

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

Fourteenth Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)



सत्यमेव जयते

12
२/३/९०

(Vol III contains Nos. 11 to 22)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

Price : Rs. 6.00

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday August 11 1989/Sravana 20 1911
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*English*]

OBITUARY REFERENCES

MR SPEAKER Hon members it is my sad duty to inform the House of the demise of three of our former colleagues namely Sarvashri Yadav Narain Jadhav Srichand Singhal and T N Viswanatha Reddy

Shri Yadav Narain Jadhav was a member of the Second Lok Sabha during 1957-62 representing Malegaon constituency of the then Bombay State

A pleader by profession Shri Jadhav was a renowned social worker and was associated with several social and educational institutions in various capacities

He participated actively in the freedom movement and was imprisoned in 1942. He also took active part in the labour movement in Maharashtra and suffered imprisonment several times. He also took part in the Goa satyagraha on 15th August, 1955

Shri Jadhav passed away on 20th May,

1989 at Malegaon in Maharashtra at the age of 73

Shri Srichand Singhal was a member of the First Lok Sabha during 1952-57, representing Aligarh constituency of Uttar Pradesh. Earlier, he was a member of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly during 1947-52

A veteran freedom fighter, Shri Singhal participated actively in the freedom movement and suffered imprisonment several times. A renowned social worker, he was associated with several social and educational organisations in various capacities. He published a weekly "Swadesh" which inspired the people during the freedom struggle

Shri Singhal passed away at Ghaziabad on 18th July 1989 at the age of 90

Shri T N Viswanatha Reddy was a member of the First and Second Lok Sabha representing Chittoor and Rajampet constituencies of the then State of Madras and Andhra Pradesh respectively

An agriculturist by profession, Shri Reddy was a well known social worker and worked with great zeal for the welfare of women and children. He evinced special interest in rural development and in the social and economic well-being of the downtrodden

Shri Reddy passed away at Hyderabad on 31st July, 1989, at the age of 70

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and I am sure the House will join me

in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

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

The Members then stood in silence for a short while

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

+
*365. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK:
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of black money which is in circulation in the country as on 31 March, 1989 as per the assessment of his Ministry;

(b) to what extent Government have been able to mop up the estimated black money with the existing measures; and

(c) what further steps Government propose to take to net the balance amount of black money?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) to (c). A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a) There is no official estimate of the amount of black money in circulation. The

National Institute of Public Finance and Policy in their report titled 'Aspects of Black Economy—in India' have estimated the amount of black money for 1983-84 between Rs. 31,584 to 36,786 crores. The authors have, however, admitted that their estimate is based on numerous assumptions and approximations, each of which can be challenged.

(b) and (c). Combating tax evasion is a continuous exercise. The Government takes necessary legislative and administrative measures as deemed appropriate from time to time to curb generation, growth and use of black money. Some of the measures taken by the Income-tax Department are as under:—

- (i) Systematic survey operations;
- (ii) Search and seizure operations in appropriate cases;
- (iii) Verification of information by Central Information Branches in a planned manner;
- (iv) In-depth investigation in a selected number of error-prone cases; and
- (v) Pre-emptive purchase of immovable property by the Central Government under the provisions of Chapter XXC of the Income-tax Act, 1961 in certain notified cities.

During the course of searches conducted by the Income-tax Department, the value of *prima-facie* unaccounted assets seized and the amount of concealed income surrendered therein for the last 2 years and the current financial year are as under:—

Year	No. of searches conducted	Value of assets seized (Rs. in crores)	Amount of concealed income surrendered (Rs. in crores)
1987-88	8464	145.02	147.49
1988-89	7505	152.70	249.35
1989-90	952	24.22	24.21

(upto to 30.6.89)

Upto 30-6-1989, orders for purchase of immovable properties by the Central Government have been made in respect of 322 properties for a total apparent consideration of Rs. 111,04,77,489 under the provisions of Chapter XXC of the Income-tax Act. Out of these properties, 109 properties have been sold in public auction for Rs. 53,55,14,111 as against the apparent consideration of Rs. 39,25,28,100 resulting in gain of Rs. 14,29,86,011 to the Government.

Besides the above, undisclosed income may also be detected during the survey operations and assessment proceedings.

SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Sir, I have gone through the statement laid on the Table by the hon. Minister. We all know the role of blackmoney. The blackmoney has an adverse effect on our economy, specially in the part of the unaccounted money. It is true that quite a large part of blackmoney generated in India is deposited in the foreign banks. The Government should be very firm in controlling the blackmoney.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister what are the areas and important factors which have generated such blackmoney.

SHRI A.K. PANJA: The factors which appear to be mainly responsible are: firstly income that has been received either openly or covertly while participating in the production of goods and services. Secondly, capital receipts on sale of goods; thirdly fixed income formation in the public sector, fixed capital formation in the private corporate sector; exports and imports. There are certain other illegal activities like smuggling, bribes, prostitution which also generate black income.

SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: May I know from the hon. Minister what are the short-term measures and also long-term action before the Government for controlling and combating this sort of unaccounted, blackmoney.

SHRI A.K. PANJA: So far as the policy

of the Government is concerned, it is two-pronged. The first one is to encourage voluntary compliance; secondly, the other limb of the policy is to intensify deterrent measures like searches, survey and prosecution. The steps that have been taken, as it is called, short-term measures are survey and searches which have been stepped up. Staff and equipment have been augmented in the last three years. Selective scrutiny is being made. The onus has been shifted from the Department to the assessee in certain cases to determine *mala fide* intention or as it is called in legal language, culpable mental state. Then, there is pre-emptive purchase of immoveable properties which came into effect from the first of October, 1986. There were some lacunae in the settlement commission. That has been plugged. Special courts are being set up not everywhere but in some places like Hyderabad, Mirzapur, Bangalore, Ernakulam, Indore, Cuttack, Madras, Madhubani, Ahmedabad, Kanpur and Delhi. Modern equipments like computers are being used to get information quickly and in reasonable manner. Research Cell has been set up so that various modus operandi of tax evaders could be collected and a Directory giving the tax-payers names in alphabetical order is under preparation.

Lastly, door-to-door survey is being conducted to broad-base the tax operation.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: It is very commendable on the part of the Government, specially our Finance Ministry, to unearth and check the flow of black-money in the country which is having its reaction in the form of price rise creating problems to the general public. In spite of that, as per the statement of the hon. Minister, about Rs. 3,500 or Rs. 3,600 of black-money is still flowing in our country. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Ministry has decided that whenever a person suo moto discloses his assets and income, it should be accepted and, whether this is one of the factors which is encouraging the flow of black-money and, if so, what action the Ministry would take in this regard?

Besides, may I know from the hon. Minister whether there is any income-tax charged on the donations from foreign countries and, if so, I would like to know whether the Ministry will take any action on this issue. We know through the report of the Kudal Commission and other reports that such type of foreign money is coming to our country but we are not assessing any income on it nor realising any income-tax from that. Will the Ministry make a re-thinking on this issue to check this type of huge amount of flow of black money into the country?

SHRI A.K. PANJA: So far as the first portion of the question is concerned, disposal of properties, I have already answered it. If it comes to our notice that it is being sold at a price less than the market price, then there is a provision for pre-emptive purchase. We can requisition and then put it for sale.

So far as foreign donations are concerned, this is the concern of a different Department. That is being controlled by them.

PROF. N.G. RANGA: From time to time we get news of so much of crores worth of gold which is being smuggled is being captured by the Government. Recently the Finance Ministry also made it known that as much as Rs. 2,000 crores worth of gold was captured during last year. May I know in what manner all the money realised from it is being utilised and is it being studied at all from time to time to what extent it is being utilised in order to minimise the mischief of black-money and also inflation?

SHRI A.K. PANJA: On gold, I answered yesterday in the Rajya Sabha. It was incorrectly printed in the newspaper. I thought that probably I answered wrongly. But, in the transcript of the proceedings which were given to me, it is not Rs. 2,000 crores. It is Rs. 200 crores. It is a little over Rs. 200 crores last year.

So far as utilisation is concerned, the entire gold has to be deposited with the Government of India Mint. Previously no

credit was given to the Revenue Department but it went to the Consolidated Fund. The Finance Minister has decided in a meeting that such action is done by the Revenue Department Officers and a national credit should be given to the Revenue Department. That is being operated now. So far as the question of Gold and also how to curb the black money are concerned, there is some relationship among drugs, gold, black money and other illegal activities. Two high-powered Committees were formed—one is Mr. J. Datta Committee and the other is Dr. Rangarajan Committee. Mr. Datta went into the procedural aspect and Dr. Rangarajan went deep into the details of it. After those Committee submitted their reports, they were referred to a Group of Ministers. Recently, the Group of Ministers has given the decision and soon the House will know the Gold Policy of the Government of India.

SHRI C.P. THAKUR: Sir, most of the Economists feel that in a developing economy, the black money also plays some important part. In this respect, I want to know from the hon. Minister as to how does the percentage of black money in India compare with the four recently economically developed countries of Asia like Singapore, South Korea, Republic of China and Malaya. Secondly, when stringent measures were taken by the Government of India recently, how much money was shifted to foreign banks and how much came as NRI money?

SHRI A.K. PANJA: So far as the first portion is concerned, to my knowledge, no such study has been made regarding Asian countries and India. So far as the second portion is concerned, it is not for my Department to answer. It is Shri Faleiro's Department which has to answer it.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You are earning.

[English]

You add to the income.

[Translation]

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT: I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that black-money is the worst menace for our country. It is crippling the entire economy. There have been news reports in the newspapers these days that donations worth crores of rupees are being raised in the border areas of Delhi, which are adjacent to Haryana, for the conversion of black money into white. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware of it and if so, what is the source of this black money and whether any survey or research has been conducted to find out whether these donations are being collected by or through the Chief Minister of Haryana.*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: No mention of name please.

[Translation]

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT: Does the hon. Minister propose to impose a ban on the collection of funds from the persons who went to convert their black money into white.

[English]

SHRI A.K. PANJA: We have information that such money is mostly unaccounted for money—but not always—which is being sought to be given for election purposes. But so far as the details are concerned, they are not with me. Regarding making law to prohibit such donation, it is for the Election Commission to decide and the Government of India to decide. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIRAMPYARE PANIKA: The matter should be investigated.

[English]

We are not asking for making laws. We are only asking for checking the black money which is being generated. (Interruptions)

SHRI A.K. PANJA: As the hon. Members have expressed their sentiments, I am certainly with them. But we can make investigation on certain positive information. Otherwise, sometimes it is alleged that we are taking coercive measures. If the hon. Members could write to me and give me positive information, not openly, then I assure that I will take steps.

[Translation]

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH: Instead of providing secret information, I place an open information before the House.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: No. I cannot allow.

[Translation]

Please give it in writing.

Loss of Foreign Exchange in Diamond Trade

*366. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the net foreign exchange loss suffered during first quarter of 1989-90 in the diamond trade and the reasons therefor;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange allowed to diamond traders for their foreign travel abroad during the said quarter; and

(c) the remedial measures taken or proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

During April-June, 1989, imports of rough diamonds were about Rs. 1142 Crores while exports of cut and polished diamonds totalled about Rs. 1100 Crores. The imported roughs are yet to be fully processed for exports. The net export realisation and value addition are computed on an annual basis. The question of having suffered a loss in foreign exchange or of recourse to remedial measures does not, therefore, arise.

Foreign Exchange may be drawn by exporters for various specified purposes including for travel abroad under the Blanket Permit Scheme of RBI which is operated on a yearly basis. Approvals for travel abroad do not have to be obtained by exporters under this scheme visit by visit. Foreign exchange is permitted to an exporter over the annual period at the rate of 2% of the FOB value of the export earnings repatriated subject to a ceiling of Rs. 2 Crores.

[Translation]

DR. B.L. SHAIKESH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has given a vague reply to my question. It has been stated in the reply that during April-June, 1989, imports of rough diamonds were worth about Rs. 1142 crores while exports of cut and polished diamonds totalled about Rs. 1100/- crores. On the basis of these figures, it is evident that during this period the Government had to incur a loss of Rs. 42 crores on account of import and export of diamonds. Will the hon. Minister be pleased to tell the net value of the diamonds imported and exported during the whole year, and the percentage of it shared by the Hindustan Diamond Corporation, a public Sector Undertaking, and other private agencies?

[English]

SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI: Sir, first of all, I would like to inform the hon. Member that it is not a fact that there is a loss in diamond export in the first quarter. The factual position is that we import rough diamond quar-

terly, monthly, in whatever manner it is possible, from abroad based on valid import licences. But we do export. We do not take export monitoring process just month-wise. We make a total review annually as to the overall import, total value addition and the total turnover in the export. Now, the position as it is referred to by the hon. Member is this. In so far as first quarter is concerned, it is a fact that overall rough diamond import was for Rs. 1142 crores. And the export of cut and polished diamonds in the same period was Rs. 1100 crores. But the entire imports have not been processed. The export value of these imports when fully processed is Rs. 1700 crores. Thus, it is incorrect to state that there has been a loss of foreign exchange. By 31st July, 1989, the exports had reached Rs. 1457.5 crores as against imports of Rs. 1419.8 crores with an inflow of about Rs. 36 crores.

In so far as last year's export is concerned, it was a happy period in the sense that while our target was only Rs. 3,500 crores, the achievement was Rs. 4,230 crores... (Interruptions)

DR. B.L. SHAIKESH: You please mention about the private agencies.

SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI: I am just coming to that. Now, I cannot name all the agencies individually. But I can inform the hon. Member that around 3000 persons are members of the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council out of which 1000 units are active export units who do take to export of diamonds from time to time.

So far as detailed data is concerned about the company that the hon. Member has referred, I shall certainly collect the data of the company and inform the hon. Member accordingly.

[Translation]

DR. B.L. SHAIKESH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know whether the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that the traders have been indulging large scale bungling and

unauthorised transactions of foreign exchange, because there is a wide gap between the official and non-official rates of diamonds? As a result of that these people are taking undue advantage of it, while the Government have been incurring loss of foreign exchange. What steps are proposed to be taken by the Government to check these illegal practices? Whether the Government is seized of these activities and whether in view of the above, the hon. Minister would direct the Indian consulates in foreign countries to keep appropriate vigilance or check in this regard so that the traders are kept under watch and the Government does not incur any loss on account of bungling in foreign exchange?

SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI: So far as the matter of bungling in the foreign exchange is concerned, it is the matter directly concerned with the Ministry of Finance. If the hon. Member has some particular complaint with him regarding such bungling, only then his Ministry should be asked to take an appropriate action in this regard. So far as the export of diamonds and gems is concerned, the traders in our country have been doing good and satisfactory work. It is through them that we have succeeded to expand the export constantly and it has added considerably to the foreign exchange earnings of our country. It is due to this fact that gems and diamond export have become the leading sector as compared to all other items being exported by India and that is why the Government intend to give more incentives to the people engaged in this trade so that they may increase their export and thus assist the Government to earn foreign exchange. As the demand of Indian gems and jewellery in the international market has registered the optimum increase. We want that the Government should provide incentives on all such items of export which may bring in foreign exchange. If the hon. Member has got some complaint against some individual trader, then the Ministry of finance can be asked to take action against that trader.

[English]

Contractors for Cleaning of Platform Tracks

*367. **SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of cleaning and sweeping of platform tracks and railway premises at some of the stations on Western Railway has been entrusted to contractors, rendering a number of regular employees jobless;

(b) if so, the names of stations on Western Railway where the work has been entrusted to contractors, and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of employees rendered jobless and the steps taken to provide alternate jobs to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). The work of cleaning has been awarded to contractors at Kota, Hindaun City, Shri Mahabirji, Gangapur City, Bhawani Mandi, Ramganj Mandi, Indergarh, Lakheri, Bayana, Fatehpur Sikri and Surat Stations on the Western Railway for better working. But this has not rendered any regular employee jobless.

[Translation]

SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in his reply to my question the hon. Minister has stated that the work of cleaning has been awarded to contractors at 11 stations including kota on the Western Railway for better working. But this has not rendered any regular employee jobless. I would like to know the total number of workers presently engaged for the work of cleaning under the contractors and the number of persons employed for this work earlier. Does the Government propose to take measures to absorb all those persons who have been

rendered jobless at some other places.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: The contracts have been given at a very small scale on the Western Railway and that also only at those places where the Government considered it useless to engage full time workers because it was not justified on the basis of the existing work load. At certain places the work load increased quite rapidly and permanent employees were not available to handle that work load. Only in respect of such places, some contractors have been given petty contracts. As I have already submitted, this has not rendered any regular employee jobless, rather at certain places they had taken to the re-deployment of workers. But no body has been rendered jobless on that account.

SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL: I would like to know whether the hon. Minister propose to award the work of cleaning at other stations also to the contractors for better working.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: There are 7000 railway stations in the entire country, out of which the work of cleaning at only 11 stations on the Western Railway has been awarded to contractors. Similar decision can be taken even in future if the situation so demands and permanent employees are not available for the job in adequate number.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as you know, on one side the Hon. Prime Minister proposes to provide employment to crores of people under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, while on the other hand the railway department is rendering the regular employees jobless and intends to get the entire work done through the contractors. So I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Railway department would follow the footsteps of Shri Rajiv Gandhi and cancel and contracts so as to provide employment to more and more people at these 11 stations?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: As I

have already submitted, wherever the work has been awarded to the contractors, it is not on a large scale but on a very small scale. The reason for taking this decision was that when the work of cleaning on these stations was not found to be satisfactory, the Government considered it useless to increase the number of workers and the work was awarded on the contract basis. I have already stated that the contracts have been awarded only on a very small scale as we have not taken the policy decision of awarding the work on contract basis on a large scale.

[English]

Appointment of SC/ST Judges in High Courts

*368. **SHRI HAREN BHUMIJ:** Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether sometime back Government had advised the Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of various High Courts to consider the names of Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes for the appointment of High Court Judges; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by various High Court so far with regard to the appointment of Judges belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Persons belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes have been appointed in some High Courts.

SHRI HAREN BHUMIJ: The reply to part (b) of the question seems to be not only evasive but discouraging too. I would like to know through you Sir whether the Minister of Law and Justice enlighten the House about the number of pending cases in the High Courts of the country Statewise as well as the number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe judges in the country Statewise.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: The question mainly relates to the appointment of judges belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe. It has nothing to do with the pending cases in each court. So I have given the answer accordingly.

SHRI HAREN BHUMIJ: Again I have been compelled to say that the reply was too much evasive as well as discouraging and I seek your protection Sir. I plead for the upliftment of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe because though I come from the Scheduled Tribe community I am not recognised as ST, I have been deprived of my rights. There are a large number of pending cases in various High Courts as well as there are inadequate number of judges in the various High Courts of the country. Our hon. Prime Minister has already got the Panchayati Raj Bill passed in Parliament yesterday wherein there are reservations for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, women and for weaker sections. I would like to know in view of the fact that there are so many pending cases in the High Courts as well as there are inadequate number of judges in the various High Courts, would it be the sincere and honest endeavour of the Government to see that before the next general elections, adequate number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes persons are absorbed as judges in the various High Courts of the country?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, the House knows that the Panchayati and Nagar-palika Bills—Constitutional Amendment Bills—have nothing to do with the judicial functions and the question of increasing the number of judges belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, in relation to the functioning of the Panchayats and Nagar-palikas does not arise. The hon. Member's complaint is that though he belongs to the Scheduled Tribes, his tribe is not included in the Scheduled Tribes' List. It is a different question.

The question of pending cases has no relation to the appointment of the judges. I can only say, for the appointment of the

judges. I can only say, for the information of the House that today, there are 9 judges belonging to the Scheduled Castes in various High Courts and two judges belonging to the Scheduled Tribes.

Financial Powers to BIFR for Revival of Sick Industries

*372. **KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to give financial powers to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) for the purposes of quick revival of sick industries throughout the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) set up under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 has wide powers under the Act for making an order specifying inter alia the reliefs and concessions to be given in accordance with the provisions of the Act for the reconstruction, revival or rehabilitation or as the case may be, winding up of the sick industrial company. Certain suggestions have been received for amendments to the Act including, inter alia, wider financial powers for the BIFR.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, On behalf of the working class, I want your permission. In the year 1987, the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) was set up to revive the sick industrial units in the country. If I am not correct, you may ask Shri A.K. Panja and Shri Priya Ranjan Das Munsi, the two Ministers from West Bengal. I think, they will also

support me. So many industrial units have registered their names with BIFR. But, the BIFR, instead of reviving the sick units, new recommending for liquidating all the industrial units in the country. If this is going to continue, then, how can the sick units survive? I would like to know from the Minister whether it is an eye-wash? Why BIFR was set up, I would like to know from the Minister, specifically.

Will the Minister also assure the House that the cases for the revival of the sick units registered with the BIFR should not result in liquidation?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: If I may respectfully say, the hon. Member is strong on emotions, but weak on facts. The BIFR has been working for hardly one and a half years or two years. Within this period of time, it would be unfair to the BIFR to deny that it has contributed substantially to deal with the problem of industrial sickness and find a remedy for it. For the information of the hon. House, I would like to say that within this short period of time, the BIFR has given approval under Section 17(2) of the Statute that governs it, for 83 companies that can make up their position on their own; operating agencies appointed are 318 and draft schemes, for the rehabilitation, drawn are 34. This has been done by BIFR. Here I may like to add—if I am permitted to—that the hon. Member is under misconception and gross misapprehension, if she thinks that if the unit goes sick, then it must immediately be rehabilitated, irrespective of whether it is viable or unviable. The hon. Member may consider that the money that goes into the sick units which are unviable and which cannot make their units worth is the money of the people of this country. Therefore, the hon. Member may not pursue this line of thought. However, if the unit is viable then definitely steps must be taken and are taken to rehabilitate such units.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I do not know why the Minister is supporting the cause of industrialists and not of workers. That is very embarrassing for us. Can the

Minister tell why MMC of Calcutta was liquidated? Was it not a viable unit? Why I am saying this is because whenever we ask the BIFR to re-open a unit they say they cannot re-open it since they have got no financial powers. Government has just set-up a board and not given them the financial powers to re-open a unit. That is the problem. That you should realise. I know the Government money should not be wasted but I want to know what industries have been covered and not covered. The State of Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal are suffering a lot due to sick industrial unit. Will the Minister give financial powers to BIFR to expedite the matter and re-open some sick industries like Metal Box, MMC and Mohini mills? I would also like to point out that the workers have to come to Delhi twice and thrice to attend the BIFR meetings. It is very expensive for the workers to attend these meetings. Will the Minister set-up one branch of BIFR at Calcutta to expedite the matter? The financial institutions like IFCI, IDBI, etc. should coordinate with BIFR and then only BIFR can take some constructive measures?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: In order to expedite different cases, we have recently appointed two more member on BIFR and also created a fourth branch in addition to the three already existing. In deference to the wishes of the hon. Member I would request the BIFR, which is a quasi judicial body, to also hold a hearing in Calcutta to look into the cases there.

SHRI P.R. KAMARAMANGALAM: Sir, we had passed the BIFR Act with all pomp and show and we said this would be the solution by which we can teach a lesson to those industrialists who siphon off money and make the industries fall sick. At the same time we hoped complete investigation will be carried out regarding the revival of the unit. On the other hand, what has happened is that industrialists during the peak time when it runs well use it as a milch cow and really milch the industry dry and leave behind huge liabilities. Now this is done with the tacit consent of the financial institutions because financial institutions are represented on the

Boards. Nothing happens during that time. Then when BIFR approaches the financial institutions to write-off these loans so that the workers may form cooperatives and run the industry, then they say that they cannot write off the loans. Therefore, the unit becomes non-viable. The unit is not non-viable because the industry is bad but it is non-viable because of the huge loans which are outstanding and they refuse to write off those loans. But when it comes to cases like Thapars they will write off complete penal interest and everything where they want to support an industrialist. My question is specific. Will the Finance Ministry and the financial institutions adopt a constructive attitude? The question is viability not in terms of what is outstanding but it should be viability in terms of the business as it stands. If a unit is viable minus the unnecessary loans which get acquired over a period of time and if writing off loans can make it viable, I do not see any reason why Government should stand in the way. Another unfortunate thing is regarding Kamini Tubes. RBI refused the permission to the cooperative bank give loans to the workers to buy the shares and run this industry. Ultimately, it is the hon. Minister who intervened to ensure IDBI give the loans which IDBI has no business to do. IDBI is not supposed to give loans to workers to run it.

Now, I want to know what is the system the Minister is planning or is he just going to allow it go on the way it is going. The Government definitely and its financial institutions are not cooperating with the BIFR. This is my charge. I would like to know Minister's answer.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: The answer is 'no' to the challenge and to the charge that the financial institutions and the banks are not cooperating the BIFR. They are cooperating and they are supposed to cooperate.

On the question of having a concessional package of incentives when the unit is sick but it is viable for the purpose of rehabili-

tation, this is as it should be and that is also being done.

Hon. Member has referred the case of workers' management and taking over of such units. We welcome this approach of workers' management of industry. We will encourage it to the extent possible. It will be our endeavour.

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW: Hon. Minister must be aware of the fact that there is an inherent defect in the BIFR. The defect is this. I have appeared before the BIFR and have come to know from the Chairman also. They have got the power which is not mandatory but it is directive. This is the real inherent defect in the BIFR. When BIFR gives a direction for liquidation, it would be carried out. But if BIFR gives certain direction to some bank or financial institution of the State, it is not mandatory on the part of the agency—whether it is bank or financial institution—to comply with the direction of the BIFR. If it is a fact, what is the use?

I have noticed that liquidation order has mostly been carried out. But whenever BIFR gives any order for revival of the company, it has not been carried out because BIFR has no power. Let it be clear that BIFR has no power to direct the bank or the financial institution to participate in the equity of the sick company. If such mandatory power is not given to the BIFR, then what is the use of giving such power without power to execute. Will the hon. Minister kindly consider it? Otherwise, it will get infructuous. Every day, companies are sent into liquidation. The BIFR are expressing their helplessness to help any sick company to be revived. They say, they don't have any power. If they exercise their power, it will not be applied because they have no mandatory power. Have they reviewed this position?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Hon. Member of right when he says that the powers of the BIFR are not mandatory but they are directive or they are indicative. This, in brief, is the position. The financial institutions that lend the money cannot surrender their own

financial judgment to any other authority. Therefore, this is the principle underlying why the powers are merely directive and not mandatory. Hon. Member would like this power, however, to be mandatory and not just directive. We will look into his suggestion.

Enhancement of Baggage Allowance

*373. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government for enhancement of baggage allowance to Indians working abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

Since the 25th November, 1986, Indians working abroad for not less than one year and returning after termination of work are allowed to bring, free of duty, used household articles and personal effects upto a value of Rs. 20,000/- subject to the conditions stipulated in the relevant Rules. This is in addition to the free allowance of Rs. 1,250/- which is allowed to all persons, other than tourists, coming to India. Indians working abroad and returning after a minimum stay of two years, under Transfer of Residence, are allowed to import duty free their used household effects, subject to the fulfilment of certain conditions. Having regard to the interests of the domestic industry, these allowances are considered adequate at present.

SHRI T. BASHEER: Sir, you know,

from India, thousands of workers are working, especially in Gulf countries. They find it difficult there to get a job. So, they go abroad to find a job there and to earn something for their livelihood. They are working there in a very difficult situation. They earn valuable foreign exchange for this country. When they come to India, their home country, after two or three or four years, they are entitled for a free allowance of only Rs. 1250. You can imagine that this is a very meagre amount and it is quite inadequate. The point is that the tourists who are coming to this country are also entitled for the same amount of free allowance. This is illogical and unjustified. There is no difference between the tourists coming to this country and the sons and daughters of our country who are working abroad in a difficult situation and earning valuable foreign exchange for our country. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government proposes to bring some changes in the baggage rules to differentiate the tourists and the Indians working abroad and to provide more concessions in the baggage rules for the Indians working abroad, while coming to India?

SHRI A.K. PANJA: Sir, it is not correct to say that there is no difference between the tourists, the non-tourists and people who want transfer of residence. There is a clear-cut division which is controlled by various rules.... (Interruptions).... I am not talking about the TRs. I am talking about others. There are three types of Rules. They are Non-tourists Baggage Rules, 1978, Transfer of Residence Rules, 1978 and Tourists Baggage Rules, 1978. These Rules were promulgated under Section 79 of Customs Act, 1962. Non-Tourists Baggage Rules give the clear details which are lengthy. It gives the facilities which are available in a clear manner. So far as the workers and others are concerned, if they fall under transfer of residence rules and are working abroad for more than two years and if they ask for transfer of residence, then various facilities are made available for them. It is not that only Rs. 1250 is made available for them. I am sure that the hon. Member will go through these Rules. If the hon. Member wants, I can

give him a copy of these Rules. Then the confusion will be cleared.

SHRI T. BASHEER: The hon. Minister may be knowing that a majority of Indians who are working in Gulf countries are from my home State, Kerala. They are poor and illiterate people. When they come to this country after three or four years, they are harassed by the customs authorities in the airport. As Members of Parliament from Kerala, we are receiving a lot of complaints. I can give specific instances also to the Minister. I would like to know whether or not the Minister has received any complaint regarding unnecessary harassment by the customs authorities. If so, what steps are you going to take to stop this practice of harassment by the customs authorities?

SHRI A.K. PANJA: I have not received any complaint regarding the harassment of Indian workers who are coming over to India, by the customs officials. I meet the hon. Member almost everyday. If he has got any specific complaint, he can please hand it over to me and I will try to see whether there is any justification in those allegations. I want to make one thing clear about the workers. The Indians working abroad for one year or more and returning to India on termination of such work can import free of duty personal effects and household articles which have been used for a minimum period of six months by the passenger or his family up to the total value of Rs. 20000/-. This is under Rule 4 (A) (1). There are also some other provisions. There is also computation of period of stay for facility of workers going abroad and if their services are terminated. In the matter of computation of period, we have made certain laxity so that they are not in difficulty. I do not want to take time of the House in giving details, but if the hon. Member is interested, I can hand over these to him.

Kolar Irrigation Project of Madhya Pradesh

*375. SHRI PRATAP BHANU

SHARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of Kolar Irrigation Project in Sihore, Madhya Pradesh is much behind the schedule;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the actual progress made and the expenditure incurred thereon, till-date; and

(d) the revised schedule for completion of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (d). The project has not been cleared by the Centre. The State Government is reported to have incurred an expenditure of about Rs. 90 crores upto March, 1989 against the reported latest estimated cost of Rs. 120 crores.

[Translation]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per my information, Kolar Irrigation Project was cleared as one of the World Bank projects and it was scheduled to be commissioned by 1990. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the state administration and the Ministry of Agriculture have been working to commission this World Bank project within the time schedule as laid down for it and whether the required funds are being provided for this project from the Central Government and the World Bank?

[English]

SHRI M.M. JACOB: This project was one of the 16 projects in a cluster for the World Bank Assistance, as I understand. The target fixed by the World Bank was also

there. Actually the projects were included in the time slice of 4/81 to 3/86. The project was not completed in time and the World Bank extended the credit closing date to 31.3.1987. It was again extended because of the non-completion of the project up to 31st March, 1988. The World Bank has since then closed the credit of medium irrigation project in March, 1988. The total disbursement at the close of credit is SDR 106.621 Million under IDA and SDR 21.90 million under IFAD.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Kolar Irrigation Project is the most important of all projects in Budhni—Narsolaganj area of my constituency. As per the previous schedule it was to be completed by the year 1986 but later it was further extended to the year 1990. Out of the total amount of allocation of Rs. 120 crores, till today about Rs. 90 crores have already been spent on this project. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the percentage of the work of construction of dam and canals completed so far and whether both these works are in progress side by side or there is any inconsistency or obstacle which is causing delay. The hon. Minister may kindly tell whether its completion is delayed due to certain obstacles in its implementation or due to some financial problem or some other factors underlying it?

[*English*]

SHRI M.M. JACOB: First of all, I have mentioned in my earlier reply that this is a project not cleared by the Central Water Commission. However, we are keeping in close touch with the project and its progress because we are interested in its progress.

MR. SPEAKER: Can we go ahead with a project without clearance of Central Water Commission?

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: In the first instance, it is only CWC which gives its clearance on the project whether it is a small or a medium project, whereas the project in question is a major one. Without the technical approval of CWC, neither a medium nor a small project can be cleared whereas this project is a major one involving a total cost of Rs. 120 crores, I am rather surprised to note it.

[*English*]

SHRI M.M. JACOB: I will answer that point. I was only telling the background. This was a IVth Plan project. It was cleared by the CWC in 1979. Then the State Government modified the very same plan and the scheme and submitted a revised scheme in 1983 for a higher amount of about Rs. 70 crores. Again, the cost escalated and today it is estimated to be Rs. 120 crores.

Sir, the other part of his question is about the progress of the work. The Nalla closure of the dam was taken up in October 1987 and 93 per cent work has been completed. Entire earthwork in the left flank has been completed whereas, about 90 per cent work has been done in the right flank.

About 90 per cent work has been completed so far. Out of total 9 barrage gates, 8 gates have been delivered at site and installation of 5 No. gates have also been completed.

Now, Sir, in the main canal, the problem comes in at the feeder stage. The execution of distribution network has not been taken up so far. It is the execution stage of the feeder channel which has to be completed. The other problems faced are about the rehabilitation of some people and also about the acquisition of land. These are various aspects about which we were informed.

Overbridge at Gudivada

*376. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction work on railway overbridge at Gudivada (Andhra Pradesh) has been stopped;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the expenditure incurred so far on this project; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take for its early completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The Railway has already completed its portion of the work on the bridge proper over the tracks. However there is some hold up in the completion of bridge approaches, being executed by the State Government.

(c) The Railways have so far spent Rs. 84 lakhs on the work.

(d) The Railway is pursuing the matter with the State Government for expeditious completion of the balance work.

SHRI K.S. RAO: Sir, while asking a question I don't think any of the Member will be bifurcating a bridge between the railway portion and the State portion. When we call it a railway bridge, we call it including possibly approaches also whether they are done by the railways or the State Government. It is a fact that the project is stopped, which the hon. Minister also agrees that it is because of the approaches which are to be done by the State Government. Anyway, I don't want to go into the technicality.

While there is some consolation for me to know that the railways is not responsible

and it is the State Government which is responsible for delaying it, but there cannot be any consolation for the people of that area because they are suffering for the last 10 years. It is almost 10 years when the work was started and till now it is incomplete. The existing gate also could not be used, which was diverted to a distant place. I wish to know from the hon. Minister whether keeping in view the delay on the part of the State Government in completing the approaches—when the railways is investing lakhs and crores of rupees in completing its portion—will the Minister think in terms of ensuring that all the State Governments deposit the money with the railways and then the railways will take up the work on behalf of the State Governments so that the railway overbridge can be completed within the schedule time?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, I fully share the sentiments of the hon. Member but I would again like to emphasise that the railway portion of the work was completed as far back as October, 1987 and after much goading one approach constructed by the Andhra Pradesh Government, I think the PWD Department, was completed in December 1987. But in completing only one approach if you reach the top of bridge on one approach, then you have to jump down on the other side. So, we are trying to tell the Andhra Pradesh Government that people are suffering, as hon. Member says, and as far as this project is concerned, they are not keeping the interest of the people in mind. They again set up in December, 1988 as the target date to complete that one approach. However, again there had been a slippage. Now, they are hoping to complete it in October, 1989. But looking at the past record, I am very apprehensive about it. I would certainly desire the help of the hon. Member to impress upon the Andhra Pradesh Government to be a little more alive to the interests of the people of that area.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*[English]***Sale of Duplicate Cloth**

*364. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the course of income tax raids in the last two years, some cases of sale of duplicate cloth with popular brand names in the country have come to the notice of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) No, Sir.

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

Appointment of Notary Public

*369. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any guidelines have been issued by Government for the appointment of Public Notaries in the States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). The appointment of notaries is governed by the provisions of the Notaries Act, 1952 and the Notaries Rules, 1956.

Working Conditions of Tea Garden Workers

*370. SHRI ABDUL HAMID : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tea Board has taken any steps to secure better working conditions and improvement of amenities and incentives for tea garden workers in Assam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Tea Board undertakes supplementary welfare programmes and schemes for the benefit of tea plantation workers and their dependents in India including Assam through the various schemes on matters not covered by the Plantation Labour Act, 1951.

The Welfare activities of the Board are classified into two main categories viz.

(1) Grant of education stipends to the wards of tea garden workers for prosecuting studies above primary stage, and

(2) Financial assistance to various institutions and organisations under General Welfare Schemes for the benefit of tea garden workers and their dependents.

Cases pending and Staff Strength in Central Agency

*371. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the strength of staff including Advocates and other legal practitioners employed permanently by the Central Agency in his Ministry;

(b) the number of cases presently pending with Central Agency, Ministry-wise and Department-wise;

(c) the number of cases of the State of Goa pending with Central Agency; and

(d) the number of cases of Union Territories pending with Central Agency?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) 55

(b) to (d). Receipt and disposal of cases in the Central Agency Section is a continuous process. Information about the pending cases in the Central Agency Section, Ministry-wise or Department-wise, and also of a States and Union Territories is not maintained.

Foreign Investment

*374. **SHRIV. SREENIVASA PRASAD:**
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total investment made by the various foreign countries in Indian Industry during the last two years (upto March, 1989) ; and

(b) the percentage of capital repatriated to each country during this period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Check on Entry of Unauthorised Persons in Reserved Compartments

*377. **PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ:**
SHRIMATI D K. BHANDARI:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that passengers with or without tickets get into reserved compartments and usually misbehave with bonafide passengers in the reserved compartments causing harassment to them;

(b) whether recently there has been an incident of murder of a foreigner by such intruders in Jhelum Express; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the concrete steps Government propose to take to check the entry of unauthorised persons in reserved compartments for the safety of the passengers particularly in Jhelum Express and such other long distance trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Some such cases have been reported.

(b) On 10.7.89, a French national who was travelling by Jhelum Express from Pathankot to New Delhi, sustained injuries during an altercation with some passengers between Sonapat and Sabzi Mandi stations on Ambala-Delhi Section of Northern Railway. He was removed to Northern Railway Central Hospital where he was declared dead on arrival. Delhi Railway Police have registered a case of murder.

(c) The following steps have been taken:

(i) Distance restrictions on travel have been imposed in certain long distance trains.

(ii) Surprise checks are conducted with the help of GRP/RPF and unauthorised passengers found travelling in reserved coaches are detained and fined under provisions of Indian Railways Act.

- (iii) Imposition of punishment on Conductors/Attendants found responsible for dereliction of duty.

Castor Oil Exports

*378. SHRI VJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether castor oil exports have shown improvement in the general currency area (GCA);

(b) if so, the countries where castor oil is in great demand;

(c) the steps being taken to further raise its exports; and

(d) the policy of Government regarding grant of Cash compensatory support to all grades of castor oil for export?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The countries where castor oil is in great demand are France, Japan, USA, UK, Netherlands, Australia and South Korea.

(c) Cash Compensatory Support @ 5% and REP @ 3% are admissible on export of castor oil (medicinal). Approval has been given for sending a study-cum-sales team for promoting exports of castor oil to GCA countries. STC has also made available counter-trade facilities to exporters of castor oil to GCA.

(d) Cash Compensatory Support on export of a product is given on the basis of cost data details submitted through the concerned Commodity Board/Export Promotion Council. Presently CCS is admissible on export of castor oil medicinal only.

Recruitment of Minority Communities In Banks

*379. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued instructions to the public sector banks and the Banking Services Recruitment Boards (BSRBs) to take specific steps to encourage candidates belonging to the minority communities to appear in the Banking Services Examinations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the public sector banks and the BSRBs in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). In pursuance of Prime Minister's 15-point programme on the welfare of minorities, steps have been taken to encourage candidates belonging to minority communities to appear in the recruitment examinations conducted by the Banking Service Recruitment Boards. These measures are aimed to familiarise the trainees with the methodology etc. of the recruitment tests.

Opening of Bank Branches In Haryana

*380. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of each bank working in the State of Haryana at present;

(b) the names of banks working in the State of Haryana;

(c) whether Government propose to

open more bank branches in the States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The names of banks and number of their branches working in the State of Haryana as on 31.12.1988 are indicated in the Statement below:-

(c) and (d). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that under the Branch Expansion Programme for 1985-90, 143 centres (128 centres for Rural/Semi-urban areas and 15 centres for Urban areas) has been allotted to banks for opening their branches in Haryana. Of these, branches have already been set up in 136 centres. Recently, keeping in view the requirements of the Service Area Approach to rural lending 10 centres have been allotted in Haryana. Of these, branches have already been set up in 7 centres.

STATEMENT

Name of the banks and number of their branches functioning in the State of Haryana as on 31.12.1988.

<i>Name of Bank</i>	<i>No. of branches</i>
1	2
1. State Bank of India	152
2. State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	6
3. State Bank of Patiala	103
4. Allahabad Bank	15
5. Bank of Baroda	16

1	2
6. Bank of India	18
7. Bank of Maharashtra	5
8. Canara Bank	44
9. Central Bank of India	73
10. Dena Bank	4
11. Indian Bank	13
12. Indian Overseas Bank	8
13. New Bank of India	77
14. Oriental Bank of Commerce	61
15. Punjab & Sind Bank	35
16. Punjab National Bank	217
17. Syndicate Bank	41
18. UCO Bank	26
19. Union Bank of India	26
20. United Bank of India	2
21. Vijaya Bank	2
22. Bank of Rajasthan Ltd.	5
23. Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd.	4
24. Ambala Kurukshetra Gramin Bank Ltd.	39
25. Gurgaon Gramin Bank Ltd.	114

1	2
26. Haryana Kshetriya Gramin Bank Ltd.	90
27. Hissar Sirsa Gramin Bank	43
Total	1239

[*Translation*]

Investment for Railway Projects in Hilly Areas During Eighth Plan

*381. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have demanded huge capital investment during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether this demand includes the provision of capital investment for construction of Railway Lines in the hilly and backward areas of the country; and

(c) if so, the estimated percentage thereof envisaged to be utilised in these areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir. A substantially larger provision than that in the Seventh Plan has been asked for.

(b) and (c). The list of new lines to be constructed in the VIII Plan period has not been finalised.

Imports and Exports

*382. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total imports and exports in rupee from March, 1988 to June, 1989 month-wise;

(b) the reasons for imports exceeding the exports and the extent of foreign exchange liability incurred thereby ; and

(c) the steps taken to check this adverse trend of balance of trade?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) to (c). The details of imports, exports and balance of trade from March, 1988 to June 1989, monthwise are as under:-

(Value: Rs. Crores)

Month/Year	Exports (P)	Imports (P)	Balance of Trade (P)
1	2	3	4
March 88	1705.66	2095.62	-389.96
April 88	1441.73	2199.77	-758.04
May 88	1460.37	2065.63	-599.26
June 88	1380.16	2075.13	-694.97
July 88	1475.17	2023.96	-548.79
August 88	1467.44	2288.60	-821.16
September 88	1668.76	2317.06	-648.30
October 88	1603.62	2368.02	-764.40
November 88	1535.82	2103.22	-567.40
December 88	1724.01	2791.55	-1068.54
January 89	1959.65	2425.60	-465.95
February 89	1883.34	2303.40	-420.06

Month/Year	Exports (P)	Imports (P)	Balance of Trade (P)
1	2	3	4
March 89	2400.15	2327.18	-72.97
April 89	1957.70	2278.23	-320.53
May 89	2065.60	2691.99	-626.39
June 89	1972.17	2644.99	-672.82

P : Provisional

Source : DGCI & S, Calcutta

The imports are effected to meet the essential requirements of domestic consumption, export production and technological upgradation. The increase in imports during 1988-89 was on account of increase imports of foodgrains due to depleted stocks in the past years, the strong revival of economy which necessitated additional imports of machinery, raw materials, components, consumables, etc. to sustain high levels of industrial growth and unusually high international prices of metals, fertilizers, etc.

A number of steps have been taken for export promotion and import substitution to reduce the deficit in the balance of trade which include measures designed to generate surpluses for export, to induce the production of goods contemporary in technology and competitive in prices and to make the export profitable. Simultaneously, initiatives have also been taken to effect efficient import substitution, particularly in the area of bulk imports. Non-essential imports are also being restricted.

[English]

Free Trade Zones

*383. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Free Trade Zones set up in the country;

(b) the main object of setting up Free Trade Zones and the achievements made by these zones.

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up more such zones;

(d) whether any requests have been received from the State Governments to set up Free Trade Zones in their States; and

(e) if so, the names of States and action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Six Export Processing Zones (EPZs) have been set up in the country. These are at Kandla (Gujarat), Santacruz (Bombay), Madras (Tamil Nadu), Falta (West Bengal), Noida (Uttar Pradesh) and Cochin (Kerala).

A seventh EPZ at Visakhapatnam has been sanctioned on 8.3.1989.

(b) Objectives of Export Processing Zones include earning foreign exchange, attracting foreign investments and technology, development of ancillary and feeder industries in the domestic tariff area, employment generation, upgradation of skills, etc.

