stage has come when we are worried to save the farmers from the influence of Pepsi Cola. The people have started realising this thing in Punjab. I am talking the feelings of ordinary farmers who are directly affected. There may be one exceptions in regard to the influential farmers who might have some different considerations. Besides, it could be that the Kisan Sabhas might have given some useful information to you. One of my friends from this side who spoke just now had expressed this view. But the fact remains that they are purchasing tomatoes at Rs. 0.50 per kilogram and potatoes at a throwaway price. Now you assess the price at which they are going to sell the finished goods to us. You will

be surprised to know that while they purchase the raw material at Rs. 0.50 paise, they sell the finished product at Rs. 7-8. The manufacturing cost of potato chips per kilogram comes to Re. 1. But the packing material which is made by foreign technology costs Rs. 6 per pouch. While the cost of the potato chips will be Rs. 1, its show case will cost Re. 6. It is not a chaotic situation in a socialist country like ours. But what is regretful is that the statements of the hon. Minister appear on T.V. Big commitments made by Shri Fernandes's Government are telecast over the television. I accept that we could not take all precautions in the matter. But what about you? You were vigilant and were aware of the situation prevailing in the villages.

[English]

SHRI KHEMCHANDBHAI SOMABHAI CHAVDA (Patna): Mr. Harish Rawat, the Government has rejected the re-entry of Coca Cola in the soft drink sector. Do you know that?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Harish Rawat, please try to be brief. You have already taken half -an-hour.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: I will finish within a few minutes

(Interruptions)

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Sir, I was going to request the hon. Minister to let us know as to which is the force that has given full protection to Pepsi Cola. People are not going to drink the products of Company, rather they are shielding the nomenclature and compelling you for that. Is it a force coming from outside the country? Otherwise what are the reasons that they have named the project after their own company and are functioning in total disregard to all norms. They could have called it Punjab Pepsi Cola, Bangalore Pepsi Cola? Why do they retain their foreign brand name?

I would like to remind you that today is the birthday of the great man, on the strength

of whose name you have won the elections and come to power. On this day let the Government come forward and say courageously that it will punish the Pepsi Cola even if the country has to suffer a loss of Rs. 20-25 crores for that. We can bear this loss. Ask them to leave the country. I expect that the hon. Minister will definitely make an announcement to this effect.

[Translation]

SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI (Raigarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the issue raised by Shri Rawat is certainly very important and it requires to be discussed in the House. When the freedom struggle was started in our country under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, "Swadeshi Andolan" was adopted as the prime weapon to attain the goal of independence. That movement played a major role in our struggle for freedom. The call of the father of the nation to spin cotton by each and every Indian on the wheel was aimed at attaining self sufficiency in our country through utilization of indigenous resources.

Sir, the high spirit with which the people of the country used to work before independence is no more found now as a result of which our country, instead of becoming self-reliant, became dependent on foreign countries for its needs. There was a purpose behind giving the call to spin cotton on the wheel and make bonfire of imported clothes during the days of freedom struggle. But it is very unfortunate that today we are dependent on other countries in many respects. I do agree that we should adopt good things of others. Pepsico was installed in September 1988 when Shri Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister. The letter of intent to install Pepsico was issued by the previous Government. As per the terms and conditions laid down, Pepsico was required to have collaboration with Punjab Agro Industries. I fail to understand the reason why Pepsico was allowed to operate in India when another multinational company Coca Cola was forced to stop business in the country by the Government headed by Shri Morarji Desai. I, there-



[Sh. Nand Kumar Sai]

fore, would like to submit that this company should not be allowed to operate here. The Government should give a serious thought to this. As regards rationale behind allowing Pepsico to operate in Punjab, it is the Government which are to look into it. However, I would like to submit without any hesitation that I see in Pepsico coming to India, great design to expand its business empire in the country. That is why I am saying that all pros and cons should be taken into account before allowing Pepsico to operate in India. The apprehension expressed by the people with regard to disastrous consequences of a multi national company making strong hold in a country should be taken note of and we should try to frustrate their evil design. With this hope and belief, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI (Serampore). Sir, on 14th March, I raised a Starred Question No. 25 on this Pepsico Project. I had in mind, among other things, two specific questions:

- (i) It is a fact that Punjab economy and the Punjab people will be benefited from this Pepsico Project?
- (ii) Is it not dangerous for a multinational with the credentials of Pepsico who had its hand in toppling 'Allende' Government in Chile to allow such multinationals to operate in India?

