

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

First Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. I contains Nos. 1 to 11)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
Price : Rs. 4.00**

**[Original English proceedings included in English Version and
Original Hindi proceedings included in Hindi Version will be
treated as authoritative and not the translation thereof.]**

PREFACE

This is the first volume of the Lok Sabha Debates for the Eighth Lok Sabha. Upto the end of Seventh Lok Sabha, two versions of Lok Sabha Debates were brought out, *viz.*, (i) Original Version containing the proceedings of the House in the languages in which they took place except that in the case of speeches made in regional languages, their English-Hindi translation was included and the Urdu speeches were put in Devnagri script and their Persian script was also given within brackets, and (ii) Hindi Version containing the Hindi proceedings, Urdu proceedings in Devnagri script and Hindi translation of English proceedings and also of speeches made in regional languages.

2. With effect from the First Session of Eighth Lok Sabha, in pursuance of a decision of the General Purposes Committee of Lok Sabha, two versions of Lok Sabha Debates are being brought out, *viz.*, (i) English Version containing Lok Sabha proceedings in English and English translation of the proceedings which take place in Hindi or any regional language, and (ii) Hindi Version in its present form except that Urdu speeches are being put in Devnagri script and their Persian script is also being given within brackets.

3. In addition, Original Version of the Lok Sabha proceedings is being prepared and kept in Parliament Library suitably bound for purposes of record and reference only.

4. In both the English and the Hindi Versions, an appropriate indication is being given to specify where a particular part of the proceedings is original in English/Hindi or a translation.

5. It is hoped the two independent Hindi and English versions will be found useful by Members and others interested.

NEW DELHI;
January, 1985

SUBHASH C. KASHYAP,
Secretary-General.

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Friday, January 25, 1985/Magha 5,
1906 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri K.T. Kosalram—
not present. Shri V.S. Vijayaraghavan,
not present. Now question 99—Prof. P.J.
Kurien, you have broken the monotony.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Remittances from Indians working in Gulf countries

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

(a) the total remittances from the
Indians working in Gulf countries during
the year 1984 ;

(b) whether there is any decline in
their remittance as compared to the
previous year ; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND
COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI
VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH :
(a) Information in regard to remit-

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tances received from Indians working
abroad are not maintained countrywise.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Sir, I have the
answer, but I do not know what I can
ask, because actually; the hon. Minister
has not given the answer. The hon.
Minister declines to say whether there is
any decrease in foreign remittances; but
the fact is that there is a decrease in the
growth of foreign remittances, especially
from Gulf countries. The foreign remit-
tances come mostly through NRE and
FCNR. In 1983, the growth in the
remittance was Rs. 890 crores, whereas
in 1984, it is only Rs. 740 crores. In
FCNR accounts alone, in 1983 the
increase is Rs. 370 crores, whereas in
1984, it is Rs. 240 crores. This clearly
means that there is a slump in the foreign
remittances to this country. The Finance
Minister should be well aware of it. The
reason for this, it can be said, is that the
Indians who are working abroad, are
made to believe that when they return
for good, all their earnings will be exempt
from wealth tax for seven years. But actu-
ally, when they come here ; they find that
only the amount which is brought when
they actually return is exempt from wealth
tax. This has created some confusion and
difficulties for the Gulf Indians. So,
some of them try to avoid our banks.
Secondly, foreign banks are giving more
interest and more incentives than our
banks. These two factories, I think, are
the main reasons for the decline in
remittances. I would like to know the
reaction of the Minister to this.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP
SINGH : There was no intention to
conceal the facts. We gave such a reply
only because the hon. Member had peci-
fically asked about Gulf countries, since
we do not have the data about remittance

received, country-wise. But generally, there has been a decrease in gross non-export receipts.

Through earlier there was increase of non-export receipts by 50.63% in 1983 over the figure of 1982, in 1984 it has shown a decline of 7.08%. Similarly, about the decline in NRE also, the inflows have registered a decline. One of the reason is that in the Gulf countries when the earlier oil price increase was there, was increase of activity; and remittance were more. With the oil prices softening, the oil countries decided on voluntary restraint on production. That affected their revenue, which affected their developmental activities which, in turn, affected the remittances. Also the point raised by the Hon. Member regarding higher interest by other countries, this also could possibly be a point. But our difficulty was to quantify specifically for Gulf. Generally, this trend has been seen, but it is not as alarming as one would think, but, certainly, that trend is there. About exemption of wealth tax, etc., the income from interest on deposit is free from Indian Income Tax and the balances held in an account are exempt from wealth tax. I am not going into the details; and we are taking care how to improve the situation.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Since the hon. Minister has agreed that there is a decline in the remittances, what measure he would be taking to attract more remittances, increase remittances from abroad? Has his Ministry and plan for productive utilization of foreign remittances which are reaching our country, because much of this money is utilized for non-productive purposes especially for buying land, they invest on building, now productive investment and government is not having a proper plan to direct them for investment. In this connection, I am told that the Kerala Government has submitted a scheme for productive utilization of the non-residents' remittances. Have you received it? Will you have some plan so that their investments are used for productive purposes.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Out of the steps which the

Government has, one is exemption of wealth tax; then the interest rate on new deposits on maturity of one year and above, they are allowed two per cent higher interest than in the current account in the domestic area then they are permitted to buy UTI, invest in Government security, etc. Interest on deposits, Interest on government securities etc. can be credited to their account easily. Debit on account for local disbursement is fully permissible. The account holder can easily repatriate balance along with interest thereon outside India at any time without reference to RBI. So, gifts made in India are free of gift tax. So, these are the steps which are there to attract funds from the NRIs.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : What about productive purpose?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : There is a restriction on land and speculative investment

Review of District Lead Bank Scheme

*100. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have reviewed the functioning of the District Lead Bank Scheme especially with respect to their role in various antipoverty, welfare and development programmes like IRD, NREP and 20 Point Programme;

(b) if so, the result of this review and whether the Lead Bank Scheme is proposed to be extended to the block level;

(c) if so, likely date by which it would be done and each block assigned to a nationalised bank for playing a major role in coordination and implementation of such programmes; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and other steps proposed for decentralisation of authority and role of banks below district level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

A review of the Lead Bank Scheme was made by a Working Group constituted by Reserve Bank of India. The terms of reference of this Group covered several important aspects of Lead Bank Scheme including its working with regard to the preparation and implementation of the District Credit Plans which contain bank credit targets for various anti-poverty and developmental programmes. The Working Group observed that there was need for making District Credit Plans more effective by achieving better coordination between financing agencies and developmental functionaries.

The District Credit Plans have also blockwise targets for credit disbursement. There is no proposal for extending the Lead Bank Scheme to block level. Government had, however, suggested the formation of Advisory Committees at block level for ensuring smooth flow of credit to the beneficiaries of IRDP.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : From the statement it appears that the lead bank scheme is only for the districts. Since the implementation of the programme especially the IRDP and the NREP is mainly at the block level, it is necessary that there should be some lead bank scheme at the block level also. District is a very big unit and in the interest of decentralisation, if the lead bank scheme for the block should also be considered ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : There is a district credit plan which is a detailed document having bank-wise, sector-wise programme ; it covers all programmes including special programme like IRDP and other programmes. Here I want to make it clear that we must have positive steps taking into consideration the suggestion made. We are going

to consider your proposal and we are going to make an exercise over it.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : According to the annual plan, so far as HP is concerned, their performance is more than satisfactory ; it is 124 per cent ; considering the all India performance of 99 per cent, definitely their performance is better. But we will consider your suggestion.

MR. SPEAKER : They deserve bonus.

SHRI KOLANDAIVELU : Under the IRDP scheme the existing norm is to cover 600 families per block. Is there any proposal to extend it to more families under the IRDP ? Also, the nationalised banks insist on security whenever they grant loans. Is there any proposal to tell them not to insist on security ? Moreover, they are opening branches in cities and urban areas only. Is there any proposal to open branches in the rural areas ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : I am answering the second part first. So far as the schemes under IRDP are concerned, the Reserve Bank of India and the Central Government have given clear instructions that no bank officer should ask for surety. The word is "ask for"; that it should not be "asked for" loans up to Rs. 5,000. Surety will be asked for with reference to the asset created out of the loan. There are some complaints i.e. why we are monitoring. There clear instructions of the Reserve Bank of India in this respect

SHRI KOLANDAIVELU : Even after the Finance Minister visited Tamil Nadu and told them, they are not implementing it.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : We are monitoring it and we are saying that these instructions should be implemented. Now, coming to the first part of the question about the IRDP programme yes, it is true that we have to cover 600 families from each block. From the 5,011 blocks in the country we have to

give a sum of Rs. 3,000 crores. The sum of Rs. 3,000 crores should flow from the banks and the cooperative banks in this programme for a period of five years, under the Sixth Five-Year Plan. Thus, a sum of Rs. 600 crores should flow from the banks and the cooperative banks per years.

So far as the performance up to 1982-83 is concerned, we have been able to give up to Rs. 730.98 crores as against the target of Rs. 600 crores and in the year 1983-84 we were able to give up to Rs. 774 crores against a target of Rs. 600 crores, covering the backlog also. That is the performance.

SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : With regard to the implementation of the anti-poverty measures, due to lack of coordination between the bank officials and the block officials people are facing lot of problems. Lot of complaints are there. Will the Minister kindly look into these complaints? There are complaints of corruption also. And specially, when the Collector takes action on complaints, then the bank employees go to Trade Unions and resist any action. What action is being taken to protect poor farmers and punish the guilty?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : We are received complaints from different parts of the country that this assistance is not reaching the weaker sections of the people. There is an element of corruption also. Not only that; the guidelines of the Reserve Bank are not followed and some banks followed them after the Government looked into the complaints and issued some instructions. I started moving from place to place to look into them. We are informing the weaker sections that they should not pay even a single paisa to any person. We are telling the bank officials also not to ask for surety.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : There are so many loan *melas* which have been organised in the country. The hon. Minister has visited Orissa several times

for these loan *melas*, in places like Sambalpur, Dhenkanal and other places. More than 20,000 people have yet to receive their loans up till now under the IRDP and other schemes. What is the percentage of Clerks and other people who get promoted as probationary officers under this scheme? The country has taken up this gigantic task. From 1982 to 1984 the number of banks opened has gone up to four times as compared to the previous years. How is he going to solve the problem *viz.* people who are actually technically and professionally experts in this subject should be promoted and not according to the years of service?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : If you look at the question, the service conditions, promotion, etc. do not arise from this question. Regarding non-distribution of loan to the weaker sections, it has not so far been brought to our notice. If the complaints are given in writing, we will see that it is distributed. If sectioned letters have been issued and there is no disbursement, we will definitely take action.

**Report of the committee for
change in financial year**

***101. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has received the report from the Committee regarding change in the financial year ;

(b) if so, the main recommendations thereof ;

(c) whether the report has been examined by Government and sent to the States for their opinion ;

(d) if so, the reaction of the States thereto ; and

(e) the time by which the decision will be taken by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) :

(a) No, Sir,

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

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : It is a very important question because it is concerning the change of financial year. In 1867 the financial year was changed to April 1st March 31st This was in accordance with the British practice. In 1956 the matter was raised in the National Development Council and the Chief Minister agreed to it in principle. In 1958 the Estimates Committee had also recommended. In 1984 the Government constituted a committee to report by October, 1984. What is the reason for the delay in submitting the report of that Committee and how long will it take to submit the report to the Government so that an appropriate decision can be taken at the appropriate time ?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : This Committee was constituted in May, 1984. It was to give its report in October, 84. The Committee had send the questionnaire to the State Governments, public bodies and individuals. This was an important issue and the opinion of the State Governments was important. Some of the State Governments responded but others did not. So, it was thought proper to extend the time of this Committee so that all the State Governments may be able to give their opinion. So its times was extended upto December. The Chairman of the Committee wrote to all the State Governments. But by them Lok Sabha elections came. So, it was thought that after the elections the Committee could interact and give its report. It is expected that by February end it would be able to give its report. However, on 8th of February it is meeting and the final decision could be ascertained then.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : In their report in 1960-61 the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission had suggested three alternatives. One

was that a procedure might be devised by which the grants sanctioned during a particular year were available for expenditure even in the succeeding year, thus giving the administration 12 months to implement the scheme in full. The second was that a non-lapseable Tribal Development Fund might be created on the line of the Central Road Reserve Fund. And the third one was that the financial year might be changed from April March to July-June. On that basis, will the Government take a decision to change the financial year ? Will the Government consider to accept the previous two suggestions by which the developmental works in the tribal areas can be implemented in full in time ?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : The hon. Member has rightly pointed out some of the considerations for changing the financial year. One of the suggestions and I support it, is that more time should be available during the financial year for working period because the year gets split during the monsoon period and so the tempo is broken, and also that after the rains, there could be a fair assessment of the agricultural production and that could be taken care of. However, regarding the acceptance of suggestion made earlier about the implementation without waiting for the recommendation of the present Committee, I think that will not be advisable, particularly when the Committee is about to give its report . . . (Interruption).

PROF. N.G. RANGA : What about unspent sums ?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Well these are details of suggestions as to how do we utilise our money and all that. Now the question is about the financial year and so far as the financial year is concerned, I think we should await the report of the Committee.

SHRI A. E. T. BARROW : May I know whether in considering the question of changing the financial year, the question of its effect on universities and schools,

as far as the examinations are concerned, has been taken into consideration ?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : All these factors are considered, including the convenience of the hon. Members of Parliament to come for a Budget Session when it will be implemented.

Rising prices of Billets and Steel

*102. **SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA :** Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has seen a report in the Economic Times of January 11, 1985 that due to lack of billets and their rising prices, steel re-rolling industry is facing a crisis ;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to provide adequate quantity of steel billets to the industry ; and

(c) whether steel prices have increased in the last three years enormously as alleged in the report ; if so, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (c). Yes Sir, we have seen the report. According to information available with us, there does not appear to be a crisis in the rerolling industry. The prices of billets of main procedures have increased by only about 3% per annum on an average over the last three years, this was to partly cover the increased cost of production.

(b) Semis including billets are raw materials for the finished products like bars, rods and light structurals of which there is generally easy availability throughout the country. Production of semis, used by the re-rolling industry, has been increased by SAIL over their original plan, with close monitoring on production, despatches and movement. The main producers (SAIL and TISCO) have been directed to supply semis, including

billets, to the re-rollers on the basis of their past offtake.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Sir, the President of the Re-rollers Association complains that the prices are steadily increasing. The hon. Minister has admitted that the price has increased at the rate of three per cent per annum. I would like to know the price of billets per tonne in 1981 and the price of billets in 1984 for a company.

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : The factual position in this regard is that the billets are sold by mini steel plants and by the main producers (SAIL and TISCO). There is no price control on the production of the Mini Steel Sector. The billets price of the main producer was Rs. 3,645 per tonne as on 1-8-1981 and this has been increased in three years to Rs. 4,090 per tonne as on 22-6-1984. There is an increase of nine per cent in three years. This increase is far lower than the increase effected in the price of other steel items.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : With regard to the supply of raw materials and demands made, I would like to know the total quantity of billets required by these re-roller mills and the quantity being supplied now.

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : The demand for bars, rods and light structurals is met either by the main producers or by the re-rollers. Seventy per cent of the production is made in the private sector and thirty per cent by the main producers i.e. TISCO and ISCO.

Now, I give you the figures about the production. In 1981-82, re-rollers—3.3 million tonnes and the main producers 1.4 million tonnes ; In 1982-83 because of recession, there was downgrading of the production, re-rollers 3.2 million tonnes and the main producers 1.4 million tonnes. Total comes to 4.6 million tonnes. In 1983-84, re rollers—3.3 million tonnes and the main producers 1.1 million tonnes. Total is 4.4 million tonnes. Now for 1984-85, we expect the demand to be 4.7 million tonnes and the

estimated availability from main producers is 1.5 million tonnes and from re-rollers it is 3.4 million tonnes. Total comes to 4.9 million tonnes.

SHRI P. SHANMUGAM : I would like to know whether the Government is proposing to start any other steel plant during the current year? If so, in which State it proposes to locate?

SHRI NATWAR SINGH : Sir, it does not relate to the question that is before the House.

Removal of Regional Imbalances

*103. **SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:** Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) the steps Government propose to take to end regional imbalances in the matter of Plant development so as to help the rural masses ; and

(b) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The problem of inter-state regional imbalances is at present being tackled at the Central Government level through resource transfer according to a formula which is weighted in favour of the backward States.

2. The problem of intra-state regional imbalances mainly concerns the State Governments. Special Central assistance is provided to States for taking up programmes for the development of tribal areas and hill areas. Special central assistance is also set apart for development of the North Eastern region. In addition, the Central Government provides 50% of the funds for development of areas like desert areas and drought-prone areas under

Centrally-sponsored schemes. Investment subsidy and concessional finance are provided for accelerating the industrial development of backward districts.

3. In addition to the above, State Governments have also identified areas within their States as backward and are tackling the problem of their development through provision of additive plan funds.

4. In the Paper on the Approach to the Seventh Plan adopted by the National Development Council in July 1984, the need for tackling the problem of regional disparities at different levels has been highlighted. According to the Approach Paper, "part of the solution (to the problem) lies in the development of agriculture in the less developed regions. However, it is a much wider problem and its solution requires a close re-examination of the mechanisms for channeling the flow of finance, policies on industrial location, the distribution of investments in irrigation and infrastructure and a host of other matters. It is essential that the regional dimension of development is dealt with as an integral part of the Seventh Plan."

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : We are now at the threshold of the Seventh Five Year Plan. In every Plan Period Approach Paper, it is stressed that the regional imbalance will be removed, but it is our experience and it is a matter of great regret that it has not been removed so far. It has increased much more whether we take inter-State imbalance or intra-State imbalance. Therefore, I would like to know clearly from the hon. Minister what positive steps have been taken to remove the regional imbalances in the States particularly in those areas like North Bihar, North Bengal, Sikkim, North Eastern regions and tribal areas. These places are facing a very explosive position at present.

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : It is true that in every Plan there has been an element of effort for removing regional imbalances, but at the same time I do not agree that no progress has been made in this regard by the Government through

planning. In fact there are two elements of policy aimed at removing the regional imbalances. One relates to inter-State imbalances. In order to deal with this type of imbalances, Plans provide for assistance to special category States. As you know this assistance is really geared up to the improvement of standards of the masses. The Hon'ble member would see that there is an element of this nature in the modified Gadgil Formula, applicable to other states which provides 60 per cent of the funds in terms of population. That means that much money goes to the improvement of the living standards of the ordinary people.

Then there is another weightage. Twenty per cent of the funds go to those states which have per-capita income below the national average.

This is also specially directed to improving the standard of living of the people.

The second part is regional imbalances within the State themselves. For this purpose, a series of measures have been taken by the Government. One is, dealing with backward areas, undeveloped areas, specially hill areas and tribal areas. Then, there are Centrally sponsored schemes directed towards poorer sections of the people and the undeveloped areas of the country.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Mr Speaker, it is all right. But the areas which I have mentioned just now are the areas which are mostly hill areas, backward areas and areas mainly populated with Scheduled Castes and Tribes people. So, I would like to know from the Minister, regarding the Sixth Plan period and the Seventh Plan period. In the Sixth Plan period, what is the progress that has been made for creating infrastructure and how much money has been allotted in the Seventh Plan period for this purpose.

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : For the Seventh Plan, there has been no allocation made so far, as the Plan itself is to be prepared and finalised. We have been working out the requirements. You are

aware of what has been allotted for the Sixth Plan.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : How much you have allotted and what is the infrastructure ?

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : This can be finalised only after the discussions which are taking place and after the resource position is known—how much the Centre can give and how much the States can give. But you are aware that in the special category of States, the Plan has set apart an amount of Rs. 3251 crores for the special category States and for the hill areas, it is Rs. 560 crores. For the tribal areas, it is Rs. 470 crores and for the North Eastern Council, it is Rs. 340 crores. These are the amounts actually set apart in the Sixth Plan for the development of these undeveloped areas.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, the Minister in his answer has said that there are Centrally sponsored schemes both for weaker sections and for the development of backward areas which are within the State themselves. It is true that there are schemes for the development of weaker sections. But there are no Centrally sponsored schemes for the development of backward regions within the States themselves. Will the Minister point out a specific schemes in this regard ?

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : Well, for the hill areas, the amount allotted is for specific schemes so that the development of the hilly areas is made within the State.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, when I said backward areas, I did not merely refer to hilly areas. For example, in Andhra Pradesh, there are such backward regions as Telengana and Rayalaseema. But there are no Centrally sponsored schemes for the development of such regions within the State itself.

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : This is the division between the States and the Centre. I think, most of the development will have to take place in the State and

what the Centre is doing to contribute to it, is to assist the States.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSHI : Mr, Speaker, I want to know from the hon. Minister that during the formulation and preparation for the schemes of the Seventh Five Year Plan appraisal will the Minister make a departure from the past practice. That is what I am stating. Instead of receiving memoranda and papers from the State Government, will the officials of the Planning Commission this time visit the spots in respective areas of the country which are known to be backward areas and take spot decision there in regard to Plan appraisal, instead of depending upon the documents received in Delhi in this regard? I would like to remind the Minister and I do not know whether he is aware of the fact that in the last Sixth Plan, the bulk of the revenue from tea, jute and timber came from the so-called North Bengal but in the entire North Bengal, no major industry, no major irrigation unit, no major agricultural programme was provided in spite of thousands of memoranda received from that region in the Sixth Five Year Plan.

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : Regarding the first part of the question, the officials of the Planning Commission have been holding discussions in Delhi as well as visiting the States and holding discussions there. As regards their visit to specific areas concerned, this is a matter which has been considered and often done.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : Sir, I would like to add to that that there have been large-scale diversions of Plan expenditure to the non-Plan sector in certain States. We will be looking into this and will not allow this to happen.

Launching of Integrated Finance Information System

*104. **DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether an integrated finance information system has been launched;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether a functional levy system is also proposed to be launched shortly;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) how far these are expected to go in revamping the administrative structure and help in quick disposal of work ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b). The Ministry of Finance has launched a computer based information system using the net-work-“NICENT” of National Informatics Centre, Electronics Commission, Government of India. For this purpose, a computer terminal has been commissioned in the Ministry of Finance and possible applications are being identified and software developed. This Computer Terminal is linked to the main frame computer of the National Informatics Centre wherefrom the system can access the data of other Ministries. The Terminal has also an independent additional system and it is proposed to develop data based information system over a period of time. The system will also provide facilities of storage and retrieval of the data at short notice.

(c) and (d). It is not clear as to what is meant by the phrase ‘functional levy system’ used by the Hon’ble Member.

(e) It is expected that developing an information system on the above parameters will go a long way in improving the performance of the Ministry. The information system will throw up various indicators thus enabling the decision-makers to take the decision promptly and expeditiously.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Sir, I am a layman as far as this particular subject is concerned.

The then Member of Parliament, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, and now the Prime Minister of India in his speech on the Finance Bill and the Budget for 1983-84 had said something which is very relevant to this Particular Question. In response to that, the hon. Finance Minister, Mr. Vishwanath Pratap Singh, had made a press statement on 5th January, 1985 giving detailed information in regard to this matter. But he has given an ornamental reply to this House which will not percolate to the nation, to the down-trodden people, to create a scientific temper in the minds of the people at large.

I have not asked him the question beyond his press statement which he had made. In his statement laid on the Table of the House, he has stated :

“It is not clear as to what is meant by the phrase functional levy system’ used by the Hon’ble Member.’

I have used the phrase ‘functional levy system’ on the basis of the information given in his press statement.

I must congratulate the Government in this regard and I am not disagreeing with his performance as to what he is now doing in the Ministry. At the same time, I want to say that the answer given by the hon. Minister on the floor of the House is not adequate to create and generate a scientific temper in the minds of the people about the functioning of the Government.

Basing on that, I want to know from the hon. Minister how far it will go in quickening the pace of matters wherever public dealing is concerned. How far it will go in assisting the budget formation policies of the Government and finalising the budget proposals? I also want to know the details of the functional levy system proposed to be launched with salient features thereof, the expenditure

involved and the time by which it is likely to be put into use in each sector, that is, public sector with modern design ..(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What are you asking? (Interruptions) How many questions?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : He is a computer to answer.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : You go throw the press statement that he has given I am asking the question on the basis of that.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : In the first instance, in regard to public dealings, I have asked them to computerise all the letters received from the hon. Members of Parliament so that there is proper monitoring of sending replies and action taken thereon.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : What about the public sector because you are the kingpin of the whole Government?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : It is a relevant question that the performance of the public sector could be monitored and this is one of the things in our mind that these inputs should come. But it is a start. So, as we progress, these items will come for computerization.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : I would like to know the number of persons proposed to be rendered surplus as a result thereof and how their services are proposed to be utilised. How far the deals of foreign countries can be finalised quickly as a result of the introduction of this computer system the Integrated finance information service system, proposed to be launched by you?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : No employee is proposed to be made surplus out of computerisation. I do not think it is designed for declaring some employees surplus. It is designed for the purpose of expediting

the work. It would contribute towards strong data and retrieval for economic analysis.

Abolition of Sales Tax

*106. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a great demand from all sections of the society to abolish Sales Tax in the country and replace it by excise duty, etc. ;

(b) whether any study has been made in this respect and, if so, the findings ; and

(c) Government policy in regard to abolition of Sales Tax systems in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) There has been a demand from certain sections for abolition of sales-tax and its replacement by additional excise duties.

(b) In terms of the Resolution adopted in the Conference of Chief Ministers held in February, 1981, an Expert Committee was set up to study the financial implications of the extension of the scheme of additional excise duties in lieu of sales tax on five commodities and the manner in which the financial interests of the States could be safeguarded. The Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Kamalapati Tripathi, MP, submitted its report on 29-1-1983 which was placed on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament on 29-4-1983.

(c) As sales tax is mainly a State subject of taxation, any reform in the sales tax system can be undertaken only in consultation with and cooperation of the States.

SHRI NAVIN RAVANI : An expert Committee has been appointed under the

Chairmanship of Shri Kamalapati Tripathi. I would like to know whether any State has consulted the Centre for implementation of the recommendation of the Kamalapati Tripathi Committee. If not, why ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : While many Chief Ministers welcomed the recommendation and also the proposal, the Chief Ministers of West Bengal, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Bihar and UP did not agree with the recommendation and some of the Chief Ministers wanted to place this recommendation before the Sarkaria Commission.

As I stated in my main reply, it is a State subject and the Centre cannot impose the will over the States.

SHRI NAVIN RAVANI : I would like to know whether after receiving the report, has any State Government consulted the Centre over the recommendation made ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : There was a Conference of the Chief Ministers on 2.11.1983 and the recommendations were placed before the Chief Ministers and that was the suggestion given by the Chief Ministers. As I have stated, it cannot be imposed. The solution should be found out in consultation with the States and also with the cooperation of the States.

SHRI NAVIN RAVANI : What is the main recommendation of the Committee and what are the reactions of the States regarding the recommendations of the Committee ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : As I said earlier, it was placed before both the Houses of Parliament. It should be looked into.

SHRI D. B. PATIL : The sales tax by itself is regressive in nature. It needs abolition. What is the opinion of the Central Government about this ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : I made it very clear that the opinion of the State Government is there. Some of the State Chief Ministers from Opposition parties suggested that this proposal should go before the Sarkaria Commission. But the stand of the Central Government is that the Sarkaria Commission is going into the Centre-State relations and that it need not go before the Sarkaria Commission as the scope is a very limited one.

SHRI DINESH SINGH : It appears from the answer given that some States have agreed with the recommendations made by the Commission and some States have not. Are those States that have agreed going to implement the recommendations of the Commission? And what is the assistance that the Centre is going to give? In view of the implementation by some States, would it be possible to persuade the other States also to fall in line?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : As I stated earlier, we are trying, we are making efforts, to arrive at a consensus among all the States. It cannot be done in one State or another. As I have stated, we are alive to the need, we are alive to the problem.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has stated that any reform in the sales tax system can be undertaken only in consultation with the States. I want to know whether Government of India had a few months ago convened a conference in which Chief Ministers and Finance Ministers of the States had participated? In this context, I also want to know whether any conclusions were arrived at in the conference and if so, the follow up action taken by the Government in this regard?

[*English*]

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : I have already stated.

Mass Banking Loan Scheme

*107. **SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons given loans upto December 31, 1984 under the Mass Banking Loan Scheme ;

(b) the criteria for the grant of those loans ; and

(c) whether Government have any report about the specific uses to which these loans are put ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Public sector banks are not implementing any scheme titled 'Mass Banking Loan Scheme'. The banks are, however, extending credit assistance to people belonging to weaker sections after proper scrutiny of viability of the proposals and in accordance with norms laid down by Reserve Bank of India. Broadly, the purpose for which credit assistance is used fall in the category of activities included in the priority sector. As at the end of December 1983, public sector banks had outstanding priority sector advances of Rs. 14057 crores. Credit outstanding against weaker sections accounted for Rs. 2824 crores involving 114 lakh borrowal accounts.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : I am sorry, part (c) of the Question has not been answered. I want to know whether there is any arrangement to ensure that the credit given for a purpose is utilised for that purpose.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : There is a system. There is a District Consultative Committee at the district level

and also Advisory Committee at the Block level to go into the implementation. So far as the special programme of IRDP is concerned, we have advised the Chief Ministers to set up Advisory Committees at the Block level. Some Chief Ministers did not agree, but some Chief Ministers have set up the Advisory Committees.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : The total amount of loan given to the weaker sections is a small percentage of the total amount of the loan sanctioned. What steps are proposed to be taken to encourage the weaker sections to take advantage of the scheme ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : The commitment of the former Government and of the present Government is this : we are meeting the genuine requirements of the weaker sections under the various schemes for productive purposes. So far as the amount that has to be given by March, 1985, under priority sector is concerned, 40 per cent will go to the weaker sections, that is, ten per cent of the total advances will be given to the weaker sections. The term 'weaker sections' has recently been defined ; a new definition has been given. This is the position so far as the weaker sections' share in the priority sector is concerned.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : In one of the statements made last year, the hon. Minister has stated in Karknataka that Government is putting all efforts to remove the middle-men phenomenon in bank-loan. May I know from the hon. Minister what steps Government have taken to remove this phenomenon which is still existing in some other places ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : There are complaints. As I stated earlier there are middle-men, there is this element of corruption and the subsidy part of the loan is not reaching the weaker sections. That is why, Government* have taken steps. On my behalf I can say that I am personally monitoring it moving from place to place and educating people also that it should reach them directly and there should not be any middle-man, there should not be any corruption.

Not only we are advising and guiding the bank people not to have any middle-men but we are also monitoring the system. We are also telling the bank people to identify properly under the various schemes. Not only that, apart from the bank people, local administration, DDA etc. are also identifying the weaker sections under the IRDP programme. After identifying, they forward the application to the bank and the bank will process. After processing, the bank will sanction the amount.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DALCHANDER JAIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, credit assistance should be extended to the weaker sections as per the norms laid down by the Government in this regard. But the bank employees harass the people belonging to weaker sections. The people of the weaker sections have to visit the banks repeatedly after putting in their applications for advances. In spite of this, the amount sanctioned to them is not paid to them in full. I want to draw the attention of the Minister to this aspect of the problem and request him to ensure that such things do not happen in the banks. The people belonging to the weaker sections should atleast get the amount to which they are entitled. In case credit assistance is not extended to them in full, Government should take action against the bank officials concerned.

MR. SPEAKER : It is a suggestion. Hon. Member may ask whether Government will take any action or not.

[*English*]

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : In my main answer I have given the credit outstanding against the weaker sections. It is Rs. 2824 crores involving 114 lakhs borrowal accounts. Under the IRDP alone as I stated earlier we have been able to give to more than 120 lakhs people and the target fixed for the Sixth Five Year Plan is 1.5 crores and the amount to be given is Rs. 3000 crores. We are going to reach the target and already we are near the target.

SHRI MALLAREDDY RAGUMA REDDY : Does the term 'weaker sections' include the economically backward classes? There are many people in the economically backward classes who are below the poverty line. What are the programmes for them ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : There is the Integrated Rural Development Programme for weaker sections. Then the Differential Rate of Interest programme is also there. Apart from that for the youth, Prime Minister's Educated Unemployment Scheme is there for the rural people. Apart from the IRDP, there is the Landless Guarantee Scheme. That is also being implemented through the State Governments,

Currency Racket

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*108. **SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :**
SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a multi-crore currency racket has been busted by the Sahar Police in Bombay ;

(b) if so, the number and nationality of the persons arrested ;

(c) whether some Customs Officers are also involved in racket ; if so, the details thereof ; and,

(d) the details of the Indian and foreign currency seized ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

On 3-1-1985 one Shri Balkrishna Ramchandra Satam, a labourer working

at the Sahar Airport was apprehended by the officers attached to Sahar Police Station with foreign currency equivalent to Rs 43,871.50 and Indian currency amounting to Rs, 810/- The currency was recovered from his possession as he was coming out of the Departure Lounge. On the basis of investigation the Police have arrested Shri Satam and two others others of Indian nationality in connection with this case. The investigations carried out so far do not indicate the involvement of any customs Officers in this case. The details of the Indian and foreign currency seized are as under :—

(1) Indian currency	Rs. 810/-
(2) Foreign Currency :—	
(i) U.S. \$	—1950.
(ii) Saudi Riyals	—4030
(iii) Kuwyit Dinars	—140
(iv) Omani Riyals	—50

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : I am grateful to the Finance Ministry for taking keen interest to stop this type of racket in the country which is adversely affecting the economy of our country. May I know after this gentleman was arrested, whether any searches were made in the individual persons' houses and if so, the names of those persons and also how could they get these foreign currencies and which are the sources from which they could collect and the action taken by the Finance Ministry to stop such type of rackets in future.

SHRI JAN -RDHANA POOJARY : One Mr Satam and two others have been arrested. Investigation is in progress. The currency that has been seized from the possession of the accused is ; Indian currency—Rs, 810 and foreign currency equivalent to Rs. 43,871.50.

So far as the action to be taken in these matters, I may tell the hon. Members of this august House that we

have convened a meeting of the Customs and Excise Officers. We have made it very clear to these officials that they must deal with the culprits without any fear or favour and strict action should be taken. We have told them to tone up the Administration and if there are any persons who are lethargic or inefficient, they should be weeded out and efficient, and more vigilant personnel should replace them to show results.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : In reply to my supplementary, the hon. Minister has told us that his Ministry has clearly advised the Customs and other people about the action to be taken. Now, Sir, the present Government under the leadership of our beloved Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, has committed itself to a clean administration and to eradicate corruption from our public life. May I know from the Minister the action which is going to be taken so that these types of smuggling and rackets will not go on? What action is taken to see that such foreign currency may not come into our country? I want to know what is the action they have already taken and what is the action which they propose to take in future.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : I have already answered it.

SHRI MOHAN BHAI PATEL : How many persons have been detected and what action was taken against each of them?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : To this question also, I have already given my reply. This was already answered.

[Translation]

Central Assistance for Development Schemes in Hill Areas

*109. **SHRI HARISH RAWAT :** Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the draft Seventh Five

Year Plan, the Planning Commission has provided for special central assistance on cent percent grant basis for implementation of development schemes in hill areas in the country ; and

(b) whether the draft plan also provides for relaxation in the norms presently laid down for expansion of communication, transport, bank and other facilities in respect of these areas ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) The Draft Seventh Five Year Plan is yet to be prepared.

MR. SPEAKER : The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Recovery of Excise Duty arrears from Tyre Industry

*97. **SHRI K.T. KOSALRAM :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the steps being taken to recover the excise duty arrears particularly from tyre industry after the judgement of the Supreme Court on post-manufacturing expenses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : The Supreme Court passed an order on the question of inclusion of post manufacturing expenses in the assessable value under section 4 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944, in May 1983 and pronounced a detailed judgement on the subject in October, 1983. It was mentioned in the judgement, *inter alia* that the individual appeals, writ petitions, special leave petitions and transferred

cases would be listed for appropriate orders in the light of the judgement.

For the recovery of the amounts of Central Excise duty in cases of pending assessments, the steps initiated were for finalisation of pending assessments by the Collectorates of Central Excise, moving the judicial and quasi-judicial authorities before whom cases were pending, for deciding them in the light of the Supreme Court judgement and moving the Supreme Court for giving decisions in individual cases etc. referred to above.

In those cases where pending assessments were finalised in terms of the Supreme Court judgement, steps were also initiated for realisation of the final duty amounts due.

No individual case having a bearing on post manufacturing expenses pertaining to the tyre industry has yet been decided by the Supreme Court or the High Courts.

Decline in wholesale Price Index

*98 SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a downward trend in the wholesale price index during the last one year;

(b) if so, the percentage of decline; and

(c) the steps being taken to ensure that the downward trend continues ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : (a) to (c). The level of Wholesale Price Index (1970-71=100) was 337.6 (provisional) on 5th January 1985 compared with the level of 321.0 on 7th January 1984. The annual rate of inflation on 5th January 1985 was 5.2 per cent as compared to 10.6 per cent at the

same time last year. Government keeps a close watch over the price situation and takes such measures as are necessary to keep the prices under reasonable control. In particular, steps have been taken to build up the buffer stock of foodgrains, ensure adequate availability of other sensitive commodities such as sugar and edible oils, and restrain the expansion of aggregate demand in the economy.

U.S. Military Presence in Indian Ocean

*105. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the U.S. Military presence in the Indian Ocean has been increasing in keeping with the development and sophistication of technologies in support of antisatellite and space war; and

(b) if so, the details and Union Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) and (b) Over a period of years there has been a general, though occasionally fluctuating, upward trend in the Naval presence of the U.S. in the Indian Ocean. Development of U.S. Naval forces in support of anti satellite and space war has not been established although the possibility cannot be ruled out.

The Government of India maintains a constant vigil over the induction of modern arms into the Indian Ocean with a view to updating its naval plans to meet emerging situations.

On the diplomatic front, Government have supported and striven for the Indian Ocean region to remain a zone of peace.

Increase in Coal Prices

*110. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) number of times coal prices have been raised after nationalisation;

(b) details and reasons thereof;

(c) its impact on common people, industries and general price situation; and

(d) gains accrued to coal producing

States from such regular increase in coal prices ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) Coal Prices have been revised six times since nationalisation.