The export performance of the zones during the last three years is indicated below:-

(Rs. in crores)

	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
Kandla Free Trade Zone	236.26	185.05	271.59
Santacruz Electronics EPZ	102.36	110.14	185.19
Falta Export Processing Zone	3.18	1.86	8.11
Madras Export Processing Zone	10.04	16.45	24.04
Cochin Export Processing Zone	0.94	3.94	6.25
Noida Export Processing Zone	7.01	16.05	21.34

(c) to (e). At present there is no proposal for setting up more zones. Requests have been received recently from the Governments of Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Orissa and Goa for setting up EPZs. These requests can be considered only when their need is felt and when it becomes possible for the Government to locate additional resources.

Irrigation Projects Pending for Approval

3458. SHRI K. S. RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of major, medium and minor irrigation projects pending for approval by Union Government till the end of June, 1989, State-wise;

(b) the reasons for delay in giving clearance for these projects; and

(c) when these projects are likely to be cleared by Union Government, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (c). Only 14 major and 12 medium irrigation projects are under examination with the Central Water Commission. States have to comply with the comments of the appraisal agencies on 57 major and 62 medium irrigation projects. Further processing of these projects will depend upon the speed with which the State Governments comply with the requirements. After appraisal, seven major and seven medium irrigation projects are under consideration of the Planning Commission.

[*Translation*]

Supply of Sub-Standard Coal to Railways

3459. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coal being supplied to the Railways is of sub-standard quality resulting in more consumption of coal and defects in steam engines;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the corrective measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). No, Sir. A proper machinery is already in existence on Railways through which it is ensured that coal of requisite grade/quality is procured for use in steam locomotives. However, when, sometimes, sub-grade coal is detected during inspection/sampling, memos for deduction of money from the bills are issued and the amount is accordingly deducted as per terms of agreement with Coal India Limited. Where, however, complaints persist, the erring colliery is deleted from the loco coal programme.

[*English*]

Violation of FERA by Leading Industrialists/Companies

3460. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the leading industrialists/companies prosecuted for violation of FERA, evasion of Excise and Income tax during the last three years; and

(b) the progress made in these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) and (b). The Income-tax Department launched 721, 562 and 1426 prosecutions respectively during the financial years 1988-89, 1987-88 and 1986-87, for evasion of direct taxes. Prosecutions were launched for evasion of central excise by the following big industrial houses during the last three years:-

Reliance, Tatas, Thapars, Mahindra & Mahindra, Kirloskars.

All these cases are pending in courts. No prosecution for violation of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 has been launched during the last three years against any of the leading industrialists.

**Ratnakar Shipping Company Limited,
Calcutta**

3461. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ratnakar Shipping Company Limited, Calcutta was given the Government approval for restructuring of its finances w.e.f. 1 April, 1987;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether, despite Government support, the company has not been doing well in operating its fleet;

(d) whether the company has earned much less foreign exchange than the foreign exchange spent by it during the last three years;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The Government has approved the scheme of Rehabilitation of Ratnakar Shipping Company Limited, Calcutta, with effect from April 1987, which inter-alia includes restructuring of outstanding principal debt, rescheduling of principal and interest repayments, and bringing in of additional equity by promoters. The scheme includes revamping of the fleet by scrapping older vessels and acquisitions of modern fuel efficient vessels. It also envisages merger of the company with India Steamship Company Limited and broad basing of the Board and strengthening of Management set-up.

(c) SCICI has reported that as on date the company has 4 out of 5 vessels operating profitably.

(d) to (f). SCICI has reported that the company's earnings are either (1) direct foreign exchange earnings or (2) saving of foreign exchange out-go. On this basis the estimates of net foreign exchange savings are considerably higher in 198-89 as compared to earlier years.

Export of Coffee

3462. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quota allotted to India for export of coffee during 1989-90 under the agreement of the International Coffee Organisation;

(b) whether steep fluctuations in production and price of coffee was recorded in the international market during the first six

months of 1989; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) The export quotas allotted by ICO to various member exporting countries including India have since been suspended w.e.f. 4th July, 1989.

(b) Fluctuations in international prices of coffee have been noticed.

(c) One of the reasons for such fluctuations may be the uncertainty relating to the International coffee Agreement during the first six months of 1989 and the stand taken by the major coffee producing countries.

Computerisation of Banks

3463. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee was appointed by the Reserve Bank of India to draw up a perspective Plan for computerisation of the banking industry;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report; and

(c) if so, the details of its recommendations accepted by the Reserve Bank of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Exports of Fruits and Vegetables

3464. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of fruits and vegetables exported and the amount of foreign exchanges earned therefrom during the last three years;

(b) the names of main fruits and vegetables that are being exported;

(c) whether Government are aware of the difficulties of the exporters; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI): (a) The quantity of fruits and vegetables exported and the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom during the last three years are given below:-

Qty. MT		Val : Rs./Crores.			
1986-87 (P)		1987-88 (P)		1988-89 (P)	
Qty.	Val.	Qty.	Val	Qty.	Val.
318902	103.06	198507	92.98	296140	127.45

(b) The main fruits/vegetables that are being exported are mango, grapes, guava

and pineapples/bitter gourd, lady finger, brinjal, spinach arbi and onions.

(c) and (d). One of the major difficulties of the exporters of fresh fruits and vegetables had been non-availability of air-cargo space. In pursuance of the efforts made by the Ministry of Commerce with Ministry of Civil Aviation, Air India etc., it has been decided to permit both scheduled and non-scheduled freighter operators/Airlines to provide services during peak months.

[*Translation*]

New Train Between Delhi-Hathras

3465. SHRI PURAN CHANDRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to introduce a new train service between Hathras-Delhi on the pattern of 2/1 FTD in view of inadequate train services on this route; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Calcutta Metro Rail Projects

3466. SHRI V. SREENIVASAPRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the progress of completion of the existing projects pertaining to Calcutta Metro Rail has been as per schedule;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the consequences thereof in terms of cost escalation and time overrun; and

(c) the action being taken and proposed

to be taken to expedite the completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Progress of work has been hampered due to delay in acquisition of the plots of land by the West Bengal State Government. It will take 33 months to complete the project after the remaining plots of land are made available. The precise cost escalation would depend on as to when these plots are handed over by the State Government.

(c) West Bengal Government is being pursued vigorously for the immediate handing over of the remaining plots of land. Also, the Project is being given priority in the allotment of funds, as required.

Export of Agriculture Products

3467. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the volume and value of exports of agricultural products during the last two years, year-wise and the estimated export thereof during the current financial year;

(b) the names of the different items of farm products exported during the above years and to which countries; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to increase the exports of farm products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b). A statement is given below.

(c) (i) Promotion of exports through relevant Commodity Boards, Export Promo-

tion Councils Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority of India, (APEDA), which assist the exporters in India.

(ii) Publicity and promotion through Indian Missions abroad and through delegations aboard of important exporters to establish and renew contacts, to perform on-the-

spot studies and enter into arrangements/contracts for exports from India.

(iii) Providing appropriate replenishment import licences as well as cash compensatory support in order to offset disadvantages faced by the Indian exporters vis-a-vis other competing countries in the international markets.

STATEMENT

QTY. : M.T. '(000)'
Val : Rs. Crores

Item	1987-88		1988-90		1989-90		Major destinations
	Qty.	Val.	Qty. (Prov.)	Val.	Qty. (April-June)	Val.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Spices	70.3	298.08	94.4	282.79	19.3	68.79	Gulf Area, USA, EEC, Australia, USSR, Singapore
Cashew	42.9	324.34	37.0	281.76	12.2	87.53	USA, Netherlands, Japan, Hong Kong, USSR, UK, Singapore
Tabacco	61.14	116.30	49.15	116.65	19.65	51.78	Gulf Area, USSR, UK, EEC
Cereals	885	429.78	360	302.5	N.A.	N.A.	USA, UK, Gulf Area, USSR
Oil Cakes/Excrations	1080	200	1574	391	495	108.13	EEC, East Europe, Middle East, Singapore, R.O. Korea
Niger Seed	6.3	6.90	13.4	13.9	1.7	1.23	USA, Japan
Sesame Seed	Nil	Nil	18.9	19.91	15.0	18.56	USSR, Czechoslavalia, Italy, Singapore

Item	1987-88		1988-90		1989-90		Major destinations
	Qty.	Val.	Qty. (Prov.)	Val.	Qty. (April-June)	Val.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
HPS Groundnuts	4.8	5.11	36.9	34.75	10.0	9.28	USSR, Singapore, Holland, Czechoslovakia
Minor Oils		6.24		4.0		—	
Fresh Fruit & Vegetables, Meat and meat products, Processed Fruits & Vegetables, Other Processed Foods		346.97		417.08		114	USSR, Gulf Area, EEC, Japan, USA, Australia
Sugar	21.8	13.93	31.8	20.33	10	8.9	EEC, USA, Nepal
Molasses	—	—	115	7.10	80	4.57	EEC, Nepal
Shellac	6.5	16.62	7.13	18.89	1.45	4.40	USA, FRG, UK, USSR, Indonesia, Japan

Sources: Commodity Boards, Export Promotion Councils, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Exporters Associations.

Loan Advanced by in Banks in Rajkot, Jamnagar and Junagarh (Gujarat)

3468. SHRI BHARAT KUMAR OD-EDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bank branches in Rajkot, Jamnagar and Junagarh in Gujarat;

(b) the total deposits of the above branches as on 30 June, 1989;

(c) the amount of loans disbursed by these branches during the last three years for transport vehicles, small scale industries, agriculture and under the 20-Point Programme;

(d) whether banks in the above districts

are not sanctioning loans for heavy transport vehicles and agricultural implements and are sanctioning inadequate loans to small scale industries, agriculture sector and under the 20-Point Programme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (e). As per the information available with Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the total number of branches of commercial banks, amount of deposits as on 31.3.1989 and loans disbursed under Priority Sector Advances during the last three years in Rajkot, Jamnagar and Junagarh District were as under:—

	Rajkot	Jamnagar	(Rs. in lakhs) Junagarh
No. of branches as on 31.3.1989	311	167	212
Deposits as on 31.3.1989	63264	37501	4142
Loans disbursed under Priority Sector Advances			
During 1986	4160.58	2834.44	3236.65
1987	5352.29	3505.98	2902.97
1988	7497.51	3982.05	5274.85

These also include the advances granted for purchase of transport vehicles. Data reporting system of RBI do not generate districtwise disbursement of loans and sanctioning of loans separately for the items indicated in the question.

RBI has reported that from the latest available date as on 31.3.1989 it is observed that the percentage of priority sector ad-

vances to total advances in districts of Rajkot, Jamnagar and Junagarh were 59,53 and 58, respectively, which were in excess of the prescribed norm of 40%.

NABARD Assistance to Punjab

3469. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the details of the financial assistance pro-

vided by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) during the last two years ending 31st March, 1989 to cooperative banks and cooperative societies in Punjab especially in Hoshiarpur district to help needy farmers in their agricultural operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) have reported that they have provided the following refinance facilities to the State of Punjab (including Hoshiarpur District) during the last two years that is 1987-88 and 1988-89:

		(Rs. in lakhs)	
		Punjab	Hoshiarpur
(i)	Short Term Loans (SAO)		
	1987-88	13916.00	Nil*
	1988-89	13415.00	360.00
(ii)	Medium Term (conversion)		
	1987-88	1394.11	Nil*
	1988-89	1214.57	154.00

* No limit was sanctioned during 1987-88 as the Hoshiarpur CCB was having adequate resources.

In addition to above NABARD have also provided the following refinance facilities:-

(i) Punjab Co-operative Bank Ltd. (PSCB) was sanctioned SAO credit limit of Rs. 900.00 lakhs each for the years 1987-88 and 1988-89 against pledge of Government and trustee securities. Against this the amount utilised was Rs. 900.00 lakhs and Rs. 750.00 lakhs during the years 1987-88 and 1988-89 respectively.

(ii) During the years 1987-88 and 1988-89 the Punjab State Government was sanctioned loans of Rs. 194.28 lakhs and Rs 86.98 lakhs respectively, from National Rural Credit (Long Term Operations) Fund for contribution to the various cooperative insti-

tutions in the State.

(iii) A sum of Rs. 41.25 crores and Rs. 33.67 crores was disbursed during the years 1987-88 and 1988-89 respectively, in respect of schematic lending in Punjab State.

Income Tax Exemption on Payments of Leave Encashment and Commutation of Pension

3470. SHRI RAJ KARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amounts received by the pensioners by way of encashment of earned leave and commutation of pension are exempted from income tax;

(b) if so, since when such exemption is being granted; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to consider to exempt these amounts from Income-tax?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K.PANJA): (a) and (b). Any payment towards encashment of unutilised earned leave on retirement received by an employee of the government is fully exempt from income-tax. However, in the case of other employees, the same is exempt upto a maximum of cash equivalent of 8 month's salary or Rs. 79,920/- whichever is lower, under clause (10AA) of section 10 of the Income-tax Act read with relevant notification issued thereunder. These exemptions are available since the 1st day of April, 1978.

Any payment towards commutation of pension received by an employee of the Government or a corporation established by a Central, State or Provincial Act is fully exempt from Income-tax. However, in the case of other employees, commutation of pension is exempt subject to certain limits specified in clause (10A) of section 10 of the Income-tax Act. These exemptions are available since the 1st day of April, 1962.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Delay in Civil Cases in Courts

3471. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has in its 129th Report made suggestions in regard to the delay caused in civil cases;

(b) the steps taken by Government to streamline the present judicial process; and

(c) the directions/suggestions given to State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Judicial reform being a continuous process, Government entrusted its study to the Law commission with a view to further streamlining the functioning of courts and to expedite the disposal of cases. Besides, resolutions passed unanimously in the Joint Conference of Chief Justice, Chief Ministers and Law Ministers held in 1985 in regard to speedy disposal of pending cases and the suggestions of the Committee of three Justices to expedite disposal of cases have been forwarded to State Government/ High Courts for implementation.

[*English*]

Excise Duty on Life Saving Medicines

3472. CH. SUNDER SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Excise duty is levied on majority of the life saving medicines during the last two years because these have been shifted category to II under the drug price control Order;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) the total revenue raised by taxing life saving medicines;

(d) whether Government propose to exempt the medicines from all type of taxes so that these could be made available cheaper to the general public; and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) and (b). Central excise duty on medicines is broadly aligned with the Drugs (prices Control) Order, 1987. Medicines which are manufactured out of bulk drugs specified in the First Schedule to DPCO, 1987, which are required for National Health Programmes and also specified medicines belonging to the category of anticancer, cardiovascular, anti-diabetic etc. are exempted from central excise duty. Medicines belonging to category II of DPCO, 1987 are chargeable to central excise duty.

(e) The Ministry of Finance does not maintain separate statistics regarding collection of revenue from different categories groups of medicines.

(d) and (e). The central excise duty on medicines varies from zero to 15.75% *ad-valorem*. In addition, taxes such as sales tax are levied by the State Government and

other authorities. The incidence of duties levied by the Central Government on medicines manufactured in the country is not very high. There is no proposal at present to reduce the taxes levied by the Central Government on medicines.

Irrigation Potential

3473. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total irrigation potential created in the country during the last three years (year-wise) from different sources; and

(b) the additional irrigation potential expected to be created from different sources by the end of the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Requisite information is as under:-

Source	In. Th. ha.		
	1986-87 (Actual)	1987-88 (Anticipated)	1988-89 (Target)
Major & Medium (Additional)	459.50	681.60	974.16
Minor (Additional)	1642.26	1620.26	2876.63
Total (Additional)	2101.76	2302.11	3850.79

(b) Additional irrigation potential targetted to be created during 1989-90 is 820.55 Th. ha. through major and medium irrigation schemes and 1926.11 Th. ha. through minor irrigation schemes.

[Translation]

Acceptance of Small Denomination Notes by Banks

3474. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Bank na note lene se mana kiya" appearing in Delhi edition of "Jansatta" of 28th April, 1989;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to check the tendency of banks of not accepting notes of small denominations; and

(c) the action taken against the guilty bank officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). Government have seen the news item which refers to non-acceptance of small denomination Notes by State Bank of India, Asaf Ali Road Branch, Delhi, from the representative of a Government Girls Higher Secondary School.

State Bank of India (SBI) has reported that there was heavy rush of customers on that particular day in its Asaf Ali Road Branch. The representative of the school came to deposit Rs. 43,000/- comprising largely of different small denomination Notes late at the closing hour of bank business. With a view to avoid inconvenience to large number of other customers waiting, the school representative was requested to deposit the amount on the next working day. The position was also explained to the Principal of the School.

SBI has further reported that the Branch Manager of the said branch has, however, been advised to avoid recurrence of such incidents in future in the interest of better customer service.

[English]

Setting up of Coastal Management Authority

3475. SHRI P.A. ANTONY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union government have asked the Kerala Government to set up a Coastal Management Authority to check sea-erosion effectively;

(b) whether the State Government has agreed to this proposal; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M.JACQB): (a) Recently, a draft model bill to set up a Coastal Land Management Authority has been sent to the maritime States.

(b) and (c). Follow up action has not been received from the State Government.

Assistance Under SEPUP in Tamil Nadu

3476. SHRI S. SINGARAVADIVEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Town Panchayats in Tamil Nadu are classified into Urban Town Panchayats and Rural Town Panchayats;

(b) whether the Panchayats classified as Urban Town Panchayats in Tamil Nadu are not benefited either under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana or under the Self Employment Programme for Urban Poor (SEPUP) till date; and

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken

by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent possible.

Withdrawal of 'Mail' Coaches from frontier Mail

3477. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Administration has decided to withdraw the 'Mail' coaches attached with Frontier Mail between Delhi and Bombay and attach them to Janata Express w.e.f. August, 1989.

(b) if so, whether the withdrawal would result in heavy delay in the delivery of 'DAK' leading to inconvenience to the people;

(c) if so, the reasons for taking this step?

(d) whether the Railway Administration would ensure the continuance of the status quo (as on 27.7.89) in the interest of the people and the likely date by which the new proposal would be withdrawn;

(e) whether the Railways have any coordination with the Department of Posts before initiating such proposals and if so, the nature thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons for this unilateral decision on the part of the Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

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

(e) Yes, Sir, through correspondence

(f) Does not arise.

Central Excise Rebate to Deep Sea Fishing Industry

3478. SHRI DAULATSINHJI JADEJA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of central excise rebate given to deep sea fishing industry in the last 3 financial years;

(b) whether any study has been done of the potential export loss due to recent cancellation of this rebate; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken to make a study of such losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K.PANJA): (a) The total amount availed of by the deep sea fishing industry by way of excise duty concession during 1986-87 to 1988-89 is as follows:

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1986-87	15.09
1987-88	16.62
1988-89	32.08

(b) and (c). No such study has been made. The earnings from export of marine products have been increasing. However, this increase can not be directly related to the availment of concession in excise duty by deep sea fishing industry.

Purchases by D.G. S & D and Payment of Commission

3479. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of purchases from foreign countries through the DGS & D during the last three years, year wise;

(b) the break-up of the total value by the Ministries/ Departments;

(c) break up of the value by country of origin;

(d) break-up of the value by major categories;

(e) whether any commission is known to have been paid by the manufacturer/supplier to any agent in any transaction included in the above;

(f) if so, the brief particulars thereof and the rate of commission generally charged as percentage of the FOB/CIF value and the range of the rate;

(g) whether any of the known agents are Indian nationals residing abroad or foreign nationals residing in India; and

(h) if so, whether the Department maintains a list of such authorised/accredited agents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) The value of purchases made:-

Year	Value in Lakhs
1986-87Rs.	7438.32
1987-88Rs.	6886.71
1988-89Rs.	6816.86 (Prov.)

(b) The information is furnished in Statement A below.

(c) The information is furnished in Statement "B" below.

(d) The information is furnished in Statement 'C' below.

(e) In the case of DGS&D contracts, the foreign suppliers are not permitted to remit any money directly to the Indian Agent.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) The Agents are normally Indian firms.

(h) The authorised/accredited Agent is also registered as registration is done both of the foreign Supplier and Indian Agent in India simultaneously. No list is maintained of any other Agent. Where the foreign suppliers have an Indian Agent & are not registered, the Agency agreement or authorisation is examined before accepting the offer.

STATEMENT A

(b) Value of orders placed by DGS & D for Imported stores on behalf of major indentors during 1986-87 to 1988-89.

S. No.	Indentor	Value in Lakh Rs.				
		1986-87	1987-88	1988-89 (Provisional)		
1	2	3	4	5		
1.	Defence	4280.62	2989.69	2446.13		
2.	Railways	271.18	19.35	41.72		
3.	Central Govt. (excluding Rly. & Defence)	2143.64	2756.07	2509.96		
4.	Others including State Govts.	688.46	1121.60	1819.05		
*5.	Indentor not specified (for draws against Rate contracts)	54.42	—	—		
	Total	7438.32	6886.71	6816.86		

* The Drawal Reports rendered by the R.C. holders do not indicate the category of the Indentor.

STATEMENT B

c) Value of purchases made from foreign countries through DGS & D classified by country of origin during 1986-87 to 1988-89.

S. No.	Country	Value in Lakh Rs.				
		1986-87	1987-88	1988-89 (Provisional)		
1	2	3	4	5		
1	Australia	47.30	32.92	0.50		
2	Austria	493.68	—	23.93		
3	Belgium	55.40	158.60	62.21		
4	Brazil	—	19.62	—		
5	Burma	171.17	—	—		
6	Czechoslovakia	34.55	16.43	8.18		
7	Canada	19.29	—	22.14		
8	Denmark	65.12	103.33	58.22		
9	East Germany	2.04	146.87	167.65		
10	Finland	18.61	41.57	4.91		

S. No.	Country	Value in Lakh Rs.				
		1986-87	1987-88	1988-89 (Provisional)		
	2	3	4	5	5	
11.	France	307.03	329.27	94.61		
12.	Holland	116.91	54.41	39.20		
13.	Hungary	25.22	10.84	—		
14.	Ireland	—	1.35	—		
15.	Italy	165.94	41.75	35.85		
16.	Indonesia	2.12	—	—		
17.	Japan	1124.62	286.38	1355.29		
18.	Malaya	62.60	52.20	1.54		
19.	North Ireland	—	4.85	—		
20.	Norway	—	24.70	68.91		
21.	Spain	—	12.77	—		

S. No.	Country	Value in Lakh Rs.				
		1986-87	1987-88	1988-89 (Provisional)		
		3	4	5		
22.	South Korea	—	465.90	—		
23.	Singapore	—	14.87	36.39		
24.	Sweden	34.01	36.89	2.23		
25.	Switzerland	245.77	145.33	284.65		
26.	U.K.	1188.96	1266.99	836.19		
27.	U.S.A.	1868.67	1718.30	1670.85		
28.	U.S.S.R.	2.87	9.80	7.63		
29.	W. Germany	1197.21	1759.54	1934.51		
30.	Yugoslavia	33.87	—	—		
31.	China	—	—	18.05		
32.	Poland	—	—	16.88		

S. No.	Country	Value in Lakh Rs.				
		1986-87	1987-88	1988-89 (Provisional)	3	4
33.	Hongkong	—	—	45.53		
**34.	Country not specified	155.36	131.23	20.71		
	Total	7438.32	6886.71	6816.86		

** These relate to contracts for imported stores which are normally procured under the Suppliers own arrangements. Thus country of origin is not indicated.

STATEMENT C

d) Value of orders placed by DGS & D for Imported stores during 1986-87 to 1988-89.

S. No.	Name of store	Value in Lakh Rs.				
		1986-87	1987-88	1988-89 (Provisional)		
1	2	3	4	5		
1.	Timber	214.58	—	—	—	
2.	Paper	6.14	—	6.22	—	
3.	Rubber Contraceptives	—	582.55	15.97	—	
4.	Chemicals	32.02	139.30	127.01	—	
5.	Chemical Products	258.48	83.79	—	—	
6.	Petroleum Oil & Lubricants	58.90	91.94	—	—	
7.	Graphite Products	1.21	—	—	—	
8.	Non metallic Mineral Products	3.78	21.45	—	—	
9.	Iron & Steel	78.05	22.88	11.59	—	
10.	Non-ferrous Virgin Metals	23.21	—	1.93	—	

S. No.	Name of store	Value in Lakh Rs.				
		1986-87	1987-88	1988-89 (Provisional)	3	4
11.	Alloys	3.24	7.05	10.38		
12.	Non-ferrous Semi-manufactured items	143.29	82.50	13.11		
13.	Small Tools	8.39	—	—		
14.	Gas Cylinders	28.99	1.26	—		
15.	Other Metal Products	—	—	42.47		
16.	Engine Spares	0.33	—	19.44		
17.	Machine Tools	942.93	417.88	1056.47		
18.	Pumps & Spares	14.39	—	—		
19.	Air Compressor Spares	11.84	9.27	—		
20.	Printing Machinery & spares	340.87	513.62	55.17		
21.	Ball & Roller Bearing	—	5.07	—		
22.	Cranes & Spares	0.53	33.55	—		

S. No.	Name of store	Value in Lakh Rs.				
		1986-87	1987-88	1988-89 (Provisional)		
		3	4	5		
23.	Earth moving Machinery & Spares	350.52	520.27	1188.18		
24.	Welding Sets	—	14.47	35.47		
25.	Agriculture Machinery	—	25.76	—		
26.	Fire Fighting Eqpt.	—	—	17.79		
27.	Water treatment Machinery Spares	47.03	—	—		
28.	Business & Accounting Machinery	2.49	—	—		
29.	Textile Machinery	3.67	—	—		
30.	Computers & Spares	126.26	27.72	15.55		
31.	Machinery Spares	5.65	12.87	5.88		
32.	Other Machinery	83.94	71.15	—		
33.	Elec. Lamps	30.80	28.96	3.75		
34.	Electronic Eqpt. & Spares	1283.70	666.46	837.96		

S. No.	Name of store	Value in Lakh Rs.				
		1986-87	1987-88	1988-89 (Provisional)		
		3	4	5		
35.	Cables & Wires	4.57	—	—		
36.	Refrigerating & Air Conditioning Eqpt. & Spares	48.12	65.42	—		
37.	Power Plant Eqpts.	27.55	51.08	3.48		
38.	Battery Packs	0.99	—	—		
39.	Elec. Instruments	0.24	2.66	—		
40.	Storage Batteries	—	4.65	—		
41.	Elec. Furnaces & Spares	486.03	369.98	679.15		
42.	Elec. Testing Eqpts.	—	—	19.08		
43.	Heating Element	81.64	—	—		
44.	Other Elec. Machinery	9.90	39.29	23.38		
45.	Automobiles	156.89	—	4.01		

S. No.	Name of store	Value in Lakh Rs.				
		1986-87	1987-88	1988-89 (Provisional)		
1	2	3	4	5	5	
46.	Maring Eqpts.	357.08	990.39	158.39		
47.	Tank Spares	30.82	—	—		
48.	Hospital Equpts.	540.94	1083.04	1894.77		
49.	Scientific Stores	1349.08	582.61	436.05		
50.	Photographic Stores	108.21	48.97	15.06		
51.	Mathematical Survey & Measuring Equpts.	111.70	106.60	90.58		
52.	Wax & Wax products	—	—	7.25		
53.	Weighing Machines & Weigh bridges	—	27.12	—		
54.	Vegetable Oils	5.08	—	8.16		
55.	Sewing Machines & Spares	—	5.31	—		
56.	Others	4.25	129.82	13.11		
	Total	7438.32	6886.71	6816.86		

Use of Tetrapak and Tetrabrik

3480. SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tetrapak and Tetrabrik has become very popular in the country;

(b) whether the packaging involves use of paper and LDPE and if so, how much of this was imported indicating total value of both and that of the imported component;

(c) the total equivalent number of trees needed to provide the total paper used and whether this is affecting environment;

(d) whether before 1985 Government had turned down Tetrapak and toilet paper projects so that school children got their Books and note books; and

(e) whether Tetrapak under NDDB is incurring losses due to huge investments on imported machines and supply of packages to soft-drink companies at low prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Shifting of Rifampicin from OGL to Restricted List

3481. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the drugs which are in open general licence;

(b) the reasons for keeping them in open general licence despite their production in the country;

(c) whether Rifampicin has been shifted from OGL to restricted list; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI): (a) The list of drugs which are allowed for import under OGL appear in Appendix 6 of Import-Export Policy, (Volume-I), 1988-91 copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

(b) to (d). Import policy for drugs is determined in consideration of factors like demand, availability, technology constraints etc. During 1985-88 policy, import of Rifampicin was allowed under OGL. However, in the 1988-89 Policy, it has been shifted to the list of limited permissible items, because of improved domestic availability.

World Bank aided Gujarat Rural Road Project

3482. SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the World Bank aided Gujarat Rural Road Project;

(b) the total amount likely to be spent thereon; and

(c) the schedule fixed for starting and completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The International Development Association have extended a Credit of \$ 119.6 million to finance the Gujarat Rural Roads Project, involving construction, reconstruction and improvement of about 4000 Kms. of village roads connecting about 1,900 villages in 7 districts of Gujarat and

provision of related construction equipment, vehicles, office buildings, workshops, warehouses and engineering and other services.

(b) The total cost/expenditure on the project is estimated at Rs.222.00 crores.

(c) The scheduled Project start-up and completion dates are 1.4.1985 and 30.6.1984 respectively.

[*Translation*]

Tea Plantation

3483. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate any scheme regarding tea-plantation in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and in the hilly areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) No, sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Agro-climatically suitable sites for growing tea could not be identified during the field investigation of some of the areas carried out by Tea Board in these States.

[*English*]

Opening of Bank Branches in Palghat District, Kerala

3484. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open new branches of banks in Palghat district in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the names of places where the new branches are proposed to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that on the basis of list of identified centres received from the State Government under the current Branch Licensing Policy for 1985-90 and the Service Area Approach for opening bank branches in Palghat District of Kerala, the following nine eligible centres have been allotted to various banks:

<i>Name of Centre</i>	<i>Name of Block</i>
1. Nadupunni	Chittur
2. Mungilmada	— do —
3. Eruthiampathy	— do —
4. Polpully	Kollengode
5. Kairady	Nemmara
6. Mannur	Palghat
7. Muthuthala	Pattambi
8. Elambulassery	Sree Krishna Puram
9. Vavanur	Thrithala

The banks have opened branches at all the centres except at two centres namely, Nadupunni and Polpully. The allotted bank has sought the permission to surrender the licence for centre Nadupunni as this centre is said to be lacking basic infrastructural facilities and business potential.

[*Translation*]**Inter-City Train Between Faizabad and Lucknow**

3485. SHRI NIRMAL KHATRI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of passengers travelling in trains between Faizabad and Lucknow daily;

(b) whether in view of the heavy density of passenger traffic he has received any representation to provide inter-city train facility between Faizabad and Lucknow; and

(c) the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) On an average, 1872, passengers are travelling between Faizabad and Lucknow by various trains per day.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Not feasible due to resources constraints and 9 pairs of trains adequately serving the traffic.

[*English*]**Increase in Prices**

3486. SHRI KRISHNA SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the cost of living index registered in April, May and June, 1989 and the preceding twelve monthly average thereof recorded in each of these months;

(b) whether the prices of consumer goods have risen enormously during these months, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure that the measures contemplated in the Union Budget proposals for 1989-90 to contain and bring down the prices may have the desired results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) While the revised series of CPI with 1982 as base has been released and has become effective from October 1988, information on the average index of preceding 12 months is being furnished on the old base by applying the conversion factor to the new series released by the Ministry of Labour.

Month	CPI		Average of 12 months ended
	1982=100	1960=100	
April 1989	167	823	807.50
May 1989	169	833	812.67
June 1989	170	838	817.33

(b) The increase in CPI during the current financial year (upto June) has been only 2.4 per cent which is lower than the increase of 3.9 per cent recorded in the corresponding

period of 1988. The increase in CPI during the period is not usual as it is mainly due to normal seasonal factors associated with rise in prices of agricultural and agro-based

commodities during the first half of the year.

(c) Government has taken a number of steps in the budget as well as outside the budget to contain rise in prices. These include strict control on budgetary deficit by restricting non-development expenditure, fiscal relief for manufactured items used by the common man, incentives for higher production and controlling growth of excess liquidity in the system. On the supply side efforts have been made to maintain adequate releases of essential commodities for the PDS.

Export of Marine Products

3487. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN :
SHRI H. B. PATIL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of marine products exported during the last three years; year-wise product-wise and country-wise;

(b) the steps being taken to increase the export of marine products; and

(c) the target set for their export during 1989-90?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI): (a) Information is given in the Statement I and II below:-

(b) Steps being taken to increase the export of marine products include promotion of prawn farming for augmenting production of cultured shrimps, encouragement of production of value-added items like IQF (Individually Quick Frozen) Shrimps, setting up of prawn hatcheries and diversifying our markets through MPEDA's participation in specialised food fairs abroad market surveys and sending trade delegations abroad.

(c) As per DGCIS statistics, during 1988-89, there has been a record level of export of about Rs. 632.26 crores (provisional) of marine products. This figure will be surpassed during 1989-90.

STATEMENT I

Item-wise Exports of Marine Products from India

Q : Quantity in tonnes
V : Value in Rs. lakhs

Major Items	1988-89 (Provisional)				
	2	3	4	5	
Frozen shrimp	Q:	49203	55736	56835	
	V:	37793	42578.02	47033.15	
Frozen lobster tails	Q:	1132	1863	1663	
	V:	1432	2473.52	2360.44	
Frozen cuttlefish/fillets	Q:	4694	9195	8262	
	V:	1396	2231.33	2343.57	
Fresh/frozen fish	Q:	13138	14904	11234	
	V:	2229	3022.61	2844.84	
Frozen squids	Q:	9739	7621	16374	
	V:	1727	1372.95	3808.97	
Dried fish	Q:	5368	5220	3633	
	V:	974	663.88	443.45	
Shark fins fish maws	Q:	237	273	315	
	V:	373	482.53	583.23	

Major items	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89 (Provisional)
1	2	3	4
			5
Others	Q: 2332 V: 443	2367 295.55	1461 367.73
Total	Q: 85843 V: 46067	97179 53120.39	99777 59785.38

(Source: MPEDA, Cochin)

(* As per DGCIS figures, this figure is Rs. 63226 lakhs-Provisional)

STATEMENT II

Country-wise Exports of Indian Marine Products to Major Markets

Q : Quantity in tonnes
V : Value in Rs. lakhs

Major Markets	1988-89 (Provisional)				
	1	2	3	4	5
Japan	Q:	37287		38738	35811
	V:	31058.29		32618.12	35684.09
USA	Q:	11374		14444	13531
	V:	5629.50		7514.82	7011.54
UK	Q:	4217		5554	6883
	V:	2430.63		3416.23	4284.12
Spain	Q:	5323		6969	10808
	V:	929.71		1562.48	2880.17
Singapore	Q:	6240		6720	6329
	V:	1168.84		1481.65	1703.08
France	Q:	4455		5155	4768
	V:	1234.20		1595.41	1440.80
Greece	Q:	1913		2362	3302
	V:	234.74		301.01	614.72

Major Markets	1986-87		1987-88		1988-89 (Provisional)	
	1	2	3	4	5	5
Netherlands		Q: 820 V: 729.07		532 449.76		1200 864.03
Italy		Q: 85 V: 31.74		594 234.42		4116 1509.61
UAE		Q: 635 V: 331.09		1073 458.22		997 480.39
Kuwait		Q: 891 V: 221.36		2058 545.10		1458 469.82
Sri Lanka		Q: 5572 V: 701.37		5034 624.28		3603 419.82
Belgium		Q: 742 V: 261.55		1144 700.15		1270 381.30
Others		Q: 6289 V: 1105.19		6802 1618.74		5701 2042.22
Total		Q: 85843 V: 46067.28		97179 53120.39		99777 59785.38

(Source: MPEDA, Cochin)

(* As per DGCIS figures, this figure is Rs 63226 lakhs-Provisional)

Export of Spices

exported during the last three years, year-wise?

3488. PROF. P.J. KURIEN:
DR. V. VENKATESH:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R.
DAS MUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether any new strategy has been
devised to boost the export of spices:

(b) The new strategy includes *inter-alia*
proposals for brand promotion, efforts to
improve quality, market explorations and
continuance of incentives to export.

(b) if so, details thereof: and

(c) the quantity and value of spices

(c) A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

Export of Spices from India during the Year 1985-86 Onwards. (Qty.: M.T. Value: Rs. lakhs)

Item	1985-86		1986-87		1987-88		1988-89*	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Paper	37620	17248	37083	20033	41011	24058	41065	18778
Cardamom (Small)	3272	5346	1447	1850	270	340	787	1028
Cardamom (Large)	383	181	195	97	155	70	431	186
Chillies	1241	202	4327	496	6122	833	5424	1206
Ginger	6816	1089	4843	571	2628	489	5198	922
Turmeric	8562	1209	19529	1918	8747	923	16518	1737
Curry Powder	2527	366	2712	414	2559	438	2735	504

Item	1985-86		1986-87		1987-88		1988-89*	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Seed Spices	10092	914	10706	1166	7709	1056	21793	2087
Other spices	3586	208	1543	172	650	104		
Spice Oils	50	491	41	292	46	272	487	1830
Spice Oleoresins	352	996	401	1191	382	1224		
Total	74501	28252	82827	28199	70279	29808	94438	28280

*Figures are provisional.
Source: Spices Board.

Underground Water Potential in Kerala

3489. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU:
SHRI K. MOHANDAS:

Will the minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total underground water potential in Kerala;

(b) how much has been utilised so far;

(c) whether any plan is being drawn up to fully utilise the potential; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Total annual replenishable ground water resource of Kerala is 0.81 million hectare meters of which 0.69 million hectare meters is for irrigation use.

(b) Present level of utilisation is 10.14 per cent.

(c) and (d). The State Government plans and implements water resources projects to exploit available ground water resources.

[*Translation*]

Inclusion of Samastipur Railway Stations in Sonepur Division

3491. SHRI RAMDEO RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether almost all the railway stations (broad gauge) of Samastipur district falling in Samastipur division have been included in Sonepur division;

(b) if so, the reason therefore; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to restore the transferred stations to Samastipur division and extend the same facilities to the people of Samastipur district as before?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Railway divisions are formed taking into account the administrative and operational requirements, consistent with the needs of efficiency and economy. The jurisdiction of Samastipur division was adjusted for formation of Sonepur division keeping in view these principles.

(c) No, Sir.

[*English*]

Jakhapura-Banspani Railway Line

3492. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN:
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of the Jakhapura-Banspani line in Orissa has been delayed;

(b) if so, the main reasons therefore;

(c) the present position with regard to the construction of that line; and

(d) the steps taken to expedite the implementation of the second and third phases of this line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). After

opening of Jakhapura-Daitari section, the anticipated traffic did not materialise. Construction of remaining section from Daitari to Banspani could not, therefore, be taken up.

(c) and (d). Examination of the proposal for construction of the line by concerned Ministries and MMTC, as a part of the project for iron ore export to South Korea, via Paradeep Port, has not been completed.

Export of Galvanised Taps

3493. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some countries are keen to import galvanised taps from India; and

(b) if so, the names of such countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b). EEPC which is entrusted with the task of promoting the export of engineering goods, is not aware of any enquiry from any country for the supply of galvanised taps.

Remunerative Price for Cardamom

3494. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to fix the remunerative price for cardamom for 1989-90;

(b) if so, whether the cost of production is taken into account while fixing the remunerative price for cardamom;

(c) whether Government have received any memorandum from the Cardamom planters of Madurai district, Tamil Nadu; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The Indian Small Growers Association, Madurai has requested the Central Govt. that the Spices Board should (i) purchase cardamom; (ii) extend the time limit for registration. The request of the association for purchase of cardamom by Spices Board could not be accepted. As regards extension of time limit, as per the provision in the Spices Board Act, 1986 the State Govt. may for sufficient reasons extend the time limit for registration as it may deem fit.

Demand for High Court Bench In Ganjam District

3495. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that agitations and demonstrations are being held in Ganjam district, Orissa, to press the demand for establishing a permanent bench of High Court at Berhampur;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken to establish a permanent bench at Berhampur?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No proposal in this regard has been received from the State Government.

Central Loan Assistance to Maharashtra against Small Saving

3496. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maharashtra Government has urged Union Government to provide Central loan assistance against small savings;

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

(c) when a decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). The State Government are sanctioned small savings loans equal to 75% of net small savings collections in respective States. Small Saving loans due to Government of Maharashtra during 1988-89 and also during current financial year have already been released based on information regarding net collections received.

Representations to India Overseas Bank for Waiver of Interest

3497. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:
SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the account-holders of the Indian Overseas Bank, Eastern Region, have preferred their appeals and

representations to the bank for waiving of interest and/or moratorium thereon due to their bad investments in some other public sector companies/undertakings;

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

(c) the action proposed to be taken to settle this issue with banking dignity and helping process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Indian Overseas Bank has reported that no such appeals and representations have been received by the bank so far.

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

Passenger amenities on V.T. Karjat-V.T. Kasara Section

3498. SHRI S.G. GHOLAP: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state:

(a) the new facilities provided on different stations between V.T. Karjat and V.T. Kasara on Bombay suburban route during the last three years;

(b) the new trains services introduced upto Karjat and Kasara and modifications done, if any, in the existing services on this route during the said period; and

(c) whether Government have any proposals to improve the train and other passenger facilities on Bombay suburban route?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Doubling of Rail Line between Gandhidham-Viremgem,(W.R.)

3499. DR. DIGVJAY SINH: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for doubling the rail track between Gandhidham and Viremgem on Western Railways; and

(b) if so, when the feasibility report for this project is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Evasion of Taxes and Concealment of Wealth

3500. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Income-tax authorities have carried out surveys in the country to detect cases of tax evasion and concealment of wealth during the last 12 months;

(b) if so, the details thereof and how do these compare with the surveys carried out during the last three years;

(c) whether the rate of progress of finalising the annual assessments is satisfactory;

(d) if not, the remedial measures proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken to revamp the Income tax department?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) and (b). The Income-tax authorities are conducting survey operations under Section 133A of the Income-tax Act in the cases of existing assesses with a view to detecting tax evasion, as also survey under Section 133B of the Income-tax Act for detecting such persons who although have taxable income but are not assessed to tax so far. During the period 1.7.1988 to 30.6.1989, the Income-tax Department conducted 10,381 and 6,96,540 survey operations under Section 133A and 133B respectively.

<i>Financial year</i>	<i>No. of premises surveyed</i>		
	<i>113A</i>	<i>133B</i>	<i>Total</i>
1986-87	4,459	2,25,951	2,30,410
1987-88	18,114	6,00,918	6,19,032
1988-89	11,318	7,18,141	7,29,459

(c) and (d). The rate of progress of disposal of income-tax assessments has improved during the last two financial years

as compared to the earlier years. This is evident from the statistics furnished below:-

<i>Financial Year</i>	<i>No. of assessments for disposal (in lakhs)</i>	<i>No. of disposal (in lakhs)</i>	<i>Percentage of disposal</i>
1985-86	70.68	59.17	83.71
1986-87	85.15	70.56	82.86
1987-88	75.73	64.65	85.36
1988-89	71.28	61.73	86.60

(e) The Income-tax Department is continually reviewing its performance with a view to improving it further. Some of the recent steps taken to revamp the Department include the strengthening of the Investigation Wing by providing additional manpower, vehicles and equipment; creation of new posts to implement the provisions of the Income-tax Act relating to pre-emptive acquisition of immovable property and initiation of computerisation in important areas of work.

Excise Duty Evasion by Manufacturers of Sanitary Wares and Toilet Soaps

3501. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether instances of evasion of Excise duty by the manufacturers of sanitary wares and toilet soaps have come to the notice of Government during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details of companies against whom show-cause notices have been issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) and (b). The information is being collected from the field formations and will be laid down on the Table of the House.

SCICI Assistance to Fishing Units

3502. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of loan applications for financing vessels cleared by the Shipping Credit and Investment Company of India in 1988-89 and so far in 1989-90;

(b) the particulars of the companies benefited and the amount of loans granted during the period;

(c) whether any financial assistance has been sanctioned for shrimp vessels during the above period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) SCICI has re-

ported that they have sanctioned financial assistance to 18 companies for acquisition of 33 vessels in 1988-89 and 3 companies for acquisition of 4 vessels in 1989-90 upto July 31, 1989.

(b) The particulars of the companies benefited is given in the statement below. During 1988-89 assistance of Rs. 3559 lacs was granted. During 1989-90 upto 31st July, 1989, a sum of Rs. 185 lacs was granted.

(c) and (d). None of the vessels financed by SCICI are shrimp vessels. However, a few of these vessels are capable of undertaking shrimping operations also.

