

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

Thirteenth Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, March 8, 1989/Phalgun 17,
1910 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*Translation*]

DDA dues against Private Builders

*183 SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY:
Will the Minister of URBAN
DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a heavy amount payable to the Delhi Development Authority by a number of private builders in respect of land purchased by them is outstanding;

(b) if so, the details of such private builders, the amount outstanding against each and the bank guarantee furnished by them;

(c) the steps taken by the DDA so far to recover the outstanding amount;

(d) whether DDA proposes to cancel the allotment of land to those private builders for their default in payment; if not, the reasons for not ordering the cancellation of the allotment;

(e) whether Government have conducted any inquiry in this regard and if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(f) the time by which the outstanding dues are likely to be recovered?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (f). A State-
ment is given below.

STATEMENT

In all there were 12 such cases. In one case, the bid was cancelled, the earnest money forfeited and the plot re-allotted. In two cases, it was decided to cancel the bid on account of failure of the parties to pay the balance 75% of the premium. Both the parties went to court and the cases are subjudice. Two more cases are subjudice on different grounds. In the sixth case, the builder is open to payment of the balance amount due with interest provided he is allowed to construct the building according to the conditions notified by the Delhi Development Authority at the time of auction in 1980. But the revised guidelines on the subject induced by the Government in February, 1988 do not permit the construction of the building on these lines. This aspect of the matter is being sorted out by the Delhi Development Authority with the builder. The remaining six cases are under consideration on the basic question of relaxation in the last date of payment of balance premium and the terms and conditions on which such a relaxation should be granted.

2. Out of the total 11 pending cases, the

possession of land had been granted only in three cases. In all these three cases, more than 50% of the premium has been received and the balance along with interest is backed by bank guarantees.

3. Under the circumstances stated above, it has not been considered necessary to hold any enquiry.

[Translation]

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply to my question has stated that there are outstanding dues against 12 private builders and in this connection, I need your protection. You will be surprised to know that there are Rs. 8 crores outstanding amount against Messers. Ansals since 18.2.1982. Similarly, there are Rs. 9 crores outstanding against Anand Constructions since 6.6.1982 and Rs. 2 crores are to be paid by Delhi Towers since 6.6.1982. In the same way, there are 12 private builders who have defaulted in their payment for the last 15 years and this outstanding amount is not less than Rs. 15 or 16 crores in each case. I want to know whether the hon. Minister is aware that a raid was carried on the offices of these private builders and colonisers on 21st January and Rs. 80 lakhs worth of benami deeds were seized. The total amount involved is Rs. 25 crores. The hon. Minister has stated in his reply that 50 per cent of the amount has been recovered during the last 15 years. A meeting of the senior officers of the DDA was convened in connection with the recovery of outstanding dues on 13.3.1983 and in which a decision to constitute a committee was taken and this committee has given its recommendations which have been sent to the concerned Ministry for approval. Will the hon. Minister please state as to what recommendations have been made and what decisions have been taken on them? In case no decisions has been taken what are the reasons therefor?

MR. SPEAKER: Why should he not be appointed as the auditor?

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: Had it been done, the dues would have been recovered.

MR. SPEAKER: This is what I am saying.

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: As stated by the hon. Member, 12 such cases are there. In one case, the earnest money was 25 per cent which has been forfeited and in two cases it was decided to cancel the bid on account of failure of the parties to pay the balance 75 per cent of the premium. But both the parties approached the court. Similarly, 2 more cases are sub-judice on different grounds. As the hon. Member wanted to know about the D.D.A. meeting I want to inform him that a meeting was held and in this meeting, a decision was taken to sort out these matters. We have always made efforts to ensure that dues are recovered. There are 6 more such private builders who have not paid the premium and in this connection, it is being considered that what concessions can be given to enable them to repay their outstanding dues. I want to assure the hon. Member that we shall sort out this matter as early as possible.

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: MR. SPEAKER, SIR, I AM AMAZED TO HEAR THE reply of the hon. Minister. I had raised my supplementary with great hope but the clear manner in which the hon. Minister has misled the House has astonished me. I wanted a categorical reply from the hon. Minister regarding the details of the outstanding amount and the amount recovered so far but these points have not been clarified in the reply.

My second supplementary is in connection with HUDCO. You will be surprised to know that only 10 thousand LIG flats have been constructed for HUDCO by DDA. You will also be very surprised to know and which I want to corroborate with a document that on 7.6.1988, the Lt. Governor of Delhi in the light of the question raised by Shri Sewa Ram Arya, Metropolitan Councillor had stated that this was a case of bungling and it

should have been referred to the CBI at the initial stage. When you were aware of this bungling will you kindly let us know the date on which those private builders approached the court. And is it a fact, that it was after the Lt. Governor's reply about the bungling of Rs. 25 crores that these people went to court? Is this a fact or not?

MR. SPEAKER: A new word has been coined. I have not heard the word 'Ghatola' used for bungling so far.

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: The hon. Member in his first supplementary had wanted to know about the amount of outstanding dues. Well, it is Rs. 34.31 crores out of which a premium of Rs. 15.50 crores has been recovered and nearly Rs. 25.99 crores are still to be recovered. As regards the question regarding HUDCO, the hon. Member should give a separate notice because it is not related to this question.

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I need your protection because I am a new Member. I had asked categorically as to whether they had gone to the court before or after the reply given by the Lt. Governor?

MR. SPEAKER: I do not agree with you, Shri Pandey. If you are a new Member even after 4 years inside the Parliament then I wonder when you will become an old Member.

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: I want to know only this much from the hon. Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: You give a separate notice, I will ensure that a reply is given to it.

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: I want to know whether they went to the court before or after that reply?

MR. SPEAKER: I will get this point clarified as well.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV: Mr.

Speaker, Sir, D.D.A. had acquired land from the farmers some 15 or 20 years ago but it has not made full payment so far in this regard. The price of this land has increased to Rs. 50 thousand, 1 lakh or Rs. 2 lakh per bigha today. D.D.A. has not paid to the farmer and the property dealers have reaped all the benefits. Keeping this in view I want to know whether Government will pay the balance amount at the current rate?

[English]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: It is entirely a separate question and it is not related to this question.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA: Will the hon. Minister kindly let the House know as to what is the criterion for allotment of land to private builders and as to whether it is a fact that land allotted to the cooperative society formed by Members of Parliament as members which had been registered, and sold in favour of the society, money realised, possession delivered and construction not allowed. I would like to know the details therefor.

[Translation]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will request the hon. Member to give separate notice on this matter because this supplementary is not related to the main question.

MR. SPEAKER: This is right. Only related questions can be asked.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Sir, the DDA is hobnobbing with the private property dealers and they are minting money like anything. Even in genuine cases the DDA has not yet settled the claims. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Tanti's point is relevant.

[English]

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA: Sir, these are questions pertaining to the Ministry of Urban Development. These questions are regarding allotment of land, purchase of land for building purposes. Should we put separate questions on each and every point? The hon. Minister, instead of giving evasive replies should give positive reply.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: The information may not be available with him at the moment. He will furnish it later.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have already stated that I agree with you. But now it is better if we pack-up.

(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: It was good that Parliament House was not built by the DDA.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Thank God, you are safe

(Interruptions)

Import of Rags

*184. SHRI AKHTAR HASAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of countries from which Government are importing rags;

(b) whether Government are aware that

these could be carriers of dreaded diseases; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and remedial steps contemplated in this regard?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a) Government do not import rags. However, eligible importers are permitted to import woollen/synthetic rags under Open General Licence. Import is mainly from U.S.A., U.K., France, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland, West Germany, Japan, Italy and Australia.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Under the Indian Port Health Rules 1955, no second hand clothing consignment can be cleared by the Customs without a certificate of disinfection from the Government or Municipal Health Authority for the Port of despatch or for the Port of arrival in India.

[Translation]

SHRI AKHTAR HASAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply to Part (a) of my question has stated that rags are imported from 10 countries of the world and in Part (b) of the question, he has clarified that these rags carry dreadful diseases like gonorrhoea, syphilis, AIDS, scabies, ringworms and other dangerous diseases. The hon. Minister has also stated that permission is not taken from the Finance Ministry in this regard. When it is so harmful for the country and diseases from outside are carried into our country why does not the Government impose a ban on the import of rags?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Mr.

Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member wanted to know whether rags can be the carriers of diseases and to which I have replied in the affirmative. Next, he wanted to know as to what steps are being taken in this regard? I want to inform him that under the Indian Port health Rules, 1955, no second hand clothing consignment can be cleared by the customs without a certificate of disinfection from the Municipal Health Authority of the port of dispatch to the effect that they have been disinfected and in case this certificate is not there, then those bales are opened and health Authority of the port of arrival in our country disinfect them. Only then they are allowed entry into the country.

SHRI AKHTAR HASAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has admitted that these clothes are carriers of diseases and our doctors also confirm this opinion, then what sort of certificates of disinfection do these people submit? Apart from this, I want also to submit that new clothes are also being imported in the name of rags. I do not know whether the hon. Minister is aware that this is affecting our textile mills also. It is for this reason and as a measure to protect the life and property of the people, the import of rags and new clothes which come in the name of rags must be banned.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: As I have already stated that the rags are not carriers of diseases when they are disinfected. It is a rule to get them disinfected and we have not received any complaints so far about disinfected rags. As per rules, such consignments cannot be cleared at the customs unless disinfection certificates from the port of dispatch is available or the same is issued by the Health Authority of our country. This is a long process and the disinfection done is totally safe.

The hon. Member has also submitted that the import of rags and new clothes which come along with them should be banned because they affect the indigenous textile

mills. It is a separate question but I would like to reply to it with your kind permission. The import of such items is very limited. It is done under advanced licensing to boost our exports. Therefore, the apprehension that their import is becoming a threat to our mills is baseless.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: His point is that new clothes are entering our country in the name of rags.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: The rags are extremely cheap and are sold on the basis of weight. Therefore, the question of the new clothes coming in the same consignment does not arise. Such cases have not come to our notice so far.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH RATH: This matter involves three problems. One is to import rags which is against the prestige of our country. Secondly, it is a health hazard as stated by the Minister. Thirdly, even new cloths are imported in the name of rags. Under these circumstances, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the import of rags would be prohibited altogether.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: I would like to explain a little further as to why these rags are imported and in what condition they come. Firstly, they form a raw material for shoddy industry which means, they are converted into fibre then made yarn out of which blankets and cheap woollen goods are produced. So, the plea of the hon. Member that these rags come as ready made clothes is not correct. Another stipulation is that they should be cut up in a way that they cannot be used as made up clothes, as garments. So, there is a very strict restriction on this that they have to be mutilated before they come. There is a procedure for mutilation and the Customs Department sees that they come in a mutilated form. So, the problem that they can be used as garments is not at all present there.

[Translation]

so far?

Bonded Labour

[English]

*187 SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA†:
SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bonded labourers released during the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the number out of them rehabilitated

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALVIYA): (a) and (b). A statement showing the number of bonded labour identified and rehabilitated during 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 (till January, 1989), as reported by the State Governments concerned, is given below. The bonded labour rehabilitated during this period include the bonded labour identified even in the earlier years by the concerned State Governments.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Name of the State	Number of Bonded Labourers	
		Identified during 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 (till January, 1989)	Rehabilitated during 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 (Till Jan., 1989)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10,639	7,587
2.	Bihar	4,017*	1,113
3.	Karnataka	NIL	17,792**
4.	Kerala	NIL	NIL
5.	Madhya Pradesh	6,134	2,909
6.	Maharashtra	248	288
7.	Orissa	6,176	12,367
8.	Rajasthan	278	554
9.	Tamilnadu	4,741	1,517

1	2	3	4
10.	Uttar Pradesh	7,778	8,720
11.	Gujarat	NIL	NIL
12.	Haryana	128	NIL***

* Include 2662 bonded labour identified as per directive of the Supreme Court. Rehabilitation Scheme for these bonded labour are required to be approved by the Supreme Court as per its directions.

** They have rehabilitated 17,792 bonded labour during last three years from out of the bonded labour identified prior to 1986-87.