I had in my mind these two questions. The hon. Minister assured us that certain aspects of the Pepsico Project would be looked into afresh and he also assured us that Pepsico Project being a small one, it would not be possible for this Project to destabilise our system. But what are the aspects that the Government now intends to look into afresh?

You know that Pepsico Project was pushed through by the previous Government on one simple ground. There was

tremendous opposition against this Project in this House, in Rajya Sabha and outside the Parliament also. But Pepsico had the green signal. The then Punjab Governor Shri Sidhartha Shankar Ray stated that Shri Rajiv Gandhi's first instruction to him was to clear the project because it will help the Punjab people, the Punjab farmers and the Punjab economy. It was said that employment will be generated, farmers will get remunerative price for their produce, it will be a second green revolution and a horticultural revolution will take place, etc. But what is the result? Regarding employment Harish Rawatji has already said and I won't repeat that.

It was said that Pepsico will use from Punjab 25000 tones of potatoes and 5000 tonnes of grain. Now the project has been reduced to 10,800 tonnes of potatoes and 3600 tones of grain. But both will be procured not from Punjab - I repeat- they will be procured, they are being procured from outside Punjab - I think from Karnataka.

Then Pepsico assured that it will use 80 thousand tones of pears, mangoes, apples and tomatoes from Punjab. But they go waste in Punjab. It will be processing only 30 thousand tones of tomatoes and the farmers will get 50 paise per kg. Is it a remunerative price? This price of 50 paise per kg. is a boon even to the most cantankerous of housewives. So with a Rs. 75 crore project the Punjab farmers will be getting only Rs. 1.5 crores. This way the Pepsi will be helping the Punjab economy! Playing Punjab card will not help us.

The other day I read a Press report that even an hon. M.P. from Punjab- he is from Akali (Mann) group- was found to observe that:

"Pepsico Project had belied their hopes of a new era in the economic development of Punjab. There is a growing apprehension in the rural masses of Punjab regarding non-fulfilment of food processing and employment generating potential by Pepsico".

So Punjab has been betrayed. Not only Punjab, the entire country has been betrayed. All these talks of green revolution, horticulture revolution, healing touch to Punjab, are just hogwash. What was the real intention of Pepsico? To sell soft drinks, to sell potato chips. And now they are embarking upon that Project and they would use foreign brand names.

I would request the Government to reconsider and review the entire project. After reviewing the project if they say that Pepsico had made no breach of contract and this project will really help the people of Punjab and the farmers of Punjab, then go ahead.

I belong to CPI (M) Party; we are opposed to multi-nationals. But we are not opposed to Pepsico Project on political grounds alone. May I quote a resolution of a men-political body-Delhi Science Forum, Agricultural Research Service Scientists Forum and CSIR Scientific Workers Association? They held a panel discussion on 20th December 1988 at New Delhi. They demanded that the letter of intent issued to Pepsico should be withdrawn. What were the reasons put forward? I quote:

- (a) It involves the annual drain of Rs. 3.2 crores for the import of soft drink concentrate, a non-essential item for whose production, cost effective local technology is available.
- (b) It allows the entry of a multinational into potato wafer making for local market for which the technology is already available and being used commercially.
- (c) The export commitment of fruit juice is not reliable and it is not based on any analysis of local needs of fruit consumption, cost of production and export prices.
- (d) It makes our peasantry dependent on a multinational as an out-

let for their produce, reduces their bargaining strength and threatens their incomes in the long run."

So I would again request the hon. Minister to review the entire project.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (CONTAI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, my colleague Shri Raychaudhuri has rightly pointed out the conspiracy hatched by the Pepsi company in toppling the Government. Our country is a big one. The hon. Minister has assured us that our country will not be affected by such a small company like Pepsico.

Sir, the Pepsi Food Project had promised a long list of things. But they have not acted upon the promises. I am pointing out one by one to the hon. Minister for his revision of the attitude towards the Pepsi company.

Initially, the project cost was estimated at Rs. 22 crores. But, subsequently the project cost had been increased to Rs. 75 crores. Moreover, the original project of Rs. 22 crores included food processing industry also. But the revised estimate of Rs. 75 crores has dropped the food processing industry. This vast amount of money has been siphoned off through some other sources. I would like to know what has happened to that. The hon. Minister should consider it.

It was also promised by the company that all the grains and fruits would be processed from Punjab. But it had been rightly pointed out that fruits and grains were not processed from Punjab, but from Karnataka. This is a violation of the condition imposed by the Government as well as promised by the company to the people of Punjab. So also, an agro research centre was promised to be established there. But we find that there is nothing in this regard. The company has totally forgotten the establishment of such an institution.