STATEMENT

I. *In 1988-89*

Name of Company Assisted

1. Seagull Seafoods (P) Limited.
2. Cholamandal Shipping (P) Limited
3. Kakatiya Seafoods (P) Limited.
4. Leo Sea Foods Limited.
5. Nekkanti Sea Foods Limited.
6. Maharaja Fisheries (P) Limited.
7. Gautham Construction and Fisheries (P) Limited.
8. Bangalore Marines Limited.
9. Blue Chroms Limited.
10. Pallava Seafoods (P) Limited.
11. Aziz Ocean Foods (P) Limited.
12. High Sea Foods Limited.

13. Atlanta Shipping (P) Limited.
14. Oceanic Enterprisers and Development Limited.
15. Royce Marine Products Limited
16. Surya Sea Foods (P) Limited.
17. Meenam Fisheries Limited.
18. Indamar Fisheries (P) Limited.

II. *In 1989-90*

1. Sindhu Sivathi Fisheries Company (P) Limited.
2. Indamar Fisheries (P) Limited.
3. Pron Magnate (P) Limited.

Proposal to Write off Loans

3503. SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE pleased to state:

(a) the number of marginal farmers and small farmers incurring loans upto Rs. 10,000/- from banks, cooperatives and other public financial institutions and the total amount of such loans outstanding against them;

(b) the details of such loans outstanding in different States and Union Territories;

(c) whether any proposal to write off these loans is under consideration of the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The present data reporting system does not

generate the information in the manner asked for. However, outstanding advances of all scheduled commercial banks to small and marginal farmers stood at Rs. 3895.78 crores involving 1,17,43,502 borrowers as at the end of June, 1987. Further, total short-term loans advanced by Central Co-operative Banks (CCBs) to small, marginal and economically weaker farmers stood at Rs. 1316.88 crores as the end of March 1988.

(c) and (d). The consistent stand of Reserve Bank of India and Central Government has been that generalised waivers or write off of loans through whatever modality, irrespective of the merits of each case, harm the rural credit system.

Alwaye Railway Station

3504. SHRI GEORGE JOSEPH MUNDACKAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds sanctioned during the current year for the modification of Alwaye (Southern Railway) railway station; and

(b) the time likely to be taken to complete the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Rs. 1.36 lakhs.

(b) Works of construction of station building, retiring rooms and provision of cement concrete paving of main platform have commenced and are likely to be completed by 1989-90.

Road overbridge in Dattapada

3505. SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal for construction of a road overbridge in place of level crossing No. 32 near Dattapada in Bombay suburban railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which work is likely to be started on this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The work has been sanctioned and the plans/estimate therefore have been finalised. The overall cost of the work is Rs. 750.88 lakhs which will be shared by the Railways (Rs. 164.76 lakhs) and the Bombay Municipal Corporation (Rs. 586.12 lakhs).

(c) The Railway and the Bombay Municipal Corporation have already taken up the tender work in hand and will take up the execution of the work on their respective portions, after finalisation of the tenders.

Service Area Approach Scheme

3506. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: (a) whether the Service Area Approach scheme has come into effect during the month of April, 1989;

(b) whether any complaint regarding malpractices and harassment of the villagers by banks has been received by Government; and

(c) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government against the officials responsible therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it has not received any complaints of malpractices/harassment of the villagers by banks. The Reserve Bank of India, under the guidelines issued for the implementation of the Service Area Approach has advised the banks that there should be no disruption in the credit flow to the rural sector. They were also advised that all applications received by bank branches under Government Sponsored Schemes upto 31.3.1989, should be disposed of by the concerned branches themselves even if the sanction/disbursement may spill over beyond 31.3.1989. The banks were advised to implement the new approach in a flexible manner as not to cause any inconvenience to borrowers and adopt a positive and helpful attitude towards borrowers' problems. The controlling officers of branches are required to make visits to branches and assist the branches in solving problems. During their visits they also hear grievances of borrowers. Borrowers can also approach higher level officers for redressal of grievances.

[*Translation*]

Opening of Bank Branches in Madhya Pradesh

3507. SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of districts in Madhya Pradesh where the bank branches have not been opened so far;

(b) whether Government propose to open the bank branches at block development office level;

(c) if so, the time by which this will be done; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that there are no districts in Madhya Pradesh where banks have not opened any branches at the centres allotted to them under the current Branch Licensing Policy for 1985-90.

(b) to (d). Presumably, the question relates to opening of bank branches at Block Headquarters. Under the current Policy, RBI has allotted two centres at Block Headquarters, namely, Bade Rajpur in Bastar District and Sehore in Sehore District. No other Block Headquarters have been considered for allotment as they are banked centres. The Rajgarh Sehore Kshetriya Gramin Bank to whom these two centres were allotted has opened its branch at Sehore and has surrendered licence issued for centre Bade Rajpur which has been recently re-allotted to Union Bank of India for opening its branch expeditiously. Since the allotment of centres under the current Branch Licensing Policy and Service Area Approach has been completed, there is no proposal to open additional bank branches at Block Headquarters in Madhya Pradesh.

[*English*]

Exports by STC

3508. DR. V. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps to improve the functioning of the State Trading Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the exports made by the Corporation during the last two years and amount of foreign exchange earned out of such exports with details of exports made to different

countries during the period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the year 1989-90 was signed on 5th June, 1989 between Government of India and State Trading Corporation of India for this purpose. An Action Plan has been spelt out in detail in MOU which envisages certain performance and financial targets to be achieved. Arrangements for monitoring of the progress under the Action Plan have also been evolved.

(c) The major countries to which exports were made by the Corporation during the 1987-88 and 1988-89 are USA, UK, USSR, West Europe, Middle East & East Europe Japan Australia, Singapore, Hongkong, Srilanka, Nepal, Iran Afganistan and Algeria.

In term of FOB value, exports to these countries during 1987-88 and 1988-89 amounted to Rs. 574 crores and Rs. 512 crores respectively. Various commodities/items exported during these two years are Agricultural Commodities, Leather, Chemicals & Drugs, Sugar, Textiles & Garments, Meat & Marine Products, Fresh & Processed foods, Engineering & Construction materials, consumer products, sports goods/ASW and others.

Revival of Deep Sea Fishing Industry

3509. SHRI T. BALA GOUD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the concrete steps taken by the Shipping Credit and Investment Company of India (SCICI) since 1 January, 1989 to revive the sick deep-sea fishing industry;

(b) whether a team of the SCICI officials visited Vizag to prepare a scheme for the

revival of sick fishing companies;

(c) if so, the details of the scheme outlined by this team;

(d) whether due to lack of working capital the fishing units have been unable to send their boats for the fishing;

(e) whether Government propose to send another team to Vizag for early revival of the sick fishing units; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) SCICI has reported that since January 1, 1989 they have completed the study of reschedulement request of 9 deep sea fishing companies.

(b), (e) and (f). With a view to help the small entrepreneurs in formulating their proposals as well as to reduce the cost and time, SCICI has been deputing its officers to the places where the companies are situated, including Vizag. SCICI's officials visited Vizag on September 22, 1988 and May 21, 1989. SCICI has reported that they met representatives of several deep sea fishing companies and discussed issues related to restructuring.

(e) Rehabilitation scheme for each company is considered depending upon the financial position of the respective companies as well as the ability of the promoters in rehabilitating the company's operations. Broadly SCICI follows a set of parameters that include:

(i) correction of imbalance of financial structure of the company by bringing in a reasonable equity.

(ii) a definite schedule for repay-

ment of overdues, and

- (iii) suitable undertaking to comply with various loan stipulations.

(d) SCICI has reported that it is not aware of any unit which has not been able to send the trawlers for fishing due to lack of working capital. However, certain fishing companies have faced difficulty in raising working capital due to their unsatisfactory financial position.

Rise In Tea Prices

3510. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether tea prices have been rising in recent months;

(b) whether this has adversely affected domestic consumers; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to regulate tea prices in the domestic markets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b). There has been some rise in tea prices in the recent months which does have some bearing on the domestic market for tea.

(c) Government have been constantly monitoring the prices of tea and steps are being taken to see that there is no undue rise in domestic price.

[*Translation*]

Running of Shatabdi Express between Delhi-Kanpur

3511. SHRI KESHORAO PARDHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the journey period of "Shatabdi Express" running between New Delhi and Kanpur is proposed to be reduced further;

(b) whether there is any proposal to extend this train beyond Kanpur; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Presently, No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Change in name of Angamali Railway Station (Kerala)

3512. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from various social organisations in Kerala to rename Angamali railway station in Kerala to Adi Sankara Puri railway station; and

(b) if so, decision taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Change in the name of a Railway Station can be made on the recommendation of the State Government concerned and approval of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.

New Railway Lines in Tamil Nadu

3513. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allocate more funds for the improvement of railway net-work in the country during the Eighth Plan;

(b) whether there is any proposal to construct new railway lines in Tamil Nadu during the Eighth Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). The Railways VIII Five Year Plan has not been finalised so far.

Recruitment of SC/ST Candidates on Group 'D' Posts in Northern Railway

3514. SHRI R.P. SUMAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Northern Railway, New Delhi Office had conducted a special drive for recruitment to category 'D' posts carrying a scale of pay of Rs. 750-1025 against SC-ST quota during 1987;

(b) if so, the number of candidates appeared for interview and how many of them were selected;

(c) the reasons for delay in the appointment of selected candidates; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to make the appointments under a time bound programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir. In 1987 the Divisional Railway Manager Office, New Delhi had conducted a selection for recruitment of SC/ST in Group D posts in scale Rs. 750-940 and not in scale Rs. 750-1025 (RPS).

(b) 21,518 candidates had appeared in the selection. Out of them, 318 SCs and 306 STs have been placed on the panel.

(c) and (d). 33 Scs and 38 STs candidate from this panel were offered appointments. In the meantime, complaints were received that some of the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribe candidates, who are already working as casual labour on Northern Railway have not been first screened and regularised before appointing the candidates selected from the open market. In view of this it was decided to ensure that the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates available, if any, in the existing casual labour on Delhi Division are screened first for regularisation against the backlog. After this, the balance of backlog of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribe will be made good by offering appointments from the panel already framed by the Division.

Train Services to Kerala

3515. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been submitted to him for improvement in rail travel facilities towards Kerala from North India:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) Additional trains including Summer Specials.

(c) Presently, not found feasible.

West Bengal Irrigation Average

3516. DR. PHULRENU GUHA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the position of West Bengal regarding the national average in the field irrigation; and

(b) the target fixed to bring the land under irrigation by the end of Seventh Five Year Plan in West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) By the end of Sixth Five Year Plan 53.7% of the ultimate irrigation potential of West Bengal was achieved against the all India percentage of achievement of about 60%.

(b) Additional irrigation potential of 470 th. ha. is targetted to be created in West Bengal during the VII Five Year Plan.

Consignment Tax

3517. SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN (Udhampur): Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are envisaging levy of consignment tax on goods on transfer from one State to another State and propose to distribute the tax among the manufacturing States;

(b) whether such type of tax shall effect the State of Jammu and Kashmir adversely jeopardising its already critical financial condition; and

(c) whether Union Government propose to safeguard the interest of the State of Jammu and Kashmir and if so, in what manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Constitution (46th Amendment) Act, 1982 which empowers Parliament to enact law for levy of tax on the consignment of goods where such consignment takes place in the course of inter-State trade or commerce, has not been made applicable so far to the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

[*Translation*]

Theft of Coal during Transportation

3518. SHRIDAL CHANDERJAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints from coal consuming industries in Madhya about the quantity of coal in railway wagons having been found to be less than the booked quantity;

(b) if so, the details thereof, alongwith number of such complaints; and

(c) the remedial measures taken to check the recurrence of such incidents of theft of coal during transportation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Association of Industries Madhya Pradesh, Indore, Divisional Industries Association, Ratlam and Textile Processors' Association, Burhanpur have complained that invoiced weight of some coal wagons received by their members was not being correctly shown.

(c) Zonal Raiways have been directed

to ensure that correct weighing is done at the time of loading and increased vigilance exercised by R.P.F. in transit and in coal depots yards to prevent pilferage, if any.

[English]

Import of Simulators

3519. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to import simulators to be used by Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these simulators would bring any improvement in the functioning of Railways; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) One Simulator each suitable for diesel locomotives and electric locomotives is proposed to be procured in the first instance.

(c) and (d). Loco simulators will supplement the existing facilities with a view to train locomotive drivers specially for handling heavier freight trains as also for operating high-speed passenger trains. The drivers are expected to learn the techniques of handling trains to minimise fuel/energy consumption faster.

Allocation of funds for Sambalpur Division Project

3520. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the suggestion of Orissa Government to enhance the allocation for Sambalpur Railway Division project in Orissa in the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the additional amount proposed to allocated for that project in the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). No suggestion for enhancement of the allocation in the current financial year for Sambalpur Railway Division Project in Orissa, has been received from the Government of Orissa. However, the allocation has been enhanced by Rs. 34.00 lakhs during the current financial year.

Level crossing at Sripura (S.E. Railway)

3521. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct a level crossing at Sripura near Lapanga on the Jharsuguda-Sambalpur section of South Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the step taken to implement the above proposal; and

(c) the time by which the level crossing is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Necessary plans and estimate for the work, which includes construction of two culverts on the approach road, have since been finalised by the Railway in consultation with the concerned State authorities. The execution of the work will

commence after obtaining the concurrence of the Commissioner of Railway Safety.

New Railway Lines in Orissa

3522. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Orissa had requested to sanction the survey work of some proposed railway lines in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details of proposals submitted by the Government of Orissa to his Ministry; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). A proposal was received from the State Government of Orissa for survey of a new Railway line from Khurda Road to Balangir via Khurda Town, Nayagada, Daspalla, Banigochha, Boudh and Sonapur. Accordingly, a survey was carried out but the project involving construction of 289 km long Railway line, estimated to cost Rs. 209 crores was found to be financially unremunerative.

Duty Evasion by Companies

3523. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several companies dealing in textiles, plastics, pharmaceuticals and steel evade Excise duty and Income tax by declaring their goods as seconds and rejected;

(b) whether crores of rupees and si-phoned off by the companies through sale of scraps and waste materials, evading Excise duty and Income tax; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government to prevent such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) to (c). Cases of companies trying to evade Central Excise duty by declaring excisable goods as 'seconds' and rejected have come to the notice of the Government. Appropriate action under the Central Excise law has been initiated in all such cases.

Legislative Drafting and Research Institute

3524. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the newly established Legislative Drafting and Research Institute has started functioning;

(b) if so, the type of courses being conducted or training given in the said Institute; and

(c) the number of persons trained so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir. The Institute of Legislative Drafting and Research (India) has started functioning from January, 1989.

(b) The Institute is presently conducting a basic Course of one year's duration in Legislative drafting for junior level officers of State Governments and Union territory Administrations. It has also conducted a short term Appreciation Course in legislative drafting for the benefit of officers in the Central Ministries and Departments dealing with subordinate legislation. It has also given

training in legislative drafting to nominees attending the training programme conducted by the Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training of the Lok Sabha Secretariat.

(c) Twenty persons have so far received training in the Institute under the various legislative programmes conducted by it.

Grants-in-aid for Legal Research

3525. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision to give grants-in-aid to the private organisations for legal research;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme under which the aid is given;

(c) the criteria for giving the aid; and

(d) the names of organisation and the amount of aid given during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (d). No separate provisions are made for giving grants-in-aid for various legal aid projects to private organisations. Each request for grant-in-aid received by the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes is examined by the Committee on merits. Normally, grants-in-aid are being sanctioned to private organisations for training of para-legals, legal literacy and public interest litigation programmes. No grants-in-aid for legal research has been sanctioned during the last three years. Legal research, it was felt out of experience, was really not within the purview of the Scheme

Report of OECD

3526. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the

Minister of FINANCE pleased to state:

(a) whether the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has singled out India for having recorded the highest trade-related and other disincentive measures affecting inward direct investment; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Government is not aware of any such observation made by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development countries.

(b) Does not arise.

Revival of LIC Policies

3527. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether insurance policy revival cases preferred under the LIC's special revival campaign have been still awaiting disposal in the Life Insurance Corporation of India's offices under the Central and Eastern Zones;

(b) whether the LIC is attempting to reject some cases on the plea of certain rules which were not declared with the scheme of special revival campaign;

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

(d) the efforts being made to accept the insurers' claims for revival expeditiously without any further enforcement of new added rules therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir. Although all cases which were received by the offices of the Corporation during the period of special revival campaign have been scrutinised, some cases have not been disposed of in view of certain necessary requirements.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. It is not the practice of LIC to decline a revival of a policy at any time except on medical grounds or where a period of more than 5 years has elapsed from the date of lapse. The Corporation considers each and every case of revival on its merits. However, cases which fall outside the purview of special revival campaign are considered for revival under its normal rules.

(d) No new condition has been imposed for revival of policies.

Mangalore-Bombay Railway Line (West Coast)

3528. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted for the proposed Mangalore-Bombay railway line;

(b) if so, which are the main stations to be linked by the line;

(c) the estimated cost of the project;

(d) whether any portion of the work on this line has been completed; if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons for delay in sanctioning/completing the remaining portion of the proposed line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI

MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (d). Railway line already existed between Bombay and Diva at the time of independence. Since then, line between Dive and Roha (101 km) has been opened in phases. Recently Survey was completed for Mangalore-Roha (837 km) new Broad Gauge line in April, 1988.

(b) Mangalore-Roha new BG line when completed will link Udupi, Honnawar, Karwar, Madgaon, Panaji, Kankavali, Ratnagiri, Chiplun, Dasgaon and Goregaon.

(c) Mangalore-Roha line is estimated to cost Rs. 861.97 crores.

(e) Survey Report for Mangalore-Roha was submitted to Planning Commission for their clearance in November, 1988 and they approved only Mangalore-Udupi (69 km) for construction and the same has been included in the Budget for 1989-90 at a cost of Rs. 52.6 crores. Clearance for the balance portion between Udupi and Roha is still pending with the Planning Commission and its sanction will depend upon their clearance. Completion of the Mangalore-Roha project, will depend on the availability of resources in the coming years.

Omkareshwar Dam Project

3529. SHRI PARASRAMBHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Omkareshwar dam project opposed' appearing in 'National Herald' dated 12 July, 1989 wherein the well known Environmental Action Group, Calcutta has urged Government not to give clearance to the Omkareshwar dam which is a part of Narmada Valley Development Project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Before giving clearance to a project, all issues including environment aspects are given due consideration.

[*Translation*]

Reservation Quota at Aligarh and Hathras

3530. SHRI PURAN CHANDRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the reservation quota of berths at Hathras and Aligarh railway stations particularly in 153 Up in view of difficulties being faced by the passengers in boarding the trains from these stations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Conversion of Farrukhabad-Kanpur and Shikohabad M.G. Line to BG Line

3531. SHRI PURAN CHANDRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to convert Farrukhabad-Kanpur-Shikohabad metre gauge line into broad gauge to provide direct line between Gorakhpur and Shikohabad via Farrukhabad; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Railway lines between Shikohabad and Kanpur as also Shikohabad and Farrukhabad are broad gauge lines. A survey is in progress for conversion of Farrukhabad-Kanpur section from M.G. to B.G.

Rail Link between Kasganj-Atroll and Etah-Kasganj

3532. SHRI PURAN CHANDRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it proposed to line Kasganj-Atroll railway line via Gagiri and Chharra and also to extend the railway line from Etah to Kasganj for the facility of people of these areas and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). There is no proposal for a new rail line from Kasganj to Atrauli Road. A survey for a new BG rail line from Etah to Kasganj has been approved as part of survey for conversion of Kanpur-Kasganj MG to BG and its extension to Aligarh.

Expansion of goods-shed and platforms at Aligarh

3533. SHRI PURAN CHANDRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to convert Aligarh goods-shed into an industrial estate and to extend the platforms to ease congestion; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). At present there is no proposal to convert Goods-shed of Aligarh Junction Station into an Industrial Estate. A decision has been taken to extend platform Nos. 2 & 3 at this station by 171 metres.

[*English*]

Procurement of Brushes by C.L.W.

3534. SHRIV. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW), Asansol/Burdwan has been importing and buying its requirements of various types of brushes including paints and industrial brushes;

(b) whether the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works has restricted its purchasing of the items from unorganised and private sectors in the country.

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any efforts have been made to substitute the imports of brushes and also to obtain the same from any Government Sector or Government undertakings/companies;

(e) whether any Public Sector organisation is there to supply such brushes; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the cost of brushes bought by Chittaranjan Locomotive Works annually?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) to (c). Chit-

taranjan Locomotive Works, Chittaranjan purchases their requirements of brushes under the following three categories:

- i) Carbon brushes for electric motors
- ii) Paint brushes and
- iii) Brushes for general purposes.

Except one time import of a small quantity of Carbon brushes all other brushes are procured indigenously from proven approved sources.

(d) to (f). Various types of brushes are procured from indigenous sources only. Except Diesel Component Works, Patiala, Railways' own Production Unit, no other Government Company is known to manufacture brushes required by Chittaranjan Locomotive Works. The annual value of purchases by CLW of various types of brushes is approximately Rs. 7 lakhs.

Smuggling cases

3535. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of drug smuggling detected at India's international airports during the years 1987-88 and 1988-89 airport-wise;

(b) the details of drugs seized; and

(c) the number of persons arrested and their nationality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) to (c). The information regarding drug smuggling cases detected at India's international airports are not being main-

tained airport-wise. Hence, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Retirement age of Judges

3536. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the present retirement age of Supreme Court, High Court and Distt. Session Court Judges;

(b) whether there is any proposal to raise the retirement age of the judges; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The retirement age of Supreme Court Judges is 65 years and that of High Court Judges 62 years. The retirement age of District and Sessions Judges is generally 58 years.

(b) and (c). There is no proposal to increase the retirement age of Judges.

Customs Duty on Imported Newsprint

3537. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the Customs duty charged on imported newsprint;

(b) whether there is a great demand to reduce it; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA) (a) The newsprint is chargeable to customs duty @ Rs. 550/- per tonne. However, on

certain other varieties of paper, commonly known as glazed newsprint, customs duty is liveable at the rate of 30% ad-valorem.

(b) and (c). The Government had received representations to reduce customs duty on glazed newsprint from 30% ad valorem to Rs. 550/- per tonne, but these were not found acceptable.

[Translation]

Illegal Business of Foreign Exchange

3538. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in a Hindi daily 'Hindustan' dated 6 July, 1989 regarding illegal business of foreign exchange;

(b) if so, whether Government have conducted any inquiry in this matter; and

(c) if so, the results thereof, and number of persons arrested in this connection under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act and steps taken to put an end to such illegal practices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (c). During the year 1989, the Directorate of Enforcement have searched 11 premises at various places. As a result of searches, Indian currency of Rs. 44,990/- suspected to be sale proceeds of foreign exchange, besides incriminating documents and foreign exchange were seized. One person has been detained under COFEPOSA in connection with a FERA violation case. The drive against economic offences is a continuous process. The matter is kept under constant review for taking appropriate administrative/legislative

measures with a view to curbing illegal practices.

[English]

Strategy and Requirements of Railways in Eighth Plan

3539. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Board have spelt out their strategy and detailed the requirements of the Railways to the Planning Commission for the Eighth Five Year Plan with particular reference to the completion of on-going projects (new lines and conversions);

(b) if, so, an outline of the strategy and the requirements placed before the Planning Commission;

(c) if not, the likely date by which it would be done;

(d) whether the Railway Board propose to ensure the completion of all such on-going projects on which the work was taken in hand in the Sixth Five Year or earlier Plans; and

(e) if so, the details of such projects, zone-wise, the estimated expenditure and the projected target dates for completion for each such project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). No, Sir. However, the Working Group for railway programmes set up by the Planning Commission has submitted its report for consideration of the Commission.

(d) and (e). Allotment of funds for each such project and their completion will de-

pend upon the resources made available by the Planning Commission and their inter-se priorities. Within these constraints every effort will be made to complete all such projects as early as possible.

Additional Grant to Maharashtra

3540. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the additional grant of Rs. 50 crores as recommended by the Ninth Finance Commission for improvement of slums has been sanctioned to the Government of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the projects proposed to be undertaken to utilise this grant;

(c) whether Government propose to sanction additional funds for the development of Bombay only; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) to (d). The Ninth Finance Commission has recommended in its First Report for 1989-90 a grant of Rs. 50 crores to Government of Maharashtra for slum clearance and environmental improvement of slums and provision of basic amenities in the city of Bombay with an equal matching contribution by the State Government.

The State Government have proposed a number of schemes for improvement and provision of amenities and services in slums in Bombay viz., housing, water supply, drainage and sanitation facilities, relocation and resettlement of slums, construction of roads, bridges and sub-ways, upgrading and improvement of health and hospital facilities, development of transport and electricity supply, traffic management, etc., with a total

outlay of Rs. 138.74 crores (which will be limited to Rs. 100 crores for purpose of utilising the above mentioned grant). Of this, schemes with an outlay of Rs. 86.46 crores have so far been approved.

Besides the above, a special non-Plan grant of Rs. 100 crores is being provided to the Govt. of Maharashtra for solving the acute problems of housing and slums in Bombay. Of this, Rs. 50 crores have already been released to the State Government.

Investment in National Saving Certificates

3541. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount invested in National savings Certificates during the last three years;

(b) the total amount deposited in various postal recurring deposit schemes throughout the country during the last three years;

(c) whether commission is paid to persons engaged as agents; and

(d) if so, the number of such persons who received the commission and the amount thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The gross deposits made in all saving certificates and savings Deposits through post offices are as under:-

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Savings Certificates	Savings Deposits
1986-87	3996.59	4133.12
1987-88	4423.52	5080.94
1988-89	5812.18	6670.17
(Provisional)		

(c) Commission is paid to authorised agents on deposits mobilised by them except in the case of Indira Vikas Patra where no commission is paid.

(d) During 1987-88, 1.27 lakhs agents under Standardised Agency System received a commission of Rs. 63.39 crores and 59,000 agents under Mahila Pradhan Kshetriya Bachat Yojna received a commission of Rs. 8.26 crores.

Investment by NRIs in Shares and Debentures of Indian Companies

3542. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (R.B.I.) has tightened the procedures for controlling portfolio investment by non-resident Indians (NRIs) in shares and debentures of Indian Companies;

(b) if so, the salient features of the directive or guidelines issued by the R.B.I. in this behalf to the various Stock Exchanges;

(c) whether his Ministry or the RBI has set up any machinery to monitor the purchase and sale of shares by the NRIs to ensure that the prescribed ceilings for portfolio investments are enforced; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Each bank branch which has obtained general authorisation from RBI for conducting purchase/sale transactions under the Portfolio Investment Scheme on behalf of their NRI/OCB constituents has

nominated a Bank's branch in Bombay as link office. Each link office send to RBI on daily basis a statement showing company-wise details of purchase/sale of equity shares and convertible debentures made by designated bank branches. On the basis of these statements, the 5% ceiling limit prescribed under the portfolio Investment Scheme is monitored by the Reserve Bank.

RBI Investigation into Affairs of Peerless

3543. SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL:
SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN
RAMJIBHAI MAVANI:

Will th Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the special scrutiny and audit of the activities of the Peerless General Finance and Investment Company was carried out by the Reserve Bank of India in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) the outcome of the scrutiny?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Under the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) may cause an inspection to be made of any non-banking institution, including a financial institution, if it considers it necessary or expedient to inspect that institution.

The RBI had carried out an inspection of the Head Office and four Regional Offices of the Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Ltd., Calcutta (Peerless).

(c) The RBI has reported that its inspection of the Peerless has revealed that the

company had not followed some of the provisions of the directions issued by the RBI in respect of the schemes introduced by the company prior to the commencement of the directions. The RBI has discussed the matter with the Company.

Alleged Involvement of Customs and Excise Officials in Smuggling Activities

3544. SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL:
SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN
RAMJIBHAI MAVANI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether instances of involvement of some officers/staff in Central Excise and Customs Departments and at the Airports in smuggling activities in Gujarat and other parts of the Country have come to the notice of Government during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) to (c). Available reports do not indicate the involvement of the Officers and staff of the Central Excise and Customs Department in smuggling activities in Gujarat during the last three calendar years of 1987, 1988 and 1989.

However, 15 officers/staff of the Bombay and Delhi Customs House are alleged to be concerned in aiding and abetting the smuggling activities during the same period.

They are liable for penalty in Departmental proceedings as well as disciplinary action. They are also liable for prosecution in a Court of Law. Further they are liable for

detention under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974, if considered necessary.

Insurance of Government Buildings

3545. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of buildings owned by Union Government in Delhi and at other places, State-wise;

(b) the number of buildings insured; and

(c) the reasons for not insuring all of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) and (b). The information is not centrally maintained and is, therefore, not available. Collection of this information will involve considerable time and labour.

(c) Government property whether movable or immovable is generally not insured, because the expenditure for compensation in any eventuality involving Government property is borne by the public exchequer either directly by the Government or indirectly through any rationalised insurance company.

Medical Facilities for Tea Garden Workers

3546. SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether specialised treatment facilities for T.B., Cancer, leprosy, eye diseases etc. are available for tea garden workers and their dependents in Tea Garden hospitals of Assam;

(b) if so, whether Government have sanctioned any grant to Tea-Board for tea-garden hospital during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) to (d). Under the plantation Labour Act, 1951, which is administered by the State Govt. and implemented by the Tea Estates, free medical aid to the tea plantation workers and their families are provided by the owners of Tea Estates. Tea Board has however, reserved 5 beds in Kurseong Sanatorium-Darjeeling, 32 beds in Ramalingam Sanatorium, Coimbatore and 4 beds in the T.B. Sanatorium Coonoor for T.B. Patients for Tea Plantation workers and their dependents.

Assistance to Educational Institutions by Tea Board in Assam

3547. SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assistance was given by the Tea Board for construction of educational institutions in Assam in the last three years;

(b) if so, broad features thereof; and

(c) if not, whether his Ministry has given any instructions to the Tea Board in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. During the last three years, Tea Board has given the following assistance to the educational institutions in Assam for construction of buildings etc.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount</i>
1986-87	Rs.24,600/-
1987-88	Rs.63,960/-
1988-89	Rs. 9,840/-

Discretion of Assessing Officer to Treat the Assessee as non-Defaulter

3548. SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided that an assessing officer can exercise his discretion in certain situations to treat the assessee as non-defaulter in respect of a disputed amount; and

(b) if so, broad features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) The assessing officer is empowered u/s. 220(6) of the Income-tax Act to treat the assessee as non-defaulter during the pendency of first appeal, in certain situations. The Board issued circular on 6th March, 1989 laying down broad guidelines for the exercise of this discretion.

(b) Broadly, the assessing officers have been advised to be judicious while exercising this power. A copy of the circular is given in the statement below.

STATEMENT

F. No. 404/82/88-ITCC
Government of India
Ministry of Finance
(Department of Revenue)
Central Board of Direct Taxes

New Delhi, the 6th March, 1989.

CIRCULAR

Subject:- Exercise of discretion u/s 220(6) of the I.T. Act, 1961 to treat the

assessee as not being in default in respect of the amounts disputed in first appeal pending before DC(Appeals)/CIT (Appeals)

Under Section 220(6) of the I.T. Act, 1961 where an assessee has presented an appeal u/s 246 of the Act before the Deputy Commissioner (Appeals) or the Commissioner (Appeals), the Assessing Officer may, in his discretion, and subject to such conditions as he may think fit to impose in the circumstances of the case, treat the assessee as not being in default in respect of the amount in dispute in the appeal, even though the time for payment has expired, as long as such appeal remains undisposed of.

2. Having regard to the proper and efficient management of the work of collection of revenue, the Board has considered it necessary and expedient to order that on an application being filed by the assessee in this behalf, the Assessing Officer will exercise his discretion u/s 220(6) of the Act (subject to such conditions as he may think fit to impose) so as not to treat the assessee as being in default in respect of the amount in dispute in the appeal in the following situations:

- i) the demand in dispute has arisen because the Assessing Officer had adopted an interpretation of law in respect of which, there exist conflicting decisions of one or more High Courts or, the High Court of jurisdiction has adopted a contrary interpretation but the Department has not accepted that judgement, or
- ii) the demand in dispute relates to issues that have been decided in favour of the assessee in an earlier order by an appellate authority or court in assessee's own case.

3. It is clarified that in the situations mentioned in para 2 above, the assessee will be treated as not in default only in respect of the amount attributable to such disputed points. Further, whether it is subsequently found that the assessee has not cooperated in the early disposal of appeal or where a subsequent pronouncement by a higher appellate authority or court alters the situation referred to in para 2 above, the Assessing Officer will no longer be bound by these instructions and will exercise his discretion independently.

4. In respect of other cases, not covered by para 2 above, the Assessing Officer will take into account all the relevant factors and communicate his decision to the assessee in the form of a speaking order. While exercising discretion under this provision, the financial capacity of the assessee to pay the demand will not be relevant.

5. The Chief Commissioners and Directors General of Income-tax may please bring these guidelines to the notice of all officers in their regions. The guidelines will apply, mutatis mutandis, to the demands created under other Direct Tax Laws also.

Sd/-
(V.K. MANGOTRA)
Secretary, Central Board of Direct
Taxes

Seizure of Contraband Goods on Indo-Nepal Border

3549. SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of contraband goods seized in a drive along the 1700 km. Indo-Nepal border by the Customs Collectorate in March, 1989; and

(b) the number of persons arrested with details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) and (b). During the period from 12th March, 1989 to 14th March, 1989, a special anti-smuggling drive was undertaken by the Indo-Nepal Border Customs (Preventive) Collectorate which resulted in the seizure of contraband goods valued at Rs. 84.86 lakhs in 193 cases. Four persons were arrested.

Additional Superfast Trains between Delhi-Calcutta

3550. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce more superfast trains from Delhi to Calcutta keeping in view the heavy rush; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Haldia Petro-Chemicals Project

3551. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the latest development in clearing the Haldia Petrochemicals Project in West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): The subject was discussed with the Chief Minister of West Bengal in June, 1989. Against this background, certain aspects relating to the project have to be further looked into.

**Progress of Irrigation Projects of
Vidisha District (M.P.)**

3552. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government had cleared in 1981-82 two medium irrigation schemes namely Bah and Sagad Irrigation Projects for Madhya Pradesh to be executed under World Bank assistance Programme;

(b) whether the projects are still under construction, if so, at what stage and the reasons for delay; and

(c) the time by which these projects are likely to be commissioned?

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

(b) and (c). The projects are at initial stage of construction. The delay in construction of these two projects is due to non-clearance of necessary forest land. The Projects are spilling over to VIII plan. Commissioning of the projects will depend on the progress of works after release of necessary forest land.

Survey of Sea-Erosion Prone Areas

3553. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL:
SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have done any survey of those areas which are prone to sea erosion;

(b) if so, the area identified as sea-

erosion prone, State-wise;

(c) the estimated damage caused to irrigated land due to sea erosion; and

(d) the steps taken by Beach Erosion Board in collaboration with the irrigation department of State Governments to tackle the problems of those areas that are prone to sea-erosion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). Nearly 85 per cent of the coastline in Kerala and 26 per cent in Karnataka is reported to be affected by sea erosion. The problem in other coastal States is not appreciable and occurs in isolated patches.

(c) Mostly, coconut plantation, coastal communication lines and hutments are affected by sea erosion, whereas damage to the irrigation lands is minimal which are situated away from the beaches due to prevalence of tides and saline water.

(d) The Beach Erosion Board comprising the representatives from the Irrigation Departments of the maritime States, *inter alia* lays down the general principles of design and construction techniques of anti-erosion works, reviews the performance and suggests improvements thereon.

[Translation]

Deletion of Rule 20 (1A)

3554. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any demand has been made to amend the Code of Civil Procedure for deletion of its rule 20 (1A);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this amendment is proposed to be made and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. One representation has been received through the Hon'ble Member Shri Rawat for deletion of sub-rule (1A) of rule 20 of Order V of the First Schedule to the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, or amendment thereof to enable service of summons by an advertisement not only in daily newspapers but also in weekly newspapers.

(c) No final decision has been taken in this regard.

Opening of BSRB in Hill Areas of Uttar Pradesh

3555. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to open a branch of the Banking Service Recruitment Board (BSRB) in the hill areas of Uttar Pradesh in order to extend the employment opportunities in the banking service there;

(b) if so, the time by which it will be opened; and

(c) if not the steps proposed to be taken to provide employment opportunities in these areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Under the existing recruitment system for the public sector banks eligible candidates from the hill areas of Uttar Pradesh can apply for the posts, as and when advertised by the Banking Service Recruitment Boards.

Pending Multi-Purpose Hydel Projects in U.P. Due to Inter-State Disputes

3556. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of multi-purpose hydel projects in Uttar Pradesh on which work has not commenced because of inter-State water disputes; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to resolve such disputes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACÓB): (a) and (b). While Panchand Multipurpose Project has been returned to the State Government for want of inter-State agreement, in respect of Kishau Project, the State Government has to comply with the comments of the appraising agencies including resolution of inter-State issues.

[English]

Reduction in Court Holidays

3557. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL:
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:

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

(a) whether the Lawyers Forum for Civil Liberties has urged the Chief Justice of India to reduce the number of holidays in the courts in order to clear heavy backlog of

pending cases which is one of the reasons for heavy backlog of cases;

(b) if so, whether there has been any discussion with Government on the subject; and

(c) if so, the decision taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). The information is being collected from the Supreme Court of India and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Stoppage of Saryu-Yamuna Express at Rudaull

3558. **SHRI NIRMAL KHATRI:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have cancelled the halt by 949/950 Saryu Yamuna Express at Radauli with effect from 1st May, 1989;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have received any representation to restore this halt; and

(d) if so, the action being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir, only of 950 Saryu-Yamuna Express.

(b) Due to poor patronisation.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Being restored from 1.9.1989 on experimental basis.

Non-Returning of Deposits by Financial Institutions

3559. **DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR**

TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that several private financial institutions and banks particularly in Lucknow and Bombay are not returning the depositors' money, on demand;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India has reported that it has not received any complaints that banks in Lucknow and Bombay are not returning the depositors' money on demand.

Reserve Bank of India has further reported that it has received complaints against a non-banking financial company registered in Bombay that the Company was not repaying the deposits on demand by the depositors. The Reserve Bank of India had looked into the matter. The Company has been prohibited from accepting any fresh deposits. Reserve Bank of India has also informed the Registrar of Companies, Maharashtra suitably. Reserve Bank of India has also reported that it has not received any complaints against any non-banking financial company based in Lucknow for non-payment of deposits on demand.

Rate of Inflation

3560. **SHRI KRISHNA SINGH:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the annual rate of inflation for the year ending March, 1989 and how does it compare with the preceding two years;

(b) the value of rupee based on 1960

index as on 1 July, 1989 and on 1 April, 1987, 1988 and 1989; and

(c) whether the rate of inflation increased from year to year, especially during the last three months (April to June, 1989) if so, the main reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The requisite information is given below:

<i>Year ending</i>	<i>Inflation rates in terms of CPI (1960=100) on point to point basis</i>
March 1987	7.5
March 1988	9.8
March 1989	8.6

(As the revised series of CPI with 1982 as base has been introduced w.e.f. October 1988, the inflation rates on the 1960 base have been calculated by applying the conversion factor released by the Ministry of Labour.)

(b) The value of rupee on the first of a month, measured as the reciprocal of the Consumer Price Index (1960=100) for the previous month, is given below:

<i>Period</i>	<i>Value of rupee (in paise)</i>
April 1, 1987	14.58
April 1, 1988	13.28
April 1, 1989	12.22
July 1, 1989	11.93

(c) No, Sir, as may be seen from the following:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Prise rise during April/June</i>
1987	4.2%
1988	3.9%
1989	2.4%

Replacement of Steam Locomotives

3561. SHRIVAKKOMPURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the ratio of cost of operation of steam, diesel and electric locomotives;

(b) the number of steam locomotives still in operation;

(c) whether Government propose to replace steam locomotives with diesel or electric ones in view of the high cost of its operation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The ratio of cost of operation for electric, diesel and steam locomotives on all services is as under:-

Electric	1.00
Diesel	1.07
Steam	5.65

(b) The number as on 31.3.1989 is about 3884.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Railways as a policy have decided to progressively replace steam locomotives by diesel/electric locomotives and all steam locomotives will be phased out by the year 2000.

Improved Rail Services in Adivasi Areas

3562. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether rail services in the Adivasi areas in the country and particularly in Gujarat are not sufficient to meet the increasing goods and passenger traffic and most of the people have to use the services of road transport; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to improve the rail services in the these areas for the quick transportation of their products and also to improve the passenger services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Continuous efforts are made to improve the services keeping in view the traffic and resources.

[*Translation*]

Muvattupuzha Irrigation Project of Kerala

3563. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction work on Muvattupuzha Irrigation Project (Kerala) has been affected due to paucity of funds;

(b) the present stage of the project and quantum of funds already utilised by the State Government;

(c) the original cost of the project and the revised estimate as a result of cost escalation; and

(d) the steps taken by Government for its early completion and the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (d). An expenditure of about Rs. 32 crores has been incurred upto March, 1989 as against the approved cost of Rs. 48 crores and the latest estimated cost of about Rs. 68 crores. The Planning Commission has approved an outlay of Rs. 6 crores for 1989-90. Major portion of the dam and main canal is likely to be completed during 1989-90. The project is expected to be completed during the VIII Plan.

[*English*]

Export of Iron Ore Through Paradeep Port

3567. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India (MMTC) has taken steps to increase the export of iron ore;

(b) if so, the steps taken to increase the export of iron ore through Paradeep Port in Orissa; and

(c) the total tonnage of iron ore procured by MMTC from different iron ore mines of Orissa for export purpose during the last three years (year-wise)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some of the steps taken/being taken by MMTC to increase export of iron ore are market diversification, improvement in infrastructural facilities at major ports and tying up of export sales through long term agreements with major buyers of iron ore.

(c) Total tonnage of iron ore procured by MMTC from different iron ore mines in Orissa for export in the last three years is as under:-

Year	Qty. in lakh tonnes
1986-87	20.25
1987-88	19.21
1988-89	19.34

Credit Deposit Ratio of Banks in Gujarat

3568. SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the credit-deposit ratio of banks in Gujarat has remained low during the last three years against the All-India ratio;

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to push up the credit-deposit ratio in Gujarat; and

(c) the response of the banks to maintain the tempo of bank finance and to undertake specific bankable schemes in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Banks have been advised by the Reserve Bank of India to avoid wide regional disparities in the matter of credit deployment and to take effective steps to increase the flow of credit to all productive and identified viable proposals in deficient areas. Banks have also been advised to maintain minimum credit: deposit ratio of 60 per cent in respect of their rural and semi-urban branches separately. The percentage growth of advances of all Scheduled Commercial Banks in Gujarat increased from 15.8 per cent as at the end of December, 1987 to 23.1 per cent as at the end of December, 1988.

Revival of N.G. Sections in Gujarat

3569. SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan in hand to harness the Potentiality of Narrow-Gauge Sections in Gujarat on Western Railway by providing better services to the people of these sections;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Steam Engines are being replaced progressively wherever justified.

Restoration of M.G. Section between Mehsana and Harij

3570. SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a metre gauge section between Mehsana and Harij

of North Gujarat on Western Railway remains suspended for quite a long time;

(b) whether Government have received representations for restarting trains on the above section;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir. Train services have been suspended only on a small section of 21 Kms. between Chanasma-Harij from 2.8.1989.

(b) and (c). Yes Sir. Representations have been received from M.Ps. and others including Passengers Association for the

restoration of the train service.

(d) It is not proposed to reopen this uneconomic branch line as adequate road transport facilities are available in the area.

Financial Assistance to Orissa

3571. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount given to Orissa during 1988-89 besides the grants allocated under various plans and schemes; and

(b) the progress of the schemes for which grants were given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI):

(a) and (b)

S. No.	Item of Assistance	Amount released	Progress of Scheme
1	2	3	4
1.	State's share in Central Taxes	428.77	This is not linked to any scheme.
2.	Loans against small savings collections	74.16	Not linked to any scheme.
3.	Centre's Contribution to margin money for relief of natural Calamities.	13.13	The State Govt. have reported that this was spent on repair/restoration of public properties damaged due to localised calamities as well as on drought relief for employment generation, drinking water supply etc.
4.	Drought Relief	11.69	The State Govt. have reported this expdr. on various relief measures such as employment generation, drinking water supply, irrigation projects, etc.
5.	Grants in lieu of tax on railway passenger fare.	1.59	Not linked to any scheme.
6.	Net interest liability grant	116.58	This was given to meet the expdr. on net interest liability on account of fresh borrowings and lendings during 1984-85 to 1987-88, which fell due in 1987-88.
7.	Revenue Gap grant	19.91	This is not linked to any scheme.