*** All the 128 bonded labour identified were repatriated to their native States for their rehabilitation there.

[Translation]

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has mentioned in his statement the number of bonded labourers who have been liberated in different States. He also told that 17,792 bonded labourers have been rehabilitated. This is a very serious problem in our country. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you know and even the Government intends that the bonded labourers should be benefited at the earliest but actually very little is being done in this direction. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how many people have been prosecuted for violation of Bonded Labour Act. Why is this law not implemented? This evil is increasing every day. I would like to know the number of people along with their names against whom action has been taken.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): Mr. Speaker, Sir.....

[English]

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA: Who is the new Minister Sir? He has resigned from the Cabinet. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Mr. Sitaram Kesari has made a statement that all the Ministers in the Union Cabinet from Bihar have resigned. (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: you are a Member of Parliament. Why do you talk in this manner? What do you mean to say? It is in bad taste.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: How can one reply when one has resigned or when one's resignation is accepted?

AN HON. MEMBER: Nobody has denied that Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Why would anybody?

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Let him deny it.

MR. SPEAKER: Why should he deny it? Don't try to be over-smart.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is nothing about it. When he has resigned, if his resignation is accepted he will not be sitting here. So simple it is. Let us not be pragmatic. The House knows that he is still the Minister in charge and I authorise him to answer the question. When he is not a Minister, I will not allow him to answer.

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY: The Hon. Members don't know the formality of the resignation. I have tendered a letter to the Party President of my intention to resign. If the Party President has sent the resignation letter and if it is accepted, then the formality is complete. I am still the Minister. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Bindeshwariji, you answer the question. Don't answer any irrelevant questions.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: The Minister is fully justified. He has sent his resignation letter to the Party President only, not to the President. He is very intelligent. I admire him.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You also used to give it what difference does it make unless it is accepted. At times it does happen. You know the difference.

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY: Shri Dandavate knows the difference.

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you talking to him? Please make your own point. Answer the question.

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: We will like him to continue here *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, 2 lakh, 35 thousand and 670 bonded labour have been identified. Out of these 2 lakh 1 thousand 971 people have been rehabilitated and 33 thousand 679 people have not yet been rehabilitated. The target of rehabilitation during the year 1988-89 is 19084. 14 thousand are left about whom there is a controversy. In Andhra Pradesh 7 thousand 400 bonded labour are such who have not been covered under the 1987-88 quarterly report. At that time wide publicity was being given in the newspapers that fake identification is taking place. Therefore, the State Government has been asked to verify it again. The State Government has also been asked to state as to why prosecution has not been made against those who have been identified for exploiting bonded labour. It is true that the prosecution of all those who have been identified has not been done. I have written to all the Chief Ministers and Labour Ministers that besides identifications prosecution of all those who are guilty of keeping bonded labour in all states should be made.

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a provision of punishment should also be made besides prosecution. This is an increasing evil in our society. Our Government intends to help the bonded labour. There are number of people who should have been prosecuted. An Act in this regard has been made but still nothing is done. The hon. Minister has said that it is essential to get the approval of the Supreme Court for rehabilitation I would like to know as to which policy is lying pending in the Supreme Court and what efforts has the Government made in this direction? Regard-

ing rehabilitation, the Government should make a policy at the earliest. I would like to know as to what is the proposed scheme for this.

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, cases of all the states are not pending in the Supreme Court. Regarding Bihar a voluntary organisation DR 87 had filed a petition that there are bonded labourers in Dumka and Deogarh districts who have not been identified. The Supreme Court ordered the Commissioner of Welfare Department Shri K.V. Saksena to send a team for identification. 2642 people were identified there but the names of the keepers and dealers etc. was not included in it. The state Government contested in the court that the regular procedure viz. through the district magistrate or authorised officers by the magistrate has not been followed and instead a team had been sent which gave the information without giving all the details. Later on the Supreme Court gave the work of rehabilitation to an organisation called "Kapaat". In the mean time the State Government has given Rs. three thousand as interim relief for rehabilitation. The package of the Supreme Court will be announced on 15th March and thereafter it shall be executed.

[*English*]

DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA: The answer laid on the Table is contradictory in itself. In the answer it has been said that during the period 1986-87 and 1987-88 from Orissa there were bonded labour numbering 6176 whereas rehabilitation has been done for 12367 persons for the same period. How is it possible? There was not that number of bonded labour which has been rehabilitated. Now if you look to the figure in respect of Madhya Pradesh, the number of bonded labour is more and rehabilitation done is for less number.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been stated in the foot-

note of the statement that as the total number of rehabilitated bonded labourers includes the number of some bonded labourers who had been identified and rehabilitated earlier, hence this high figure.

[*English*]

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Sir, we have got the figures of the number of bonded labour identified in 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 but I would like to know from the hon. Minister how many of them have been rehabilitated during this period.

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY: I cannot precisely say how many of the bonded labour have been rehabilitated during this period as the figures include some backlog also I can only say at this stage that whatever number is left to be rehabilitated and which has been identified so far in the target which we are preparing for 1989-90 I think we shall be able to rehabilitate almost all the bonded labour.

Amendment to Minimum Wages Act

*188. **SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY†:**
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 in consultation with State Governments;

(b) whether any meeting with the State Labour Ministers was held for the purpose during the past few months; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which legislation to this effect is expected to be brought forward?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The 37th Session of the Labour Ministers' Conference held on the 7th November, 1988 considered the proposals for amendments to the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. These mainly relate to (a) enhancement in penalties, (b) provision of direct access to Courts to the aggrieved employee, registered voluntary organisations or registered trade unions, (c) interim relief and protection against termination, discharge etc. during the pendency of claims proceedings, and (d) reduction in the periodicity of revision of wages without the variable component linked to the Consumer Price Index. The amending Bill will be brought forward as soon as the proposals are finalised.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are glad that the Government has come forward to amend the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. You would also agree with me that even if the Act is amended and if it is not implemented in letter and spirit, it is almost useless. In view of this, I want to know from the hon. Minister: What are the specific steps and proposals the Government propose for the effective implementation of the Act?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): It is a fact that implementation part is very important. The law is there. But unless it is strictly enforced and it does not have the consensus, then it does not carry any meaning. But as the hon. Member knows that the enforcement machinery is of the State Government, it is the responsibility of the State Government to implement the Minimum Wages Act.

We felt that there were some difficulties in the implementation. Therefore, we have proposed to amend the Act. The amendment, which is proposed, is to go for some stricter penalties and also to allow access to the aggrieved person or a trade union or a social organisation to file a claim without obtaining sanction from the inspector or the authorised authority. During the period when the claim petition is being heard, to save the workers from victimisation, there is a pro-

posal that no employer shall dismiss or discharge the aggrieved workman who has filed the petition.

There is also a proposal that 50 per cent of the claimed amount will be deposited. The court can direct and shall direct to deposit 50 per cent of the claimed amount which will be paid to the workman concerned. These are the safeguards going to be made when this proposal will come into effect.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY: The proposals considered at the recent Labour Ministers' Conference mostly related to the organised labour. In rural areas, the rural labour population is mostly unorganised. In view of this, I want to know from the hon. Minister: What are the steps proposed by the Government to safeguard the interests of the unorganised rural labour population?

I would also like to know whether the Government is prepared to revise the minimum wages every year linked with the consumer price index.

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY: Sir, the proposals, which were considered in the last Labour Ministers' Conference, related mainly to the unorganised labour. The safeguards, which I have just stated and are going to be proposed for the amendment, are to safeguard the interests of the unorganised labour.

The question of revising the minimum wages was also considered. Under the present Act, the interval for revision of the wages is five years. We are now proposing to reduce it to two years or 50 points rise in the consumer price index.

PROF. N.G. RANGA: My hon. friend has conceded the need to protect the unorganised labour through this kind of legislation. In addition to the statutorily enforceable minimum wage, it can be enforced with the help of the organised trade unions, advisers, social workers and so on. In view of this, will the Government consider the advisability of

announcing from State to state the absolute national minimum wage which can be enforced when the workers themselves begin to ask for it, whether there is a union for them or not, so that the absolute minimum below which a worker would be converted into a bonded labour, can come to the raised from time to time with the cooperation of the employers on one side and on the initiative of the workers and their welfare organizations on the other.

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY: In every State there is a Minimum Wages Advisory Board which determines the minimum wages of not organised labour, but of the unorganised labour and while considering the question of unorganised labour, the representatives of the unorganised labour, voluntary organizations are being consulted.

MR. SPEAKER: Next Question

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Sir, I want to ask one supplementary on Question No. 188.

MR. SPEAKER: There is nothing more in it.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Kindly allow me, you will be glad to listen to the question.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You will be happy!

MR. SPEAKER: All right. Who is not in pursuit of happiness?

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Sir, there is no Central legislation for the agricultural labourers; at State level they may have.

MR. SPEAKER: How can there be a

Central legislation on this?

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: I am going to refer to the minimum wages.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a State subject. There cannot be a Central legislation, because there are different types of climatic conditions, incomes etc.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: But some minimum wage should be there.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, according to Statewise.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: It is a breach of assurance; he has not given you happiness.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, he owes it to me.

Labour Disputes

*190. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of labour disputes, strikes and lockouts during 1988; State-wise; and

(b) the number of cases settled during that period, State-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALAVIYA): (a) and (b). Based on the latest available information, two statements I & II are given below. The information regarding the number of cases settled by the State Governments under their jurisdiction is not maintained Centrally.

STATEMENT

No. of Strikes and Lockouts in the Central and State Spheres during 1988 (Jan.-Nov.)*

States	Strike		Lockout		Total	
	A	B	A	B	A	B
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	162	34	44	15	206	49
Assam	9	4	0	2	9	6
Bihar	22	33	0	10	22	43
Gujarat	0	141	0	15	0	156
Haryana	0	33	0	9	0	42
Himachal Pradesh	0	"	0	"	0	"
Jammu & Kashmir	2	0	0	0	2	0
Karnataka	7	29	0	1	7	30
Kerala	11	39	1	10	12	49
Madhya Pradesh	22	35	0	4	22	39
Maharashtra	8	72	0	56	8	128
Manipur	0	8	0	0	0	8

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Meghalaya	0	"	0	"	0	"
Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0
Orissa	12	19	1	2	13	21
Punjab	2	38	—	3	2	41
Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan	12	45	1	15	13	60
Tamil Nadu	7	158	0	17	7	175
Tripura	1	"	0	"	1	"
Uttar Pradesh	1	"	0	"	1	"
West Bengal	10	29	0	130	10	159
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chandigarh	1	"	0	"	1	"
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0
Delhi	0	"	0	"	0	"

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Goa, Daman & Diu	0	10	0 ^a	2	0	12
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pondicheri	0	8	0	0	0	8
All India	289	735	47	291	336	1,026

* — Information is based on the returns received in the Labour Bureau only upto 17th January, 1989.

A — Central sphere.

B — State sphere

STATEMENT-II*Number of disputes handled and settled in the Central Sphere during 1988**

<i>States</i>	<i>No. of disputes handled</i>	<i>No. of disputes settled</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
Andhra Pradesh	770	377
Assam	125	76
Bihar	2,678	1,395
Delhi	414	154
Gujarat	291	123
Punjab, Haryana @ & Chandigarh	1,072	315
Karnataka	468	214
Kerala	344	193
Madhya Pradesh	1,287	618
Maharashtra & Goa@	1,197	531
Orissa	123	44
Rajasthan	1,531	514
Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry@	320	189
Uttar Pradesh	1,555	378
West Bengal	748	424
Total	12,923	5,545

@ - Figures are not available separately.

* - Information for the State sphere is not maintained.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: Two important aspects arise out of the answer. Kindly note that there were 12923 disputes which arose in one year alone and out of which the Government could settle or the tripartite machinery could settle only 5545

cases. This means that more than 7000 cases in a year still continue to be unsettled. Then, the number of strikes and lockouts which have taken place in the Central sphere were 289. This shows that the workers have shown the maturity in cooperating with the

authorities concerned. I would like to know whether the Government will eliminate the deficiencies and inadequacies in its machinery, so that the disputes can be settled. I would also like to know whether the Government will consider the question of mediation councils like in the western countries and voluntary agencies which involve themselves in the settlement of disputes other than the Government machinery for purposes of conciliation of disputes.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): In fact, the conciliation machinery on industrial relations is meant for mediation, and it carries mediation work. Had this been possible by the voluntary organizations, there was no question of conciliation machinery under the Statute? For the Voluntary organisations it was not possible to mediate between the two parties. Therefore, statutory provision was made for the Industrial Relation Machinery at the Central level and also at the State level to mediate between two parties.