My friends have already pointed out that the company was told not to use the foreign

[Sh. Sudhir Giri]

brand name. But for the purpose of enticing the Punjab people and the people of India, they have been using the foreign brand name, while producing domestically.

The Bharatiya Kisan Union has pointed out that this company is not purchasing fruits and other grains from Punjab on flimsy grounds. For example, they are saying that if the kinnow juice is extricated from there, it is going to sour. This is wrong. The peasants have also told us that on this flimsy ground, this company is trying to avoid the purchase of grains and fruits from Punjab. They promised that ancillary projects would be established in Punjab. But they have not set up such projects there but did so only outside Punjab. They promised that 50,000 people of Punjab would be employed in their various plants. Subsequently, they reduced the number to 25,000. But in practice, what do we find? At their headquarters in Delhi, only 300 people have been employed. And 107 farmers have been lucky enough in Punjab to have the opportunity of employment but nothing more than this. So, in view of all these things, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether they are really thinking to do something for the benefit of the people of Punjab as well as for the people of India. I would also like to know whether the hon. Minister is thinking in terms of avoiding the exploitation of our agrarian society in the rural areas by the multinationals. With these words, I conclude.

18.42 hrs.

DR. RAMCHANDRA DOME (Birbhum):  
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on a matter which has been raised by our hon. Member, Shri Harish Rawat. Pepsico was installed as a manufacturing project in Punjab. They got a letter of intent in collaboration with the Punjab Agro-Industries Corporation. The whole project was designed for food processing and for utilising the surplus agricultural production in Punjab. They gave a hope to the agriculturists in Punjab that

there will be a second green revolution, that is, horticultural revolution in Punjab. They promised that their project will create employment and their project has employment generating potential which will employ 50,000 unemployed youth in Punjab. But what is the reality? The hon. Members, who spoke earlier, had already pointed out that this was far from reality. Only 489 youths and 107 farmers in Punjab have got employment in this project. But our question is: Why such a project was at all installed? It was initially said that the project cost will be Rs. 22 crore only. But recently it is increased to Rs. 75 crores out of which our nation is getting only Rs. 15 crores from this project. This project was set up mainly to develop Punjab but actually they are not doing so. They are not fulfilling their commitment. They have deviated from their commitment. No food processing project has been installed. They are producing potato chips. They have violated the agreement by using foreign brand names like 'pepsieras' and 'chee-tos' which are potato chips. In this way, they are trying to capture the total market in our country. This multinational company which has violated the terms and conditions is now in competition with the indigenous manufacturers who are facing difficulties in running their business. So, our indigenous set-up is being hampered. I would like to know as to why this company violated their agreement. It has already been stated that they have ties with American CIA agents. You know it very well and it has been proved that they had a conspiracy against the Government in Chile and they toppled the Allende Government. My apprehension is that this multi-national company, in order to run their business in our country, may intervene in our internal politics. This aspect should be looked into. Is there any external pressure for their violating the terms and conditions? I would like to know whether or not there is any pressure from the USA authority on the Government. This also has to be looked into. I request the Government to make sincere efforts to reveal the truth regarding this project so that the real position will be revealed and the people of our country will know as to what is happening with Pepsico and what is going

on in Punjab. These are my points.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): Mr. Chairman, Sir, a number of the hon. Members like Shri Harish Rawat Shri Raychauduri and others raised many points with regard to Pepsico. Sir, I would like to extend my thanks to the hon. members including Shri Harish Rawat for raising this issue for discussion in the House. Had more members been present in the House during the discussion, it would have been better for the Government to get an opportunity to know their viewpoints. At the very outset, I would like to inform the House that the letter of intent issued to pepsico has not been converted into an Industrial licence. Hence I would like to throw some lights on those points also. The Government is firm on strictly adhering to the terms and conditions of the agreement made with them. As regards violation of terms and conditions by the Pepsico, be it brand name or the publicity of their produce, it is being looked into by our Ministry, despite the fact that different departments are responsible to check different kinds of violations. Even then we took initiative on our own, I would like to make it abundantly clear that the Government will not hesitate in taking action against the multi-nationals. Some of the hon. Members have expressed apprehension that the Government is under some pressure from some quarter or the other. I would like to assure the House that the Government would never take decisions under pressure, rather it would take decision taking into account the views of the hon. Members representing the different shades of opinion and the interest of the country. In this regard, on behalf of the Government, I would like to submit that we outrightly rejected the proposal of Coca Cola to set up a soft drink plant in India. As regards Pepsico project, I do agree that the members of the Cabinet have different views on it. One of the Members is in favour of outright scrapping of the agreement made with them. Some of the members are in favour of shifting the site of the project on the ground of various difficul-