S. No.	Item of Assistance	Amount released	Progress of Scheme
1	2	3	4
8.	Grants for upgradation of standards on administration	22.49	This amount was given to enable the State Govt. to meet the expdr. on various schemes of upgradation of standards of administration services, viz., Police, Education, Jails, Tribal Administration, Health, Judicial, Revenue & Distt. Admn., Training & Treasury and Accounts.
Total		688.23	

Loans Advanced by Banks in Orissa and

3572. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total deposits in the nationalised banks and the State Banks of India in Orissa during the last three years;

(b) the amount of loans given by banks in the State during the above period;

(c) the areas of the State where deposits were more than the loans and vice-versa;

(d) the action taken by Government to remove this imbalance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The aggregate deposits and outstanding credit of Nationalised Banks and State Bank of India in Orissa as on the last Friday of December, 1986, 1987 and March, 1989 are separately given below:

(Amt. in Rs. crores)

<i>Deposits in Orissa of:</i>	<i>December</i>		<i>March</i>
	1986	1987	1989
Nationalised Banks	694	844	1063
State Bank of India	506	599	767

(Amt. In Rs. crores)

<i>Advances in Orissa of:</i>	<i>December</i>		<i>March</i>
	1986	1987	1989
Nationalised Banks	526	592	767
State Bank of India	404	520	703

(c) and (d). As on the last Friday of March, 1989, the outstanding advances of scheduled commercial banks were higher in five districts, namely, Balasore Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Koraput and Puri and aggregate deposits were higher in 8 districts, namely, Bolangir, Cuttack, Dhenkanal, Ganjam, Mayurbhanj, Phulbani, Sambalpur and Sundergarh. However, the credit: Deposit ratio of scheduled commercial banks in all districts except Dhenkanal (61.7%), Ganjam

(64.4%) and Sundergarh (51.6%) were higher than the All-India credit: deposit ratio at 65.4 percent.

The credit deployment in a particular area depends on various factors like level of economic activity entrepreneurship, availability of raw material and other infrastructural facilities. Banks have been advised to take effective steps for improving the flow of credit in deficient areas for productive and identified viable proposals.

Assistance to Deep Sea Marine Products Industry

3573. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme to assist the deep sea marine products industry;

(b) whether exports of marine products originating from deep-sea fisheries vessels have been declining or stagnating in the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure better utilisation of the fishing fleet to increase exports of marine products, in particular shrimp?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) Schemes formulated by the Government to assist the deep sea marine products industry include augmentation of deep sea fishing fleet through a judicious mix of indigenous, imported and chartered fishing vessels, provision of subsidy on the cost of indigenously constructed deep sea fishing vessels, provision of loan facility on soft terms by Shipping Credit and Investment Company of India Ltd., systematic and intensive survey of fishery resources in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone, assistance for construction of fishing harbours at major and minor ports and training of deep sea fishing operatives for manning the fishing vessels.

(b) Separate Export record for deep sea fishing vessels are not being maintained by the MPEDA.

(c) The present policy in this regard while encouraging diversified fishing discourages acquisition of vessels for shrimp fishing.

Stoppage of Konark Express at Khallikot Station

3574. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the great demand Government propose to provide a stoppage of Konark Express at Khallikot station (Orissa); and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Presently not found feasible.

World Bank Loan to ICICI

3575. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has agreed to finance the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India's (ICICI) proposal for funding the technology development in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of total credit obtained by the ICICI on its earlier ventures during the last three years and utilisation of funds made by the Corporation;

(d) whether the ICICI has made out any definite programme regarding repayment of loans; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Negotia-

tion were held with the World Bank between 11 and 17 July, 1989 for a loan of \$ 200 million to the Government of India for an Industrial Technology Development Project to be implemented through the ICICI and IDBI. However, the loan is yet to be approved by the Board of Directors of the Bank.

(c) to (e). ICICI has obtained a Grant of \$ 30 million from US Aid during 1986 and 1987 for the following Technology oriented programmes:-

(i) \$ 10 million in 1986 for the Programme for the Advancement of Commercial Technology (PACT) to support Indo-US joint R&D ventures designed to accelerate the pace and quality of technology innovation in products and processes in Indian industry. The utilisation as on 30.6.89 is \$ 1.8 million.

(ii) \$ 20 million in 1987 for Programme for Acceleration of Commercial Energy Research (PACER) to support technological innovation in Indian energy sector through financial assistance to consortia of manufacturers, research institutions and end-users. The utilisation as on 30.6.89 is \$ 0.3 million.

Repayment of loan component of external assistance received by ICICI for funding Technology Development will be as per schedule agreed to between GOI and ICICI.

Implementation of Financial Assistance Schemes by Banks

3576. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government and Reserve Bank of India are aware of failure of nationalised banks to fully implement various programmes requiring financial assistance as per the concept of the designated services approach;

(b) if so, whether one of the main reasons is the failure of nationalised banks to allot a manageable group of villages to rural branches by opening new branches for which licences have been granted keeping in view requirements of the scheme during 1988-89 and 1989-90; and

(c) if so, whether Reserve Bank of India would take immediate steps to ensure early opening of these branches and ensure that the defaulter banks are not given new licences for any urban branches/extension counters till they clear their backlog in the opening of rural branches for which licences are pending with them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that as lendings under Service Area Approach have become operational from 1.4.1989, it is too early to assess whether the banks have fully implemented the various programmes in the Villages allotted to them. The Block Level Bankers' Committee/District Level Consultative Committee would periodically review the performance of banks and take such action as is deemed necessary. Besides, the controlling offices of banks would also be constantly reviewing the performance of their branches.

(c) RBI has reported that the matter of branch expansion in the rural and semi-urban areas is begin continuously monitored by the Task Forces set up at the Regional Offices of RBI. Banks have not been able to open branches at certain allotted centres due to lack of basic infra-structural facilities. RBI has written to the Chief Secretaries of all State Governments/Union Territories for providing basic infrastructural facilities in order to open the branches at the allotted centres expeditiously. The allotment of centres in urban areas which has been

considered by RBI in a consolidated manner under the current Plan has already been completed and extension counters are allowed to banks on the basis of certain eligibility criteria adopted for the purpose. Therefore, it may not be appropriate to link up the matter of opening rural branches with the granting of licences for urban centres/extension counters.

Banning High Courts Jurisdiction in respect of Land Reforms Legislation

3577. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the lacuna because of which even the allotments of land to the landless and various other allotments under the Land Reforms Acts included in the 9th Schedule are challenged in the High Courts and the poor beneficiaries are deprived of their due;

(b) if so, the number of such petitions challenging these allotments preferred/still pending in each of the High Court during the 6th and 7th Plans; and

(c) whether Government propose to bring forward legislation to amend the Constitution with a view to stream line the procedure under which the courts may be debarred from entertaining such appeals of this type which stand in the way of social justice for which the parliament has put these Acts in the 9th Schedule and if so, the likely date by which it is proposed to be done?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) (a) and (b). Information about lacunae in specific States Acts due to which orders of allotment of land have been stayed by court orders, is not available with the Central Government.

(c) There is no such proposal.

Assistance Under SEPUP in Bombay

3578. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quota fixed for Bombay for grant of loans to the urban poor under the Self-employment Programme for Urban Poor (SEPUP) could not be utilised to a great extent last year because of rigid conditions laid for the purpose;

(b) if so, the details of the quota and the percentage of its utilisation by the urban poor of Bombay last year; and

(c) whether Government would consider relaxing the conditions to ensure better utilisation of the allotted amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). The Reserve Bank of India has reported that during the programme year 1988-89, the achievement against the target under the Self Employment Programme for Urban Poor (SEPUP) in the city of Bombay works out to 36.2%. The main reason for non-receipt of sufficient number of applications for loan under the programme is the prescribed income criterion, which should not exceed Rs. 600/- p.m. for the family excluding income if any, of the children below 14 years. The income criterion under other poverty alleviation programmes viz. Integrated Rural Development Programme, and Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) Scheme is almost similar. Any upward revision in income criterion under SEPUP alone, either under the scheme as a whole or in respect of metropolitan cities would disturb the inter-se position of SEPUP viz-a-viz other Government poverty alleviation programmes. However, in view of the poor response in Bombay, State Level Bankers' Committee Convenor has been advised by the RBI to transfer the unachieved

target of Bombay city to other cities/towns like Nagpur in Maharashtra State where response is encouraging.

Public Investment in Companies

3579. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount invested by the public in public issues of various companies during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that investment of the public has considerably increased during the above period:

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures taken by Government to help the investors who lose their hard earned money due to mismanagement of the companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) Shareholders have remedies against mismanagement of the companies as per the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956.

Dearness Allowance to Government Servants

3580. SHRIKAMLA PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI K.S. RAO:

Will the Minister or FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to steep rise in prices

in the recent past, another instalment of D.A. has become due to the Government Employees from 1 July, 1989; and

(b) if so, the percentage of rise in D.A. which has fallen due?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) and (b). On the basis of percentage increase in whole numbers in the 12 monthly average of the All India Consumer Price Index Numbers for Industrial Workers (General) (Base 1960 = 100) for the period ending June, 1989 over the index average of 608, another instalment of D.A at the rates of 5% of basic pay for the employees drawing basic pay upto Rs. 3500/-, 3% of basic pay for the employees drawing basic pay between Rs. 3501/- and Rs. 6000/- and 3% basic pay for the employees drawing basic pay above Rs. 6000/- has become due with effect from 1.7.1989, which is payable with the salary of September, 1989.

Rise in Prices of Essential Commodities

3581. SHRIKAMLA PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI K.S. RAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state how does the rise in prices of essential commodities and of daily need items during the last 12 months compare with the prices of the preceding three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): Information change in price indices of selected essential commodity groups is given below:

**Annual Rate of Price Rise
(End June/End June)
(Base: 1981-82 = 100)**

Item	1989	1988	1987	1986
1	2	3	4	5
Food Articles	3.4	13.7	4.8	8.5
Cereals	7.6	14.8	3.8	6.1
Pulses	9.1	37.3	9.3	-4.5
Fruits & Vegetables	-4.0	6.4	1.4	23.9
Milk	10.3	19.4	3.9	4.4
Condiments & Spices	-14.6	19.2	9.9	-12.3
Sugar, khandasari and gur	14.5	12.0	-5.9	4.9
Edible Oils	1.4	-3.3	30.9	19.0
Textiles	10.1	12.2	6.0	-6.5
All Commodities	5.6	9.5	6.2	5.0

Income-Tax Pending Realisation

3582. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the names of top 20 persons and companies against whom the Income-tax is pending realisation as on 30 June 1989?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): The latest information available is as on 31.5.1989. As per this, the names of top 20 persons and companies from whom income-tax demands were pending realisation, are as under:-

1. Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Bombay.
2. Peerless General Finance & Investment Co., Ltd., Calcutta.
3. G.T.C. Industries Ltd., Bombay.
4. Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., Delhi.
5. Continental Constn., Ltd., Delhi.
6. J.K. Synthetics Ltd., Delhi.
7. New India Assurance Company Ltd., Bombay.
8. Modi Rubber Ltd., Delhi.
9. Shri Vinod Kumar Didwania, Madras.
10. Bank of India, Bombay.
11. Shri Mohd. Akhtar Hussain, Ahmedabad.
12. Escorts Ltd., Delhi.
13. I.C.I.C.I. Limited, Bombay.

14. D.S. Constn. (P) Limited, Delhi.
15. Bhageratha Engg. Co. Ltd., Cochin.
16. M.P. Rajya Van Vikas Ltd., Bhopal.
17. Modi Pon Limited, Delhi.
18. T.P.C.L., Baroda.
19. Telco Limited, Bombay.
20. National Organic Chemicals Industries Limited, Bombay.

IDBI Loans to Spinning Mills

3583. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has refused to provide long term loans to the spinning mills in the cooperative sector in the cotton growing backward region of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the spinning mills in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh and other parts of the country are facing closure;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that it has not refused to provide long term loans to the spinning mills in the cooperative sector. However, institutions generally do not encourage setting up of new grass root spinning units in view of the existing excess spinning capacity.

(b) and (c). The smooth running of industrial mills depends on the state of financial health of the mill and other relevant factors.

(d) Government have taken steps for reviving the textile industry. These include setting up of Nodal Agency to evolve and manage rehabilitation packages for sick but potentially viable mills, creation of a Textile Modernisation Fund under which an assistance of Rs. 752 crores was sanctioned till 31.5.1989 in 191 cases & setting up of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction to consider cases of sick units including textile mills.

Charging of Compound Interest by Banks

3584. SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal not to charge compound interest by banks, cooperative and public financial institutions, against the loans advanced to marginal farmers, small farmers, artisans, agricultural labourers and the small businessmen who are running the business on their own labour not employing others, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government are considering to introduce a policy of not realising more interest than the capital to the aforesaid categories of people from the banks, cooperatives and public financial institutions, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). According to existing instructions issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Bank

for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) from time to time, interest on current dues in the case of agricultural advances should not be compounded. Interest should also not be compounded on dues from Primary Agriculture Credit Societies (PACs) ceded to commercial banks. When crop loans or instalments under term loans become overdue banks can add interest outstanding to the principal and compound the interest. However, total interest debited to an account should not exceed the principal amount in respect of advances to small and marginal farmers.

State Cooperative Banks (SCBs) and State Land Development Banks (SLDBs) have been advised by NABARD that in the case of farmers affected by natural calamities for three or more years in succession, there should not be any compounding of interest on dues converted rescheduled or deferred/postponed.

In respect of composite loans for artisans, village and cottage industries, interest during the initial moratorium period should not be compounded. These instructions are also applicable to Industries, Services and Business (ISB) Sector loans under IRDP.

Restoration of 23 Dn/24 Up Bombay Ferozepur Express

3585. SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pantry car service on 23-DN/24-UP Bombay-Ferozepur Janata train has been discontinued;

(b) if so, since when and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a lot of inconvenience is being experience by the passengers on this long distance train in the absence of pantry

car service; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to restore the service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Pantry car service on 23 Dn/24 Up Bombay Ferozepur Janata Express licensed to M/s Shah Caterers was discontinued from 25.8.88 on account of lock-out declared by the licenses due to labour problem.

(c) Some such representations have been received. Satisfactory alternative arrangements exist for catering from static units for this train.

(d) The matter is under consideration.

Vending Stalls on Bombay Suburban Railway

3586. SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tea, refreshments, book and fruit stalls allotted during the period April 1988 to March 1989 on suburban section of Bombay; and

(b) the criteria adopted for allotment of these stalls?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) One.

(b) Allotment of catering/vending contracts is done by the Zonal Railways on inviting applications through press notifications and/or notices displayed at Railway Stations where necessary. Applications so received are scrutinised by a Screening Committee and based on their recommen-

dations, the contract is awarded to the most suitable candidate on merits.

Punctuality of Trains on Churchgate-Virar Section

3587. SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the punctuality rate of suburban trains running between Churchgate and Virar on Western Railway during 1987, 1988 and 1989;

(b) whether the punctuality rate had come down; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the remedial measures being taken to increase the rate of punctuality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a)

1987	-	93.0%
1988	-	92.8%
1989 (upto 31st July, 1989)	-	93.6%

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Bandra Terminal (Bombay)

3588. SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether development work on Bandra Terminal, Western Railway, in Bombay has been stopped for the last two months; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefore and the programme for the early completion of this terminal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Completion will depend upon eviction of encroachers from the area for approach road leading to the terminal.

[*Translation*]

Damage to Crops in Deoria and Gorakhpur Districts

3589. SHRIVILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Union Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in 'Jansatta' dated 1 May, 1989 under the caption "Bharat Nepal Tanav Se Paanch Lakh Hectare Fasal Sookh Rahi Hai";

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Breach in the Gandak Canal has since been repaired and the canal is functioning.

[*English*]

Increase in Deposits of State Bank of Indore

3590. DR. V. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the deposits of the State Bank of Indore during 1987 and 1988, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the details of advances given by the Bank during the above period, State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the ratio of the increase in the deposits and the advances made by the Bank during the period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The state-wise aggregate deposits and outstanding advances of State Bank of Indore as at the end of December, 1987 and March 1989 (1988-89) are as given below:-

(Amt. in Rs. crores)

States/Union Territory	Aggregate Deposits		Outstanding Advance	
	December 1987	1988-89 (March 1989)	December 1987	1988-89 (March 1989)
1	2	3	4	5
Rajasthan	7.05	7.76	3.66	3.46
Delhi	24.59	39.54	31.98	20.33
West-Bengal	13.86	14.17	8.09	15.42
Madhya Pradesh	538.64	658.56	368.68	460.98
Uttar Pradesh	9.55	16.73	7.48	9.24
Gujarat	18.92	22.34	10.60	15.90
Maharashtra	58.38	73.58	53.55	80.92
Andhra Pradesh	1.94	2.63	1.91	3.17
Karnataka	1.00	3.07	1.52	2.71
Tamil Nadu	5.61	9.70	7.62	10.12
Bank Total	679.54	848.08	495.09	622.12

(c) During the period from December, 1987 to March, 1989 the percentage growth of the deposits and the advances of State Bank of Indore was 24.8 percent respectively.

[*Translation*]

Urban and Rural Branches of State Bank of Indore

3591. DR. V. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the branches of the State Bank of Indore in the urban and rural areas, separately;

(b) the total amount of loans given by the Bank in the urban areas and the rural areas, separately, during the last three years;

(c) whether there is much difference in the transactions by the Bank in the urban and the rural areas; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Bank to

remove this anomaly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that, as at the end of June, 1989, 325 branches of State Bank of Indore were functioning as below:

	<i>No. of branches</i>
Rural	151
Semi-Urban	82
Urban	68
Metropolitan/Port Towns	24
Total:	325

(b) The outstanding advances of State Bank of Indore for the last three years is as under:-

(Rs. in crores)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Semi-Urban</i>	<i>Urban/Metropolitan</i>
December, 1987	72	113	312
December, 1988	87	129	433
March, 1989 (latest available)	94	136	416

(c) and (d). The deployment of credit in a particular area by bank depends upon variety of factor like development of infra-structural facilities, level of economic activity, proximity of the area to the market and availability of local resources etc. RBI has

advised Public Sector Banks to ensure that wide disparities in credit deployment is avoided and various steps taken to maintain C:D ratio of 60% in respect of their rural and semi-urban branches.

[English]

Decentralisation of Powers of Tea Board**Aquisition of Japanese Fishing Vessels by SCICI**

3592. SHRI T. BALA GOUD: Will the Minister FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the depression in the deep sea fishing industry;

(b) whether the Shipping Credit & Investment Company of India (SCICI) has been negotiating with Japanese firms to acquire fishing vessels; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which acquisition of Japanese ships will help revival of deep sea fishing industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) SCICI has reported that fishing industry has been facing difficulties during the past two years, mainly on account of over exploitation of shrimp resources by an increasing number of trawlers, unwillingness on the part of entrepreneurs to diversify into non-shrimp resources and shortfall in Shrimp Production. To help the Fishing Industry face this crisis, Government of India has considered granting of reliefs to fishing units by way of rescheduling of loan instalments and deferment of interest in respect of the loans granted by the erstwhile Shipping Development Fund Committee to the fishing companies. (in respect of potentially viable companies).

(b) and (c). SCICI has reported that they have not been negotiating with the Japanese Firms to acquire fishing vessels.

3593. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for decentralising powers of the Tea Board;

(b) if so, reasons therefore;

(c) whether Tea Board employees have opposed this proposal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b). Order have already been issued regarding delegation of power. This has been done for better implementation of the Tea Board Scheme.

(c) and (d). There have been some representations in this regard. Such representations are considered on the merits of the matter and in line with existing Government policy.

[Translation]

New Train on Chhapra-Madras/Hyderabad Section

3594. SHRI KESHORA PARDHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce a train on Chhapra-Jhansi-Nagpur-Madras/Hyderabad Sections; and

(b) whether there is a proposal to extend the train running between-Patna upto Chhapra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

Permission to Float Bonds by Maharashtra State Electricity Board

3595. SHRI KESHORA PARDHI:
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of limited resources at the disposal of Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) for implementing new project, there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to grant permission to MSEB for mobilising additional resources by issuing debentures and bonds;

(b) whether Government have taken any decision in the matter; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay particularly when many other Government Departments have been granted permission to mobilise resources through such sources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). The scheme of Public Sector Bonds is presently limited to central Public Sector undertakings. As such, state level corporations are not considered eligible for the facility.

Train Services on Gorakhpur-Thave-Chhapra Section

3596. SHRI KESHORA PARDHI: Will

the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the number of trains, their speed and to provide other passenger amenities on Gorakhpur-Thave-Chhapra metre gauge section; and

(b) if so, when this is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Assistance Given by IDBI and ICICI in Kerala

3597. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the amount of assistance given by the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) and the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) for projects located in Kerala during the last three year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) and Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) have sanctioned assistance to projects located in Kerala during the last three years (1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89) as under:-

SANCTIONS

(Rs. in crores)

<i>Name of the Institution</i>	<i>1986-87</i>	<i>87-88</i>	<i>88-89 (April-March)</i>
IDBI	115.69	130.15	175.40
ICICI	7.77	13.27	7.70

Adoption of Villages in Kerala by Nationalised Banks

3598. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of villages adopted so far by the nationalised banks for rural development; and

(b) the names of the villages adopted by the nationalised banks in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Presumably, the question relates to Service Area Approach to rural lending. This approach has become operational with effect from 1.4.1989. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the number of bank branches in Kerala is more than the number of villages. Hence, wards have been allocated amongst the branches in Kerala. Accordingly, a total of 6165 wards have been allocated amongst 1263 branches of Public Sector Banks in Kerala. The time and labour involved in preparing the statement showing names of these wards may not be commensurate with the result to be achieved.

Ex-Servicemen Financial Corporation

3599. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: Will the

Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Himachal Pradesh has formed "Pradeshik Ex-Servicemen Financial Corporation" to provide financial assistance and help to ex-servicemen in their rehabilitation;

(b) whether the Reserve Bank of India had any objection to the formation of such a Corporation;

(c) if not, whether Government propose to suggest to other State Governments to form such corporations as well; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (d). The Himachal Pradesh Ex-Servicemen Corporation was established vide Himachal Pradesh Ex-Servicemen Corporation Act No. 9 of 1979 which came into existence in May, 1981. Subject to the provisions of this Act, the functions of the Corporation are to provide the welfare and economic uplift of ex-servicemen in the State. RBI has reported that it has no objection to the establishment of such a Corporation.

(c) and (d). To assist ex-servicemen

including widows of ex-servicemen and disabled service personnel in setting up SSI projects for self-employment, IDBI jointly with the Director General of Re-settlement, Govt. of India, has formulated a special scheme of assistance for ex-servicemen. Under the scheme, which is operated through State Financial Corporations (including Himachal Pradesh Financial Corporation) and twin function State Industrial Development Corporations, entrepreneurs will be provided equity type of support to the maximum of Rs. 1,80,000 per project for starting small scale industry including transport and other service industries. This is besides the normal term loans granted for the project. Inter-alia, the scheme is applicable to projects costing upto Rs. 12 lakhs and the minimum promoters contribution is 10% of the project cost.

Extension of Shatabdi Express upto Bombay

3600. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend Delhi-Bhopal Shatabdi Express upto Bombay V.T. in view of heavy rush on Delhi-Bombay section;

(b) if so when it is likely to be done; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The distance from New Delhi to Bombay V.T. is 1538 Kms, which is well beyond the range of operation of an inter-city day express like the Shatabdi.

Conveyance Allowance

3601. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give conveyance allowance to its employees on the pattern of public sector undertakings; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The service conditions of Central Government employees are different from those in the public sector undertakings. It is not therefore, appropriate to seek to bring such parity in individual items like conveyance allowance etc. However, the existing rules applicable to Central Government employees already provide for the grant of conveyance allowance to a Government servant, who is required to travel extensively at or within a short distance from his Headquarter subject to certain laid down conditions. For occasional performance of official journeys within municipal limits, conveyance hire charges are also reimbursable to the employees.

Rail Link to All Sub-Divisions

3602. DR. PHULRENU GUHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Railway sub-divisions which have not yet been provided rail link;

(b) whether Government have any plan to link these places in the near future; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Recommendations of Railway Reforms Committee

3603. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had accepted and implemented the major recommendations of the Railway Reforms Committee including the creation of new zones and divisions;

(b) if so, the dates on which the recommendations have been implemented and the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the details of such recommendations as still remain to be partially/fully implemented and the reasons for their non-implementation to the full extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Railway Reforms Committee submitted their Report in 25 parts and touched the entire gamut of railway working. A large number of recommendations like creation of new zones, divisions, etc. cannot be straightaway implemented due to constraints of resources and other operational difficulties. Similarly recommendations concerning upgradation of technology like track circuiting, modernisation of marshalling yards and workshops etc. are again dependent upon availability of adequate funds and can only be implemented based on the priorities accorded to the various projects in the Corporate Plan. Wherever possible, action has already been initiated to implement the

accepted recommendations.

Trade with European Countries

3604. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is great scope of expanding trade in the European countries;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to adopt new strategies to expand trade with European countries in view of the tremendous untapped potential still available in European markets; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Efforts are made to expand trade through various measures like undertaking specific commodity oriented market studies; participation in fairs and buyers sellers meets; organisation of specialised exhibitions; distribution of publicity material; exchange of business delegations; joint ventures; encouraging contacts between business organisations of India and European countries and increasing the scope of Trade Plans.

Overhead bridge In Jabalpur

3605. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Government has sent a proposal for construction of an overhead bridge on Gorakhpur railway crossing in Jabalpur on South Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and reac-

tion of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Overbridge in Jabalpur

3606. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated during 1989-90 for construction of an overbridge at Kachpura railway crossing at Jabalpur; and

(b) the progress made on this work so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Rs. 37.09 lakhs.

(b) The progress on the bridge over the tracks being executed by the Railway is 30%. Work on approaches has not yet been commenced by the State Government.

Conversion of Jabalpur-Gondia Railway Line

3607. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether South Eastern Railway has undertaken a reappraisal survey to examine the feasibility of the conversion of Jabalpur-Gondia Metre Gauge Line for being utilised as an alternative North-South route;

(b) if so, whether survey has been completed and action taken on the report; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). The reappraisal survey for conversion of Jabalpur-Gondia NG section to BG, for serving as an alternative North-South route has not been completed. This is one of the many surveys, at present in hand, on the South Eastern Railway and exhaustive data has to be collected to work out the viability of the proposal.

Jabalpur Railway Station

3608. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) funds allocated during 1989-90 for developing Jabalpur railway station as a model railway station;

(b) the details of works completed and to be undertaken on this station under the scheme; and

(c) details of funds allocated to different railway stations during 1989-90 which are being developed under model railway stations project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Rs. 30.02 lakhs.

(b) The scheme of remodelling of Jabalpur railway station envisages provision of facilities like drinking water supply, toilets, better lighting, additions and improvements to platforms, waiting halls, circulating area, retiring rooms, cover over platforms etc.

The following works have been completed/are in progress:—

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the work</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1.	Provision of Kota stone dado and improvement to flooring in the concourse.	Completed
2.	Provisions of 4 double bedded and three 4 bedded Janta retiring rooms.	In progress
3.	Provision of Janta retiring rooms with 6 beds.	—do—
4.	Extension of second class waiting hall.	—do—
5.	Cover over platform No. 3 and extension of cover over platform No. 2	—do—
6.	Extension of foot over bridge	—do—
7.	Expansion of circulating area on Up side and Ashaling of roads, provision of traffic lanes, parking places, cycle stand and planting of shady trees etc.	In progress
8.	Provision of washable aprons on platform No. 1.	—do—
9.	Provision of electronic display boards.	—do—

(c) A statement showing funds allocated during 1989-90 for each of the model stations on the Railways is given below.

STATEMENT

(*Figures in Rs. lakhs*)

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Model Station</i>	<i>Proposed outlay during 1989-90</i>
1	2	3
<i>Central Railway</i>		
1.	Akola	21.26
2.	Bombay V.T.,	3.87
3.	Pune	27.84
4.	Gwalior	20.24

1	2	3
5.	Bhopal	37.91
6.	Jabalpur	30.02
7.	Nagpur	55.00
8.	Sholapur	8.45
	<i>Eastern Railway</i>	
9.	Sealdah	0.50
10.	Howrah	24.45
11.	Durgapur	7.00
12.	Dhanbad	30.95
13.	Gaya	34.33
14.	Patna	54.79
15.	Malda Town	7.74
	<i>Northern Railway</i>	
16.	Shimla	8.69
17.	New Delhi	3.72
18.	Meerut city	78.20
19.	Bhiwani	0.40
20.	Lucknow	0.30
21.	Allahabad	10.65
22.	Moradabad	15.98
23.	Jammu Tawi	17.26
24.	Jalandhar City	0.30
25.	Bikaner	4.69

1	2	3
26.	Jodhpur	10.50
	<i>North Eastern Railway</i>	
27.	Lucknow Jn.	Nil
28.	Gorakhpur	47.61
29.	Kathgodam	15.00
30.	Allahabad City	36.55
31.	Samastipur	Nil
32.	Muzaffarpur	Nil
	<i>Northeast Frontier Railway</i>	
33.	Katihar	11.92
34.	New Bongaigaon	6.50
35.	Guwahati	31.64
36.	Lumding	5.05
37.	Tinsukhia	35.05
	<i>Southern Railway</i>	
38.	Madras Central	95.41
39.	Tiruchchirappalli	26.09
40.	Madurai	4.23
41.	Mysore	24.16
42.	Bangalore City	16.47
43.	Trivandrum	14.75
44.	Coimbatore	39.41

1	2	3
	<i>South Central Railway</i>	
45.	Tirupati	69.00
46.	Bellary	28.73
47.	Vijayawada	24.30
48.	Nanded	16.37
49.	Hyderabad	5.00
	<i>South-Eastern Railway</i>	
50.	Bilaspur	15.14
51.	Raipur	7.00
52.	Kharagpur	24.29
53.	Visakhapatnam	32.28
54.	Gondia	16.80
55.	Durg	11.68
56.	Tatanagar	18.10
57.	Bhubaneswar	33.57
58.	Ranchi	9.90
	<i>Western Railway</i>	
59.	Ahmedabad	5.80
60.	Indore	3.46
61.	Bharatpur	20.02
62.	Agra Fort	26.64
63.	Jaipur	10.39
64.	Junagadh	0.10

1	2	3
65.	Ajmer	30.90
66.	Rajkot	10.00
67.	Bombay Central	3.50

Export of Iron Ore to Australia

3609. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently signed a contract to export iron ore to Australia;

(b) whether the shipments against this contract have been planned from Paradeep Port;

(c) if so, the total value of the export;

(d) when the shipment is expected to begin; and

(e) the total tonnage of iron ore proposed to be exported to Australia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) to (e). Minerals and Metal Trading Corporation of India Limited (MMTC) has signed a contract for export of 1.2 lakh tonnes of iron ore valued at about Rs. 4 crores to Australia from Paradeep Port. The first shipment is scheduled in October, 1989. Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited (KIOCL) has also signed a contract for export of 3 to 3.3 lakh tonnes of iron oxide pellets to Australia valued at about Rs. 14 crores during 1989-90. Shipments are being affected from New Mangalore Port. During April to July 1989, 52,273 tonnes of pellets

have already been exported.

Complaints Regarding Unloading of Betel Leaves Baskets at New Delhi Railway Station

3610. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints about alleged negligence at New Delhi Railway Station in unloading betel leaves baskets despatched from Kerala;

(b) if so, the number of such complaints received during the last six months and the consignments involved with the amount of claim preferred by the consignors;

(c) the amount of compensation paid against each claim;

(d) the action taken against officials found guilty; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to ensure that such cases do not repeat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) One complaint involving 470 consignments has been received. Six claims have been preferred during June and July, 1989 involving a sum of Rs. 14,330/-.

(c) No compensation has yet been paid.

(d) Responsibility has not been fixed yet.

(e) Divisional Railway Manager, New Delhi has been directed to ensure proper unloading and handling of such consignments and take preventive measures to avoid loss or damage to them.

Meenachal Irrigation Project of Kerala

3611. SHRI P.A. ANTONY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have requested the Kerala Government to submit a fresh project report for the Meenachal Irrigation Project;

(b) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted the report; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Appointment of Sports Persons

3612. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have fixed quota for appointment of sports persons against Class II, III and IV category of posts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criteria being followed for appointment to such posts, category-wise;

(d) whether the appointees are given scales of pay or a fixed amount;

(e) whether appointment to these posts is centralised in the Ministry; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Railways have been authorised to recruit sportsmen against quotas allotted. For Zonal Railway the annual quota in Group 'C' (Class III) is 18 to 24, the same for Production Units is 12. Separate quotas have been prescribed for Diesel Component Works, Metro Railway, Calcutta, Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala and Wheel and Axle Plant, Bangalore.

For Group 'D' (Class IV), the annual quota is 4 sportspersons for each Division and 3 sportspersons for each workshop.

Sports persons are not recruited in Group 'B' (Class II).

(c) The prescribed norms are:

In case of Group 'C' appointment the sportsperson should have attained 3rd or higher position (4th in the case of team games) in National Championship/Inter-University/All India School Games.

For Group 'D' appointment, participation at National/Inter-University/All India School Games or attaining at least 3rd position in Inter-State tournaments, (4th for team games) is the guiding factor.

(d) The appointees are given scales of pay applicable to the post in which they are appointed.

(e) and (f). Appointments, subject to fulfilment of prescribed criteria and conditions laid down by the Railway Board, are within the powers of the General Manager. However, the Ministry of Railways control an annual quota of 40 Intermediate Grade posts for appointment of outstanding sports persons out of the total quota for Railways.

Mobile Claim Offices

3613. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up mobile claim offices all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the nature of cases to be taken up by these mobile offices;

(d) whether any time limit for finalisation of cases by mobile offices is proposed to be fixed;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). Mobile Claim Offices are already functioning on the Railways. Central Railway has, however, discontinued as they have opened Subsidiary Claim Offices at important commercial centres. Claims Officers visit important stations for settlement of claims in respect of loss/damage/shortage and non-delivery of goods booked for carriage by Railway. Dates for holding these offices are given wide publicity.

(d) to (f). Claims are disposed of on the spot within the powers of the officers holding the mobile claim offices.

Excise Duty Charged by I.D.P.L. on Sale of Rifampicin

3614. CH. SUNDER SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Excise duty is levied on sale of imported Rifampicin;

(b) if not, whether any duty was charged by IDPL on the sale of this drug to actual users and if so, details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken to refund the excise duty already charged?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Additional duty of Customs at 5% *ad-valorem*, which is equivalent to the basic duty of Central excise, is being levied on imported Rifampicin with effect from 18th January, 1989.

(b) and (c). IDPL paid additional duty of customs on the imported consignments of Rifampicin as applicable from 18th January, 1989 and the same was charged from the parties to whom the material was sold. As such, the question of refund of the duty charged from the parties by IDPL does not arise.

Talcher-Sambalpur Railway Line

3615. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total hectares of land acquired in Orissa for the construction of Talcher-Sambalpur railway line;

(b) whether the land acquisition work is still in progress;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the allocation made for this line in the current financial year is adequate; and

(e) if not, the steps taken to make additional allocation for this line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) 437.22 Hectares.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Requisition for further land acquisition in 26 villages in Sambalpur District and 44 villages in Dhenkanal District of Orissa have been submitted to the State Government. Requisition for land in Reserve Forest area is under preparation.

(d) and (e). The allocation for this line could only be made out of the overall outlay approved by the Planning Commission for new lines.

Compensation to persons affected by Sambalpur Railway Division Project

3616. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total hectares of land acquired for the Sambalpur Railway Division Project;

(b) whether all the displaced or affected persons have been given compensation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) 16.869 hectares.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Depending upon classification of land, as determined by the Land Acquisition Authorities, Sambalpur, the rate of compensation ranged from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 1.5 lakhs per acre.

LIC Branches in Gulf Countries

3617. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has opened some branches in the Gulf countries;

(b) if so, the number of branches opened by the LIC in those countries; and

(c) the performance of these branches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir. The Life Insurance Corporation of India has set up an Exempt Company called "Life Insurance Corporation (International) E.C." in Bahrain with a view to cater to the insurance needs of the non-resident Indians in Gulf countries.

(b) At present, Life Insurance Corporation (International) E.C. is operating from Bahrain only.

(c) Since the Company was inaugurated only on 23rd July, 1989, it is too early to assess the performance.

Mahanadi Flood Control Scheme in Orissa

3618. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Orissa has

drawn up any flood control schemes for the Mahanadi delta areas in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any central assistance is provided for the implementation of these schemes; and

(d) the specific works undertaken under the schemes so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). Of the 7 schemes received at the Centre, 4 were returned to the State Government for non-compliance of the comments of the appraising agencies for a period more than one year. While 2 schemes, namely, 'Kuakhai Control Structure' and Gobkund Double Embankment for diversion of the Bhargavi river' have been taken up for appraisal, in respect of the seventh scheme, namely, 'Mahanadi Delta Development Plan', the State Government has not submitted all volumes of the report to enable appraisal.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Short Term Credit to Punjab

3619. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds sanctioned to Punjab under short term credit have been showing downward trend over the past few years;

(b) if so, the reasons for the decrease in the allocation;

(c) whether Government of Punjab has requested the Union Government to increase

the allocation to Punjab; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent possible.

New Stations and Passenger Halts in Sambalpur division

3620. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct some new stations and passenger halts under the Sambalpur Railway Division of South Eastern Railway;

(b) whether it was proposed to set up two stations or passenger halts between Dhutra and Bagdih in that division;

(c) whether Government have examined the proposals; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). There is only one proposal for opening a passenger halt named Panpalli between Dhutra and Bagdihi Stations under Chakradharpur Division of South Eastern Railway.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) This Passenger Halt has been sanctioned and will be opened after completion of necessary formalities.

Train Accident in Lajkura (Sambalpur Division)

3621. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was an accident in June, 1989 at Lajkura level crossing in Sambalpur district, Orissa;

(b) if so, the reasons of the accident;

(c) whether Government have made payment for the treatment of the injured and compensation to the kith and kin of the persons who died in the accident; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). On 26.6.89, a loaded truck dashed against a light engine at unmanned level crossing near Brajrajnagar station on Bilaspur Division of South Eastern Railway. The accident occurred due to negligence of the truck driver.

(c) The Railways have not incurred any expenditure on the treatment of the injured and no compensation has been paid as the same is not admissible.

(d) Does not arise.

Rubber Plantation in Orissa

3622. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area in Orissa where rubber plantation has been undertaken as on 30 June, 1989;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to bring some additional areas in Orissa

under rubber plantation during eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) The total area in Orissa where rubber plantation has been undertaken as on 30th June, 1989 is 146 hectares.

(b) and (c). Large scale expansion of rubber cultivation in approximately 5000 hectares in Orissa has been envisaged in the draft 8th Plan for rubber prepared by Rubber Board. The planting is proposed to be got undertaken by Orissa State Public Sector plantation Corporation and by individual entrepreneurs spread over a period of five years from 1990-91 to 1994-95.

Value Addition Criterion in Noida EPZ

3623. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the specific level of value of addition criterion in the Noida Export Processing Zone;

(b) whether the companies which are operating in the Export Processing Zone are following this value addition criterion; and

(c) if not, how do Government propose to enforce the value addition criterion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) to (c). The level of value addition in all the Export Processing Zones varies from product to product, from a minimum of 10% in the case of gold jewellery upto 60% in the case of software etc. It is reported that exact achievement of the value addition is not always possible in all cases due, inter alia to changes and fluctuations in various operational parameters. The per-

formance of the Zone units including the value addition is reviewed from time to time and corrective measures are taken wherever found necessary.

World Bank Study on Export Processing Zones

3624. SHRIMOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to 'Business Standard' of May 26, 1989, the news item "EPZs fail to deliver goods" and state:

(a) whether a World Bank study has concluded that the record has been disappointing about the technology transfer, absorption of labour, export provisions, etc. by Export Processing Zones in the Asian countries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b). A study of the Export Processing Zones (EPZs) in four Asian countries namely, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia and Philippines has appeared in the World Bank Research Observer January, 1989. It has been observed, with reference to the experience in these countries, that the transfer of technology to and linkage of the domestic economy with these Zones has been disappointing. It is, however, mentioned that the Zones have achieved the objective of earning foreign exchange and providing the employment. The author has concluded that the EPZs have a limited role in export promotion.

These conclusions are not applicable in the context of the performance of the Indian export processing Zones. An evaluation of the working of the already established zones at Kandla and Santacruz has indicated net positive gain to the economy and an internal rate of return which is higher than the rate of

return normally accruing on Government investment. The linkage of Indian Zones with the domestic economy is more effective in view of the developed industrial infrastructure in the country.

Government is constantly reviewing the performance of the EPZs in the country with a view to improving performance through appropriate promotional measures and input support.

Violation of FERA by Firms of Auditors

3625. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases regarding violation of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act by Auditors Firms of Auditors in Madras and other metropolitan cities detected during 1987 and 1988; and

(b) the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) During the years 1987 and 1988, the Directorate of Enforcement did not register any case of FERA violation against any Auditors firms of Madras or of other Metropolitan cities.

(b) In view of (a) above, the question does not arise.

Railway Line from Porbandar to Jetty Port

3626. SHRI BHARAT KUMAR ODRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct a broad gauge railway line from Porbandar to Jetty Port to facilitate the

movement of goods traffic to and from the port;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Sidings, serving port traffic are to be constructed as per extant policy, at the cost of users only, if required by them.

Long Distance Express Train from Porbandar

3627. SHRI BHARAT KUMAR OD-EDRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great demand for starting a long distance express train from Porbandar;

(b) if so, whether Government have examined the demand; and

(c) the decision taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Presently not found feasible.

[*Translation*]

Indira Sagar Project of Maharashtra

3628. SHRIVILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the present stage of the construction of 'Indira Sagar' project in Maharashtra;

(b) the central assistance provided by Government so far to complete the project; and

(c) the time by which this scheme is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) The project is in the initial stages of construction.

(b) Nil.

(c) As indicated in the project report, the construction period of the project is 12 years.

[*English*]

Working of Stock Exchanges

3629. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) in its approach paper and draft legislation sent to his Ministry has suggested that the decision making powers available to the various branches of the Government, including those of the Controller of Capital Issues, should be vested in the Board, which will oversee the working of the Stock Exchanges and ensure investors protection; and

(b) if so, reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The draft legislation has not yet

been finalised.

Borrowings of ICICI

3630. DR. B.L. SHAIKESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) has initiated negotiations with the World Bank for a \$ 20 million line of credit;

(b) whether the ICICI is also negotiating with the World Bank for a \$ 55 million line of credit for a programme to strengthen commercial research in the country;

(c) if so, the likely corpus of these two lines of credit, separately;

(d) the likely borrowings of the ICICI in the domestic and foreign markets during the current year; and

(e) the manner in which these loans would be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). Negotiations were held with the World Bank between 11 and 17 July, 1989 for a loan of \$ 200 million to the Government of India for an Industrial Technology Development Project to be mainly implemented through the ICICI and IDBI. This includes \$ 20 million for venture capital financing through Technology Development and Information Co. of India Ltd. (TDICI) and a \$ 55 million component to promote commercial research in the country. However, the loan is yet to be approved by the Board of Directors of the Bank.

(d) and (e). ICICI's likely domestic and foreign borrowings during the current year are estimated at Rs. 1200 crores and Rs. 875 crores, respectively, for meeting the

long term requirements of medium and large scale industries for setting up new projects and the modernized and technological up-gradation of existing facilities.

Complaints against Jaina and Ansal Properties, Delhi

3631. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received by Government against builders in Delhi viz. Jaina properties and Ansal properties; and

(b) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) and (b). On the basis of information regarding evasion of income-tax by Jaina properties and Ansal properties, searches under Section 132 of the Income-tax Act were carried out on 18.1.1989 and 25.5.1989 respectively.

Import of Rifampicin by IDPL

3632. CH. SUNDER SINGH:
SHRI PRAKASH CHANDER:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided not to allow the import of Rifampicin bulk drugs by the actual users of these drugs and by small scale industrial units;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the reasons for canalising the import of these drugs through IDPL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) to (c). In order to ensure that there is no shortage of the life-saving drug Rifampicin and to ensure easy availability of Rifampicin bulk drug at reasonable prices, two licences under the Industrial Raw Materials Assistance Centre (IRMAC) scheme have been given to M/s. Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd., for import of Rifampicin bulk drug for stock and sale to Actual Users including the formulators in the Small Scale Sector. Import of Rifampicin bulk drug has not been canalised through IDPL.

Damage of Railway Property In Punjab

3633. SHRIKAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been damage to railway property in Punjab due to terrorist activities during the last three years ending

31st March, 1989; and

(b) if so the details thereof and the extent of loss of railway property during the above period, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The extent of loss to Railway property due to terrorist activities in Punjab, during the last three years ending 31st March, 1989, year-wise, is as under:—

1986-87 — Nil

1987-88 — Nil

1988-89 — Rs.16,79,818.00 (Approx.)