SHRITHAMPAN THOMAS: My second supplementary is that the Sanat Mehta Commission and also the National Labour Conference has the convention of meeting periodically with the Labour Ministry and the Industry. Meeting is held between the Central trade unions and the Central Ministry. They have made many recommendations, especially the Sanat Mehta Commission has made positive recommendation in the matter of settlement of disputes in various areas. I will not go into the details because the Minister knows about it. I would like to know what is the positive reaction of the Government to the report made by the Sanat Mehta Commission and the National Labour Conference and other such conferences.

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY: Sir, in fact the best course for the settlement of disputes between the parties is to have bipartite negotiation. Government is encouraging bipartite negotiation. Government does not want to interfere in these disputes when there is a possibility of the bipartite settlement. In the major industries, disputes

regarding wages and other benefits are settled by bipartite negotiation. Only where bipartite negotiation fails, Government intervenes.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister of labour is well aware of it that whenever disputes cannot be settled by the conciliation authority at the district level and the State level, they are referred to the Government to refer them further to the tribunal. I would like to know the number of such cases which had been referred to the Government and are lying pending with them.

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this supplementary question regarding the number of cases under adjudication and the number of those still pending, does not pertain to the main question.

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, the Hon. Minister is right when he said that the purpose of conciliatory proceeding is to have the matters settled through bipartite negotiation. But I think one of the purposes is also to have quick disposal of these conflicts. Now, the statement itself indicates that out of 12923 disputes handled in the year 1988 only 5545, which is less than half of these cases, were settled. If only less than half of the cases are settled, then this itself will lead to industrial unrest. This shows that something is wrong with the entire machinery. One of the suggestions put forth earlier was that in case the management goes in appeal against any of these orders, in order to give relief to the workmen, there should be a provision of interim relief and I think some of the states have made certain provisions for this but there is no uniformity. Will the Government consider of granting interim relief to the workmen whenever the management goes in appeal against an order which has gone in favour of workmen?

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY: Sir,

when the disputes are not settled, my friend knows it very well, an offer for arbitration is given to the parties. The best course in that situation is to get the dispute arbitrated. Only when the parties are not agreeable for arbitration then the cases are referred for adjudication. If the Chairman or the Presiding Officer of the tribunal thinks it fit to give interim relief, in a particular case, he is free to do so.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Sir, the Government has taken a decision to allow the workers to come forward and try to see that the factory functions when the management closes it and fails to run it. There is an instant case at Chembur factory which was closed by the Management though it was getting a lot of profits. The workers' union of the Union Carbide of India, Chembur Unit asked that the unit be handed over to them so that they could operate it and safeguard the interests of the workers. But there is no proper response from the Ministry of Industry in this regard. I would like to know whether the Ministry of Labour would coordinate with the Ministry of Industry and try to take the necessary steps to protect the interests of the workers in the factory.

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY: This specific case has not been brought to our notice. If it is brought to the notice of the Ministry of Labour, we will certainly try to contact the Ministry of Industry and find out a solution.

Penal Action against firm supplying Life Saving Intravenous Glucose

*191. **SHRI KAMAL NATH†:**
SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Delhi-based pharmaceutical company has sought penal action against a Coimbatore firm for supplying 30,00 bottles of life-saving intravenous glucose, all of which were found to be contami-

nated, as reported in "The Indian Express" dated 10 February, 1989;

(b) if so, the facts of the case; and

(c) the action taken against the firm and its proprietors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):
(a) to (c). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

A complaint was received in the Office of Drugs Controller Delhi Administration from M/s. Eskay Pharmaceuticals, New Delhi on 8.2.89, where in allegations were made that M/s. Osler Pharma Limited, Coimbatore have supplied more than 30,000 contaminated bottles of I.V. Fluids of highly sub-standard quality to them and it was requested that action be taken against the manufacturer.

One day prior to the complaint of M/s. Eskay Pharmaceuticals New Delhi, i.e. on 7.2.1989, a complaint was also received from M/s. Osler Pharma Limited, Coimbatore by Drugs Controller, Delhi Administration. The latter alleged that their Delhi Distributor M/s. Eskay Pharmaceuticals, New Delhi was not making payments to them for two consignments and the distributor was also not returning the stocks of I.V. Fluids reportedly containing particulate matter. On receipt of these two complaints, the premises of M/s. Eskay Pharmaceuticals, New Delhi were inspected by Officers of the Drugs Controller, Delhi Administration on 9.2.1989 to collect samples of I.V. Solutions for analysis. The samples of 11 I.V. Fluids of different batches were taken for test and analysis and M/s. Eskay Pharmaceuticals were directed not to sell the remaining stock of I.V. Fluids of this firm till further orders. The samples have been sent to Government Analyst, Central Indian Pharmacopoeia, Ghaziabad for analysis and the reports are awaited. Further action will be taken after receipt of the test reports.

The matter had been simultaneously referred to Drugs Controller, Tamil Nadu, for investigation and taking action under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act since the manufacturer is located within his jurisdiction.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Kamal Nath has not been happy with "The Indian Express", even then he is quoting it in his question.

MR. SPEAKER: It is something academic and not a violent action.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: He is quoting "The India Express" in his question. What is the necessity of giving unnecessary importance to it?

[*English*]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: His very question is depending on the 'Indian Express'

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: He is following you.

[*English*]

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, the statement laid by the Minister on the Table is about a complaint made by one company against another company. But that is not the issue. And that is not the thrust of my question. The issue is whether the glucose is contaminated or not. We are hearing all the time about contamination and adulteration and yet it continues despite the stringent laws that we have to this effect. Are our laws too weak?

The thrust of my question was whether the glucose was contaminated. In the reply it is stated that the samples of glucose have been sent for testing on 9.2.89 to Ghaziabad. Today is 8th March and these were sent on 9th February to as far away as Ghazia-

bad! We are aware that hundreds of people can die after taking contaminated glucose. But we have not yet got to know whether the samples were contaminated or not. There have been deaths in the Sucheta Kripalani Hospital and it has been reported that these deaths have taken place because of contaminated glucose. For more than a month, the glucose samples are being tested in Ghaziabad. But what is the result? Does the testing of glucose samples take one year? I may be ignorant but as far as I know from common sense, testing of glucose samples takes just one and a half hours. But here it is a question of one month and yet the test report is still awaited. Does this mean that somebody is being shielded and protected? Why is this report taking so long a time? What is the Government doing about contaminated glucose going round in the market?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): The concern expressed by the hon. member in this respect is very well taken. He has mentioned about the tests. There are two types of tests. One of the tests takes less time. The other test to know whether the solution is sterile or not takes a long time. It takes about 17 to 18 days.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: But it is now more than a month!

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Please let me explain. I have not yet finished. In this test, the drug is injected into the rabbits and its effect on them is examined. Two problems arose there. Many of the rabbits died nearly because of other reasons. The staff problem was there. I would not go into the details of it. We are very conscious and I specially enquired about the delay and the delay was due to some staff problem there. We are seeing that the results come at the earliest and are reliable. So, we are having it re-verified because it is a very important test. We would like to see that such things are really tested and found to be proper. A little more time is taken.....

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: What about the first test?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: The first test was all right. There was no problem in that. That was a visual test. There was not much difficulty. Whether the solution is sterilised, whether the solution is not infected in any way, it takes a long time for testing that and we will see that such delays don't take place in future.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA: Mr. Speaker Sir, as the hon. Minister has said and you can also very well understand it that the Government pays attention to all these issues only when the matter is raised in the House or it has appeared in the newspapers. Whether the Government or the Ministry have got a machinery to be seized of the matter, before the actual incidence of the event or some news item to that effect has appeared in the newspapers. Whether a pharmaceutical company can manufacture any drug without a license from the Government and whether you have any specific norms in this regard?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Sir, there are norms for everything. This complaint was received on 8th February, 1989. The samples were collected the next day and sent to Ghaziabad immediately.

SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA: They were not sent at the time of complaint.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: They were sent the very next day of the complaint. It is not correct to say that it was delayed or they were sent after a lot of hue and cry was raised on the matter in the House. Regarding the question of the hon. Member as to why the Government does not take the initiative itself. I would like to say that we have demanded figures from the Delhi Administration and it is with me. From time to time Officers of Drug Controller, go there to collect samples on their own. In this way, the State Governments take steps about drug

control which comes under their jurisdiction. It is their duty to make some arrangements to conduct inspection from time to time. Much has to be done, to strengthen the drug inspection machinery and we are talking to the State Government's. We keep in constant touch with the State Government.

[*English*]

SHRI D.N. REDDY: May I know from the hon. Minister how many such cases have been detected in the last three years and what action was taken? I want to know from the hon. Minister as to whether he is aware that due to mushroom growth of such firms everywhere who use bottles for preparing glucose which are not properly sterilized, that becomes the source of contamination.

The is the crux of the whole matter.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: I have said that some cases were detected by the Delhi Administration. In 1987-88 samples drawn were 13 and out of that nine were found to be standard samples and four were not found to be standard samples.

In 1988-89, 37 samples were drawn. Out of that 10 were found to be standard samples and four were not found to be standard samples and 23 samples are still under test.

As regards precautions that we take, we have laid down very stringent regulations as to how should it be manufactured. Basically there are two types of containers in which these fluids come. One is the glass container and the other is the plastic pouch sort of the thing. The Indian Standards Institution has laid down very rigid standards in this. Even the manufacturers have been told that according to pharmacopoeia they have to have certain type of rubber casing on that, how they have to be packed, how they have to be manufactured. We will see that everything possible is done.

Sir, just to correct one thing when I mentioned rats, I should have said rabbits.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have inherited a system of British administration. The Health Ministry is made responsible to cure diseases and to look after the health of the people, but the area of drugs is under lock and key of the Ministry of Chemicals. And he is answering the question on behalf of the Ministry of Chemicals. So, how the Health Ministry control the drugs and all these things is very difficult. My suggestion through you, Sir, is that unless these drugs and Drug Controllers come under the purview of the Health Ministry, it is very difficult for the Health Ministry to answer this question.

My specific question through you to the hon. Minister is this. Is it a fact that two cases of death occurred due to this? I have seen it with my own eyes. In one case there was a reaction in the Willingdon Hospital when Mr. Sriballav Panigrahi's son was admitted for appendicitis. I want to know about it immediately without waiting for the result. He has sent the sample to Ghaziabad Laboratory; he can send it to the AIIMS. The test can be conducted and within minutes it can be known whether it is contaminated or it. Will he recommend strongly to the Drugs Controller to blacklist that firm?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: It is not within seconds that the test can be conducted. The hon. member is a very knowledgeable person. He ought to have known that some tests take a long time. Therefore, the time taken in this case is long because of certain types of tests conducted against sterility. As regards taking action against the Drugs Controller, certainly we will take it up when the result comes. The moment we came to know about it, the Tamilnadu Drugs Controller was informed because the firm is in Coimbatore. He took steps at his own end.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Would he suggest that this drugs area should come under the Health Ministry and not under Chemicals Ministry?

World Bank Assistance for Nagpur City

*192. **SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:** Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have provided any assistance to Maharashtra Government to augment the water supply and the sewerage disposal schemes for Nagpur City;

(b) whether the World Bank has been asked to provide loan for the said scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) There is no Central Scheme to provide assistance for such projects.

(b) and (c). A scheme can be posed for World Bank assistance only after the Govt. of Maharashtra sends a formal proposal in this regard after including the project in the state plan.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, 40 years ago, the population of Nagpur was nearabout 3 lakhs. When the sewage and water scheme was formulated it was envisaged that the population will not exceed 7-8 lakhs, but today it has reached the mark of 22 lakhs which has caused the choking of the sewerage and drainage system. As regards the condition of water supply during the summer, every day there are frequent noisy scenes among the women for water and at times they come in supplies. This is the situation of water supply in Nagpur city. I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the steps proposed to be taken by him in this regard for the 22 lakh people of Nagpur although a corporation is already proposed for the city. The Government may get funds from the World Bank or HUDCO for the provision of an efficient

sewerage and drainage system in the city.