(b) The details of the revision are as under :—

Date of revision	Average pit-head price (per tonne)		Price of soft-coke
	Coal India Limited	Singareni Collieries Company Limited	
14.4.1974	Rs. 47.50	Rs. 50.50	Rs. 86.00
1.7.1975	Rs. 64.92	Rs. 67.65	Rs. 86.00
17.7.1979	Rs. 101.18	Rs. 99.92	Rs. 110.00
14.2.1981	Rs. 128.02	Rs. 136.85	Rs. 150.00
27.5.1982	Rs. 145.90	Rs. 154.75	Rs. 175.00
8.1.1984	Rs. 183.00	Rs. 192.00	Rs. 175.00

Increase in coal prices has been necessitated due to increase in the cost of production caused by escalations in the costs of inputs, such as labour, power, stores, explosives, petroleum, oil and lubricants, higher incidence of depreciation and interest charges etc. The wages of the workers have gone up considerably after nationalisation on account of the three National Coal Wage Agreements which became effective from 1/1/1975,

1/1/1979 and 1/1/1983. Cost of labour accounts for about 60 per cent of the total cost of production of coal.

(c) The impact of the price revision on consuming industries has not been very significant. The impact of the last price revision which became effective from 8.1.1984, on major user industries like Railways, Steels Power and Cement had been estimated as under :—

Industry	Impact as % of total cost
Railways	1.86
Steel	3.5
Power	1.5 to 1.7
Cement	4.39

The price of the common man's fuel, soft coke was not increased during the last price revision. This price has been retained at Rs. 175.00 per tonne which is the price prevailing since 1982 and is considerably lower than the actual cost of manufacture of this fuel.

(d) No direct gain accrues to the coal producing States on account of revision of coal prices. However, indirectly the States gain as sales tax is levied by the States on sales of coal and is usually on an *ad-valoram* basis. Though royalty on coal, payable to the State Governments, is fixed on tonnage basis and not linked to the prices of coal, cesses on coal are levied by some of the State Governments which have also gone up with the upward revision of coal prices. The rates of cesses are not uniform and vary from State to State as well as from year to year.

National Cadet Corps as Second Line of Defence

*111. SHRI B.V. DESAI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Advisory Committee of the National Cadet Corps has recommended that the organisation should be developed as a second line of defence;

(b) if so, whether the Committee felt that the NCC training at present laid more emphasis on adventure and in a way neglected the military aspect;

(c) if so, whether Government have considered this proposal seriously in view of the possible threat from the neighbouring countries;

(d) if not, the main reasons thereof; and

(e) the other steps being taken to improve the second line of defence ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) to (e) The Central Advisory Committee of the NCC has not recommended that the Organisation should be developed as a second line of defence. However, during the Committee's discussions on 15-3-1984 on a question whether an Evaluation Committee should be appointed to go into the questions of the aims, objectives, training programmes and achievements of the NCC, the possibility of using the NCC as a second line of defence was mooted.

2. The Central Advisory Committee recommended that a Committee, headed by the Raksha Rajya Mantri be constituted to go into all these aspects. The constitution of the Evaluation Committee is under consideration.

[Translation]

Generation of Black Money in Film Industry

*112. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of large-scale generation of black money in the film industry ;

(b) if so, have Government investigated into the reasons for large-scale generation of such money in the film industry and, if so their findings ;

(c) action taken by Government to check in flow of black money in the film industry and the results thereof ; and

(d) whether Government propose to take stringent measures against the people in the film industry indulging in investment of black money and evasion of income-tax ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The Govern-

ment is aware of tax evasion in the film industry.

(b) National Institute of Public Finance & Policy have been asked, *inter-alia*, to identify the important sectors of economy in which black money is generated and causes which give rise to it. Their report is awaited.

(c) Whenever any specific information about tax evasion is received, appropriate action is taken under relevant Acts.

(d) The Government is taking all possible measures to check the circulation and proliferation of black money through appropriate legislative and administrative measures.

[*English*]

Progress under 20-Point Programme

*113. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) the achievements/progress made in various States in implementing the 20-Point Programme ;

(b) whether any Committee has been appointed to make an assessment of achievements made by States under the 20-Point Programme ;

(c) if so, the findings of the Committee ; and

(d) other steps being taken to implement 20-Point Programme throughout the country for the benefit of poor Adivasis in the country ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : (a) Statements giving the progress of implementation of the 20-Point Programme upto December, 1984 in all States except Tripura and Nagaland for which information is upto November, 1984 are placed

on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-413/85].

(b) and (c) While no Committee has been appointed by the Government of India to make an assessment of the achievements under the 20-Point Programme in States, regular monitoring of the Programme on a monthly and quarterly basis is being undertaken by the Planning Commission and the concerned Central Ministries. Implementation and monitoring committees have also been set-up in the States at different levels.

(d) The development of Scheduled Tribes is sought to be ensured through the instrument of the Tribal Sub-Plan. Under this, a package of services is provided to beneficiary families to meet their specific needs, to raise their level of living and to give them income generating schemes to enable them to cross the poverty line.

Industrial Progress in Jammu and Kashmir

*114. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ : will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Jammu and Kashmir State's share in industrial progress has remained, abysmally low ; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures taken thereof ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : (a) and (b). For historical reasons, the State of Jammu & Kashmir has remained comparatively backward industrially. One of the important objectives of Government Policy is to correct regional imbalances and to secure the industrialization of backward areas of the country. In the case of Jammu and Kashmir, Government have sought to do this by preferential treatment to the State in promoting industries consistent with its natural endowment and growth potential. The measures adopted for this purpose include the

following :—

- (i) The provisions of the MRTP Act are not applicable to Jammu & Kashmir.
- (ii) The entire State has been declared as 'A' category backward area. It is, therefore, eligible for the maximum Central Investment Subsidy of 25% subject to a ceiling of Rs. 25 lakhs. It is also eligible for 75% by way of Transport Subsidy for movement of raw material into the State and of final products out of the State from Jammu or Pathankot rail-head whichever is nearer. Seven 'No Industry Districts' in the State are also eligible for infra-structural assistance admissible to such districts.
- (iii) Central Government Undertakings suited to the conditions and skills available in the State are sought to be located there. A Special thrust is being given to the development of Sericulture and Handicraft industry in the State.

Abandoned Coal Mines in Bihar

*115. SHRI VIJAYA KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bihar State Mineral Development Corporation has decided to enlist the services of private parties in running some of the coal mines which were abandoned by the Coal India Limited ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :
(a) and (b) The Bihar State Government had obtained ex-parte orders of the Supreme Court on 14-2-1984 permitting

them to work two coal mines namely, Khas Jageshwar and Jageshwar collieries through the Bihar Mineral Development Corporation. On coming to know of this, the Central Coalfields Limited, a subsidiary of Coal India Limited, filed a petition in the Court for vacation/modification of this order as it was not consistent with the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act, 1957. On 25-10-1984 the Court clarified their earlier order that the coal mines in question should be worked only in accordance with Rules and Regulations. The State Government have not come up with any proposal to the Government of India so far.

Self-Reliance in Defence Production

*116, SHRI CHITTA MAHATA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has achieved self-reliance in the field of Defence production ; and

(b) if so, to what extent keeping in view the sophisticated arms being acquired by the neighbouring countries ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) and (b) Self-reliance in the field of Defence Production is one of the primary objectives of the Government policy. While this is an on-going process, considerable self-reliance has been achieved in a large number of arms and equipment required by the Armed Forces such as field guns, light and heavy motors, small arms, allied ammunition, bombs, rockets, mines, grenades, depth charges, pyrotechnic ammunition, battleships, aircraft, and aeroengines, avionics, radars, radio communication equipment etc. through the ordnance factories and Defence Public Sector Undertakings. As compared to 1980-81, to the end of 1983-84, the aggregate value of production had gone up by 110% and is likely to increase further by 19% this year (1984-85).

The existing ordnance factories are

being modernised and new production units are being established.

It would not be in public interest to furnish further details.

Non-appointment of selected Candidates in Magadh Gramin Bank, Gaya

290. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has received representations from selected candidates of Magadh Gramin Bank, Gaya, about their non-appointment in spite of their selection ; and

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken to redress their grievance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Government have received a memorandum from some persons about their non-appointment in Magadh Gramin Bank, Gaya even though their names appeared in the panel of candidates declared suitable for such appointments.

Regional Rural Banks have been advised to draw up panels of candidates successful in the recruitment tests to the extent of likely number of vacancies plus an additional ten per cent of assessed requirements to provide for contingencies like selected candidates declining offers of appointments, increase in requirements etc. Such panels are normally valid for one year. Appointments are made from these panels as per the vacancies available during the currency of the panel. Thus, inclusion in the panel of successful candidates does not necessarily amount to guarantee of appointment.

Setting up of BEL's Unit in West Bengal

291. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to set up a unit of Bharat Electronics Limited unit in West Bengal ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) to (c). Several possible sites in the country, including West Bengal, were considered for locating a unit of Bharat Electronics Limited. After taking into account all relevant factors, Government have approved the setting up of new units of Bharat Electronics Limited at Pauchkula in Haryana and Kotdwar in (Garhwal district of) Uttar Pradesh.

Representation for appointment of Pension Commission

292. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have received a representation from Central Government pensioners for appointment of a Pension Commission to go into the special problems of pensioners in view of the inability of the successive Pay Commissions to improve their conditions; and

(b) if so, the details of the representation the action Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : (a) and (b). Some representations have been received from the Central Government pensioners for setting up of a Pension Commission to go into the problems of pensioners. Pay Commissions examine the pay and allowances, conditions of service and death-cum-retirement benefits of the serving employees. The Fourth Pay Commission is already looking into the pensionary entitlements of the serving Government employees. So far as the existing pensioners are concer-

ned, it has not been possible for the Government to accept the demand for setting up of a Pension Commission as retirement benefits are governed by the rules applicable on the date of retirement of Government employees. Government, however, have taken several measures to provide relief to the pensioners, e.g., grant of dearness relief in accordance with the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission on the lines of dearness allowance for the serving employees, ad-hoc increase in pension raising, of minimum pension from time to time, provision of medical facilities in areas covered under the Central Government Health Scheme, etc.

Retention of Ordnance Transit Depot at Alipore, Calcutta

29. SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to retain the Ordnance Transit Depot at Alipore, Calcutta in supersession of earlier order for its disbandment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI V.P. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b). A decision had been taken by Government in 1980 to disband the Ordnance Depot, Calcutta and raise an Ordnance Transit Detachment in its place. After careful reconsideration, on the basis of various representations received against its disbandment, it has been decided to retain the Ordnance Depot, Calcutta.

Introduction of some section of Central Sales Tax Act to improve Foreign Exchange Earnings

294. SHRIMATI VYJAYANTHIMALA BALI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government inserted sub-section 3 to section 5, in

the Central Sales Tax Act to improve foreign exchange earnings;

(b) whether Government of Tamil Nadu (Commercial Taxes and Religious Endowment Deptt.) has brought an unilateral amendment vide G O No. 1055 dated 20th September, 1984, which defeats the above purpose;

(c) if so, the reaction of Union Government and the step proposed to be taken in this regard;

(d) whether there is any judgment of High Court Supreme Court upholding the Central Sales Tax Act; and

(e) clarification, if any, sought by Union Government from Tamil Nadu Government after the introduction of the new section in the Central Sales Tax Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (e). Levy of tax on sales or purchases of goods taking place within a State is a State subject of taxation under Entry 54 of List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. The proceeds from Central sales tax levied on inter-State sales of goods under the provisions of Central Sales Tax Act, 1956 have also been assigned to the States under Article 269(1)(g) of the Constitution. As the administration of the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956 has been entrusted by law to the States, the relevant information is being collected from the Government of Tamil Nadu and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Population pressure causing Ecological Imbalance

295. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken and efforts

made for the protection of environment and ecological balance in order to meet the situation caused by the disruption of ecological balance as a result of excessive population pressures on natural resources in the Seventh Five Year Plan ; and

(b) the steps being taken now in this regard indicating the reasons for not paying due attention to this aspect while formulating previous Plans ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b). In the formulation of the Seventh Five Year Plan, several measures have been identified and programmes formulated for the protection of the environment and ecological balance. In recognition of the need to evolve a developmental strategy with environmental conservation, integrated and multi-disciplinary programmes for the sustenance of natural ecosystems have been identified and new approaches evolved. Some of the salient programmes include :

- Integrated Eco-Development Research Programme with active participation of universities/ voluntary agencies ;
- Organisation of Eco-Development Camps ;
- Deployment of Eco-Task Forces for soil conservation, afforestation and stabilisation of fragile slopes ;
- Eco-Development of degraded eco-systems with reference to watershed management, arid-land development, mangroves ;
- Creation of National Parks, Sanctuaries, Biosphere Reserves ;
- Integrated Mountain Development ;
- Environmental Education, Training and Awareness ;
- Environmental research promotion ;

- Pollution monitoring and control ;
- Environmental impact assessment ;
- Natural resource conservation ;
- Setting up structures at the state level for undertaking environmental programmes ; etc.

• A separate department of Environment at the Centre was created in November, 1980. Prior to this, environmental conservation and protection programmes were identified and implemented through the departments of Science & Technology, Forests, Laboratories of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Ministry of Works & Housing etc. It was after the creation of a department in the Sixth Plan period that a systematic impetus was provided to environmental policies and issue and an organised, sustained effort has been made since then. In the Seventh Plan, the programmes identified in the Sixth Plan would be further intensified, in addition to attention to new thrust areas.

Steps to check inflation

296. SHRIMATI CHANDRA BHANU DEVI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the rates of inflation for the last three years ;

(b) the steps taken by Government to check inflation ; and

(c) the extent of success achieved through these steps ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : (a) The rate of inflation in terms of wholesale price index on a point to point basis was 7.1 per cent in 1982-83, 8.3 per cent in 1983-84 and 4.8 per cent in the current financial year up to January 5, 1985.

(b) The steps taken include the strengthening of the public distribution system including procurement and buffer stocking of cereals, augmentation of domestic supplies of such items as edible oils and sugar, remunerative prices to farmers to encourage higher production enforcement of fiscal discipline, economy in Government expenditure and mopping up of excess liquidity in the system.

(c) It may be seen from the movement of the index that the inflation rate has come down appreciably.

[English]

**Application by Union Carbide Ltd.
Bhopal for scientific experiment
regarding security risk**

297. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Committee has been constituted to screen applications for scientific experiments regarding security risk ;

(b) if so, whether the Union Carbide Ltd. Bhopal had submitted any application to start Research and Development Wing before the Committee ;

(c) whether the Committee had approved the same : and

(d) if not, the reason therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) to (d) A proposal was received from Union Carbide India Limited for entering into an agreement with Union Carbide Agricultural Products Company, USA, for rendering certain technical services relating to agricultural pesticides. A final decision in respect of this proposal is still to be taken. However, according to the available information, Union Carbide India Limited have been carrying out tests of pesticides compounds deve-

loped or supplied by Union Carbide Agricultural products company, USA on the tropical insects/pests. :

Shortage of small coins, one and two rupee notes in Gujarat

298. SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Adivasis and other weaker sections in various villages, towns and cities of Valsad, Surat, Baroda, Chota Udaipur Districts of Gujarat and Dadra and Nagar Haveli Union Territory are facing lot of difficulties in getting coins and one and two rupee notes ;

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to supply adequate number of coins and notes to these areas ; and

(c) the number of such coins and notes that have been supplied to various banks and treasuries in these areas from 1st January, 1981 to 31st December, 1984 with year-wise details ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Reports regarding shortages of coins and currency notes of small denominations have been received from different parts of the country. In response to a request received from the Finance Department of the Government in Gujarat in April, 1984 for large amount of small coins and notes to make payments to tribals against forest products in the interior of forest areas, the Ahmedabad Office of the Reserve Bank of India and confirmed to the State Government that supplies, consistent with stocks, are being made to various forest areas such as Dharampur and Chikhli in Valsad District and Chhota Udaipur in Vadodra District besides certain other forest areas of the State.

(c) The information is being collected.

Railway Workshop at Tindharia

299. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state whether the Planning Commission has given clearance to modernise and expand the Railway Workshop at Tindharia in the district of Darjeeling ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : The Planning Commission's clearance is not required for such schemes.

[*Translation*]

Measures to increase production and Improve Quality of Coal

300. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal India Ltd., a Government Coal Authority, has taken certain measures to increase coal production and to improve its quality ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Several steps have been taken to increase coal production. These steps include improving infrastructural facilities ; sanctioning of new mines, improving the productivity of men and machinery, expediting land acquisition for coal mining purposes and controlling absenteeism.

On the quality front, several measures have been taken for improving the quality of coal supplies. These include :

(1) Setting up of an independent quality control organisation in each coal company.

(2) Installation of more coal handling plants with provision for sizing and screening of coal wherever required.

(3) Breaking up of over sized coal and segregation of extraneous material by manual means, where CHP's do not exist.

(4) Introduction of a clause in the agreement with major consumers providing for joint sampling and payment on that basis ; and

(5) The Coal Controller as an independent authority has been given the powers to determine the grades of coal seams in the mines as also of the coal supplied to consumers and for these purposes to take samples and arrange for the testing of coal suo-motu or if any complaint is made in this regard by any consumers. The Coal Controller's decision in the matter shall be final.

Supply of Coal to Industry at Low Rates

301. SHRI HAFIZ MOHAMMAD SIDDIQ : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rates of coal are exorbitant in Moradabad ; and

(b) whether Government propose to ensure adequate coal supply in that area at the normal rate ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Coal is moved to the linked consumers in Moradabad as well as in the other parts of the country from the collieries by rail. The shortfall in rail movement is made good by movement by road. As regards price, Government

fix pit head prices. The consumer's price of coal varies from place to place depending on the cost and mode of transportation, varying rates of royalty and other statutory charges.

[English]

Seizure of Sri Lanka Boat

302. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any inquiry has been made after the heavily armed Sri Lankan boat was seized on 11 January, 1985 when it intruded into India's territorial waters and fired on Indian fishermen off Rameswaram, and was taken to Pamban; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the inquiry ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) and (b). All aspects of the intrusion are being considered.

Implementation of Polavaram Project During Seventh Plan

303. SHRI C.H. SRIHARI RAO : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) the major irrigation projects included in the Seventh Plan;

(b) whether Polavaram Project is one of the projects included in the Seventh Plan; and

(c) if so, what is the position of implementation of Polavaram Project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) to (c). The Seventh Five Year Plan of the States including Andhra Pradesh has not so far been finalised.

Special Scheme for Backward Hilly Areas of Manipur

304. PROF. MECJIN LUNG KAMSON : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any provision for special scheme under the Planning for the backward hilly areas of Manipur; and

(b) if so, the scheme being drawn up, and the specific areas to be given priority and the total areas to be covered ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) In Manipur, the programmes under the tribal sub-Plan are being implemented in all the five hill districts of Senapati, Churachandpur, Ukhrul, Tamenglong and Chandel. An outlay of Rs. 98.07 crores has been provided from the State Plan and Rs. 18.24 crores from Special Central Assistance under the Tribal sub-Plan in the Sixth Five Year Plan. The Tribal sub-Plan aims at area development as well as economic assistance to tribal families to enable them to cross the poverty-line.

2. The State Government has under consideration special development programmes for extremely backward areas i.e. Vangai Range in Churachandpur district, Molcham area bordering Burma in Chandel District, and Tousem Block in Tamenglong District.

Recruitment of Manipur Youths to Defence Forces

305. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are taking steps to recruit Manipur youths to the defence forces;

(b) whether special rallies/melas are organised in this behalf;

(c) if so, the number of such rallies/melas organised during 1982-83, 1983-84, 1984-85 and the venues therefore; and

(d) if not, whether Government propose to consider to organise them ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE
(SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a)
Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) Special rallies/melas are organised if the recruitment in any year falls short of the authorised in take based on the recruitable male population of the State. One such rally was held at Imphal in October, 1982.

In 1983 and 1984 there were no shortfalls in recruitment from Manipur.

Import of Personal Computers Under Baggage Rules

306. SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state on what basis personal computers with 64 kilo bytes and less memory have been permitted to be imported under the Baggage Rules, specially when such a definition can cover almost every type of small business computer and the indigenous industry may come to a stand still ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
JANARDHANA POOJARY) : Keeping in view the interests of indigenous industry, personal/home computers with a memory exceeding 64 K are not allowed to be imported as baggage. Government have recently announced a new computer policy, which is designed to promote rapid development of indigenous computer industry, while ensuring that the interests of users and the economy in general are not lost sight of.

Implementation of Sethusamudram Canal Project

307. SHRI K.T. KOSALRAM : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps being taken to implement Sethusamudram Canal Project as a defence project;

(b) whether Lakashmi Narayan Committee in which the Chief of Southern Naval Command was a member has also conceded the strategic importance of this project; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE
(SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a)
The Sethusamudram Canal Project is not being considered as a Defence Project.

(b) and (c). The Lakshmi Narayan Committee set up by the Ministry of Shipping & Transport to study the economic viability of the Project did refer to the potential strategic importance of the project. The project is, however, being considered by the concerned Ministries from all relevant aspects.

Additional safety measures in Coal Mines

308. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any additional safety measures for coal mines which also emanate poisonous gas as was experienced at Union Carbide recently ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES
AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :
(a) and (b) The Coal Mines normally do not emit poisonous gases. Sometimes

when there is a fire underground, poisonous gases (mostly carbon monoxide) are given out. Adequate precautions have already been taken to nullify the effect of such poisonous gas emission. These precautions include strict follow up of Coal Mines Regulations, 1957 and rigid implementation of the recommendations of the Director General of Mines Safety made from time to time. Besides, the Coal Miners have been trained and provided with self-rescuers in degree-III and degree-II gassy mines to meet any eventuality.

[*Translation*]

Coal Deposit in Bihar

309. SHRI YOGESHWAR PRASAD : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether rich deposits of coal have been found in Baluniath under Palamu, district Bihar and the M.E.C. (Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd.) has done a lot of work in this regard ;

(b) whether keeping in view the poverty and unemployment conditions prevailing in these most backward areas of Palamu, Hazari Bagh and Gaya districts, Government propose to undertake mining operations in these areas in the public interest ; and

(c) if so, by what time and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

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

[*English*]

Distribution and Price Fixation of Coal

310. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR RAJU : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES

AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a uniform system of distribution and price fixation for coal supplied by Coal India Limited ; and

(b) if so, on what basis priorities are fixed ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) and (b) There is no statutory control on the distribution of coal, except in respect of coking coal for metallurgical use. However, as a substantial portion of coal is despatched to the consumers by rail the actual supplies of coal continue to be regulated under a system of sponsorship in regard to allotment of wagons, which is governed by the Preferential Traffic Schedule General Order issued by the Ministry of Railways. For such allotment of wagons, priorities are fixed by the Government for different sectors keeping in view the relative importance of the consuming sectors in public interest.

As regards price, Government only fix pithead prices of coal (on FOR colliery basis) The prices at the consumer end vary depending on the mode of transport, distance from the colliery, taxes etc.

Setting up Defence factories in Bihar

311. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether demands have been made from time to time for setting up Defence factories in Patna or elsewhere in Bihar ;

(b) if so, whether Government of Bihar have submitted any proposal in this regard ; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) :

(a) to (c) Requests had been received in

the past from Bihar Government for setting up Defence Production Units in the State. The State Government was informed that these would be kept in view while considering new proposals.

Coal Deposits

312. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Geological Survey of India has surveyed to find out the deposits of coal in the country during the year 1984 ;

(b) if so, the details of the areas surveyed, the findings thereof and the area in Gujrat State which has been surveyed ; and

(c) the steps being taken to explore more coal in the country to meet the increasing demand ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) Yes, Sir. Geological Survey of India was engaged for regional exploration of coal in different parts of the country as per approved programme items of investigation.

(b) During the year 1984, regional exploration for coal was carried out by Geological Survey of India in the States Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Orissa and West Bengal. As a result of exploration during the period an additional reserve of 2924 million tonnes of coal was estimated. GSI has not taken up any programme of investigation for coal in the State of Gujarat so far.

(c) GSI has deployed available resources in men and material for regional exploration and assessment of additional coal resources in the country as per the long term coal exploration

programme document (June, 1982). The regional exploration programme for coal by GSI is being pursued with the objective of a balanced regional growth and to meet in increasing demand for coal in the country.

In addition, exploration for coal reserves is also undertaken by the Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited and Mineral Exploration Corporation during the Sixth Plan the total drilling done was 13.71 lakh metres and in the Seventh Plan and exploration programme of drilling of 21.67 lakhs metres has been envisaged.

Steps to check Rise in Prices

313. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the steps being taken to check the rising trend of prices during the year 1985 ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : The annual rate of inflation on 5th January, 1985 has come down to 5.2 per cent as compared with 10.6 per cent at the same time last year. The focus of Government's anti-inflationary policy is on effective demand and supply management. The measures taken include strengthening of the public distribution system including procurement and buffer stocking of cereals, augmentation of domestic supplies of such items as edible oils and sugar, remunerative prices to farmers to encourage higher production, enforcement of fiscal discipline, economy in Government expenditure and mopping up of excess liquidity in the system. Government continues to keep close watch on the price situation and steps will be taken as necessary in the light of emerging trends.

Setting up a Mint at Patnagarh in West Bengal

314. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the latest position in

details with regard to the setting up of a mint at Panagarh in West Bengal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : The Site Selection Committee for a new Currency Note Printing Press has recommended Panagarh, West Bengal as a possible location. The work on its detailed project report will be undertaken shortly.

Reinstatement of Casual Labourers of Yatrik Project, Campbell Bay, Andmans

315. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken back all the casual labourers including their leader Shri Joseph Kujur of Yatrik Project, Campbell Bay (Andamans) who were put off duty consequent to their agitation for settlement of their demands in 1983;

(b) whether their demands for regularisation, better wages and working conditions bonus etc are receiving sympathetic consideration; and

(c) if so, the details of action taken by Government on these matters?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) All the casual labourers who went on strike and resumed work after the strike was called off on 29.11.1983 were taken back. Shri Joseph Kujur and 24 other labourers were discharged on disciplinary grounds before the strike began. Since a high degree of discipline is required in the Border Roads Organisation it has not been possible to take back these persons.

(b) and (c). Their demands have been considered and the following action taken :

(i) Their wages, which are fixed in consultation with local authorities,

are revised from time to time. During the strike period, their wages were revised from Rs. 261/- p.m. to Rs. 275/- p.m. w.e.f. 1.10.1983 and from Rs. 275/- p.m. to Rs. 290/- p.m. w.e.f. 1.11.1983.

(ii) Though Bonus was not included in their demands, the same is being paid to them.

(iii) As the casual labourers are not regular central Government employees, they are not entitled to leave-travel concession available to regular employees; and

(iv) The demand regarding regularisation of labour cannot be accepted as Border Roads Organisation employs casual labour on 'as required' basis depending upon the work-load. Moreover, since the number of casual labourers required in each category/trade depends upon the nature and quantum of work, it is not always possible to re-engage them on the trades in which they were previously engaged.

However, the following facilities in their working conditions are provided :

(a) Simple accommodation near the work-site.

(b) Subsidised ration.

(c) Free treatment in General Reserve Engineer Forces MI Rooms.

(d) Free conveyance for journey by Sea/road/rail from the point of embarkation, i.e. Calcutta or Madras, to the work-site.

(e) Free sea passage to the point on the mainland and thereafter free railway warrant not exceeding Rs. 60/- per individual. on completion of satisfactory service for six months or leaving the island, whichever is later.

(f) Out-of-pocket allowance @ Rs. 2/- per head per day subject to a maximum of Rs. 20/ for the period of journey to the work-site while travelling by rail/road and Rs. 5/- per head per day subject to a maximum of Rs. 75/- while travelling by sea, and

(g) For enforced halts at port of embarkation, @ Rs. 5/- per head per day.

Survey of Minerals in Orissa

316. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether survey has been taken up by the Geological Survey of India and the State Mining Department of Government of Orissa to locate the minerals in

Orissa and to prepare the geological map;

(b) if so, the names of the minerals and the quantity and quality thereof; "

(c) district-wise, the places located and prepared the map so far;

(d) the minerals exploited so far;

(e) whether Government of Orissa and his Ministry have prepared a master plan for exploitation of minerals in future; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). : Yes, Sir. As per surveys carried out for minerals in Orissa, the following reserves have been estimated :—

(In million tonnes)

Mineral	Estimated reserves	Grades
Bauxite	1,601.473	Metallurgical and Refractory
China clay	93.230	All grades
Chromite	131.488	Mostly metallurgical, Charge Chrome, Inferior, Unclassified grade.
Coal	8,321.79	All types
Copper ore	1.66	1.59% Cu.
Dolomite	668.317	All grades.
Fire clay	136.937	All grades.
Graphite	0.407	All grades.
Iron ore	3,123.87	Hematitic ore (Mostly 55% Fe)
Lead ore	2.63	6.73 Pb.
Limestone	840.68	All grades.
Manganese ore	33.422	All grades.
Nickel ore	160.26	0.2 to 1.0% Nickel or above.
Silliminite (beach sand)	7.90	+58% Al ₂ O ₃
Vanadiferous Magnetite	5.25	0.21 to 2.41% V ₂ O ₅

Besides, cassiterite (Tin ore) has been found at a few places in Koraput district.

(c) Major part of Orissa has been covered by geological mapping. However, mapping of quarternary formation of about 5,000 sq. km. is yet to be completed in the districts of Balasore, Puri,

1. Bauxite
3. Coal
5. Fire clay
7. Iron ore
9. Limestone
11. Ochre
13. Quartzite
15. Steatite

(e) and (f). Exploitation of major minerals is taken up on a planned basis and funds allocated for the purpose, depending on the importance of the mineral to the national economy.

Market Survey of Down-Stream Products of Alumina-Aluminium Plants

317. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO :
Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has received the report from National Industrial Development Corporation regarding the market survey of down-stream products and other related subjects of Alumina-Aluminium Plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a decision has been taken by Government to have the Rolling Mill and Fabrication Unit under public sector; and

(d) if so, the places selected for setting up these units by the National Aluminium Company Limited ?

Cuttack, Dhankanal and Mayurbhanj, Geological cum Mineral map on 1:2.5 million scale has also been published by Geological Survey of India.

(d) Some of the important minerals exploited so far are as follows :—

2. Chromite
4. Dolomite
6. Graphite
8. Kaolin
10. Manganese ore
12. Pyrophyllite
14. Silica Sand
16. Zinc concentrates.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) and (b). National Industrial Development Corporation submitted a market survey report in November, 1983, projecting the demand and supply position of wire rods, rolled products, extrusions and foils, MECON were commissioned in 1984 to prepare a techno-economic feasibility report for the product mix of various semi-fabrication and down-stream products, which is under examination.

(c) National Aluminium Company Ltd. is considering the proposal for setting up facilities for production of wire rods.

(d) Wire Rod Mill is likely to be set up at Angul adjacent to the Smelter.

Development of Ancillary Units at Damandjodi and Angul

318. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO :
Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the NALCO, Orissa has constituted plant level Advisory Committee

to advise and assist the development of ancillary industries at Damanjodi and Angul;

(b) if so, whether these committees have identified the ancillary industries and submitted the report to the NALCO;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the reasons for delay in constituting the said committees by the NALCO though there was clear instruction from the Bureau of Public Enterprises in this regard; and

(e) the role played by the NALCO and Government of Orissa for the development of ancillary industries thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES

The Entrepreneur Selection Committee (ESC) have recommended the following ancillary industries for phasewise implementation :

Item	Preferred Location
(i) Grinding Media	Angul and Daman jodi—one unit each in the small sector.
(ii) Wheat Bran	Damanjodi.
(iii) Alum	Angul and Damanjodi.
(iv) Quick Lime	Damanjodi
(v) Explosives	Damanjodi
(vi) Polythelene lined Hessian Bags.	Damanjodi
(vii) Filter cloth	Damanjodi—one unit in the joint sector.
(viii) Insulation bricks	Angul—one unit in the joint sector.

(e) : (i) NALCO is a member of the Committee for identification of ancillary industries which also includes representatives of Government of Orissa;

(ii) NALCO has adopted the BPE guidelines on ancillary development;

(iii) NALCO has placed orders on various Government and small scale

AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) : NALCO is still in the construction stage. There was an Interim Advisory Committee on ancillary development under NALCO for drawing up policies and programmes. A Plant Level Advisory was constituted last year and its first meeting was held on 14.7.1984. On its recommendations, the following Committees were set up :—

(i) One Plant Level Committee (PLC).

(ii) Two Plant Level Sub-Committees (PLSC)—one each for Damanjodi and Angul sectors.

(iii) One Entrepreneur Selection Committee (ESC).

industry units located in Orissa to the tune of Rs. 46 crores.

(iv) NALCO has accepted the export promotion and marketing rate contracts located in Orissa by the State Government.

(v) NALCO has extended price preference to small scale industries.

Grant of House Rent Allowance to Government Employees of Mahe

319. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Pondicherry Administration has issued dependency certificate to Union Finance Ministry in respect of Mahe (Pondicherry);

(b) if so, whether Government have issued orders for grant of House Rent Allowance to Government employees of Mahe; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) :

(a) to (c) : The Government of Pondicherry had proposed grant of House Rent Allowance to Government employees posted at Mahe at the rates obtaining in Tellicherry (Kerala) on the basis of dependency certificate, issued by the Collector of Pondicherry, certifying that Mahe is generally dependent on Tellicherry for its essential supplies. Under the extant orders, House Rent Allowance is admissible in a city only if it has a minimum population of 50,000. Mahe city has a population of 9,588. It, therefore, does not qualify for H.R.A. under the normal conditions. House Rent Allowance is also admissible to employees if their place of duty is within 8 Kms of a city on which it is dependent for its essential supplies but such a place itself should not have been declared as a notified area or municipality. Mahe itself is a notified area. Therefore, the proposal that House Rent Allowance may be granted to employees in Mahe on the basis of the dependency certificate by ignoring the municipal status of Mahe itself could not be accepted.

Streamlining the Functioning of Directorate of Resettlement of Ex-Service-Men

320. PROF. NARAIN CHAND

PARASHAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred question No. 9981 on the 4-5-1984 regarding streamlining the functioning of Directorate of Resettlement of Ex-Servicemen and state :

(a) whether Government have completed the consideration and examinations of the recommendations of the Indian Institute of Public Administration submitted to Government in October, 1983;

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government and the recommendations and a summary of the recommendations accepted by Government;

(c) whether any steps have been taken to implement them and the date with effect from which each one of them has been implemented; and

(d) if not, the likely date by which a decision would be taken in this regard and the date by which the recommendations would be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) :

(a) to (d) : While the report of the Indian Institute of Public Administration was still under consideration, the High Level Committee on the problems of ex-servicemen was set up. This Committee also studied the areas which were gone into by the Indian Institute of Public Administration. Taking note of the Indian Institute of Public Administrations report, the High Level Committee also made some recommendations on the reorganisation of the office of the Directorate General Resettlement. These two reports will be examined together and decisions taken.

Payment of Regular Pension to War Widows

321. PROF. NARAIN CHAND
PARASHAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have ensured payment of regular pension to war widows

and the widows of ex-Servicemen who died before 1st January, 1964;

(b) if so, the names of the States which have contributed their share for this purpose and the steps taken by Government to ensure that the remaining States also falls in line;

(c) whether Government propose to assume full responsibility in this regard and ensure payment of pension even in respect of those widows who live in such States as are not contributing their share;

(d) if so, the likely date by which this would be done; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE :
(SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) :

(a) : War Widows e.g. widows of those killed in war, are already in receipt of a "special family pension" irrespective of the fact whether their husbands died in

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Bihar
3. Gujarat
4. Haryana
5. Himachal Pradesh
6. Jammu & Kashmir
7. Kerala
8. Karnataka
9. Madhya Pradesh
10. Maharashtra
11. Orissa

The matter is being pursued with the remaining States and Union Territories. It is expected that these States and Union Territories will also adopt the Scheme within a reasonable time.

(e) : Does not arise.

action before or after 1-1-1964. The entire expenditure on this account is being met by the Central Government.

Widows of ex-servicemen are not entitled to a REGULAR pension. However, widows of ex-servicemen who retired after 1-1-1964 are eligible for "family pension" at a minimum of Rs. 450/- per month.

Widows of ex-servicemen who retired prior to 1-1-1964 are not entitled to either a regular pension or a family pension. They are, however, eligible to financial assistance at the rate of Rs. 50/- per month under a Central Government Scheme. Half the expenditure incurred under this scheme is borne by the Central Government, the remaining half being borne by the State Government/Union Territory Administration concerned.

(b) to (d) : The States and Union Territories that have implemented the Scheme of financial assistance to pre 1-1-1964 pensioners widows are :

12. Punjab
13. Rajasthan
14. Tamil Nadu
15. Uttar Pradesh
16. Tripura
17. Andaman & Nicobar
18. Arunachal Pradesh
19. Delhi
20. Goa
21. Mizoram

Reports of Expert Panels Set up by NDC

322. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Five Expert Panels set up

at the meeting of the National Development Council on 12th and 13th July, 1984 have since submitted their reports on the various issues assigned to them;

(b) if so, the main outlines of these reports including a summary of their recommendations; and

(c) if not, the likely date by which the reports are expected from the Panels ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) to (c) : The National Development Council while approving the Approach to the Seventh Plan 1985-90 had recommended setting up of Expert Groups on some specific issues connected with the formulation of the Seventh Five Year Plan.

Subsequently, three Expert Committees were set up by the Planning Commission (August, 1984). The specific issues remitted to these Committees were :

- (i) Whether the provision for maintenance of assets created out of public sector investment should be an item of Plan expenditure or of non-Plan expenditure.
- (ii) The scope and role of Centrally sponsored schemes in sectoral development plans.
- (iii) whether the Seventh Plan should provide in its formal structure for the effects of inflation, both on resources and on costs on investments.

The reports of the first two Committees have been received recently by the Planning Commission, while the third Committee is yet to submit its report.

As the Committees were set up on the direction of the National Development Council, their reports would have to be submitted to the Council for its consideration.