A statement showing the details of the incidents which caused damage to railway property is given below.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Details	Loss to railway property (Approx.)
1	2	3
1.	On 8.4.1989, three railway stations viz. Gurney, Bangi Nihal Singh and chandbhan were burnt by terrorists.	Rs. 1,47,818.00
2.	On the night of 6/7-5-1988, one pair of fish plates on the approach of Girder Bridge No. 339 at K.M. 301/8-9 between Sarai Banjara-Sadhugarh Railway stations were removed by terrorists. As a result, one engine and 10 wagons of Up Hiran Goods Train got derailed and six of them capsized.	Rs. 14,50,000.00
3.	On 22.5.1988, there was bomb blast in waiting hall of Ludhiana station.	Rs. 15,000.00
4.	On 7.1.1989, Alal Station was set on fire.	Rs. 62,000.00
5.	On 13.1.1989, 0.46 metres of track between Kila Raipur-Ghurgrana stations was blown off by using explosives.	Rs. 1,000.00
6.	On the night of 15/16.1.1989, 1.11 metres of rail piece in one side of the track between Kathu Nangal-Jayantipura stations was blown off by using explosives.	Rs. 3,000.00
7.	On the night of 25/26.1.1989, 0.53 metres of rail piece between Chharhetta-Khasa stations was blown off by using explosives.	Rs. 1,000.00
Total		Rs. 16,79,818.00

Opening of Bank Branches in Punjab

3634. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the branches of the nationalised banks opened in Punjab during the last two years ending 31 March, 1989:

(b) the details of the places where these branches have been opened; and

(c) whether Government propose to open more branches of the nationalised banks in Punjab, especially in district Hoshiarpur and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI

EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that commercial banks including Regional Rural Banks have opened 64 branches in Punjab during the last two years upto 31.3.1989. Districtwise details of centres where these branches have been opened are set out in the statement below.

(c) Under the current Branch Licensing Policy for 1985-90 and Service Area Approach, RBI has allotted 123 rural and semi-urban centres and 12 urban centres to various banks in the State of Punjab and 9 rural and semi-urban centres in District Hoshiarpur. Out of these, banks have opened branches at 62 rural and semi-urban centres and at 9 urban centres in the State and at 9 rural and semi-urban centres in District Hoshiarpur. There is no licences pending in District Hoshiarpur.

STATEMENT

Districtwise details of centres where banks have opened branches in Punjab during the last two years upto 31.3.1989

<i>Name of District</i>		<i>Name of centre</i>
1		2
Amritsar	1.	Gharinda
	2.	Balkhurd
Bhatinda	3.	Dhame Kalan
	4.	Phaphre Baike
	5.	Musa
	6.	Jethuke
	7.	Kararwala
Faridkot	8.	Langiana Nawan
	9.	Pakhi Kalan

*Name of District**Name of centre*

1

2

Ferozpur

10. Daggo Pumana
11. Dhudi
12. Faridkot
13. Malhan
14. Harinau
15. Kabarwala
16. Dharampura
17. Muradwala
18. Tahliwala Badla
19. Koharianwali
20. Mahman
21. Lakhoke Behran
22. Ilmewala
23. Sodhinagar
24. Amrihas
25. Goluka Morr
26. Chak Sakura
27. Chak Sulelewala
28. Bandiwala
29. Kheowali Dah
30. Manawan
31. Bhuller

Gurdaspur

<i>Name of District</i>	<i>Name of centre</i>
1	2
Hoshiarpur	32. Dalam
	33. Satkoha
	34. Pandori Baisan
	35. Bharat Ouzi Chak
	36. Dehriwala
	37. Jangal Bhawani
	38. Islampur
	39. Mamoon
	40. Aulakh
	41. Harpura
	42. Bhaddi
	43. Ambala Jattan
Kapurthala	44. Manhota
	45. Chohal
	46. Harsa Mansar
	47. Bichhauri
	48. Sansarpur Makowal
	49. Ibban
	50. Hussainpur
	51. Nangal Labana
	52. Sangatpur
	53. Bhulla Rai

Name of District	Name of centre
1	2
Ludhiana	54. Deepanwali
	55. Sherpurbet
	56. Chaunta
	57. Kainaur
	58. Doom Cherri
	59. Sahauran
Sangrur	60. Tira
	61. Ranimajra
	62. Bhalwan
	63. Bhulerheri
	64. Wajidke Kalan

Demand for Cardamom

3635. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the poor demand for cardamom during this season;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any steps have been taken to solve this crisis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R.

DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b). Poor demand for Cardamom abroad has been mainly due to our product being uncompetitive in the international market. Cost of production in India is higher and productivity lower as compared to that in our competing countries. Exports of Cardamom (small) however increased to 787 M.T. during 1988-89 from 270 M.T. in 1987-88 due to efforts taken in this direction by all concerned.

(c) and (d). Steps to promote exports include efforts to reduce cost of production and to increase productivity through Research and development schemes. In addition the Spices Board is implementing Market Promotion through publicity, and quality improvement.

Train between Trivandrum and New Delhi

3636. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start a train service between Trivandrum and New Delhi via Khandwa-Solapur-Guntakal-Arakkonam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Presently not feasible.

Allocation of Fund for Flood Management to Orissa

3637. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of State</i>	<i>1986-87</i>	<i>1987-88</i>	<i>1988-89</i>
1.	Assam	13.50	21.00	21.00
2.	Kerala	2.50	2.50	2.50
3.	Orissa	3.21	1.02	0.50
Total		19.21	24.52	24.00

(b) The Central Loan assistance to Orissa was specifically towards flood control component of Rengali Multipurpose Dam.

(c) and (d). Further release depends on the identification of flood control component in the revised cost estimate of the Rengali Dam Project.

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the fund allocated to different States during the last three years for flood control;

(b) whether the amount sanctioned to Orissa for flood control particularly in the Mahanadi delta area was very inadequate;

(c) whether Government propose to enhance the allocation of funds for flood control in Orissa during the current financial year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Presumably Hon. Member is referring to the Central loan assistance given to the States. The amounts released in rupees (Crores) by the Centre during the last 3 years is as under:

Train on Cuttack-Paradip, Cuttack-Talcher and Khurda Road-Puri Section

3638. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any

proposal to introduce additional passenger trains in the Cuttack-Paradip, Cuttack-Talcher and Khurda Road-Puri branch lines in Orissa;

(b) if so, the specific proposal in that regard; and

(c) the time by which the additional trains are likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

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

Import of Penicillin

3639. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of shortage of indigenous Penicillin, Government had issued advanced import licences with obligation to lift indigenous material later on during 1987, 1988 and 1989;

(b) if so, for how many months' entitlement advance licences were issued and in how many cases such advance licences were denied; and

(c) the reasons for the discrimination if any, and reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) to (c). Supplementary Licences for advance import of Penicillin G, have been granted during 1988-89 and 1989-90, on a quarterly basis, to existing units engaged in the manufacture of 6 APA. Such units are under obligation to lift indigenous material also in the prescribed ratio. New units and those who had not been lifting

indigenous material regularly, were granted import licences on the basis of actual lifting of indigenous material.

One unit was allowed advance import of Penicillin-V with obligation to lift indigenous material. There were two other applications for import of Penicillin-V but import was not allowed in the absence of certification that the alternate raw-material viz. Penicillin 'G' can not be used by them. Government subsequently decided that all the manufactures of 6 APA should use only Penicillin 'G' and import of Penicillin 'V' will not be allowed. Advance import of 25 MMU of Penicillin 'G' has been allowed to them during 1989-90, on ad-hoc basis, with the obligation to lift the indigenous material in the prescribed ratio.

Schemes Introduced by GIC

3640. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the General Insurance Corporation (GIC) has introduced any scheme during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir. The General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) has introduced the following two schemes during the current financial year:—

- (i) Stock Exchanges/Stock Brokers Indemnity Policy.
- (ii) Special Medical Insurance Scheme for permanent residents of Goa.

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

I. *Stock Exchanges/Stock Brokers Indemnity Policy*

The Scheme covers the Stock Exchanges and Stock Brokers against their liabilities arising from forgery or fabrication of share transfer. The limit of liability per registered stock broker is Rs. 5 lakhs and the overall maximum liability for the stock exchange for all its registered member brokers during the policy period is limited to a minimum of Rs. 25 lakhs and a maximum of Rs. 1 crore depending on the volume of transactions on a Stock Exchange.

II. *Special Medical Insurance Scheme for permanent residents of Goa*

The Scheme provides reimbursement of hospitalisation expenses limited to Rs. 50,000/- per illness, in recognised hospitals outside Goa but within India, incurred by permanent residents of Goa in respect of treatment of major diseases for which facilities are not available in Goa. All permanent residents of Goa above the age of 3 months whose annual family income does not exceed Rs. 50,000/- per annum, are covered under the Scheme. The premium cost in respect of the Scheme will be borne by the Government of Goa.

Setting up of New Mints

3641. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for setting up new mints in the country;

(b) if so, the places identified for the purpose; and

(c) the progress made in setting up of each of the mints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

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

[*Translation*]

Import of Pig Iron from USSR

3642. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quantity of pig iron to be exported by USSR to India during 1989 has been curtailed recently;

(b) if so, the total quantity, which was originally to be exported by USSR to India during the current year;

(c) the quantity received so far;

(d) the reasons for not giving the stipulated quantity of pig iron to India; and

(e) whether Government have held talks with the Government of USSR in this regard and if so, their reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) to (e). The item pig iron figures in the Indo-Soviet Trade Plan for 1989 in the import list. No curtailment in the provision has been made. While the trade plan is drawn up at the Governmental level, the actual contracting takes place at the level of organisations depending on relevant factors like offers for supply, specifications, prices etc. Contracts have so far been concluded for a quantity of 50,000 tonnes of basic grade pig iron. Out of this, 25,000 tonnes have already been shipped and the balance, 25,000 tonnes is likely to be shipped in August, 1989. Both the Governments

periodically review the implementation of the Trade Plan provisions and jointly endeavour to ensure full implementation. The Trade Plan for 1989 is for the calendar year 1989 as a whole and, therefore, it will not be desirable to pre-judge the extent of implementation of the Trade Plan provision at this stage when endeavours for implementation are in progress.

12.00 hrs.

[*English*]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious matter that one hon. Member of Parliament from Haryana who quit the Lok Sabha seat, the Chief Minister of Haryana is going to honour him by giving cash and jeep. He said he is going to deposit Rs. 4 lakhs or Rs. 5 lakhs in the bank account. Where is he getting this money from? He is taking the money from the people and is giving it to his party men. I want to inform you that it is against the election rules. The Government should inquire into the matter. The Finance Minister is here and the Law Minister is here and they should investigate this matter. It is very serious. How is he getting the money? It is against the election rules. I want your ruling. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Robertsganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it will be a black spot in the history of parliamentary system and it will lead to the failure of the very system. A Chief Minister is giving money and jeeps to the people who have committed murder of democracy. What would be the fate of democracy if such people are honoured like this.... (*Interruptions*)....

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA (Vidisha): Mr. Speaker, Sir, a very alarming news has appeared in the daily named 'Aaj.' ...

(*Interruptions*)....

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the people who have murdered the democracy and quit this House are being honoured.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it amounts to an open bribe.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: It is a blot in the parliamentary history.

MR. SPEAKER: Panikaji, I think this matter should be investigated first because no honourable person will accept bribe for resigning from the House. It is a matter of disgrace. Please listen to me. This matter should be enquired into. It is improper and it is an insult of the hon. Members as well as the Members who have resigned from the House. Such a report does not seem to be true. In my view, the news is incorrect and hence it needs to be looked into.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it should be investigated.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am giving a notice against the Chief Minister of Haryana for contempt of the House and I request that it should be admitted.

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the matter which I am going to raise is very serious. The daily 'Aaj' has carried a news report that an hon. Member of the Janata Dal has got his interview broadcast from the third World Broadcasting Channel of U.S.A. It is the same channel from where forecast of a Pakistani astrologer regarding the assassination of our young Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi in 1990 was broadcast. How these two persons are talking in tune with each other from a common platform?

MR. SPEAKER: Whom you are referring to?

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of national security as well as the security of our Prime Minister and it should be taken seriously.

MR. SPEAKER: Whom are you talking about?

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the news report has appeared in the daily 'Aaj'

MR. SPEAKER: Whom you are talking about?

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has appeared in the daily newspaper 'Aaj' and I am reading it out.

MR. SPEAKER: News report of a paper cannot be relied upon like this.

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: The news report says that a Janata Dal M.P.....**.....

MR. SPEAKER: No, no he is the Member of the Upper House.

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: He broadcast his disputed interview from the Third World Broadcasting Channel alongwith the so called astrologer of Pakistan.

MR. SPEAKER: No, no, he is the member of the Upper House and, therefore, Upper House will look into it.

[*English*]

They will take care of it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the life of our Prime Minister is

being threatened by some people and a Member of one of the opposition parties is also talking in tune with them by broadcasting his interview from the same channel.

MR. SPEAKER: He is the Member of the Upper House and they will take care of it.

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a serious matter. Such member should be disqualified from his membership. Sometimes, he joins hands with Khalistanis and sometimes he speaks in tune with such people. Afterall, who in India imagines about Khalistan?

MR. SPEAKER: You want to raise this matter here somehow or the other, but it relates to the Upper House. Please do not raise it here.

[*English*]

I have not allowed the Upper House business here.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Through this august House, we demand that he should be disqualified from the membership.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): The Thakkar-Natarajan Commission's report and Hardgrave's report were discussed in this House. It was already prophesied by Hardgrave in his report, i.e. before the assassination of Indira Gandhi, that such things could happen; and it actually happened. And in the same country in the Third World Channel, these things have appeared; and it has appeared in the

Press. We should take cognisance of it, and we should make all efforts to see how the conspiracy is taking place against the Prime Minister of this country. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: This matter should be discussed in the House.

[*Translation*]

CH. RAM PRAKASH (Ambala): My submission is that we are ordinary persons.... (*Interruptions*)....

MR. SPEAKER: You are an hon. Member and not an ordinary person.

CH. RAM PRAKASH: But how sinful it is to give a threat to assassinate the Prime Minister.(*Interruptions*)....

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: I also support him... (*Interruptions*)...

MR. SPEAKER: I have listened to your submission, but it relates to the Upper House.

[*English*]

I am not concerned with the Upper House....

(*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: The Prime Minister is a member of this House.

MR. SPEAKER: He is the Prime Minister; and he also belongs to the Upper House.

(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): This is really very serious. The House should take a very serious note of this. It is not a matter concerning an individual. We must take serious note of

these things, and we should not allow these things to happen. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I think the Home Ministry should take care of it.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: It is not a question of the other House. It is a question of the life of the Prime Minister, and the future of the country.

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI: The traitors go to the United States and use their Third World Channel against India. They should be named by the entire nation.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, be it a matter against the Prime Minister or the issue of Khalistan or be it a matter concerning the anti-national forces working against the unity of the country, the Janata Dal members talk in tune with such people. The opposition leaders speak in tune with the foreigners. It is a serious matter. It is a question of national security and the security of the Prime Minister who has been elected by the crores of people. Such a thing has happened in the past..... (*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: The Home Minister should make a statement.

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: The hon. Home Minister should make a statement.

SHRISALEEMI. SHERVANIBUDAUN: Sir, you can request the Home Minister.... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: You give a notice, I shall look into it.

SHRIMOHD. AYUB KHAN (Jhunjhunu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, crores of ex-servicemen have been demanding 'one rank-one pension' for a long time and we have been requesting for a discussion on it. I have also given a Calling Attention Notice.... (*Interruptions*)....

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: It is still under consideration.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: The welfare of ex-servicemen should be discussed in the House.

MR. SPEAKER: I have not been able to get information yet.

SHRI T. BASHEER (Chirayinkil): It is reported that Pakistan is going to carry out a big Army exercise in the corridors of Indo-Pakistan border near the J&K.....

MR. SPEAKER: The Defence Ministry will take care of it.

SHRI T. BASHEER: The Chief of the Pakistan Army General Mirza Aslam Beg has said that it is for defensive purposes, and it is also for offensive purposes.

MR. SPEAKER: Government will take care of it.

SHRI T. BASHEER: It is to be near J&K. It is a matter of serious concern for India. I would like to know the reaction of the Government to this.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Sir, last week, a question about the activities of Vishwa Hindu Parishad was raised and you told us that it had to be given in writing if a discussion on it was sought to be demanded. Now we have given a notice in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER: The Home Minister has already given the reply.

[*English*]

I think he has made the position very clear.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Discussion on the matter was allowed in Rajya Sabha.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall allow a discussion, the time permitting.

[*English*]

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur): The people of Indian origin are being greatly harassed in Nepal. This is a very serious thing. We must discuss it.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: The issue of Nepal is under consideration.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jabalpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have not listened to my point. I am raising a different matter.

MR. SPEAKER: I have not received any information yet.

[*English*]

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: He is talking of 'same rank, same pension.' I have been talking to you now for the last three days about what has happened to the Calling Attention Notice on ex-servicemen's welfare. I am not talking of 'same rank, same pension.'

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have not received the information as yet.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: When will you receive it?

MR. SPEAKER: I will tell you when it is received.

[*English*]

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: It is four days now. The Calling Attention must be taken up.

SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY (Coimbatore): In my constituency, due to students' strike, the Coimbatore Medical College is closed. Action must be taken... (*Interruptions*)....

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: I am doing whatever is within my powers.

(Interruptions)

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK (Soneput): A few years ago, a youth had blackened the face of the Governor of Haryana. That young boy was honoured in public by the present Chief Minister of Haryana. This encouraged the bad elements in the State to indulge in anti-social activities. Today, the same Chief Minister wants to honour those people who are very ...**... they have given their resignations to save their skin.

MR. SPEAKER: "....." is an unparliamentary term. It will not be used.

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: I have used this word because, they are bad elements. In fact, their intention was to block the passage of the Bills which we passed only yesterday. But they took up the Bofors issue as an excuse and ...**... for getting praise, they collected money, from public to get themselves greeted by the people. If such bad elements are honoured in public, good people will get discouraged and bad elements will be encouraged. I request you to take serious note of this. All the Opposition parties have decided to honour those people as if they have fought a battle with Pakistan.

MR. SPEAKER: As I have already stated that I am not convinced about this. They have also been hon. Members of this House. How can they do such a thing in consideration for money. I cannot understand it. If they did so, it is wrong on their part. The one who gives the honour and those who receive it—both of them will be at fault. It is not convincing at all

[*English*]

I don't think it is true.

SHRI AJAY MUNSHRAN: I have been asking you for four days. I am not asking for 'same rank same pension.' (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have done whatever I could do.

[*English*]

I can't do anything except reminding them.

(Interruptions)[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: What can I do? I have told you that when I receive information, I shall do what I can. I cannot do anything as I have no yet received any information.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI (Kangra): My request is also the same.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: I don't have the powers.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: You have got it at least for me, but not for them

MR. SPEAKER: I can work according to rules.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: Please apply the rules to them also.

MR. SPEAKER: The rule has been applied to them. It has been given in writing 2-3 times. I shall tell you when the reply comes.

CH. RAM PRAKASH: This session will come to an end without any action in this regard. Anti-social elements keep roaming in the streets and are freely indulging in looting and killing. There should be some check on them.

MR. SPEAKER: To maintain the democratic set up, the rights and interests of the people should be protected according to democratic principles. We cannot allow the people fall to victims to looting.

CH. RAM PRAKASH: Is it democracy where people are being looted and killed.....

MR. SPEAKER: This should not happen.

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: When no action has been taken against them, what will happen to the common man?

MR. SPEAKER: It is everybody's concern that he should look before he leaps. It is a point of patriotism.

12.12 hrs.

[English]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Delimitation of Council Constituencies (UP) Amendment Order 1989, Registration of Electors (Amendment) Rules, 1989 and Notifications under Representation of People Act, 1951

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Delimitation of Council Constituencies (Uttar Pradesh) Amendment Order, 1989 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 501 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1989, under sub-section (3) of section 13 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950. [Placed in Library. See No. LT —8208/89]
- (2) A copy of the Registration of Electors (Amendment) Rules, 1989 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 409 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 6th June, 1989, under sub-section (3) of section 28 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950. [Placed in Library. See No. LT —8209/89]
- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 169 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951:—
 - (i) The Conduct of Elections (Amendment) Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. S.O. 364 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th May, 1989 together with a corrigendum thereto to its Hindi versions published in Notification No. S.O. 592 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th July, 1989.

- (ii) The Conduct of Elections (Second Amendment) Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. S.O. 542 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th July, 1989. [Placed in Library. See No. LT —8210/89]

Report on progress in the intake of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes against vacancies reserved on Railways for year ended on 31st March, 1988

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) on the progress made in the intake of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes against vacancies reserved for them in recruitment and promotion categories on the Railways for the year ended the 31st March, 1988. [Placed in Library. See No. LT —8211/89]

Notifications under Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944, and Custom Act, 1962

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excise Salt Act, 1944:—
 - (i) G.S.R. 338 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd March, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 82/88-CE dated the 1st March, 1988.
 - (ii) G.S.R. 519 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 157/83-CE dated the 21st May, 1983 so as to prescribe the effective

- rate of duty on processed Nylon Tyre Cord Fabrics.
- (iii) G.S.R. 520 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt certain specified goods from the levy of special excise duty.
- (iv) G.S.R. 521 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to excisable goods produced in a Free Trade Zone or in a 100 per cent Export Oriented Undertaking from the levy of Special excise duty.
- (v) G.S.R. 522 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to grant set-off of special excise duty paid on inputs in certain circumstances.
- (vi) G.S.R. 523 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to provided an effective rate of duty at Rs. 10.50 per sq. metre on marble tiles falling under sub-heading No. 2504.31.
- (vii) G.S.R. 524 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to rescind Notification No. 22/88-CE dated the 1st March, 1988.
- (viii) G.S.R. 525 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 20/89-Cent. Excise dated the 1st March, 1989 so as to omit an entry providing exemption from excise duty to power alcohol.
- (ix) G.S.R. 526 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum prescribing 35 per cent excise duty on products consisting of sheets of paper or paper board impregnated coated or covered with plastics, compressed together in one or more operations.
- (x) G.S.R. 527 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 116/88-CE dated the 27th April, 1989 adding thereby an explanation to the said Notification.
- (xi) G.S.R. 528 (E) and G.S.R. 529 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum providing exemption from excise duty on certain specified goods manufactured in the mints of the Government of India.
- (xii) G.S.R. 530 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum providing for grant of rebate of special excise duty when excisable goods are exported under Rule 12, 12A and 191A of the Central Excise Rules, 1944.
- (xiii) G.S.R. 531 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum providing for movement of excisable goods without payment of excise

- duty for manufacture in bond and subsequent export of excisable goods.
- (xiv) G.S.R. 532 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum allowing credit for special excise duty paid on inputs.
- (xv) G.S.R. 585 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st June, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to extend the existing duty exemption to ropes made out of duty paid yarn to ropes made out of duty paid mono filament, tapes and strips also.
- (xvi) G.S.R. 617 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum redefining "Chindies" as "side trimmings of coated width not exceeding six centimeters."
- (xvii) G.S.R. 618 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification Nos. 63/87-CE dated the 1st March, 1987 and 82/88-CE dated the 1st March, 1988.
- (xviii) G.S.R. 676 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th July, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum exempting burnt clay tiles conforming to I.S. specification No. 3367/1975 from Central Excise duty.
- (xix) G.S.R. 684 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th July, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notifica-
- tion No. 144/89-CE dated the 19th May, 1989.
- (xx) G.S.R. 457 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st April, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum prescribing the effective rate of duty on processed Nylon tyre cord fabrics at par with the tariff rate of duty.
- (xxi) G.S.R. 564 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd May, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum amending the Central Excise Rules in order to provide for the payment of excise duty on matches in metric system with effect from 1st July, 1989.
- (xxii) G.S.R. 692 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th July, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 124/86-CE dated the 1st March, 1986.
- (xxiii) G.S.R. 697 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th July, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum providing for a concessional rate of duty on the wastes of acrylic staple fibre and tow, including tops thereof, falling under sub-heading No. 5503.19.
- (xxiv) G.S.R. 698 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th July, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum providing for a concessional rate of duty on polyester staple fibre and tow, including tops thereof if such items have been manufactured from wastes, falling within the chapter 54 or 55 of the said Schedule, by the process of recycling of such wastes in India.

- (xxv) G.S.R. 700 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th July, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum providing partial exemption from excise duty on LPG intended for use in the manufacture of polyisobutylene, by which duty becomes chargeable only on the quantity of LPG actually consumed in the manufacture of polyisobutylene.
- (xxvi) G.S.R. 701 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th July, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum providing concessional rate of excise duty on naphtha, for use in the manufacture of specified chemicals so as to specifically include ammonia in the list of specified chemicals.
- (xxvii) G.S.R. 737 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st August, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt billets, rods and sheets of oxygen-free copper or beryllium copper manufactured by the Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory, Hyderabad out of copper supplied by the Hindustan Copper Limited from excise duty. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8212/89]
- (2) A copy of the following Notification (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:—
- (i) G.S.R. 636 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd June, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend the technical specification of the toughended glass allowed at nil rate of countervailing duty when imported for the manufacture of solar cells/modules.
- (ii) G.S.R. 637 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd June, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to fully exempt artificial electronic ear (Cochlear implant) from the customs duty leviable thereon when imported by handicapped or disabled person for his personal use.
- (iii) G.S.R. 653 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to extend the validity of Notification No. 522/86—Cus., dated the 31st December, 1986 upto 30th June, 1990.
- (iv) G.S.R. 654 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt pig iron from auxiliary duty of customs in excess of 5 per cent *ad valorem*.
- (v) G.S.R. 655 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to remove the redundant entry in Notification No. 159/89—Cus., dated the 12th May, 1989.
- (vi) G.S.R. 683 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th July, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding the raw materials required for the manufacture of electronic components.
- (vii) G.S.R. 699 (E) and G.S.R. 703 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th July, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to extend the existing import duty exemption to raw wool imported by registered apex State Level Khadi Federations.

- (viii) G.S.R. 702 (E) and G.S.R. 703 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th July, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to fully exempt foodstuffs and provisions imported by a foreign citizen from customs duties, subject to certain conditions.
- (ix) G.S.R. 704 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th July, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt duty on specified life saving drugs.
- (x) G.S.R. 722 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st July, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum prescribing concessional rate of customs duty to goods (other than raw materials) for the manufacture of two wheeled motor vehicle and also to extend the validity of Notification No. 351/85-Cus., dated the 5th December, 1985 upto 31st July, 1990.
- (xi) G.S.R. 729 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st August, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to make certain amendment to the Notification No. 345/86-Cus., dated the 16th July, 1986.
- (xii) G.S.R. 733 (E) and G.S.R. 734 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st August, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt consumable goods imported by public funded research institutions under the Department of Space and Atomic Energy from the whole of the basic, additional and auxiliary duties of customs. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8213/89]

Order issued by President under Article 280 of the Constitution and Finance Commission (Miscellaneous Provision) Act 1951; statement indicating results of Market Loans floated in May, 1989; Notifications under Government Savings Certificates Act, 1959 and under Government Savings Bank Act, 1973, etc. etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Order (Hindi and English versions) issued by the President in pursuance of article 280 of the Constitution and the Finance Commission (Miscellaneous Provision) Act, 1951 published in Notification No. S.O. 544 in the Gazette of India dated the 13th July, 1989 making certain amendment in the order published in Notification No. S.O. 581 (E) dated the 17th July, 1987. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8214/89]
- (2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) indicating the results of Market Loans floated in May, 1989. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8215/89]
- (3) A copy each of the following Notification (Hindi and English versions) under subsection (3) of section 12 of the Government Savings Certificates Act, 1959:—
 - (i) The National Savings Certificates (VII Issue) (Amendment) Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 696 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th July, 1989.
 - (ii) The Indira Vikas Patra (Amendment) Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 720 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th July, 1989. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8216/89]
- (4) A copy each of the following Notifica-

tions (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 15 of the Government Savings Banks Act, 1873:—

(i) The Post Office Savings Accounts (Third Amendment) Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 695 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th July, 1989.

(ii) The Post Office Recurring Deposit (Amendment) Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 708 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st July, 1989. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8217/89]

(4) A copy each of the Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the State Bank of India and its subsidiary Banks viz. State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, State Bank of Hyderabad, State Bank of Indore, State Bank of Mysore, State Bank of Patiala, State Bank of Saurashtra and State Bank of Travancore for the period from 1st January, 1988 to 31st March, 1989 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of section 40 of the State Bank of India Act, 1955 and sub-section (3) of section 43 of the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8218/89 to 8225/89]

(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) Reports on the working and activities of the Central Bank of India for the period from 1st January, 1988 to 31st March, 1989 along with Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8226/89]

(ii) Report on the working and activi-

ties of the Bank of India for the period from 1st January, 1988 to 31st March, 1989 along with Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8227/89]

(iii) Reports on the working and activities of the Punjab National Bank for the period from 1st January, 1988 to 31st March, 1989 along with Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8228/89]

(iv) Reports on the working and activities of the Canara Bank for the period from 1st January, 1988 to 31st March, 1989 along with Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8229/89]

(v) Report on the working and activities of the United Bank of India for the period from 1st January, 1988 to 31st March, 1989 along with Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8230/89]

(vi) Reports on the working and activities of the Dena Bank for the period from 1st January, 1988 to 31st March, 1989 along with Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8231/89]

(vii) Reports on the working and activities of the Syndicate Bank for the period from 1st January, 1988 to 31st March, 1989 along with Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8232/89]

(viii) Reports on the working and activities of the Union Bank of India for the period from 1st January, 1988 to 31st March, 1989 along

with Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8233/89]

(ix) Reports on the working and activities of the Indian Bank for the period from 1st January, 1988 to 31st March, 1989 along with Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8234/89]

(x) Reports on the working and activities of the Bank of Maharashtra for the period from 1st January, 1988 to 31st March, 1989 along with Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8235/89]

(xi) Reports on the working and activities of the Indian Overseas Bank for the period from 1st January, 1988 to 31st March, 1989 along with Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8236/89]

(5) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindis and English versions) under subsection (8) of section 10 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980:—

(i) Reports on the working and activities of the Vijaya Bank for the period from 1st January, 1988 to 31st March, 1989 along with Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8237/89]

(ii) Reports on the working and activities of the Punjab and Sind Bank for the period from 1st January, 1988 to 31st March, 1989 along with Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8238/89]

(iii) Reports on the working and activities of the Oriental Bank of Commerce for the period from 1st January, 1988 to 31st March, 1989 along with Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8239/89]

(iv) Reports on the working and activities of the New Bank of India for the period from 1st January, 1988 to 31st March, 1989 along with Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8240/89]

(v) Reports on the working and activities of the Corporation Bank for the period from 1st January, 1988 to 31st March, 1989 along with Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8241/89]

(vi) Report on the working and activities of the Andhra Bank for the period from 1st January, 1988 to 31st March, 1989 along with Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-8242/89]

One hundred thirty second report of the Law Commission; Annual Report and Review on the working of Institute of Constitutional and Parliamentary Studies, New Delhi for 1987-88 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy of the Hundred Thirty-Second Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Law Commission on need for amendment of the provisions of Chapter IX of the code of criminal procedure, 1973 in order to ameliorate the hardship and mitigate the distress of neglected

women, children and parents. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8243/89]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute of Constitutional and Parliamentary Studies, New Delhi, for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Institute of Constitutional and Parliamentary Studies, New Delhi, for the year 1987-88.
- (3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8244/89]

Statement correcting reply given on 1-8-1989 to USQ No. 2143 re. tidal wave energy in Gujarat

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): I beg to lay on the Table a statement (Hindi and English versions) correcting the reply given on 1st August, 1989 to Unstarred Question No. 2143 by Shri Chhitubhai Gamit regarding tidal wave energy in Gujarat. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8245/89]

Tea Board (Recruitment and conditions of Service of Director of Tea Development appointed by Government) Rules 1988; Review on the working of and Annual Report of Tea Trading Corporation of India for 1986-87 and a statement showing reasons for delay in staying these papers etc. etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy of the Tea Board (Recruitment and Conditions of Service of Director of

Tea Development appointed by Government) Rules, 1988 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 505 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 4th May, 1989, under sub-section (3) of section 49 of the Tea Act, 1953. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8246/89]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Tea Trading Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1986-87.

(ii) Annual Report of the Tea Trading Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in the laying the papers mentioned at (2) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8247/89]

- (4) A statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Audited Accounts of the Spices Board for the year 1987-88, within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting year. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8248/89]

- (5) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 48 of the Coffee Act, 1942:—

(i) The Coffee (Amendment) Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 427 (E) in Gazette of India dated 5th April, 1989.

(ii) The Coffee (Second Amendment) Rules, 1989 published in Notifica-

tion No. G.S.R. 462 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd April, 1989. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8249/89]

Statement showing action taken by Government on the various assurances, promises and undertakings given by Ministers during various sessions of Eighth Lok Sabha

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following statements (Hindi and English versions) showing the action taken by the Government on the various assurances, promises and undertakings given by the Ministers during the various sessions of Eighth Lok Sabha:—

- (i) Statement No. XVI—Third Session, 1985 [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8250/89]
- (ii) Statement No. XXIII—Fifth Session, 1986 [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8251/89]
- (iii) Statement No. XXI—Sixth Session, 1986 [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8252/89]
- (iv) Statement No. XVIII—Seventh Session, 1986 [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8253/89]
- (v) Statement No. XVIII—Eighth Session, 1987 [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8254/89]
- (vi) Statement No. XVI-II—Part of Eighth Session, 1987 [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8255/89]
- (vii) Statement No. XIII—Ninth Session, 1987 [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8256/89]

(viii) Statement No. XI—Tenth Session, 1988 [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8257/89]

(ix) Statement No. VII—Eleventh Session, 1988 [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8258/89]

(x) Statement No. IV—Twelfth Session, 1988 [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8259/89]

(xi) Statement No. III—Thirteenth Session, 1985 [Placed in Library. See No. LT—8260/89]

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Sir, I want to say a few words on Item No. 10.

I have noted that replies in respect of the assurances as old as more than one year i.e. for the period 1985 to 1988, are being given only now. I would like to request you to convey this to the Government.

MR. SPEAKER: There is a Committee on Government Assurances.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of objection because the Government is giving replies in respect of the assurances given four years back. This is quite surprising.

MR. SPEAKER: You may write in this regard to the Assurance Committee.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: I shall do so but you should also convey it to them. All the Ministries should be asked to reply within one year at the most.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall also tell them.

12.15 hrs.

ASSENT TO BILLS

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table the following three Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the current session and assented to since a report was last made to the House on the 20th July, 1989:—

- (1) The Delhi Motor Vehicle Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1989.
- (2) The Punjab Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 1989.
- (3) The Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 1989.

12.15 1/2 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

[English]

Minutes

SHRIM. THAMBIDURAI (Dharmapuri): I beg to lay on the Table Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the Sixty-seventh and Sixty-eighth sittings of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions held during the current sessions.

12.15 1/2 hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

[English]

Hundred and Seventy-Third, Hundred and Seventy-Eighth, Hundred and Seventy-Ninth, Hundred and Eightieth, Hundred and Eighty First, Hundred and Eighty Second Hundred and Eighty Third and Hundred and Eighty Fourth Reports

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam): I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of Public Accounts Committee:

1. Hundred and Seventy-Third Report (8th Lok Sabha) on Assessment Procedure—Summary and Scrutiny Assessment.
2. Hundred and Seventy-Eighth Report on action taken on 65th Report (8th Lok Sabha) on Customs Receipts—Incorrect grant of exemption—Default under the duty exemption entitlement scheme.
3. Hundred and Seventy-Ninth Report on action taken on 110th Report (8th Lok Sabha) on Union Excise Duties—Fraudulent procurement of central excise stamps by match factories.
4. Hundred and Eightieth Report on action taken on 114th Report (8th Lok Sabha) on Extra expenditure due to delay in development of an equipment.
5. Hundred and Eighty First Report on action taken on 56th Report (8th Lok Sabha) on Loss on Procurement of Lac.
6. Hundred and Eighty Second Report on action taken on 132nd Report (8th Lok Sabha) on Frauds committed by extra Department staff.
7. Hundred and Eighty Third Report on action taken on 100th Report (8th Lok Sabha) on Review on Working of Calcutta Telephones.
8. Hundred and Eighty Fourth Report on action taken on 87th Report (8th Lok Sabha) on New Delhi—Ambala Coaxial Expansion Scheme.

12.16 1/2 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION

[English]

Twenty-fifth Report

SHRI K.J. ABBASI (Domariaganj): I beg to present the Twenty-fifth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.

12.16 3/4 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
ASSURANCES

[Translation]

Twenty-second Report

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR
(Hamirpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the Twenty-Second Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Government Assurance.

12.17 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME-
MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRIMATI SHEILA
DIKSHIT): With your permission, Sir, I rise to
announce that Government Business in this
House during the week commencing 14th
August, 1989, will consist of:—

1. Further consideration and passing of the High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 1989.
2. Consideration and passing of:—
 - (a) The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Bill, 1989.
 - (b) The Working Journalists and Other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Bill, 1989.
 - (c) The Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 1989.

3. Consideration and passing of the following Bills as passed by Rajya Sabha:—

- (a) The Employees' State Insurance (Amendment) Bill, 1989.
- (b) The Infant Milk Food and Feeding Bottles (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Bill, 1986.
- (c) The Ware-housing Corporations (Amendment) Bill, 1988.
- (d) The Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Amendment Bill, 1989.

4. Discussion on the situation arising out of the implementation of Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement signed on 29th July, 1987.

12.18 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

- (I) Demand for uniform pension to all ex-serviceman

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT (Chittorgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring the following matter to the notice of the Government under Rule 377:—

I would like to draw the attention of the Ministry of Defence to the disparities in respect of the rate of pension to ex-servicemen.

Those who spent their prime of life as the powerful sentinels of their country now find it hard to cope up with the hard days of life at the fag end of it. Those who fought valiantly for their motherland and spent most of their lives under strict discipline, are today demanding uniformity in pension. Why should there be a disparity in the matter of pension? There are different sets of pension rules in

respect of those who served the Indian Army and those who served the Forces of the Princely State.

Hence, necessary steps should be taken to remove this disparity at the earliest and introduce uniform pension rules for all ex-servicemen and military officers.

(ii) Need to review the agreement between Kerala and Tamil Nadu on Parambikulam—Aliyar river water project

*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): The term of the Parambikkulam—Aliyar agreement between Kerala and Tamil Nadu ended in November last year. But, so far no step has been taken to renew this agreement.

This agreement is very vital for the Malabar region of Kerala as it is under this that the Chittur taluk in Palghat district as well as the Chalakkudy basin get water for irrigation. Also the Kerala Sholayar gets water for power generation from this project. Kerala should get 7620 cubic ft. water annually under this agreement and this water reaches the Chittur Puzha in Kerala through Manakkadavu. The Tamil Nadu Government had made an attempt to construct a dam at Manakkadavu to prevent the flow of the rain water which usually reaches the Chittur Puzha. Kerala needs more flow through Manakkadavu as otherwise there will be severe shortage of water in the Bharat Puzha basin, which will seriously affect the water supply in the Palghat region.

I would, therefore, request the Union Government to take initiative in this matter and persuade the Government of Kerala to renew the agreement at the earliest.

[English]

(iii) Need to solve the dispute over sharing of Cauvery waters

SHRI S. SINGARAVADIVEL

(Thanjavur): The farmers in the Cauvery Delta in Thanjavur District in Tamil Nadu are facing acute irrigation problems on account of the pending dispute over the sharing of Cauvery water. Tamil Nadu is not getting its due share of water for over several years because of the dispute. Agriculture in the Delta has been continuously affected. Several rounds of talks, over the years, among the three States of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and U.T. of Pondicherry to find out a settlement have failed and the then Government of Tamil Nadu requested the Government of India under such circumstances, to refer the matter to a Tribunal for an early solution, two years ago. The present Government of Tamil Nadu, earlier took a stand of settlement by mutual negotiations on coming back to power. However, it has now asked the Union Government to refer the matter to a Tribunal. The delay is causing irreparable loss and damage to the farmers. This year also the situation in the Delta is not satisfactory. The water normally released from the Mettur Dam for irrigation on 12th of June was delayed because of the inadequate flow of water from Karnataka. The farmers had to give up cultivation of paddy in the Khariff season in a large area. The Government have no doubt helped in the past to get water from Karnataka. I, therefore, request the Union Government to persuade the Government of Karnataka to allow sufficient water to Tamil Nadu and to refer the dispute to a Tribunal for permanent solution without any further delay.

[Translation]

(iv) Need to Construct an overbridge at saharsa Railway station

SHRI CHANDRA KISHORE PATHAK (Saharsa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Saharsa Junction is an important railway station of N.E. Railway. Most of the Metre Gauge line passenger trains and goods trains pass through this station. Saharsa is also the headquarters of Kosi division. The railway line divides this city in two parts. On one side of it, the hospital, court etc. are situated while on the

[Sh. Chandra Kishore Pathak]

other side, there are markets, schools and colleges. To the North of the Station, there is a railway crossing which generally remains closed and on that account patients going to the hospital and students wanting to go to the other side get delayed and do not reach their destinations in time and particularly the patients have to face a lot of difficulties. Several patients collapse on the way. Most of the people are generally in a hurry to reach their destination and want to go to the other side of the crossing even if the gates are closed. There is always an imminent possibility of an accident.

Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Railway Minister to get an overbridge constructed at this point for the convenience of a large number of local people.

(v) Need to run a new train between Faizabad and Lucknow

SHRI NIRMAL KHATTRI (Faizabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the traffic of daily passengers between Faizabad and Lucknow is quite heavy. Since Lucknow is the capital city of the State a large number of permanent employees, businessmen and persons visiting the division bench of the High Court for their work have to undertake up and down journeys. Many other people who happen to visit the city for some or the other work, add to this number. Hence it is necessary that an inter-city train is started to cater to the needs of thousands of daily passengers between these two cities.

For this purpose, a train via Rudauli and Barabanki should be originated from Faizabad at 7.30 a.m. to reach Lucknow at 9.45 a.m. On the return journey, the train should leave Lucknow at 5.30 p.m. to reach Faizabad at 7.45 p.m.

[English]

(vi) Demand for introducing voluntary retirement scheme in Neyveli Lignite Corporation and to provide jobs to sons/daughters of N.L.C. employees

baram): Sir, for the last four or five years now, the unemployment problem among the educated youth has been increasing in the South Arcot District, particularly in towns around Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC). At present, there are about ten to fifteen thousand unemployed educated youth in the towns surrounding N.L.C. Most of these educated youth are children of the employees.

Sir, one of the ways of solving the unemployment problem is to introduce voluntary retirement scheme there as the employees may be willing to accept this scheme provided their children are given employment in the Corporation. If this scheme is implemented, the frustration among the educated youth as also the feeling of neglect of the sons of the soil in providing employment in N.L.C. would be removed.

It is, therefore, requested that the Government may consider introducing voluntary retirement scheme in the Corporation and provide jobs to the sons and daughters of the N.L.C. employees.

(vii) Need to commemorate the memory of Khudiram Bose

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur): I wish to inform the House that today the 11th August is the birth anniversary of a great son of India, Sahid Khudiram Bose. At the age of 19 years, this brave son of the soil was put to the British gallows, to win independence of India. He is the first and the foremost of all the national sahids. He sacrificed his all, at so tender an age for the cause of the country and its people. We should pay tribute to this brave son of the soil today. I also urge upon the Government to take adequate steps to commemorate his memory by issuing a postage stamp.

SHRI P. VALLAL PERUMAN (Chidam-

12.26 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Demand for Waiver of Agricultural Loans

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak on this important issue. In the beginning, I would like to say one thing very clearly that from the depth of our heart, all of us are with the farmers. It is due to the hard labour of farmers that today our country has become self-sufficient. The farmer is toiling hard all the times in the fields to make this country self-sufficient. However, the farmers have been facing great difficulties. Naturally, this August House and the Government have a feeling of sympathy for them in their difficulties. Out of that sympathy, I would also like to draw the attention of the Government to certain points and also like to put forward certain demands before the Government. But one thing that I do not understand is that as political workers we all are trying to take political advantage of certain issues, but the progress of the country is also the responsibility of the politicians. Efforts are also being made by the politicians to create problems for the ruling party. It may be the part of the system of democracy but there are some slogans, which may aggravate the difficulties of the Government. But in case these slogans do not create any difficulty for the Government, they are creating great difficulties for the country. If these slogans create a bad atmosphere and unhealthy traditions, we must keep away from such slogans.

It is a matter of regret that efforts are being made to make an issue of the waiver of loan, a political issue instead of making it a point concerning the difficulties of the farmers and the poor people of this country and efforts are being made to raise it as a political issue. Nobody is trying to see the practical side of this problem. Attention is not being paid to this issue.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think nobody in this House except you takes so much care of the interests of poor farmers. Nobody else might have struggled that much for the cause of the farmers, as you have struggled for the agricultural labourers. If we see it in terms of the party, no other party have ever protected their interests with that earnestness as the Congress did. It is only the Congress party that had raised the issue of land reforms during the days of struggle for independence. When congress party came to power, top priority was given to the land reforms. Had land reforms not been implemented in this country, I do not think that today our country would have become self-sufficient. But it is a matter of regret that the people who were against the land reforms and who were the living organ of Zamindari system, are now trying to come forward as the champions of the farmers.