ties to be faced there. However, we will take decision taking into consideration the views of the members and the common men. That is why I decided to start a discussion on the matter, not only in this House only but at the level of Government also as we decided to refer the matter to a committee of the Cabinet too so that any kind of pressure put on my department or the Minister of the previous Government is not allowed to be carried any more now. Hence we decided to refer this matter to the Cabinet. Of course, our Cabinet Ministers have divergent views on the matter. I would like to remind Shri Rawat, that we are not used to work under pressure. Our intentions are very clear. It is a fact that the Members of the Cabinet have divergent views on this matter. But it is a welcome step Shri George Fernandes is quite clear on the issue. He was instrumental in packing up the business of coca cola from the country and now we have again checked them. What I mean to say is that however divergent views Shri Dandavate or for that matter our other Cabinet colleagues might be having...

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: You did not stop Coca Cola only this time. In 1977-79, it was an on-going project which you prevented from further operation. Why don't you do it now? Why don't you scrap it now? (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I agree with you.

[English]

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHARI: Pending review why don't you ask them to stop selling cheetos? Because it is marketing its snacks. It is running under foreign brand name. It is a clear violation of the contract... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was submitting that our Cabinet col-

[Sh. Sharad Yadav]

leagues have divergent view on this matter. That is why our department decided that they would not take any decision on their own. Accordingly, matter has been referred to the cabinet where the matter will be discussed a fresh taking into account the views expressed by the hon. Members. Thereafter a final decision will be taken

It has been said here that the decision has been unduly delayed. As regards delay, I do agree that the decision on the matter has been delayed a bit, but so far as the allegation made by some of the hon. Members that some multi-nationals and CIA are behind the delay, I would like to make it clear to Shri Raychaudhuri that this company is having collaboration in socialist countries such as U.S.S.R. and China also. So India is not the only country which has entered into an agreement with Pepsico. I agree that this agreement was entered into by the previous Government and we have been entrapped in it, but the terms and conditions in other countries are quite liberal.

[English]

MR CHAIRMAN. Mr. Minister, I am not allowing. Nothing will go on record (*Interruptions*)\*

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I have already said that we will take due note of your opinion before taking any decision in the matter. We will place the views expressed by the hon. Members before the Cabinet also. So far as the terms and conditions are concerned, Harish Rawat ji, I would like to submit to you...

SHRI CHHAVIRAM ARGAL (Morena): I would like to know what action is proposed to be taken by the Government for the violation of the terms and conditions of the agreement by the Company?

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Wherever they have violated the terms and conditions we have taken action against them. If you are interested to have detailed information, you may contact my department. I will tell you everything in detail because here we don't have time to go into those details. I will let you know the action taken against them on our part from time to time. We have done whatever we could do. I would also like to make it clear to you that the apprehensions expressed by the hon. Members are already in my knowledge.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: I would like to urge upon you that the Government may get the review undertaken later on but it is urgently required to be considered as to what steps are to be taken and what not...

19.00 hrs.

But at present they are using foreign brand names such as cheetos and Pepsi Era and the Government should muster enough courage to tell them to stop this.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: So far as use of brand name is concerned, it is the Controller General of Designs and Trade marks which takes decision in the matter relating to brand names. I would like to tell one thing which has been mentioned in the agreement.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: I am addressing to the Government and not to your department alone.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I am also speaking on behalf of the Government. The Government is seized of its responsibility to enforce terms and conditions of the agreement in letter and spirit... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record. I am not allowing... (*Interruptions*,

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit that if they are allowed to operate in the country, the Government will not disown its responsibility to get the terms and conditions of the agreement implemented fully and if the decision is taken otherwise, then his argument will lose its relevancy. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHHAVIRAM ARGAL: What steps have you taken so far?

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we did whatever we could do. I would like to submit that I decided to refer it to the Cabinet so that a collective decision is taken after listening the views of all the members of the Cabinet.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether it is a fact that Pepsico has increased its equity and if so what steps are being taken to check this?