Development of Hilly Areas

323. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4806 on 24 August, 1983 regarding Advisory Committee for development of hilly areas and state :

(a) the contribution made by the Advisory Committee of Experts for the development of hilly areas and the formulation of any strategy for the development of hill States regions in the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) if not, the exact date by which the Committee would submit its proposals in respect of the evolution of the strategy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) The Advisory Committee of experts for development of hill areas has held two meetings so far. The Committee discussed general problems of the region and certain specific programmes. The Committee generally agreed that (i) the main focus should be on the people and their basic needs i.e. food, fodder, fuel, education, health, etc; (ii) micro-watershed should be the unit of development and (iii) voluntary agencies should be encouraged to participate in eco-development programmes. The views of the Committee have been communicated to the Working Group on development of hill areas in the Seventh plan. The Working Group is expected to take note of these views in formulating its recommendations. The report of the Working Group is awaited.

(b) The Committee is an advisory body and not expected to submit any formal report. The views of the Committee are sought on specific issues as and when the need is felt.

Proposal to Produce Oil from Coal

324. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering the proposal to set up a pilot project to produce oil and other products from coal for which West Bengal Government requested the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present position of the said proposal; and

(d) the reasons for delay to clear the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :
(a) to (c) The proposal of West Bengal Govt. for preparation of "Techno-Economic Feasibility Report" was recommended by Government of India for United Nations Development Programme assistance. This project has been taken up and is under implementation by West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation Limited.

Setting up of any such plant would arise only after the Techno-Economic Feasibility Report becomes available.

(d) Does not arise.

Shortage of Small Coins in Raniganj, West Bengal

325. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received complaints of acute shortage of small coins and low denomination notes in Raniganj area of West Bengal and other parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to improve the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) There has been reports regarding shortage of small coins and currency notes of

low denominations from certain parts of the country including Raniganj area of West Bengal.

(b) Government have taken various steps to meet the demand of coins and currency notes. Incentive schemes alongwith the increased working hours have been introduced in all the three Mints, i.e. Bombay, Calcutta and Hyderabad and two Currency Note Presses at Nasik Road and Dewas. As part of modernisation and expansion scheme, twenty two new coining presses are being procured for the three Mints and two production lines at Currency Note Press, Nasik Road and balancing equipments for the Bank Note Press, Dewas are being installed. A second shift in the Calcutta Mint is being introduced. It has also been decided to establish a new Mint and a new Currency Note Printing Press and steps are being taken to implement this decision.

As a result of the improvement in production of small coins and Currency and Bank Notes, the Reserve Bank of India has stepped up releases of these coins and currency notes in the various regions including West Bengal consistent with the available supplies.

Import of Magnesite

326. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :
Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have to import sizeable quantity of magnesite to meet the country's demand;

(b) if so, the quantity of magnesite imported during the years 1982, 1983 and 1984 and the amount of foreign exchange spent during the period;

(c) whether Government have received any proposal from private enterprises to explore the possibility of finding raw magnesite in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) The Silica content of indigenous magnesite is high and it is because of this that it cannot be used in special high quality refractories. Import of dead burnt magnesite (which is also termed as magnesite sinter) with silica content less than 4% is allowed under the open

General Licence. Import of dead burnt magnesite with silica content between 4% to 6% is permitted under the automatic licensing scheme and import of dead burnt magnesite with more than 6% silica is restricted. Small quantity of fused magnesite and non calcined magnesite are also imported.

(b) The total quantity of all kinds of magnesite imported and the amount of foreign exchange spent during 1980-81, 1981-82 and 1982-83 was as follows :—

Year	Quantity	Value
1980-81	19,794 tonnes	Rs. 4.93 crores
1981-82	1,688 tonnes	Rs. 0.91 crores
1982-83	6,256 tonnes	Rs. 2.19 crores

(c) to (e). Central Geological Programming Board (CGPB) which approved the geological programme of Geological Survey of India (GSI) received suggestions from a private enterprise for inclusion of programme of search and investigation for magnesite in Himalayan area in 1983-84 and Salem area in 1984-85 field season. The suggestions were discussed in CGPB meetings. Search and investigation for magnesite were included in GSI programme. Latest information indicates exploration of magnesite in CHALK hills area and SIRAVALLI area of Salem have been completed. Assessment of reserves is in progress. Investigation for magnesite is continuing in Alaknada valley.

Sanction of Liberalised Family Pension

328. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received complaints from various quarters including pensioners' organisations pointing out alleged discrimination in sanction of Liberalised Family Pension under Central Civil Service Rules in the light of Supreme Court's verdict; and

(b) the steps Government are taking to ensure that Supreme Court's verdict is properly implemented in case of pensioners of all categories ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : (a) and (b). Some representations for the grant of benefits, given in the light of the Supreme Court's judgement to pre-31.3.1979 pensioners, to family pensioners also were received. The Judgement of the Supreme Court related to retirement pensions and has no nexus with family pension which is given in case of death of serving employees or pensioners. The Supreme Court Judgement in case of all other categories of pensioners has, however, been fully implemented.

Modernisation and Expansion of Steel Plants

329. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state in detail the latest position of the modernisation and expansion programme of the Durgapur Steel Plant, Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur and Indian Iron and Steel Company, Burnpur and Kulti ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): The programmes for modernisation and technological upgradation of Durgapur and I SCO (Burnpur) Steel Plants are at various stages of consideration of the Government.

Modernisation-cum-expansion of Alloy Steel Plant at Durgapur is already under implementation and is likely to be completed by end of 1986.

Shortage of Small Coins in Rural Areas

330. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :
SHRI K.T. KOSALRAM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a great shortage of small coins and one rupee coins/notes and two rupee notes throughout the country and particularly in rural areas, due to which people are facing great difficulties in the transaction of their daily business; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or being taken to solve the problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) There have been reports regarding the shortage of small coins and currency notes of low denominations from various parts of the country, including rural areas.

(b) Government have taken various steps to meet the demands of coins and currency notes. Incentive schemes alongwith the increased working hours have been introduced in all the three Mints, i.e. Bombay, Calcutta and Hyderabad and two Currency Note Presses at Nasik Road and Dewas. As part of modernisation and expansion scheme, twentytwo new coining presses are being

procured for the three Mints and two production lines at Currency Note Press, Nasik Road and balancing equipments for the Bank Note Press, Dewas are being installed. A second shift in the Calcutta Mint is being introduced. It has also been decided to establish a new Mint and a new Currency Note Press and steps are being taken to implement this decision.

Abolition of Octroi Duty

331. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :
Will be the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a great demand to abolish Octroi Duty throughout the country ;

(b) whether some States have already abolished the Octroi Duty in their States, if so, the names of such States ;

(c) whether a number of Committees and Commissions, which have gone into the subject, have found it absolutely retrograde ; and

(d) the steps Government have taken in this respect and the time by which Octroi Duty will be abolished throughout the country ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : (a) Industry and Trade have sought the abolition of Octroi but there have been representations from Local Bodies against abolition of Octroi.

(b) Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Kerala, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu and Tripura are not levying any octroi. Amongst others that were levying octroi, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Manipur have abolished it.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In view of its importance, the matter was discussed in the Chief Ministers' Conference in September, 1980 and

it had been suggested that, as a first step, octroi should be given up in respect of places having a population of less than two lakhs.

Production of main Battle Tank "Chetak"

332. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the latest position in regard to the manufacture of main battle tank 'Chetak'; and

(b) by when its production is likely to commence and what will be its yearly production ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) :
(a) The Development of Main Battle Tank is going on satisfactorily. Three prototypes of the tank have already been developed and are undergoing technical evaluation.

(b) The tank will be productionised after successful completion of evaluation trials and acceptance by Army. It is not in the public interest to divulge further detail in the matter.

Air violation by Pakistani Planes

333. SHRI B.V. DESAI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether our security forces have intensified their vigil along the line of actual control in Jammu and Kashmir as Pakistani troops have intensified their activities across the border ;

(b) if so, whether in addition to this Pakistani Planes violated Indian air space in this sector also during the month of October, 1984 ;

(c) if so, the number of border incidents that took place between the two countries in this sector and also in other sectors ; and

(d) the total number of air violations and steps taken to check these violations ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARSIMHARAO) (a) to (d).
Our security forces maintain constant vigil along the Line of Control in J & K. No unusual intensification of activities by the Pakistani troops across the border has come to notice recently.

There have been a few cases of exchange of fire between Pakistani and Indian forces along the Line of Control in J & K. The firing by the Pakistani troops was unprovoked.

There was no violation of our airspace by Pakistani aircraft across the line of Control in J & K in October, 1984. However, one such violation took place in the Punjab Sector during the same period. This was taken up with the Pakistan Government in order to prevent recurrence of such incidents.

Intrusion by Pakistani troops into Indian Territory in Jammu and Kashmir

334. SHRI B.V. DESAI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Pakistani soldiers were killed when they attempted to sneak into the Indian territory through the line of actual control in the Uri Sector on 30 August, 1984;

(b) if so, whether the major clash was sparked off when under heavy covering fire, some Pakistani troops tried to enter the Indian territory but were repulsed by the Indian forces ;

(c) whether after the incident the firing between the two sides continued for several days;

(d) whether this was the third major attempted intrusion by Pakistani Troops into the Indian territory in Jammu and Kashmir during the past few months ; and

(e) whether after August, 1984 some more clashes took place in these sectors ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE :
(SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) There was no clash between Indian and Pakistani troops in the Uri Sector on the 30th August, 1984

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) There have been a few incidents of firing across the line of control in Jammu and Kashmir after August, 1984.

Stiffer Terms for future loan by World Bank

335 SHRI B.V. DESAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the World Bank has taken a decision for stiffer term for future loans;

(b) if so, whether the Bank is convinced that the lessons drawn in the process of giving structural adjustment loans to borrowing countries should not only be applied directly to re-orient ongoing adjustment programme but also design new ones ;

(c) if so, whether due to this decision, the developing countries will suffer greatly; and

(d) if so, the extent to which India will be affected by this decision ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
(SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : (a) No change in the terms of lending by World Bank has been made in the recent past except that the rate of interest has been reduced from 9.89% to 9.29%.

(b) and (c) : The Structural Adjustment Lending was launched by the World Bank to help those countries who are willing to have a policy dialogue with the World Bank on economic and structural policies and whose economic condition can be supported through external assistance from the World Bank. The size of the structural adjustment loan was initially restricted to 30% of a country's lending

programme and 10% of the total lending of the World Bank. Subsequently this has been made more flexible. It is not appropriate to conclude that the Bank is convinced that the lessons drawn in the process of giving structural adjustment loans to borrowing countries should not only be applied directly to reorient ongoing adjustment programme but also design new ones.

(d) India has not availed of structural adjustment lending from the World Bank.

World Bank Loan to India

336. SHRI B.V. DESAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether World Bank has praised India for its economic performance in the fiscal year end June 30, 1984 ;

(b) whether the World Bank has in its report focussed on Indian economy's rebound from its somewhat disappointing performance due to drought in the previous years ;

(c) whether the World Bank has in view of the better economic performance, agreed to provide further loans to help and assist India in its better performance during 1984-85 ;

(d) if so, the extent to which the World Bank has provided loans for the current year ; and

(e) the extent to which projects will be undertaken under such loans ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : (a) and (b) The World Bank Annual Report for the fiscal year 1984 mentions that aided by a good monsoon, the Indian economy rebounded strongly in fiscal 1984 from its somewhat disappointing performance, due to the drought, in the previous year. It further states that the economywide rate of growth in gross domestic product (GDP) is likely to exceed 7 per cent, as

compared with 2.6 per cent and 5.9 per cent, in the previous two years.

(c) As for sanction of Bank loans and IDA credits, it is stated that each year the Government of India prepares a pipeline of projects which is posed to the World Bank group for assistance. The exact number of projects for which assistance can be tied up and the quantum of such assistance depends upon

availability of Bank group funds and the status of projects preparation and processing.

(d) and (e) The World Bank group approved loans/credits to India totalling US \$ 2722.4 million for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1984. A list of projects approved by the World Bank for assistance in FY 1984 is given in the statement attached.

Statement

List of projects approved for assistance by World Bank Group in FY-1984

(In US dollar million)

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Amount of IBRD Loan	Amount of IDA Credit	Amount of Spl. Fund Credit
1.	Orissa Irrigation-II.	—	105	—
2.	Pilot project for Watershed development in rain-fed areas.	—	31	—
3.	India Population project-III.	—	70	—
4.	Nhava Sheva Port project.	250	—	—
5.	Dudhichua Coal.	151	—	—
6.	Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Sanitation.	—	36.5	36.5
7.	Periyar Vaigai Irrigation-II.	—	17.5	17.5
8.	M.P. Fertilizer.	203.6	—	—
9.	Bodhghat Hydro Electric.	157.4	—	143.0
10.	Railway Electrification and workshop modernisation.	280.7	—	—
11.	Gujarat Medium Irrigation-II.	—	172.0	—
12.	Cambay Basin Petroleum.	242.5	—	—
13.	Trombay Thermal.	135.4	—	—
14.	Farakka Thermal Power.	300.8	—	—
15.	Upper Ganga Irrigation and Modernisation.	—	125.0	—
16.	National Cooperative Development Corporation.	—	220.0	—
17.	Karnataka Social Forestry	—	27.0	—
Total :		1721.4	804.0	197.0
Grand Total :		2722.4		

[*Translation*]**Rate of Saving in Public and Private Sectors**

327. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the rate of savings in both public and private sectors has declined continuously during the last three years and it has increased only in domestic sector and that too is inadequate among the poor sections due to disparity in the distribution of income ; and

(b) the measures taken to remove this disparity with a view to increase the savings rate in the Seventh Five Year Plan in order to meet the aforesaid situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) During the last three years i.e. 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84, the net rates of savings (i.e. net savings expressed as percentage of net domestic product at market prices) in the three broad institutional sectors of the Indian economy, i.e. (i) household sector (ii) Private Corporate Sector and (iii) Public Sector are as indicated below :—

Net rate of savings (%)

Year	Public Sector	Private Corporate Sector	Household Sector	Total
1981-82	3.4	0.9	12.3	16.6
1982-83	3.2	0.9	13.0	17.1
1983-84*	2.1	0.7	14.2	17.0

* Quick estimates of the Central Statistical Organisation (Provisional).

Thus, there is a continuous decline in the Public Sector Saving rate from 1981-82 to 1983-84. The saving rate in the Private Corporate Sector remained stationary during 1981-82 and 1982-83 but declined marginally in 1983-84. In the household sector there was steady increase in the saving rate from 1981-82 to 1983-84. The overall net rate of savings has risen from 16.6% in 1981-82 to 17.1% in 1982-83 but declined only marginally to 17.0% in 1983-84 provisional estimates. It is not possible to say whether the saving rate is inadequate among poor sections due to disparity in the distribution of income, as a full-fledged income distribution survey has not so far been undertaken.

(b) The Seventh Five Year Plan, 1985-90 is still under formulation. The adoption of appropriate measures aimed

at removing the disparity in this regard will be part of the Seventh Plan formulation.

[*English*]**Smuggling Activities on Indo-Pak Border**

338. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether smuggling activities have been on the high side on Indo-Pakistan border ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the action Government have taken to check these activities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) The reports received by the Government indicate that the India-Pakistan border continues to be vulnerable to smuggling activities, due essentially to geographical factors, price differential in respect of various commodities, the constant attempts at diversification of routes by smugglers, etc. The value of contraband goods seized on the border during the year 1984 (upto November) was of the order of Rs. 2.8* crores, as against Rs. 3.8 crores worth of goods seized in 1983.

The preventive and intelligence agencies of the Central and State Governments remain vigilant in the matter and appropriate anti-smuggling measures are taken in close co-ordination by the concerned Central and State Government authorities. The matter is also kept under constant review for appropriate action.

Stringent action is taken against the persons found involved in the smuggling activities both departmentally as well as through prosecution in a Court of Law. In appropriate cases, detention under COFEPOSA Act is also resorted to.

Presence of Foreign Powers in Indian Ocean

339. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the increasing naval presence of certain foreign powers in the Indian Ocean ;

(b) whether he is also aware of the increasing frequency of attacks on our fishing vessels in this region ; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to protect our interest in the Indian Ocean ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) Over a

period of years there has been a general, though occasionally fluctuating, upward trend in the Naval presence of some foreign powers in the Indian Ocean.

(b) Except for increase in the attacks on our fishing vessels by Sri Lankan forces in the Palk Strait, there have been no other incidents.

(c) The Government of India constantly reviews the maritime security environment in the Indian Ocean and initiates appropriate measures to protect its interests. The Navy is also being strengthened.

Production and demand for coal

340. PROF. P.J. KURIEN :

SHRIMATI CHANDRA-
BHANU DEVI :

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH :

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

(a) the total quantity of coal produced during the year 1984 ;

(b) the actual coal demand during 1984 ; and

(c) steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to increase the production of coal in the coming years ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) The quantity of coal produced during the year 1984 is given below :

(Figures in million tonnes)

Year	Production
1984 (Jan. to Dec, 184)	144.81

(b) The demand for coal during

* provisional.

1983-84 and 1984-85 as estimated by the Planning Commission at the beginning of the years, and the actual offtake during 1984 are given below :

(i) *Demand as assessed by Planning Commission*

1983-84	147.17 million tonnes
1984-85	155.7 million tonnes

(ii) *Actual offtake during*

1984	139.06 million tonnes
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(Jan. to Dec. '84)

(c) Several steps are being taken to increase the production of coal. These include improving the infrastructural facilities, sanctioning of new mines, improving the productivity of men and machinery, expediting land acquisition for coal mining purposes and controlling absenteeism.

Report of Fourth Pay Commission

341 : PROF. P.J KURIEN :
 SHRI NAVIN RAVANI :
 SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :
 SHRI LALIT MAKEN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which the Fourth Pay Commission's report is expected to be submitted;

(b) whether Government are considering to sanction any interim relief to the Central Government employees; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) :

(a) In accordance with its terms of reference, the Fourth Central Pay Commission will make its recommendations as soon as practicable. It may consider, if necessary,

sending reports on any of the matters as and when the recommendations are finalised. The work of the Commission is in progress. It is, however, not possible at this stage to indicate the time by which the Commission would submit its report.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal at present under the consideration of the Government to sanction another instalment of interim relief to Central Government employees.

Negotiation with Soviet Union for Defence Supplies

342. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the negotiations for Defence supplies with Soviet Union were interrupted when the then Defence Minister had to return home following the assassination of Mrs. Indira Gandhi on October 31 last;

(b) if so, whether he intends to resume these negotiations;

(c) if so, when he proposed to go to Soviet Union; and

(d) whether the supplies being negotiated will cover latest generation of Migs, tanks and field guns ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) The former Raksha Mantri Shri S.B. Chavan led a delegation which arrived in the USSR on 30th October, 1984. The delegation cut short its visit and returned to New Delhi on the 31st October, 1984.

The visit of Raksha Mantri was essentially a goodwill visit. However, aspects of defence cooperation would also have been discussed during talks with Soviet leaders.

(b) to (d). No decisions have yet been taken in this regard.

Cadre Review for Armed Forces

343. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the question of cadre review for the Armed Forces has been completed ;

(b) if so, whether there are likely to be shortfalls in middle level officers; and

(c) the details of the cadre review findings and recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE : (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) With the exception of Medical Dental and Military Nursing Services, the Second Cadre Review has been finished for the Armed Forces.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The second Cadre Review for the Armed Forces was approved by the Government in July 1984. A number of posts have been earmarked for upgradation to ensure better promotion avenues for the men as well as for the officers, without altering the total cadre strength. The process of implementation will be in two phases and is in progress. However, in respect of upgradation in the Army to the rank of Colonel, these will be taken up over the next few years depending upon the availability of eligible officers for manning these posts.

The time frames for promotion to the ranks of Captain & Major in the Army and equivalents in the other two services have been reduced to 5 years and 11 years, respectively. The time frame for promotion to the rank of Time Scale Lt. Colonel & equivalents has been reduced to 21 years uniformly.

The number of honorary Commissions for Junior Commissioned Officers have also been increased.

Sharing of Revenues Between the Union and States

344. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to several unsatisfactory aspects of the present methods of sharing revenues between the Union and the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps Government propose to take in fairness to States; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : (a) The present method of sharing revenues between the Union and States is based on sound principles and is periodically reviewed by the Finance Commission. However, the Government of India have appointed a Commission to go into the entire gamut of Centre-States relations which will, among others, examine these aspects also.

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

Allocation of SDRS by IMF

345. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the International Monetary Fund panel has decided not to allocate any more Special Drawing Rights; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : (a) and (b) : The Interim Committee of Board of Governors of International Monetary Fund at its 23rd

meeting held in Washington on 22nd September, 1984 considered the question of an SDR allocation against the background of the state of international liquidity and the conditions of the world economy. No conclusion was reached at this meeting as the required consensus for SDR allocation was not yet available. Efforts are continuing towards achievement of broad consensus on an SDR allocation in the current basic period.

Lack of adequate production safeguards for Workers in Metal Industry

346. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether workers in metal industries are potential victims of cancer because of the lack of adequate production safeguards;

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to safeguard the health of the workers in the metal industry ; and

(c) the time by which action is likely to be taken in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c) : Occupational Health in respect of workers in factories is regulated under Chapter IV of the Factories Act, 1948. The Act is enforced by the State Governments. There are provisions in the Act for declaring certain diseases as occupational diseases and the control measures that are required to be taken for protecting the workmen from such diseases. There is also provision in the Act for notifying certain processes as dangerous to the workmen from the angle of both physical injury and disease. While Metal Industry as such have not been listed as a dangerous manufacturing processes, Government has listed 26 processes, given in the statement attached as a processes involving danger to the health of workers. In respect of these detailed control measures have been prescribed. These are also for the State Governments to enforce by appropriate notification and periodic

inspection by the State Inspectorate of Factories.

Statement

List of dangerous manufacturing processes as per rule 116 of model rules framed under Section 84 of the factories Act, 1948.

- I. Manufacture of aerated water and processes incidental thereto.
- II. Electrolytic plating or oxidation of metal articles by use of an electrolyte containing chromic acid or other chromium compounds.
- III. Manufacture and repair of electric accumulators.
- IV. Glass manufacture.
- V. Grinding or glazing of metals.
- VI. Manufacture and treatment of lead and certain compounds of lead.
- VII. Generating petrol gas from petrol.
- VIII. Cleaning or smoothing, roughening, etc. of articles by a jet of sand, metal shot or grit or other abrasive propelled by a blast of compressed air or steam.
- IX. Liming and tanning of raw hides and skins and processes incidental thereto.
- X. Certain lead processes carried on in printing presses and type foundries.
- XI. Manufacture of pottery.
- XII. Chemical works.
- XIII. Manufacture of articles from refractory materials.
- XIV. Handling and processing of asbestos, manufacture of any article of

asbestos and any other process of manufacture or otherwise in which asbestos is used in any form,

- XV. Handling or manipulation of corrosive substances.
- XVI. Processing of cashewnut.
- XVII. Compression of oxygen and hydrogen produced by the electrolysis of water.
- XVIII. Process of extracting oils and fats from vegetable and animal sources in solvent extraction plants.
- XIX. Manufacture or manipulation of manganese and its compounds.
- XX. Manufacture or manipulation of dangerous pesticides.
- XXI. Manufacture, handling and usage of benzene and substances containing benzene.
- XXII. Manufacturing process or operations in carbon disulphide plants.
- XXIII. Manufacture or manipulation of carcinogenic dye intermediates.
- XXIV. Operations involving high noise levels.
- XXV. Manufacture of rayon by Viscose Process.
- XXVI. High flammable liquids and flammable compressed gases.

**New Coal Reserves located in
Madhya Pradesh**

347. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND
COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether coal reserves have been located in various virgin coalfields in Madhya Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether any qualitative and quantitative analysis of the find has been made ; if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to tap the reserves and how far they will meet the requirements of the country?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL MINES
AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A total reserve of 2382.98 million tonnes of coal seams having thickness of 0.5 metre and above has been established in the eight coalfields located in the districts of Shunool, Bilaspur, Sarguja, Sidhi and Raigarh in Madhya Pradesh .

(c) On the basis of analytical data received so far, the quality of coal varies from Class I to class IV (ISP)

(d) In the process of exploration and utilisation of new coal deposits in the country Geological Survey of India is responsible for regional drilling and preparation of Geological reports. On the basis of these Geological reports, potential blocks are demarcated and detailed exploration is taken up the Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited in conjunction with Mineral Exploration Corporation for establishing the potential for exploitation of coal resources in the country.

Based on the Regional exploration data of the Geological Survey of India, the CEMPDIL have taken up detailed proving in Baherband block located in Sohagpur coalfield and Birsingpur extension area in Johilla Coalfield. The question of taking up new projects for mining coal will arise only after the reserves have been established

Dilution of FERA Companies

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

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India

had issued final orders to the foreign companies in the country to dilute or Indianise their foreign equity to specified levels by August, 1984 ;

(b) if so, whether there are still a few companies which have not complied with the provisions of FERA of 1973 ; and

(c) if so, the names of such companies and decision of Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. All companies are not required to dilute the foreign equity by 31st August, 1984. Where dilution is required,

the duration for that purpose is laid down having regard to various factors including the extent of dilution to be effected.

(b) and (c) Barring only 21 companies (as given in the statement attached) the cases of all other companies have been finally decided and requisite adjustment in foreign equity levels, wherever necessary, has also been brought about. The delay in compliance in these 21 cases is due to reasons such as pending court cases, heavy losses being incurred by the companies concerned, representations by the companies concerned against FERA directive, and non-availability of income-tax clearance etc.

Statement

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of the company</i>
1.	Angus Company Ltd., Calcutta.
2.	Hindustan Ciba Geigy Ltd., Bombay.
3.	Holman Climax Manufacturing Company Ltd., Calcutta.
4.	Kanthal India Ltd., Calcutta.
5.	Samnuggar Jute Factory Company, Calcutta.
6.	Titaghar Jute Factory Co. Ltd., Calcutta.
7.	Victoria Jute Company Ltd., Calcutta.
8.	Sansar Machines Ltd, New Delhi.
9.	Eskaylab Ltd., Bangalore [formerly Smith Kline & French (India) Ltd.]
10.	Apollo Chain Zips Pvt. Ltd. Hyderabad.
11.	Pashtany Tejaraty Co. (India) Pvt. Ltd., Amritsar.
12.	Norindra Ltd., Bombay.
13.	Tata-Dilworth Second, Meagher and Associates Bombay.
14.	C.A. Wilner and Co. Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore.
15.	Pfizer Ltd., Bombay.
16.	Johnson & Johnson Ltd., Bombay.
17.	E. Merck India Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.
18.	Travelworld Incorporated, New Delhi.
19.	Borholla Assam Tea Co. Ltd., Calcutta.
20.	The Baranagore Jute Factory PLC.
21.	The Bombay Gas Company Ltd.

Demand and Production of Brass

349. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the total annual production and requirement of brass in the country;

(b) whether the production of brass is much less than the requirement and due to that the prices of brass and brass material are increasing day by day; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to meet the demand of brass in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) to (c) Brass, an alloy of copper and zinc is generally produced by the same manufacturers who produce brass semi products like sheets, Sections, pipes, tubes, castings etc. and also by artisans making handicrafts. In view of this, figures of demand and production of brass are not available. Prices of brass/brass materials are, however, dependant to a large extent on the prices of the main raw materials viz. copper, zinc, copper scrap and brass scrap, which fluctuate according to the international prices. Steps have been taken to meet the demands of the above raw materials for the brass industry by supplies from indigenous production and also by imports.

Recruitment of Girls for Military Nursing Service From Backward Areas

350. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether annual recruitments are made for the Military Nursing Service;

(b) if so, at how many centres is this recruitment done, how many of them are in Bihar;

(c) whether girls from backward regions

get any chance to compete in these recruitment drives;

(d) if so, the number of girls from backward regions of Bihar who have competed in these recruitments in 1984;

(e) whether this number is considered adequate; and

(f) if not, the steps proposed to be taken to correct it ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) Direct recruitment in the Military Nursing Service is made twice a year. Besides, the candidates are also commissioned in MNS from the 8 Schools of Nursing and the College of Nursing, Armed Forces Medical College, Pune, after they have qualified in the course prescribed viz. Diploma and B Sc. (Nursing) respectively.

(b) There are 36 direct recruitment centres in the country including one in Bihar For Military Nursing Service (Permanent Commission) however, direct recruitment is centralised in Delhi. The other centres recruit Military Nursing Service (short Service Commission).

(c) to (f). Recruitment is open to candidates from all regions of the country. Information regarding the number of candidates who competed from the "backward regions" of Bihar for recruitment to the Military Nursing Service in 1984 is not separately available.

To attract the candidates from all the regions of the country, advertisements for recruitment are published in a large number of national and regional newspapers, both in English as well as in regional languages.

[Translation]

Representation for Setting up an Army Recruitment Sub-Centre at Pithorgarh, U.P.

351. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will

the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received a representation demanding opening of an Army Recruitment Sub-Centre at Pithoragarh in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the time by which the Recruitment Sub-Centre will be set up there ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) Yes Sir,

(b) The matter is receiving attention of the Government.

Opening of Branches by Nainital-Almora Regional Rural Bank

352. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of licences granted by the Reserve Bank of India to the Nainital-Almora Regional Rural Bank so far for opening its branches at various places;

(b) the number of the branches opened by this Bank in Almora; and

(c) the reasons for delay in opening its branches in Almora and the remedial steps proposed to be taken by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Including the licences under issue Nainital Almora Kshetriya Gramin Bank was to open 47 branches—24 in Nainital and 23 in Almora. Of these it has opened 23 branches—12 in Nainital and 11 in Almora.

(c) : The process of branch expansion of the Bank is continuing and the matter

of expeditious implementation of the pending licences is being pursued by the Reserve Bank of India with the Bank.

Modernisation of Steel Industry

353. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme for modernisation of steel industry in the country keeping in view the competition prevailing in the world in the field of steel production; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Schemes for modernisation and technological upgradation of public sector steel plants at Durgapur, Rourkela & IISCO (Burnpur) have been prepared and are at various stages of consideration of the Government.

Scheme are also under formulation for de-bottlenecking of Bhilai & Bokaro steel plants so as to enable these plants to achieve their rated capacities.

TISCO embarked on a modernisation programme in 1980 under which the major units were commissioned in March, 1983 in the first phase.

So far as mini steel and re-rolling sectors of steel industry are concerned, Government's policy is to give all encouragement for modernisation and technological upgradation of the units.

For new units to be set up in the mini steel and re-rolling sectors, Government's approval for the proposals falling within the guidelines is accorded only if these proposals are based on modern technology.

**Handing Over of N.C.C. Ground at
Ranikhet (U.P.) to Cantonment
Board**

354. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether orders to hand over NCC ground at Ranikhet (U.P.) to the Cantonment Board have been issued;

(b) if so, whether the local army authorities have transferred the ground to the Cantonment Board as per the award given by the former Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) to (c). The NCC Ground at Ranikhet classified as Category 'C' already vests in the Cantonment Board Ranikhet. On 18th August, 1984, an area of land measuring 0.803 acre out of the NCC Ground which was already built up was re-classified from category 'C' to category 'A-1'. The remaining area measuring 4.497 acres in the N.C.C. ground would continue to vest in the Cantonment Board in its present classification of category 'C' and is proposed to be developed as a playground subject to the condition that this area would be used as N.C.C. camping Ground, as and when required. Since there has been no change in the classification of the land which is proposed to be developed as a playground and it continues to be vested in the Cantt. Board, the question of issuing any instructions for its transfer to the Cantt. Board does not arise.

[English]

**Communication from West Bengal on
State Plan**

355. SHRI AMAL DATTA :
SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOW-
DHARY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received a communication dated 23rd November, 1984 from the Chief Minister of West Bengal regarding the State's Plan; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any step on the request made by the Chief Minister of West Bengal ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
(SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No final decision has been taken yet.

[Translation]

**Production Increase in Steel Plants
Under SAIL**

356. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the plants being run by the Steel Authority of India Limited are able to utilize only 79 per cent of their capacity while the capacity utilisation for the same year by M/s. Tata Iron and Steel Company is 106.3 per cent and if so, the reasons for such wide difference in capacity utilisation and if so, who is responsible for this; and

(b) whether Government will take measures to see that the Steel Authority of India Limited is able to increase its production over the production of Tata Iron and Steel Company; if so, by what time and the details therefor and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b) Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to production in 1982-83 when saleable steel production of SAIL and IISCO taken together was 5,672 million tonnes achieving 79% capacity utilisation

taking the average of five plants. During that year the capacity utilisation of Bhilai was 94% compared to TISCO's capacity utilisation of 106.3%. The main constraints in achieving higher capacity utilisation during that year were :—

- (i) Severe power restrictions imposed by the public utilities on the steel plants causing a loss of production in SAIL plants amounting to 0.443 million tonnes during the year.
- (ii) Fluctuations in and deterioration of the quality of indigenous coking coal affecting productivity of the blast furnaces as also the quality of hot metal, which, in turn, adversely affected ingot steel production and saleable steel production.

Efforts are being made to improve the supply of power and coking coal of right quality in close cooperation with the supplying organisations. The steel plants are making efforts to maximise their own limited captive power generation. As a long term measure, additional captive power generating units are being established at Bokaro, Rourkela, Durgapur and Bhilai Steel Plants. The technological deficiencies are being met through modernisation de-bottle-necking schemes already under consideration.

[English]

Regularisation of Posts of Executive Engineers, Assistant Executive Engineers and Assistant Engineers in M.E.S.

357. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that almost all the posts of Executive Engineers, Assistant Executive Engineers and Assistant Engineers against clear vacancies, have been filled on promotion on *ad hoc* basis only in Military Engineering Service;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to regularise these promotions on regular basis from amongst eligible candidates awaiting promotion?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) and (b) In the Military Engineering Service, promotions to the posts of Executive Engineers have been made on an *ad hoc* basis. This became necessary due to the disputes on the seniority list of Assistant Executive Engineers in the Courts.

(c) Action is now in hand to fill the regular vacancies that arose in 1979 and 1980, as per the directions of the courts. Vacancies which arose in the subsequent years can be filled up only after the Supreme Court clears the draft seniority list of Assistant Executive Engineers, selected since 1969.

Measures to Curb Inessential and Non-Productive Expenditure

358. SHRI K., T. KOSALRAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the details of several measures that have been initiated by Government to curb inessential and non-productive expenditure, as has been indicated in his radio talk on 10th January, 1985?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : It is a continuing process for the Government to initiate measures to curb inessential and non-productive expenditure. In recent times, Government issued orders banning creation of posts/filling up of vacancies, except in the most exceptional circumstances. Efforts are made through work measurement studies conducted by the Staff Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Finance Internal Work Study Units in various Ministries, Departments to identify and locate surplus staff and prevent creation of avoidable posts. Measures have also been taken to curb office expenses like those on telephones, Staff Cars, consumption of petrol and performance of air journeys by non-entitled officers.

[Translation]**Production of Pig Iron without using Coal**

359. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are exploring the possibility of utilising some foreign technologies which can be helpful in the production of pig iron without using coal;

(b) if so, when the process of exploring such possibility was taken up and the time by which the same is likely to be completed; and

(c) the capital likely to be invested in the proposed project and the likely capacity thereof and the names of the places proposed to be selected for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) No, Sir, There is no attempt to produce pig iron without using coal. However, efforts are being made to explore the possibility of phased development of certain foreign technologies with the potential and relevance to the Indian conditions for the production of liquid iron using non-coking coal.

(b) The process of exploring such possibilities started in 1978. The likely date of completion of this exploration cannot be anticipated at this stage.

(c) Since exploration is not yet complete, the likely investment and the likely location of the plant cannot be anticipated at this stage.

Review of Pay Scale and other facilities of Army Personnel

360. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :
SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal has been received from the Army Headquarters suggesting formation of a high ranking army officers committee directly responsible to the Council of Ministers to review the whole gamut of pay scale and facilities given to the Indian army personnel, if not whether any such proposal is under consideration; if so, the details thereof and the reasons for which this necessity arose;

(b) whether the Army Headquarters have prepared any memorandum for consideration of Fourth Pay Commission suggesting grant of appropriate increase in the pay scales and facilities for the army personnel which have not been given to them so far according to their expectations; and

(c) whether Government propose to evolve a definite criteria or formula on the basis of which the pay of the army personnel would be increasing vis-a-vis rise in prices ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) In the proposals submitted to the Ministry for the consideration of the Fourth Pay Commission, the Army Headquarters have suggested the setting up of Permanent Body consisting of men of eminence and retired Senior Service Officers, accountable to the Council of Ministers, to monitor, review and up-date the entitlements of the Service Officers and personnel within the laid down policy frame work.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The whole gamut of pay structure of the armed forces personnel, including the criteria or formula for determining their pay scales, is at present being considered by the Fourth Pay Commission, and the Government decision in this regard would be taken only on receipt of the report of the Pay Commission.

[English]**Steps to Equip Armed Forces with Nuclear war Heads**

361. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to a report published in Hong Kong Military Journal "Comilli" stating that China is building up fairly large nuclear arsenal and already possesses nuclear artillery and mines keeping in view that China has refused to sign either the Nuclear Non-Proleferation Treaty or the Partial Test Ban Treaty;

(b) if so, the steps Government are taking so that India is not taken unaware as in 1962 Chinese attack;

(c) whether Government are aware that China has nuclear powered submarines equipped with a two stage solid fuel system and tactical nuclear war-heads in two to 20 kictan range and T-5 short range ballistic missiles (SRBM) at about 100 km. range;

(d) whether Government propose to equip our Armed Forces with nuclear war-heads and submarines, keeping in view military preparation of China and Pakistan; and

(e) if not, the steps being taken to defend our country ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE
(SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) :
(a) and (b). Government keep a constant watch on all developments impinging on our security.

Reports published in Hongkong Military Journal stating about China's increasing nuclear capabilities have been noted by Government and appropriate measures, consistent with our policy, taken to ensure defence preparedness.

(c) : Government have seen some reports in this regard.

(d) and (e). India remains committed to the policy of peaceful uses of atomic-energy. However, our defence plans are

suitably updated to meet all emerging situations.