Sir, there is the Chief Minister of a State who has been projecting himself as a loan-waiver and champion of farmers. I need not mention his name. Perhaps, he is the biggest Zamindar of his state. Even today, people have been working as a bonded labour in his farm-house. Those people whose party had given the slogan of loan-waiver, are now happy to hear the people call them Raja when monarchy is no more the order of the day. To resist imperialism, thousands of freedom fighters of this country had laid down their lives, and lakhs of people were put behind the bars. To bring change in that system. We take it as a symbol of the glory for our nation. Now these people want to be called feudal lords as a symbol of that feudalism. As the champions of farmers and poor people, they are trying to prop up the slogan of loan-waiving. But, in fact, everybody will feel it that with these slogans they are doing no good to the country.

Mr. Finance Minister, Sir, I have great regard for you. I have seen you as the incharge of various Ministries but I have got great sympathy with you as a Finance Minister because today they are trying to put you in a great difficulty. I would like to point out to the Minister of Finance that present Govern-

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ment of Haryana was voted to power on the basis of this assurance from them that in case their party was voted to power, they would waive the loan of farmers. Now, you may kindly tell us as to how they have waived loans.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to the information available with me, they have waived only a very small part of it totalling Rs. 2 1/2 crore. This among included such loans which could not be recovered. Today, it is being projected as an example in the entire country and it has been high-lighted by a person who had also been the Finance Minister. Today he is the Chief of a party. Before this, he was the Finance Minister. It is a matter of regret that a man who was the Finance Minister at one time and who did not take care of the welfare of the farmers at that time, never thought of waiving loans and when people demanded to waive the interest on their loans under I.R.D.P., he used to reply in harsh words to the people in those days that if he waived the interest on loan, what else would be left with the Government. He went to the extent of saying that one should support the Government to recover the amount of loan speedily, from those people who had taken loan under I.R.D.P. Today, the same fellow is now giving the slogan that if his party comes to power, it will waive the amount of loan upto Rs. 10,000 taken by the farmers.

I would like to ask the Minister of Finance to consider the serious consequences of this slogan not from the angle of a political representative but only from the angle of a Financial Manager. You will realise that if the common man is swayed by this slogan, what would happen to the entire financial system of this country. I think that it will collapse the entire financial system and all our traditions will vanish with the shattered values and norms. If some practical suggestions are given on the basis of that slogan or some reasonable suggestions are given to solve the difficulties of the farmers and labourers, then it is all right. However, if the Ministry of Finance adopts a rigid attitude in this regard,

we will also fight against it. There are a number of hon. Members in this House who have demanded that Government should reconsider the issue of loans. There are many representatives of the farmers in this House who have fought within their party to get various concessions for the farmers. They are ready to fight against the Government and the Ministry of Finance but they are not ready to tolerate any such thing by which the entire financial traditions and financial values of our country get shattered or the entire financial system is heavily burdened on that account or which may give the farming community a feeling that they can get their loans waived by the Government. Then they would not repay the loan in spite of their capacity of repayment of loan. They would also like to invest the entire money for some other purpose. You may think of all the probabilities of it. Today, when the representatives of the Government of Haryana go to the farmers for the recovery of loans the farmers find it very hard to pay the entire amount of loan because in case they had repaid the amount of their loan regularly, it would have been at the most Rs. ten, fifteen or twenty thousand left to repay, but now the loan amount has increased manifold. I would like to cite an example. When this slogan was raised by Shri Devi Lal One boy of the youth congress who had taken loan from the Bank for the purchase of a truck came to me. He asked me that if the Government of Devi Lal came to power, whether the loan taken by him would also be waived. His name is Raghvir Singh and he is living in Karnal, you may note down his name. I told him not to commit such a mistake and advised him to deposit the instalment of loan in time, otherwise he will lose all the amount of his savings and the truck would also be taken away by the Government and he would be put behind the bars. The next time when he came to me, he said that I had given him a very good piece of advice, otherwise the slogan of Devi Lal was haunting him and he held the view that in case the Government of Devi Lal was voted to power the loan taken by him for a truck would be waived. Now many political parties have associated themselves with the above slogan, so the people feel that what-

ever amount of loan they have taken would be waived. The people who have taken lakhs of rupees as loan have also started thinking that if a loan of Rs. ten thousand or fifteen thousand can be waived, then later on Government can waive even their loan worth lakhs of rupees if they exert their pressure on the Government. So I think that this august House and all those persons who have deep understanding of financial matters should condemn these cheap slogans because they mislead the people and we should condemn these cheap slogans quite openly and in very clear words and make efforts to warn the people that these cheap slogans will put the country in dire straits and it will not be beneficial for us in any way. If this is not clarified right now, I fear that this will lead to further confusion. That is why I said in the very beginning that it was the right time to clear the things, otherwise farmers may stop repaying their instalments of loans in the hope of loan waiver. But in fact their loans would be multiplied day by day and a time will come when they will have to sell their properties in repaying the commulative amount of loans. Their properties may also be attached. The people who given this type of slogans can not fulfil it. Nor are they capable to fulfil this promise. As a matter of fact, they are neither true to their promises nor to their parties, policies and principles.

While urging the Hon. Finance Minister, I would like to submit that no one can deny the fact that the economic condition of farmers has gone from bad to worse owing to unprecedented drought throughout the country and they are finding themselves in a very tight corner. They have to face many difficulties and hardships and they deserve sympathetic consideration on the part of the Government. I am not advocating that the entire interest on loans should be waived but something should be done, such as interest charged at penal rate should be waived and recovery of loans should be rescheduled so that the farmer could repay the instalments over a longer span of period of 8 to 10 years. I think that the Reserve Bank will also not come in the way as the principles of Reserve Bank and NABARD permit this type of con-

cession. My second submission is about the beneficiaries of I.R.D.P. which was launched by late. Shrimati Indira Gandhi. When this programme was first launched, the people did not understand its significance. Due to shortage of political workers and faulty implementation on the part of the Government officials, the programme did not start well and people were not properly told as to how they could take benefits from this programme. The money advanced to the people on loans at that time was grossly misused and was invested in wrong things and so that beneficiaries under I.R.D.P. are not in a position to repay their loans. They are still facing problems and hardships. My submission is that they should be given a substantial amount of money as second installment of loans. Earlier they were given a very small amount. I would also like to add that interest on loans should be waived. As they are marginal and small farmers, Government should consider as to whether a part of the interest on loans could be written off and if so, up to what percentage. I can say with certainty that a large amount given to big capitalists as loans has been declared bad-debts which the Government have not been able to recover from them. The country does not come to know about it because the Reserve Bank of India refuses to make it public on the pretext that the public interest and the banking rules do not permit it. The amount of interest on loans given to farmers is a fraction of the amount declared to be bad-debts which are not likely to be recovered from the big industrialists.

I would like to draw the attention of Hon. Finance Minister towards an irrationality. When a farmer takes a loan for purchase of a tractor or installing a tubewell or for any other purposes, his land as well as the thing for which loan is taken are mortgaged but in case of industrial loans, only thing for which loan is taken is mortgaged. Suppose some body takes a loan for a bus, only the bus is mortgaged. Similarly if one takes loan for setting up a shop, only his shop is mortgaged, but if a farmer takes loan for a tractor, his tractor as well as his land both are mortgaged. Mr. Speaker, Sir, as tractors are not used in our area, I do not have much knowl-

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edge about it. If I am wrong, I may be corrected. So far as I understand, tractor as well as his land both are mortgaged. This is an injustice being done to the farmers by the banks. I request the hon. Minister to take steps to stop this injustice.

I understand that hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture as well as the Ministry of Agriculture are also sympathetic to this demand. Am I telling a wrong Hari Bhai? Is your sympathy not with us? Once again, I thank the Hon. Speaker for giving me an opportunity to speak on such an important matter. I would like to again urge upon the Finance Minister to give a serious thought to provide relief to the medium, small and marginal farmers and the persons who take loans under I.R.D.P. taking into account their plight.

With these words, I move this motion for consideration of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rawatji, you do not want the life-line to be cut forever, rather you want to give life in a proper way.

[English]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Thank you very much for summarising my views.

[Translation]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful to you that you have associated me with the discussion raised by my colleague Shri Harish Rawat in the House. I also gave a notice for half-an-hour discussion on this subject. You have done well by clubbing my notice to this discussion. While sharing the views expressed by Shri Rawat, I would like to submit something different based on my own experiences with regard to problems of farmers.

I want to stress upon this point that you are a benefactor and leader of the farmers in true sense. Farmers feel secure under your

leadership. Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Finance Minister to the fact that no other sectors except agriculture exceeded the target fixed for it, for which credit goes to our farmers. There are several sectors which lagged behind their targets. Despite producing more than their targets, this is the only sector which never goes on strike. They have never struck their work, no matter what treatment they are meted to by the nature or by the Government or by the society. They produced so much quantity of grains that it has become a storage problem for the Government, as godowns are not available in sufficient number. They have struggled everywhere and it will be observed that they have served the country honestly and they are making every effort to repay the loans. Our farming community is innocent by nature and kind by heart. They do not believe in humbug. But this community was hoodwinked by a political party 2 year ago. I would not like to name any of the Chief Ministers. They do not deserve to be named here. I beg your pardon to raise this issue here but I may tell you that one and half years ago he had said that loans would be waived. Thereafter, another political party went one step farther. This party started a campaign for selling forms costing Rs. 5 each. People were asked to purchase this form and submit it to the official who would give a receipt in lieu thereof. They told the people that their party would come to power at the Centre. At that time, their loans would be written off at production of these receipts. Now the whole thing is clear to you. They are saying that they are about to form their Government at Delhi. I asked your predecessor Finance Minister as to why did he not write off the loans if it was permissible under the Rules? To this, he rebuked me for making such a unreasonable demand and silenced me by saying that he could not write off loan for a single penny even. Sir, I am raising some basic questions and request the hon. Minister lay the replies of all these questions on the table of the House. I would like to know as to which of the State Governments have sent proposals to the Central Government for waiver of loans, the types of loans they propose to write off

and the amount of loan they have since written off during the last four to five years. I would also like to know the names of banks which advanced these loans and whether any approval of the Central Government was taken and, if so, the details thereof. The hon. Minister replied to a question on the 4th instant in this regard. I was in Haryana on 5th. It has been indicated in the reply that the NABARD had submitted a proposal to the Government of Haryana for writing off loans amounting to Rs. 33 crores but the later did not give its consent in writing. This is totally contrary to what their Chief Minister says; i.e. his Government wants to write off the loans but the Central Government does not allow them to do so. Had you been a regular subscriber of Hindi magazine 'Dharmyug' you would have read in an article written by a responsible author 1 1/2 years ago that a very meagre amount ranging from Rs. 3 to Rs. 9 was written off. If you so desire, I can produce the copies of that article. It should be circulated all over the country. A very meagre amount was written off. This caused so much irritation among the farming community that they remitted an amount of Rs. 11 each through M.O. to the Chief Minister of Haryana with the suggestion that the might use this amount to provide milk to his children. This much insult was inflicted to the farmer only due to stubbornness of one individual and we, sitting in the Lok Sabha, silently watched the drama. It is not a happy situation. I would like to make a submission and pose a question to the farmers as to how the banking business will run in the absence of a systematic procedure. For example, if one person deposits the money and other takes loan and his loan is written off, then who will come to banks to deposit money? In this way the farmers have been allured. I want to say that it is a deeper conspiracy of the big farmers who have crores of rupees in the banks. They want to grab powers for themselves by alluring the small farmers so that they could swindle the bank money. What is the character of our banks? I am saying this with all seriousness because I am greatly disheartened to see the functioning of the Banks. It is a normal feature with the banks that big industrialist are sanctioned not only

huge loans amounting to crores of rupees, but they are warmly received by the Bank Managers on their visits to banks, so much so that they are entertained with tea, etc. Not to talk of embarrassing question of position of repayment of loans advanced to them, Bank Managers take interest in future plan of expansion of their factories. Sometime, Managers are offered 20% commission of the loan amount for doing favour. The only thing the Manager is required to do is to append his signature on the loan application. But for a poor farmer, the doors of bank manager remain closed. He has to take numerous rounds for getting a loan of a petty amount of Rs. 5000/-. The Bank Manager has no time for the farmer to meet him. I am saying this on the basis of my personal experience. It is difficult to get a loan of Rs. 5000 but it is easier to take huge loan of Rs. 400 crores. If this system prevails, you have to give a serious thought to it. I do not think that there can be a greater insult to the poor than this. The Bank Manager gives evasive reply to the farmer. If the farmer comes to bank on a week day, the Manager asks him to come on Friday only, when he comes on Friday, he is told to come on Monday as Saturday and Sunday are holidays. If again he comes on Monday, he is asked to come on Friday only. Thus he is made to take rounds of the bank. How helpless are we the Members of Parliament that we are unable to provide a loan of Rs. 5000 to a farmer despite our collective will. But if I make a single telephone call to the Bank Manager in my individual capacity for sanctioning loan to corrupt industrialist, that will do and it would suffice for him to sanction a loan of Rs. 5 crores to the industrialist. Please let us know as to what checks you are going to effect over this system? I am glad that Shri Bhajan Lal has since arrived in the House and with this the Ministry of Agriculture has come to us in its full representative form. I would like to say that the woe of the farmer is not the concern of any particular individual or the Department, rather it is the concern of all individuals and the departments. Under the existing laws of the land, if somebody declares himself insolvent, he is discharged from all financial liabilities. But what about

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the farmers? The political party to which this Government belongs has all along been engaged in the struggle for making the farmers self-reliant for the last 103 years. It is the Congress Party which has been struggling hard for upliftment of farmers and the poor. We never launched any movement for the cause of the rich. In deference to the wishes of our party, our Government has been pursuing a policy for the last 42 years to make the farmers self-reliant. It is due to these efforts of the Government we find that the economic condition of the farmer has undergone a sea-change from the age old bullock-cart to the modern 'Maruti' at their door step. Do you want that he should declare himself insolvent in order to get rid of his loans? Is a situation like this likely to be created under which farmer will be tempted to declare himself insolvent? If a Chief Minister or a former Minister of Finance is conspiring to create a situation like this, it becomes the duty of the Government to give a befitting reply to them. The Government should see that incidents of insolvency among farmer community occur to the barest minimum and they are not tempted to tread the path which leads to this dark-house. You should ensure that this law is implemented strictly. I am sorry to note that all the hon. Members of the opposition have fled away. May I know as to which kinds of loans are being written off? Only loans taken from nationalised banks are being written off. But what guarantee they have given to write off the loans taken from individuals such as these leaders, their money lenders and financiers? Will the loans taken from individuals or private banks be ever written off? It is a conspiracy hatched by the capitalists who want that somehow or the other the nationalised banks should collapse and lose their economic viability so that the poor farmers again fall in the clutches of the money lenders from whom the Congress Party had freed them. They want to suck the blood of the farmer who is trying to become self-reliant. I would like to ask you one thing in this connection. If there is a proposal to write off the loans, whether any criteria have been fixed for that? If so, the extent to which

the loans would proposed to be written off? If somebody exempts the payment of compound interest, that is not a matter of obligation. The farmer is not in a position today to return the principal amount with compound interest on them. But it can be possible if he is given some sort of incentives for making timely payment. A farmer who makes timely payment of the instalments, he should be given some incentives. In my district, Mand-sore, we have made an experiment of this nature. The farmer who cleared his loan on time is offered saropa. We honour him publicly in a gathering of as many as 10,000 people and he is declared to be a an honest person. This type of incentives must be given to people. If at all, loans are proposed to be written off, how the needy persons could be advanced loans? Please explain as to what are the proposals in this regard?

MR. SPEAKER: Bairagiji, if loans are written off, what will be the position of those people who want to repay the loans?

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: I was just coming to this point.

MR. SPEAKER: Did they ever think as to how the people who want to take fresh loans will get the same if loans are written off? Please ask clarification on this point also.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: I am sure that the hon. Minister of Finance has taken note of the observation made by the hon. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: You are talking high of him, lest it should have any adverse effect.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: I, therefore, want that the Government should come forward with a beacon light and show some ways to us. When our political parties are trying to mislead our prosperous farmers, what will be the fate of the basic economy of this country? What will be our source of strength? I want to draw your attention to this also. I would also like to request you to do something whereby the purchasing power of

the farmer could be increased. The farmer will applaud you for this. Please elaborate the rate of inflation as on date. Today, we have reached to a very critical situation. At this stage we must know what are our advantages and what are the disadvantages. If you increase the purchasing power of the farmer, he will feel obliged for this. Not only the farmer but the entire nation will be greatly benefited by this. When there were no facilities available in the country, the farmer used to mortgage his land for a petty amount, now due to increased prosperity, things have changed. Today, no farmer wants to sell his land. On the contrary, Government land is being encroached upon in every State and every district. Thus new problems are arising. The farmer has encroached upon Government land at a number of places. He has encroached upon the land very meticulously. We have regularised the encroachment at a number of places. In my area, the farmer adopts a very unique method to encroach upon the land. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have paid visits to my district twice to thrice and blessed us. You might have seen what a unique method the farmer has adopted there. First he encroaches upon a piece of Government land measuring 50 to 100 sq. feet adjacent to his field and then he approaches us for issue of 'Patta' of that land in this favour. When we say that it cannot be issued and advise him to vacate the land, he advances several arguments. When he is told that it is Government land which he should vacate, he pleads that he has already dug a well on that land at a cost of Rs. 50000 on the prophesy of his god who came in his dream to foretell that ground water would be available at that place and is why he dug the well there. It means that a farmer does not hesitate in encroaching upon Government land on the pretence of god and goddess. I don't know why underground water is not found in the land of his own but it is found in Government land. That is why he digs well on Government land. It implies that with the enormous increase in the value of land the temptation has also increased accordingly. You can observe that a neighbouring state, the Chief Minister of the state is challenging the leadership of the Hon. Prime Minister

Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the policies of his Government not on the basis of political strength but on the basis of power gained through deals in land, as a result of which a fund of Rs. 200 crores has been raised. This also goes to the credit of the policies of the Central Government that the value of land has been raised to such an extent in recent years. The farmers may not have much in their pockets now but that is a different matter and I do not want to go into this controversy. However, there can be no two opinions that the Congress Government has boosted the economic condition of the farmers and given them new strength. That is why land has become their principal capital today. If they do not get due returns of their hard work, I think the dreams of Dr. Balram Jakhar, Mahatma Gandhi and Shrimati Indira Gandhi will not be realised. The farmers will also be disappointed. I am happy to put forward this point before the country's ablest farmer. I am referring to the 'Speaker' in this regard. I would like to finally submit that this is the proper time for taking up this matter for discussion in the House. I would like to request you that a positive approach should be adopted in dealing with the farmers so that their condition could improve. The Opposition is adopting a negative approach but the Government should adopt only a positive approach. The farmers have been given repeated assurances in regard to 4 or 5 points. They have always been assured that they would be provided electricity improved seeds, better irrigation facilities and more quantity of fertilizers, but I would like to know from all the Departments of the Government as to when they are going to be assured about the Sixth item? Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know as to when is the Government going to assure them about providing remunerative prices of their produce and proper marketing facilities? Even if they are provided fertilisers, seeds, irrigation facilities fertiliser etc. at subsidised rates, they will not be encouraged to increase their production unless they are paid remunerative prices of their produce. Will the farmers cooperate with the Government when they do not get their dues? Other parties have misguided them with the assurance that

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their loans would be waived. This challenge can be properly met only by enhancing their purchasing power. There is no other way out.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Debate was initiated by Shri Harish Rawat under the leadership of the Hon. Prime Minister and under your direction. We are spokesmen of farmers and believe in singing their praise because they constitute 80 per cent of the total population, whereas people like myself are covered under the rest of the 20 per cent. If the requirements of the 80 per cent of them are met, we shall also be fully satiated. If their needs are not met, the country will disintegrate. This is what I want to impress upon. This is my humble submission. Therefore, I would like to urge that this mist should be cleared and the correct position should be placed before us in order to enable us to talk with the farmers directly so that they are not misled and they can return to a life of prosperity, happiness, politeness and modesty.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful to you for providing me an opportunity to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: It is lunch time now. This matter will be taken up after lunch. You may also think over the matter in the meantime. The debate is yet to be concluded. In the meantime you may go into the figures available with you so that you could make your point accordingly as farmers need help on long term basis.

DR. KRUPA SINDHU BHOI (Sambalpur): Sir, it will be very good if the pattern of North Korea is adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: This needs to be given due consideration.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): Will it be taken up on Monday again?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, this discussion will be taken up on Monday and it will be

continued today during the post lunch session as well. Therefore, this House stands adjourned till 2 P.M. today. The matter will be taken up after lunch. We shall meet after 2 p.m.

13.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock

The Lok Sabha reassembled after lunch at seven minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Demand for waiver of Agricultural Loans

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ram Pyare Panika.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Robertsganj): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very happy and I am grateful to Shri Harish Rawat and to the Hon. Chairman, particularly for taking up such a major problem of the farmers for discussion today. Sir, two of my hon. friends have already made their submissions and while agreeing to their suggestions regarding the waiver of loans, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Finance towards some more points. There can be no two opinions regarding the fact that there has been rapid progress in our financial management during the last 4 or 5 years. Although the Government has to face serious challenges on account of the unprecedented drought conditions and other natural calamities, they were met successfully and our economy made substantial progress which was widely appreciated by the economists of the world. I would like to thank the hon. Minister for this. But the Most important Point of concern today is that

in order to gain cheap popularity, some political parties and Chief Ministers of some states are misguiding the farmers and the people by promising them that if they come to power again, their loans will be waived off. Sometimes, people are lured by such slogans and it was due to this slogan that the present Chief Minister of Haryana was able to win the last elections. But what is the real situation? In spite of making repeated announcements in this regard for the past two years, the loans of the farmers have not been waived. The record shows that not more than Rs. 2 to Rs. 4/- have been written off as waiver of loans. This is a very ridiculous position for which the Chief Minister of Haryana is responsible. Not only this, as has been reported he announced waiver of loans amounting to Rs. 33 crore pertaining to NABARD. But the directives and guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India do not allow a Government to write off loans; it gives a matching amount to the Reserve Bank or the bank concerned from its own resources. I do not know whether it is possible for the Government of Haryana to do so.

There has been a constant increase in the bank deposits over the year, credit for which goes to the effective policy adopted by the Government. Will a policy like this to gain cheap popularity not put an adverse effect on our growing bank deposits? If so, how will we be able to mobilise resources to complete our programmes to be launched in the ensuing Eighth Five Year Plan, as this is the last year of the 7th Five Year Plan? Therefore, a question is agitating our minds as to how the Government should deal with the elements who are misleading the people in the country.

I urge upon the hon. Minister of Finance to let the people know through the House the exact state of affairs in Haryana.

The leader of one political party who has announced to launch a movement has all along been an escapist. He has no courage to face a challenge whenever it is thrown to him when the House decided to hold a discussion on the matter, he ran away. They are

the people who captured power in 1977 by misleading the masses. But not only the people of our country but the entire world knows that during their regime, our economy was totally shattered, agricultural production had gone down by 17 per cent and so was industrial production which went down by 8.4 per cent and the country was pushed to the brink of destruction. When the situation became out of their control they ran away. Over the last 3-4 years, they have been trying to mislead the people through baseless charges that are being hurled at our Government, but they could not muster enough courage to face us when they were offered opportunity to discuss the issue and they ran away from the House.

The Hon. Prime Minister has directed the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Agriculture in this regard which is a matter of pride for the nation. I also make a demand that the agriculture sector should be treated at par with industry as has been indicated by him. Then our farmers would no more require waiver of loans, if facilities similar to those provided to industry are given to the agriculture sector for irrigation, seeds, fertilizers, reclamation of land with due meteorological support, in addition to infra-structural help at present being extended to them. They should also be given loans on the terms and conditions similar to that of industries, then their problems would be solved. It is a matter of happiness that the Hon. Prime Minister has given in assurance to fulfil this task within a period of 3-4 years to come. The day on which the task is fulfilled would be considered as a golden day.

There are several areas in the country such as drought prone areas, tribal areas, hilly areas, desert areas, cyclonic prone areas which were declared of special category areas in the Second Five Year Plan. I urge upon the Government to set up a special Relief Fund for providing help to the debt ridden poor people belonging to Tribals, down trodden and backward communities living in those areas so that they could be get rid of their loans. Besides, in no case penal interest should be charged on the loans of

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the farmers. Loans are given to farmers on compound rate of interest, as a result of which, a loan of Rs. 5000/- becomes Rs. 20000/-. The House should resolve today that in no case a loan of Rs. 5000/- will be allowed to be doubled. Interest free loan should be given to marginal and small farmers and Harijans and Tribes. The amount of subsidy given under the I.R.D. programme was pocketed by the officers and the bank employees and the beneficiaries were given only the actual amount of loan. The item given to them were of sub-standard quality. The need of the hour is to reform the banking system. There is no doubt majority of the people live in rural areas. Farmers and artisans, whether they are blacksmith or carpenter, do not get loans easily from the banks despite our recommendation, whereas loans are easily sanctioned on the recommendations of rich and resourceful persons. I am saying this with my personal experience. I know one such of my friends who got the loan sanctioned to the people from banks. Rich people have more say than a Member of Parliament. Guidelines issued to banks by the Government with regard to sanction of loans to the farmers, marginal farmers and the needy persons are not at all followed. Bank officials have been sanctioning loans only to those persons who are ready to part a percentage of amount to them as commission. Thus the bank employees are making money and amassing wealth. There is none to check them. What is all this going on? The hon. Minister is requested to get all these things investigated. The Government should issue directions to the banks to strictly follow the guidelines. In my constituency, there has not been a single instance in which a loans of even a petty amount of Rs. 5000 was sanctioned without greasing the palm of the bank officials.

A lot of publicity is given to loan-mela. We are told that a huge amount of Rs. 70 to 75 lakh is to be distributed as loans. But in fact no loans are disbursed to the people. Special camps are organised only for show. Particularly in my constituency, very few

melas have been organised. This can be ascertained from the records, if it is so desired.

Similarly, crop loans are not sanctioned when required. The Government should ensure that farmers are providing crop loans well before the season starts. They are forced to make a number of rounds to the block office. The bank procedure is very complex and the rural farmers and artisans find it difficult to understand it. The procedure is required to be simplified so that people do not find any difficulty in getting loans.

Recovery of loans in the drought affected areas should be postponed for the time being and their repayment be rescheduled. As a number of loans are outstanding against the farmers, they are not in a position to clear all of their loans at the same time. As a result, their tractors and other valuable belongings are being attached. The hon. Minister may get the fact enquired into. He should ensure that no farmer is deprived of his land and belonging such as tractors and bullocks, etc. due to non-payment of instalments of his loans.

There is no doubt that we have taken a number of steps for the welfare of farmers and launched several schemes for their upliftment. It is the Congress Party alone which worked for upliftment of the farmers before and after independence. We can say with pride that our country has made a remarkable progress. Despite unprecedented drought of the century, 170 millions tonnes of foodgrains were produced by the farmers with the help of the Government. We have also achieved success on industrial front accordingly. I mean to say that though the Government have been working for the welfare of farmers but they are being misled through alluring slogans and humbug. You will be surprised to know that some time ago, 4 to 5 officers were locked up in Muzaffarnagar by the members of Kisan Union. This is the nature of the movement launched by them. Our farmer community have a lot patience and tolerance and it never loses hopes but today they are being misled to

resort to violence. The whole country and the Government in particular should keep a watch on the situation being created by the them and timely step is required to be taken. I do agree that false slogans are raised during the election year. The people have not forgotten the slogan raised in the year 1977 or the slogan given by Shri Devi Lal in Haryana in 1982. Now everybody understands the hollowness of those slogans. It has become a talk of the town that an amount of Rs. 200/- crore is being mobilised from the industrialists in Haryana. It is very shameful that the Chief Minister of Haryana is forcing the industrialist to contribute to his fund at the rate of one per cent of their turn over. So an industrialist having a turn over of rupees one crore will have to pay rupees one lakh as donation to his fund. The persons who murdered the democracy in the country and fled away from this House by resigning their seats are being warmly received. He is giving Rs. 4 lakh and a jeep to each of them. From where did he bring this money? I would like the Minister of Finance to hold CBI enquiry into this matter. It is very essential to institute an enquiry against those who are enemies of the democracy who murder democracy and instant to distort the image of India in the world.

In the end, I would like to submit that today farmers are in great distress. In view of these difficulties, as suggested by me, either of the measures i.e. re-scheduling of their loans, waiver of interest, withdrawal of penal rate of interest and creation of a national fund for providing relief to the poor people living in backward areas, be taken so that their condition could be improved.

SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK (Kalahandi): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, an agitation has been launched by some organisations of the farmers and political parties in support of waiver of agricultural loans of the farmers throughout the country.

The Kisan movements formed part of our freedom movement. Gandhiji launched Kisan movements in Champaran, Kheda and Bardoli. These movements were impor-

tant features of our freedom struggle. But the Government of free India does not have the same sort of attitude to the farmers as they were meted to by the then British Government. From the very beginning, the policy of the Congress Party has been pro-farmers as ours is a rural culture and so is our economy. When India got independence and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was made its first Prime Minister, it was said that he believed in western philosophy and was not adopting Indian way of development. But he was a foresighted man. He laid stress on setting up heavy industries to build infrastructure for development of the country. On his initiative, cement, steel and other big factories were set up in every five Year Plan. Had infrastructure facilities not been created and heavy industries such as steel and cement, etc. not set up, India would not have ushered in the era of green revolution in agricultural sector. This could be achieved because of progress made in the field of science and technology. It is because of the policy of the Congress Party towards the farmer that today India is not only self-reliant in foodgrains but also exporting foodgrains. Due to the infrastructure created by Pandit Nehru we were able to become self-reliant in foodgrains for which credit should go to our scientists, technologists, farmers and farm labourers who contributed their best for the country with a sense of national belonging. Therefore, the interest of the farmers is linked with the Congress Party which has all along been associated with their movements. The Congress Party is also in favour of waiver of loans of the farmers but I would like to know as to why they want waiver of loans? They want it so that they could increase their production. In order to increase the production, we want that necessary infrastructure be created so that farmers could be provided adequate power and other facilities such as irrigation etc., only then they will make progress economically and achieve good results. Of course, we are also in favour of waiver of loans but I would like to ask the then Finance Minister as to why did he not write off loans when he was the Finance Minister? Now he is talking about waiver of loans of farmers. They have given only false promises to the

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people. Now they are saying that they will write-off the loans of the farmers when their party comes to power in the Centre. When the Congress Government talks about Jawahar Rozgar Yojana or about setting up new industries, the opposition alleges that these things are being done in view of the elections, but I would like to ask the man who happened to be the Finance Minister of the Government of India as to whether he is not making this demand of waiver of loans taking elections in view? They are trying to buy the voters by making hollow promises. The result of these hollow promises can be seen in Haryana. Many of our friends who are sitting here will say about these things. So the public is not going to be misled by them.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Nation is supreme over individual or group of individuals. The Government imposes taxes for the development of the country. In a developing country, loans are given by the Government for spread of education and development. But if such feelings develop in the people, the loans will be mistalised, the Government as well as the beneficiaries will become insolvent, as the loans will not be utilised for the purposes they were taken. The international financial institutions from whom we take loans, will also lose faith in us. If our economic condition is not sound, what will be the future of the country. If the loan of the farmer is written off once, no body will give loan to him again. because they will again make the demand fo waiver of loans. This will lead to similar demand by the industrialists and other people. This is a matter of national concern as it will adversely affect our economic policy. So we don't want to make it a political issue.

A question is often raised as to whether farmers will be swayed by false promises of these opportunist leaders. To this, there can be only one answer i.e. 'No', because assurances given to them are impracticable. The waiver of the present loans is no guarantee to the fact that farmer will no longer require loan in future. It will simply lead to misutilisa-

tion of loans and insolvency of the farmer as well as the economy of the country. All this is being done to buy the voters so as to win elections. But their is political awareness in the public and they will not fall in their trap.

Besides, I would like to submit that inspite of severe drought, our agricultural production has been very good for which our farmers, scientists and the Government deserve to be congratulated. It is because of their hard work, we are now self-reliant on food front. My Constituency Kalahandi has been reeling under severe drought for the last 10 to 15 years. The middle class farmers living there are in great distress. Members of Janata Party have launched an agitation there. This agitation is aimed at providing benefit to big farmers only Unless land reforms are implemented, the farmers condition will not improve in this country. Waiver of loans will benefit only 20 per cent of farmers. They don't care for the remaining 80 per cent of farmers. The economic and social condition of the farmer is getting bad from worse in fighting feudalism prevalent in the society. Attention should be paid to improve his lot. On humanitarian grounds, cases of marginal farmers, who are facing successive drought for the last 5 to 10 years, require to be considered sympathetically. I am not advocating for waiver of their loans, but interests on their loans should be written off. Those marginal and small farmers, who are not able to repay loans, become ineligible for further loans and their poverty increases. They should be provided economic and social strength, otherwise they will not be able to come forward. Proper arrangements for seeds, fertilisers, electricity and provision for irrigation facilities should be made for them and some sort of subsidy should also be given. Instalments of loans should be re-scheduled in the drought affected areas of the country. Old loans should also be re-scheduled as farmers are made ineligible for fresh loans on the basis of old records which show outstanding loans against them. We have to reschedule all these things. Though the Government extends help to small and marginal farmers by way of providing subsidies on fertilizers and irrigational facilities,

yet they have a psychological feeling that the Government do for the industrialists and the people belonging to other sections only and it does not care for the farmers. This feeling should be removed. For this, the Government should adopt a clear cut policy towards the farmer and it should tell them in clear terms about the concessions to be given to them. Position with regard to waiver of loans should be made clear. Farmers should be informed of the situation created in Haryana. I hope that hon. Minister will give categorical replies to all these points.

The assurances given in regard to the administrative and social changes to be brought about by the Hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, should be implemented. He has given an assurance that more concessions would be given to the farmers and their standard of living would be raised so that they do not develop a feeling that others are being given preferential treatment as compared to them. The future of the country depends upon the farmers. The Congress Party and the farmers are made for each other. Hon. Shri Rajiv Gandhi is making efforts to inculcate this feeling. Farmers all over the country will welcome it. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it seems to me that this discussion has been reduced to a match between the two Lals of Haryana—Devi Lal and Bhajan Lal. The people have grown wise with the practice of democracy. Whatever the election slogans and whatever the party, the people take these slogans a pinch of salt. I do not think that we should devote this entire discussion to a slogan raised by a particular political party.

The subject that we are discussing today is the question of rural indebtedness. This engaged the attention of the Government even prior to independence. After independence, we had a very large scale all-India survey of rural indebtedness to work out the

schemes of relief for the farmers and the cultivators. Now, I am not aware whether there has been a regular survey either by the Reserve Bank of India or by any other authority in the Ministry of Finance to establish whether the pattern of indebtedness in our countryside among the farmers has been on the rise and whether the debt servicing capacity of rural India has kept pace with the growing indebtedness. That is the essential problem that we are talking about. This problem is related in my view to the question of terms of trade between rural India and urban India, between agricultural products and industrial products.

Finally, therefore, the question boils down to the question of remunerative return for the farmers. Because, if his farming, if his cultivation, if his agricultural production can bring him an income in which he can easily repay the debts, in which he can easily service the capital that he has invested for agriculture—after all modern agriculture needs increasing input of capital, it is becoming increasingly capital intensive—then there shall be no problem. The problem arises because farming as such remains un-remunerative. It remains inefficient. Therefore, the debt burden of the farmer, whatever be the source of credit, whether it is private or public, whether it is the co-operative or the banking system or whether it is the Government—a new administration or the Agriculture Department—all these add to his burden, which he is not in a position to service with the level of income and the prosperity that has been generated in the countryside. So, that is the essential problem, the question of terms of trade between agriculture and industry and the question of the agriculturists' income level, giving him debt servicing capacity which should keep pace with the increasing rural indebtedness in the country.

I hope that the hon. Finance Minister would give us some figures on this subject to establish whether the Government have looked into this aspect of the matter and whether the Government has any definite system of relief for not allowing the situation

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to reach the point, where we can say that rural is about to fall into the debt trap.

There are certain things which are absolutely clear in our minds. I said the other day that independent India has not given a fair deal to our farmers, to our cultivators. Now, Sir, on that basis, I would suggest that whatever be the source of the credit, it must be on soft terms. I think the entire house will agree on that. We cannot really treat the loan that we give from any institution to the farmer to give him sustenance in agriculture, sustenance through agricultural income, and to make the terms so hard for him that he cannot service it. The terms must be soft. The loans must be essentially applied for productive purposes. That also goes without saying because consumption loans obviously will be much more difficult to repay. But one factor is there. The quantum of the loan must be high enough to make it productive. Otherwise, if investment is sub-productive, and the investment does not produce any results, then the farmers will not be able to repay the loan. Therefore, the quantum of the loan must enable the farmer to tide over his capital needs for carrying on his agricultural operations. Thirdly, another point on which, I think, the entire House will agree, is that wherever the area is subject to natural calamities or natural disasters—whether drought or flood—at least the farmers of those areas must be enabled either to re-schedule their loans, or there must be some concessional schemes for them, for relief and for the rehabilitation of their agricultural operations.

I think we make here, from time to time, an appeal to the generosity of the Government. There must be a regular, national scheme which should take into account the fact that there is a recurrent pattern, a recurrent cycle of natural disasters and floods in certain areas. Let us keep the unit as a block. Any block which suffers a natural calamity shall receive, as a matter of course, as a matter of our obligation to rural India, a certain measure of relief which should be on

a national scale, and which should be applicable, say under the guidance of the Central Government.

We fully understand the various institutions that have come into operation. We have, of course, the banking system now in full operation. The Finance Minister tells us that he has introduced a service area approach. That means that every village in the country, every panchayat in the country has access, at least on paper, in theory, to a particular bank. It is good as far as it goes. But I would like to inform the hon. Finance Minister that the manner that these banks are operating, they have become another Thanedar, another element of extortion, another vested interest, another power structure in the country. They have become the Big Power; and they do not listen to anybody. The banks in rural areas have become a State within a State. They are uncontrollable, even by the District Magistrate. District Magistrate after District Magistrate tells me: 'Sorry, I cannot do anything about it.' And there is such a persistent pattern of corruption that it stinks. It stinks, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I think that by and large at least a 25% commission is payable even on a small loan. It will not pass muster, it will not pass through the system unless the poor peasant, who is in need of capital even for his essential agricultural needs, pays up. And at a given time, in a situation of emergency if the loan gets delayed, then the entire loan is meaningless. He is compelled and obliged to pay through his nose. I think this is a matter which the hon. Finance Minister must look into, and must try to correct. Frankly I am not in a position to give him any suggestion on how to go about it. But I think this is a matter which does demand the prompt attention of the Government. I think the corruption in the banking system in the countryside, its exactions, its extortions, its *zulum* is now reaching out to the skies.

We have the cooperative system. Unfortunately, the local moneylender has now captured the cooperative system. I am very happy that the hon. Prime Minister has promised that the Central Government will look

into the working of the cooperative system. I think the time has come when the cooperative system must be, shall I say, re-examined. We have two other sources: we have the development credit, and we have the revenue credit system. The revenue credit system, of course, has been in existence for a long time. In our area, it is called the Tuccavi loan. It is, of course, now a very minor element in the entire credit picture, but the development credit in the form of IRDP has become more and more of a problem. There, I must say something which might not be very palatable to my friends in the countryside. I am afraid that the entire structure of the subsidy system that we have, has become a malpractice in itself. It has led to a complete non-utilization of credit. It has led to transfer of credit from an eligible beneficiary to a non-eligible person without any rhyme or reason. It has led to the exploitation of those elements in the society whom we wish to benefit, whom we wish to give an advantage; because they play into the hands of others. In my view, there should be no subsidy at all, but there should be a loan system in which there is no interest. Give the farmer a loan to purchase something at its market value, so that he knows the value.

He does not pass it on at some sort of a concessional rate to another shark in the countryside; he uses it for himself; he takes loan only if he needs it. Then let him be free of interest obligation so that the development loan is really used for the development purposes by that section of the society to which it is addressed, by the Target Group. Today, the development credit is not being utilised by the Target Group; largely it is being passed on under some impulse, with some profit by the Target Group that we have envisaged to another group which takes advantage. That must be stopped.

I would certainly not argue for a waiver of the agricultural loan, of any loan for that matter, whether it is for industry or whether it is for consumption or whether it is for agriculture, because if that psychology develops that you borrow knowing well you do not

require to repay it; then it will give rise to financial irresponsibility. I think the entire financial structure of the country will collapse under its impact which. I cannot ask for total, absolute, universal waiver of loan, certainly, there are situations in which a certain element of magnanimity, a certain element of stock taking of the situation must come into the picture.

I would like to make a few suggestions on how to go about meeting the credit needs in the country-side. I have the picture of Bihar in my mind. NABARD gave Rs. 300 crores to Bihar year before last for meeting credit obligation in those parts of the State which were hard hit by the floods. Can you imagine that the list of beneficiaries of every village was drawn out of a computer kept in the State Capital? I think Dr. Rajhans will bear me out. What miserly did it lead to? What enormous injustice did it lead to? What delay did it lead to? Therefore, what is more important is that a total decentralisation of the credit system for agricultural purpose must be introduced set up. Today, we are talking of the Panchayati Raj. We are trying to invigorate it. Why can't every Panchayat be statutorily given the status of a Primary Credit Society with full banking support; and in the countryside every body will have an access to his own bank, to his own Panchayat? So, one essential factor that I would like the hon. Finance Minister to look into is that the system of credit for agricultural purposes must be decentralised, must be brought down to the grass-root level; and there the Panchayats must play a role.

My second suggestion is: please stop the police method and replace it by social pressure. You confiscate a hut of a farmer. What do you confiscate from there? If there is a miserly in the countryside, if everybody is starving, how much capital can you finally get back? You only make the people homeless; you only make people run away from the villages; it is happening in our countryside. So, please stop this police method for collecting loans. You make him responsible before the society; you make him responsible before the Panchayat. Social pressure

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would do the trick which your police method will not.

My third suggestion is that the land revenue upto a certain level should be exempted. You know about marginal farmers and small farmers. It is just like income tax. I think Finance Minister will appreciate this point. He can not meet the administrative cost to collect income tax below a certain point if it is not economical. The cost of collection far exceeds what you collect. Exactly, in the same manner, let there be an all India review that all land-revenue below a certain point shall be abolished and above that point, the land revenue shall be collected by the Panchayats only. In fact, the development inputs of Panchayat may be related to the land revenue that they collect; and in that case, you ensure the collection of land revenue from the bigger farmer of that Panchayat and at the same time be just in the distribution of the development outlays. Therefore, I would suggest that perhaps this can also be considered. Finally, there is a collection season. I find that you start collection campaign at a time when the farmer is starving, when he does not have even, as you know, sustenance for keeping his body and soul together. And at that time the Government sends out a circular instruction to the local COs, the circle Officers, asking them to collect the debts. Then the poor man has to make an all out effort to collect 80 per cent or 60 per cent collections. His transfer and his promotion will depend upon the percentage that he shows. There should be a law that the debt collection shall be done immediately after the harvest. There are two clear cut months, two clear cut seasons in the year when the Rabi and when the Kharif crop are harvested. Why can we not make collections in the countryside, whether it is by the banks or whether it is by the cooperatives in to those months only when the farmer perhaps will be in a position to pay back some of his debt.

I would like to make one more humble

suggestion which I made many years ago in a different context. Talking about the relationship between the developing countries and the developed world, I said that, at any point the total interest paid on a loan should not exceed the capital. At least let that be applied in our own countryside. If a farmer has been repaying the loan over a period of time, the total interest that you are collecting from him from year to year should not exceed the initial capital. Beyond that the loan should be immediately written off. Once he has paid on interest equal to the original capital the entire loan should be written off.

I would end up by saying that the matter is far more important than the prospect of the next election. It is a persistent and a permanent problem of our countryside. Rural indebtedness is a big constraint to the progress of modern agriculture in our country.

As I said in the beginning agriculture is becoming increasingly capital intensive and I am not speaking of the big cultivator or the *Kulaks*. I do not hold any brief for them. They are like industrialists and they have their access and their influence, and they can always get all the capital that they want. I am concerned with the small farmer, say up to five acres and ten acres. He must have access to the capital at his level, if you really want agriculture to develop in the country and I do hope that the hon. Finance Minister shall take due care of his needs.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Vijayraghavan.

[Translation]

*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHVAN (Palghat): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I congratulate Shri Harish Rawat for initiating this discussion. Waiving of loan of farmers is no doubt a very important issue and it is the prime need of the hour. Although some political parties used it as a means for political propagandas I would say that the Govt. should give it serious consideration.