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: The hon. Member belongs to Nagpur. I myself have visited Nagpur and went round the slum areas. A meeting of the corporation was held there in which hon. Member was also present there. We wanted to provide some funds to them from HUDCO, but we have not received a proposal from the State Government as yet. So far the question of World Bank is concerned, the Maharashtra Development Authority has only sent a formal proposal, which is about the 12 towns of that state. Unless and until Nagpur city is included in the State Budget of Maharashtra, we can not include it in the World Bank Scheme. Therefore, we request the hon. Member to make efforts to get it included in the State Plan.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: In the State Assembly, the hon. Minister Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde had stated that they were pursuing the scheme with the World Bank. But I would like to know whether any such scheme has been sent to them or not?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: The proposal has been sent only by MADHA, but it should come through the State Government and not through the Maharashtra Housing Development Board. I would like to submit to the hon. Member that the proposal for 12 towns have been sent to them and Nagpur has been included among them. He should get it pursued through the State Government.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Manvendra Singhji, why are you changing over to Nagpur?

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH: I am just coming to Mathura.

MR. SPEAKER: Now a question cannot be asked here about Mathura.

[*English*]

He would not be able to answer it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH: That is also within the purview of the Central Government. It is an important question. Tourists from all the countries come to Mathura hence the central Government should make a scheme for Mathura so that it.....

MR. SPEAKER: That is the concern of year State Government.

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH: You have said it many times in the House, but they do not listen to it. What can be done.

MR. SPEAKER: In this matter I have fully supported you.

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH: The hon. Minister is present here. Please tell him that the Central Government should make an exhaustive scheme for it.

MR. SPEAKER: I can say only this much that your request is right and something should be done for Mathura.

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH: All the dirty water of the drainage system goes into Yamuna.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**Performance of Area Projects***[English]*

*185. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Area Projects were initiated to strengthen the family welfare services;
 (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the performance of these Area Projects has been evaluated; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what have been their achievements so far, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):
 (a) to (d). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

Area Projects scheme was started in 1973 when a few selected districts of Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka were taken up for intensive development of Health and Family Welfare service delivery infrastructure with assistance from World Bank and Swedish International Development Agency. The objective of the Project was to make available integrated services for Health and Family Welfare to the people and to reduce maternal and child mortality and morbidity. The Project also aimed to improve the demand for contraceptive services, to improve the availability of trained manpower in the field and to provide institutional buildings for the health centres as also the residential buildings. During the 5th, 6th and 7th Plan periods the Area Project Scheme was continued and extended to cover more districts in other States as well.

The details of the Projects, their duration, area of operation and name of donor agency are given below;

<i>State</i>	<i>Project Cost</i>	<i>Districts Covered</i>	<i>Period of Operation</i>	<i>Donor Agency</i>
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	31.40	3	1980-1988	World Bank
Bihar	16.51	11	1981-1987	UNFPA
Gujarat	15.76	2	1980-1986	USAID
Haryana	8.75	3	1980-1986	USAID
Himachal Pradesh	14.75	3	1980-1986	USAID
Karnataka				
(IPP-I)	9.38	5	1973-1980	World Bank
(IPP-II)	71.31	6	1984-1990	World Bank

1	2	3	4	5
Kerala 49.11	4	1984-1990	World Bank	
Madhya Pradesh 26.50		8	1981-1988	DANIDA
Maharashtra 15.13		3	1980-1986	USAID
Orissa 33.67	5	1980-1987	ODA (UK)	
Punjab 12.34		3	1980-1986	USAID
Rajasthan 13.81		4	1980-1986	UNFPA
Tamil Nadu 21.08		2	1981-1988	DANIDA
Uttar Pradesh				
(IPP-I) 11.87		6	1973-1980	World Bank
(IPP-II) 73.33		6	1980-1988	World Bank
West Bengal 107.47		4	1985-1991	World Bank
Total	532.12	78		

Evaluation

Some of these Area Projects have been evaluated through independent professional institutions and organisations. So far evaluation reports have been received in respect of the Area Projects implemented in Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh.

The salient findings of these evaluation studies suggest that the area projects have contributed towards development of physical infrastructural facilities in the project districts leading to improved health care delivery services. Provision of improved physical infrastructure including equipment, supplies etc. have directly contributed towards improvement in the quality of services. However, the quality of the construction have been reported to be poor in certain cases by the Evaluation agencies. The

improved infrastructural facilities have not been put to optimal use due to under staffing particularly in respect of male health workers at the sub-centres and low utilisation of the training facilities created under the project. The Evaluation agencies have concluded that whereas the need for the infrastructure remains of prime importance, major emphasis should be on the improvement of quality of workers through in service training and close supervision and monitoring.

Achievements:

The projects aims included construction of institutional buildings for the health care delivery services, training and appointment of additional manpower in the project districts. The details of the achievements made towards these components is given below:

<i>State</i>	<i>Construction of Buildings</i>	<i>Manpower Trained</i>	<i>Additional Manpower Appointed</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
Andhra Pradesh	1587	7675	969
Bihar	312	7586	1414
Gujarat	684	2894	702
Haryana	422	2633	451
Himachal Pradesh	294	3148	470
Karnataka			
IPP-I	856	3185	622
IPP-III	1749	690	N/A
Kerala	1039	1412	942
Madhya Pradesh	832	10823	1015
Maharashtra	656	8014	702
Orissa	1825	14604	1539
Punjab	628	11822	201
Rajasthan	1033	6809	546
Tamil Nadu	866	4811	734
Uttar Pradesh			
IPP-I	780	3764	504
IPP-II	2331	10182	2262
West Bengal	484	13028	N/A
Total	16378	113080	13079

Note: (i) Constructions include Sub Centres, Primary Health Centres, Community Health Centres, Training Schools and Upgradation of Existing Health Institutions.

(ii) Manpower Trained include Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs), Lady Health Visitors (LHVs), Male Multipurpose Workers, Traditional Birth Attendants, Village Health Guides and The Medical Officers.

The data available with the Ministry of Health and F.W. indicates that there is no marked difference between the performance of the project districts and the non-project districts in so far as the demand for contraceptive services is concerned. This may be due to the fact that design of the project provided a larger share of the project outlay for construction and staff salaries and considerably lower share for Information, Education and Communication (IEC) and training activities. Another reason suggested by the Evaluation Agencies is that a period of 5 to 6 years is comparatively a very low time span to give any definite conclusions about the impact of the project activities.

Exports of Handicrafts

*186. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the value of Handicrafts exported during the last three years; and

(1) *Cash Compensatory Support Facility*

<i>Sl. Export Product No.</i>		<i>% rate of CCS on FOB value</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1.	Handicrafts	10
2.	<i>Handknotted Woollen Carpet</i>	
	a) FOB value above Rs. 650/- per sq. mtr.	18
	b) FOB value above Rs. 250/- but up to Rs. 650 per sq. mtr.	15
	c) FOB value upto Rs. 250/- per sq. mtr.	8
3.	Woolen Druggets and Durries	8

(b) the various steps taken or contemplated by Government to increase the export of handicrafts?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):

(a) The value of exports of handicrafts including handicrafts carpets, for the last three years is as follows:-

<i>Years</i>	<i>Value (Rs. in crores) (Provisional)</i>
1986-87	415.47
1987-88	540.94
1988-89 (April-October)	451.47

(b) The following steps have been taken to increase the export of handicrafts including handknotted carpets:-

1	2	3
	4. Handknotted silk carpets.	12

(2) Duty Drawback facility

1. Imitation Zari products	14% of FOB value.
2. Brass Artware and EPNS	30% of FOB value subject to minimum of Rs. 21/- to a maximum of Rs. 33.50 per kg.
3. Handmade woolen/silken cotton carpets	3% of FOB value.

(3) Import Replenishment Facility

1. Handicrafts	6% to 40% of FOB value depending upon the type of handicrafts.
2. Handknotted Woolen Carpets Druggets etc.	15% of FOB value.
3. Silk carpets.	25% to 40% of FOB value depending upon silk content in carpets
4. Import of raw wool has been allowed under Open General Licence (OGL) at a concessional rate of customs duty @ 5% ad valorem.	
5. Duty free import of unmanufactured raw ivory under Open General Licence (OGL) is also allowed	
6. In order to augment the export of handicrafts including Handknotted Carpets, the two Export Promotion Councils namely the Carpet Export Promotion Council and the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts have also sponsored sales-cum-study teams to explore the market potentials. These teams visited U.S.A., West Europe, Middle East, Australia, Korea and Japan.	

STD Cases

*189. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE:
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the World Health Organisation estimates about people suffering from sexually transmitted diseases (STD) in the World and in India;

(b) if so, whether Government have

taken any steps to control the STD in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has no such information available from W.H.O. However, according to the information reported by the STD clinics, the total number of STD cases during the year 1987 are 13,14,723.

(b) and (c). During the 7th Five Year Plan, the National STD Control Programme is being implemented as a purely central sector Plan Scheme on 100% central assistance with emphasis on teaching, training, research epidemiology and health and community education in the field of STD centres comprising of i) Regional STD Teaching-cum-Training Centre, ii) Regional STD Reference Laboratory and iii) Regional Survey-cum-Mobile STD units have been established at Delhi Calcutta, Hyderabad, Madras and Nagpur to cater on a zonal basis.

In addition, 378 STD Clinics are operating in the country where the patients are provided free treatment advice and diagnostic facilities.

Curtailment of Quota of Imported Edible Oils to States and Union Territories

*193. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL

SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the allocation of imported edible oils to the States and Union Territories has been curtailed recently;

(b) if so, the quantity of cut imposed on each State/Union Territory;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to restore the original allocation for any State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (d). The allocation of imported edible oils to the States/UTs under the Public Distribution System is meant to supplement the availability of indigenous oils in the open market and not to meet entire demand of the States/UTs. The expected bumper crop of oilseeds during 88-89 has increased the availability of indigenous oils in the market and the prices of oils have also come down substantially. In order to optimise the use of indigenous oils, to the extent possible, so as to safeguard the interests of the oilseed growers, allocation of imported oil to States/UTs has been substantially reduced w.e.f. December, 1988. A Statement showing the State-wise allocation of oils made during the months of November, 1988 and February 1989 indicating the quantity cut is given below. In the present situation of increased availability of indigenous oils and the consequent reduction in imports, it is not desirable to restore the allocation of oils to the level of the allocations made in November, 1988.

STATEMENT

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>States/UTs</i>	<i>Nov. 88 Allocation</i>	<i>Feb. 89 Allocation</i>	<i>Total Cuts</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8000	2800	5200
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	50	20	30
3.	Assam	350	100	250
4.	Bihar	400	400	-
5.	Goa	600	500	100
6.	Gujarat	13000	1000	12000
7.	Haryana	1000	200	800
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1000	600	400
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	900	960	+ 60
10.	Karnataka	5000	1760	3250
11.	Kerala	5000	3700	1300
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4000	1600	2400
13.	Maharashtra	15500	8400	7100
14.	Manipur	500	200	300
15.	Meghalaya	350	140	210
16.	Mizoram	500	350	150
17.	Nagaland	450	325	125
18.	Orissa	1300	520	780
19.	Punjab	1000	300	700
20.	Rajasthan	1000	300	700
21.	Sikkim	200	80	120

1	2	3	4	5
22.	Tamil Nadu	9000	3600	5400
23.	Tripura	350	100	250
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2500	800	1700
25.	West Bengal	9000	7600	1400
26.	A & N Islands	140	70	70
27.	Chandigarh	150	60	90
28.	D & N Haveli	80	40	40
29.	Delhi	4250	1200	3050
30.	Daman	40	40	-
31.	Diu	30	30	-
32.	Lakshadweep	50	30	20
33.	Pondicherry	540	450	90
Total		86230	38265	47965

[*Translation*]

on the Board, if any?

**Constitution of Board under Forest
(Conservation) Act**

*194. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted a Board for according necessary clearance to the construction works under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;

(b) if so, the composition thereof and expertise of the members in the field; and

(c) the public representative nominated

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):
(a) An Advisory Committee has been constituted as provided in Section 3 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 to advise the Central Government with regard to

(i) Grant of approval under Section 2 of the Act, and

(ii) Any other matter connected with the Conservation of the forests which may be referred to it by the Central Government.