[Translation]

Manufacture of Atom Bomb by Pakistan

362. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Pakistan is engaged in manufacturing an atomic bomb; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government for the security of the country against the danger of the atom bomb ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE
(SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) :

(a) Available information suggests that Pakistan is continuing her efforts to develop Uranium enrichment and nuclear fuel reprocessing capability which enable her to detonate a nuclear device.

(b) Government keep all such developments which have a bearing on our security under constant watch with a view to taking appropriate measures to ensure the security of the country.

[English]

Minerals in Manipur

363. SHRI MEIJNLUNG KAMSON : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to State :

(a) whether any concrete steps have been taken up for tapping mineral resources in Manipur;

(b) if so, the progress made so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT TATHE) :
(a) to (c). So far about 8 million tonnes

of cement grade limestone have been identified in Manipur. Based on these resources, a cement project of 50 tons capacity per day is under implementation.

Priority to Industrial Sector for North Eastern States in Seventh Plan

364. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are giving priority to the industrial sector in respect of the North Eastern States in the Seventh Plan allocations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the sectors receiving priority ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) to (c) : The Seventh Plan outlays are still to be decided. In taking decisions the guidelines in respect of regional disparities indicated in the Approach Paper for the Seventh Plan will be kept in mind.

[*Translation*]

Production and Demand of Coal

365. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state the comparative details of production and demand of coal for the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

The comparative details of production and demand of coal for the last three years are given as under : —

(Figs. in million tonnes)

Year	Production	Demand	
		Original estimated	Actual off-take
1981-82	124.23	127.04	122.45
1982-83	130.50	137.00	127.78
1983-84	138.22	147.17	134.88

[*English*]

Programme for Women in Seventh Plan

366. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Seventh Plan document continues to adopt the "household" approach towards programmes for women even though national women's organisations had suggested that such approach should be dropped ; and

(b) if so, whether the Planning Commission would invite women's organisations to discuss this issue ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) : The Seventh Plan Document is yet to be finalised. The views expressed by Women's Organisations regarding "household" approach towards programmes for women will be taken into account while finalising the Seventh Five Year Plan.

Outlay for Kerala during Seventh Plan

367. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) the outlay sanctioned to Kerala during the Seventh Plan period ; and

(b) the expected amount of money intended to be mobilised by Kerala during the Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b). The Seventh Plan of Kerala State including mobilisation of fresh resources by the State over the Plan period is yet to be finalised.

Removal of Railway Gate near Siliguri

368. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state whether Planning Commission has given clearance to remove and divert the existing Railway Gate near Siliguri Town Station in the district of Darjeeling ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : The Planning Commission's clearance is not required for such schemes.

Setting up a Sainik School at Darjeeling

369. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to set up a Sainik School at Darjeeling ; and

(b) if so, when the proposal would be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) and (b). A Sainik School is established on the specific request of a State Government as the entire capital expenditure and a major portion of the recurring expenditure of the School has to be borne by the State Government. No request for opening a Sainik School in Darjeeling has been received from the Government of West Bengal,

Production and prices of Coal

370. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the production of coal State-wise for the years 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983 and 1984 ; and

(b) the consumer's prices of coal State-wise for the years 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983 and 1984 ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VAJANT SATHE) :

(a) State-wise raw coal production during

the years 1980-81 to 1983-84 is given below :—

(Figures in million tonnes)

State	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84
West Bengal	19.83	19.91	19.04	19.30
Bihar	46.77	51.42	54.03	53.54
Orissa	3.24	3.32	3.46	4.17
Madhya Pradesh	25.93	27.83	0.74	36.35
Maharashtra	5.77	6.89	7.80	8.82
Uttar Pradesh	1.75	2.06	2.37	2.55
Assam	0.61	0.70	0.71	0.80
Andhra Pradesh	10.10	12.10	12.35	12.69
Total :	114.00	124.23	130.50	138.22

(b) As regards the price of coal in each State, it will differ from place to place depending on the distance from the collieries, mode of transportation and varying rates of royalty and other statutory charges. However, pit-head prices of different grades of coal remain fixed statutorily.

[Translation]

Bank Loans for Farmers, Weaker/Backward Sections of Society

371. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the measures being taken by Government to make working of nationalised banks more useful so as to ensure easy availability of bank loan to farmers and weaker and backward sections of society ; and

(b) details of Government scheme to bring more efficiency and discipline in co-op banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JA-

NARDHANA POOTARY) : (a) Some of the important measures to provide easy availability of bank credit to the poor borrowers are as under :

- (1) Loan application forms have been simplified.
- (2) Conditions relating to security and margin have been relaxed. Banks have been advised not to ask for any security other than hypothecation of assets created, for small loans upto Rs. 5,000/-.
- (3) The rates of interest for farmers and members of weaker sections have been kept at a comparatively lower level.
- (4) The banks have been asked to dispose of small loan applications expeditiously.
- (5) It has also been impressed upon banks that repayment period of loans should be fixed in a realistic manner.

(b) The banks have been advised from time to time for enforcing greater

discipline, including punctuality and better upkeep of offices, improvement in the quality of service to the public and quick redressal of the grievances of the public wherever they are brought to notice.

**Shifting of Artillery Record Office
from Mathura**

372. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Artillery Records are being shifted from Mathura to some other place ;

(b) if so, the time by which this Department is likely to be shifted from Mathura ; and

(c) the steps being taken to provide local posting to hundreds of local employees of Mathura working in this Records Department ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO : (a) to (c). The Artillery Records office was shifted from Mathura to Nasik in 1966, except for the Pay and Accounts Office for Other Ranks. In the interest of efficient administration, it was considered essential that Pay and Accounts Office should also be shifted to Nasik.

Accordingly, the first phase was effected in July, 1978 and the employees declared surplus due to shifting were accommodated at their choice stations to the extent possible in a phased manner. The remaining employees whose children are studying are likely to be shifted from Mathura after the end of the current academic session.

[English]

**Measures to meet the threats from
Pakistan and China**

373. PROF. MADHU DANDA-

VATE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister stated at a Press Conference at Imphal on December, 5, 1984 that country was facing a threat from both Pakistan and China ; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken adequate measures to meet the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) In his Press Conference at Imphal on 5-12-84, the Prime Minister had only stated known facts about arms acquisition by our neighbours. Pakistan is known to be acquiring sophisticated weapons from a number of countries. Similarly China is making efforts to modernise her armed forces. These developments have implication on the security of our country.

(b) Government monitor all developments which have a bearing on our security and take appropriate measures to ensure adequate defence preparedness.

**Army Establishment in Khurda Area,
Orissa**

374. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for establishing any army establishment in Khurda area in Puri District in Orissa ; and

(b) whether it has come to the notice of Government that some people are creating panic among the villagers in this area that they are going to be evacuated?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE : (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) A proposal to locate an Army establishment at Khurda near Bhubneshwar is in a preliminary stage of examination.

(b) Government have no report in this regard.

Completion of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant

375. SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the then Minister of Steel and Mines had announced that the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant will be commissioned for production in the year 1986 or 1987 and whether now minimum of two years delay is expected to occur in this regard;

(b) whether owing to delay in the construction of this, 3.4 M. Tonnes steel plant, the estimate cost has increased by about 4,000 crores since 1979;

(c) whether a meagre and highly insufficient amount of about Rs. 1400 crores has so far been allocated for this plant during the last 6 years commencing from 1979-80 to 1984-85; and

(d) if so, the steps Government intend to take to increase the allocation in the coming years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) The 1st stage of the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant Project for 1.2 million tonnes liquid steel was scheduled to be commissioned in February, 1986 and the second stage for total production of 3.4 million tonnes of liquid steel in December, 1987. Consequent on a review of progress of work in different zones and availability of funds, the time schedule for the project has had to be revised. The first phase of the project is now scheduled for commissioning in 1987-88 and the entire project by 1991-92.

(b) The cost of the project with the revised time schedule at current prices will be higher than estimated earlier, mai-

nly on account of escalation in prices. The revised cost estimate has not yet been finalised.

(c) and (d). Allocation of funds has been made to the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant Project, taking into account the progress of work and availability of funds, as under :—

Year	Allocation of funds (Rs. in crores)
1980-81	71.00
1981-82	146.70
1982-83	250.00*
1983-84	437.00
1984-85	480.00

*In addition, a bridging loan of Rs. 43 crores was arranged from the State Bank of India. A proposal for augmenting the provision for 1984-85 by Rs. 160 crores through a supplementary grant is awaiting the approval of Parliament.

Report on Resettlement of Ex-Servicemen

376. DR KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which Government are likely to consider the report of the Committee headed by the Raksha Rajya Mantri on re-settlement of ex-servicemen; and

(b) the time by which the recommendations made in the Report are likely to be implemented and the extent to which it will serve the interest of ex-servicemen to meet their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE :
(SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a)

and (b). The report of the High Level Committee on the problems of Ex-servicemen is under examination. The process of examination and decision making on most of the recommendations and thereafter their implementation involve consultation with and the consent and cooperation of a number of agencies including the State Governments and the Union Territory Administrations. As and when a decision is taken to accept fully or partly a recommendation, the process of implementation will commence. In view of this, it is not possible to indicate any precise time frames for considering and implementing the recommendations. Once this process is completed, it is expected that all the current and legitimate grievances of Ex-servicemen would have been tackled to the extent possible, keeping in view the resources available and the other relevant factors. Govt., however, would expedite the process to the extent practicable.

**Collection of Arms and Ammunitions
etc. by Neighbouring Countries**

377. SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL :
PROF P.J. KURIEN :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have seen newspaper reports that some of our neighbouring countries are getting arms, ammunition, weapons and modern type Defence equipment etc. from America, France, England and other countries which could endanger the security of our country;

(b) if so, which of our neighbouring countries are getting the same with details thereof;

(c) what concrete steps have been taken to prepare our country against such endangerment and to safeguard our country's security from all sides of borders;

(d) whether any protest has been lodged by our country with the respective countries in the matter; and

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

**THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE
(SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) :** (a) Government have seen certain media reports in this regard.

(b) Pakistan is reported to be acquiring sophisticated military hardware which include tanks, guns, armoured personnel carriers, missiles, attack helicopters and F-16 aircraft from a number of countries including the U.S.A. China is also reported to be acquiring military equipment from some countries for modernization of its armed forces.

(c) Government keep a watch on all such developments which have a bearing on our security with a view to updating our defence plans for ensuring our security.

(d) and (e), Government's serious concern at the continued induction of sophisticated weaponry into our neighbourhood has been conveyed on several occasions to the countries concerned.

11.59 hrs.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramula) :
Sir, I want to seek a clarification I do not want any discussion regarding the espionage.

MR. SPEAKER : Why do you bring it unnecessarily ? This is not the way.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I don't want to raise any controversy. I just wanted to say only one thing The hon. Prime Minister made a statement here.

MR. SPEAKER : This is not the way. There is a rule. You have to follow the rule. (*Interruptions*)

12 00 hrs.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Now after the hon. Prime Minister made the statement, there has been flood of information appearing in the press. I do not want a discussion on this in this House.

MR. SPEAKER : I would tell you whether there is any new thing the hon. Minister will come forward to inform the House. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Sir, I do not want any discussion on this. But I want one thing to be done. Before the House adjourns on 30th of this month, I want a comprehensive statement by the Prime Minister with more details regarding espionage.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : You have given it. Please sit down (*Interruptions*) you should listen also and do not be in such a hurry. Sound the Business Advisory Committee about this.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Sir, I am seeking a clarification. I do not want any discussion. I want a comprehensive statement from the hon. Prime Minister. The Prime Minister should take us into confidence and give us further details on this before 30th... ..

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : When the time comes National security is more important. I cannot overrule that.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ :

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record. (*Interruptions*)**

MR. SPEAKER : We have already decided that... ..

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I do not want a discussion on that.

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(*Interruptions*)**

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Soz, why don't you listen to me? You must have the courtesy to listen to me. We have decided that if there is anything of substance or if there is anything new the Home Minister will come up with a statement. We have already decided.

[*Translation*]

You were not present at that time.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : There are other things for discussion. I cannot overrule that.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(*Interruptions*)**

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Soz, you must understand the situation.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

Press is meant only for such accounts.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : The information must come before 30th.

MR. SPEAKER : 30th has yet to come.

(*Interruptions*)

12.04 hrs.

[English]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notification Under Navy Act, Statement re-Review on and Annual Report of Bharat Dynamics Ltd., Hyderabad for 1983-84, Praga Tools Ltd., Secunderabad for 1983-84 etc etc.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE
(SHRI P V. NARSIMHA RAO) : I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) The Navy (Pension) First Amendment Regulations, 1984 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No S R O. 195 in Gazette of India dated the 29th September, 1984, under section 184 of the Navy Act, 1957 [Placed in Library. See No LT—247,85].
- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—
 - (a) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Bharat Dynamics Limited, Hyderabad, for the Year 1983-84.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Dynamics Limited, Hyderabad for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—248/85].
 - (b) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Praga Tools Limited, Secunderabad, for the year 1983-84.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Praga Tools Limited, Secunderabad, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [Placed in Library. See No. LT—249/85]
- (c) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Goa Shipyard, Limited Goa, for the year 1983-84.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Goa Shipyard Limited, Goa for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [Placed in Library. See. No. LT—250/85].
- (d) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1983-84
- (ii) Annual Report of the Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—251/85]
- (e) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Mazagon Dock Limited, Bombay, for the year 1983-84.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Mavagaoon Dock Limited Bombay, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [Placed in Library. See No. LT—252/85].

(f) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Bharat Electronics Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1983-84.

(ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Electronics Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—253/85].

(g) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1983-84.

(ii) Annual Report of the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptrollers and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—254/85].

(h) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1983-84.

(ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—255/85]

(i) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Bharat Earth Movers Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1983-84.

(ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Earth Movers Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—256/85].

Notifications under Urban Land (ceiling and Regulation Act) Statement re Review on Urban Development Corporation Ltd, New Delhi for 1983-84 etc etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): On behalf of Shri Abdul Ghafoor, 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 46 of the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976 :—

(i) The Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) (Amendment) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1038 in Gazette of India dated the 29th September, 1984 together with explanatory memorandum.

(ii) The Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1077 in Gazette of India dated the 13th October, 1984 together with an explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library. See No. LL—257/85].

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English version) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—

1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed on Library. See No. LT—260/85].

- (a) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84.

- (3) Explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the National Capital Region Planning Board Ordinance, 1984. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—261/85].

- (ii) Annual Report of the Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—258/85].

- (4) Explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Gangtok Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Ordinance, 1984. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—262/85].

- (b) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Hindusthan Prefab. Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84.

Notification under Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, Annual Report of and Review on Coconut Development Board, Cochin for 1982-83, a statement re delay in laying these papers and Annual Accounts etc. of Coconut Development Board, Cochin for 1983-84.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindusthan Prefab Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : I beg to lay on the Table :—

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—259/85].

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 25 of the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981 :—

- (c) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84.

- (i) The Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of fishing by Foreign Vessels) (Amendment) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. G.S.R 361(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th May, 1984.

- (ii) Annual Report of the National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year

- (ii) The Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by

Foreign Vessels) Second Amendment Rules 1984 published in notification No. S.O 438 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1984.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—263/85].

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Coconut Development Board, Cochin, for the year 1982-83, under sub-section (3) of section 17 of the Coconut Development Board Act, 1979.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Coconut Development Board, Cochin, for the year 1982-83.

- (3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

- (4) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Coconut Development Board, Cochin, for the year 1983-84 together with Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of section 15 of the Coconut Development Board Act, 1979.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT—264/85].

Annual Report of and statement *re* Review on Development Council for Fruit and Vegetable Processing Industry for 1983-84, etc.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : On behalf of Rao Birendra Singh I beg to lay on the Table :—

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Development Council for

Fruit and Vegetable Processing Industry for the year 1983-84, under Sub-Section (4) of Section 7 of the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951

- (2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Development Council for Fruit and Vegetable Processing Industry, for the year, 1983-84.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT—265/85].

- (3) Explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Sugar Undertakings (Taking over of Management) Amendment Ordinance, 1984.
[Placed in Library See No. LT—266/85].

Notifications under Coal Mines Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, Notification and order under Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development Act, etc.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :
I beg to lay on the :—

- (i) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sections 7A of the coal Mines Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1948 :—

- (i) The Coal Mines Deposit-linked insurance (Amendment) Scheme, 1984 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1218 in Gazette of India dated the 8th December, 1984.

- (ii) The Coal Mines Family Pension (Amendment) Scheme, 1984 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1219 in

- Gazette of India dated the 8th December, 1984.
- (iii) The Coal Mines Provident Fund (Second Amendment) Scheme, 1984 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1312 in Gazette of India dated the 29th December, 1984.
- (iv) The Andhra Pradesh Coal Mines Provident Fund (Second Amendment) Scheme, 1984 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1313 in Gazette of India dated the 29th December, 1984.
- (v) The Rajasthan Coal Mines Provident Fund (Second Amendment) Scheme, 1984 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1314 in Gazette of India dated the 29th December, 1984.
- (vi) The Coal Mines Family Pension (Second Amendment) Scheme, 1984 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1315 in Gazette of India dated the 29th December, 1984.
- (vii) The Coal Mines Deposit-linked Insurance (Second Amendment) Scheme, 1984 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1316 in Gazette of India dated the 29th December, 1984.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT—267, 85].
- (2) A copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 826 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th August, 1984 containing Corrigendum to Notification No. G.S.R. 296 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th April, 1983, under section 28 of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—268/85].
- (3) A copy of the Order No. 4(1)/84 M. VI dated the 24th July, 1984 (Hindi and English versions) authorising Geological Survey of India to carry out such detailed investigations for the purpose of obtaining such information as may be necessary for the conservation and development of minerals in respect of the lands specified in the order in the State of Orissa, issued under sub section (1) of section 18A of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—269, 85].
- (4) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 : -
- (a) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Bharat Gold Mines Limited, for the year 1983-84.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Gold Mines Limited, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—270, 85].
- (b) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited, Nagpur for the year 1983-84.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited, Nagpur, for the

- year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT/-271/85].
- (c) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited, Neyveli, for the year 1983-84.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited, Neyveli, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library See No. LT-272/85].
- (d) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Hindustan Zinc Limited, Udaipur, for the year 1983-84.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Zinc Limited, Udaipur, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-273/85].
- (e) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Bharat Aluminium Company Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Aluminium Company Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-274/85].
- (5) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Organisation, Dhanbad, for the year 1983-84. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-275/85].
- (6) A statement (Hindi and English versions) (i) correcting the reply given on the 6th December, 1983 to Starred Question No. 197 by Sarvashri Rasheed Masood and Rajesh Kumar Singh regarding shortage in coal stocks and (ii) giving reasons for delay in correcting the reply. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-276/85].
- (7) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1983—Union Government (Commercial Part IV—Eastern Coalfields Limited, under article 151 (1) of the Constitution. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—277/85].

Punjab Panchyat Samities and Zila Parishads (Temporary Super Session Amendment Act.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD ; On behalf of Shri Chandulal Chandrakar, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Punjab Panchayat Samities and Zila Parishads (Temporary Supersession) Amendment Act, 1984 (Hindi and English versions) (President's Act No. 3 of 1984), under sub-section (3) of section 3 of the Punjab State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Act, 1984. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—278/85].

Consolidated Report on the working of Regional Rural Banks for 1982 Notifications under Customs Act etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : I beg to lay on the Table :—

- (1) A copy of the Consolidated Report (Hindi and English versions)

on the working of the Regional Rural Banks for the year 1982. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—279/85].

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 :—

(i) G.S.R. 30(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th January, 1985, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 208/81—Customs dated the 22nd September, 1981 so as to include certain other medicines/drugs/equipments in the Schedule annexed to the notification.

(ii) G.S.R. 31(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th January, 1985 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to goods when re-imposed into India, after having been exported in connection with the Antarctica expedition from the whole of the duty of customs leviable thereon.

(iii) G.S.R. 32(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th January, 1985 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to goods when re-imported into India after having been exported in connection with the Antarctica expedition so as to exempt from Auxiliary duty of Customs.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-280/85].

- (3) A copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 21 (E) (Hindi and English Versions) published in Gazette

of India dated the 16th January, 1985 making certain amendments to Notification No. 20/84-CE dated the 1st March, 1984 so as to apply specific basic excise duty of Rs. 130/- per type for van tyres of size 4.50—12, issued under the Central Excise Rules, 1944. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-281/85].

- (4) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Controller and Auditor General of India—Union Government (Commercial) for the year 1983—Part V Resume of the Company Auditors Report and comments on accounts of Government companies, under article 151 (1) of the Constitution. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-282/85].

- (5) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (8) of section 10 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 :—

(i) Report on the working and activities of the Central Bank of India for the year ended the 31st December, 1983, along with the Accounts and the Auditors' Report thereon.

(ii) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of India for the year ended the 31st December, 1983 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(iii) Report on the working and activities of the Punjab National Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1983 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

- (iv) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of Baroda for the year ended the 31st December, 1983 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
- (v) Report on the working and activities of the United Commercial Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1983 along with the Audited Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
- (vi) Report on the working and activities of Canara Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1983 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
- (vii) Report on the working and activities of the United Bank of India for the year ended the 31st December, 1983 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
- (viii) Report on the working and activities of Dena Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1983, along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
- (ix) Report on the working and activities of the Syndicate Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1983 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
- (x) Report on the working and activities of the Union Bank of India for the year ended the 31st December, 1983 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
- (xi) Report on the working and activities of the Allahabad Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1983 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
- (xii) Report on the working and activities of the Indian Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1983 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
- (xiii) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of Maharashtra for the year ended the 31st December, 1983 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
- (xiv) Report on the working and activities of the Indian Overseas Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1983 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Reports thereon.
- (6) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (8) of section 10 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980 :—
- (i) Report on the working and activities of the Andhra Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1983 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
- (ii) Report on the working and activities of the Corporation Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1983 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
- (iii) Report on the working and activities of the New Bank of India for the year ended the 31st December, 1983 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

- (iv) Report on the working and activities of the Oriental Bank of Commerce for the year ended the 31st December, 1983 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
- (v) Report on the working and activities of the Puhjab and Sind Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1983 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
- (vi) Report on the working and activities of the Vijaya Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1983 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-283/85].
- (7) An explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Amendment Ordinance, 1974, [Placed in Library. See No. LT-284/85].

Annual Report and Review on Salar Jung Museum Board, Hyderabad for 1983-84, Notifications Under Pensions Act etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND CULTURE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) :
I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Salar Jung Museum Board, Hyderabad, for the year 1983-84 along with the Audited Accounts.
- (2) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Salar Jung Museum Board, Hyderabad, for the year 1983-84 (Placed in Library. See No. LT-285/85)

- (3) A copy of the Payment of Arrears of Pension (Nomination) (Second Amendment) 1984 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S. O. 4351 in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 1984, under section 16 of the Pensions Act, 1871, [Placed in Library. See No. LT-286/85]
- (4) A copy of the Union Public Service Commission (Members) Amendment Regulations, 1984 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 584 in Gazette of India dated the 16th June, 1984 issued under article 318 of the Constitution. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-287/85]

Review on and Annual Report of Vijayanagar Steel Ltd. for period from Dec. 82 to March '84, Review on and Annual Report of Sponge Iron India Ltd. for 1983-84, Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd. for 1983 84.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI NATWAR SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section(1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government on the working of Vijayanagar Steel Limited for the period from December, 1982 to March, 1984.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Vijayanagar Steel Limited for the period from December, 1982 to March, 1984. Along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-288/85]
- (b) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Sponge Iron India Limited for the year 1983-84.

- (ii) Annual Report of Sponge Iron India Limited for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-289/85]

- (c) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited for the year 1983-84.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited for the year 1983-84 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-290/85]

- (d) (i) Review by the Government on the working of Kudremukh Iron Ore Company for the year 1983-84.

- (ii) Annual Report of Kudremukh Iron Ore Company for the year 1983-84 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

*[Placed in Library. See No. LT-291/85]

Annual Report of and Review on Wadia Institute of Hemalayan Geology, Dehradun for 1983-84, Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum (Kerala) for 1983-84 etc.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAAD : On behalf of Shri Shiyraj Patil, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun for the year 1983-84 along with Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun for the year 1983-84.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-292/85]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum (Kerala) for the year 1983-84 along with Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum (Kerala) for the year 1983-84.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-293/85]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palacobotany Lucknow, for the year 1983-84 along with Accounts.

A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palacobotany, Lucknow, for the year 1983-84.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-294/85]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Maharashtra Association for the cultivation of Science, Pune, for the year 1983-84 along with Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of

- the Maharashtra Association for the cultivation of Science, Pune, for the year 1983-84. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-295/85]
- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84 along with Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-296/85]
- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore, for the year 1983-84 along with Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore, for the year 1983-84. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-297/85]
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Raman Research Institute, Bangalore, for the year 1983-84 along with Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Raman Research Institute, Bangalore, for the year 1983-84. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-298/85]
- (8) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-
- (a) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Central Electronics Limited New Delhi, for the year 1983-84.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Central Electronics Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-299/85]
- (b) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the National Research Development Corporation of India for the year 1983-84.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Research Development Corporation of India for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-300/85]

12.06 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 rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Gangtok Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 1985, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 24th January, 1985."

- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 24th January, 1985, agreed without any amendment to the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 1985, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 23rd January, 1985."

GANGTOK MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

[*English*]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table of the House the Gangtok Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 1985, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

12.08 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House on 29th and 30th January, 1985 will consist of :

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's order paper.
2. Consideration and passing of :
 - (a) The Constitution (Fifty second Amendment) Bill, 1985.
 - (b) The Administrative Tribunals Bill, 1985.
3. Discussion on the Resolution seeking dis-approval of the Sugar Un-

dertakings (Taking Over of Management) Amendment Ordinance, 1984 and consideration and passing of the Sugar Undertakings (Taking Over of Management) Amendment Bill, 1985 as passed by Rajya Sabha.

4. Consideration and passing of the Gangtok Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 1985, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI (Srinagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the following item may be included for discussion next week.

Continued exploitation of jungles for timbers and sleepers for railway tracks etc. has endangered its existence. Not only that rich forests are becoming rare and turned into big patches of waste lands, but the process is destabilising the ecological balance resulting in near extinction of rare birds, flora and fauna. The treacherous floods ravaging the plains every year is one of the side effects of this ruthless destruction of the forests which should be stopped forthwith. A law needs to be enacted to protect the forests from annihilation and for their preservation. The states like Jammu and Kashmir whose economy is linked with forests, need to be compensated by adequate financial aid from the centre every year in order to tide over the monetary losses incurred in case such a law is enacted by the Parliament.

MR. SPEAKER: Before I call the next Member, I would like to inform the House that we will dispense with the lunch hour today to complete the business before the House. Is that agreed to by the House?

MANY HON. MEMBERS: Yes, yes.

MR. SPEAKER: We will dispense with the lunch hour today.

2.09 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

SHRI SAIFFUDIN CHOWDHURY (Katwa): I hereunder give two items

for your consideration for inclusion in the List of Business for next week in the House for discussion.

In view of the recent busting of serious espionage ring, the House should discuss the question of Indian security with special reference to the involvement of imperialist agencies in the secessionist agitations in the country.

Secondly, in view of the growing unemployment, the House should discuss the immediate and long term remedial measures including the amendment of the Constitution to make the right to work a fundamental right.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the following matters should be included in the next week's List of Business :-

(1) Development works in many parts of the country have been held up due to Forest Act, 1980 resulting in adverse effect on development of such areas. Therefore, a discussion on this should be allowed.

(2) There were many complaints regarding implementation of the ambitious programme to make drinking water available to scarcity areas. The implementing department are indulging in serious bungling at State level in this regard. A huge amount has been spent on this programme and, therefore, a discussion on this should take place in view of its vital importance.

[*English*]

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneswar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to submit to include the following in the next week's business.

Huge quantities of integrated Air Force chips used in the radar system of the Indian Air Force which had been imported and were handed over to a private

factory for manufacturing radar equipment were found to have been stolen.

I request that this be included in the next week's business.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Sir, certain subjects have been mentioned by the hon. Members for inclusion in the business of the House for the next week. I shall place these suggestions before the Business Advisory Committee.

12.15 hrs.

ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNALS BILL*

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND CULTURE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the adjudication or trial by Administrative Tribunals of disputes and complaints with respect to recruitment and conditions of service of persons appointed to public services and posts in connection with the affairs of the Union or of any State or of any local or other authority within the territory of India or under the control of the Government of India or of any corporation owned or controlled by the Government and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the adjudication or trial by Administrative Tribunals of disputes and complaints with respect to recruitment and conditions of service of persons appointed to public services and posts in connection with the affairs of the Union or of any State or of any local or other authority within the territory of India or under the control of the Government of India or of any cor-

poration owned or controlled by the Government and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : I introduce the Bill.

GENERAL INSURANCE BUSINESS
(NATIONALISATION) AMEND-
MENT BILL

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up items No. 15 and 16 together.

Shri Chandupatla Janga Reddy
He is not there.

Shri Janardhana Poojary.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JA-
NARDHANA POOJARY) : On behalf
of Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, I beg to
move :

"That the Bill further to amend the
General Insurance Business (National-
isation) Act, 1972 as passed by
Rajya Sabha, be taken into consid-
eration."

The Bill further to amend the General
Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act,
1972, has been passed by Rajya Sabha on
the 23rd January, 1985 and it is now for
consideration before the House.

I would briefly like to explain the
circumstances in which it became neces-
sary for Government to assume powers to
frame schemes unconnected with amalga-
mation of insurance companies or merger
consequent on nationalisation of General
Insurance Business to regulate the terms
and conditions of service of the employ-
ees.

The employees of the General Insurance
Industry submitted in 1977 Charter of

Demands for wage revision. After tak-
ing into account the recommendations of
the management of the General Insurance
Corporation and their report about the
discussions with the employees' unions,
Government notified an amendment sch-
eme in September, 1980. Under this
scheme, the scales of pay of the employees
were revised upwards. Other considerable
benefits were also given. All these were
estimated to cost the insurance companies
an additional burden of Rs. 3 crores per
annum. However, the union of employees
challenged this amendment in the Supreme
Court,

The Supreme Court quashed the Scheme
as being beyond the scope of the authori-
ty of Central Government. The Supreme
Court, however, gave liberty to the Central
Government to frame any appropriate
legislation or to make any appropriate
amendment giving power to frame any
scheme as it considers fit and proper.
Therefore, Government have not in any
manner circumvented the judgment of the
Supreme Court.

Sir, I would like to inform the hon.
members that the principal scheme of 1974
was causing grave *inter se* wage distortions.
On 1st July, 1984, the emoluments
(basic pay plus DA) of a Superintendent
at the maximum of his grade rose to
Rs. 4082 as against those of a General
Manager at the minimum and the maxi-
mum of his grade amounting to Rs. 3950
and Rs. 4550, respectively. Such cases
were many at common pay ranges between
Class III staff and officers of II General
Insurance Corporation. If allowed un-
checked, these wage distortions would
seriously affect the smooth functioning of
the industry and generate grave repercus-
sions on the wage structure in other public
sector undertakings. Government could
not remain a silent spectator to this ser-
ious situations. Hence the Ordinance was
promulgated

Sir, as you may have seen from the Bill
it confers independent powers to frame
schemes to prescribe the scales of pay and
other terms and conditions of service of
the employees. This provision is neces-

sary in order to allow further wage revisions in the industry. Also, provision has been made to frame the schemes retrospectively. This is an enabling provision and in the interest of the employees as wage revisions have quite often to be given retrospective effect.

The principal schemes made in 1974-75 and 1976 were amended on 23 occasions whereby considerable benefits were conferred on the employees and the officers. In order not to set the clock back and not to deny the employees of these benefits, a provision has been made in the Bill to revalidate all amendments, except the one made in September, 1980 which has been struck down by the Supreme Court.

Sir, I would like to dispel a doubt which the hon. members may have. It is not Government's intention to do away with the system of consultation with the employees on wage revision. As you know, Sir, Government acquired in 1981 similar powers in the case of Life Insurance Corporation of India. Despite this currently, discussions are in progress between management and the LIC employees on wage revision. Employees of the General Insurance Industry will have similar opportunity.

I would now request the hon members for their support to the Bill so that harmonious functioning of the industry can be brought about and the administrative cost contained in the overall interest of the policy holders.

Sir, I move.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motion moved :

“That the Bill further to amend the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act 1972 as passed by Rayya Sabha be taken into consideration.”

[Translation]

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South-Central) : Mr, Deputy Speaker, Sir, the principle of collective bargaining

between the workers and the management, which has been honoured since the time of the British rule, is sought to be given a go by with the introduction of this Bill. This is my direct charge against the Government which I make in this House. Moreover, the number of industries has definitely gone up during the last 37 years due to the Industrial Disputes Act which was enacted during British time but so far no legislation has been brought forward to specify the rights of the workers. According to the Government schemes, setting up of industries in backward areas has been encouraged by extending loans worth 2-3 thousand crores of rupees. For whom these industries are being set up? Do they serve the interests of workers or those of employers? Government has not paid any attention towards the quantum of wages being given to the workers.

In regard to this amendment, I would like to state that by bringing it, the Government is trying to do away with the basic principle of collective bargaining and industrial disputes. With the increased business of I. I. C., the profit of Government has also increased considerably. As a consequence of negotiation in regard to workers' demands, Government had conceded collective insurance and nationalisation. Later on, a decision of the Government was challenged in the Supreme Court whose judgement has also come. In order to undo this judgement of the Supreme Court and to deny the benefit to the workers, Government has brought this Bill, for which I express deep resentment and regret. It has been stated in the aims Statement of objects and reasons of the Bill, that in case the present set up continues the emoluments of class III staff can exceed Rs. 4000 but the officers would get only upto Rs. 3900. The Government should not have any objection to paying money because profit has been increasing. Class III staff is getting more and if Government wants to bring some minor changes, this should have been clarified in this House. But this has not been done. Are the savings on account of paying less to officers meant for making fresh recruitment or for paying more to those who were drawing less? It is not clear as to

whether some such rationalisation is under consideration ?

[English]

The lowest salary is only Rs. 700/-

[Translation]

There are lakhs of L. I. C. employees in the country, but no principle has been enunciated for them in the objects and reasons of the Bill. Only one thing has been mentioned.....(Interruptions).

(English)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Try to be brief.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : This is very important. A few lakh workers are affected. I think there should not be any time restriction. In 5 or 10 minutes I can finish.

SHRI SHARADCHANDRA GOVIND-
RAO PAWAR (Baramati) : He is a representative of the working class. He should get the opportunity to speak.

[Translation]

DR. DATTA SAMANT : The salary of lower class staff would be Rs. 4500 in the last stage. Keeping only one point in view, the Government want to appropriate all the rights. According to various clauses in the Bill, Government is entitled not to take a decision on any agreement or decision of the tribunal or any industrial court. Any scheme which is framed, will be binding on the workers. Thus, Government is appropriating all the rights to itself. The working class would always oppose such measures and the L.I.C. is already opposed to it. Today 30 to 40 per cent of the total population comprise workers and all are dissatisfied. Above all, Government is trying to bring a supreme power which would dispense with courts' decisions, tribunals and collective bargaining. Therefore, on behalf of the

working class totally oppose this measure.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are 2 to 3 more clauses in the Bill. The matter will not end there. The Government want to compulsorily implement one point C D. A. in respect of workers of all Central Government Undertaking, e.g., Mazagaon Docks, Bharat Petroleum etc. It is creating widespread resentment among all the workers of these undertakings. A committee was also appointed some time back in this regard but even then nothing has happened. In the Bharat Petroleum, the D. A. slab of a worker who has put in even ten years' service and who is permanent, will automatically come down according to Government's directive. I feel that despite our various slogans and assurances to workers, the Government policy has always been anti-working class. The basic principles adopted by the Government and such legislations are all going against the interests of the workers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in all the public undertakings like the Mazagaon Docks, Richardson, Bharat Petroleum etc, atrocities would continue against the workers if such a legislation is passed. The Government is contemplating other representative step also. I want that Government should specify the service conditions and a rationalisation scheme, for the workers. In regard to the rationalisation schemes, Government should take adequate care that by bringing such a legislation, they do not assume summary powers. Today, if the salary of some workers in the L.I.C. is more, some internal adjustment should be made and an announcement to this effect should be made in the House and in the aims and objects of the Bill. Moreover, the future policy of Government in this regard should also be stated in clear terms in the House. But it appears that the Government does not want to do such things and on the other hand wants to bring fresh legislation by disregarding all the past awards and laws. Regarding retrospective effect, it has been stated that if the Government so desire it could be done. In view of all this, Sir, if this Bill is passed, I would have to stage a walk out in protest.

[English]

SHRI AJOY BISWAS (Tripura West) :
I rise to oppose the Bill because there is an attempt on the part of the government to curb all sorts of rights of the working class. The Minister has misled the House. He has said that most of the employees are getting more than Rs. 4,000 ; that is not correct. Only the Superintendents are getting more than Rs. 4,000. But how many Superintendents are working there ? Previously, the number was 200 ; now, it has come down to 50. The Corporation has already announced that it is a dying cadre. When they have announced that it is a dying cadre, you have taken the plea that mostly the employees are getting more than Rs. 4,000. So, the Bill has been brought forward to curb the rights of the 28,000 employees in that Corporation. It is not proper ; it is not good for the government.

I apprehend that they will introduce the same measure in other institutions also, like the RBI, in other banks and in other sectors also. If they introduce the Bill, the reaction will be, I can categorically say, that the employees will not allow this Bill to be introduced. If the government wants to curb the rights and existing facilities, definitely the entire working class will rise in protest and will definitely launch a bigger movement in future.

Sir, the General Insurance Corporation was nationalised in 1971 and in 1974 a scheme was taken up and it covered the terms and conditions of service of the employees. At that time there were lot of negotiations with the management and there was a consensus between the management and the employees' organisations.