In many parts of the country the majority of small and medium farmers often find themselves unable to repay the agricultural loan. If the loan is not repaid fresh loan is not available for raising the next crop. Besides, the banks will proceed to attach this property. Thus he will lose his agricultural land. A natural calamity takes place, he will lose his everything he has. The Govt. is giving some financial assistance to the farmers whose crop is damaged due to floods and drought. These do certainly provide relief to them. But what is needed is a national policy in this regard. The Prime Minister has announced that agriculture will be regarded as industry. I welcome it. This will help the farmers to get concessional finance as well as other facilities which are presently available to the industries. This is a welcome step.

Similarly the crop insurance is another step to help the farmers. But the benefit of this measure is not available to all. There is a universal demand that the assessment of damage should be done at village level instead of at the Taluq level. A Committee has been appointed to study this problem and make suitable changes in this scheme. I would request the Govt. to expedite it and implement the suggestion quickly.

Immediate steps should be taken to provide relief to the farmers who are affected by floods and drought. It is they who need real relief. In my district Palghat, there has been drought since 1983. Under the decision of the Govt. loans can be waived if an area suffers from drought for a continuous period of three years. But the loans have not been waived there. This should be looked into.

I would therefore suggest that as a part of the national policy, immediate decision should be taken to write off the loans of farmers who lost their crop due to natural calamities.

[English]

SHRI I. RAMA RAI (Kasaragod): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, when we talk about

waiver of the loans of the farmers of this country, especially poor farmers, we have to talk about the history of banking industry. From 1969, bank nationalisation has started. A lot of improvements have been done in the credit sector, especially in the farming sector. The total number of bank branches in the country before 1969 was 8262 and it has now gone up to 53700. Out of these enhanced branches, nearly 30000 branches are in the rural areas, as against 550 in the year 1969. You can just imagine how much the Government has taken pains to increase the number of rural branches to cater to the need of the farmers.

There is improvement in loan facilities also. During 1950-51, it was only Rs. 24.23 crores, during 1985-86 it was Rs. 7000 crores and recently it has gone up to Rs. 13000 crores. That is also really to be applauded. Sir, nearly 80 per cent of our population depend on agriculture and twenty per cent of our population depend on other sectors. Rs. 80000 crores is being given as loan for the industrial sector. This proves the huge difference between the two sectors as far as bank advance is concerned.

Sir, the farmers of this country are finding it difficult, especially to develop their profession by new technology. For adoption of new technology, high yielding varieties and other things, the farmers require a lot of investment and they could afford only if the banks give substantial loan. That is what my previous speaker has said. If we look at the production side, then we have to think of loans and investments also. Unless the farmer gets enough money to develop his profession he cannot get real production.

Sir, whenever the waiver question comes, the usual answer is that the Government would consider the suggestion sympathetically, but the sympathy by the banking sector goes usually to the industrial sector.

Forming of NABARD itself is a further step towards funding for the agricultural sector. In 1987, the Chairman of NABARD has said that nearly Rs. 15 crores to Rs. 20

[Sh. I. Rama Rai]

crores were lost, which was allotted for the development and research work in the agricultural sector. Sir, I also happens to be a farmer. Right from our hon. Speaker up to the bank bencher like me, we are all farmers and we have special problems now. At present, different villages are allotted different branches of the nationalised banks. Originally there was a set up and now suddenly these branches are allotted only a particular village or a panchayat. The difficulty of the farmer is that he is not having enough record to prove all his necessities and the eligibility, which are required by the banking officials.

Sir, Saturday is almost a holiday for the banks because banks work only upto 12 noon. Sunday is a holiday for the banks. And on one day, in the rural areas branches, there will be no transactions because the Managers are supposed to go to villages and learn different things. So, out of the remaining four days, when these farmers approach for petty loans, they are not entertained in a proper way.

15.00 hrs

As suggested by Shri Shahabuddin, the principal amount has to be waived if the interest on the loan goes beyond the principal amount. Our learned friends, Prof. Ranga was referring to some legislation of 1953 enacted during Rajaji's regime in composite Madras State whereby debt relief was being given to the farmers. I want to know a categoric answer whether the same is applied throughout the country. Whenever we go to any bank, the standard reply is that write off of any specific loan is permissible only when all the avenues of recovery are exhausted. The farmer is pledging all his land for getting a petty loan. The industrialist is wise enough. He pledges his machinery and gets hefty loan. He will not pledge his personal property. But in the case of a farmer more security is extracted.

I do not want the Government to sacrifice its economic rationality as is the case

with Haryana Chief Minister. In order to gain political advantage he is promising write off of loans.

There must be a record of what is called land rights and loan book. In that book all the particulars should be furnished like the particulars of land, the area, whether he has availed of any loan and whether he is eligible to avail of more loan and if so, how much, so that with that book the poor farmer can go to a bank and get the loan without any difficulty. I hope, Government will give serious consideration to this and find out some remedy so that poor farmers remain out of the clutches of Shylocks who are still existing and extracting the blood of the farmers.

**STATEMENT RE: REMOVAL OF DIFFICULTIES
 FACED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION
 OF MOTOR VEHICLES ACT**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): Hon'ble Members will recall that the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and the Rules framed under it came into effect from 1.7.89. They have been welcomed all over the country and the response from all over the country is quite positive. The new Act replaced the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939. The formulation of the new Act and Rules were preceded by detailed examination of the needed changes not only by Central Government and State Governments but also by representatives of the transport industry, trade and commerce. Since the enactment of old Motor Vehicles Act in 1939, a sea change has taken place in the transport scenario and in response to these changes, it was considered necessary to make substantial modifications to the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 with a view to promoting road safety, improving the qualification of drivers, prescribing standards for construction of vehicles, controlling pollution and removing some major constraints on the healthy development of the transport

industry and new Motor Vehicles Act received the overwhelming support of this House.

During the course of the implementation of the Act and the Rules, Government have received from affected interests suggestions for effecting certain modifications. The Act and Rules have been formulated to subserve the interests of the citizens of this country and, therefore, Government have given the most urgent consideration to the suggestions received and the difficulties pointed out. I have considered carefully the suggestions received from hon. Members of this House. I have also held wide-ranging discussions with representatives of States and Union territories and also considered various representations received by Government. In the light of these, it has been decided that certain modifications to the Rules framed under Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, would be desirable. We also had a meeting with the Transport Commissioners and Transport Secretaries from all the States and took their points of view as to what problems they faced during this period from 1st July to 9th or 10th of August when we had the meeting, and also what practical problems they faced in implementing these rules, and what hardships our citizens—brothers and sisters—faced by the implementation of this new Act. Based on those observations, suggestions and other things, following modifications in the rules are being placed for the information of the House.

- (i) Rule 5 of Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 prescribes the Form of medical certificate which is to accompany the application for learner's licence. It has been decided to simplify the application form. State Governments have also been requested to authorise all registered medical practitioners possessing the qualifications of MBBS to issue the medical certificates and also to fix a reasonable fee payable for obtaining the medical certificate.

- (ii) Rule 8 of Central Motor Vehicles Rules specifies that all those applying for a licence to drive a transport vehicle, other than a tractor-cum-trailer, after 1.7.1989 should have a minimum qualification of IV standard. The basic objective was that the driver should be able to read and understand signals, signs and directions on the roads. This provision is being modified to the effect that the ability to read and write would suffice. I would also like to clarify that it is already provided in the Rules that all driving licences issued prior to 1.7.1989 will continue to be valid and will be eligible for renewal without any reference to the educational qualification of the driver.

- (iii) Rule 9 of the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 stipulates that the driver of a transport vehicle carrying hazardous cargo should possess a minimum educational qualification of X standard. As hon. Members are aware, transport of hazardous cargo poses risks to the citizens, and the driver should be able to follow the written instructions on the packages as well as on the literature available on the subject. In response to genuine difficulties that have been brought to the notice of Government on account of this provision, and recognising the need for a period of transition before such a qualification can be insisted upon, it has been decided that this provision will be brought into effect only from a future date to be notified later, till all States gear up their system so that the supply of these commodities, specially oil, petrol and kerosene, does not affect the common man.

- (iv) Rule 62 of the Central Motor

[Sh. Rajesh Pilot]

Vehicles Rules, 1989 specify that the validity of fitness certificate of a transport vehicle will initially be for a period of two years. Thereafter, fitness certificates have to be obtained at intervals of one year up to the tenth year and thereafter, at intervals of six months. It has been decided that the validity of the fitness certificate for transport vehicle would be one year after the initial period of two years. This continues every year.

(v) Rule 81 of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 prescribe fees to be paid at the time of renewal of fitness certificates of different classes of transport vehicles. These fees will be reduced in respect of light motor vehicles from Rs. 100 to Rs. 50, medium motor vehicles from Rs. 200 to Rs. 100 and for heavy motor vehicles from Rs. 300 to Rs. 150.

(vi) Section 9(4) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 requires an applicant for a licence to drive a transport vehicle to undergo training in a recognised drivers' training school. The difficulties caused by the paucity of sufficient driver training schools in certain areas as well as the difficulties faced by drivers of certain categories of motor vehicles desiring to obtain a licence to drive a transport vehicle, have been brought to the notice of the Government and suitable steps will be taken to overcome these difficulties. Some of the States have said that they do not have the Government motor driving school, specially the State of Prof. Soz. So, we have said that we will look

into it and overcome these difficulties.

(vii) Section 58(1) of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 empowers the Central Government to notify the maximum safe laden weight and maximum safe axle weight of transport vehicle. Although the Central Government have issued a fresh notification on 8-6-1989, on this subject and have not made any change in the maximum safe axle/laden weight as notified under the provisions of erstwhile Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, an impression has gone in some quarters that the maximum safe axle/laden weight has been reduced in the new Motor Vehicles Act, 1988. However, difficulties have been brought to the notice of Central Government that due to heavy penalties prescribed in the M.V. Act, 1988 for overloading and also provision of off-loading the excess load before the vehicle is allowed to proceed, the effective capacity of the transport vehicle to carry goods has reduced. It is brought to notice that due to heavy structure of the body of some of the existing vehicles, the unladen weight of the vehicle has gone up thereby reducing the carrying capacity of the vehicles when compared to lighter bodies vehicles. In order to remove such difficulties of such existing transport vehicle, it is proposed to permit maximum laden/axle weight of transport vehicles upto 15% in excess of the prescribed maximum laden/axle weight for a maximum period of 9 months from 1-7-1989 so as to facilitate transition of these existing vehicles to lighter bodied vehicle and increased use of multi-axle vehicles.

3. I would also like to mention that some

of the representations received against the Motor Vehicles Act and Rules are unfortunately based upon some misunderstanding about the provisions contained therein. An impression existing in certain quarters is that Government have fixed a maximum age-limit of vehicles under the Act. I have clarified in Parliament that Government have not fixed the maximum age for any class of vehicle, nor is there any such proposal under consideration. I would again like to reiterate this most emphatically. There is also another impression that the new Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, has substantially increased the fines prescribed in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 for violation of various provisions. I would like to clarify that the new Act has not increased the level of fines prescribed under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, except in respect of overloading in goods carriages. Where new provisions have been introduced in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1989, fines which were not in existence in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, have been prescribed.

4. It is my hope and expectation that with the above modifications and certain other consequential and incidental changes that may be found necessary in the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, and notifications issued under the Act and Rules, the genuine difficulties faced by the common man would be removed. The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, represents an imaginative and bold forward step to usher in a climate of greater safety and discipline in the entire road transport sector. The change that the present conditions demand and we want to bring about are not possible unless practices which have been prevalent for long time are modified in tune with the current requirements. I hope that with the changes proposed, the difficulties faced in the implementation of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and the Rules framed thereunder will be removed.

15.14 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Demand for waiver of Agricultural Loans—Contd.

[English]

SHRIN. TOMBISINGH (Inner Manipur): Mr. Deputy -Speaker, Sir, I rise to take part in this discussion. I have before my eyes the areas of Assam and Manipur and adjoining States which are still under heavy flood water. Farmers, particularly the poor agriculturists wherever they are in any part of the country, are in need of several kinds of relief measures and assistance and waiving of loans perhaps is one of the several measures by which we can help the agriculturists in genuine cases. The loans and other forms of assistance do not come to the resource of the poor agriculturists in many cases. A hundred rich men cannot make a poor man rich by giving alms and doles in a small measure every time. I would like to confine my discussion to the plight of the farmers and the agriculturists whose lands are flooded and the huge areas of standing crops have been damaged by the recent floods.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister to the state of agriculturists of the Barak valley and Brahmaputra valley and also the agriculturists of my State Manipur. I think the flood situation in the North Eastern areas has been inspected by the Surface Transport Minister Rajesh Pilotji representing the Prime Minister to see the actual damage done. In the Bishampur district of Manipur valley, 75,000 hectares of land have been damaged by flood waters. The actual need of the agriculturists there is not only waiving of loans by the lending agencies but they will also have to be given alternative solution. They have to be given fresh assistance in the form of seeds and other things for transplantation and sowing. The entire area of 700 square miles of the Manipur valley has been affected in an unprecedented way, this time. In the Manipur hill areas, terrace cultivation

[Sh. N. Tombi Singh]

has been affected very badly. There are some areas available for terrace cultivation, but they are priced very high. This year, in view of heavy rains, floods and landslides, terrace cultivation areas have been affected.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to one particular case where a very dangerous and horrible calamity has taken place. In the tribal village of Longakoirang, there was a crack which swallowed about 43 houses and also destroyed vast areas of terrace cultivation surrounding that village. I have not yet got the flood details.

When such a calamity affects the whole village of about 50 houses, not only the agricultural areas but also the residential areas are affected. The whole village has to be evacuated and for the terrace cultivation, an alternative has to be found out. So, I would like to request the Government to give special consideration for such areas when it comes to waiving of loans and giving of more assistance through banks. The terrace agriculturists, particularly in the hill areas, do not know anything about the financial disciplines. It is not because of any dishonesty, but because they are short of assistance and money. Whatever they get from the Government either in the form of grant or in the form of loan, they think it is a gift from the Government and the amount also is not very big. So, this idea has to be removed not by punishing them but by giving them more assistance and making them live honourably.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): Sir, you have to give me as much time as you gave to Mr. Panika and Mr. Syed Shahabuddin.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will give to you also.

(Interruptions)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: I do not grudge your speaking, but I represent a

party. I have object particularly because the hon. Finance Minister is here. In that case, I will not allow Private Members' Bills and Resolutions to be taken up at 3.30 p.m. You are the senior most Member present here. My Party time should be given.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order please. Kumari Mamata Banerjee.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur): I will take two minutes. Only one point I want to raise.

[Translation]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, without taking much time, I want to raise 2-3 points only. When a farmer does not repay the loan taken from a bank due to some or the other reason, the compound interest added to the amount becomes a headache for him. I say this from personal experience that it becomes a problem for farmers when loans taken during floods or drought are doubled due to addition of compound interest thereon when the farmer asks the banks to consider his case on humanitarian grounds, the latter says that since no orders have been received as such the farmer should sell his house and land to repay the amount. In such a situation, the farmer is forced to leave his house and go elsewhere. Another thing I want to say that the Government should see as to how many people living below the poverty line were forced to leave their villages under the pressure of the banks. I request the Government to pay attention to this and arrange a meeting to review the situation because this is a matter of serious concern.

I want to raise another point. On loans given to farmers under D.R.I. differential rates of interest are charged. Rates of interests vary from 4% to 12%. For farmers living below the poverty line, this is yet another problem stemming from rules framed by banks. I would request for a uniform rate of interest for all poor farmers. I shall not take

much time because Prof. Soz also wants to speak.

[English]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: I do not grudge your speaking. You continue to speak.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am giving 5 minutes to each. That is the allotted time.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: We want to proceed by the rules. I respect the Chair and I expect the Chair also to respect me. That is the rule of Parliament. I will have the time as much as Shri Shahabuddin or Mr. Panika has taken. (*Interruptions*).

[Translation]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: One of the biggest problems is increase in prices of essential commodities. Items such as baby food, rice, wheat and potatoes have become very expensive. Rice is being sold at Rs. 5/- a kilo. The Government should pay attention to this also. Farmers living below the poverty line should be discharged from debt liabilities, if the Government has mooted a policy of this kind but it should be applicable to all States.

With these words, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRIMATIBASAVARAJESWARI (Belary): Mr. Deputy-Sir, this is a very important subject and I am very happy to participate in this discussion because the hon. Finance Minister is also present in the House to note down the points on the waiver of interest.

I am not asking for waiver of the entire loan but only the interest or the penal interest which become almost double or more than double of the principal amount. Suppose a farmer borrows Rs. 5,000. Under various circumstances, if the loan amount becomes Rs. 15,000, he should be allowed to pay only Rs. 5,000 and the other things should be

written off. The hon. Minister has given some clarifications. He has given a categorical reply. I would like to bring it to the notice of the House. Those clarifications have not gone to the banks. Possibly the banks have not received those clarifications to act.

Regarding farmers, I would like to mention that there should not be any discrimination between small farmer and marginal farmer. Farmers are farmers. Due to natural calamities, for various reasons, they have become defaulters. Once for all, we should see that we get rid of this heavy loan portion. We are giving a lot of protection to the farmers and, therefore, we should also see that they are rescued from this burden.

The hon. Minister has said that flood and drought are the only natural calamities. There is one more natural calamity. Even after irrigation, thousands and thousands of acres of crop is being lost due to non-availability of water. Therefore, I have suggested to the hon. Minister that natural calamities should include pests on crops and non-availability of water. These two points should also be included in this paragraph. Otherwise, it is very difficult to ascertain the losses which have been incurred by the farmers. This proviso should therefore be included.

The hon. Minister has mentioned about the short-term loan. Whatever concessions are extended on short term loans should be extended to long-term and medium term loans, whatever may be the kind of loan which the farmer has borrowed.

These are the three suggestions which I would like to make on the floor of the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now Prof. Saifuddin Soz.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: I refuse to speak because I do not want to encroach upon the time meant for the discussion on...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You can start now and continue on Monday.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: I want to obey the Chair but the Chair also should respect the Members. You cannot give me four minutes. I refuse to speak. I cannot tolerate any insults on any Member. (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

(*Interruptions*)*

[*Translation*]

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, this is certainly a very complex issue. Opposition leaders are misleading the public by promising them loan waivers in exchange of votes. Such a thing is unprecedented in the political history of any nation. An elementary principle of the banking system is that money deposited by customers is given as loans. Banks do not have any money making machines and it is a basic fact that banks cannot produce money even if they want to do so if the banks waive the loans, the depositors will be adversely affected. For no fault of his the person who saves a part of his hard-earned income stands to lose because his deposit has been loaned away to someone else. If a Government enacts a law that waives the loans of all current debtors, the public is bound to be misled. The best thing to do is to educate people on the scope of the banking system. The problem of farmers is too serious for us to provide mere lip-service here in Parliament. We should see why rural indebtedness occurs in the first place. Before waiving a loan, it is essential to find out why the loan was sought. Rural people are still orthodox. Villagers extravagante in wedding and other ceremonies. Even on 'Shradh' ceremonies performed for departed souls, lot of money is spent. People are forced to perform 'Shradh' ceremony on the death of their small children also—and they are forced to spent huge amounts. This again creates a necessity for taking a loan. Apart from these, there are another social functions which involve heavy expenditure. Loans are also needed for

agricultural inputs. I have said earlier also that cost of inputs have risen so much that the value of the resultant output is disproportionate to it. Today people do not engage themselves in sugarcane or jute farming because they are unable to get remunerative prices for these crops. This problem has to be seen in a much broader perspective. It is just not enough to say that we have done everything for the welfare of the farmers. It is a fact that farmers have made a large contribution towards the well-being of this country. In matters of foodgrains, India can hold her head high among the nations of the world. A look through any foreign newspaper or magazine will show that even today people are dying of starvation in Africa.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You can continue tomorrow.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS: Thank you, Sir.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur): Sir, I was expecting that the hon. Minister will reply today. The House is not able to get the benefit of his reply.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We will get. We will see that.

15.30 hrs.

[*English*]

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Sixty-Eighth Report

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up Private Member's Bills and Resolutions. Shri Ram Awadh Prasad.

*Not recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM AWADH PRASAD (Basti):
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that
this House to agree with the Sixty-eighth
Report of the Committee on Private Mem-
bers' Bills and Resolutions presented to the
House on the 9th August, 1989.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Ques-
tion is :

" That this House do agree with the
Sixty-eighth Report of the Committee
on Private Members' Bills and Resolu-
tions presented to the House on the
9th, 1989."

The motion was adopted.

15.31 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE: EMPLOYMENT TO
ONE MEMBER IN EACH FAMILY—
CONTD.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House
will now take up further discussion on the
Resolution moved by Dr G.S. Rajhans on the
28th July, 1989.

Shri Mahabir Prasad Yadav.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD YADAV :
(Madhepura): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in
continuity of what I said last time, I would like
to say about a few things. That day, I was
making out a case of the young men loitering
in the street, roaming in the roads for jobs. It
is to be realised that bubbling youths roam-
ing here and there seeking jobs, seeking
appointments are not getting what they
should get. It can be realised by the Govern-
ment also. It is really encouraging that the
Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe
young men are going to get appointments

and by beating the drum the Government is
going to do that. But what is the Government
going to do for the other young men, young
men of other class? Are we not going to be
disappointed? Are we not going to be frus-
trated? I can well say that lakhs of young
men are not getting even fourth-class jobs.
Last time, I had spoken here that the young
men are not going to get even the source of
livelihood. What should they do? You can
well realise the heart-burning of those young
people when they know that in banks none of
the staff is getting less than Rs. 3000/- But
the degree holders of M.Sc and M.A. are not
getting this simple job. I thank Dr. Rajhans
for bringing here this burning issue of the
society, of the nation. It is not a case only of
Bihar. I think, it is a case of the whole nation.
Therefore, I appeal to the Government that
the Resolution of Dr. Rajhans be accepted
and it should be brought in the form of a Bill.

Next point in this regard I have to make
is this. I would like to know whether the
Government is for a part of the society or it is
the Government of the people for the people
and by the people. It is the Government for
the whole of the society. It is not for this class
or that class. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in
1956 had prescribed in the socialist pattern
of society. It has been incorporated in the
Constitution of India that socialism shall be
the basic principle of the Government. If the
socialism is to be the basic principle of soci-
ety, if socialistic pattern of society is to be
established, why do they say that some
people of the society, some young men of
the society should not get what they should
should get? I can quote this again. In Bihar,
from the year 1981 all those bubbling youths
have obtained first class degree in the uni-
versities have not been appointed in any
colleges. I know personally the case of Bihar.
I do not know the case of other States. Such
a pathetic situation is there is in Bihar. Any
person can go and see the frustration and
disappointment on the faces of young men.
We find disappointment and frustration.

Therefore, I conclude by saying that the
Resolution of Dr. Rajhans is very important
in the context of the reality of the situation

[Sh. Mahabir Prasad Yadav]

that is obtaining in India. Secondly, it is very much applicable to all parts of the country. It should be realised by the Government, it should be considered by the Government and it should be imagined by the Government that those young people who are loitering in the streets or roaming on the roads whether they should get the jobs or not. For that, I appeal to the Government that it should be accepted. Thank you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN (Rosera) Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, Mahatma Gandhi had a dream that along with political independence everyone should get food to eat. For this purpose he had launched a movement also. Following in his footsteps, former Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru established a socialistic pattern of society in this country which aims at providing food, clothing and shelter for all. Despite all this, the problem of the unemployment in this country grew day by day. Our Government made an honest attempt to solve this problem but its sheer magnitude has made it uncontrollable. The present day society is divided into three classes—the upper class, the middle class and the lower class. If we analyse these three classes we find that unemployment is non-existent in the upper classes while it is rampant in the lower classes. The sons of an I.A.S. or P.C.S. officer will never be unemployed but a son of a farmer or labourer will almost always be among the unemployed. The intensity of the unemployment problem is greater in the lower classes. Children of people living below the poverty line are unemployed despite their having educational qualifications. Farmers and labourers are also facing the same conditions, however the problem of unemployment is not found among the upper class. Therefore, jobs should be provided to people on the income basis, especially to economically backward, landless, unemployed and the kins of the labourers and the farmers. The resolution brought forth by Dr. Rajhans in the House is good and is con-

nected with the problems being faced by the people especially the youth. So, I would like to request to the Government to provide jobs essentially to the persons below the poverty line. Profession ceiling should also be introduced in respect of the person owning cinema houses, doctors, engineers and other professionals on the lines of the urban and the land ceilings, which have been in force for quite a long time. People in one profession should not be allowed to join some other profession. This is the only way to solve the unemployment problem in the country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, unemployment is found not only among the poor and the illiterates, but also among the literates. Today, Bihar is the victim of natural calamities. The persons owning upto 10 acres of land are also going out of Bihar in search of employment. Therefore, my submission is to set up 10 to 15 factories in North Bihar to solve the problem of unemployment in that State. The number of illiterates in the country is 4.5. crore. Same number of families are below the poverty line and are facing great hardships. So solve the problem of unemployment looming large in North Bihar, at least 10-15 factories should be set up there.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank the Hon. Prime Minister, for taking steps to solve the problem of unemployment in the country and also for doing something for the poor and the Harijans. For all this, the people of the country are thankful to him.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, employment exchanges in the country were set up with a view to providing jobs, but now they have become the havens of corruption. These do not provide jobs but only harass the youth. It is doubtful whether the Government will punish them or not, but definitely the almighty will not forgive them for extracting money from the downtrodden, who knock at their doors in the big cities like Delhi for jobs. Nobody cares for their plight, rather they are asked to pay a sum of Rs. 500-600 which is somehow on the other managed by the candidates. At times, it is arranged by selling the jewellery of housewives, but even then

the harassment is meted out to them. Often the ration card and the domicile artificial of Bihar are demanded of them. Sir, I therefore, request to do away with the system of these employment exchanges to enable the people to apply directly and be called for interview of jobs. These exchanges are of no use to the youth and in fact creating problems for them.

Sir, unemployment allowance is not given in all the areas. Amount of unemployment allowance for the educated unemployed should be enhanced to Rs. 100 per person per month and the condition of postal Orders, should also be waived. To enable the people to apply for jobs of the Union and the State Public Service Commission; examination fees should be waived so many technicalities are involved in it and for want of a certificate, application is rejected. People spend a lot of money to apply for jobs, but in several Offices, I have seen that applications in large numbers are destroyed. Applications of persons only with recommendations are accepted while those of others summarily rejected and destroyed. Therefore, I would like to request the Government to bring in a change in the procedure of acceptance of the application forms by all the Commissions, be it Railway public service Commissions, U.P.S.C. State Public Service Commissions or any other body, to enable people to appear in the examinations conducted by them without facing the problem of observance of any technicality and with no scope of rejection of their applications by the authorities on any ground whatever.

Sir, you can enquire about the difficulties the unemployed has to face to get a loan of Rs. 25,000 after a lot of harassment and that too is reduced to Rs. 15,000 after effecting money deductions and even this reduced amount is paid to him in two-three instalments. That such amount of loan serves no purpose and after some time it becomes liability on them. Therefore, the amount of loan should be raised to Rs. one lakh. I am happy that the hon. Minister of Finance is present in the House and take this opportunity to request him to improve the functioning

of the banks. Loans to 600 persons are to be given to bring them above the poverty line. Even if two percent is given as loans by the Banks then in what form it was given. Therefore, at first proper check should be exercised on the bank officials. Regional Managers also have a share in the swindled amount. So, at least they can be checked. All the deficiencies and corruption should be rooted out and at least a sum of Rs. one lakh should be given as loan to the unemployed, to enable them to start their own work on soft terms. With these words, I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on such an important subject which is connected with the welfare of youth.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI (Bellary): Sir, I thank Dr. Rajhans for having brought such an important Resolution before this House. Many members have already participated in this discussion and have given their suggestions. The main intention of this Resolution is that one person from each family should get employment. This is a very good measure which everybody expects. As on date, after the introduction of the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, I am also very happy that each person from each family will get a job. But job-wise we can differentiate. People want only white-collared jobs. They do not want other types of jobs. In this country, we have developed the dignity of labour. They do not want to work in the villages. They do not want to take up the jobs which are very much suited to them in the villages. They want only white collared jobs. So, the unemployment problem is increasing everyday. We have to remove this kind of stigma from among the youths. This is one of the reasons why the unemployment problem is increasing day by day. Another thing I would like to emphasise on the floor of the House is this. In the village, at present, education for children upto secondary school stage is available. They study upto SSLC and they are in search of jobs. I do not know what kind of jobs they expect. As on today they have become a burden on the society. We do not know how to accommodate such boys. The moment they complete their secondary education they do not want

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to do anything although their parents insist yet they only roam about in the streets. They days parasite way of living has become a common thing. People want to earn money without working. They do not want to work hard. They want easy money. This is how things are going on.

Unemployment problem is becoming huge everyday. I am of the view that another reason for the growing unemployment problem is our country is that some officers even after attaining the age of sixty years get extension of service with the result that so many people whose names are registered in the employment exchange rolls do not get employment. This is also one of the reasons for the growing unemployment problem in our country.

Here I would also like to mention another point. The main intention of the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, as has been mentioned by the Prime Minister also, is to give jobs in the rural areas. Jobs will be provided but at the time of providing jobs care should be taken by those who implement this scheme to see that one man from every family gets a job. I find these days what is happening is that if there is a doctor or an engineer or an IAS in a family then all the other members of that family also become either doctors or engineers or IAS. I know of a family where all the members of that family are doctors, namely, father, mother, son, daughter, daughter-in-law, etc. So once a person is employed the whole family gets employed and it becomes difficult for others who are not in the job to get into the mainstream.

Sir, the other day when Shri Veerendra Patil was speaking on Karnataka budget he mentioned how one has to pay for getting an appointment, transfer, cancellation of transfer, etc. For getting appointment as an engineer or a doctor one has to pay a lakh of rupees. Here I would like to narrate a small example from my personal experience. A doctor wanted to have a job. Unless he got a job he could not marry. For getting a job he

agreed to pay Rs. 1 Lakh. His family was very poor. They could manage only Rs. 40,000/- The balance of Rs. 60,000/- they could not manage. So, a girls was fixed marriage. The marriage took place. The girl was also highly educated. She never knew her father was giving a dowry. When she learnt that her father was giving a dowry of Rs. 60,000/- she refused to marry. She said that she was an educated girls. She did not want to marry a boy who wanted dowry. We had to intervene. We told her the background in which the boy was receiving Rs. 60,000/-. It was to get that job. When we convinced her then only she agreed to marry. This is the position. How many of us can afford to get such huge amounts for appointments for our children. Cancellation of appointments and all these things are going on. These things should taken into consideration. The persons who are already enjoying the benefits should not enjoy them again and again. Everybody should get equal benefit. We have a socialist pattern of society where every person should enjoy the fruits. We should try to see, as far as possible, that a family where no person has been employed should get priority at the time of getting the jobs. That should be the criterion at the time of appointment.

We have got huge amount of resources in our country. Our country is very rich in resources. What is not available in India? There is everything. Mineral wealth is there. Forest wealth is there. River wealth is there. Plantation areas are there. In spite of all these things being available, we have not just though of exploring them fully. We have not taken care how should we explore. These are the fields wherein a lot of jobs can be created. There are the fields where we can employ many people. It is not a question of creating employment. The country will also develop. We will get huge amount of foreign exchange by exploring mineral wealth and sending abroad. Whatever we produce, people are ready to purchase. Many of us don't know what the people in other countries want. We don't know these things. Otherwise, many people could have been employed in various jobs.

Ours is an agricultural country. Eighty per cent of our people depend on agriculture. We grow different varieties of crops. I think, in India we can have the cheapest food. When we go abroad, I think, food is very costly in other countries. In India, it is the cheapest because the farmers grow. Whether he gets a remunerative price or not, he has been growing. It is an unorganised sector. Nobody will listen to him, so, he is growing and giving you. But what is it that he can't. So, we could think of it. Our Prime Minister was kind enough to see that we got some valuable products out of agricultural production. Therefore, he said, wherever possible, we could start food processing, canning and tinning industries. By starting such industries in the rural areas, we can get abundant raw materials. Certainly we can provide jobs for thousands and thousands of people which we have not done so far. These things must be thought over seriously. These industries should be set up in the rural areas.

By introducing revolutionary and historic Bills yesterday, our Prime Minister has already taken a decision for decentralisation of powers and giving more powers to the rural people. All these measures go to the grassroot level. We should also think of creating more and more employment opportunities at the grassroot level by setting up cottage industries and processing units. So many things are there. These things should be seriously thought over and employment should be created at the grassroot level so that the young people do not come to the towns to search jobs and create more slums. Whenever there is a drought, flood or some other natural calamity, they rush to the cities which are becoming highly crowded without any sanitation, light or water. There is a mushroom growth of slums in the cities. If you want to prevent such things, then it must be seriously considered so that the village life becomes self-sufficient. Already we have been thinking on those lines. We should try to take effective steps further. Shri Rajiv Gandhi has recently taken a very bold decision about jobs for *Harijans* and *Girijans*.

16.00 hrs.

He has stated that a drive is already there, that the posts reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will be filled up by the end of August. This is a bold step in the right direction. The process is already going on. I hope the Railways have not given the necessary further information. They will also supply the information needed. Whatever may be the case, be it public undertaking or private undertaking, all the posts should be filled up.

We have been seeing that the primary school do not have sufficient number of teachers. This is very surprising. By the Operation blackboard, we wanted to strengthen the new education. Policy we wanted to strengthen general education. Wherever there is one single teacher, there should another teacher appointed. Wherever there is one single room, we should have another room. When such is the policy, still there are a number of schools where there are no teachers. Why are the teachers not appointed? What is the reason for this? These things should be seriously thought of. We should see that as far as possible, wherever the provision is there, wherever it is possible under the policy guidelines. The posts should be filled up immediately. There are a number of undertakings where the posts have been kept vacant for a long time. Whenever we contact the Postal Department regarding this, they say that there is a ban and they cannot afford. Only one person is appointed for mail service. There is huge demand and he cannot deliver the goods. When we ask the postmaster, he says that there is a ban for ten years and they cannot appoint even a single person. Moreover, they are insisting on retrenchment. How can we try to see more and more people getting employed in public institutions like railways and various undertakings if they try to put an end to employment? The demand is there. The subordinate offices place their demands before the executive. If the executives do not make up their mind and keep quiet and if they do not involve themselves in getting jobs for their brothers and sisters,

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then what can we do? This is a very serious matter which everybody should seriously think of. Instructions should be given from the Government that wherever there is a demand for filling up of posts, those posts should be immediately filled up. I am not pressing where there is no demand. When the posts which are to be filled up are lying vacant, then how is it possible to give employment to each family? Moreover, population is also increasing at a fast rate. We have not put an end to it. I think by the end of the century, population will increase by millions. If that will be the case, the number of schools will become insufficient and whatever we do will become insufficient. Things will never get fulfilled. So, only if we try to restrict the family growth, unemployment problem can be solved.

Many hon Members have spoken about corruption. Corruption is rampant in Employment Exchanges. Even the deserving persons have not enrolled. Here also, should have influence. A person went to an M.P to influence an Employment Exchange officer to see that his name was enrolled in the list. This is a very sad situation. If things go on like this, I think, people will lose their confidence. Wherever they go, they want money. When there is no money with them to apply for the post, they ask their parents that many is needed to apply for the post. This is the kind of tendency created in the country. We should put an end to thing practice. The youngsters openly say, "You ask us to apply for the posts, where is the money? First given us the money, only then we can put an application. Without money, we do not get the post." I do not know whether the middleman needs the money or the person who appoints needs it. We do not know as to what is going on. But money is needed. Unless we have money, we are not going to get even a small job, let alone the other big jobs.

Sir, education must be made cheaper. Only technical or job-oriented education will try to help them in getting sufficient jobs. What is happening in technical education?

A boy or a girl to get a medical or engineering seat, needs Rs.5 lakhs. From where will they get money? For becoming a medical student or an engineering student, one should have at least more than Rs 2 lakhs. It is very difficult for them to get seat without money. It is difficult to get huge money for admission in medical and engineering colleges. Even to get admission in a polytechnic institution is difficult; they demand a lot of money, Rs.20000/- or Rs. 25000. How can our children study in these job-oriented institutions? First of all, for entrance, we require a huge amount of money and then after they have completed the courses, a lot of money is needed for getting the job. How can the parents provide such a huge money? I have seen a number of parents or their children to have suicidal tendencies in such circumstances.

We know many girls are not getting married because of this; they are getting older and older. What to do? The people say: "You get her a job and only then we will marry your daughter," They come to us and say: Look here; nobody is marrying my daughter, get her a job. Unless you give her a job, nobody is going to marry her." These things are very much common in the society these days. Somehow, people are very much disgusted with this kind of situation.

In this context, I would like to make a few suggestions. There are huge projects which have been worked out and suggested by our scientists. They will create a lot of employment opportunities. These are all employment oriented. One is that there is plenty of water in Ganga, but there is no water in South. Ganga can be connected to Kaveri. How much manpower in there in this country. No other country has got that. We can use this manpower. Let this project be completed after twenty years. It will provide not only irrigation to farmers, even the employment potential is going to be increased. Wherever there are irrigation facilities, we do not get a coolie, because all of them have got jobs. Irrigation facilities create a lot of jobs. Then, mineral resources should be explored; we have plenty of them.

Further, there is a plenty of wasteland in our country. We can make use of that. So much manpower is there.

If such project are worked out, people will get employment. Children of many of the families will get employment. If one member of a family gets employment, the entire family becomes sophisticated, and certainly we will have a better society, the entire family will be rehabilitated by getting a job for one member. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister and the Government to take immediate and effective steps to see that each family gets job at least for one member in the near future. With these words, I conclude and thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKERJU: Before I call the next Mother to speak, I would like to inform the House that the time allotted for this item is already over. I have a long list of Members who want to participate in the discussion. If the House agrees, we can extend the time for this Resolution by another two hours for the time being.

MANY HON. MEMBERS : Yes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We extend the time by another two hours for this Resolution.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH *in the Chair*]

16.09 hrs

[Translation]

*SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU (Tumkur): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I support the resolution moved by Shri G.S. Rajhans. The objective of this resolution is laudable. The population of the country is 80 crores and the number of villages is more than 8 lakhs and the number of educated unemployed is going up day by day. As Smt. Basavarajeshwari has stated this is a very serious problem. Many people come to us and request for jobs. We have to provide jobs not only to graduates but also to Matriculates, because

about 90% of the unemployed are matriculates. In some families a number of persons are employed. The father of the family may be an I.A.S. Officer. His son may be an engineer and his daughter may be a Doctor. The total salary of such family where 4 to 5 persons work would range from 20 to 30 thousand rupees. On the other hand there are some families where no one is employed even though some of them are graduates. The poor is becoming poorer and the rich is becoming richer. It is our responsibility to check this imbalance. The educated unemployed are frustrated and they may indulged in anti-national activities. Naxalities are the result of frustration of educated unemployed youths.

Even after 43 years of independence this problem of unemployment is before us. The Ministry of labour cannot be blamed for this. Every individual of this country should think about this problem seriously. We should also think as to how to utilise the man power completely. The father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi had dream of complete removal of poverty. this can be done only when you provide atleast one job to each family. Our education system has to be reformed thoroughly. At present the graduates are coming out of the universities without any aim. Therefore it is very essential to give top priority to vocational education. Students after completing Matriculation should not go to Universities blindly. They should select the courses according to their ability and interest. It is better if they take up vocational education.

If you invest 1 crore rupees in irrigation about one thousand acres of land can be irrigated and this would provide jobs to atleast 5,000 persons. If you invest the same amount in industry then only 20 person can get job. We have to provide atleast one job to each family such that they can manage to get the basic amenities like food, clothing etc.

Our Hon. Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi very recently stressed the point and suggested for the complete removal of unemployment in the country.

[Sh. G.S. Basavaraju]

The industrialists somehow manage to amass wealth and many of them evade taxes. They are not at all bothered about the unemployment problem. Similarly many technical educational institutions are also not bothered about the serious problem of unemployment. Mechanically these institutions are sending technical graduates to the society. Infact many such institutions have become business centres. An engineering graduate from a poor family cannot get a job even though he has secured 96% marks. Candidates do not get admission to engineering colleges even if they have secured very high marks unless they pay huge amount of capitation fee. Students hailing from rich families pay donation and get admission to Medical Colleges inspite of the fact that they have secured only 45% marks. Hence we have to take note of such bad practices in our education system and take steps to do away with such practice. Similarly the widening gap between urban and rural areas should be checked. A student coming from a village cannot compete with another student coming from a city because of the change in environment and other facilities. There is one HMT Factory in Tumkur. They conducted a test for recruitment very recently. The medium for this test was English and many applicants hailing from rural areas could not pass the test. Then I suggested the management to conduct the test in the regional language. In that Test many candidates belonging to village passed the test ultimately they got the jobs also.

There should be reservations for the down trodden people and the rest of the jobs should be given to the genuine candidates. Jobs should not be given on the basis of influence. Similarly preference should not be given to a particular community or cost etc. In Karnataka 180000 persons got the jobs during Congress (I) Rule. and all of them were Matriculates. Their salary was rupees five hundred only and this has not been revised till recent time. Such aspect also

should be looked into by the Honourable Minister.

Candidates belonging to different States find it difficult to get jobs in the central government offices. Hence I urge upon the Hon'ble Minister and the Prime Minister to take steps to remove imbalance that is existing between States at present. I hope the Hon'ble Minister would look into all these aspects and take proper steps to root out unemployment from this country.

Sir, once again I support the resolution moved by Shri Rajhans and I congratulate him for his efforts to bring such an important resolution in this august House. Sir I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak and with these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore): Hon. Chairman, I am very grateful to you that after waiting for five days, I have been given an opportunity to participate in this very essential and useful resolution moved by my hon. colleague Dr. Rajhansji. He is not here but I must congratulate him for bringing this resolution in the House to know the attitude and thinking of the hon. Members of this House who would give some suggestions to this very gigantic problem which is being faced in our country, i.e. the unemployment problem.

Hon. Chairman, I would like to speak in my mother-tongue-Oriya.

Hon. Chairman, I would like to speak in my mother-tongue-Oriya.

[Translation]

*Mr. Chairman Sir, at the outset, I would like to extend my thanks to my friend Honourable Member Shri Gauri Shankar Rajhans for bringing to this important Resolution in this House. Sir, unemployment problem is one of the major problems in our country.

Honourable Member Rajhansji has laid emphasis on his Resolution for the solution of this problem. He has urged in his Resolution to provide suitable employment to at least one member from each family." I welcome this decision. I was very attentively listening to the speeches made by the Honourable Members from the date this House started discussion on this Resolution. Almost all the Hon'ble Member have expressed deep concern for the growing employment in the country. I share my concern with them.

Sir, I had stated earlier that the unemployment problem is increasing in our country. It is very difficult to provide jobs to every people of this country. However, I must appreciate our Government for taking necessary steps to create employment opportunities for every people. While we will speak on the unemployment problem, first we must find out the reasons for growing unemployment in our country. As far as I know growing population is one of the reasons of the unemployment. The parents do not think of the future of the children. They do not plan family. So, the rise in population leads to unemployment. We have to check the alarming growth of population. Another reason of growing unemployment is the increase in the number of educational institutions in the country. In the past we had not so many educational institutions in our country as they are today. Such a large number students were not able to get education. Quite a few students during those days were passing out of the educational institutions and seeking jobs. Now different kinds of educational institutions are coming up at different places in the country. With the increase in the number of educational institutions more number of students are getting jobs. When they come out of the educational institutions, they are seeking jobs and hence the unemployment problem is increasing in our country.

The third factor responsible for the growing unemployment is the lack of interest shown by the educated youth to self-employment scheme. As you know, Sir, it is very difficult to provide employment to every

unemployed educated youths in the country. No Government will be able to meet this great challenge. However, our Govt. have launched self-employment schemes. These schemes are not being popularised. Due publicity has not been given to the advantages of self-employment schemes. So, the educated youths are not going to accept self-employment scheme as their career. The attitude of the educated youths is different. They want easy money. They want to earn a fix amount of pay every month regularly. But, I am grateful to our late former Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi. She was very much concerned for the growing unemployment problem in the country. So she had launched the self-employment scheme. She realised that it is not possible to provide employment to everybody. On the other hand everybody should be able to earn their livelihood. So, she started self-employment schemes for helping the educated unemployed youths to provide the opportunity to earn their livelihood. She had also introduced 20-Point Economic Programme, the main concept of which is to provide job opportunities to the unemployed. I am grateful to our present dynamic young Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, who has revised the 20-Point economic programmes and dedicated it to the nation. As you know Sir, the banks were nationalised by Smt. Indira Gandhi. The nationalised banks have been given instructions to help the educated youths for self-employment. But it is regrettable that the nationalised banks are not performing their task well. The Reserve Bank of India has issued instructions to different commercial banks to assist the State Governments as well as the youths selected for self-employment schemes. But, it is a tragedy that the commercial banks are not extending any help to the youths. Rather it is taking a lot of time in getting the loans. Sir, a man has come from my Constituency. His son has applied for a loan from a bank six months back under the self-employment scheme. Sanction has been accorded to him. But the bank is delaying payment on one pretext or the other. Though six months have been passed the boy has not yet been able to get the payment. His father had to spend about

[Sh. Chintamani Jena]

about Rs.500/- for coming to meet me at Delhi to narrate his plight. The Hon'ble Finance Minister is not present here at the moment. However, I am saying this for your information. Due to this type of irregularities by the banks, the self-employment schemes are not able to produce good results.