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

STATEMENT

Chairman	- Inspector General of Forests, Ministry of Environment & Forests. (An Officer of the Indian Forest Service).
Members (Official)	- (i) Additional Inspector General of Forests, Ministry of Environment and Forests (An Officer of the Indian Forest Service). (ii) Joint Commissioner, Soil Conservation, Ministry of Agriculture.
Member (Non-Official)	(i) Shri Chandi Prasad Bhatt, An eminent Environmentalist of the country. (ii) Dr. S.M. Mohanat, An eminent of Zoologist, Department of Zoology, Jodhpur University. (iii) Dr. T.M. Verghese, An eminent Botanist and Chairman, Department of Botany, Haryana Agricultural University.
Member-Secretary:	The Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Forest Conservation), Ministry of Environment and Forests (An Officer of the Indian Forest Service).

*[English]***National Forest Commission**

*195. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cochin University of Science and Technology in their report to Union Government has suggested for setting up of an autonomous National Forest Commission;

(b) if so, the salient features of the recommendations made; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is given below.

(c) The Government do not consider it necessary to set up a National Forest Commission.

Recommendations of the Study by Cochin University of Science and Technology

Salient features of the recommendations are given below:-

1. An independent National Forest Commission, consisting of environmentalists, lawyers, administrators and forestry experts should be set up. The Commission should have functional freedom, coercive powers and effective implementation machinery.
2. It should have a three-tier administrative hierarchy of local forest Councils, regional Councils and the National Commission. The forest personnel currently employed by various State Governments should be absorbed by the Commission.
3. It should have an enforcement wing in the form of National Forest Protection Force.
4. The Commission should be vested with judicial/quasi-judicial powers in respect of forest offences.
5. It should look into the various aspects of environmental impact of projects.
6. The main function of this Commission would be to formulate policy relating to forest environment, management of the entire forest area in tune with such policy, co-ordination and supervision of tribal welfare programmes in forest areas other than Tribal Areas or Scheduled Areas, training and research in forestry and collection, preparation and distribution of forest statistics.

[Translation]

Panel for Cooperative Societies

*196. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Administration has decided to set up a new high-powered panel to assist in the allotment of land to the Cooperative group housing societies registered under the "Awas Sakar Yojana" of the Delhi Development Authority.

(b) if so, the main function of this panel and the justification therefor; and

(c) the time by which all the registered Cooperative group housing societies are likely to get land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). A special desk has been established in the Delhi Development Authority to assist the registrants of the New Pattern Scheme, 1979 in the formation and registration of cooperative housing societies under the 'Awas Sakar Yojana'.

(c) Keeping in view the limited availability of land with the Delhi Development Authority and large backlog of registrants, it is difficult to indicate at this stage the extent to which it will be possible to accommodate the requirement of land to the registered cooperative group housing societies. However, it is proposed to give high priority to the allotment of land to societies registered under the 'Awas Sakar Yojana'.

[English]

Supply of Life Saving Drugs to Hospitals

*197. SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether supply of life saving drugs to Union Government hospital is inadequate;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed for ensuring adequate supply of drugs to Government hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):
(a) No, Sir.

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

"Green House Effect" on Atmosphere

*198. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether "Green House effect" is causing great concern all over the World and is disturbing the atmosphere around the planet;

(b) if so, the policy of Government in this regard and the details of the programme being implemented to tackle the problem; and

(c) the specific steps being taken to prevent damage to ozone on account of chemical pollution?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):
(a) to (c). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). The recorded increase of carbon dioxide and other green house gases in the atmosphere and their likely further increase in future will, according to scientists, be responsible for the green-house effect and global warming. The regional effects of this global warming are not accurately known. Government are fully aware of the problem of the green house effect and are actively participating in international

deliberations to assess its causes and impacts and to formulate response strategies. India contributes to this global problem only marginally but nevertheless has taken the following measures which act towards reducing this contribution:

- (i) stringent checks on deforestation
- (ii) afforestation programmes
- (iii) conservation of energy
- (iv) development of alternate sources of energy and
- (v) control of pollution.

(c) The depletion of ozone layer is being caused chiefly emissions of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and halons. These chemicals are primarily used for air-conditioning, refrigeration, fire fighting and in aerosols. As against the annual global consumption of about 1.2 million tonnes, India consumes only about 5000 tonnes per annum. Under the auspices of the United Nations Environment Programme some countries have signed a protocol in 1987 to reduce the production and consumption of ozone depleting substances. India is considering the issue of participating in the protocol.

Task Force for Restructuring of Ministry of Urban Development

*199 SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA:
SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted a task force to examine the possibility of restructuring the Ministry of Urban Development as recommended by the National Commission of Urbanisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when the proposed task force is likely to submit its report to Government

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). A Group of officials and experts has been constituted to examine the recommendations of the National Commission on Urbanisation relating to the institutional arrangement for managing Urban Development. This Group has been asked to consider suggestions of the Commission for the re-organisation of Central Agencies for Urban Development and further to consider the Commission's suggestion for a permanent institutional mechanism for evolving Urban Development Policy and Programmes.

(c) The Group is expected to submit its report within 3 months.

Pollution by Thermal Power Stations in Delhi

*200. SHRI VISHNU MODI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge quantity of fly ash is being generated by the Thermal Power Stations in Delhi adding to pollution in the atmosphere;

(b) whether any study has been made to develop a technology for making use of this waste material; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any incentives are proposed to be provided to the industrial units for making use of this waste material if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some studies have been made in our country for developing technologies for utilising flyash for construction purposes by various organisations like the Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee, the Central Road Research Institute, Delhi, the National Council for Cement and Building Materials, Faridabad, the National Thermal Power Corporation and the National Research Development Corporation.

(c) The following incentives are provided/proposed to be provided to the industrial units for making use of flyash:

- Supply, free of cost, flyash generated by the thermal power plants in Delhi.

- Provide know-how to the entrepreneurs by the National Thermal Power Corporation for manufacture of flyash based bricks.

- Provide to flyash using industries land in the vicinity of thermal power plants in Delhi on long lease.

[Translation]

Memorial for Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan

*201. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a demand for allotment of land for construction of a memorial for Frontier Gandhi Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan in Delhi;

(b) whether the demand has been considered; and

(c) if so, the site chosen and the time by which the land for construction of the memorial is proposed to be allotted?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI):

(a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

Textile Mills in Bombay

*202. DR. DATTA SAMANT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of textiles mills which were closed in Bombay during 1985 to 1988 and the number of workers affected because of their closure;

	<i>Name of the Mill</i>	<i>Workers affected</i>
1.	New Great Eastern Spg. & Wvg. Co. Ltd., Bombay	1275
2.	Modern Mills Ltd., No. 2	2426
3.	Kamala Mills Ltd., Bombay	3050

(b) The Nodal Agency which was set-up to evolve and manage rehabilitation package for potentially viable textile mills in the country, had examined two of these three Bombay based mills lying closed as on 31.12.88 and found them to be non-viable. The cases of all these three units are now before the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction.

(c) The Maharashtra Government had suggested the setting up of a High Level Committee, representing various interests, to consider the problems of the Textile Industry. Such a Committee, under the Chairmanship of Shri Abid Hussain, has already been set-up.

Decision to Merge Sick NTC Mills in West Bengal

*203. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(b) the efforts made by Government to re-start these mills; and

(c) the various suggestions made by the State Government regarding re-starting of these textile mills and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):

(a) The information regarding the cotton/man-made fibre textile mills in Bombay which have closed during the period 1985-88 is given below:-

(a) whether Government have decided to amalgamate some of the sick units of the National Textile Corporation in West Bengal,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether there is also a proposal for modernisation of these units?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA).

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Modernisation is a continuous affairs. An amount of about Rs. 24 crores has been invested in the modernisation of the NTC mills in West Bengal upto 31.12.1988.

Assistance to Cooperative Spinning Mills in Maharashtra

1734. PROF. MADHU DANAVATE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government has recommended term loan facilities for cooperative spinning mills located in cotton-growing areas of Vidarbha, Maharashtra and Khandesh;

(b) if so, whether in spite of the recommendation of the Union Ministry of Textiles, the Industrial Development Bank of India is still to sanction term loans to the mills under erection to enable them to go into production; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to put to immediate use the members contribution of about Rs. six crores?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c), According to the present policy, the IDBI and other Financial Institutions are not financing any fresh grass root level spinning units.

Budget Allocation for Homoeopathy

1735. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the budget allocation for Homoeopathy has been on the increase during the last two years, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the amount utilised by the States during the above period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b). The requisite information is being collected from the different State Governments and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

Export and Import of Cotton

1736. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quality and quantity of cotton imported during 1987-88;

(b) the quality of cotton exported during the same period;

(c) whether new markets were explored for exporting the surplus cotton; and

(d) whether production areas have been earmarked for production of cotton exclusively for export purposes, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) A quantity of 4,999 bales of Bengal Deshi cotton was exported by the Cotton Corporation of India Ltd.

(c) During the cotton year 1987-88 no new markets could be explored since the exports of staple cotton remained under suspension.

(d) No, Sir.

Market Assistance Scheme for Export of Jute Goods

1737. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have decided to implement an External Marketing Assistance Scheme for promoting export of non-traditional jute goods; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) External Market Assistance (EMA) scheme for organised jute mills and for decentralised handloom/handicraft sector has been introduced recently with Jute Manufactures Development Council as the nodal agency for implementation of the scheme. The Scheme is applicable to same products which are covered by Internal Market Assistance Scheme and is on the same lines as IMA. EMA would be given at uniform rate of 10 percent of F.O.B. realisation. The scheme is valid upto 31.3.92.

[*Translation*]

Purchase of Medicines for CGHS

1738. SHRIMATI MANORAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of medicines which are being purchased by CGHS from the local manufacturers instead of big and standard companies;

(b) the reasons for such purchases; and

(c) whether the quality of these medicines is tested at the time of purchase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c). All allopathic medicines included in the formulary are procured from Medical Store Organisation who are supplying 100%

pre-tested allopathic medicines. I.S.M. & Homoeopathic Medicines included in the formulary are procured from I.M.P.C.L. (Government of India Undertaking) and the firms registered under CGHS. Organolyptic test method is adopted for checking the quality of Ayurvedic and Unani medicines whereas Homoeopathic medicines are got tested from Homoeopathic Pharmacopoea Laboratory, Ghaziabad before acceptance of the supplies.

[*English*]

Purchase of Cotton by CCI

1739. SHRI R.M. BHOYE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have directed the Cotton Corporation of India to purchase sufficient quantity of cotton with a view to ensure its availability to the textile industry through out the season;

(b) if so, the details of the purchases made by the Corporation during the year 1987 and 1988; and

(c) the extent to which this had helped in arresting the decline in Cotton price in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) The Cotton Corporation of India has been directed to purchase cotton from the growers under price support operations whenever the market prices reach minimum support levels. The Corporation has also been directed to undertake commercial operations at its sole risk for supply of institutional buyers at the ruling market prices.

(b) and (c). Under commercial operations, during the cotton year 1987-88, the Corporation purchased 6.50 lakh bales. During the current cotton year 1988-89

(Sept. 1988 to 2.3.1989), the Corporation has so far purchased 3.96 lakh bales. Prices have ruled well above minimum support levels during the cotton year 1987-88 as well as during the current cotton season and there has been no occasion for the Corporation to undertake price support operations.

Dereservation of posts for SC/ST in FCI and HVOC

1740. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Class I, II and III employees working in the Food Corporation of India and the Hindustan Vegetable Oil Corporation Limited, separately, as on 31 December, 1988 and the number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Employees among them;

(b) the number of posts for SC/ST in direct recruitment and promotion quotas dereserved in the said corporations during the last three years, year wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to check dereservation of posts for SC/ST in the above corporations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Export of Cotton Yarn

1741. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any limit fixed for the export of cotton yarn, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the quantity and value of cotton yarn exported during 1987-88; and

(c) the estimated export during 1988-89?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) The exports of cotton yarn in count group 1-60s are allowed within an annual ceiling of 40 million kgs. during 1989. However, the exports of hank yarn in this count group are not allowed. There is no restriction on export of cotton yarn of counts above 61s.