In 1977 the associations put forward some demands, they placed a charter of demands for upward revision of the emoluments and improvement of the service conditions of the employee. But due to the adamant attitude of the Government the negotiations failed. At that stage, the Chief Labour Commissioner of the Central Government wanted to intervene

into the affairs because the Chief Labour Commissioner thought that it was a clear case of industrial dispute and then the Chief Labour Commissioner issued negotiation notices to both the management and the employees organisations. In the notice it was clearly mentioned that the Industrial Disputes Act would apply in the case of the General Insurance Corporation. The Chief Labour Commissioner also drew the attention of the management to section 33 of the Industrial Disputes Act and that the management should not change any terms and conditions which may cause prejudice, during the pendency of the conciliation proceedings. The representatives of the employees attended the meeting but the management did not turn up. The Chairman of the General Insurance Corporation informed the Chief Labour Commissioner by a telex message that as the General Insurance Corporation would not fall under the purview of the Industrial Disputes Act, they would not attend the conciliation meeting. It is a funny thing that the Chief Labour Commissioner felt so. So, the Minister for Labour has to explain what the actual position is. In my opinion, definitely the Corporation is under the Industrial Dispute Act.

Thereafter, the management of the General Insurance Corporation did not take any initiative to negotiate the issues with the employees' organisations. Then the Finance Department came into the picture. They issued a notification and under the notification it was clearly mentioned that the existing facilities—whatever the employees were enjoying—were curtailed. There was a ceiling on the wages, retirement age, gratuity, increments and all the benefits were taken away. The All India Insurance Employees Association filed a writ petition in the Supreme Court which gave the judgement in favour of the employees. In this case the Minister has misled the House. The verdict of the Supreme Court was that the impugned scheme of 1980 must be held to be bad as beyond the scope of the authority of the Central Government under the General Insurance Business (Notification) Act, 1972. The impugned scheme is, therefore, quashed and will not be given

effect to. The parties will be at liberty to adjust their rights as if the scheme had not been framed. So, there was a clear direction of the Supreme Court to negotiate the issue with the employee association. Have you done that? Without doing that, you have promulgated the ordinance and now, you have come before the House with this Bill. First of all, you should try that. If there is a negotiated settlement, that will be better for the management and the country. I can say that confrontation will not help you.

Regarding the decision of the ILO, different central organisations made complaints to the ILO against the Central Government in respect of LIC which tried to change the agreed bonus terms by a Parliamentary enactment and the general insurance sector where a gazette notification changed the condition of service of the employees. After this complaint the Government gave a reply to the ILO. After the reply, the conclusions of the ILO are :

“The Committee notes the Government’s reply to the allegation that it arbitrarily modified collective agreements in the public sector, in particular the fact that the Supreme Court has upheld such amendments when made in the legislative context. In this connection, the Committee has stated in the past that a legal provision which could be applied so as to call into question the provisions laid down in collective agreements or to prevent the workers from negotiating such conditions as they wish in future collective agreements would, if so applied infringe the right of the workers concerned to bargain collectively through their trade unions. The Committee would accordingly draw this principle to the Government’s attention in the hope that it will find it possible not to resort to such action in the future.”

The ILO reacted when the Government issued a notification in the case of General

Insurance Corporation. Now the Government is going to enact a law. I do not know what will be the reaction of the ILO this time. That means this Government has actually decided that whatever the ILO or the Supreme Court says, it will not bother and it will proceed in its own way. Why Government is doing all these things is because there is a systematic attempt on the part of the Government to curb the trade union and other rights of the working class. The National Security Act has been passed which means the Government can arrest anybody and put him in jail without trial. Again, the Government has passed the Essential Services Maintenance Bill. By passing this Bill, the Government has virtually banned all strikes in the essential services. Even when a worker wants to go to a processing, there will be a punishment of one year’s imprisonment and Rs. 1,000 as fine. Even that is not enough. Now the Government is putting a ceiling on the wages. For a class IV employee in GIC, the ceiling is Rs. 1,600. If the emoluments of a Class IV employee are Rs. 1,600 and there is an increase in D.A., that employee will not get this increased D.A. Even if the increment is due, he will not get it if his emoluments are already Rs. 1,600. That means, there is going to be a total moratorium on wages. This can be done only in case of financial emergency. So, my question is whether unofficially you are putting a financial moratorium. You must make it clear because you are definitely going to implement such types of measures in other cases also. I conclude my speech by saying that by these measures, Government will not be able to develop healthy industrial relations. Cooperation of the workers is the basic need to develop good industrial relations in all sectors. So, I shall request the Government to ponder over it and withdraw the Bill so that a good industrial climate can be developed in the country.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara) : Sir, I oppose this Bill mainly on the ground that this is intended to circumvent the decision of the Supreme Court given in favour of the working class of this country. It is true in the light of the decision of the Supreme

Court, this Bill has now come before this House. But the intention of the Government behind bringing this Bill seems to be that by introducing this Bill the benefits which are given to a worker can be taken away. Secondly, I would say that this Bill is against the fundamental jurisprudence of the labour laws. The status of wage that a worker has attained cannot be taken away by any action. Now, this Act purports to take away such benefits which the working class gained by sustained struggle and actions. In the note it is given that a superintendent may get Rs. 4,800 and the Managing Director may get less. May I say that a Member of Parliament gets only Rs. 750 per month as salary but a peon may be getting more than that? It is a criterion to distinguish between persons? I have seen in America a scavenger getting more money than what a Director of the municipality gets because every hour he can earn ten dollars. In China also I have seen the skilled worker getting more than the Managing Director. The approach of the Government, therefore, seems to be bureaucratic. Probably they feel that the managing director is at the top and the workers are slaves.

Therefore, the very basic approach in this Bill to reduce the salary of the workers goes against the basic jurisprudence of the labour laws and is negative approach.

Thirdly this will give an arbitrary power to the Government. General Insurance Company is a corporation. It is an autonomous body. The very structure of it is that it can take its own decisions. But this Bill will be giving arbitrary powers to the Government to take decisions against its workers. This Bill is intended to take away the insurance workers from the very ambit of the definition of the worker which has been given by the Supreme Court in its judgment on Bangalore Water Supply and Sewage case. On this the Supreme Court said that all persons other than the employees under the sovereign unalienable power of the country are workers and that has to be extended to every person.

The very basis of this Bill goes to show that the people who are working in the General Insurance Company are taken away from the ambit of this definition of the worker. Therefore, it cuts at the very root of collective bargaining.

I also oppose this Bill because this will be concentrating power in the hands of a few bureaucrats. These are my main points.

I reiterate my points again. One is that this Bill circumvents the decision of the Supreme Court. Secondly it gives arbitrary powers to the bureaucrats. Thirdly this is against the labour jurisprudence. Fourthly the very approach of the Bill is very bad. Keeping these in view I submit that this Bill may not be pressed. Therefore, I oppose this Bill.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore) : Sir, I join my hon friend on opposing this Bill in all its aspects. I would like that Shri Janardhana Poojary hears the counsels that we give through you.

In the very recent elections the Congress Party has done well in many industrial and working class areas. So, we can say that the working class people generally voted the Congress to power this time. But they are watching the performance of the present Government. And here you are giving this *Tohfa* to those very workers who have brought you to power. It is the most draconian Bill. I fail to understand why the Government is insisting on such a Bill and not amending it as the situation demands.

One of the reasons for your bringing forward this Bill is that a Class III employee, a Superintendent, can get Rs. 4,080 as against the amoluments—basic pay plus DA—of the General Manager at the minimum and maximum of the grade amount to Rs. 3,950 and Rs. 4,550 respectively. Sir, we should call a spade a spade. We should not hide our intentions by giving such

examples. There are 25,000 Class III and Class IV employees in the General Insurance. This Superintendent Cadre is a closed cadre. Only fifty employees are still remaining as Superintendents and after their retirement nobody will be in the cadre of Superintendent. So, when you make this as an issue, it looks really very shocking. My friend has given the example of a socialist country and even of the USA where you will find more you work, more you get. Efficient workers in the Soviet Union draw much more salary than a General Manager. So, why do you grudge that? Because you are a capitalist country, I do not want you to adopt the Socialist norms. You see only 50 people are still remaining and they will be leaving soon and such a thing will not happen any further. Even then the employees' union wanted that, you regulate these things, if you so want. You can regulate it. But why are you taking cudgels against everybody like *dashanan* Ravana fighting everybody under the sky? You are fighting against the union. I am told, even in the year 1980, when our present Labour Minister was the Labour Minister then, at that time the General Insurance walked out of the conciliatory meeting held to bring these things on proper rail. It was your General Insurance which walked out of the conciliatory meeting and then the employees were forced to go to court. And then, you say that you are not going to abide by the decision of the court. You have said you are going to do anything and everything you like. It is said in clause 5(2) :

“Notwithstanding anything contained in any judgment, decree or order of any court, tribunal or other authority or in any other law, agreement, award or other instrument for the time being in force,—”

You have covered everything under the sky. You have put everything in the Bill, whatever may be there or may not be there, you have written everything in the Bill. This is most unfortunate. I hope

you will consider these things and would not press for these things.

Another peculiar thing is you are withdrawing some privileges which they were enjoying. Can you do it? They have earned certain rights, working classes have earned certain rights by their struggle—not by the gift of this government or that government. They had been to jail; they had been killed. Then, their unions were recognised. Certain agreements were made and certain compromises were made and they advanced to some extent. Now, regarding provident fund, what are you doing? For everybody, provident fund is on basic wage plus D A. Now you are going to amend this for the General Insurance people only, i.e. 10% of the basic pay. Why under the sun, the General Insurance people have to suffer? I do not understand. Same thing is extended to sick leave. What the other people enjoy, you do not allow them to enjoy. I fail to understand it.

You are speaking for so many things. Had there been some undertaking regarding the national wage policy which we were thinking we could have compromised and we could have thought that this was the consensus of the country. You call a meeting of all the Central trade-unions. You call them and decide the policy. But you never think of these things. You do not control the black money in the hands of the rich people. You do not control Tatas, Birlas and Dalmias.

In front of you about 8000 workers are out of job in Bombay despite the fact that you have nationalised some mills. So, you never think in those terms. Naturally, more days are passing. You have come to power recently. More days are passing and more it is clear to the toiling people and working people that what class interest you are going to serve. Hence I oppose this Bill.

Another thing is, all the employees can work up to 58 years of age. For the General Insurance company, you have got

the arbitrary powers to retire them at 55. Why ?

Naturally, I beg to submit that these things should be considered ; please don't press for it. I hope that even at this last moment, you will call the meeting of the trade unions, Government and the G.I.C. and bring certain conciliation. Otherwise, they will be again going to court, this thing and that thing. For you even the Supreme Court is nothing. You are saying that you want to keep the judiciary above everything. You want to keep an independent judiciary. Such is your concern for keeping an independent judiciary ! You are bringing the Bill under which you say, you do not agree with the judgement of the Supreme Court even. It is a funny thing.

I, on my behalf and on behalf of my Party, and on behalf of this side, oppose this Bill tooth and nail. And if you try to press it, we have to walk out. This is the only thing we can do.

[*Translation*]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it appears that Government wants to usurp all powers by putting an end to the practice of negotiations as per the objectives of the General Insurance Bill. The existing arrangements are such that a new General Manager would get a total salary of Rs. 2,840 but a Superintendent, though he might be third divisioner, would get Rs. 4,082 on reaching higher stage by way of promotions. This means that the officers would get less than the Superintendents and other subordinate employees. Previously in such circumstances, the management and the employees used to sit around the negotiating table to find a solution but now all such powers are sought to be appropriated by the Corporation and this is against the fundamental principles. Under the new provision, no agreement can be reached.

The practice prevalent in other Corporations like the Food Corporation of

India and other public corporations, should be adopted in this corporation also. There also in such difficulties, agreements are reached by negotiations between management and workers. But now this practice is being discarded. Therefore, I and my Party oppose this Bill and I request the Minister to withdraw this Bill keeping in view the need of the hour.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it has been stated that this Bill is a draconian Bill and an anti-labour measure. The hon. Members while expressing their views also have stated that we are against labour and working class and that this is a gift we are giving to the class after getting a massive mandate.

I thank my hon. friends from the Opposition as well as from this side for giving valuable suggestions. Before coming to the question whether there was a distortion in the salary and emoluments of the employees, whether we have to remove that distortion or anomaly, if there is any such thing, in the salary and emoluments, I may be permitted to draw your attention to the position obtaining in regard to the emoluments. A Class III employee whose basic pay is Rs. 525 will be getting Rs. 1906 as dearness allowance and other allowances. The total emoluments that he will be getting Rs. 2431. At the same time, an officer of the Corporation, at the same level, whose basic pay is Rs. 530 will be getting only Rs. 1384 as dearness allowance and other allowances. The total amount he would be getting is Rs. 1,914/- whereas a Class III employee, a clerk would be getting Rs. 2,431/- at that stage.

If the basic pay of the Officer is Rs. 610, his total pay would be Rs. 2,154 whereas if the basic pay of a Class III employee is Rs. 615/-, his total emoluments would be Rs. 2,755/.

[Shri Janardhana Poojary]

If the basic pay of the Officer is Rs. 1,000/-, his total emoluments would be Rs. 2,840/- whereas if the basic pay of a Class III employee is Rs. 985/-, his total emoluments would be Rs. 4,082/-. The Superintendent is a Class III employee.

(Interruptions)

My submission would be that we have to consider whether this is in the interests of the Corporation, of the harmonious functioning of the Corporation, of the policy-holders and of the administration. If the Corporation is allowed to grow up in this manner, what would happen to the Corporation? What would be the feelings of the Officers? Let us consider what is the responsibility of the clerical staff and of the officers. Who are having more responsibility? The Officers are accountable. They have got more responsibility.

Hon. Members from the Opposition side have cited the example of China. This is not China. It is India. We have to live here in India. We have to see the climate outside. What would be the feeling of the officers,

(Interruptions)

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : We know that it is India. He is an Indian. You are an Indian. We are all in India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I request the Members to sit down.

AN HON. MEMBER : The Minister is talking like this every day.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Some of the hon. Members have been here and they are responsible Members.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let him finish.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Now coming to the provisions of the Act, the amalgamation or the merger of these companies had taken place in the year 1972. Those 106 insurance companies were merged, amalgamated and they were nationalised. After the nationalisation, the schemes were introduced in the interest of the employees in 1974, 1975, 1976 and 1977. Later, an amended scheme was introduced in 1980. So far as the scheme of 1980 is concerned, the employees, even though broad negotiations had taken place, had gone to the Supreme Court and challenged the scheme. When it was challenged, the Supreme Court held that ... (Interruptions). We are all talking about democracy. They are not allowing me to speak even. Let them first hear me. As I stated, there were the schemes of 1974, 1975, 1976 and 1977. They had not gone against those schemes. These are in the interest of the employees of the Corporation. But what has the Supreme Court held? The Supreme Court has held that the Government has no authority, that Government cannot go beyond the authority given under the Act. What is the Act? The scheme should be related to ... (Interruptions).

13.00 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please do not interrupt. Let him finish.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : I heard them with rapt attention; I did not interfere. They should extend the courtesy of hearing me also.

These schemes were introduced, as I stated, after the nationalisation of the industry. Now what has happened? They have challenged only the scheme of 1980. They did not challenge the earlier schemes. What has the Supreme Court held? The Supreme Court has held that Government has no power to introduce any schemes which are not related to, or connected with, amalgamation (Interruptions).

SHRI AJOY BISWAS (Tripura West) : I am on a point of order. The Minister has said that in the previous case in respect of the 1974 scheme, the Employees' Association had not gone to the Supreme Court. I want to point out that that was a negotiated settlement. He is misleading the House.

(Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There is no point of order. The Minister will continue.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : The Supreme Court has observed that the schemes introduced related to, and connected with, amalgamation. It did not stand the test. So, it is beyond the authority of the Central Government to frame any rule. Further, it is stated that Government is at liberty to frame any appropriate legislation and also an appropriate amendment. This is the wording of the Supreme Court. This, however, will not prevent the Government, if it is so advised, to frame any appropriate legislation giving Power to the Central Government to frame any scheme as it considers fit and proper. (Interruptions) The hon. Members should have some patience. What would happen? What is the impact of this? What is the result of this if we introduce it? All the employees also have accepted it as it is in the interests of the administration and as it is in the interests of the employees,—the 1974 scheme, 1975 scheme, 1976 scheme and also the 1977 scheme. By virtue of the Judgment, it could be said tomorrow that if anybody goes against the scheme, it will be held by the Supreme Court that the Central Government does not have the power to legislate as it is beyond the scope. In order to remove the shortcoming and in order to overcome the deficiency, we have come up with this legislation.

Another point which has been urged here is that we have taken the employees out of the purview of the Industrial Disputes Act. Now we are taking, but this provision has already existed in the earlier

Act of 1972. I may be permitted to read the relevant portion. Sec. 16 reads as follows :—

“The provisions of this section and of any scheme framed under it shall have effect notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in any other law or any agreement, award or other instrument for the time being in force.”

So it is not that we are doing it only now. The hon. Members from this side have clearly stated that during the recent elections people voted for us. Particularly, the workers

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Very soon they will leave you.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Here I want to make it very clear. The workers were with us. The workers were with the Congress Party. Even identical provisions and similar wordings were there in the LIC Act. They went to the Supreme Court and the Supreme Court held that it is constitutional and the Central Government has got the power and now even the electorate have given a vote to the present Government. This ordinance was promulgated before the recent elections. Not only that, the earlier LIC amendment is also there. The Supreme Court held that it is constitutional and that it is not unconstitutional. They have stated that. So you cannot say that it was not within the knowledge of the workers. The workers supported it as it is in the interests of the administration, as it is in the interests of the cost element and workers supported it.

Coming to another point, they have stated what is the number. There are 145 Superintendents in the Corporation.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : What is the number of employees ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Now it is for the consideration of this House whether we have to allow this ano-

[Shri Janardhana Poojary]

maly to continue, whether we have to allow this distortion to continue. At a certain point we have to put a stop.

Now I am just bringing to your notice We are talking about the weaker sections, Hon. Members of the Opposition are also talking about the weaker sections, They say about 31 crores of people are living below the poverty line whose income does not exceed Rs. 65.....

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Tatas, Birlas — all those points you have made, Please let him finish

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : It is my duty also to reply to them. I am just bringing it to your notice. It is the duty of the Central Government It is the duty of the Congress Government. It is a commitment they have given to the nation that the weaker sections shall be protected.

Nobody should be under the impression that the Banking service is not for weaker people. The Banking service should work for the benefit of the poor people and the weaker sections of our people.

With these words I conclude my reply to the points which have been raised in the course of the Debate.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He has already explained. There is no point in going over the same point once again. You have already opposed and spoken everything. All of you should not shout, Please take your seats. So many of you are standing. You have already expressed your views. You have already given your suggestions. Now everything is over.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : We should not be asked to pass the Bill in such a hurry. It is not correct.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That the Bill further to amend the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act, 1972 as passed by Rajya Sabha be taken into consideration,”

The motion was adopted,

[*Dr. Saradish Roy, Shri Narain Choubey And Some Other Hon-Members Then Left the House*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now we take up Clause-by-clause.

The question is :

“That Clauses 2 to 6 stand part of the Bill ”

The motion was adopted

Clause 2 to 6 were added to the Bill

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : I beg to move :

“That the Bill be passed.”

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER ; The question is :

“That the Bill be passed.”

The motion was adopted.

13.14 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: DIS-APPROVAL OF NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION PLANNING BOARD ORDINANCE AND NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION PLANNING BOARD BILL

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We now take up items 17 and 18 together for discussion.

13.14½ hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Soz to move the Resolution.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla) : I beg to move :

“This House disapproves of the National Capital Region Planning Board Ordinance, 1984 (Ordinance No. 11 of 1984) promulgated by the President on the 19th October, 1984.”

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I stand to oppose the National Capital Region Planning Board Bill which is being introduced by the Minister.

Sir, this Ordinance was promulgated in October and it is being replaced by a Bill now. I have got very serious objections to the passing of the Bill.

Delhi is expanding very fast. There is need for proper planning, but the kind of planning proposed in the Bill is renugnant to the very provisions of our Constitution. In urban areas slums are growing. I invite the attention of the hon. Minister to what I am saying against the Bill.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, perhaps they want to extend these slums to Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Haryana. The background against the Ordinance promulgated in October last was nothing but a political gimmick. Perhaps they wanted to derive some political advantages by promulgation of this Ordinance and now they have come forward with a Bill. I want to caution the Government that it will have very serious repercussions. It is such an important issue in which I want to make suggestions. Since this is a very important Bill extending practically the boundaries of Delhi to Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh and although the State Assemblies of these States have accented the idea, the people have not been consulted in this very important issue. There

are many more institutions as also the Opposition which have not been consulted and the implications have not been worked out. I do not know whether proper funding would be made available for this purpose. The hon Minister must be knowing about the revised Master Plan and how much money will be required for implementing this programme. If adequate funding is not available, then slums will grow towards Rajasthan, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. Unless the Opposition Parties are consulted, not only at the national level but particularly in Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Haryana, the Government will not be in a position to know the full implication. Otherwise, those States will have to function under a Statutory Board, the Chairman of which will be the Minister for Works & Housing. It amounts to snatching away the rights guaranteed by the Constitution. The Delhi Development Authority is known for rampant corruption and this fact is already known to the people of the country that D.D.A. acquired lands at very low rates and the plots were allotted to the prospective allottees at a very exorbitant rates. All kinds of corruption is going on and the hon. Minister is seized of the problem. We know that he wants to cleanse the entire functioning of the D D A. But in the meantime whatever happens here in Delhi will be extended to the neighbouring States.

There is another apprehension that the agricultural land will also be acquired for housing purposes and since there is no effective planning, the entire programme will be lop-sided. Of course the Bill is very good, acceptable to me. But I would request the hon Minister not to press for its passing at this stage. I would request him kindly consider passing it on to a Select Committee and give a chance to the people to think about it and later the Government will have all the authority and power to introduce this Bill and get it passed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Statutory Resolution moved.

“This House disapproves of the National Capital Region Planning Board

Ordinance, 1984 (Ordinance No. 11 of 1984) promulgated by the President on the 19th October, 1984."

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill to provide for the constitution of a Planning Board for the preparation of a plan for the development of the National Capital Region and for coordinating and monitoring the implementation of such plan and for evolving harmonised policies for the control of land-uses and development of infrastructure in the National Capital Region so as to avoid any haphazard development of that region and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The Bill seeks to achieve the objective of setting up a statutory authority for the National Capital Region which will be responsible for planning, monitoring and development of the region and to evolve a harmonised policy for the control of the land-uses and development of infrastructure in the region in order to achieve a balanced growth of the region and prevent haphazard urbanisation. The national capital region comprises of an area of about 30,000 sq. kms, which includes parts of Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and the whole of the Union Territory of Delhi. The population of Delhi Metropolitan Area was 7.1 million in 1981. If present trend continues, the population of this area will be 20 million in the year 2001 A. D. The expected population rise highlights the need for regulation of the growth in the National Capital Region and also for ensuring that the basic services such as water supply, sanitation, electricity, transport shelter and other facilities are properly distributed and maintained. This would require

careful planning and execution of schemes for the benefit of the entire region and the areas around it. It is in this background that the present legislation has been brought after consulting the State Governments of Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh and after necessary authorisation of these state legislatures under Article 252 of the Constitution. I would like to make it clear that there would be no interference with the functioning of the States concerned and the objective is to launch a combined effort to develop the region as a whole.

With these few words, I commend the Bill for the acceptance of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That the Bill to provide for the constitution of a Planning Board for the preparation of a plan for the development of the National Capital Region and for coordinating and monitoring the implementation of such plan and for evolving harmonised policies for the control of land-uses and development of infrastructure in the National Capital Region so as to avoid any haphazard development of that region and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SHRI V. SOBHANEDREESWARA ROA (Vijaywada) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, while I do agree with the objects and reasons of the Bill brought forward by the hon. Minister, I feel there is a strong necessity to bring about certain changes in the provisions of the Bill proposed.

Firstly, the Board shall constitute a committee, namely the Planning Committee to assist the Board in the discharge of its functions. The Members of the Committee are also officials, namely, the Member-Secretary to the Board, Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Secretary-in-charge of Urban Development in each State, Vice-Chairman, Delhi

Development Authority, the Chief Planner, Town and Country Planning Organisation New Delhi and the Chief Town Planner of each participating State. I would request the hon. Minister to kindly include one non-official also, a peoples' representative, or a citizen, who is known for his integrity, honesty and his commitment for the development in this Committee. Unless it is done, it is a clear negation of democratic values and concepts. All the officials are at the top level and they will not find much time to give a patient hearing to the people who want to express their views or give their suggestions. In fact Government has been giving opportunity to the peoples' representatives to be the Chairman of the Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads. In all developmental matters they are at the helm affairs. So, one member from State, one non-official should also be included in this Planning Committee which is going to play a very vital and important role in the National Capital Region Planning Board.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, apart from what is stated in Clause 12, that is "before preparing any regional plan finally..." it should be given the widest publicity through news-papers for the benefit of thousands of people, responsible citizens who are either staying in that area or who belong to that area, or those who have a genuine interest in the coordinated and regulated development of the National Capital Region, which is the main objective of this Bill, so that they would come to know what this Committee is. So, it should be made clear through news-papers to all the well-meaning citizens and responsible people so as to enable them to express their views and give their suggestions. I request the hon. Minister to kindly give an opportunity to the people.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, on another matter in Clause 33 it is mentioned :

".....any person generally or specially authorised by the Board in this behalf may at all reasonable time, enter upon any land or premises

and do such things thereon as may be necessary for the purpose of lawfully carrying out any works or for making any survey, examination or investigation, preliminary or incidental to the exercise of any power or performance of any function by the Board under this Act."

There is one more sentence beneath it, which says :

"Provided that no such person shall enter any building or any enclosed courtyard or garden attached to a dwelling-house without previously giving the occupier thereof at least three days' notice in writing of his intention to do so."

Here it covers the building and the premises. But what about the agricultural lands which are vacant? A person who is authorised by this Board can simply come and say that he has taken possession of this land. So, it is not fair. A farmer, an illiterate man, a villager, should not be denied the opportunity of ventilating his grievance. I request the hon. Minister that the Government should give three days' notice to the land owner also.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I request the hon. Minister to send the Bill for the consideration of a Select Committee for making the necessary amendments in this direction and bring forth the Bill again before the House. I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the National Capital Region Planning Board Bill, 1985. I wholeheartedly support the objects of this Bill, which have been stated by Government. It has been proposed to establish a Planning Board in Alwar in Rajasthan. I demand that the areas situated nearby Delhi, such as Bharatpur

[Shri Girdhari Lal Vyas]

should also be included in it so that sufficient development of those areas could be ensured. Such a suggestion has already been given by the State Government to the Government of India.

Rajasthan is a very backward State. There is lack of Industries. If the areas of Rajasthan are linked with the Capital of Delhi, development would take place there. I would also like to state that it is an appreciable step. For years together we have been hearing that such a scheme was going to be introduced. Sometime between 1950 and 1960 we had heard that a Board was proposed to be set up but Government has brought forward a Bill in Parliament to that effect in 1985. It has been delayed much and it has caused heavy loss to Delhi. Establishment of large number of industries in Delhi have added much to the environmental pollution. The population has increased to 60 to 65 lacs. The people of Delhi have to face serious problems due to the environmental pollution. All the industries should be shifted from Delhi to some remote areas so that the people of Delhi could enjoy healthy environment and maintain good health. Besides, the increase in population should also be contained. With the increase in population, facilities regarding supply of water, electricity and other development works will have to be augmented. If such a scheme with proper planning is not undertaken increase in population and haphazard growth of the city will cause much inconvenience to the people of the Capital. This scheme should be made more practicable.

It is the intention of Government that no factory or industry should be set up in the metropolitan cities having population above 60 or 65 lakh. If any factory or any industry is established in big cities, then the environment of that city is polluted and it causes health hazard there. Most of the metropolitan cities of our country have big industries causing much pollution there. It would not be practicable for Government to remove all these industries from there.

However, for the planned development of these cities, Government should have a check on future growth of new industries in these cities. Such a scheme should be implemented strictly.

Master Plan of Delhi should also be prepared in a proper way and not in a haphazard way so that future development is not marred. Any plan prepared in a haphazard way will create serious problems. In this region a definite area should be identified where industries are to be set up. Specific areas have to be earmarked separately for industrial and residential purposes. In areas earmarked for residential use, plots of land should be allotted according to the needs of the people and arrangements should be made to enable people to build their houses. All these provisions should be made in the plan.

Large number of persons are there in Delhi who do not have residential accommodation. This problem exists in all the cities, not in Delhi alone. Due to this problem, slums are created in all the cities. Land is not available to build houses in cities, as a result of which, people construct houses on sullage drains. It creates slums and poses serious health problems to the people. Government also is unable to provide any facility to such people. That is why the entire work should be taken up in a planned way so that people could get plots easily. People want to build houses but Government is unable to give them land. DDA is a Government department and it purchases land from farmers at very cheap rates and after that DDA cuts plots and allots them to people at exorbitant rates, earning more than thousand times profit. DDA acquires 10,000 to 20,000 bighas of land and cuts plots of 200 to 250 sq. yards and then sells them at the rate of Rs 2 lakh to 2.5 lakh per plot. Such a profitable business is carried on by the DDA but even then plots are not available to the people. For want of land for housing, large number of people have been facing serious difficulties. Therefore, a large number of people indulge in unauthorised con-

structions on illegally purchased land. In this way they make their own arrangements. The main cause of such unauthorised construction is that the Government is unable to provide adequate land to the people. If Government undertakes all the work properly, then only housing needs of lakhs of people can be met. A properly chalked out scheme will provide relief to more and more people.

Just now a brother from Telugu Desam was making his speech. He referred to clause 33 and said that after issuing a notice, a person can be evicted or his house can be taken possession of.

[*English*]

“Subject to any rules made in this behalf, any person generally or especially authorised by the Board in this behalf, may, at all reasonable times, enter upon any land or premises and do such things thereon as may be necessary for the purpose of lawfully carrying out any works or for making any survey, examination or investigation, preliminary or incidental to the exercise of any power of performance of any function by the Board under this Act.

Provided that no such person shall enter any building or any enclosed courtyard or garden attached to a dwellinghouse without previously giving the occupier thereof at least three days notice in writing of his intention to do so.”

[*Translation*]

It has been provided in it that the officers are authorised to enter but there is a proviso to this provision also that the officers have to give three days notice before entering upon any dwelling-house. Thus, there is nothing wrong in this provision for which the hon. Member has stated that it will be a highhandedness.

I would like to mention one thing that you are taking such a large area of U.P., Rajasthan and Haryana for constituting the National Capital region. There are a large number of residential colonies in these areas and a large number of people have built their houses there. According to your plan, separate areas would be earmarked for industries, for residential colonies, for constructing roads, parks, schools, hospitals, etc. But it has not been provided in this Bill how Government will protect such colonies as already exist on that land and what compensation will be given to the people and in what way it will be given. Nothing has been mentioned about all these things in it. I would like to know whether Government have considered the aspect how a satisfactory compensation would be given to those persons who have got the houses built on that land? It is not clear whether such persons will be allotted built houses or land for construction of houses or in what way they will be suitably compensated. All the provisions in this behalf must be incorporated in this legislation. I do not find any such provision in this Bill which could give any succour to these persons. Therefore, Government must consider these aspects thoroughly.

The work being undertaken by Government is a gigantic one. The areas of different States which are being brought under this capital region are to continue to be administered by the respective State Governments. So, it should be clarified how will the Central Government take the cooperation of the concerned State Governments in implementing this scheme. I would like to know whether the officers of the State Governments would help in the implementation or the officers of the Central Government would handle the entire work of its implementation. There should be some such arrangements whereby some coordination between the work of the officers of the Rajasthan and other State Governments and those of the Central Government is ensured, so that special attention could be given to the planning of the capital

[Shri Girdhari Lal Vyas]

region. May I know whether such a provision is there in it or not? If not Government should take proper steps in this direction. May I know whether Government have made any provision under which this Programme is also helpful to all those officers of the State Governments engaged in the planning and development work? There are so many such projects for which funds are provided by Government of India but they are implemented by the respective State Governments. Construction of national highway, for instance, is one such work. I personally feel that the programmes under the planning of National Capital Region cannot be implemented by the Government of India alone properly. Therefore, I would like to urge upon Government that these programmes should be implemented properly. If I say something then the hon. Member from Kashmir would object to it. He very often brings a statutory resolution on one subject or the other. Delhi will be specially benefited by this measure. There are big industries around Delhi and serious pollution is spreading due to those industries. If this problem is solved, Delhi would be highly benefited, the slums would be cleared in Delhi and the people living there would get land and houses would be constructed there. All these arrangements would be done. Prof. Saheb should know that it is not a job of teaching but it is a matter of using one's intellect. He should first give thought to the problem and then say anything. By just opposing and bringing forward a statutory resolution, nothing could be achieved. You bring forward statutory resolutions on every subject and do not try to understand the aims and objectives for which the Central Government bring forward any Bill Prof. Saheb, you are an educationist and not an uneducated person but I pity your wisdom. You should give more attention to the need for development. You live in Delhi for 9 months in an year and, therefore, it is your duty to think over the proper development of Delhi and

give full cooperation for that. This is my only request to you.

With these words I support the Bill.

[English]

SHRI SUDHIR ROY (Burdwan) : Mr. Chairman, I welcome this National Capital Region Planning Board Bill of the Union Government and extend our support to this Bill. In this age of planning and rapid industrialisation nothing can be left to spontaneity and private enterprise.

I would like to express certain views in this connection. First of all, what is required is active cooperation on the part of the States. If you try to preach gospels to the State Government, nothing will be done. What is required is financial assistance to the State Government. Often, State Governments are simply asked to carry out their projects or to complete their projects in time.

The Central Government must come forward with liberal financial assistance to the State Governments. It is found in Delhi that infrastructural facilities such as power, roads, schools, supply of drinking water, etc. are more or less adequate. But if we want to make this National Capital Region Plan a success, then these infrastructural facilities should also be made available in the 18 ring towns which have been envisaged in the National Capital Region Plan.

When the Government implement the National Capital Region, it should not erode the authority of the State Governments. Often we find that the Central Government tried to neglect the authority of the State Governments. For a successful implementation of this plan active cooperation of the State Governments

should be sought by the Central Government.

Whenever there is a development of any region, people belonging to low income group and weaker sections are ousted from that area. Speculation in the land starts. And blackmoney owners take ill advantage of that. Therefore, what is necessary is laying emphasis on the construction of houses for the people belonging to low income group and weaker section of society, especially because in the National Capital Region area industrialisation is taking place at a rapid pace. Faridabad and Ghaziabad are already industrialised to a great extent. But they lack in housing facilities. Therefore, for the benefit of the working class, emphasis should be laid on the construction of houses. Not only this. Whenever we develop such areas, infrastructural facilities that exist in Delhi, that is, roads, health services, schools supply of drinking water these facilities should also be made available to the adjoining States of UP, Rajasthan and Haryana. Unless you develop counter-magnet areas, one day this National Capital Region will turn into a slum. Unless you spend some more money for the development of State Capitals, migration of workers to the National Capital will never stop. It is natural that the people from all parts of the country will come to Delhi for employment and for earning their livelihood. Therefore, in order to check this migration, emphasis should be laid on the development of State Capitals. It has been found that the demands of the State Governments are often neglected. When Asiad was held, people of Calcutta wanted football events to be held in Calcutta as Calcutta people are crazy over football. But our request was not acceded to. Had it been acceded to, then Calcutta would have got a few more stadia, a few more roads and a few more buildings.

SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH (Inner Manipal): I rise to support the Bill to provide for the constitution of the Planning Board for the development of the *National Capital Region*.

The importance of Delhi as a city by itself and also as a national capital cannot be exaggerated. The development of the city of Delhi and also the proposed plan to develop a national capital region should be viewed from the angle of the entire nation. The population pressure on Delhi is increasing year after year. We have to see whether our planners succeed in foreseeing the years to come or they fail. Now we have a very important plan before us. The Government have decided to take up a very gigantic task. As my hon. colleague Mr. Vyas has just pointed out, a large chunk of area comprising important portions of five States adjoining the Union Territory of Delhi is going to be earmarked and will be put at the disposal of the planners.

From the experience that we have gathered in the whole country, we see today that our planners have lacked due foresight in some cities. With the passage of every 10, 20 or 30 years we feel that the plan should have been taken up in some other way and not in the way we took it up. The proposed National Capital Region Plan should not be for the benefit of the participating States only, as has been pointed out in the Bill. As I have already said, when we frame a plan, we should frame it from the national point of view so that we may not have to repent afterwards. Since this is a big area to be planned for the years to come, may I suggest to the hon. Minister that not only the participating States and Union Territories should be represented on the Board but, to give a national character to this plan, representation should be given to other States also. The representation may not be political, it should be purely on expert basis because town planning should be free from mere political influence and consideration. We should have the benefit of not only our own experts but, if necessary we may invite foreign experts also. I do not mean to say that what is foreign is always better; what I mean is we should widen our perspective and invite such people from other countries who have done this exercise earlier in their own

[Shri N. Tombi Singh]

countries so that this proposed plan may be beneficial for the whole country.

As I mentioned in the beginning of my speech, Delhi is the capital of the nation. So, whoever comes, may be from the south or the west, or the north-west or the north-east, he should feel that Delhi is the home for every Indian. The national climate that will be built up in this capital city should be such that it should be conducive to the national integration, unity and the communal harmony. So, when we build up a city and particularly when a new area is to be built up it should be so planned that it meets not only the industrial, employment and developmental requirements of the area, but also meets the national requirements on the basis of different cultural entities that are found in different parts of the country. So, may I suggest that when we plan this new region, the Government may consider the allocation of certain areas to different States and Union territories and invite them to participate in its construction. These separate sectors of this new capital should be earmarked to different States and Union Territories to develop them as their own areas or sectors as per their requirements. This will be very conducive to providing national harmony and an air of integration.

The constitution of the planning Board for this capital region looks to be something political and bureaucratic. What is more important here is the technical expertise at the town planning and we have much to learn from the other countries in this respect. As I have said what is foreign should not always be considered better, but we should admit that from other countries, particularly from the developed ones, we have a lot more to learn. We can invite their expertise and take benefit from their suggestions. Only then will this new proposal be of tremendous benefit not only to this area, but to the whole country. I hope the Hon. Minister will respond to these suggestions.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support this Bill. But while supporting it, I would also like to draw your attention and the attention of the House to certain points.

The way the pressure is increasing on Delhi, and if this process continues, we may not be able to find a solution to this problem in spite of best intentions of the Bill and many plans. Nobody has any objection to the need of development of Delhi but it is also imperative that there should be a balanced development throughout the country.