Sir, the fourth factor responsible for growing unemployment is the establishment of new projects. As you know Sir, developing country like ours is on the path of progress. Various projects are being set up for the industrial development of different areas. New irrigation projects are being set up. Whether it is Industry, irrigation or any other project, a large chunk of population are being uprooted when such projects are set up. Though there is a provision that the displaced persons should be suitably rehabilitated, steps are not being taken by project authorities in that regard. So, alternative sites should be selected for the settlement of affected people before taking up any project. Another complaint is that adequate compensation is not being paid to the people whose land is being acquired. So, the economic condition of these people is not being improved. The third and the main point is with regard to providing job to the affected people. As I was saying at least one person from each displaced family should be given employment in the project. But it is regrettable that this provision is not being implemented by any project authority. A large number of projects have been set up in Orissa. Many people have been displaced on account of the establishment of those projects. The affected people have not been given compensation, or rehabilitation or employment. However, I am grateful to my friend Shri Raj Hans Jee for bringing this resolution. But I want to give an amendment to his resolution. Shri Raj Hans Jee has said that at least one member from each family should be provided with suitable employment. "I want to give the amendment as follows:-

"that no more than one member each family should be provided with employment" so long one member from every family has

not got employment. Now I am explaining why I gave this amendment. If one member of a family is absorbed in a service, he applies his influence and helps his other family members, kith & kin in getting employment. Take the case of Railway Services. Suppose one person get employment in Railways. He brings his brother, sisters and his relatives to him and absorbs them in Railways services. Such cases are taking place in several other departments. On the other hand there are more intelligent, more educated and more efficient people in his neighborhood, who are deprived of getting any employment. Therefore, not more than one member of each family should be provided with employment". This provision should be strictly observed so long one member from each family in this country has got any employment. This should be applied to public and private sectors too. When one candidate is called for interview, the appointing authority should find out if anybody from his family has already got any employment anywhere. If the answer is in affirmative, then the candidate should not be selected for the job. If necessary, the Govt. should bring a Bill seeking this objective. Sir, I am grateful to our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi who is very serious in removing unemployment problem from the country. A number of schemes have been introduced by the Govt. to tackle the problem of unemployment. Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India introduced five year plans programmes. Measures were adopted in each five years plans to provide employment to the unemployed. Targets were fixed in five year plan completed employment. But it is a tragedy that every five year plans others leaving behind a huge backlog of unemployment. Sir, I am grateful to our Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi for introducing Jawahar Rojgar Yojana. This will go a long way in solving unemployment problems in the country, particularly a large number of rural people will get job under this scheme. So, this scheme should be effectively be implemented and funds provided under the scheme should be properly spent.

Sir, the large scale and medium industries have got tremendous employment potentials. A number of proposals to set up

large and medium industries at different parts of the country are pending before the Government. Most of those proposals are not being implemented due to the constraint of resources. This problem is not there with the small scale and cottage industries. Therefore we should up small scale and cottage industries on priority. I request to the Hon'ble Planning Minister to pay proper attention to it.

Sir, you are an inhabitant of Orissa. As you know the proposal to set up a second steel plant in Orissa is pending since long. Site has been selected. Land has been acquired and other preliminary works have been completed. There is no dearth of water, labour and raw materials. In fact, the raw materials available in the nearby mines are of very high quality. If the Steel Plan is set up it will provide employment to a large number of unemployed youths in Orissa. It will go a long way in solving the unemployment problem of the State. But it is regrettable that the Steel Plant has not been established due to the constraint of the resources. If there is constraint of resources why should not the Govt. consider the proposal to set up some mini steel plants in that state. About 3—4 mini steel plants could easily set up in Orissa. As I have stated earlier there is no dearth of raw materials and other infrastructures for the mini steel plants. These mini steel plants can provide employment to the local people. Therefore, Govt. should set up these mini steel plants in Orissa without any further delay.

Then I would like to say a word about the scope of providing employment in the agricultural sector. You know Sir, India is an agricultural country. We can engage a large number of people in agriculture. But we are not able to provide irrigation facilities to the entire cultivable land in our country. Hardly, 34% of the total land in our country are being provided with irrigation facilities. We are not able to grow more than one crop a year in about 67% of the land. That is the reasons why the farmers are not able to produce enough foodgrains. The educated youths are not attracted to accept cultivation as

their career because, a lot of labour is involved in it. Another things in modern method of cultivation. Sir, there is tremendous irrigation potential available in the country. If we make proper investment we can harness our irrigational potentialities. In the process, additional land could be brought under assured irrigation. We can adopt modern technology in cultivation. The Scientists should be advised to transfer the technology from the laboratories to the land. In this way, we can attract the educated youths to accept cultivation as their Vocation. If we do so, we can engage a large number of educated unemployed youths in agricultural sectors.

MR. CHAIRMAN : How much time you will take?

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Sir, I shall take 2 to 3 minutes more. After the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi assumed the office, he made extensive tour to different parts of the country. He went to every nook and corner of the country and personally studied the problem of the people. He found that the unemployment problem is the major problem facing the country now. A large number of students coming out of different educational institutions are seeking jobs. But with their present educational qualifications, all the students are not able to get jobs. Because they do not have technical qualification. They are suffering because of our defective education system. Our Prime Minister felt the need to change the existing education system. He assured the problem to introduce new education policy. It is heartening to note that the new education policy is being implemented in the country. Vocational courses of studies have been given priority in the new educational policy. So there is a need to set up more number of vocational institutions in the country. But, the state Governments are not financially sound to establish more such institutions. Therefore, I urge upon the Central Govt. to provide adequate funds to the State Govts. Students now undergoing vocational studies will be benefited when they come out successfully in their examination.

[Sh. Chintamani Jena]

Sir, lastly, I would like to say that we have not yet been able to tackle the unemployment problem in the country. We have even not been able to provide employment to a least one member from each family. Now, we are in the terminal year of the 7th Five Year Plan. After a few months, the 8th Five Year Plan will begin. I would respectfully like to submit that atleast in the 8th Plan we must provide employment to one member from each family. I would like to request to the Govt. to adopt proper strategies to provide suitable employment a least to one member from each family in the 8th Plan.

With these words I thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to speak and conclude my speech.

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY (Gopalganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank the hon. member, Dr. G.S. Rajhans, for having brought such an important and timely resolution in the House, which seeks to provide a job to at least one person from every family.

Almost all the discussions in this House, be it on the issues concerning the Ministry of Industry or those concerned with the Ministry of Labour always concentrate on the main problem of unemployment. One yearly evaluation, we can find that this problem, instead of reducing, is getting aggravated day by day in India.

All the hon. Members of this August House have demanded urgent concrete steps to solve the unemployment problem. Shri Rajiv Gandhi has also taken several steps in this connection. However, what is the reason for the widening gap between the rich and the poor in this country? Does the main fault lie in the presence of the intermediaries or is there some very serious drawback in the recruitment system itself?

In my opinion the resolution brought forth by Dr. G.S. Rajhans is good, but the present structure in an outworn one which

appears to be a failure to solve this problem. If someone is employed in railways then all the 10 members of his family can also be found in service only. As soon as anyone gets employed in any of the departments he wants all his family members to have white collar jobs in that very department. Hence a law should be enacted to lay down the criteria for selecting other family members of a person who is already in service. If the financial condition of his family is sound. It should also be seen that merit is the criteria for such selection? Then how is it that a less educated person from the family of the General Manager in Railways finds the job of a clerk in the same office. Under these conditions, it is not possible to provide jobs to atleast one member of every family. Mahatma Gandhi had said that the development of the nation is possible only when we are able to provide jobs to atleast one member of every family.

We have been continuously airing the slogan of Roti, Kapara our Makan in the country. Though this could not be achieved, but we have definitely made a motion picture on the subject under the very title Roti, Kapara our Makan.'

All the guardians today want to marry off their daughters to boys in employment. Similarly, in the urban areas working girls are preferred at the time of marriage.

So, how long we will take to eradicate unemployment? What is our policy in this regard? Therefore I would like to know from the hon. Minister of their past and present Government about the proposals and programmes for the eradicating of unemployment? I hope he will definitely highlight this thing in his reply.

Definitely the population is constantly increasing in India and it is also not possible to check the menace of unemployment but the resolution brought forward by Dr Rajhans seeks to provide jobs to atleast one member of every family. In the resolution, it is nowhere said that jobs will be offered to 2-4 member of every family. If we go on giving protection like this, a day will come when you

will find as many as 10 to 15 members of a family have joined service. But what about the poor people. There are economically backward people who possess only 2 Kottas of land. They put in hard labour and even then they are not able to manage two square meals for their family members. Now, I would request Shri Malaviya to think deeply the situation prevailing in Delhi where people only from Bihar come of the propose of employment in foreign countries and robbed of Rs. 500 to Rs. 1000 in individual cases with the false hope of jobs. when these poor people get disappointed, they migrate to cities. In Delhi job racketeers demand huge sums from them to provide jobs. They lure them on false hopes that they will be provided a employment abroad. Poor people fall prey to their designs. Under that impressions they sell away all their properties and belonging to arrange a sum of Rs. 25000 to Rs. 30,000 and come to Delhi with the hope of getting jobs. You can come across a number of such instance in the Labour Department while poor people were duped with the false hope of getting jobs. None of them has so far been sent abroad. Even today you will find them roaming about in the streets of Varanasi, Calcutta, Guwahati etc. As the poor people are not an educated lot, their aspirations for earning attractive amount makes them helpless. Today the situation in India is deteriorating because problems of the youth go on increasing. When young people have got higher education they only want white collared jobs for them. In order to over come such a phenomenon I request you to arrange imparting training to youths in the areas where you propose to set up new industries because at the time of interview the Recruiting Officers reject their candidature. They say that these people do not possess any technical knowledge.

The hon. Prime Minister introduced the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana with a view to providing employment to the un-employed. In Delhi, where top personalities live, considerable cheating take place everyday in the name of employment for the people. The Government should take effective measures to check these incidents. Shrimati In-

dira Gandhi had nationalised the banks with the objective that our standard of living will improve with the active cooperation of banks. But today condition of the rural banks is worse. In my district Gopalganj, a bungling of Rs. 60,00,000 was detected in a bank. Some poor people met me with the request to arrange bank loans for them. But it is surprising that the B.D.O. and the Bank Manager took their signatures on 10 papers and did not give them loans. A sum of Rs. 1,80,00,000 was swindled in the name of the poor people falsely in a block of district Gopalganj, which I request here. Now all these poor people have taken their cases to the court. I request you to hold an enquiry into it. On the one hand the poor people were not given loans while on the other hand they were told that they had taken the loans of a particular amount. Today these poor people make their both ends meet begging. Such is the condition of these poor people. I request you evolve a system in which poor people could be given loans at the proper time and in a proper way.

I also request you to fill up all the reserved vacancies meant for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes. I request you to conduct a survey first and thereafter fill up the vacancies as soon as possible so that unemployment problem could be solved to some extent.

Just now one of our hon. friends, Shri Jena was suggesting that people should be motivated to avail themselves of the self-employment scheme. But I want to know as to what are the reasons that the population in Delhi is increasing day by day. Today all the villagers are migrating to cities. Why it is so. It is so because the villagers are devoid of education. They are not able to comprehend the Government of policies fully. A number of schemes are being introduced by the Government for the development of villages. But these schemes are not being implemented properly. Several hon. Members have made a demand in the House that Members of Parliament should be represented on the Board of Directors in the banks. I have been listening to all these things for the last 4

[Sh. Kali Prasad Pandey]

years, but I fail to understand as to what is the difficulty in taking the local Member of Parliament on the Board of Directors. In the committee of the District Employment Scheme, Members of Parliament should be included so as to strengthen the hands of Government. They will see that justice is done to the people. I feel sad while disclosing this thing in this supreme institution of the country that employment is being made available to people who have money with them. Today only those people get employment easily, because they have good backing. Hon. Members sitting in the House know it very well how the people rush to approach them first to talk to the recruiting agencies over phone when they receive call letters. Should I think that in future the Government is going to evolve a system which will instill confidence in the minds of young people that they will get employment on the basis of the educational qualifications they have acquired and not on the basis of some others recommendations. If this sort of confidence could be instilled in every un-employed person in the country, he will think that he can get employment on the basis of his own merits and not on the basis of some political leader's recommendations. Today, the standard of education has also been a factor responsible for the problem of unemployment. The Government claims that it is taking measures to provide employment to poor people and improve their standard of living. I agree to this. But it is a fact that even when matric level qualification has been prescribed for a job, a poor man's son cannot apply for the same because in spite of his basic talents he is not in a position to get education as he has no money and cannot afford to manage even two square meals for them. I, therefore, request you to conduct a survey in respect of such un-employed people in the country and assess in the first instance the extent of poverty in this country. Secondly, it may identify those middle class families which do not have any land and are fully dependent on service. Thirdly, such families should also be identified whose members are in the I.A.S. or I.P.S. and

enjoying all such facilities as are at their disposal for a modern living. Such families should be given last priority for the purpose of employment. I want that this should be done and your Ministry should work in conformity with the objectives set by the Hon. Prime Minister for improving the living standard of poor people at the time of introducing the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. you are yourself and active person and your hon. Minister Shri Dubey is also holding the charge of the Ministry of Labour. I expect from both of you to take concrete steps for implementing the suggestions made by Shri Rajhans in his Resolution so that every unemployed person and every family in the country who have been hitherto denied employment, could be provided employment.

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY (Hazaribagh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of great happiness for all of us that Shri Rajhans has brought this Resolution in the House. If you make an earnest assessment of the unemployment situation, you will agree that if we are not able to find a solution to the unemployment problem, the un-employed people roaming about in the streets will create a very embarrassing situation for all of us. If we are not able to find out a solution to this problem, it will take a very ugly turn people in every part of the country have started realising it. No matter whether we all them terrorists, naxalites, antisocial elements or by any other name all these basically signify that one can only make use of one's energy, dedication or potential to do something. If we do not utilise it in the right direction, others may misuse it and we will remain helpless spectators. This will cause a lot of disorder. In the present circumstances, this is a relevant question, it is a very serious problem. I feel that adequate attention has not paid in this direction and there is some lacuna in it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while formulating a plan, we always consider and announce that more employment opportunities will be made available with the implementation of the plan. If you see each Head of the plan, it indicates the possibility of increasing

employment and you will find that it expects that with the expansion of each and every industry, the production will increase, thereby giving rise to the employment opportunities. What has, however, really happened is that the production has doubled but the jobs have been reduced to half. This situation prevails in each state. A thorough study has been conducted regarding the mining sectors and it has been found that the number of workers employed in the mining sector remains the same as it was 10 years back viz. only 10 lakhs. The production of coal has increased 4 times but the number of workers which was 7 lakhs still remains the same. The production of other minerals too has increased 4 times but if 3 lakh workers were employed there, their strength has not increased correspondingly. I am not speaking of only one sector. You may see any sector of the industry. In the field of steel, the strength of workers in the same as it was 10 years ago. Now such schemes are being formulated that the workers may be given voluntary retirement so that some or the other means of reducing the number of employees may be found out. This is a very strange situation. 80 per cent of the industries and mines has been taken over by the Government. If you talk to the industrialists or rather the Managing Director or Director (Personnel) who are the new industrialists and owners under the present up, about the problem of unemployment, they say that some solution has to be found out for the surplus labour and that the question of providing new jobs does not arise. While our country's population is increasing at the rate of population increase in Australia, we are also making efforts to improve the living standard of our masses. We want to increase the production of consumer goods, eatables, and clothing but still there is some misunderstanding that with the increase in population, there has been no scarcity of clothes in our country. But the fact is that the strength of workers in the textile industry has been reduced to half. Whenever a new movement takes place, 1 to 2 thousand workers are screened out. More than one lakh textile worker have been jobless in Bombay, Maharashtra and Ahmedabad, though the production of cloth has been

increasing constantly. What kind of society do we intend to build up. Just now, one of the hon. lady Members rightly pointed out as to what are the possible jobs opportunities in our country. There is no such field in which we cannot succeed. We have made some improvement in agriculture, though it is not substantial. The impact of Green Revolution has not been wider. It has remained confined to the adjoining areas of Delhi which is the centre of power and it has also made some impact in and around the capital cities of the States. But in most of the areas, we have not been able to provide means of irrigation till today. How can one support one's family there? Nothing is being done in this regard.

17.00 hrs.

They said that the water of the river Ganga should be channelised to river caveri Mr. Chairman, Sir, this sounds funny. In Bihar, there is the heaviest flow of water in the river Ganga, which can not be compared with its flow in any other State. But in Bihar, people use the water of Ganga only as the Holy *Gangajal* or for sacred bath but not for irrigation purposes. Every year, we have to face the fury of both the natural calamities viz. flood and drought simultaneously. We are destined to die one way or the other at one place for the overflow of water and at the other for want of water. Can we not find out a solution to this man-made calamity? It is manpower, not the technology, which is required there and we have the former in abundance. Yet we fail even here. The Hon. Prime Minister deserves to be congratulated since he has started thinking in this direction. At present, the vacancies reserved for the Harijans and Adivasis in the public sector undertakings, though used to be de-notified earlier, are lying unfilled. The Hon. Minister has made such provision that such vacancies which are reserved for Harijans and Adivasis will not be left unfilled. The excuse of the non-availability of such candidates will not do. If candidates are not available in Bihar, the vacancies may be filled by the candidates from other States. The Hon. Prime Minister has said that this is wrong to assume that adequate number of eligible can-

[Sh. Damodar Pandey]

didates among the Harijans and Adivasis is not available. He has directed that vacancies will have to be filled up and this is being done now. Today when the Government promises to increase employment, it has to think on the lines of providing employment to one person from each family and to each eligible person.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the position is not bad today that the educated and capable youth are without jobs.

The Government is unable to make use of their capability which is required in the building up of our country. It is our duty to think on those lines. If we do not do so, then as I said earlier, we will be lagging behind. We should find out a solution to this problem as there is no other alternative with us.

These days there are no vacancies in the industries. The condition of the Government machinery is such, as some, as some Members pointed out just now, that there is no such department where at least 10-15 per cent vacancies are not lying unfilled. These should be filled. It is beyond my comprehension as to why we should not create new jobs. How can progress be possible in their absence. What would be the condition of the progress if under the new economic process, new hands are not absorbed in place of the retired people. The result will be that the work will remain pending. Why should the employees bother to put in more labour? If work is left pending it will give rise to corruption. Interested parties will pay bribes to get their work done. Everyone knows that all these things lead to mismanagement. Today the condition in the Government machinery as well as in the public undertakings is the same. If the vacancies are not filled in every place, there will be loss of work which will lead to the loss of every one and people will have no faith in us. Just now Shri Kali Prasad

Pandey and other colleagues pointed out that employment has also become a trading, "trading in human misery." Some people have started their own business in the name of education. Capitation fee upto 2-2.5 lakh is charged for admission to medical and engineering colleges in various parts of our country. Such a mismanagement is giving rise to disorder. Such instances are countless. Have you ever thought of it as to what we are doing and to whom we are encouraging by doing so? When someone has got through the examination by paying the capitation fee, his first ambition of being most sought after at the time of marriage gets fulfilled. The father of the bride sells away his farm and property to get his daughter married to such a boy. However after marriage when the boy becomes a father, he runs from pillar to post in search of job. Do we ever even imagine his agony? Thus I do not feel that we can impart very good education by means of giving capitation fee. Only such students get admission there who are not admitted anywhere else. How does the question of standard arise when one has to buy a degree. Any one can manage to get passed by means of paying bribe and the result is that they remain unemployed. Our engineers and doctors possessing all kinds of degrees and diplomas have no chance of employment. The Government should make efforts to lead the society to some particular destination. The Hon. Prime Minister has said about providing employment under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana for 100-150 days to one member of each family living below poverty line. But something has to be thought about the rest of the unemployed. We have to think as to how the overall progress of the society could be ensured. No progress can be possible unless we make a provision for employment-oriented education and employment-oriented work. My suggestion is that this should be considered seriously and while giving the reply the hon. Minister of Labour should give assurance on his own behalf and find out some solution so that our reputation in the society is enhanced. With these words I express my gratitude to you for granting me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRIN. TOMBISINGH (Inner Manipur):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Resolution put forward by my hon. friends, Dr. G.S. Rajhans, i.e. employment to at least one member of a family in the country. This is, of course, a very minimum requirement. But towards this end, the Government has to put in many projects and to take steps in order to provide this possibility, in order to provide infrastructure for this practical step.

Employment is one aspect. Similarly another important aspect is under-employment. People are employed but then they do not get sufficient money, sufficient salary. In the same office, people are employed in different grades and the difference in pay is very big difference between the highest officer and the lowest *chaprasi*. It is because of this very big difference in pay between the highest and the lowest officer in the office, the tendency to be corrupt arises because even the *chaprasi* with his small salary has to maintain his family honorably.

We can think of different areas in different parts of the country. All the States are not of the same status. Some States are very prosperous although in the same prosperous State, there are backward areas. In States like Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka there are backward areas. Then there are States which are totally backward. There are States which are not touched by even an inch of railway line. These States do not have even the sign of a small-scale industry. The small States of the North-Eastern region like Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh are such States. Geographically area-wise, Arunachal Pradesh is a very vast State and its area is much bigger than Assam but Assam is more or less a viable State. Arunachal Pradesh is very big area-wise. But its people are backward. There is no sign of any industry or railway in this State. Its population is still very small. But in view of the strategic importance it has in defence, we have to take special measures like starting of suitable industries in the State. We have to take some States like Sikkim,

Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura and Mizoram and take special measures to provide employment to people. Meghalaya is also another problem State for employment particularly educated unemployment. Coming to Nagaland, where Indian version insurgency has started soon after independence and Panditji had to go out of his way and meet the demands of the Nagas like giving them a full State. But their demand was something else. All these things had to be understood in the context of many young people not at all very close to the mainstream of Indian thought. They were educated in the Western background without finding job opportunities for education. Similar is the case in my State of Manipur. Today we have a vast number of colleges and schools. What else the parents can do? At least, the parents can keep their boys and girls, their sons and daughters, content with going to schools and colleges and universities but there comes a time when they have to stop going to universities, colleges and schools after they get their degrees. These educated youth are tempted to do many things because they have seen and heard and read of many modern things outside the country as well as inside the country. As Shrimati Indira Gandhi, our Prime Minister has said and I quote:

"I can understand the anger of the young people in the North-East because they have seen the prosperity and development in other parts of the country which they do not see in their own parts and they have their own ambition to develop their own State."

This is the exact position. So, in order to provide satisfaction to the educated unemployed people, the Government must do something more. This is one aspect. To a great extent, this has some relation to the socio-economic condition of the State. These young people are with full of enthusiasm. Boys and girls are educated. But they have got nothing else to do. So, they are tempted to insurgency, they are tempted to smuggling, they are tempted to so many other kinds of anti-social activities. In order to stop

[Sh. N. Tombi Singh]

the insurgency and other anti-social activities like smuggling in the border States like ours, we have to provide some means of livelihood for these people. The problem cannot be solved merely by this kind of employment. By employment, in our area, we mean getting some Government jobs because there is no railway establishment, there is no industry. They have only to go to some Government Department or Government Institution. But how many people can be employed by Government Institutions or Government Departments? In order to provide employment facilities, income facilities to these young people, we have to provide the infrastructure for small-scale industries. We have got plenty of potential in the field of agro-forestry etc. For instance, there is the handloom industry. It has itself a proved and time-tested industry where we can do a lot for these people. The steps that we have taken so far are not sufficient. To this end, we would like to suggest to the Government some measures to meet the requirements of our country particularly in respect of the States where people are backward, where the railways are not to be seen, where the industries have yet to come in order to provide them employment facilities. It is not a question of the economic viability of a State. But at least something should be done to start with, there should be something whereby the people will become content. In order to achieve that, we have to take major steps.

Sir, I am thankful to you for the time you have given to me to support this Resolution. I wholeheartedly support this Resolution. I hope the Government will take some measures so that when Dr. Rajhans has to withdraw his Resolution, he will withdraw it with some satisfaction, with some assurance from the Government. He will withdraw it with some satisfaction that some steps will be taken by the Government.

[Translation]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mandsaur):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all, I would like to

congratulate you and express my gratitude to Dr. G.S. Rajhans for presenting for consideration before the House an issue which is like the nerve-centre of the entire country. I myself agree from the core of my heart with the resolution moved by Dr. Rajhans and, therefore, I support the same. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to raise certain points and I believe that the responsible people of our Government will give full attention to those points. I am happy to note that the hon. Minister of State, Shri Malviya is present in the House and is taking notes of all the points. So far as the spirit of this resolution is concerned, everybody will support the demand that at least one member of each family should be provided employment. It is a dire necessity. As has been said just now by Shri Kali Prasad Pandey, we have not been able to view the problem in its proper perspective. I would like to speak particularly about the State capitals, whether it is Bhubaneswar Srinagar, Bhopal, Patna or any other capital. You might have seen that in the well to do and influential families, while the husbands are already drawing fat salaries, the wives and children too get employment at the asking and start drawing Rs. 5 to 7 thousand per month as salary. It is an ordinary thing in such families. The children of poor family have to struggle very hard to get jobs but the children of affluent families manage to get jobs easily. This means that something is wrong somewhere with our policy. I think, the entire House will agree with me if I say that all the people of the country have a right to get employment. It is a fundamental right in our constitution and I do not want to raise finger at anybody's livelihood. But we must pay attention towards two types of people. The first type comprises the people, who suffer from indigestion due to over-eating and in the second category there are people who do not get to eat. They pine for food and are at the verge of starvation. The objective of the Resolution moved by Shri Rajhans is to provide support to the people who are hungry.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, where does the root cause lie? Since the problem mainly affects the post-independence generation, what is

seen as the root-cause is that we do formulate policies but astonishingly we do not frame rules thereunder. When we frame a policy and approach the officers to get the relevant rules framed thereunder, we find that the rules thus framed are generally lax and loopholes are deliberately left therein. Thus we find that inspite of the fact that the policies are good, there is no coordination between the policy and the rules. Such type of feeling is there among the people of our country. Had there been any coordination between the policy and the rules, at least one person from each family would have got employment.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit to the Minister of Labour through you that under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act passed by this august House, fixed minimum wages are required to be paid to all the labourers. But I feel happy to see that when I go to my district, I find that one does not get labourer at the minimum wage fixed by the Government. Then, we realise that these rules have proved to be a failure. It is the failure of the Government. Had the rules framed by the Government been properly implemented there, then we would have got labourer at the minimum wages fixed by the Government. Today, the daily wage of a labourer is higher than the minimum wage fixed under the rules. When we think about the agricultural labourers, we see that the assurance has been given by the Parliament as well as the Government to provide them job for 150 days or 160 days in a year and not for 365 days. Therefore, one thing about which we have to think about is to formulate some special schemes for agricultural labourers. Efforts should be made to make such schemes employment-oriented.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to convey, through you, an important point to the hon. Minister. You take any of the States, and computerize the names registered for employment with the Employment Exchanges in all the districts of that State; link them up with the help of computer and you will find that many job aspirants have registered themselves with more than one Ex-

change. Some people have registered themselves twice and there are many others who have been registered even thrice or four times. If a survey is conducted in any State, I am sure 20 to 30 per cent such people would be detected who have got their names registered at different levels in search of employment.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to tell one thing to the hon. Minister through you that in our country the problem of employment among the uneducated people is not so acute as is in the case of educated people. The moment a youth comes out from the college with his degree, he wants a job. When he can study while doing a job, I cannot understand why cannot he study while working. We shall have to draw a dividing line between employment and a job. Job and employment are two different things. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I shall take a few minutes more. I want to narrate one of my bitter experiences, in the House. When I was a Minister in the Government of Madhya Pradesh, two youngmen came to me for employment. The sweeper of the Department of Agriculture who was working at my bungalow as a Gardener, did not know that I was there in the Chamber. He told those boys that if they had come here to get jobs, I would like to make it clear that it was beyond Minister's capability to provide a job to them. However, if they wanted to get some work, pick up that spade and start working right now as I could give you a job at the rate of Rs. 11 per day. When I listened to the sweeper, I paid obeisance to him that he had uttered the fact. When he noticed that I was present in the Chamber, he stood stunned and told me that he did not mean that. What I mean to say is that we have to differentiate between employment and a job and clearly spell out whether we have to provide them job or employment.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, today our villages are facing the danger of being swallowed by the cities in the same way as a cobra swallows little creatures. Rural people came to the cities in search of employment. Why does not the Government provide them

[Sh. Balkavi Bairagi]

employment in the villages itself? The Government will have to give it a thought. Shri Rajiv Gandhi has been kind enough to launch Jawahar Rozgar Yojana to provide employment in the villages. It is good that rules, laws and norms for this scheme have been formulated by the Government at the Central level. Had this work been left to the district authorities, they would have posed a variety of problems. It is a matter of happiness that all these rules have been framed by the Centre itself, so that there is no scope for any foul play at the lower level. Today maximum number of complaints about Jawahar Rozgar Yojana are received from those employees who feel that they would no more be able to create hindrance in its implementation. We are happy that at least the policy and the rules have been framed in Delhi. When the policies and the rules both are framed in Delhi, it will hardly leave any scope for manipulation. I am very grateful to Shri Rajhans for raising this issue in the House. I would like to cite an example of my district. In my constituency chalk, which is meant to write on slate-patti is produced and labourers are working in this factory. They are an illiterate lot. Government do initiate schemes to educate them and an amount of Rs. 70 lakh has been set apart for the welfare of these labourers, but these funds have not being utilised. On the one hand, the Government is worried about providing them work and on the other hand, the authorities have not utilised the allocated funds for the purpose.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member may take his seat for a minute to enable the Minister to make a Statement.

17.27 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION ON TIBET AND PEACE IN
SOUTH ASIA

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI
K. NATWAR SINGH): We understand that

an "International Convention on Tibet and Peace in South Asia" is to be held in New Delhi shortly.

2. The Government of India have consistently regarded Tibet as an autonomous region of China. There are close religious and cultural ties between the people of India and those of Tibet. HH the Dalai Lama is a respected religious and spiritual leader. Our commitment to the welfare and well being of Tibetan refugees in India remains.

3. Activity that complicates the dialogue between His Holiness the Dalai Lama as well as the Tibetan community on the one hand and the Chinese authorities on the other is inopportune and should be avoided.

4. It is the view of the Government of India that the holding of the planned Convention will not contribute to the positive evolution of this dialogue. In its effects, it is likely to be counter productive.

17.28 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE: EMPLOYMENT TO
ONE MEMBER IN EACH FAMILY—
CONTD.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Balkavi Bairagi to continue.

[Translation]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I was submitting to the hon. Minister of Labour that about Rs. 70 to 80 lakh meant for the welfare of labourers were lying unutilised. They had saved it for their welfare. But that amount has not been utilised till today. The concerned department should make proper utilisation of that money so that others could also take inspiration. No work is bad to do. We should not degrade the labourers. It should be the endeavour of the Government to create a feeling that even a labourer is a responsible and important

person. Most important of all is a person who is unemployed. But when the labourers in our country fail to get due importance even after doing hard work, they get frustrated. Shri Rajiv Gandhi has done a wonderful job by introducing Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. In doing so, he has presented the countrymen a unique thing. Many claims are being made about this scheme, but personally speaking, I view it as an employment programme. The Government gave the right to vote to the people of the age group of 18-21 years. Shri Rajiv Gandhi had said in this very House that he did not know about others, but he and his Government do trust the new generation who has just been given the right to vote. What a nice thing he has said! When I visited my constituency, the young ones expressed their curiosity to know in what sense they were benefited. I told them that it went to the credit of Shri Rajiv Gandhi that he handed over the power in their hands, and now the matter of providing employment to them was under active consideration. I would like to make a submission to you that two situations are there before us. You might have observed that it has become difficult now-a-days to get a domestic servant, particularly, in Delhi and Bombay. It is a good sign. There is nothing bad about the fact that we do not get domestic servants at the old rates. But at the same time we have to be cautious that the rural people do not run away from villages and come to cities in search of such jobs. Therefore the Government should generate employment opportunities in the rural areas, so that agricultural operations could be undertaken there. We should evolve a policy under which agricultural labourers could be assured of employment 365 days a year.

I thank Dr. G.S. Rajhans for bringing the Resolution and hope that the hon. Minister of Labour will pay attention in this direction

CH. SUNDER SINGH (Phillaur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is the first time that I am speaking on this issue. I would not take much time. The topic of the discussion is unemployment. In regard to employment, I would like to quote Mahatma Gandhi's state-

ment that appeared in "Young India" dated Feb. 5, 1925.

[English]

We should be ashamed of resting or having a square meal so long as there is one able bodied man or woman without work or food."

[Translation]

'Without work' does not mean that every person should have a job. All educated people have got jobs. In England the opinion of the people about an employee is very low because he lives from hand to mouth. In my opinion, it would be better if educated people too work in the field of agriculture. Every person runs after job while the opportunities are not as many as could be provided to all. It is bad that every person runs after job. In 1976 I went to U.K. and I observed that the persons in the jobs were in deplorable condition, while the persons engaged in self-employment were leading a decent life. Therefore, to say that jobs are meant for educated people and other works for the uneducated ones is not proper. The notion that the illiterates are meant to be ruled is ill conceived.

[English]

"As long as millions live in hunger and ignorance, I hold every man a traitor who has been educated at their expenses".

[Translation]

It is not good that educated persons should hold high positions while the others are forced to do petty works. Mahatma Gandhi has said.

[English]

"Earn thy bread by the sweat of thy brow", says Bible. Sacrifices may be of many kinds. One of them may well be bread labour. If all laboured for their bread and no

[Ch. Sunder Singh]

more, then there would be enough food and enough leisure for all"

[*Translation*]

The people run after jobs because their aim is to amass money. Their aim is not to earn bread.

[*English*]

"The caste trouble is because of the ignorance".

[*Translation*]

Why should the educated people enjoy at the cost of uneducated. What is needed is that educated people should do work. Why should they roam about on the roads? They should do work.

[*English*]

"As long as millions live in hunger and ignorance, I hold every man a traitor who has been educated at their expenses".

[*Translation*]

People start giving long lectures and quote others. Machines are also responsible for depriving people from work. It is the machines which push the people towards starvation. I am against the use of machines. You go to England and see that the job doers are facing starvation. Work means doing work of any kind. All the educated people should engage themselves in work and the uneducated one should not be exploited. I think this will solve all the problems. Those who make tall claims are unable to make concrete suggestions. The simple thing is that those who are educated should do every type of work.

In the end, I would like to thank you for the opportunity given to me to submit my views.

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (Shimla): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for providing me an opportunity to speak. I support the Resolution moved by Dr. Rajhans. This is a good resolution. It aims at providing employment to one member from each family.

It is the endeavour of the Government to see that the implementation of the laws is such that it ensures employment to one person of each family where none is employed. The hon. Minister of Labour is very well aware of the fact that many a big industries in the country are employing non technical staff for technical jobs. Some big industrialists make deliberate efforts to make their units sick. We have to make monitoring and study system very effective to ensure that no industry goes sick. At many places, certain trade unions are trying to destabilise the country. In many states people are being denied instice. Special attention should be paid towards these states.

The Hon. Prime Minister has made a provision of 30 per cent reservation of seats for women in Panchayats and Nagarpalikas which will contribute towards upliftment of the women. This is a very good step taken by our hon. Prime Minister. I suggest that special arrangements should be made for providing employment to the women. I welcome the step taken by the Government for preparing the lime-bound programme for filling up the quota of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Wherever there is a back log, it should be cleared. At present no attention is being paid in this regard. If you collect the data from Employment Exchanges you will come to know the number of the unemployed people in the country. You will find that even the graduate and post-graduates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are unemployed. Efforts should be made to provide employment to them.

I appreciate the assurance given by the Hon. Prime Minister that the posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will be filled up by the candidates belonging to these communities only. I would like to

congratulate him for this. I hope that Shri Malviya and Shri Dubey will get this measure implemented in letter and spirit. This measure should be made applicable to private industries and public undertakings as well and the posts lying vacant there should be filled up by the candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes so that they could make good the loss they have suffered so far. Many of the posts reserved for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes were deserved on the ground that suitable candidates from these communities were not available and thus a number of people of these communities were deprived of the jobs meant for them. People have the feeling that the reserved quota with its backlog will be filled up now by the steps taken by the hon. Prime Minister. Our national Highway starts from Calcutta and goes up to Tibet. The Government can provide employment to the unemployed youths by providing them facilities to start hotels or teastalls at different places on this National Highway. A survey should be conducted in this regard. No encroachment on land should be allowed. This scheme will prove helpful in providing employment to the people.

The Government is encouraging afforestation to check environmental pollution. If the Government is really interested in providing employment to the people in Hill states of Jammu, Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and the hilly areas in Nagaland, more funds should be provided for plantation work. The State Governments should also provide some help. This will stop soil-erosion in hills and will also contribute in solving the unemployment problem. Vacancies in public undertakings should also be filled up. I.T.Is should be set up in the states where such institutions do not exist, so that unemployed youths could get employment through these institutions.

Canning units should also be set up in such areas of Himachal Pradesh where fruits and vegetables are produced on large scale. Youths should be provided funds for setting

up such small units and generate employment potential there.

Banks have provided loans to the big industrialists. I think the loans drawn by the poor people have been repaid properly, therefore, more funds should be provided for this purpose. Jawahar Rozgar Yojana can prove helpful in improving the lot of the poor people, they can with the implementation of the scheme, increase their earnings. The Hon. Prime Minister has said that under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana each panchayat will be given a sum of Rs. 1 lakh and 60 thousand an assistance will prove helpful in the development of all the hill and desert areas as well as the plains in the country.

I am grateful to you for giving me time to speak. I think that the resolution moved by Shri Rajhans is very good. I would like to congratulate him for this.

*DR. PHULRENU GUHA (Contai): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this resolution. Sir, I will not take much time because I know that many of my colleagues are also waiting eagerly to speak on this. I thank Dr. Gauri Shankar Rajhans because by bringing forth this important resolution before this House he has offered us an opportunity to focus attention on a very grave problem facing our country. I will say one thing, that the word 'employment' mentioned in his resolution should not mean 'jobs' alone. It should be taken to mean opportunities of earning one's livelihood. Employment should not mean providing jobs alone. In our country, unfortunately, when one gets a little education he does not want to do anything except hunt for service somewhere. He goes about searching for a job. This is a problem. Many a time we see that there are avenues of earning one's livelihood but sufficient number of educated people are not coming forward. Today we should remember with respect what the father of our nation, Mahatma Gandhi, had said. He said, "no work is small or undignified. All work which is neces-

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.

[Dr. Phulrenu Guha]

sary for running our society and government is respectable and dignified." That type of awakening and enlightenment shall have to be initiated in our society. The people should be made to realise this thing. I will specially urge that this employment opportunity should not be for the educated boys and girls only. This should be provided to all, the educated as well as the uneducated. Everybody has to earn and survive. Today we find that in our society there are various types of ills. Many undesirable and anti-social activities like smuggling, thefts, dacoities, frauds, cheating etc. are taking place. These crimes are being committed mostly by the unemployed youth. Previously only boys used to indulge in these criminal activities, but now we see that many young girls are also indulging in them. Therefore I reiterate that in every family we should provided opportunities to one person, be it a boy or a girl, to earn his livelihood. It does not necessarily mean to provide him with a job. Earning one's livelihood can be in various ways. It can be in a cottage industry or self-employment. Ofcourse his earning has to be adequate to maintain himself and his family. This has to be ensured. With that Sir, I once again thank you for giving me time to speak and I thank Dr. Rajhans for bringing forth this important resolution and I conclude my speech.

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN (Udhampur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for providing me an opportunity to express my views on this resolution. I am grateful to Dr. Rajhans for raising such a issue of national importance through his resolution. Providing employment to the unemployed people is a vital issue today. Neither it is possible that all the unemployed persons in the country are provided with Government jobs, nor any Government can take the responsibility of providing job to one member from each family. There is a limit to everything. But, it is the responsibility of the Government to see that at least one member of each family is employed. It is for the Government to think over it and take action in the matter. In the present circumstances, we

should find out as to what are the defects in our planning. Even after forty years this issue has not been solved and it is getting more and more complex everyday. Had our planning laid emphasis on vocational education, the problem of uneducated youths in the country would not have assumed so serious a dimensions as it has assumed today. There can be not doubt about the fact that the unemployed rural people will get employment under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, but this problem should be viewed in a broader perspective and a survey should be carried out in every State to find out how this problem could be solved. A long term planning is required to be made to generate means of employment for the educated and uneducated unemployed people in every State and for generating new avenues of employment as well. All these things need to be considered at the Central level. Planning has to be made for the next 25 years. We are producing unlimited number of engineers today but we are unable to provide them with suitable openings. Similarly, there are innumerable doctors and technicians whom we are unable to absorb. Therefore, keeping in view our economy, planning should be done for vocational education. Steps should be taken to exploit natural resources to the maximum possible extent. It is also necessary to consider the setting up of small scale industries on cooperative basis which will generate additional employment opportunities and create new avenues of employment. Similarly, agro-based industries can be set up in the State where agriculture is the mainstay. Self-employment schemes have benefited the people but banking facilities should be made available everywhere. Even where banking facilities are available, due assistance is not provided and obstructions are put in the process of giving loans. On the contrary, the people should be encouraged to take up self-employment. Many youths have been given work under the IRDP but they have been able to get it after many difficulties. It has to be seen as to what are the difficulties being faced under IRDP and how can they be removed so that this scheme could be properly implemented. Similarly, the position in the public sector should be

reviewed. It has to be seen as to how employment opportunities can be generated in the public sector. The Government has invested Rs. 7000 crore in the public sector but only 1 per cent of the amount has been spent in Jammu and Kashmir. There is large scale unemployment in my State and these unemployed youths are being exploited in the name of religion and they are being incited to take to terrorism. Therefore, it is necessary to generate employment opportunities in the public sector in the State. The funds spent for this State are meagre and there is large scope for investment. Large amounts can be invested in industries such as the watch industry, the telephone industry and electronics. Large scale projects can be set up there. The Chenab Basin alone has the potential of generating 5000 megawatts of power. Two projects in the Chenab Basin have been cleared but funds have not been sanctioned for the same. It is not enough to provide clearance. Unless funds are made available and employment is provided to the people there is no use of issuing clearance. The educated as well as the uneducated unemployed people should be provided with the job-opportunities. Preference should be given in the matter of employment to those families of which not even one member is employed. With these words, I support this resolution and conclude.

SHRI YOGESHWAR PRASAD YOGESH (Chatra): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to make my submission. By moving this resolution, Dr. Rajhans has made efforts to bring a major problem to light. Unemployment is a big problem facing the country. A casual attention would not suffice to tackle it. When Shri C.D. Deshmukh was the Minister of Finance, a cartoon was published in which he was depicted as a tailor. He was shown taking the measurement of a child for stitching his clothes and by the time he had stitched them, the child had grown and the new clothes did not fit him any longer. This

illustrates the prevailing situation in the country. Until population growth is controlled, it will not be possible to find a solution to the serious problem of unemployment. The population was 44 crore at the time of independence and now it has raised to 85 crore. When we think of providing means of employment to 85 crore of people, we realise as to how backward we still are. The rate of growth of population in our country is the highest in the world. The Malthusian theory may not be relevant today but it cannot be discarded. This theory propounded that in the absence of preventive checks, positive checks will operate. Epidemics will spread, terrorism will increase and all kinds of danger will have to be faced as a result thereof. I would like to give some suggestions. Firstly, I would like to congratulate the Hon. Prime Minister for the steps being taken by the Government under his leadership. The Jawahar Rozgar Yojana has been launched to provide employment to at least one member of each family. This is a very significant measure. Recently, Shri Chidambaram had announced the Government's decision to provide employment to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Public Sector. There are a large number of vacancies in the major public undertakings. People have all alone been retiring for the past 20 years but the resultant vacancies are not being filled up. Under such circumstances, the work gets delayed because sufficient hands are not available, with the result that corruption is increasing day by day. The increasing frustration among the youth is also a consequence of the prevailing corruption. Therefore, it is necessary to consider this matter seriously. Besides, the number of forest-based industries in this country is very small. In fact, their number is negligible. Such industries should be set up so that the people living in the forests and rural areas could get employment in the large numbers. These industries could be linked with food processing which will utilise the forest fruits such as *Kanvad, piyar, aonla, kem, chiraunji* etc.

[English]

18.00 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member will continue his speech on the next occasion. The House now stands adjourned.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, August 14, 1989/ Sravana 23, 1911 (Saka).

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**Published under Rules 379 and 382 of the Rules of Procedure and
Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha (Sixth Edition) and printed by
S. Narayan & Sons, Delhi-6**