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: So far as the increase in the equity is concerned it has been raised to Rs. 50 crores and not Rs. 75 crores. The Government is taking every precautionary measure to check bungling in the matter. We have told the Punjab Agro that we would not reduce equity shares further. The Punjab Agro submitted a proposal for reducing our country's shares from 36 to 26, but we have rejected the proposal.

So far as increase in the cost of project is concerned, it is increasing in our country also. The cost of our projects has also increased...(*Interruptions*)

19.04 hrs.

[English]

RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF FIRST  
REPORT OF RAILWAY CONVENTION  
COMMITTEE

RAILWAY BUDGET, 1990-91-GENERAL  
DISCUSSION DEMANDS FOR GRANTS  
(RAILWAYS), 1990-91;

AND

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR  
GRANTS (RAILWAYS), 1989-90-*CONTD.*

[English]

MR CHAIRMAN: We now resume discussion on items No. 15 to 18 on Railways. Shri Arvind Netam may now continue his speech. Please be brief.

[Translation]

SHRI ARVIND NETAM (Kanker): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was submitting about passenger amenities. The hon. Minister has provided an amount of Rs. 28 crores in the budget for the year 1990-91 for passenger amenities as against Rs. 15 crores during the last 4 years. If we calculate the average, this comes to Rs. 25 crores only. This means that there has been an increase of about Rs. 3 crores amount over the last year allocation on this score. As such this amount is insufficient. This amount needs to be increased.

I do agree that the hon. Minister has increased the amount of compensation to be paid to the victims of railway accidents. But this decision was already taken by the previous Government, so there is nothing new in it. The socialist leader Shri George Fernandes has also made a mention of giving encouragement to village and cottage industries and Handloom sector in the budget by purchasing their produce by the Railways. In this regard, the bulk purchase of the goods made by the victims of the Bhopal gas tragedy is a creditable achievement. In this way

[Sh. Arvind Netam]

they have helped the gas affected people. Introduction of earthen-pot for serving tea in the Railways is also a welcome step and a good beginning has been made. It will help the potters if it is implemented faithfully. Mr. Chairman, Sir, 10 per cent increase in rail freight and increase in railway fares as also hike in the rates of postal articles, price of petrol, diesel and the fares of Airlines will adversely affect the common man. This increase is on a very high side. I would like the hon. Minister to reconsider the matter and it would be better if the freights and passenger fares are reduced. It would provide much relief to the people and it has been promised in the election manifesto also. The hon. Minister has not done anything tangible for Madhya Pradesh in regard to providing additional railway facilities. This time we were expecting that the hon. Minister would make provision for Belladilla rail line. On behalf of the people of my district I have raised this demand time and again. Laying of this railway line is an essentiality for smooth functioning of Bhilai Steel Plant as present mineral deposits in the area is sufficient for not more than ten years. Thus the mineral ores will have to be transported from Ravghat or Belladilla mines. I am laying stress on it also because Bastar is a backward area which requires a railway line for its development. Perhaps a railway line upto Ravaghat was sanctioned by our Government. I would like to request the hon. Minister of Railways to include it in the Eighth Plan; if steps are not taken right now a lot of difficulty will have to face in future. Raipur-Dhamtari and Jabalpur-Godia N.G. lines should be converted into broad gauge as both these lines are very important to step up the pace of development in eastern Madhya Pradesh. I would like to suggest to introduce a few new trains. A new fast train should be introduced from Delhi to Vishakhapatnam via Katni, Bilaspur

and Raipur so as to provide facilities to the people of Eastern Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh. Railway lines are under utilised now. Passenger trains running on alternate days between Durg and Bilaspur to Bhopal should be run daily so as to mitigate the hardships of people in these areas. Now train should be introduced from Raipur or Bilaspur to Bombay and Howrah so as to provide facilities to the people. So far as earnings of all the Eastern Railways are concerned, South Eastern Railway is on the top among all the railways in the country. It is not being expanded as it should have been. We have been demanding to shift its headquarters to Bilaspur in Madhya Pradesh so as to ensure rapid expansion of this railway. I would like to urge upon the Minister of Railways to consider the demand of shifting the Headquarters of South Eastern Railways to Bilaspur.

I am grateful to you for providing me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

MR CHAIRMAN: Shri Gopalarao Mayekar.

SHRI ERA ANBARASU: On a point of order. There is no quorum in the House.

19.10 hrs.

MR CHAIRMAN: Let the bell be rung. The bell has been rung twice. There is no quorum. Therefore, the House stands adjourned to meet on Monday, 26th March, 1990.

19.18 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, March 26, 1990/ Chaitra 5, 1912 (Saka)*