(b) and (c). According to the Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council, the exports of cotton yarn during 1987-88 amounted to 85.41 million kgs. valued at Rs. 341.3 crores. As per the Council's estimate, cotton yarn exports during 1988-89 would be around 40 million kgs.

Decline in Infant Mortality rate during Seventh Plan

1742. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the infant mortality rate has registered a decline during the Seventh Plan;

(b) if so, the rate as on 1 April, 1985 and 1 January, 1989 and the various steps taken to bring down the rate alongwith comparative figures at the beginning and end of each of the plans; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard to register a sharp decline in this rate alongwith the figures for this rate in other developing Asian countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Infant Mortality Rates (IMR) as estimated by Registrar General of India on the basis of Sample Registration System for different years are as given below:-

Year	Rate
1976	129.0
1977	130.0
1978	127.0
1979	120.0
1980	113.9
1981	110.4
1982	104.8
1983	104.9
1984	104.0
1985	97.0
1985	96.0
1987	95.0

The downward trend in IMR is attributable to improved health and nutrition status of population and better primary health care services.

(c) The Government are further intensifying the schemes for training of Traditional Birth Attendants in rural areas, strengthening the network of sub-centre and Primary Health Centres and ensuring increased coverage under immunization scheme, wide spread education regarding Oral rehydration therapy and promotion of

health practices like breast feeding, infant weaning prophylaxis against nutritional anaemia and supplementary nutrition under ICDS. The figures of IMR for other selected developing countries of South-East Asia are given below:-

1986	
Afghanistan	177.0
Bangladesh	133.0
Nepal	136.0
Indonesia	77.0
Iran	111.0
Maldives	68.0
Bhutan	137.0
Pakistan	126.0
Sri Lanka	30.0
Burma	104.0
Malaysia	27.0
Philippines	59.0
Singapore	9.0
Thailand	52.0
Vietnam	69.0

FCI Racket in Amritsar

1743. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether police have busted a FCI racket in Amritsar recently;

(b) if so, the number of FCI officials involved and the number of arrests made;

(c) the quantum of foodgrains pilfered/ stolen by these persons during the year 1988; and

(d) the action taken against persons found guilty?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) and (b). The FCI have reported as follows:

The Punjab Police have registered a case on 30.1.1989, alleging conspiracy and theft/misappropriation of foodgrains from the FCI godowns at Tarn Taran in Amritsar District. Nine officials of the FCI, three contractors, three labour palledars, one truck owner and one truck driver have been arrested.

(c) and (d). Whether or not there is any

theft/loss or any officials are to be proceeded against will depend on the allegations of theft/loss being established and on the physical verification of stocks.

Conviction under ECA & PFA

1744. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state the number of persons convicted under the Essential Commodities Act and the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, State-wise, from January 1988 to January 1989?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): A statement indicating the information pertaining to the Essential Commodities Act is given below.

Information in respect of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(Based on the reports received from the State Govts.UTs. Number of persons convicted under E.C. Act for the period from January-December, 1988)

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>States/UTs</i>	<i>No. of persons convicted</i>
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	50
2.	Assam	8
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil
4.	Bihar	N.A
5.	Gujarat	22
6.	Haryana	Nil
7.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil

1	2	3
8.	Goa	Nil
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	47
10.	Karnataka	Nil
11.	Kerala	97
12.	Madhya Pradesh	65
13.	Maharashtra	1
14.	Manipur	2
15.	Meghalaya	Nil
16.	Mizoram	Nil
17.	Nagaland	Nil
18.	Orissa	1
19.	Punjab	Nil
20.	Rajasthan	12
21.	Sikkim	Nil
22.	Tamil Nadu	42
23.	Tripura	8
24.	Uttar Pradesh	73
25.	West Bengal	Nil
26.	A & N Islands	Nil
27.	Chandigarh	1
28.	D & N Haveli	Nil
29.	Delhi	32

1	2	3
30.	Daman & Diu	Nil
31.	Lakshadweep	Nil
32.	Pondicherry	26

Figures in respect of January, 1989 have not yet been received from all the States/UTs.

Unclaimed EPF Labour

for payment of their dues?

1745. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALVIYA): (a) The information as on 31st December, 1988 is not readily available. However, the information as on 31.3.88 State-wise, is given in the statement below:-

(a) the estimated amount of unclaimed provident fund lying with Government as on 31 December, 1988, State-wise;

(b) the amount of unclaimed provident fund paid during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to locate the subscribers and their dependents

(b) The amount of unclaimed provident fund paid during the last three years is as given below:-

Year	Amount paid (Rs. in lakhs)
1985-86	15.18
1986-87	26.14
1987-88	45.05

(c) The E.P.F. authorities are making all possible efforts to locate the subscribers/rightful claimants by suitable publicity and displaying the particulars of unclaimed de-

posits on the notice boards of the factories/establishments and also enlisting the co-operation of Trade Unions operating in such factories establishments.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Region</i>	<i>Amount of unclaimed provident fund deposit as on 31.3.1988 (Rs. in crores)</i>
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3.00
2.	Bihar	0.08
3.	Delhi	4.89
4.	Gujarat	0.99
5.	Haryana	3.44
6.	Karnataka	2.30
7.	Kerala	0.06
8.	Maharashtra	5.05
9.	Madhya Pradesh	0.16
10.	“ N E. Region	0.25
11.	Orissa	0.07
12.	Punjab	3.14
13.	Rajasthan	0.23
14.	Tamil Nadu	0.20
15.	Uttar Pradesh	0.08
16.	West Bengal	1.89
Total		25.83

Silk Weaving Industry in Varanasi

(a) whether the silk weaving industry in Varanasi is facing extinction; and

1746. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(b) if so, the steps Union Government have taken to revive this industry and help the weavers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In order to check the rise in price of silk yarn, Government have permitted the import of 100 tonnes of raw silk through the Central Silk Board for indigenous consumption. 36 tonnes of raw silk has already arrived and has been allocated to identified weavers' organisations for supply to actual users, including the weavers of Varanasi.

Workers in Dolomite Mines in Orissa

1747. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-
NAIK:
SHRI HARIHAR SOREN :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of workers engaged in the dolomite mines in Orissa;

(b) the details of schemes drawn up for the welfare of these workers; and

(c) the details of workers assisted under these schemes during the last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALVIYA). (a) The number of workers engaged in the dolomite mines in Orissa is estimated to be 3,300.

(b) and (c). A number of schemes to provide (i) medical, (ii) housing, (iii) educational, (iv) recreational, and (v) water supply facilities to mine workers and their families are being implemented under the Limestone and Dolomite Mines Labour Welfare Fund. Details of workers benefited under these schemes are not maintained.

News Item Captioned "Lack of Fund Hits Health Schemes"

1748. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA :
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to news item captioned "Lack of funds hits health Schemes" published in the Times of India dated 2 February, 1989;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to increase the present allocation of funds for health and family welfare; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARISAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) The news item has been seen by the Government.

(b) and (c). The funds for the year 1989-90 have tentatively been allocated by the Planning Commission as under.-

(Rs. in crores)

A.	Health Sector	Annual Plan Allocations	
		1988-89	1989-90
	i) Central	228	240
	ii) States/UTs.	640	Not yet finalised but likely to be more than current years level.

[*Translation*]

Persons Buried Alive in Mines

1749. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons buried alive in the various mines from 1 January, 1988 to 31 January, 1989;

(b) whether the dependants of the deceased have been fully compensated;

(c) if so, the amount of compensation paid in each case; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and when the compensation would be paid?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALVIYA): (a) to (d). 49 persons were killed on the spot and 67 persons succumbed to their injuries later, owing to fall of ground in various mines from 1st January, 1988 to 31st January, 1989. The compensation is paid under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 which is administered by the State Governments and the Union Territory Administrations. Information in this regard is not maintained.

[*English*]

Welfare Facilities to Plantation Labour in Assam

1750. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing welfare measures for the plantation labour have not been extended as yet to the labour working in tea gardens in Assam;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to provide these facilities to the labour expeditiously?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALVIYA): (a) to (c). The enforcement of the Plantations Labour Act, 1951 is the responsibility of the concerned State Government. Information is being collected from the Government of Assam and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Recommendation of Task Force for Powerloom Sector

1751. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the recommendation of the Task Force constituted in May, 1987 to Study the Credit requirements of the decentralised powerloom sector;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government to increase the flow of credit;

(c) whether any representations have been received from the powerloom sector for further facilities and supportive measures; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (d). The recommendations of the Task Force are under consideration. These recommendations by and large, cover various issues raised by Powerloom Associations etc. from time to time.

Non-Supply of Medical Kits to Community Health Guides

1752. SHRI D.B. PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether medical kits are not being supplied to Community Health Guides for the last two years all over the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the amount spent by way of honorarium to the Community Health Guides during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b). Owing to resource constraints, it has not been possible to make allocations for the medicines to the Village Health Guides during the last two years.

(c) An amount of Rs. 2166.11 lakhs has been released to States and Union Territories for payment of honorarium to the Village Health Guides during the last two years.

Recommendations of Gujarat Committee on Textiles

1753. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the thrust areas identified by the Gujarat Committee on textile industry;

(b) the recommendations accepted by Union government;

(c) the recommendations which have been implemented; and

(d) the results achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) The Tripartite Committee set up by the Gujarat Government has identified the following three thrust areas;

- i) Reducing the risk of further closure of mills and re-opening of mills which can be made viable;
- ii) Payment of legal dues and other reliefs to workers who have lost their jobs
- iii) Creating alternative sources of employment.

(b) to (d). The recommendations of the Committee have been examined for appropriate action. In some cases they have already been acted upon whereas in some others they have not been found acceptable. Recommendations concerning other Ministries have been taken up by the State Government with the concerned Ministries. In some cases action has to be taken by the State Government themselves.

Allocation of edible oils to States

1754. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise allocation of imported edible oils during the year 1988-89 so far, month-wise;

(b) whether Maharashtra Government have requested for increasing the allocation of imported edible oils; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Union Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) A statement

indicating state-wise allocation of imported edible oils during the oil year 1988-89 month-wise is given below:-

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In the present situation of increased availability of indigenous oils and the consequent reduction in imports, it is not possible to increase the monthly allocations of imported edible oils to Maharashtra.

STATEMENT

Allocation During the Oil-Year 1988-89 (Nov-Oct) Under PDS to States/UTs

Quantity in MTs.

S. No.	Name of States/UTs	Nov'88	Dec'88	Jan'89	Feb'89
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8000	2800	2800	2800
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	50	20	20	20
3.	Assam	350	100	100	100
4.	Bihar	400	160	160	400
5.	Goa	600	600	400	500
6.	Gujarat	13000	4550	2550	1000
7.	Haryana	1000	400	400	200
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1000	400	500	600
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	900	360	760	960
10.	Karnataka	5000	1750	1750	1750
11.	Kerala	5000	3500	3500	3700
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4000	1600	1600	1600

1	2	3	4	5	6
13.	Maharashtra	15500	6400	8400	8400
14.	Manipur	500	200	200	200
15.	Meghalaya	350	140	140	140
16.	Mizoram	500	350	350	350
17.	Nagaland	450	315	315	325
18.	Orissa	1300	520	520	520
19.	Punjab	1000	400	400	300
20.	Rajasthan	1000	400	400	300
22.	Sikkim	200	80	80	80
22.	Tamil Nadu	9000	6300	6300	3600
23.	Tripura	350	140	140	100
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2500	1000	1000	800
25.	West Bengal	9000	3600	5600	7600
26.	A & N Islands	140	56	56	70
27.	Chandigarh	150	60	60	60

1	2	3	4	5	6
28.	D & N Haveli	80	32	32	40
29.	Delhi	4250	1700	1700	1200
30.	Daman	40	40	40	40
31.	Diu	30	30	30	30
32.	Lakshadweep	50	20	20	30
33.	Pondicherry	540	500	350	450
	Total	86230	38523	40673	38285

Strike by Indian Construction Workers in Kuwait

1755. SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any report regarding strike by Indian construction workers in Kuwait;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Indian employers did not pay wages to the workers for months together and if so, the position in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken for the settlement of their wages?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHAKISHAN MALVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). According to the information furnished by the Indian Embassy in Kuwait, about 1000 Indian workers recruited by two Kuwaiti companies under the same proprietor viz. M/s. Al Burdah Trading and Contracting Company and M/s. Al Fawares Construction and Development Company, to work on a housing project in Al Quarain Area of Kuwait, stopped work from third week of January, 1989 on account of non-payment of wages. The Indian Mission intervened vigorously with the Kuwaiti employer and with sub-contractors and also took up the matter with the Government of Kuwait for settlement of the problem. The Mission has maintained constant liaison with the representatives of the workers, management and the sub-contractors and pursuing the matter with the Government of Kuwait. The matter has also been taken up with the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Kuwait during his recent visit to India.