14.00 hrs.

Delhi is a place of attraction not merely on account of being the capital of the country. The pace of development in other areas and other States of our country is also quite slow. Besides the development of Delhi, we should pay proper attention to the development of other areas also and we should consider the problems being faced by the common man in those areas in regard to livelihood and other necessities of life. The condition of the people in other parts of our country is quite deplorable. If you look at the facilities available in district headquarters and sub-divisional headquarters, as compared to the Capital, you will find that people have been living in a pitiable condition there. What to talk of the conditions in rural areas.

I come from the State of Bihar and the condition of the capital of that State is pitiable. Shri Ghafoor Saheb who has been piloting this Bill knows himself this fact because he also comes from the State of Bihar and he had been the Chief Minister of that State. If we compare the condition of the Capital of Bihar and those of other States, the difference will become clear. Even after the passage of such a long time, the problem of unemployment and other problems connected with development are beyond description. Large number of persons come to Delhi from

U P. and Bihar People from every corner of the country come to Delhi and if this process is allowed to continue, no one knows what turn the situation will take. Therefore, it is necessary that this influx of people is controlled. It is necessary that those areas are properly developed to have a check over this influx. Unless those areas are developed, the people of those areas will continue to come to Delhi. Under this Bill the areas around Delhi are proposed to be included in the Capital region and industries and other development projects will be undertaken there. It is thus quite clear that the people of other regions will be attracted towards Delhi because they will feel that their problem of livelihood can be solved only when they come to Delhi.

This is the only submission that I have to make. It is necessary to consider all these things, otherwise we will not be able to achieve anything even after preparing several schemes. Today, this scheme is being formulated and a Bill has been brought. After a few days, another Bill would have to be brought. If proper development of other areas is not undertaken and they are left undeveloped then it is quite evident that the people will continue to flock to this area.

With these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur) : Sir, I support the National Capital Region Planning Board Bill, 1985 as introduced by a hon. Minister of Works and Housing. Sir, the Plan is in the nature of a coordinated development of the National Capital Region which comprises more than one State or Union Territory. Sir, an ordinance was promulgated on the 19th of October, 1984 as the earlier Bill which was introduced on the 27th of August, 1984 lapsed on account of the fact that Parliament could not have the session. So, in order to prevent any misuse of land by the profiteering element in Delhi, this ordinance was promulgated and this Bill

provides for the constitution of National Capital Region Planning Board which will be there to look after so many problems.

Sir, Delhi is not only the capital of India but it is also, what you call in literary language, the cynosure of neighbouring eyes. From all over the world people flock to Delhi and from all the States people flock to Delhi, not only for administrative or political purposes but also having a desire to reside in Delhi. Sir, it is because of that that Delhi has outgrown its size and the population of Delhi has increased many fold since India attained independence. But, Sir, I remember those days, as referred to in the history of telegraph movement, that there was a time when telephone exchange could not be established in Delhi because a requisite number of people were not ready to apply for telephone. That was way back in 1911 or earlier to 1911 when Delhi was not the capital of India. Today we have lakhs of telephone users and a number of telephone exchanges and the demand is increasing hundred fold and multiplying under various categories, even like OYT So, Delhi is growing very fast. There is no doubt about it. People from various States want to come and live in Delhi because of the many attractive features that Delhi provides. In addition to what we do here in Parliament, there are the Central Secretariat and the Rashtrapati Bhavan which are hub of activities. It has the old historic milieu which attract people to this region and for sometime past, the growth has been haphazard. Roughly it has been estimated that about 5 lakhs of people pour into Delhi and they never want to go back, with the result that there are slums and under developed colonies around. Beyond Delhi, it has also become a suburb. If you see the trains going to Sonapat or Faridabad or Meerut, these are all overcrowded. So, it is a welcome step that the Union Government has thought of building and developing a National Capital Region as such. It is not limited to the core of Delhi. It has also within its ambit four districts and two tehsils of Haryana, some districts of Uttar Pradesh and some tehsils of Rajasthan.

One planning Board is being provided.

[Prof. Narain Chand Parashar]

It is going to be a statutory Board. Earlier, the Board was only an advisory one which could not do much. So, it is expected that proper harmonising of various land uses, coordination, etc. will take place.

We have already seen one of the plans prepared by the DDA for "Delhi in 2001 A.D." The requirement of Delhi at that time has been projected and various plans have been prepared and submitted to the Union Government for the Seventh Plan and subsequent Five Year Plans. We hope that Delhi would acquire a beautiful face after these Plans are implemented.

I would support the contention of my hon. friend from Manipur, Mr. Tombi Singh, who spoke before me that Delhi is not the concern of only the neighbouring States. In fact, the population in Delhi, if it is analysed on the basis of linguistic groups, would be far larger from other States than from these neighbouring States. The advantage in respect of these neighbouring States is that the people come to Delhi in the morning and go back in the night whereas the people who come from Himachal Pradesh or Manipur or Bihar or West Bengal or from southern States would like to settle in Delhi. They would not like to go back to their own States. Surely, I see no justification for confining the membership of the Planning Board to the Union Territory of Delhi and the neighbouring States of Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. I would plead with the hon. Minister to consider, since the National Capital Region embraces within its ambit as a core element the Union Territory of Delhi, the cities of Delhi and New Delhi which are very attractive for people to come from outside and settle here, there should be some voice in the Board from other States also.

As it is today, even from my own State of Himachal Pradesh I find over a lakh of people are staying here. The total population of my State of Himachal Pradesh is about 44 lakhs. That would mean about 3 per cent of Himachalis are

settled in Delhi. So would be the case of Punjab. I think, in the case of Punjab it would be more than 5 to 10 per cent. Many Punjabis after Partition have come and settled here. The people from other States also, like, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and southern States are also settled here. In case you want to make Delhi as a microcosm of India or if you want to make Delhi really as the National Capital Region, on this Board, you must have People, not only Chief Ministers of Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Lt. Governor of Delhi, but also from other States.

Also, I see little justification for the Planning Committee which is being constituted to advise the Board being headed by the Member-Secretary of the Board. As a functional arrangement, it is all right. But I do not know whether it would be able to have proper experience or draw lessons from experience. As to whether proper suggestions would be invited or accepted or drawn by this Planning committee comprising of various sub-sectors of our population is not understandable. Therefore, This Planning Committee also should be broad-based.

What is the justification for nominating only the Chief Ministers or the justification for nominating different officers of the Planning Committee? They are experts no doubt. But experts have their own limitations also. The experts and the officers with the best of expertise and the best of experience and talent have got a certain drawback.

14.10 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

They do not live in touch with the people as the representatives of the people do. I do not see why a Member of Parliament of Delhi should not be a Member on this Board to represent the Union Territory of Delhi. How is the Lieutenant-Governor of Delhi more qualified to represent the people of Delhi than the Member of Parliament elected by the

people of Delhi? I plead for a more representative character to the Board or the Planning Committee and to give it a national character in the sense that though the neighbouring States are there, they have their importance because they have to initiate legislation for this. They have to provide the necessary machinery and they have to have Committees in their own States also for this. But that is one aspect. The aspirations of the people who come to Delhi are larger than those who are confined within the four walls or the boundaries of the limits which are set here. So, I would also plead for this that a mechanism should be evolved to see that the people from various States, the representatives of the various segments of Indian society, are involved in the planning and in the coordination which is necessary for the development of this national capital region.

I have also seen some of the statements in the aims and objects which have been made here and I find that here is reference in object No. 3 :

... and eleven other members to be nominated by the Central Government in consultation with the participating States and the Union territory of Delhi. The Ordinance conferred on the planning Board, powers with respect to the preparation, modification, revision and review of a regional plan for the development of the National Capital Region and the preparation of functional plans for the proper guidance of the participating States and the Union territory of Delhi while leaving with the participating States and the Union territory of Delhi the power to prepare sub regional plans and project plans."

This is the area where you are encroaching upon some powers of the States also. When we are doing this, when we are having some plans for the other States, we should see that there

is no irritation involved and some smoothening effect should be there. It should appear that these plans are being prepared by those States because you are not acquiring the land from these States to the Union Territory of Delhi. You are keeping them to those States. Those States have sovereign Assemblies, sovereign within the meaning of the State List. In respect of those subjects, they have enough powers. Therefore, we should try to see that there is no irritation. I do not foresee anything. There might be some kind of irritation and we have to take these legislation powers with us. It should not give the impression that Central Government is doing something which is detrimental to the States but with the cooperation of the States. I am happy some references have been made to it. We have to think of those sub-regional plans and projects, I do not know what would be the shape of things to come, whether these plans would be passed by those Governments and they will be subjected to the scrutiny of Parliament also and the national capital region package measures would be brought before the parliament as this Bill has been brought or whether this would be subjected to scrutiny first or this would come later, all this should be checked first. The details are not available. Similarly we have various projects which have been provided, for example, in these finance accounts and audits etc. These are various Clauses which have been referred to for this purpose. For example, 23.

"23. The Board shall, in each financial year, prepare in such form and at such time as may be prescribed its budget for the next financial year and forward the same to the Central Government at least three months prior to the commencement of the next financial year."

This is a good measure. This plan would also be subjected to the scrutiny of the State Governments. You make a provision for the State Governments. A

[Prof. Narain Chand Parashar]

picture of the plan should be presented to the various Assemblies and you should see that those Assemblies approve this plan. The Central Government is governing all the States. There are some areas which need clarification and areas which need elucidation which I hope should be quite clear in the interest of the functioning of the Board.

I would like to point out one thing here. The experience about the DDA that has been pointed out by the various Committees of Parliament is that sometimes there is recourse to constructing sub-standard types. When we are launching a plan like this, we should try to ensure that the construction aspect is looked after by experts and the buildings are properly constructed and proper drainage is there. I remember the example when Lt. Governor, Delhi, had to rush to Pritampura and other areas of north Delhi ; the whole area was submerged under water. What is the use of having such a plan if there is no proper drainage ? Crores of rupees are spent on building housing colonies for government employees and others, but they are not *providing for proper drainage*. Sometimes the plan is made very attractive for being shown at the time of auction ; an attractive blue-print is shown to the people who go for bidding, but when it comes to actual construction, the site is changed. Instead of putting a shopping complex, they put a sink-tank, with the result that people who bought plots for constructing residential accommodation find that, before them, instead of a school as shown in the map, there is a sink-tank, instead of a park, there is a police-station. So all these things should be scrutinised. You should not leave these things only to the engineers because they would give a very attractive plan for purposes of bidding, but what actually happens is that the plan is changed. This is nothing but cheating the people who buy plots for residential purpose in the hope of living in peace, but what they actually find later is something different. I would, therefore, plead that there should be

some scrutiny. When a plan is given to the people who want to bid for plots in an auction, it should not be changed later on, because then the only remedy for the people who bought the plots is to go to the courts and incur expenses on litigation. The National Capital Region should not be a duplication of what has been going in the DDA. The various activities should be streamlined. We should learn lessons from what the DDA has done. Of course, DDA has done good work also ; we cannot say that no good work has been done by the DDA ; very good work has been done, but whatever loopholes are there should be plugged. The various services should be properly streamlined. For example, you are going upto Sonapat, Faridabad and Ghaziabad. What about plan for railways ? I would here bring to your kind notice that the Northern Railway has been trying to have a third terminal for Delhi, but till to-date they have not been able to provide that because the Ministry of Defence refuses to give a plot to them. All these things will have to be taken care of. As you know, there is one terminal, New Delhi, the second in Nizamuddin ; the third at Babar Square has not yet come up.

When you are launching this Plan, the National Capital Region, you should ask the other Ministries of the Government of India to consult you before launching their own plans otherwise there will be collision, there will be a clash, and there will be no harmony. You are providing for harmony with various States. Similarly, you have to provide for harmony with the various Ministries of Government of India. There is no harmony. I have given the instance of Babar Square. The site has yet to be acquired by the Northern Railway, it has not yet been handed over to it because the Ministry of Defence has got a hold on it and they do not want to leave that. Therefore, we have to see that proper transport arrangements, proper health arrangements and the other arrangements are there and they are on such a scale befitting the National Capital Region. It should really be 'national' in concept, in shape, in form, and should be able to inspire the

entire nation. Otherwise, merely adding the word 'national' would not make it national.

I would repeat my suggestion that people from other parts of the country, also do have a stake in Delhi and they should be given some voice. It is not enough to provide for the membership of only the Chief Ministers and Lt. Governor, Delhi. Some representative element should also be provided because unless and until the voice of the people is reflected into the functioning of the Government, in the formulation of the policies, in the emergence of the shape of the National Capital Region, the democratising functioning cannot be said to have been given due weight which is the function of the Parliament to give.

So, with these words, I support the various clauses that have been put forward and I would plead with you again to give this proper thought so that the various aspects which have been projected here are taken into account and Delhi and the National Capital Region emerge as a spot of beauty, a pleasure attraction and an attraction for tourists and that every person from every State and linguistic group who comes here feels that it is his home and there are enough transport and other facilities for him.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAGDISH AVASTHI (Bilhor) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the National Capital Region Planning Board Bill. The Hon. Minister has certainly taken the most appreciable step by bringing forward this Bill.

Delhi is the capital of our country. It is also a city of international importance. Delhi has been expanding day by day. The development of Delhi should be undertaken in such a way that not only the inhabitants of the areas around Delhi are benefited but at the same time foreign tourists are also attracted by its development.

Today Delhi is developing considerably. A Planning Board has been constituted for this area. The Board will consist of 21 Members. I would like to urge the hon. Minister to make this Board more powerful and broad-based. At present there is a provision for having Chief Ministers of four States in it. There is a provision for nomination also. I would like to suggest that this Board should be constituted on a democratic basis. Our public representatives should also be associated with it. Besides this, while undertaking the development work, Government acquires the land of farmers and the attitude of Government towards the farmers is not good. One or two representatives of those farmers whose land is acquired should necessarily be taken in the Board.

I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister to undertake the development of the big cities of other States also on the same pattern as is being done in the case of Delhi by including certain areas of adjoining States in the Capital region.

We know and the House also knows that the population of the country has been increasing. A number of people have been coming towards cities from rural areas for employment and livelihood. Consequently, pressure on cities has been increasing. It has been our endeavour that people should go from cities to the rural areas but what is happening is just the reverse of it, people are coming to cities from rural areas. Keeping in view this situation, appropriate schemes should be formulated for cities. Bombay, Calcutta and Patna are the capitals of the States of our country. Similar schemes should be prepared for the development of these capitals also.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I come from Uttar Pradesh. Kanpur is another big city apart from Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh, Kanpur is not only famous in our country but it has got international importance also. I, therefore, request that similar schemes should be prepared for the development of other capitals of

[Shri Jagdish Avasthi]

States and cities having industrial importance in our country after conducting a survey in this regard.

Schemes regarding education, health, transport, industry, etc., will be prepared by the Planning Board and for that purpose land will be acquired. It has been generally observed that for the development of cities land is being acquired from farmers at a very low rate and the administration or the Board or any authority functioning for that purpose earns huge profits and allots that land on exorbitant rates. Farmers get negligible price for their land. I would like to urge the hon. Minister that if it is not possible for Government to pay to the farmers an amount equal to that charged from the allottees, then reasonable and remunerative prices must be paid to the farmers whose land is acquired by Government. This demand is being raised from all corners of the country. Cities are expanding day by day. Land is being acquired. As a result of it, discontentment is spreading. When State Governments acquire land from farmers they pay less compensation to them and that also not in time. It gives rise to great discontentment. I, therefore, urge the hon. Minister that this suggestion should be taken into consideration seriously that the compensation should be given in time and rate of compensation should also be reasonable to avoid any discontentment among the farmers.

There is no provision in this Bill as to the schemes for which land would be acquired. Nothing has been made clear in this regard. I suggest that it should be clearly provided that such and such programmes would be undertaken by the Planning Board. The objectives of such schemes and their time schedule should also be provided here. Clear provisions should be made in this Bill regarding all these things.

You have included certain districts of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Haryana in the National Capital Region. In this con-

text, I would like to submit that it should be kept in view that there is no duplication or contradiction between the schemes prepared by the development authorities or municipal committee of these areas and those prepared by the Planning Board. Special care should be taken in this regard. There should be coordination between the preparation of schemes by the Members sitting in the Board and the schemes prepared by local authorities, development boards or other authorities. There should be no contradiction between the schemes of the different bodies. It has been generally observed that due to the mutual disputes between the Government departments, important schemes remain unimplemented. No provision regarding maintaining coordination has been made in this Bill. I hope the Hon. Minister will give thought to my suggestion, so that the aims and objectives of our Planning Board are not defeated in the face of differences of opinion among departments. Thus, coordination is a must.

Besides this, all the schemes should be prepared for the benefit of the people. It is generally observed that big industrialists purchase land which has been acquired by Government. There is no doubt that there is a great demand for industries in our country. Industries should expand. There should be some arrangements by which land could be acquired for small scale industrialists and they should also be included in the programme for the development of the country, so that the benefit of the schemes and the development programmes is not snatched away by vested interests and common people are not deprived of those benefits. Plans should be prepared keeping in view the interests of the common people. I hope the Hon. Minister will keep all these points in mind so that the National Capital Region Planning Board Bill may prove to be a successful measure.

With these words, I welcome and support this measure.

SHRI CHANDUPATLA JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are not opposed to the

basic principles of the Bill moved by the hon. Minister. We support it. He has stated that in the absence of any statutory board, he has brought this Bill in the House in consultation with the Chief Ministers of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Haryana alongwith the Lt. Governor of Delhi. But the main consideration is whether the people of Delhi will be benefited by this measure or not. Delhi is the national capital and foreign dignitaries do visit Delhi and therefore, Delhi should be made beautiful. There is no difference of opinions about it. But the point is that in spite of the fact that several agencies have been functioning in Delhi, the people of Delhi are not satisfied. For example, there is the Metropolitan Council, there is the Municipal Corporation of Delhi and there is the New Delhi Municipal Committee and Delhi Development Authority and Cantonment Board also. Besides this, there are certain fields which are directly under the control of the Central Government. For example, in the educational field Central Government runs some colleges and some colleges are governed by the Metropolitan Council. Similarly, Delhi Police is not under Metropolitan Council. It is directly under the control of the Central Government. In the same way the service conditions of the employees of Metropolitan Council are governed by the Home Ministry. This way how is it possible for the Chief Executive Councillor or the Executive Councillor to ensure satisfactory performance by these employees who are placed under them? Due to the existence of so many agencies in Delhi, proper development has not so far been achieved. Delhi Development Authority acquires land of the farmers by paying them only Rs. 5 or 10 per square yard. Afterwards, the same land is sold by DDA at the rate of Rs. 5,000 per square yard. In this way farmers are exploited. It has been correctly pointed out by the hon. Member, who spoke before me that the compensation for the land is not paid to the farmers for years together. Not only this, market value of the land acquired from the farmers is not paid to them. The price of land is paid to farmers on the basis of the rates fixed by the land acquisition officer. Interest at

the rate of 4 per cent only is paid to farmers. If the Government intends to carry out development work on no profit no loss basis then how is it that farmers are not paid adequate compensation? Delhi Development Authority or other agencies functioning in Delhi should keep in view the interests of farmers while undertaking the beautification of Delhi. We have not paid any heed to the interests of farmers up till now. Under Land Acquisition Law, land is acquired from farmers but farmers have to face difficulties in getting compensation. Years go by but farmers do not get anything. It is said that interest at the rate of 4 per cent is paid to farmers while the market value of land is several times more than that. Land is sold by DDA with profit motive and no profit is being passed on to farmers. It is also said that all is being done on a no-profit no-loss basis, while DDA is earning huge profits. I would like to urge Government that market value of the land should be given to farmers urgently. Suppose market value is rupee 1, then only 25 paise are paid to the farmer. The price of the land acquired by DDA should be paid at the rate of market value as soon as possible.

People say that Land Acquisition Act is there, and that anybody is entitled to move the court. But how many farmers are actually able to move the court. They have no money even to reach the premises of the courts, leave aside the cost of litigation. I request that DDA should pay the compensation to farmers as soon as possible. New Delhi Municipal Committee is not an elected body, it is a nominated committee. Other authorities are not capable of handling the work and, therefore, regional board is required to be set up. It is an attempt to beautify some villages of Uttar Pradesh, and Haryana around Delhi. During last elections Congress party and the leaders of the BJP had proposed, to give the status of Assembly to the Delhi Metropolitan Council. But now that proposal is not being implemented. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you might be knowing that a Bill intending to give the status of Assembly

Shri Chandupatla Janga Reddy]

to the Metropolitan Council was introduced in the House during the Janata regime. If that Bill in its entirety is passed now, then it would be much better. In the absence of the Assembly, Government are being compelled to have so many boards. There is so much interference in the administration of Delhi that works are not executed. The state of the Metropolitan Council is also strange. The employees of the Council being under the control of the Central Government do not obey the Council. Whatever work is entrusted by the Council to them, that is not carried out. Four or five Chief Ministers have been associated with the Board for the development of Delhi. If, instead of this measure an Assembly is created the problem will be solved. During the last elections, the Congress party has also declared and other political parties had also expressed their desire that there should be an Assembly. Government should take immediate steps in this direction. A promise made by you in your manifesto regarding Delhi can be fulfilled if Government go in for an Assembly for Delhi.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I request the Government that during the ensuing Budget Session, Government should bring a Bill to provide for an Assembly for Delhi and it should be passed. I have recently learnt from the newspapers that Shri Rajiv Gandhi had also proposed that. To fulfil that promise, the Bill should be brought in the House during the ensuing Budget Session and Delhi should be provided with an Assembly.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wholeheartedly support the National Capital Region Planning Board Bill 1985 which has been moved in the House. As regards the Constitution and composition of the Planning Board, I would like to draw your attention towards clause 3(a)—

[English]

“The Chief Minister of the State of Haryana; the Chief Minister of the State of Rajasthan; the Chief Minister of the State of Uttar Pradesh; the Administrator of the Union Territory.....”.

[Translation]

It has been stated that the Chief Ministers would be the members of that Board. I suggest that in the absence of the Chief Minister of a State, the Housing Minister of that State should be allowed to function as a member. I personally feel that in such an organisation and in the meeting of that body the Housing Ministers should also be made members and then they would have to attend the meeting of the Board and they would properly plead the cause of their respective States. In most of the States, the Chief Ministers are very busy and they are unable to attend such meetings as a result of which no proper representation would be there for such States. Therefore, it would be proper that the Housing Ministers are made members of this Board so that States are represented properly.

My second suggestion is this. No Member of Parliament from Delhi has been associated with this Board. If the Central Government so desires, it can nominate the M.Ps. You can nominate the Members of Parliament on the pattern of the nomination of the officers. With this measure, the development of Delhi is being undertaken. It would not be proper if the Members of Parliament elected in a democratic way in Delhi are not associated with it.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghaziपुर) : The Members of Parliament belonging to other areas, for example Rajasthan, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh should also be associated with this Board.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : It would be better if you have some

patience. I would like to say that at least one Member of Parliament each from Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh must be nominated on this Board, so that the work is done in a democratic way. Such Boards generally become bureaucratic and they function in that way. Now Shri Rajiv Gandhi is our Prime Minister and he wants to do good work. Therefore, this type of work cannot be entrusted to bureaucrats and this responsibility should not be given to them. It would not be proper to ignore the cooperation of the public representatives. It is, therefore, requested that the cooperation of the public representatives should be sought and they should be taken on the Board.

Then, we want to make Delhi an ideal capital. In this connection, I would like to suggest that there are *jhuggi jhonpris* in large numbers in Delhi. Encroachments on the land is made on a large scale and the powerful persons have encouraged the poor people to encroach upon the land. A firm policy should be adopted to deal with such kind of encroachments. During the coming Budget session we should be told about steps proposed to be taken to deal with encroachments. The encroachments made by powerful persons should be immediately done away with. Due to encroachments of this kind, we are not able to beautify the city and this particular situation prevails not only in the city of Delhi but also in all the big cities and in the capitals of each State. There, the encroachment has taken a more acute form, as a result of which the number of *jhuggi jhonpris* has increased enormously. Besides this, a powerful lobby has been functioning in favour of such encroachments, but no steps are taken against those persons. In the absence of any steps, the process of encroachment goes on increasing. *Jhuggi jhonpris* go on increasing and we are not able to undertake the work of beautification of these cities. I, therefore, request that Government should take stringent action in the matter.

It has been mentioned that three ex-

perts will be appointed on this Board. I feel that three experts will not be sufficient and, therefore, there should be three more experts, because it would be necessary to obtain expert opinion. Our endeavour should be to have the city of Geneva as a model; it is an ideal city of the world. We should also build an ideal city in our country. We should have a model of that city and have a map of it and conduct a survey on those lines. We should obtain all the material for that and take advantage of that.

It has also been stated that we should utilise the services of foreign experts. I am opposed to it because it would be an indication of our inability to produce such experts in our own country, who could construct an ideal city. It is not necessary for us to utilise the services of foreign experts because we already have very capable experts in our own country. We can very well rely upon them. Regarding the appointment and nomination of the experts the hon. Minister should ensure that no such expert is associated with this work whose intention is not *bona fide*. Sometimes it so happens that some expert is honest, he has integrity and his record is also good but his intention is not good. And, therefore, he gives wrong advice. Most of our schemes are not implemented because the intention of the officers is not *bona fide*.

Our way of functioning should also be such that the execution of the schemes is not delayed. It is generally observed that the execution is delayed due to the faulty procedure we adopt. Faulty procedure also causes delay at the decision stage. Therefore, we should adopt a procedure under which immediate decisions could be taken and their execution could also be carried out immediately. We should lay down such a policy so that this scheme could be implemented properly.

With these words, I whole heartedly support the scheme proposed by Government to develop the capital of the country.

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR): Mr. Deputy-speaker, Sir, 7 to 8 hon. Members have expressed their views on the National Capital Region Planning Board Bill. It is a matter of pleasure that with the exception of only one hon. Member, all the others have supported this Bill.

When the discussion was going on in the Rajya Sabha on this Bill, the stress was laid on one point. Whether it is Rajya Sabha or Lok Sabha, 80 per cent of the Members have raised the point of land acquisition and the price fixation of the land. All other points are minor.

In regard to the views expressed in the House on this Bill by all the hon. Members, I would like to state that Government are giving due consideration to all those aspects. The main point before us is that the Delhi Development Board or other committees which we constituted suffered from certain shortcomings. We want to ensure that those shortcomings do not exist in this Bill. So far as the question of smelters, landless labourers, green belt, hospitals in these areas, small schools, kindergartens, high schools, colleges and all other such things are concerned, Government will pay due heed to those things. Besides these things, roads, sanitation, sewerage, all these things are also covered by this Bill. All these facilities will come under the purview of this Regional Capital Board.

Previously also a committee was set up, but that did not have any statutory power. This Capital Region Planning Board Bill has been brought in the House to vest the Board with statutory powers.

Certain hon. Members have pointed out that the number of the Members of the Board should be increased. Some hon. Members have expressed the view that experts from other States should also be associated with the Board. It has also been said, that if necessary, international experts should be consulted. All these things have been taken care of in this Bill. Many hon. Members have participated in

the discussion on this Bill. The central theme of this Bill is that certain areas of U.P. and Haryana have been included in the region so that the growing influx of population into Delhi capital may be controlled and the difficulties faced by D.D.A or other authorities as a result of it, may be removed. First of all, I would like to point out that in executing the scheme, there will be no conflict between the Central Government and the neighbouring States because of the fact that the people of all the States want that their respective State should be properly and considerably developed. Before the introduction of this Bill in the House, the legislatures of these States have passed resolutions and even after the resolutions, they will be the members of this Board. The Chief Ministers of all these States will be the Members of this Board. In this situation you will appreciate that there will be no chance of conflict between the Centre and States. On the contrary, the States which are not directly connected with this region also desired that some areas of their States should also be included in this region. One hon. Member, Shri M. Tombi Singh, was saying that national integration harmony and other aspects should be taken care of. I would like to tell him that the proof of national integration is evident from the fact that people from all corners of the country are there in this region. I have not got the figures Bengalis, Biharis and those belonging to U. P., Himachal, Punjab or other States with me at present. No one should have this apprehension that in the area which is proposed to be included in the capital region, persons of other regions will not be allowed to reside. National integration is not only the policy of Government but it is our cardinal principle also.

15.00 hrs.

So far as the question of acquisition of land is concerned, at the time of discussion on this Bill in Rajya Sabha I had given this assurance, and here also I give the same assurance that this point is in my mind that the farmers should get more price of their land than that

we are giving to them, For example, we acquired 25 acres of land from the farmers and we paid Rs. 25 lakhs to them and an amount of Rs. 25 lakhs is spent on its development and the amount thus came to Rs. 50 lakhs, After that, that land is given to the people and if Rs. 2 crore or 3 crore is charged for that why that happens. Therefore, all the factors should be taken into account and the reasonable price should be given to the farmers. The Government will certainly keep this in mind. This is the universal complaint made by the Members of both the Houses. The hon. Members who spoke in the beginning had said that the period of notice should be 3 days. The words 'at least' have been used. We can give more time in this respect. This Board will constitute a planning committee. The number of experts will be more in that committee. Any other Minister or for that matter any hon. Member who becomes a Minister cannot undertake the work of planning because no one among us is an expert. Therefore, it is necessary to take the help of the experts under this Bill. I personally feel that the experts of long standing would be appointed on this committee. It is the desire of all the hon. Members that Delhi should be made as beautiful a capital as any other capital of the world. We have noted all the points and suggestions made by the hon. Members regarding this Bill. I have just now mentioned that the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh attends the meeting as a special invitee in this matter. Some areas, such as Gwalior are situated nearby. At the time of constituting the committee, this fact has been kept in mind. I understand, Gwalior is a place which should be represented for its development. There are so many other places which can be included because the people of all the areas desire the inclusion of their areas in it. The areas connected with Delhi have been included initially because the population of Delhi on the basis of 1981 census was 7.1 million and with the present rate of its growth Delhi will be having 20 million people in 2001. I am happy that the importance of this Bill has been felt by all the hon. Members and that all of them have supported it. One hon. Member has said that no provision

for making a counter magnet area has been made in this Bill. He will find that provision also in the Bill. The counter magnet area is 30,000 Sq. Km. of the National Capital Region. It is possible that to make it more beautiful, the counter magnet area is made at some distance in U. P., Rajasthan and Haryana. Since the work is to be undertaken with the consultation of those States, I feel there will be no interference while doing any good thing. They want that the entire work should be undertaken by the Central Government. One hon. Member said that this Bill should be referred to the Select Committee. I feel he has not given any cogent reason for this suggestion. All the 7 to 8 hon. Members who have participated in this discussion have expressed their desire that this Bill should be passed. They have made certain suggestions; good suggestions out of them have already been noted by us and when the scheme will be implemented, all those points will be kept in mind. With these words, I understand that my friends will help us in passing this Bill, and this Bill should be passed.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Bara-mulla) : Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, Mr. Girdhari Lal Vyas spoke in chaste Hindi and then left. Thereafter we heard the speech of Mr. Parashar and Mr. Tombi Singh. I, therefore, intend to express my views in Hindustani with a view to educate them. Some Members of Parliament like Shri Girdhari Lal Vyas are always ready to support any Bill and they do not understand the spirit behind the voice raised by us. Had Mr. Vyas been present in the House at the moment, I would have educated him on two or three points.

As far as this project, *i.e.*, National Capital Region Planning Board is concerned, it really aims at spreading the boundary of Delhi. You have seen what happened in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. Now, keeping in view the conditions prevailing in Delhi, it is proposed to extend the boundaries of Delhi with a view to provide amenities to the people living in Delhi. There is no other purpose behind the Bill.

[Prof, Saifuddin Soz]

It is also stated in the Bill that Government wants to control slums in Delhi and a programme will be chalked out for this purpose. Thereafter living condition in the city will be improved. It is no doubt a laudable objective but it is not likely to be achieved. It is an over-ambitious programme and is not likely to be fruitful. I have my own doubts about your plan targets. It is a laudable ambition that Government wants that our country should attain the highest level of progress for which Government will have to make every effort. Regarding your ambitions to make this country great, I would like to quote a couplet in Persian :

*Je Sharar Sitara Joyam, Je Sitara Aftabe
Sare Manzil Na Daram, Ke Yamiram
Az Krare*

- The poet wants to convey that he is satisfied with the objective but there is remote possibility of its being achieved. I am, therefore, opposed to the project only on the ground that it is against the Gandhian principles. It is very unfortunate that Mr. Vyas is not present at the moment. He talked of education I would have really educated him in the matter had he been present.

Mahatma Gandhi followed certain principles and this project runs counter to those principles. For this reason I wanted to express my views in Hindustani. Mahatma Gandhi and Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru were like father and son to each other. I will use English words and phrases now and then during my speech so that you may understand those phrases and words correctly. The father and the son had different views about the economic development of India. Mahatma Gandhi gave the evidence of his wisdom by nominating Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru as his successor. Mahatma Gandhi and Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru had slightly different views in regard to the development of India, while Gandhiji was alive.

Both the leaders wanted to steer India to the highest peak of progress but their approach was different. I have been enlogising of, Pandit Nehru's views also, about which I will speak on a some other occasion,—

[English]

—How Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru inspired me when I was a very young person.—

[Translation]

But in the present context, I feel that the approach of Mahatma Gandhi was correct. Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru treated Bhakra Nangal Dam as a temple or mosque and I agree with him. Not only the people of Punjab but also the people living in the areas surrounding it have been benefited by Bhakra Nangal Dam. It provided water for irrigation besides power. It is due to Pandit Nehru that big industries, dams and other big projects have come up in our country. Pandit Nehru made great contribution towards the progress of science and technology in this country. Mahatma Gandhi believed that India is essentially an agrarian country whereas all your efforts are aimed at urbanisation. Mahatma Gandhi was opposed to it throughout his life. He wanted that villages should be improved and kept neat and clean. Facilities like Roads, drinking water, radio, television, etc., should be provided there but they should be kept away from the evils of urbanisation. Mahatma Gandhi was also opposed to the influx of rural people into the cities.

We are aware of the happenings in Bombay, Madras, Calcutta and Delhi. There is large influx of rural people into Delhi and once they come here they forget to return. A survey of rural areas has revealed that brain drain is taking place from rural areas.

Moreover, the proliferation of slums will spread to areas beyond Delhi through this project. Since Vyasji and we all have means of subsistence

[English]

SHRI RANA VIR SINGH (Kaiser-ganj): Why are you so much after Vyasji ?

[Translation]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I consider him a symbol of one thought only and reminding him that he does not represent even an iota of Gandhian thought. We, the Members of Parliament, are free from the worries of earning our bread. Likewise contractors, cinema-owners etc. have their means of subsistence, but how can you forget the poor people ?

According to the hon. Minister, Delhi has an urban area of 1.10 lakhs acres and an area of 40 thousand acres of land of Rajasthan, Haryana and U.P. is being included in the capital region. But what is it that you are doing ? This ambition of yours cannot be achieved. I pray to God that all of us may live to see the result of it.

You will see after five years that the objective has not been achieved due to your internal difficulties and lack of will to achieve it. Slums are growing in Delhi. For instance, we can go to R.K. Puram and see how slums are growing there pigs and children play and grow up together in insanitary conditions.

[English]

This is may challenge to Parliament. You come with me and I will show you the growing slums around Delhi. There is overcrowding. What will happen is that the people will overcrowded ; new settlers will come and there will be overcrowding.

[Translation]

The slums of Delhi are being spread to Rajasthan, U.P. and Haryana. (*Interruptions*) Delhi should be saved from this menace. You have not yet understood

the problem. A proposal to introduce electric trains on Delhi Ghaziabad section was mooted but it was not accepted by the Government. This section is overcrowded and trains are delayed by 2 to 3 hours due to it.

Recently, Shri Bansilal and Mr Scindia, our capable Railway Ministers, have promised to improve the railway services. Railways must be developed but priority should be given to complete the work already delayed. Trains are delayed by six hours on Ghaziabad section. Students from Ghaziabad come to Delhi for better education but more than 4 hours of their precious time is wasted in journey to Delhi. Government has failed to introduce electric train service on this section.

A truck terminal has been provided on Delhi-Haryana border which creates traffic bottlenecks making it difficult to travel for the cyclists and pedestrians.

[English]

You do not open good schools and colleges in the vicinity of Delhi. You invite the people of Ghaziabad and all the surrounding areas to Delhi for receiving good education.

[Translation]

Government should have provided schools and colleges in the areas surrounding Delhi instead of taking this project in hand.

[English]

You are witnessing this drama of overcrowding, this drama of congestion silently.

[Translation]

An area of 40 thousand acres of land will be acquired by the Government. Here, it may be pointed out that land is always acquired at low rates by the DDA

[Prof. Saifuddin Soz]

from the land owners and given to allottees at exorbitant rates which are five times more than the price at which the land is acquired.

[*English*]

Why this discrimination? Why this differentiation? This is the same country.

[*Translation*]

It is not proper to acquire agricultural land having irrigation facilities from the poor farmers and construct houses there.

[*English*]

We must not suffer for want of food.

[*Translation*]

Corruption is rampant in DDA. No steps have been taken to eradicate it. I do not say that former Lt. Governors of Delhi were dishonest. This evil gradually crept in the system and went on unchecked.

So, my basic objection to this Bill is that Gandhiji was of the view that villages should be modernised; all the basic amenities should be provided there; and people should not abandon villages and flee to cities. Gandhiji was 100 per cent correct in this regard. Had Mahatma Gandhi and Pandit Nehru been alive today, I feel, Pandit Nehru would have been one with Mahatma Gandhi on the point that cities should not be inhabited by devastating the villages. Those who once come to cities do not want to return to their villages due to which slums go on increasing in cities. People like us, whose means of livelihood are ensured, do not pay any heed towards the poor in cities. I have given a challenge to show the slums around Delhi. I will show only one slum. I hope Prof. Ranga will find time to accompany me to R.K. Puram any day. We must go there and see how the slums are growing in Delhi.

Now since a Bill has been brought before the House, I request that it should not be made a question of prestige. I know the hon. Minister is interested in bringing about improvement. In this context, it is suggested that first of all opposition parties should be consulted in the matter. Hon. Minister has said that Haryana, U.P and Rajasthan Assemblies have agreed to the proposal. In this connection, it may be submitted that they have agreed because the ruling party in the Centre is in power in these States also. These States will agree and support all the proposals of the Centre.