Review of Sugar Licensing Policy

1756. SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL:
SHRI S.M.GURADDI:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to review the Sugar Licensing Policy in regard to the initial capacity of new sugar mill and radial distance between the new sugar factory and the existing sugar factory; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether a seminar of the South Indian Sugarcane and Sugar Technologists Association was held at Madras on 11 December, 1988;

(c) if so, the subjects discussed at the Seminar; and

(d) the follow-up action taken by Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) The Central Govt. is considering a limited review of the sugar licensing policy for the Seventh Plan period, particularly in regard to the initial capacity of 2500 TCD for the new sugar factories to be set up in the industrially backward areas and the radial distance of 40 Kms between the new sugar factories and the existing sugar factories. A final decision in the matter is yet to be taken.

(b) and (c). A seminar of South Indian Sugarcane and Sugar Technologists Association was held at Madras on 11.12.1988. At this seminar the following two subjects came up for discussion:-

- i) Expansion of 1250 TCD plant into 2500 TCD plant, and

- ii) Steps to be taken to feed adequate cane to make the factories crush for at least 180 days in a year.

(d) The Seminar was organised by a private body. The recommendations, if any, made at the seminar have not been communicated to the Government.

Pesticides in Water

1757. SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether drinking water supplies are being checked for pesticides in the cities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b). The physical and chemical standards for drinking water have been prescribed in the "Manual on Water Supply and Treatment" brought out by the Ministry of Urban Development. Local bodies and State Governments dealing with the drinking water supplies in the cities are supposed to regularly monitor drinking water quality.

The Central and the State Pollution Control Boards are also implementing the water Act to prevent and control pollution in water resources of the country.

Impact of Cola Drinks on Health

1758. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the impact of Cola Drinks on health has been examined and studied in India as has been done in various other

countries; and

(b) if not, whether it is proposed to be studied soon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The impact of cola drinks on health has been studied and it has been found that it is not likely to cause ill effect.

Presence of Aids Virus In Two Drugs

1759. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK:
SHRI V. TULSIRAM:
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA-
CHANDRAN:
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Drugs Controller has cautioned hospitals and Doctors against the use of two drugs manufactured by a Bombay Firm containing the AIDS virus as reported in the Indian Express dated 11 February, 1989;

(b) if so, the details of the drugs so prohibited by the Drugs Controller;

(c) whether the AIDS virus in those drugs were overlooked by the experts while clearing them for use;

(d) if so, the number of patients affected by use of such drugs during 1987 and 1988, year-wise and State-wise; and

(e) the action taken/being taken against all those who are responsible for such a dangerous lapse on their part?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) and (e). Out of the two samples of Anti Rho-D Immunoglobulin tested at All India Institute of Medical Sciences New Delhi, one sample of Anti Rho-D Immunoglobulin B.No. 6/88 manufactured by M/s. Bharat Serum Vaccines Pvt. Ltd., Bombay was found positive for HIV anti-bodies. The Commissioner, Food and Drugs Administration, Maharashtra under whose jurisdiction the manufacture is located, suspended the production distribution and sale of all blood

products manufactured by M/s. Bharat Serum and Vaccines. The State Drugs Control Authorities were asked to freeze the stocks of the drug and with-draw the drug supplied to the Government hospitals and Nursing Homes etc.

(d) While it will not be possible to indicate the number of persons injected with anti-D Immunoglobulin, a statement showing the number of vials of different strengths produced distributed and subsequently with-drawn in respect of batch No.6/88 by this firm is given below:-

STATEMENT

Number of vials of Anti-RHD Immunoglobulin (Batch No. 6/88) produced, distributed and Subsequently Withdrawn by M/s. Bharat Serum and Vaccines Pvt. Ltd.

<i>Strength</i>	<i>Production (No. of vials)</i>	<i>Distributed (No. of Vials)</i>	<i>Withdrawn by the firm (No. of Vials)</i>
100 mcg	339	240	75
250 mcg	442	228	57
350 mcg	383	383	165
400 mcg	819	463	18

Survey of Wastelands

1760. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been made about the wastelands in the country;

(b) if so, the total areas of the wastelands, State-wise,

(c) the details of the plans for reclamation of the wastelands; and

(d) if so, the efforts made for reclama-

tion of the wasteland so far and the results achieved?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b). An estimate of the wastelands in the country, with state-wise breakup, is given in the Statement below.

(c) and (d). A number of Central and State Sector Schemes are concerned with afforestation and wastelands development. The Year-wise plan outlays and achievements during the Seventh Plan period are given below:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Allocations (Rs. in crores)</i>	<i>Target (in million hectares)</i>	<i>Achievement</i>
1985-86	384.94	1.45	1.51
1986-87	492.49	1.71	1.76
1987-88	540.83	1.79	1.77
1988-89	620.00	2.00	1.90 (upto December, 1988).

STATEMENT

Estimates of Wastelands in India (in LAC Hectares)

<i>States/UT</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	114.16
Assam	17.30
Bihar	54.58
Gujarat	78.36
Haryana	24.78
Himachal Pradesh	19.58
Jammu and Kashmir	15.65
Karnataka	91.65
Kerala	12.79
Madhya Pradesh	201.42
Maharashtra	144.01
Manipur	14.38
Meghalaya	19.18
Nagaland	13.86

1	2
Orissa	63.84
Punjab	12.30
Rajasthan	199.34
Sikkim	2.81
Tamil Nadu	44.01
Tripura	9.73
Uttar Pradesh	80.61
West Bengal	25.36
UTs	36.04
Total	1295.74

N.B.: The above estimate is not based on a country-wide survey of all wastelands in the country.

**Procedure for Grant of Completion
Certificates by DDA**

1761. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:
SHRI S.M. GURADDI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether as a result of simplification of the procedure for grant of completion certificates and the number of new rules introduced by the Delhi Development Authority, the housing activities have received a boost;

(b) if so, the main rules introduced; and

(c) the extent to which these have proved helpful in boosting the housing activities in the capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The procedure for the issue of Forms 'C' & 'D' relating to the verification of services has been simplified procedure for residential plots measuring upto 500 sq. mtrs. Under the simplified verification/certification of the laying of services by the licensed architects will be accepted for the grant of C&D Forms by the DDA. This will relive the house builders from the inconvenience and possible harassment although this by itself may not contributed to the boosting of housing activity.

Production cost of Controlled Cloth and Janta Cloth

1762. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) how much wage a handloom weaver is getting per day for producing the controlled and janta cloth;

(b) the production cost of such cloth in the N.T.C. mills; and

(c) the production cost of such cloth in the handloom sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) A large variety of Janata Cloth is being produced in different States under the Janata cloth Scheme in Handloom sector. Wages to handloom weavers engaged in the production of Janata cloth are not, therefore, paid at uniform rates in the States. However, a handloom weaver engaged in the production of Janata cloth gets an average wage ranging from Rs. 14 to 32 per day. Controlled cloth is not produced in the handloom sector.

(b) and (c). The production cost of controlled cloth produced by NTC mills and Janata cloth in the handloom sector are as under:-

Sl.No.	Item	Average Production cost per square metre	
		Controlled cloth	Janata cloth
1.	Dhoti	Rs 8.66	Rs. 7.50
2.	Saree	Rs. 8.89	Rs. 8.03
3.	Long Cloths	Rs. 8.67	Rs. 8.29

Setting up of Task Force

1763. SHRI T.V. CHANDRASHEKHARAPPA:
SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have asked State Governments to set up a separate task force for checking encroachment on forest land and illegal felling of trees; and

(b) if so, the States which have set up such a task force?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):

(a) and (b). A task force was constituted by Government of India in 1983 to study the problem of encroachments in forest areas and suggest measures to control the situation. The Union Government have not asked State Governments to set up separate task forces for the purpose.

Closed Textile Mills in Gujarat

1764. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of textile mills which have been closed in Ahmedabad and other cities of Gujarat so far;

(b) the number of workers rendered jobless as a result thereof;

(c) the number of such mills which have been taken over by the National Textile Corporation and restarted;

(d) the number of such mills which are still lying closed; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to take over the remaining mills to restart them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (e). As on 31.12.88 35 textile mills with a labour complement of 59882 were lying closed in Gujarat National Textile Corporation is not taking over of these mills because as stated in the Textile Policy take over or nationalisation does not prove a solution to the problem of sickness.

Supply of Sugar to Andhra Pradesh

1765. SHRI V. TULSIRAM · Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of sugar supplied to the State of Andhra Pradesh during the last six months, month-wise;

(b) whether Government propose to enhance the supply of sugar; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA). (a) to (c). At present the levy sugar quota of each State and Union Territory is based on uniform norms of minimum 425 gms per capita monthly availability for projected population

as on 1.10.1986 effective from February, 1987. Accordingly, the monthly levy sugar quota allotted to Andhra Pradesh is 25281.0 tonnes. In addition a quantity of 3807.0 tonnes was allotted for each of the month of October and November, 1988 as the festival quota

Amount Sanctioned by IFCI for Modernisation of Textiles

1766 SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN · Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) has sanctioned any amount during 1988 for modernisation of NTC mills;

(b) if so, the details of the amounts sanctioned,

(c) the mills to be modernised;

(d) whether the mills have availed of the sanctioned amount; and

(e) if so, the details of utilization of the funds for modernisation especially in respect to the Cannanore Spinning and Weaving Mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. A sum of Rs. 45.98 crores has been sanctioned by IDBI/IFCI for modernisation of 12 NTC units during 1988. A statement showing the names of NTC units to be modernised and details of amount sanctioned, mill-wise, is given below.

(d) and (e). No, Sir.

STATEMENT*Details of investment proposals approved by IDBI/IFCI in respect of NTC Units*

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Unit</i>	<i>Proposed outlay (approved by IDBI/IFCI) (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1.	Alagappa Textiles (Cochin)	265.00
2.	Cannanore Spg. Mills, Mahe	388.00
3.	Kerala Laxmi Mills	248.00
4.	Tirupathi Cotton Mills, Chittoor (Andhra Pradesh)	423.00
5.	Parvathi Mills, Quilon	1250.00
6.	Mysore Processing, Bangalore	226.00
7.	Balaram Varma Textiles	150.00
8.	Coimbatore Murugan Mills	177.00
9.	Sri Sarda Mills	204.00
10.	Somasudram Mills	260.00
11.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Pondicherry	682.00
12.	Cannanore Spinning & Weaving Mills Cannanore	325.00
Total		4598.00

Targets/Achievements in Housing Schemes

made so far under the various housing schemes during the Seventh Five Year Plan, year-wise and State-wise ; and

1767. SHRI JAGANNATH PAT-TANAIK: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed and achievements

(b) whether Government propose to involve the voluntary organisations and other private agencies in the housing activities in order to solve this gigantic problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Statements (State-wise and year-wise indicating targets fixed and achievements made in respect of various housing schemes under the 20-point Programme -1986 during the Seventh Five Year Plan, upto the 31st January, 1989 are laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library See No. LT-7490/89]

(b) This is referred to in the National Housing Policy. Housing, being a state subject, all social housing schemes are being implemented by the State Government/UT Administrations as per their requirements and plan priorities.

Production of Palm Oil

1768. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the production of palm oil during current year;

(b) whether any new scheme have been chalked out to bring more area under palm oil cultivation;

(c) if so, the State-wise details thereof; and

(d) the total State-wise financial allocation made for the scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRID.L. BAITHA): (a) The production of palm oil during the current year is estimated to be around 2000 MTs.