A Board is being constituted for the purpose. This Board will control certain areas of Haryana, Rajasthan and U.P. These areas will statutorily come under the Board. The Minister of Works and Housing at the Centre will be the Chairman of the Board. In the circumstances it is suggested that opposition parties in these three States and their representatives at National level should be consulted.

It may also be submitted that the terms of reference of Sarkaria Commission are very wide. This matter should also be assigned to Sarkaria Commission. Government want to encroach upon the territories of Haryana, U.P. and Rajasthan. It is covered under the terms of reference of Sarkaria Commission. Sarkaria Commission should also, therefore, be consulted. In the meantime, it should be referred to the Select Committee. It is very easy for you to pass the Bill. Some hon Members have supported the Bill. Hon. Deputy Speaker will say Ayes have it, Nocs have no voice. Government should not make this Bill a matter of prestige and in my opinion, it should be referred to Select Committee. In the meantime opposition parties and Sarkaria Commission should be consulted.

With these words, I place my resolution before the House. Hon. Minister is requested to accept it keeping in view the spirit behind the Resolution.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : In regard to the arguments put forward again by the hon. Members to refer the Bill to the Select Committee, I respectfully submit that the Government have no intention of making any encroachment. But before we brought this Bill, all these States had unanimously passed a resolution to that effect and sent that resolutions to us. U.P., Haryana and Rajasthan all the three States have passed such a resolution. Therefore, it is not correct to say that we want to encroach upon the areas of the States of Haryana and U.P. These States already know the details of works proposed to be carried out in these areas. And, therefore, they themselves want that much more development of their areas should be undertaken. So, I feel that the technical point raised by the hon. Member is not correct. If without consulting these States we had brought forward this Bill *suo moto*, then it could have been said that their opinion had not been sought. So far as the Opposition is concerned, it is the duty of every Government, whether it is your Government or our Government, to take the Opposition into confidence. You must be knowing well the fate Government meet if they ignore the opinion of the Opposition. Therefore, we have taken them into confidence. We have not only consulted the Chief Ministers of those States but a discussion was also held in the legislatures of those States and they passed the resolution and sent it to us. In these circumstances, I would like to request that the Hon. Member should not insist on his Statutory Resolution. As I have already stated, the population of Delhi has been increasing continuously. So you might be having an apprehension that the objects of this Bill will not be fulfilled. So many complaints have been made against DDA. Even if a good work is undertaken and is carried out honestly, some people still feel that had that work been undertaken the other way it would have been much better. So far as DDA is concerned, it should not be taken for granted that all the works handled by DDA are defective. No doubt in certain matters improvement is required. Now a Board is being constituted and we should learn something from the

previous experience.

Mention has been made about Sarkaria Commission. In this connection I would like to say that when the Legislature itself has taken a decision, then there is no need to seek opinion from any one. At the same time it is not necessary, to forward this Bill to a Select Committee. I, therefore, urge the hon. Member to withdraw his Resolution.

[*English*]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I call this an over-ambitious plan. So far as funds are concerned, I have seen the provision in the Sixth Plan; you have provided only Rs. 10 crores. It is such a gigantic project that even if you provide Rs. 20 crores in the Seventh Plan, it will not be enough. I must know what you are going to do in the Seventh Plan. If you want to provide funds, first you will have to clear the slums and provide new colonies, provide facilities to the new settlers. You have provided only Rs. 10 crores in the Sixth Plan. If this is the pace then we can never achieve this project—even during our life-time.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : What you have said is correct but we have not taken any decision on the Seventh Five Year Plan as yet. All these points which are in your mind are there in our mind also, but to undertake any work, finance is required invariably. You have made a reference to Gandhiji, but, it is to be realised that no member whether from this side or that side lives like Gandhiji. There are certain ideals which a person wants to profess but he himself does not act upon it. In this 20th century the ambitions of the people have increased enormously and considerable time is required to make available all the facilities required in the villages. Take any country, whether it is China or USSR, America or England, no one has any magic lamp with which all the needs could be fulfilled immediately. It is true

[Shri Abdul Ghafoor]

that inadequate funds have been provided for this plan but funds have been provided to the extent it was possible to do so.

In the end I would like to request the hon. Member to withdraw his Resolution.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Prof. Saifuddin Soz—are you withdrawing your statutory resolution ?

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I am not withdrawing, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : So, the question is :

‘ This House disapproves of the National Capital Region Planning Board Ordinance, 1984 (Ordinance No. 11 of 1984) promulgated by the President on the 19th October, 1984.’

The motion was negatived.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, the question is :

“That the Bill to provide for the constitution of a Planning Board for the preparation of a plan for the development of the National Capital Region and for co-ordinating and monitoring the implementation of such plan and for evolving harmonized policies for the control of land-uses and development of infrastructure in the National Capital Region so as to avoid any haphazard development of that region and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by

Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, the House will take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The Question is :

“That clauses 2 to 41 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted

*Clauses 2 to 41 were added to the Bill.
The Schedule was added to the Bill.*

Clause 1. The Enacting Formula, the Preamble and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : I beg to move :

“That the Bill be passed.”

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That the Bill be passed.”

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up the Private Members' Business.

Prof. Madhu Dandavate.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of article 371)

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : I beg to move for leave to

introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.”

The motion was adopted.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I introduce the Bill.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT)
BILL*

(Amendment of article 102, etc.)

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

15.33 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH *in the Chair*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.”

The motion was adopted.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I introduce the Bill.

HIGH COURT AT ALLAHABAD
(ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT BENCH AT BAREILLY)
BILL*

[*English*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a permanent Bench of the High Court at Allahabad at Bareilly.”

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a permanent Bench of the High Court at Allahabad at Bareilly.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : I introduce the Bill.

HINDU SUCCESSION (AMENDMENT)
BILL*

(Insertion of New Chapter II A)

[*English*]

SHRI S.M. BHATTAM (Visakhapatnam) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Hindu Succession Act, 1956.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

“That leave be granted to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Hindu Succession Act, 1956.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI S.M. BHATTAM : I introduce the Bill.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT)
BILL*

(Amendment of Eight Schedule)

[English]

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA (Tamiluk) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : I introduce the Bill.

ANTI-DEFECTION BILL*

[English]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to eradicate the malpractice of political defections.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to eradicate the malpractice of political defections.”

The motion was adopted.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I introduce the Bill.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT)
BILL*

(Substitution of New Articles for Article 338 etc.)

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India,

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : I introduce the Bill.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT)
BILL*

(Omission of Article 44)

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India,

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : I introduce the Bill.

INDIAN CITIZENS ABROAD (VOTING
RIGHT AT ELECTIONS) BILL*

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide the Indian citizens living abroad with the right to vote in elections to the House of the People and the Legislative Assemblies of States.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

- * That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide the Indian citizens living abroad with the right to vote in elections to the House of the People and the Legislative Assemblies of States."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : I introduce the Bill.

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RESOLUTION RE : MEASURES TO
ERADICATE POVERTY—Contd.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up further discussion of the following Resolution moved by Prof. Madhu Dandavate on the 18th January, 1985 :—

“This House expresses its concern over the failure of the Government to lift vast sections of the masses above the poverty line and demands concrete measures to eradicate poverty from the country.”

Shri Harish Rawat to continue his speech. He has already taken 8 minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have already said so many things about it. Our hon. Minister, Shri Chandrakar is an 'experienced leader. He has been close to the masses and I feel he will agree with me that there are several bottlenecks in the implementation of our programmes like NREP and IRDP due to which the needy people are not being benefited by them. Government is spending huge amount of money on these programmes but the middlemen of Bank and Block agencies associated with the programmes demand their share. A major portion of the money is pocketed by these middlemen and the persons whom the money should reach or the areas on which the money should be spent are not really benefited to the desired extent. Our Development Ministry should, therefore, not only work as funding agency or reply to questions in Parliament but it should also ensure that there is proper monitoring of implementation of the programmes. The Ministry of Development should also see that State Government agencies responsible for spending the funds spent the funds properly and the genuine beneficiaries are really benefited.

The people of U.P., to which state I belong, have several complaints to make about the programme. Earlier, Food-for-Work Programme had been introduced. The people had grudge against that programme also. They did not get good quality wheat, they were not paid their wages in time. The position in regard to NREP is also not different. Vested interests have found place in Blocks and they are corrupting social and political workers in the rural areas.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, previously favour was shown in every Development Block due to political reasons but now the Area Development Officers and others appoint certain persons as *Gram Pradhans* and utilise them as their tools for accomplishing their self-interests. *Gram Pradhans*

[Shri Harish Rawat]

are the backbone of our rural leadership. They have to shoulder a big responsibility. To enable them to properly discharge their responsibility, it is essential that the persons appointed as Block Development Officers and District Level Officers are committed to this programme, which is unfortunately lacking. The persons who apply for loans from the bank under IRDP are not provided the loan in time and they have to knock at the doors of the bank 7 to 8 times. Thereafter, when they get a positive response from the bank, they have to knock at the doors of the Block office. After they get positive response from both these places and they manage to get loan somehow they purchase animals and other goods with that money.

It may be pointed out that their problems do not end here. Suppose a person purchases a buffalo and it dies, then he has to bribe the authority responsible for issuing death certificate as he had to bribe the concerned authorities for getting the loan. Without the death certificate, he could not get exemption, but the authority competent to issue such certificates charges money for issuing them. I feel Government should take steps to make the scheme fool-proof.

Loans are not made available to the people even 6 months or a year after completing the training under TRYSEM on which huge amount is being spent. As a result the trainees forget whatever they had learned during the training. The hon. Minister is, therefore, requested to fix a deadline within which loan should be made available to the persons undergoing training under TRYSEM so that the unemployed youth are actually benefited by the scheme.

Similarly, several irregularities are being committed under Loan Guarantee Scheme for Educated Unemployed Under the scheme, only relatives or wards of shopkeepers, contractors or vehicle owners who have the capacity to produce guarantee are able to get loans because the

banks can recover the amount from them. This way banks make available more and more loans to those failing in the 'Haves' category. The poor unemployed youth belonging to 'have-not' category is deprived of the facility and he is not in a position to find job. The D.I.C. and district level agencies entrusted with the job do recommend the names of such persons but such a recommendation is not binding on the banks. Moreover, the banks have adopted different criteria in this regard. For example, if loan is made available by the State Bank of India, it is not necessary that loan will also be made available by the banks like the Central Bank in a similar case.

Certain banks in my constituency have not so far achieved even 5 per cent of the target fixed under the scheme. When an M.P. like me asks them to improve their performance, they do not pay any heed to him. An MP cannot do anything more than this. Even an influential Member of Parliament can only make a complaint. It is very rarely that such complaints are heeded. I think they are very fortunate on whose complaints action is taken. Most of the MPs belong to my category. No action is taken on their complaints.

I do not agree with those hon. Members of the Opposition who say that the Government has no will. We do have the will and we want to give it a practical shape. The biggest drawback is our inability to educate the people. We are unable to create a mass movement. The people active in the social and political fields should take a lead in this regard. We will have to launch a mass movement. If we fail in our endeavour to create public opinion, it will not be possible to benefit the deserving people to the desired extent.

Sir, the report brought out by the Reserve Bank of India highlighted that only 0.1 per cent of our entire national wealth was in the possession of 10 per cent of our rural population. A programme should be chalked out for the

benefit of this section of the population. The people belonging to this category of our rural population are the worst sufferers today. There is not even a single earning member in several rural families. There are old men and women who have no means of livelihood. Old age pension etc. is indeed paid but it is very meagre because the resources of State Governments are limited. Limited funds are made available for the welfare schemes like housing for weaker sections due to which the weaker sections are only partially benefited. Targets are fixed by the Central Government and information is received from the State Governments that 80 to 90 per cent targets have been fulfilled. The same information is passed on to this House. It may be pointed out that wherever houses have been constructed for the weaker sections, most of the houses are not worth living for even those persons who belong to the lowest ladder. These houses are not worth living for human beings. There is no use of spending money on houses like this. Some effective steps should be taken to remedy this situation.

Government have taken several steps to improve the condition of marginal farmers and rural landless farmers. These efforts are welcome. But until and unless land reforms are vigorously implemented and marginal and landless farmers are given ownership rights, tangible benefits are not likely to accrue to them. The condition of this section of the population can be ameliorated if land holdings are consolidated in the areas where it has not already been done. The Government and the hon. Prime Minister have announced the creation of Waste Land Development Board. It is a welcome step. A large acreage of our waste land in rural areas is not utilised. This land mostly belongs to that section of our rural population which has no resources. Some steps should be taken to provide resources to this section. The Board should provide resources to these people so that this waste land can be cultivated. Some monetary assistance should be provided to this section until the land becomes worth cultivating.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the number of unemployed youth has not come down in spite of various programmes started during the past years to create avenues of employment. It is a matter of gratitude that Government have reiterated its resolve in this regard first under the leadership of Shrimati Indira Gandhi and now under the leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi. However, keeping in view the huge backlog of unemployed youth, until and unless steps are taken to rapidly clear this backlog, I feel the problem will aggravate further and the number of unemployed youth will go on increasing. The condition of unemployed youth is deplorable at present. A graduate after getting his degree has to face a dilemma. On the one hand his family members have high hopes on him and on the other hand he has to go from pillar to post in search of job and ultimately gives up hope. If our young man-power feels despondent like this, our resolve to build a new India in the 20th Century will not materialise. It is, therefore, requested that unemployment allowance should immediately be paid to unemployed youth particularly to those who have completed their studies upto Intermediate. Government can also impose the condition that only those students will be allowed to pursue studies for degree classes who pass their intermediate examination with good marks. Government are talking of new education policy and want to bring about revolutionary changes in the education policy. If a new direction is given to our education policy, it will be a welcome step. However, until a new direction is given, the unemployed youth should be paid unemployment allowance.

It is our national resolve to eradicate poverty and we all wish that it should succeed. Today, the entire intelligentsia supports the efforts of Government. We understand their difficulties. We do criticise the Government but this criticism is not aimed at censuring Government. If we highlight any fault that does not mean that we are bent upon making allegations against Government. It is our duty as public representatives to draw the attention of Government

[Shri Harjsh Rawat]

towards such deficiencies. Prof. Madhu Dandavate has brought forward this resolution and offered us an opportunity to review different programmes taken in hand by Government to eradicate poverty and to draw the attention of Government towards the drawbacks in programmes.

I have raised certain points. I hope the hon. Minister will look into the points relating to his Ministry and forward the other points to the concerned Ministries and draw their attention towards them.

DR. DUTTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central): Prof. Dandavate has moved a Resolution that Government has failed in eradicating poverty. There is no need to debate the point whether the present Government is good or bad but it will be a good thing if it comes with a good programme. I extend my thanks to Prof. Dandavate for having brought this Resolution. According to the figures given by the Planning Commission Task Force, the people with income of Rs. 70 per month in a city and Rs. 75 per month in a village were living below poverty line. This figure was Rs. 100 in a village and Rs. 110 in a city in 1979-80 and today this figure stands at Rs. 400-450 per month in a village and Rs. 500 per month in a city. How many people with this much income are living in villages and cities today? We do not get correct figures about poverty, black-money and rising prices. About 70 to 80 per cent of the people are living below the poverty-line at present. Even in a city like Bombay where Rs. 1200 crores are realised as income-tax and Rs. 1200 crores are realised as sales-tax, we find 20 per cent people with income between Rs. 500 and Rs. 550 only.

A provision of Rs. 4,500 crores was made in the 6th Five Year Plan for improving the standard of living of the people living below the poverty line. There was a subsidy of Rs. 1,500 crores out of it and Rs. 3,000 crores were spent

on development. In the sub-plans, money was given for 4.7 million backward people and 7.9 million people of economically weaker sections, i.e., an amount of Rs. 4,500 crores has been spent for 14.5 million or 7 crore people. It means that Rs. 500 or Rs. 600 were spent after every person in 1,500 days which comes to about 8 *annas* per day. If an inquiry is conducted by a committee you will find that even half of the allocated money does not reach the beneficiaries. I do not hold any person responsible for this. Under the Employment Guarantee Scheme, you provide jobs to workers or they are given 1 Kg. grains for the work done by them. Will it remove poverty? If you construct a road or a hospital, it is not going to remove poverty. Have you been able to bring the 14.5 million people above poverty line? It is said that cloth etc. are provided to them. If inquiries are made, then only the real picture will come before us. Correct figures in this respect are seldom given. In my opinion, poverty is increasing day-by-day. As regards unemployment in the country, according to a report entitled 'Estimate of Employment and Unemployment' about 2½ crore people are registered with the employment exchanges. The number of unregistered unemployed people is much more than that.

[*English*]

Planning Commission's broad conclusion, however, seems to be clear: the level of unemployment is very high, and the public sector based strategy of economic development has failed to check an alarming further rise.

[*Translation*]

It is said that Rs. 2,000 crores were allocated for industries but I see that industries do not provide employment to the people in proportion to the money invested in them. According to the Plan Survey 1983-84, 2-2½ thousand crore rupees were invested in industries but the employment potential had not increased proportionately. I do not know the way

in which Government is going to remove poverty. I am giving you the figures from Government sources. The index was 126 in 1961, which rose to 267 in 1972 and 716 in 1983. Now it is much more than this. There has been 6 to 7 times increase in prices during the last 20 years. If you are not able to control the trend of rising prices, the price index will go on increasing day by day. I do not want to take much time by giving figures in this regard. The hon. Minister should tell us as to how much black money is in circulation at present. In this very House, Shrimati Ratan Kumari had asked a question and Shri S.M. Krishna while replying said that Government had no reliable source. Government should try to find out how much black-money is in circulation in the country. According to their assessment, the black money to the tune of Rs. 600 crores was in circulation in 1953-54. Thereafter, Wanchoo Committee Report indicated that there was black-money to the tune of Rs. 1,400 crores in 1968-69. Thereafter, no figures about black-money were given. Probably Government had asked all concerned not to give the figures in respect of black-money. According to an expert on financial matters, black-money amounting to Rs. 50,000 crores is in circulation in the country. One Union Minister has also written a book and, according to that book, black-money to the tune of Rs. 60,000 crores was in circulation in the country in December, 1983. I am saying nothing about white money. I think the magnitude of black-money in circulation is much more than what is revealed from time to time. If black money goes on increasing like this, if hoarding goes on increasing like this, I doubt whether you will be able to control the same. How will you bring such an inflation under control? You should adopt some definite measures to check it. No doubt, you spend money on planning but you have no machinery with you to see as to how far that money has been utilised. This is a serious situation and we must take steps to remedy it. Beside this, funds are allocated for industries, but there is no machinery to keep an eye on the utilisation of these funds. Half of such units later on become

sick. I would like to give you an example.

16 00 hrs.

In our country an amount of about Rs. 113 crores has been invested in textile mills by the mill-owners. These people reap the maximum benefit from these textile mills and after running them for 50 to 100 years they declare them sick and hand them over to Government. Then you say here in the House that such and such mills are running in loss. If this kind of economy is allowed to continue in our country, I do not understand in what way you will be able to eradicate poverty from the country, and how far you will be able to succeed in your mission of eradicating poverty. Now you have formed a stable Government at the Centre. If you will bring this kind of legislation in the House, if you will allow this kind of economy to continue, if you will give protection to those who indulge in unfair trade practices, then you will not succeed in any field. So, you should put a stop to such activities. Hon. Members should know that people of the country want it and that is why they have given you a massive mandate. So you should work for their welfare. I want that Government should pay attention to the suggestions given by us in the House and act accordingly.

Besides this, Shri Madhu Dandavate has given certain suggestions about land distribution, etc. I do not want to give statistics in this regard. But it is a fact that land reforms have not been implemented properly. Here I want to give a very important suggestion. In our country, crores of workers are there who should come under the Minimum Wages Act and the Factory Act. Minimum Wages Act does not apply to five to six crores of farm-workers. I want to say about Sangli area of Maharashtra. I personally went to Satara and saw the situation prevailing there. In Maharashtra about four lakh labourers, work on sugarcane farms. They are very poor people and are living below the poverty line. Can you not ensure payment to these workers under

[Dr. Dutta Samant]

the Minimum wages Act? What difficulty you are facing in doing so. You have got power but you are not implementing that Act. I do not know the reasons why Government is hesitating in doing such things. If you bring these poor workers under the Minimum Wages Act you can improve the living standard of these people.

Now I come to construction of roads and buildings. There are about one crore workers who are engaged in construction work. Nobody bothers about them, because they are very poor. They are not in a position to organise themselves and put their case properly. There are powerloom workers also. There are sugarcane farm workers, and there are workers who work at shops and other establishments or work in other small industries. The number of these workers runs into crores. They all are very poor and they are not organised. No trade union speaks for them, because they are poor. Thus, trade unions also ignore them. Trade Unions must not do like this. These people also voted for you, but here I am not talking about their votes. Here I want you to implement the Minimum Wages Act and the Factory Act in case of these workers also. If Government will take such steps, thousands of people who are living below the poverty line, would be benefited, you should make some concrete programme in order to improve their economic condition.

As regards textile mills, Shri Rajiv Gandhi declared at Ahmedabad that we would modernise all textile mills. I am also of this opinion that all textile mills should be modernised. The mill owners have reaped the maximum benefit from these mills for 50 to 100 years and thereafter they have left these mills sick. I have detailed statistics about these sick mills and if you want I can give them here. If you invest such a big amount for modernising these mills it will remain blocked for a long time.

There are about 62,000 workers in

Ahmedabad, about one lakh workers in Bombay, 10 to 15 thousand workers in Kanpur and sixty thousand workers in Delhi. The mill owners earned crores of rupees from the mills, which included black money also but Government has taken no notice of it. Whom should I hold responsible for it? If due to modernisation, lakhs of workers are thrown out of employment, Government should take concrete steps for their rehabilitation. Mere discussion on this point will lead us nowhere. Now you are going to develop the economy.

Now people are talking much about modernisation, automation and scientific development. But at the same time, unemployment is increasing day by day in our country. Government should prepare some concrete programme to solve this problem. If you provide manual labour to a poor man or employ him for constructing a road, it will not remove his poverty. If you open a hospital at a particular place, the people living around that hospital will still remain poor. You should introduce such economic measures in which they can participate and can earn their livelihood. Otherwise your plan will prove a failure.

I extend my thanks to Shri Dandavate who has moved this Resolution and hope that the present Government, which is no doubt a stable one, will formulate concrete plans and programmes. I have spoken much about labour which is mostly organised but there is unorganised labour also. They should also be given employment. Their wages should also be protected.

[English]

SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD (Baroda): I just heard the hon. Members criticise the present and the past Government for not implementing programmes and not trying to eradicate poverty from this country. I stand here to oppose this. As we all know, in the last election and in the election before the last the Government under the leader-

ship of Shrimati Indira Gandhi and the present Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi has had an overwhelming win, with the support of all the sections of our people. That only shows the confidence the public has in this Government for the work done during the last five years.

MR. CHAIRMAN : One minute. Practically time allotted has been completed. Now, I am putting it to the House to extend the time. Shall we extend it by one hour ?

SHRI G L. DOGRA (Udhampur) : We need two hours.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI (Begusarai) : Mr Chairman, Sir, this is a very important Bill. So I request you that the time allotted for it should be extended by two hours.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : It has already been extended by one hour. We can see later. For the present it is extended by one hour.

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE : It is like a railway line; construction is done section by section.

SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD : Our Government has taken up the 20-Point Programme for the upliftment of the poor. That itself shows the concern of the Government to our people and the Government has been doing its best for the people all these years. Otherwise, how could all these programmes have come up ? To say that the Government is not trying to eradicate poverty is totally wrong. I am surprised that the respected, well-educated, well-knowledge senior Member of this House, Prof. Dandavate, should have said that the Government has failed to remove or has not tried to remove poverty from this country. I think that the hon. Member has kept his eyes

closed and he is only listening through his ears. I think the time has come for him now to open his eyes and see what the present Government and the past Government have been doing for the upliftment of the poor.

The late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, started the programme for the upliftment of the poor under the name of Minimum Needs Programme and to develop rural areas and bring up the rural dwellers of this country. So many factors have been taken into consideration like education, roads, water, housing and jobs for jobless youth and people. These are some of the things which are taken up in this programme. Even today we can see the result. At many places the people have benefited from these facilities created in the rural areas. Even travelling between Delhi and Bombay, along the railway line you can see new housing colonies built by the State Governments for the jobless and landless labour. The work is really going on speedily and is still being implemented thoroughly by the State Governments. Not only that, I have been personally involved in giving loans through our banks to youth, women and handicapped so that they may establish themselves and earn some money for their upkeep. No doubt, there are some discrepancies in the administration like certain sewing machines are given only through one agency when loans are given for cottage industries, while there are so many other competent companies which manufacture equally good machines. There are self-appointed dalals who are trying to show that they are helping the candidates. They take almost half the amount which is due to the applicant. The applicant does not know that he has to pay the entire amount and not the half amount which he pays to the dalal. This discrepancy should be looked into.

Again, if you look at the overall picture, work for constructing roads and educating the uneducated is going on in a very very systematic and fast manner. Mr. Datta Samant, my predecessor, said that the Government had not been able

[Shri Ranjit Singh Gaekwad]

to employ more youth and other people. But what can the Government do when on the other side he manages to close down all the textile mills? So, the figures do not increase. There are many factories in Bombay which are shifting from Bombay because of his doings. And here he says that the Government has failed to give jobs to people. In my hometown, Baroda, there are two sick mills. Though, they are sick, the workers and the managements are together in this difficulty and the workers are working at half the wages. The difficulty is being faced from the Government side because the payments are not being made regularly. But in spite of the half salary also not being paid on time, the workers are still working there. This could have been done in the textile mills in Bombay also but there is complete closure and people have been rendered jobless there. One knows the entire history as to what has been happening there.

As far as the slum clearance is concerned, there is a lot of mischief being played which should be rectified. People who are brought from the slums to occupy pucca buildings, usually rent them out and go and stay back in new huts. So, this problem can never be solved unless more stricter measures are taken and rules are made to see that the people who are given pucca houses, really occupy those houses.

The Integrated Rural Development Programme, the National Rural Employment Programme and the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme are all programmes which the late Prime Minister gave birth to, and these are being implemented everywhere in the country except may be where our governments are not in power.

For the poor to get grain at reasonable price, the Government has opened approximately over two lakh Fair Price Shops in the country. In addition to these, wherever there is a necessity, the State Governments come forward to open extra

shops from where people can get grain at reasonable price.

AN HON. MEMBER : Many more are needed.

SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD : But the programme is still going on, Sir. That is what I have said that wherever there is a necessity, the State Government immediately sees to it, after inspection, that a Fair Price Shop is opened in that area so that the people do not face hardships...*(Interruption)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sum up now because there are many Members in the list.

SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD : I have just started, Sir. This was only introduction.

The findings of the Government agencies or the agencies who could work out the proportion of the people living below poverty line, are that almost 41 per cent of the population is below poverty line—about 316.4 million people. After that another half term survey was conducted and now a final survey is being carried out to find out the benefits derived from these programmes during the last five years. Our new Prime Minister has also made a very fair statement concerning the upliftment of the poor of the country as a whole and I am sure that in days to come, he will also try to keep up his promise which he had made to the people. I am very sorry that the hon. Senior Member has come up with this statement that the Government has not done its duty towards the poor people. It is completely false.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Say untrue, not false.

SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD : All right, untrue. I think now he should review the whole situation again and come up with something more positive and more constructive so that the poor people of

this country can get benefit from his experience and from his statement.

SHRI G. G. SWELL (Shillong) : Mr Chairman I am sorry, I was not here when my good friend, Mr. Madhu Dandavate moved the resolution, I would have benefited by the points he made

I am happy to see that the interlocutor valuable on the Ministerial benches happens to be my another good friend, Mr. Chandulal Chandrakar. In happier times before he was saddled with the official responsibility, we shared numberless cups of tea at the Central Hall and many amusing stories about his travels. He is a much travelled man. He had been to many exotic places all over the world and in Africa in particular on one occasion he told me a story how he hitched a hike on a truck from Sudan right to what was known then as the Congo now zaire with Kinshasa the capital. So, he knows good deal of rural life not only in this country but also in other parts of the world where conditions are more difficult.

I am happy to see also on the Ministerial benches my other friend, Mr. Narayanan. I think, he is also involved in this being in-charge of Planning. I do not know, he may need a little more education of the problem because from the high world of diplomacy to the level of getting into the poverty of the people of India, is a great distance. He himself has known poverty. He came up in a hard way. But as he had spent the most productivity part of his life in the high diplomacy, he has perhaps to re-condition himself and re-educate himself.

Mr. Chairman, I wish Mr. Dandavate had worded his resolution in a little different way. I do not agree with him when he speaks of the failure on the part of the Government to uplift the masses above poverty line. I think, the Government has done a great deal. There are far more people in India today in absolute number, not in relative terms, who are above the poverty line. But the problem

is that of increasing population as well as the rising aspirations of the people. That is, whatever we have done by way of uplifting the people pales into insignificance when we consider the need of it. That keeps on escalating. It is not that the Government has failed. It has done its level best and it has also been able to do something. But the need is far greater than what has been done.

Mr Chairman, I am aware that my time limited, The question of poverty in India today is basically the poverty of our agriculturists, the poverty of the farmers. I am not disputing that there is also poverty among the industrial workers but basically India is an agricultural country.

If our farmers are affluent, I think, much of the problem of industrial workers also will be solved because the industries would then be more solvent and there will be more people to buy industrial products. Thus industries will prosper and to a great extent, the poverty in the country can be removed.

I would confine myself to my part of the country because I do not think that the problem of the people in the north-east, specially the problem of the people of the tribal areas of the north-east, has been focussed so much as the type of poverty in other parts of the country. Therefore, I will confine myself to this part of the country and made certain concrete suggestions to the hon Minister and, if necessary, later on I will follow up these things by way of a note so that certain concrete steps can be taken.

I would like to make another point before I come to that. There is a kind of feeling of national repentance for having neglected that part of our country, the north-east. It is not that this was done intentionally by anybody. It is more a legacy of geography and history. But the fact is that the north-east, a sizeable portion of our country, is the producer of 80 per cent of our tea and the vast source of hydro-electric energy and many

[Shri G.G. Swell]

other things. The entire area has been neglected and, specially after the Chinese aggression in 1962, there has been a kind of feeling of national repentance.

A good deal of money has been spent after that. But I would like to say, by way of record, that the money that has been spent there has not resulted in the objectives that we wanted to achieve. The people of that area have remained as poor as ever, if not poorer, because of inflation, because of rising prices and most of the money has been circulated, concentrated, in the hands of a new class of people that has developed there—the dishonest contractors, the bureaucrats and the corrupt politicians. Much of this money has gone into their pockets. A number of people have become rich overnight. I know of individual instances where a man had been working as a peon in some kind of an office but in four or five years' time this man could come to Delhi and go to Calcutta and buy a Mercedes car for Rs. 12 lakhs just like that, as if he was buying a match box. That is the kind of thing that goes on. This is a new class that is emerging there. The nouveau-riche, the people who became rich over-night by dishonest means, make outrageous display of their affluence whereas a large portion of the people remain as poverty-stricken as ever.

The result of this is that in that part of the country where we have taken pride of being a classless society—nobody is so big, nobody is so small—a new class is emerging, a kind of class struggle is emerging. Therefore, there is the need to re-orient our expenditure, the way we operate in the name of helping the poor people of that area to come up to a certain level of affluence.

Here, I would make a few concrete suggestions. I will confine myself to the constituency that I represent, I do hope, my hon. friend, Mr. Chandulal Chandra-
kar knows it. It is a part of the State of Meghalaya, the Khasi, Jaintia and Garo Hill areas. There are a number of

valuable cash crops that are grown by the people there. But the farmers live on a subsistence level and they practice subsistence level of cultivation just because they do not get a proper price for their produce.

Take for example turmeric. I am told that the turmeric that is grown in that part of my Constituency is the best turmeric in the world and turmeric is a good export item. I have made a few enquiries. I have come back to the Parliament just to serve the farmers in that area and that is why I have taken special interest in this. In the last few days that I have been here, I have made enquiries about this. I am told there are countries like Iran and a few other countries that are very much interested in the purchase of turmeric. Special teams from Iran and Tehran come to Delhi to negotiate for the purchase of this item. I am told that the price of turmeric in Tehran is about Rs 140 a KG whereas the farmers there sell their turmeric for only Rs. 3 or Rs 4 per KG to the middlemen who try to squeeze them and try to get as much profit as possible and because they cannot get the proper price, they live in that subsistence level. They do not increase the acreage of the plantation. It could be increased by many times more. I have been holding discussions with the Ministry of Commerce to try to help us and the farmers in that area through some means of a cooperative endeavour so that they are able to export these things directly and get proper price. They should be able to get a much higher price if price in Tehran is Rs. 140. There is no reason why we cannot do that. If you do that, you put money directly into the hands of the farmers rather than into the hands of this middle eoterie of corrupt bureaucrats, the contractors and the corrupt politicians.

Another item which grows and which is of the best variety is ginger. There are different kinds of spices too and I am told today that there is a great demand for another item which is called the bird-eye chilly. It is a small chilly, very pungent and it has very good flavour. I am sure the

Minister, Mr. Narayanan, having been an ambassador knows it very well that there is no table anywhere, any ambassadorial table, or any kind of private dinner without the tabasco sauce. I think Mr. Narayanan will agree with me. Won't you? You have given many dinners. Yes, Tabasco sauce. I am told that the best ingredient for the tabasco sause is the 'bird's eye' chilly. My part of the country, half of it, has been impoverished because of the partition. The entire Southern part borders on the former East Pakistan, now Bangladesh. The natural trade goes there. But the whole thing has been stopped. Further there is a kind of blight for the orange orchards and other things. A change in the pattern of cultivation of the people would be necessary. These other types of crops are the crops which the people in those areas should be encouraged to grow. But we have to organise the market for them.

Potato is another item. There is the inbuilt problem of transporting potatoes in that area. They have got to compete with potatoes that come from other areas in this part of the country. But you have to find some ways. Potato chips is an item which is sold all over the world. There is also the possibility of making industrial alcohol from dehydrated potatoes. I am told that you can even make the best of Vodka out of potatoes for the purpose of export. I am not a drinker. I am a teetotaler but this is an item by which you can use this product and give the people a proper price.

My idea of removing poverty is not to spoonfeed the people with cash help. It is the involvement of the people, the involvement of the farmers. Let the farmers get the the proper price. Let us give them the market and the farmers would take care of themselves.

I would suggest to the Minister to think on those lines and as far as possi-

ble, he can count on me. I have spoken to Mr. Narayanan also privately.

I will write a note on this, on how to develop this part of the country where a large number of the people, and farmers in particular, are involved.

*SHRI R ANNA NAMBI (Pollachi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to say a few words on behalf of my party the All India Anna D M K on the resolution of the senior member of this House, Shri Madhu Dandavate, whose commitment to the national cause of eliminating poverty is second to none in the country. During the past 37 years the Centre and the State Governments have ceaselessly endeavoured to eliminate poverty from this country. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of free India, had initiated many steps to achieve this laudable objective. Mrs. Indira Gandhi, to whom the upliftment of the poor was the soul-breath, did undertake numerous schemes for wiping out poverty. Similarly, the State Governments in the country had also been implementing several anti-poverty schemes. In spite of all this, the poverty in this country is getting perpetuated. According to the Central Planning Commission, even today the per capita average daily income of about 40 crores of our people is below 75 paise. This candid admission of the central planning body can be vouchsafed by the existence of ugly slums next to sky-high buildings in many metropolitan cities of our country. It is really unfortunate that the largest slum in the whole of Asia is in Bombay. The Government cannot also controvert the fact that in rural areas of our country, millions of our people are open to sun and showers throughout the year. They have no hearth and home; they have no clothes to hide their shame; they have no food to appease their hunger.

Our inimitable leader Dr. M.G.R., who lives for the eradication of poverty

* The Speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

[Shri R. Anna Nambi]

from Tamil Nadu, has been implementing several schemes effectively. He is attacking at the roots of poverty in the State. The efforts of the Slum Clearance Board of the State of Tamil Nadu in providing proper homes for the poor have been unreservedly applauded by the experts from World Bank. Our revered Chief Minister's Nutritious Meals Scheme, which provides food for the poor children of the State, has received encomiums from UNESCO experts. This has ensured continuous education for these hapless children. The drop-out from the school has declined because the food problem has been solved. We have universal free education in the State. Our Chief Minister, who can be called the Redeemer, has also introduced the scheme of old-age pension to the old people who have no support from any source. The State Government is also implementing vigorously the Adult Education Programme. Our leader, Dr. M.G.R. is convinced that when ignorance and hunger are removed, the roots of poverty are cut as under. That is why he is taking effective steps in this direction.

I take this opportunity to demand that the Nutritious Meals scheme should be declared as a Plan scheme and funds should be provided from Five Year Plan allocations. I would also suggest that this scheme should be implemented throughout the country as a Plan scheme, in the interest of blossoming buds of humanity.

Sir, poverty in India cannot be eradicated till the plight of agricultural labour in the country is improved. 70% of rural population is agricultural labour. It has been acknowledged that they are not getting wages as stipulated in Minimum Wages Act. There is no legal protection for them in this matter. They are landless agricultural labour. In spite of Zamindari Abolition Act and Land Ceiling Act, they have not been given land to till. Their sweat and blood sustain the nation. Yet they live in perennial penury. There is no question in blaming the State or the Central Government for non-imple-

mentation of this law or that law. The prevailing position among the landless tillers has to be changed without any delay. Unless you improve their lot, you cannot eradicate poverty from the country. We will not be able to solve their problems by slogan-mongering about eradication of poverty in season and out of season.

I demand that the land ceiling laws should be implemented vigorously and the surplus lands should be acquired and distributed among the tillers of the soil, who are the backbone of our society. Besides, *pattas* for such lands should also be given to the agricultural labour. There should be no attempt to shuttle the land ceiling laws sent by the States for Centre's approval. For example, the land ceiling (amendment) Bill, which had been unanimously passed by the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, is hanging fire for so many months now. I would say that it is difficult to have a uniform approach to land ceiling throughout the country. After all the State Governments are also duly elected Governments committed to the welfare of the people. The Centre should ensure expeditious consent from the President for such laws. Then only the rural poverty can be effectively tackled. With these words I conclude my speech.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI (Begu-sarai) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I share the spirit with which Prof. Madhu Dandavate has removed this Resolution. But I do not agree with the views which he expressed while moving it. He said that our Government had failed in raising the living standard of the people living below the poverty line or that the programmes meant for eradicating poverty had failed. I do not agree with such views. Our Congress Government has been able to successfully implement the programmes meant for raising the living standard of the people living below the poverty line. It is the policy of Congress Government and in accordance with that policy, Government want that social justice should be given to the people in the

country. They should enjoy social equality also, so that they may improve their economic condition.

It was our first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, who introduced the concept of Five Year Plans in the country. He brought revolution in the industrial sector in the country. He used to call the factories and industries as temples. He wanted that economic justice and social justice should be provided to all in the country. After him, our late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi, who was our beloved leader, introduced 20-Point Programme with the object that the people living below the poverty line are lifted above the poverty line. The nationalisation of banks and the abolition of Privy Purses were revolutionary steps in this direction. *Zamindari* system had been abolished much earlier. All these steps were taken by our Congress Government. In spite of all these revolutionary steps, if Shri Dandavate brings such a resolution nobody will agree with him. But it is also a fact that we have not achieved as much as we should have in lifting the masses above the poverty line, in spite of our best efforts. In this background we shall have to find out as is coming in the way. I think unless the increase in population is controlled, we shall not be in a position to achieve the desired progress in this direction, even if big investments are made for the purpose. Rapid increase in our population is a big hurdle. If we cannot control the increase in population then our programmes for providing drinking water to the people or for making arrangements for education of children or for increasing agricultural production will not prove to be successful. So, I want to suggest that a commission should be appointed at the national level for population control and that commission should be headed by our Prime Minister. In order to give maximum benefits of our progress and development to the maximum number of people in the country, population control is essential.

The object of Sixth Five Year Plan was

to lift the poor people above the poverty line, but it could not be achieved due to lack of coordination so far as the target, policy and its implementation was concerned. They were therefore again defined. In 1982 Shrimati Indira Gandhi introduced the revised 20-Point Programme. Huge amount of money was invested. But, the return therefrom was not adequate enough. The process of thinking is a continuous one and the Government are formulating their plans accordingly. It is hoped that we shall be able to eradicate poverty by 2000 A.D. But it will be possible only if we are successful in controlling our population.

Now I come to the Planning Commission. There had been mid-term review. It stated that 52 lakh people were lifted above the poverty line. We all agree on this point that the benefits of our development do not reach the poorer sections of the society. The reason for it is that our Secretarial machinery is not development-oriented. Our Administration and top brass should be made development-oriented. Our Administration from Block Level to the Secretariat Level should adopt a practical approach and should formulate the plans keeping in view the geographical situation and the available local resources. Programmes like IRDP, NREP, RLGP, should be implemented as time-bound programmes. It is often seen that programmes are not implemented in time and their implementation is delayed abnormally resulting in escalation of their costs.

Today during Question Hour a suggestion was made that our Financial Year should be changed. Now this point is being debated to see how the change in the financial year will help in the developmental work. Now the funds are allocated in March and the works, whether they relate to irrigation or agricultural sector, are stopped in the month of June and during two-three months of the monsoon season crores of rupees remain particularly unutilized. So, it is neces-

[Shrimati Krishna Sahi]

sary to have a change in the financial year. Another important point which is being debated these days is about old age pension. Our Government have introduced a very good scheme. Under this scheme provision has been made to give economic aid to thousands of handicapped people for their sustenance... (*Interruptions*). I want to say that our Administration should be streamlined and once it is streamlined, we shall be able to proceed further towards development.

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (Simla) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to oppose the Resolution moved by Shri Madhu Dandavate. Seeing the progress made after independence for lifting the people above the poverty line, nobody can say that people had not been lifted above the poverty line. I would like to draw your attention to my constituency. There were above 35 small Princely States in Himachal Pradesh. They all were abolished and ownership rights were given to the poor people. A great deal of work has been done for eradicating poverty after nationalisation of banks. More banks were opened in the rural areas of India. All these steps were taken to benefit the poor people. Shri Chandulal Chandrakar also moved a resolution wherein he said that at least one man from each family should be given employment so that all people might think that they had also their contribution in running the Government. Our present system of education is not uniform. Some students study in the public schools while some study in the rural schools. We should do something to raise the standard of the rural people in the real sense. We should bring about improvement in education. Potatoes and apples are grown on a large scale in my State. It is the poor people who work hard but benefit of their toil goes to others who transport these commodities from one place to another. A resolution was passed in the Legislative Assembly of our State suggesting that insecticides should be sprayed on more area in order to increase agricultural production. This will help in lifting the poor people above the

poverty line. Opium cultivation should be started in areas of Himachal Pradesh where there is more snowfall. If opium cultivation is started there, it will be remunerative for even those holding small holdings. Opium can be utilized for medicines also. Proper marketing arrangements should also be made there so that poor people of Himachal Pradesh who have small holdings could get some benefit.

We suffer a great deal on account of soil erosion and floods also. Soil erosion takes place on the upper ridges in the State and the eroded soil flows down to the plains of Haryana, Punjab and U.P. I shall take two minutes more to conclude. There are a number of rivers and rivulets. Though small dams have been constructed on them yet erosion takes place there. The eroded soil continuously flows down and our land is becoming more and more unproductive. Not only Himachal Pradesh but the States of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Punjab also suffer on this account. The loss amounts to crores of rupees. So through you, I request the Government that more funds should be allocated for flood control measures because there are a number of rivers and rivulets in the hilly areas of Himachal Pradesh. A survey should be conducted and more money should be spent for taming these rivers. Sir, you are reminding me of the time by ringing the bell again and again, so with these words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you that you have given me a chance to speak. We all have come to Lok Sabha after being elected by the people, irrespective of the fact whether we belong to the ruling party or to the Opposition. So, we should be vigilant enough to give expression to the hopes and aspirations of the people who have elected us. We should put pressure on the Government also. I have no doubt about their good intention. Government have prepared several schemes for lifting the people above the poverty line, but they are not yielding the desired

results. If the Opposition members give some good suggestions Government should accept them. In this respect I want to say that a big part of the amount being spent on these schemes is going into the pockets of a few persons. The members of the ruling party cannot deny this fact. Our Minister also cannot deny this thing and should take steps to remove the lacunae which are experienced in the implementation of these schemes. I know what is happening in villages because I come from there and I started my political career from village level. There is no doubt that a number of schemes have been prepared for lifting the people above the poverty line in rural areas. Under these programmes, buffaloes and other milch cattle are being given to the rural people. Besides this, other facilities also are being given to them. But it is also a fact that a major part of the grants you give for this purpose goes into the pockets of a few people. These people include block level employees or banks employees and some corrupt politicians. And in this way the object of lifting the people above poverty line is defeated. I want to give some instances. There is a Branch of Allahabad Bank at Ghosi in my Constituency. Through this Branch 12 buffaloes were distributed to the poor people in the month of October, but from each poor man they took Rs. 300/- as bribe. When I came to know of this I took up this matter and gheraoed the Bank. Then the Bank employees returned Rs. 3600/- which had been taken by them as bribe to these poor people. Such things are happening. On account of such happenings your schemes are proving a failure,

I want to give you a concrete suggestion and if it appeals you, you should accept it. If you want to properly implement the programmes and want to achieve the targets fixed therein, you should constitute a Committee consisting of these poor people at Panchayat level, at block level and at District level. Sufficient powers should be given to such committees. All things should be procured and distributed through such committees. In our area subsidy is being given to marginal and small farmers for

purchasing diesel pumps, but big farmers in collusion with the concerned officers declare themselves as marginal and small farmers and corner the facilities really meant for the poor people. The small farmers are suffering on this account. Such incidents are taking place all over the country and this is the reason that the money being spent by you on these schemes is going waste, and your mission of lifting the people above the poverty line has become a laughing stock. I do not say that your programmes are not right but there is something wrong in their implementation. Your programmes are commendable but they are not being implemented properly. I want that you should pay more attention to this aspect.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : If the House agrees, we may extend the time allotted to this Resolution by half an hour.

HON. MEMBERS : Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The time for this Resolution is extended by half an hour.

[Translation]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we should support the Resolution moved by Shri Dandavate. During Janata Party regime also steps were taken to lift the people above the poverty line, particularly, in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh 'Antyodaya Programme' was started. In 1977, Janata Government strengthened Panchayati Raj system and formed Block Councils and District Councils. A Village Development Officer was appointed for looking after the development in 5 or 6 villages. That officer used to identify the poorest five families in each village. It was the duty of the officer to find out what these families wanted, what kind of assistance or bank loan they required and what kind of industry they wanted to run. Thus the work was started to improve the lot of 25 families, five from each village in a

[Shri C. Janga Reddy]

year and steps were taken to increase their income. After one year survey was conducted and the 'Antyodaya programme' was further extended. The path of 'Antyodaya programme' was shown by Gandhiji. This work was done during the Janata regime.

During 2-3 years the Congress Government started a Cluster Scheme under which they divided a Block into four divisions and some scheme was introduced for the development of 600 people in a Block. But the success of the scheme depended on loans from banks. If loan was not advanced by banks the scheme could not succeed. Mostly, poor people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were covered under this Scheme and assistance was given to these people.

Prior to this, small farmers were given assistance under S.F.D. A small farmer was given 5 acres of dry land and 2½ acres of irrigated land, thus about 8 acres of land was given. He was given 25 to 30 percent subsidy for installing a pump set, for purchasing an oil engine or for digging a well. Under this scheme people were being benefited. But in 1980, the Congress Government introduced a new scheme, namely, the Cluster Scheme, under which it was proposed that 600 families should be given land in a year. But when we go to these people they tell us that Government officials do not give us what we want, but they provide us the things which they want to provide. The banks advance loans only to those who own land in their names. When these people request that they should be advanced loans for purchasing bullock carts they are not given loans. This was the way you were removing the poverty of 600 people in a year!

The subsidy meant for distribution amongst the poor people lapses. The works which are being taken in hand are not being completed. The poverty is not being eradicated. Banks are making their transactions on paper only.

The amount earmarked for distribution as loans to poor people must be distributed to them in reality. Only then, we shall be able to lift the poor people above the poverty line. You should visit the blocks personally and see how things are taking place there.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the first part of the Resolution moved by Prof. Dandavate says :

[English]

"This House expresses its concern over the failure of the Government to lift vast sections of the masses above the poverty line..."

[Translation]

But later, he says :

[English]

"... and demands concrete measures to eradicate poverty from the country."

[Translation]

I agree with this part and I want that poverty should be eradicated from the country as soon as possible. Prof. Dandavate is well aware of the fact that main stress has been laid on food, unemployment and production in the Seventh Five Year Plan. These three things have been given special attention and through it efforts are being made to eradicate poverty. During the past big tasks have been taken in hand. The programmes which have been taken up during the past by our Government to eradicate poverty, were such that very few countries of the world had followed this path. But it is also a fact that there are problems which are yet to be solved. No doubt our Government have sincere intention to remove poverty but Government have not resources adequate to achieve its objective within the shortest possible time. Whenever we try to lift the people above the poverty line many problems come in the way.

(Interruptions)

I was saying that this is a very big problem and we shall have to make sincere efforts to solve it. Government have taken up several schemes under the 20—Point Programme. Government have allotted sufficient funds also to implement them. Government have laid down a condition with it that 50 per cent of the total expenditure will have to be incurred by the concerned State Government. But you are well aware of the economic condition of the State Governments. Most of the States have resorted to overdrafts. In all the programmes like IRDP, NREP, Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme State Governments are expected to make 50 per cent matching contribution and 50 per cent expenditure is born by the Central Government. This is the reason that such schemes are not implemented properly because State Governments have no funds to contribute their share. Thus, the fixed targets are not achieved in the States. Last year also, while discussion was going on the Budget, we said that State Governments were not in a position to contribute their matching share for implementation of these programmes and so the Central Government should finance such programmes cent per cent and State Governments should not be asked to contribute their matching share. If we want to solve unemployment problem we shall have to accept this suggestion. There are certain other programmes like Khadi and Gramodyog programme, handloom programme, the programme of establishing small industrial units or the programme of putting up small scale industries which have great potential for employment and crores of people have got employment in them. These programme have solved the employment problem to a great extent but still there are many fields where new programmes should be started. The issue of land distribution has been discussed several times. Our Government sincerely want that surplus land should be distributed properly but unless you provide inputs and other necessary facilities to those who have been allotted surplus land, they will not get any benefit out of it. So, inputs and other facilities should be provided to them. Now, little money is given to them. My friends have spoken about certain banks which are advancing loans to poor people. The

whole amount meant for the poor people does not reach them. A poor man should be provided inputs in kind by the Government or its agencies so that he can develop the land allotted to him and can thus remove his poverty. If you will make such arrangement it will definitely help in solving the unemployment problem.

As regards urban unemployment I want to say that sick industries have aggravated this problem. You should therefore, pay special attention to sick industries. Every year thousands of new industrial units are set up. Unscrupulous people take loan from Government in the name of such units and utilise that money for other purposes. Some years after, the owners of such industrial units declare them sick and thus take undue advantage. In this way adequate employment potential is no being created. So I request the Government that stern action should be taken against the persons found responsible for making these industrial units sick. If this tendency is checked it will help in solving the unemployment problem to a great extent. With these words, I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI MALLAREDDY RAGUMA REDDY (Nalgonda) : Mr. Chairman, I support the resolution moved by Prof. Madhu Dandavate. Even after 37 years of our independence the number of people living below the poverty line in rural area is 50 per cent and in urban area is 40 per cent. Even in the richest State like Punjab, today, it is 38 per cent in rural area and 12 per cent in urban area. The absolute number has increased from 150 million to 325 million. The per capita income, after 37 years of our independence, has increased only by 1 per cent whereas in other small countries like Malaysia, Indonesia, Japan and Thailand, It has increased by 6 per cent. Government might have evolved many schemes as hon. members have suggested.

All the schemes like the National Rural Employment Programme, the Rural Land-

[Shri Mallareddy Raguma Reddy]

less Employment Guarantee Programme the Integrated Rural Development Programme etc, all these schemes have only made the rich people richer and the poor people have become poorer. In the rural areas small farmers are not able to cultivate their land. The banks, after nationalisation are not giving loans to the farmers, especially the small and medium farmers. I request the Government, the hon. Minister for Banking, to liberalise the rules so that small farmers in the villages can get loans easily, without many formalities. And so, the Government of India, should consider this that even after 37 years of independence the situation is like this, and they still expect that at the end of the next five years 20 per cent of the people will cross the poverty line. How can they come above the poverty line within five years ?

The Government of Andhra Pradesh under the leadership of our Chief Minister, has started many schemes for the many people, like the Rs. 2 per kg. rice scheme, big housing scheme and the mid-day meals scheme and so on. The Government of India is only hindering those schemes and they are not supporting those schemes. They are putting all sorts of obstructions. I request the Central Government to liberally release funds to the State Governments and also to adopt the schemes started by Shri N.T. Rama Rao which will benefit the farmers and the minimum needs of common people like clothing, food and housing. These schemes if implemented, will meet the minimum needs of the poor people.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Minister.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank Prof. Madhu Dandavate and other hon. Members who have expressed their views on different aspects of this Resolution. There is no doubt that Prof.

Dandavate has raised a very vital issue. When Smt. Indira Gandhi took charge of the office of Prime Minister, first of all she took the step to nationalise banks, because she felt that unless banks spent their money in the villages, poverty from the rural areas of the country would not be removed. So, in 1969 banks were nationalised. Prior to nationalisation of banks one or 1½ or hardly 2 per cent of the bank money reached the rural areas. But after nationalisation, about 40 per cent of their total deposits have been utilised for rural development, whether in the form of loans or in the form of expenditure on developmental works. Thereafter, many schemes one after the other were implemented. In 1980, when Sixth Five Year Plan was formulated, the main thrust of that was on removing poverty. An outlay of about Rs. 40,090 crores out of the total outlay of Rs. 97,500 crores was earmarked for development of rural areas. From this you can imagine how much attention she paid towards removing poverty from the rural areas.

In addition to this, some years ago a programme, namely, the Minimum Needs Programme was introduced, under which it was proposed to meet at least the basic needs of the people. Under this scheme different types of works, namely, construction of roads in rural areas, provision of drinking water in villages, making arrangements for education and providing nutritious food to landless labourers, were started.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : How will the Minimum Needs Programme help in eradicating poverty ?

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR : It means that you have no faith at all in meeting the minimum needs... (Interruptions). If in your opinion providing drinking water or providing roads or providing employment to the poor people does not amount to eradication of poverty then there is basic difference between your and our approach... (Interruptions).

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not interrupt him. Let him have his say.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR : I think Shri Reddy feels that the 'Antyodaya programme' started by the Janata Party was the only programme for the welfare of the poor people. Under that programme only five poor people in a village were to be given assistance and that programme was not started even in all the States.

17.21 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

In place of this programme, an Integrated Rural Development Programme was started in 1980. There are 5011 blocks in our country. Under this programme provision was made to give assistance to 600 people in a Block to make them self-dependent, to enable them to earn their livelihood and to lift them above the poverty line. In the Sixth Five Year Plan the target was to give such assistance to about 1½ crore people, but financial assistance could be given to lift one crore and forty-two thousand people above the poverty line during this Plan period. There is no doubt that all the poor people have not been lifted above the poverty line. We feel that there are some loopholes in our programmes and we are trying to plug them. Arrangements have been made to give loans or subsidy to the poor people. In some States only 20 per cent people in some other States 40 per cent people and in certain others 50 per cent people have been lifted above the poverty line. Thus on an average 30 to 40 per cent people have been lifted above the poverty line.

On the basis of certain reports, Prof. Dandavate has stated that there has been increase in the number of people living below the poverty line. He has also mentioned about a Report published from

Madras. According to the reports from the Reserve Bank and the State Governments before Sixth Five Year Plan the number of people living below the poverty line was 31.68 crores in 1979-80. When in 1981-82, mid-term appraisal of the Sixth Five Year Plan was undertaken the number of people living below the poverty line was found to be 28.20 crores. The figure given in 1979-80 was based on 1971 Census, while the figure given in 1981-82 was based on 1980-81 Census. Thus it is not correct to say that the number of people living below the poverty line is increasing. Prof. Dandavate has himself said that the survey conducted by the National Sample Survey in 1983 has not yet been published in the form of Report. The data is being collected. I hope that its Report will be out within 2—2½ months and only then we shall be able to know the correct figures.

At present a person living below the poverty line has been defined as one who gets 2400 calories in rural areas and 2100 calories in urban areas. Keeping this thing in mind several special programmes were introduced during the Sixth Five Year Plan, namely, IRDP, NREP, RLEGP, Special, Component Plan for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Drought Prone Area Development Programme and Desert Development Programme. These programmes have brought about a big change. I do not want to mention here the figures of 1981, 1982, 1983 and 1984 because it will take a long time. But I want to say that under IRDP, which was introduced during the Sixth Five Year Plan, the target was fixed to provide employment to 15 million families and employment was given to 14.43 million families.

Similarly, under NREP the target was to provide 1500 million mandays of work to the people during the Sixth Five Year Plan. But 1625 million mandays of work was provided to them. In the same way the works under RLEGP was started on 15th August, 1983. But much work could not be done under this programme during 1983-84. Smt. Indira Gandhi made a declaration about this programme

[Shri Chandulal Chandrakar]

on 15th April and after that the work continued for about 1½ years. Then it was estimated that 360 million mandays of work will be given to the people, but only 119.72 million mandays work could be given to them as per the reports received from the State Governments upto November.

Many M.Ps. have expressed their concern over the fact that either the entire surplus land could not be acquired or surplus land which was acquired under the land Ceiling Act could not be properly distributed. Though there may be difference of opinion on this point yet it is not correct to say that so far nothing has been done in this direction. We acquired about 42.82 lakh acres of surplus land from the Zamindars under the Land Ceiling Act and out of that 21.22 lakh acres of land has already been distributed. Out of this about 8.8 lakh acres of surplus land was distributed among the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people. About 6 to 7 lakh acres of land out of it is involved in cases pending in the Supreme Court. Similarly, some of this land has been earmarked for forest development and social forestry. We could not get as much surplus land under the land-reforms legislation as was expected. The area of the land, which was declared surplus according to the National Guidelines in 1972, was only 42.82 lakh acres.

About the implementation of IRDP or other Special Development Programmes I want to say one thing that the money allocated for these programmes either by the State Government or the Central Government should be spent properly. About 50 per cent of the total expenditure on these programmes is incurred by State Governments. Some hon. Members have said that the funds meant for these programmes are not being utilised properly. For this we shall have to streamline at least two things; one is infrastructure. Our engineers and overseers, whether they are supervising the work of construction of roads or the construction of school buildings or construction of canals,

should work efficiently and honestly. The estimates of these works should be prepared correctly. The amount earmarked for them should be utilised properly and for this we shall have to streamline our administrative machinery. Besides this, our monitoring system would have to be strengthened and intensified. I think there are loopholes in the implementation, which need to be removed. We are allocating more funds in Seventh Five Year Plan for eradicating poverty and during the Seventh Plan period more money will be distributed to landless people and to the unemployed people in the rural areas. We shall streamline our monitoring system in order to see that such funds are properly utilised. I do not claim that the monitoring system will be made foolproof but we shall try to plug the loopholes as much as possible.

During the Sixth Five Year Plan we have given financial assistance, both as subsidy and loan to about 1 crore 42 lakh people. We have to collect the figures as to how many people really benefited from these facilities. By using modern equipment we can collect the figures in this respect quickly and can give such information at the time we discuss this issue in the House. It will be better if upto date figures about the number of the people who have been lifted above the poverty line can be made available to us. When figures are to be collected about 15 crores people we cannot get accurate figures without the use of modern equipment. Some people criticise the use of modern equipment in every case but when figures are to be collected on large scale, there is no alternative but to use modern equipment. Everybody knows that Smt. Indira Gandhi introduced the 20-Point Programme to eradicate poverty and every scheme covered under this programme was meant for eradicating poverty. 20-Point Programme was prepared for the benefit of the people in the rural areas. Whether it is the question of irrigation or providing employment to unemployed people or supplying drinking water or making arrangements for providing education, all these are designed to benefit the rural people. The 20-Point Programme is being

implemented in all the States. There was one State which was at one time hesitating to implement this programme but now all the States have adopted it.

We are glad that 20-Point Programme is being implemented in all the States ; in some States it is being implemented effectively, in some States it is being implemented very effectively and in some other States it is being implemented in an ordinary way. We have to lift the people above the poverty line through this 20-Point Programme. Though this programme is being implemented properly yet there is scope for further improvement in its implementation.

Several hon. Members have raised issues and given many suggestions in this regard. I cannot go into those suggestions one by one because of lack of time. Though I want to discuss them yet it will not be possible for me to do so because I do not have enough time at my disposal. We shall take in consideration the suggestions made by the hon. Members while implementing the 7th Plan. The very object of 6th Five Year Plan was to eradicate poverty. In the 7th Plan about half of the total outlay will be earmarked for eradicating poverty.

I will therefore request Prof. Madhu Dandavate to withdraw his Resolution keeping this thing in mind that the Government themselves have been endeavouring their utmost to remove poverty. We did work in this direction during the 6th Five Year Plan. We are going to tackle this problem on a big scale in the 7th Five Year Plan. I agree with the spirit behind this Resolution.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir. I am conscious of the fact that my hon. friend, Shri Viridhi Chander Jain, would like to take an opportunity of at least moving his Resolution and keeping it in absence for the next session. I will see to it that he will not be put in any embarrassing position.

In the course of my initial speech, when I initiated the discussion on this Resolution, I had put for specific questions. But very often the Minister is defined as one who take up the marginal questions and tries to keep in abeyance some of the specific queries and questions that are raised. Accordingly, he did not touch upon those specific questions on which sharp replies were expected. But any way I do not blame him.

In the course of the discussion, a number of members, whether they belong to the ruling party or the Opposition parties, welcomed the sentiment behind the Resolution. They were critical of the critical part of the Resolution and they were supporting the second part of the Resolution where I have demanded concrete steps and measures to eradicate poverty in the country. At the conclusion of my initial speech—I repeat that observation—I said, I am afraid the present new administration is likely to be elitist, sophisticated and computerised administration which will cater to the developmental needs of the top affluent class and allow the gains of development to percolate down to the grass-roots so that the grass-root gains will be only what will be percolated from the top. This is total reversal of old Gandhi to new Gandhi. I would not like that to happen. I am prepared to wait and watch. I will be the happiest person if under new Gandhi old Gandhi is not reversed. And I will welcome him. I will wait and watch. That will be premature comments. But I will sound a note of warning and I am sure the hon. Minister will take note of that warning. When I said that and when I talked about sophisticated computerised administration, my friend Mr. Das Munshi tried to probe deep into the problem and he read in my observation, my total rejection of science and technology. I cannot reject science and technology. My entire discipline of life is science and technology. I accept that. But I also accept the Gandhian connotation and perspective. Gandhi said:

“I want machine but, I do not want the dignity of machine and the

[Prof. Madhu Dandavate]

glory of the machine to be built upon the debris of the dignity of man."

And, therefore, I am not at all against science. I am not against technology. I only wanted some sort of a balance to be maintained between human being and the machine in this country, particularly when it happens to be the land of Mahatma Gandhi. And I admit that some times rationalisation is necessary. Modern technology is to be utilised. But while you utilise that, you must make up your mind to which sector to apply the modern science and technology, and to what degree and stage you rationalise machinery. How do you ensure that there will not be large-scale unemployment in the country? In that context, I would like the hon. Minister, if not in this debate, at some later time, to try to analyse the problem of reservations for various sectors. In this country, we will have certain industries which will inevitably to large-scale industries. For instance, manufacture of cement and steel and various wagons in the country required by railways. These cannot be small-scale sector. It may not be a large-scale industry. There also will co-exist, a small scale sector, a middle sector and the cottage industry in the country. But if you allow free competition between all the three sectors, then the cottage industry will be killed by the small scale sector and the small scale industry will be killed by the large-scale sector. And, therefore, I would like some sort of a policy of reservation to be applied and implemented in a phased manner. I am not one among those who say "Close down the textile mills." Only a retrograde person puts forward that point of view. I do not take that approach at all. But I would like a balance between the three, the competition to be avoided and, at least, accept this policy formulation that those commodities which can be manufactured in the cottage industry sector, do not allow the small-scale sector to manufacture them. Those commodities that can be manufactured in the small-scale sector, do not allow to be manufactured in the large-scale sector and

if you avoid competition between the three sectors, I think, this particular policy of protection will be able to ensure the stability of all the three sectors and the large-scale industries throughout the country will not cater to the unemployment problem of the rural population.

As one of the Finance Ministers of this country who was in the Congress Ministry Shri C.D. Deshmukh said :

"When the statisticians and experts in the country offer the unemployment figure, concealed unemployment in the rural sector is very often not brought to light at all and, therefore, that permanently remains concealed."

I am more worried about this unrevealed and concealed unemployment in the rural sector and if the particular unemployment problem is to be solved, you will have to protect the cottage industry sector, the small-scale sector and the large-scale sector which is undoubtedly necessary and I would suggest that this type of a balanced policy of industrialisation will have to be pursued and a degree of reservation in a phased manner will have to be introduced. Capacity would have to be limited in a phased manner, gradually go on decreasing and limiting the capacity and then the production policy will be possible. This particular aspect will have to be born in mind. In that context, I sounded a note of warning.

I had made a number of suggestions with which the Members of the ruling party also have agreed. They might not have criticised but they also pointed out the loopholes. We have the NREP and we have RLEGP. All these tools will greatly help in the solution of the problem of poverty in the rural areas. But many experts have said that there is a lot of corruption even in this and even Members of the ruling party have pointed out in this House that there is large-scale corrupt activity in this machinery. That will have

to be eradicated. I posed specific questions. They remained unrealised. Any rural worker should be included in RLEGP, not necessarily the landless. Then, I further suggested, on the basis of the experience of those who are connected with rural economy, that NREP and RLEGP should be totally merged. It will benefit the Government ; they will be able to have better efficiency and a lot of problems will be solved. No restriction should be placed on the number of days for which they work. That is acting as a great constraint, and that should also be removed.

I suggested to them another thing, but there was no reference to that. In our time, during the Janata Government rule, for Food-for-Work Programme we had assigned and allotted five millions tonnes of foodgrains. Now it is only half a million tonnes of foodgrains. I congratulate the Government for having a buffer stock of 21 million tonnes. Therefore, it will be possible for them to allocate greater quantities of foodgrains for the Food-for-Work scheme. Only because the suggestion come from the Opposition, let them not rejecting straightway. If they implement this particular suggestion, instead of half a million tonnes of foodgrains to be given for the Food-for-Work scheme, if they assign five million tonnes, in that case it will go a long way in helping people.

Corruption should be eradicated. In all the rural schemes to which I have made a reference, experts have come to the conclusion that 60 per cent of the benefit does not go to the actual beneficiaries; only 40 per cent goes to them. Therefore, the degree of corruption has also to be eliminated.

Take the Antyodaya scheme. Forget as to who introduced it. I would like to repeat that argument which I made last time : forget whether this Government had brought the Food-for-Work scheme or that Government had brought the Antyodaya scheme. The Planning Commission, of which the Chairman happens

to be your Member, had appointed an Evaluation Committee on anti-poverty measures, and that Evaluation Committee has come to the conclusion that Antyodaya scheme and Food-for-Work scheme had actually helped the 'poorest among the poor'. This is what they have said. If that is so, if that is the inference of the Planning Commission, do not take a partisan attitude and do try to take up the schemes and try to implement them more effectively.

As far as the problems of agriculture are concerned, I would very briefly like to mention because that part was not covered by the hon. Minister. The problem of agriculturists is leading to poverty escalation in the country. We must try to make agriculture cheaper and we must be able to offer remunerative prices to the peasants and just wages to the agricultural labour. All these will be possible only if an integrated view regarding the entire rural economy concerning agriculture is taken. We must try to offer cheaper inputs ; the agriculturists want cheaper diesel, cheaper electricity, cheaper fertilisers and other inputs. If they are offered, probably even with the existing prices that are offered to the agricultural commodities, they may feel satisfied because with the reduction in the expenses of inputs, the existing prices that are offered might happen to be remunerative prices. Therefore, that constructive aspects will have to be borne in mind.

As far as land re-distribution is concerned, in a number of States the ceiling laws have remained only on paper, and the ceiling laws are flagrantly violated. In the Madhya Pradesh Assembly, it was admitted by the Minister that, when the ceiling laws were sought to be implemented and the land was supposed to be redistributed, lands were actually shown in the names of various persons and some of the names were cats and dogs ; when they were investigated it was found out that some pieces of lands were assigned to cats and dogs. This was actually accepted and admitted by the Minister on the floor of the House in Madhya Pradesh Assembly. It is happening because . . .

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur) : That is a very rare thing. Why make it a ridiculous thing ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I am only saying whatever was stated by the Minister.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : The main objective of imposing ceiling laws is to prevent any more accretion of lands for those people who have already got lands.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Exactly. If he had felt the punch of my speech too much, I would withdraw that punch ; I am prepared to withdraw those 'cats and dogs'. But I must tell you that there are a number of loopholes in the ceiling laws, and unless the ceiling laws are properly tightened and effectively implemented, no surplus land will be available for redistribution at all, and when re-distribution takes place, Adivasis and Scheduled Castes must get priority. That is the national policy accepted with the sanction of Parliament, and that should be implemented effectively. I would warn that with all the effective schemes that we implement among the rural poor and the urban poor, there is one factor which will be a disturbing and destabilising factor of our economy and that is the growing black money economy in the country. No less a person than the former Finance Minister, Shri Y.B. Chavan has admitted while delivering the speech on the presentation of the Budget, that unfortunately in this country a parallel black money economy functions and unless that is eradicated, we will not be able to solve many problems of our economy. There are various estimates. One estimate that has been made by Mr. Rangnekar is that the black money accumulated in this country is of the order of Rs. 50,000 crores and if we have a parallel black money of that order, the official economy is totally disrupted and as a result of that, artificial inflation, artificial rise in the prices and artificial scarcity result in the country. And whenever there is an inflation and rise in prices, it is not the affluent sections that

are affected, it is always those who lie below the poverty line who are affected. Therefore, these precautions should be taken. I am glad that the Minister has admitted that the National Sample Survey to which I had made a reference, probably when that sample survey is available, may indicate the poverty in the country to be still graver. We would like that National Sample Survey figure to be placed on the Table of the House. Last time National Sample Survey documents were laid on the Table of the House. I would demand that as he has said, within 2-3 months during the Budget session, the National Sample Survey inferences should be laid on the Table of the House because that will be a correct indicator to find out whether the economy has been stabilised, whether poverty in the country has grown and whether the various measures that have been taken for the eradication of poverty have been successful or not. That can be judged effectively only then. These are the aspects that have to be taken note of and I am sure if he takes cognizance of the strong criticism that has been made by members on both sides, probably he will be able to strengthen the efforts to eradicate poverty in the country. Unless poverty is eradicated, no problems of development in the country will ever be solved. One way of lifting the people above the poverty line is by manipulation—by changing the definition of the term 'poverty line' instead of lifting the people above the poverty line, you depress the poverty line and you by one stroke can remove a large chunk of the people who are below the poverty line. But that type of manipulation will not do. We want the accepted norms of 'poverty line' to remain. As the Minister himself has admitted, 2100 calories in the urban areas and 2400 calories in the rural areas and the requisite income necessary to provide those calories in terms of the existing price structure should be the definition. If that is done, I am sure eradication of poverty will become easy to a great extent and that will only give a fillip to the development of the economy of the country.

I am sure the Government will take

all these necessary steps which were suggested. He requested that I may withdraw the resolution. I do not want moving a resolution to be just a ritual.

Though he has accepted the spirit, he has rejected the resolution. Very often you say, 'We accept the spirit but reject the bottle.' That is what he has said. I am not one of those who move resolutions just as a ritual. Therefore, I press my resolution—I may not ask for division. But let it be put to vote. After its fate is decided, there will still be 4 or 5 minutes and we can take up Shri Virdhi Chander Jain's resolution.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will now put Mr. Daga's amendment to vote—Mr. Daga is not here. So I put it.

The question is :

'That in the resolution,—

after 'poverty line' insert—

"according to the scheduled programme because of increase in population." (1)

The motion was negatived.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : Before you put the resolution to the vote of the House, I may be permitted to say a few words.

The hon. Member has made very valuable points. Otherwise I have no objection to his Resolution. It is a very pious resolution. There is no question of rejecting it or accepting it. I agree with the spirit with which this Resolution has been brought. As he himself has said, why, should one divide the House on such a thing ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I am not dividing the House. I want only voice vote.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will now put the Resolution moved by Prof. Madhu Dandavate to the vote of the House. The question is :

"This House expresses its concern over the failure of the Government to lift vast sections of the masses above the poverty line and demands, concrete measures to eradicate poverty from the country."

The motion was negatived.

17.56 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE : DESERT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now the House will take up the Resolution on Desert Development Programme to be moved by Shri Virdhi Chander Jain. Before we take up the Resolution, we have to fix the time for it. Shall we fix 2 hours ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : (Raipur) : Why not fix it in the next session ? He will still remain on his legs in the next session.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I think we can fix 2 hours for the present.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We have fixed 2 hours for the present. Shri Virdhi Chander Jain.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer) : Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move :

[Shri Viridhi Chander Jain]

“This House is of the opinion that there should be parity between the Desert Development Programme and the Hill Areas Development Programme in the matter of provision of funds, facilities and concessions in the Seventh Five Year Plan.”

While moving this Resolution I want to say that the conditions in desert areas are worst than those in the Hill Areas. The desert area comprises of 11 districts of Rajasthan, 4 districts of Haryana, and 2 districts of Gujarat. It includes certain parts of Himachal Pradesh and Kashmir also. There is serious crisis of drinking water in this area.

There is very little rainfall in this area. During a season rains fall only on 5 to 7 days. In a period of 5 years certain parts of the desert area remain in the grip of famine for 3 years and certain other parts face famine situation for 4 years. The desert area is not in a position to face drought situation any longer. Though the Central Government and the State Governments provide financial assistance to farmers but the assistance thus given is not adequate. The people of the desert area have to leave their native places and go to Gujarat, Haryana and Punjab for earning livelihood because they are not in a position to earn their livelihood in Rajasthan

As I have already said there is serious crisis of drinking water, though the Central Government and the Rajasthan Government have tried to provide drinking water. The Central Government during the last 5 years have provided Rs. 30 crores for Barmer district and Rs. 15 crores for Jaisalmer district but this problem is still continuing.

The total area of my Parliamentary Constituency is 70,000 sq. km., which is equal to the total area of Punjab

State, more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ times that of Haryana and 2 times that of Kerala. The area of villages ranges from 25 sq kms, to 200 sq kms., Even in a village where there is provision of drinking water, a farmer or a worker has to cover a distance of 5 kilometres to 15 kilometres to fetch drinking water. One member of the family and a camel remain always busy in fetching drinking water.

18.00 hrs.

This is the situation in regard to drinking water. The people who live in huts or in fields are demanding that drinking water arrangements should be made for them so that they may not be required to traverse a distance of 5 to 15 kms. to fetch drinking water. Arrangements for drinking water should be made by considering every 250 people as a unit. We have put this view before the Rajasthan Government as well as before the Central Government.

Here each area spreads over 25 sq. kms. Unless you make provision of drinking water for a unit of 250 people, the problem of drinking water will not be solved. Tubewells have been installed for this purpose but only a few of them are working successfully and thus we have been able to make provision of drinking water at certain places.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Jain, you can continue your speech next time.

18.02 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, January 29, 1985 | Magha 9, 1906 (Saka).

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**PUBLISHED UNDER RULE 379 AND 382 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE AND
CONDUCT OF BUSINESS IN LOK SABHA (SIXTH EDITION) AND
PRINTED BY ANASHDEEP PRINTERS
NEW DELHI.**