(b) to (d). Yes, Sir. Government of India has jointly with the State Governments of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, launched an Oil Palm Demonstration Project in each of these States, in an area of 1000 ha. in each State for a five year period (1988-89 to 1992-93). The state-wise allocations for each of these projects are as given below:

(Rs. in crores)

State	Total cost of the project	Allocation made by GOI	Allocation State Govt.	Share of Institutional Finance
Maharashtra	820.34	260.17	260.17	300.00
Andhra Pradesh	580.83	140.415	140.415	300.00
Karnataka	705.48	202.74	202.74	300.00

Legislation to Regulate Population Growth

1769. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of babies born during the

year 1989 in the country;

(b) whether Government propose to enact a legislation to regulate the growth of population; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) It is estimated that nearly 23.8 million live births would have taken place in 1988.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Modernisation of Powerlooms in UP

1770. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for modernisation of the existing powerlooms and setting up of new powerlooms in some States, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the steps taken by Union Government in Uttar Pradesh in this regard; and

(c) the details of the new power looms set up in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) and (b). Modernisation of existing looms and setting up of new looms in the decentralised powerloom sector fall within the purview of the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations. Specific steps in these directions are taken by the State Governments, Union Territories Administrations concerned.

(c) According to available information, 8875 applications for setting up of 26101 powerlooms were received during the period January, 1986 to January, 1989 in Uttar Pradesh.

[*English*]

Production of Anti-Cancer Drug "Etoposide"

1771. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY:
SHRI UTTAM RATHOD:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Scientists at the Regional Research Laboratory (RRL), Hyderabad have developed an innovative process for production of an anti-cancer drug "Etoposide" used for lung and Testicular cancer;

(b) whether this process has been found to be effective;

(c) how long will it take to perfect this process; and

(d) whether R & D work is also being done on development of vaccine against cancer and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of Sabha.

Permission to NTC to Sell Surplus Land

1772. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:
SHRI CHITTA MAHATA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have permitted the N.T.C. mills to sell their surplus plots of land in order to raise funds for their modernisation;

(b) if so, the Statewise details of mills

accorded permission so far; and

(c) the State-wise details of mills proposed to be allowed permission therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (c). Government have permitted the NTC mills located all over the country to sell the land, surplus to its requirements, in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Government. The procedure includes the stipulation that all sales to parties other than the Government Departments and the Public Sector Undertakings, require the prior approval of the Government.

[*Translation*]

Transfer of Buildings to Government of Himachal Pradesh

1773. **SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI:** Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the time by which the buildings/properties in Simla, which are under the control of Union Government, are likely to be transferred to the Government of Himachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): The properties to be transferred are in the possession of Govt. of Himachal Pradesh and orders for the transfer of the title of the properties have since been issued.

[*English*]

Cleansing of Rivers

1774. **DR. G.S. RAJHANS:** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the rivers which are proposed to be got cleansed by Union Gov-

ernment during 1989 and 1990; and

(b) the time by which the cleansing work is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b). Apart from the Ganga Action Plan, there are no other proposals for cleaning up rivers in the Annual Plans for 1988-89 and 1989-90. However, several measures being taken by the Government to contain water pollution in rivers include detailed river-basin studies of 14 major rivers and monitoring of water quality through a network of 310 monitoring stations.

Workers Sent to Gulf Countries from Andhra Pradesh

1775. **SHRI C. SAMBU:** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of workers who went to the various Gulf countries from Andhra Pradesh during the last two years, year-wise and country-wise;

(b) the number of workers who had lodged complaints with the Indian Embassies in Gulf countries during the above period for settling their problems;

(c) the number of the complaints settled; and

(d) the number of complaints still pending together with the reasons therefor and the steps taken for their expeditious settlement?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALVIA): (a) The statistics of the workers sent abroad are not maintained

state-wise.

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

Rice Bran to Poultry Units

1776. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:
SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have urged Punjab State to reduce the supply of rice bran to the poultry feed industry from 40 percent to 10 percent; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) and (b) Punjab Government was requested to consider the possibility of withdrawing the order of levy on rice bran. A meeting with the State Government officials was also held in this regard.

Punjab Government however expressed its reservations about reducing the supply of rice bran to the poultry feed on the grounds that rice bran meets the energy requirements of poultry at a reasonable cost

Minimum Wages

1777. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN:
Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the minimum wages fixed to handloom, beedi and cashew industries in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu

and Kerala respectively during the last three years;

(b) whether the wage rates in Kerala are higher and this has resulted in movement of some of these industries from Kerala to neighbouring States; and

(c) whether Government of Kerala has requested Union Government to take initiative in fixing uniform minimum wages under the Minimum Wage Act, 1948?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALVIYA): (a) to (c). The rates of minimum wages fixed for handloom, beedi and cashew industries in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala, as per available information, are given in the Statement below. The rates in Kerala are higher than the rates in other three States. The question of disparity in wages and consequent movement of industry from one State to another and the formulation of a national minimum wage/regional minimum wages have been discussed in various forums. The Indian Labour Conference held in November, 1985 recommended that till such time as the national minimum wage was feasible, it would be desirable to have regional minimum wages in regard to which the Central Govt. may lay down the guidelines. These guidelines have been finalised and circulated to all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. In accordance with the recommendations of the Southern Regional Labour Ministers' Conference held in Madras on 9.10.87, a Committee has been set up to go into the question of regional minimum wages for specific employments including handloom, beedi and cashew industries.

STATEMENT

S. No.	State	Minimum Wages		
		Beedi	Handloom	Cashew
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 8.40 to Rs. 9.30 (1987)	Piece rates between 0.25 p. to Rs. 6.35 depending upon the quantity and category of work. (1984-Continuing)	Rs. 11.00 (1987)
2.	Karnataka	Rs. 11.50 (1986)	Wages not fixed	Rs. 12.30 (1987)
3.	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 11.60 (1987)	Rs. 2.25 to Rs. 3.88 per metre (cotton) Rs. 129.55 to Rs. 377.72 per 16.5 metres (Silk) (1987)	Rs. 7.00 (1987)
4.	Kerala	Rs. 24.20 for 1000 beedies (1987)	Rs. 21.01 to Rs. 23.26 (1987)	Rs. 13.69 (1987)

Note: Figures in parenthesis denote the year of fixation of minimum wages.

Long Term Policy for Export of Cotton

1778. SHRI S.M. GURADDI:
SHRIMATI USHA CH-
OUDHARY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether cotton growers have demanded stoppage of cotton imports and a long term policy for export of cotton;

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

(c) the details of the long term export policy drawn up, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (c). Though cotton growers have generally been against any imports of cotton, these have sometimes been necessitated to meet domestic scarcity and contain spiralling cotton prices. Government have already announced a long term export policy for cotton under which six lakh bales of cotton are envisaged to be exported every year on a continuous basis for a period of three years commencing with the cotton

year 1986-87. However, on account of domestic shortage, exports of staple cotton have remained suspended since July, 1987.

Daily Requirement of Calories Per Person

1779. SHRI D.K. NAIKAR: will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that as per expert opinion, 3600 calories are required per day for a person to maintain the working capacity in the country;

(b) whether only 1200 calories are found in daily food consumed by 67 percent of the population in the country; and

(c) if so, the measures contemplated by Government to bridge the gap in the intake of calories by the average Indians?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) The Nutrition Expert Group of the Indian Council of Medical Research has recommended the daily calorie as follows:—

	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
Sedentary Worker	2400	1900
Moderate Worker	2800	2200
Heavy Worker	3900	3000

(b) According to the latest available report of National Nutrition Monitoring Bureau which conducted diet and Nutrition surveys in ten States, the average daily intake of calories is 2243. The calorie inadequacy in individuals ranged from 22.1% in Karnataka to 51% in West Bengal.

(c) The various measures adopted by Govt. of India to bridge the gap in calorie include:—

1. Poverty alleviation programmes to improve the purchasing power of the people.

2. Increased production and better distribution of food.
3. Availability of essential food items at lower cost through the public distribution system.
4. Nutrition education with special reference to promotion of the use of locally available food with a view to improve the nutritional status within the existing conditions.
5. Nutrition intervention programmes for the vulnerable groups i.e. the preschool children and women of child bearing age. Many of these programmes have the component of supplementary nutrition to bridge the calorie gap in the vulnerable sections of the population.

Coal Field Authority in Orissa Causing Pollution

1780. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Ib Valley Coal field authority in Orissa has not taken any steps to control air pollution;

(b) whether the people living around that coal field are suffering from diseases like T.B. etc. due to the same; and

(c) if so, the details of the directions given by Government to Ib Valley Coal field authority to take up immediate air pollution control measures?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):

(a) The Ib Valley Coal field authority has taken various steps to control air pollution which include the following:—

- spraying of water on the the haul roads and various transfer points;
- proper maintenance of equipment;
- control of exhaust gas generated by heavy earth moving machines;
- black topping of roads; and
- preparation of environmental management plan.

However, the States Pollution Control Board consider these measures inadequate.

(b) There is no such report.

(c) However, the State Pollution Control Board directed the Authority to take effective steps to control pollution.

Reduction in Allocation of Rice to West Bengal

1782. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the allotment of rice to West Bengal has been further curtailed during the current year, if so the details thereof;

(b) the average monthly allotment of rice to West Bengal during 1988 and 1989; and

(c) whether Government are aware of the supply of inferior quality of rice to the State, if so, the steps taken to supply good

quality rice?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) The allocation of rice to various States/ Union Territories was reviewed in February, 1989 keeping in view overall availability of stocks in the Central Pool, relative needs of various States, improved market availability on arrival of new rice crop and the fact that the supply to Public Distribution System is only supplemental in nature. As a result of the review, the rice quota of most States, including West Bengal, was reduced uniformly by 20%.

(b) The Government of West Bengal was made an average monthly allocation of 89, 167 tonnes of rice during 1988 and 69,333 tonnes during 1989 (upto March).

(c) Yes, Sir. Attention of the Government was drawn to the released of stocks of rice procured under relaxed specification in Punjab and Haryana about which the State Governments have already been suitably informed. Instructions have also been issued by FCI to all Zonal Managers/Senior Regional Managers to ensure that rice conforming only to purchase specifications is issued against allocations.

[Translation]

Export of Paddy

1783. SHRI AKHTAR HASAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some countries have shown interest in importing paddy from our country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government propose to export paddy particularly to the United Arab Emirates; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). As per Import-Export Policy April, 1988 March, 1991, export of paddy is not allowed.

[English]

Compilation of State of India's Health

1784. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMARAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Voluntary Health Association of India has undertaken a massive compilation of State of India's Health, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the various Government agencies are offering support in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) The Voluntary Health Association of India has informed that with the help of experts in the health field, they will bring out a document on the State of India's Health Report. The report will present the citizens' viewpoint, backed by credible data and experience at the grass root level.

(b) Voluntary Health Association of India have not approached the Government for assistance in this regard.

Loss in National Textile Corporation

1785. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identi-

fied the Textile units under the National Textile Corporation which are running in loss;

(b) if so, the textile units under NTC which incurred loss during 1987-88 and 1988-89;

(c) the extent of loss incurred by each of them during the above period; and

(d) the steps taken to improve the performance of such units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (c). Most of the mills under National Textile Corporation have been incurring losses. During the year 1987-88 & 1988-89 (April- Dec., 1988), the mills under NTC incurred net losses amounting to Rs. 266 crores and Rs. 232 crores (Provisional) respectively.

(d) NTC has formulated a fresh turn-around strategy, based on selective modernisation with the help of institutional finance, product improvement and diversification etc. for improving the performance of the losing units.

[*Translation*]

Afforestation in Madhya Pradesh

1786. SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV: will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state.

(a) the districts in Madhya Pradesh where seeds were sprinkled for growing trees to promote afforestation since 1950;

(b) the extent to which success has been achieved and the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to

achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Aids Free Certificates for Indigenous Blood Products

1787. CH. KHURSHID AHMED:
SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI
KHAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether while AIDS free certificates are insisted in the case of imported blood and blood products, similar precautions are not taken in the case of indigenous blood products;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government proposes to make screening, of the indigenous blood and blood products for AIDS mandatory; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (d). All human blood are now required to be tested for HIV anti-bodies.

On the 6th May, 1986, administrative instructions were issued by Drug Controller of India to all the State Drug Controllers of accepting blood from Professional donors only on production of a certificate regarding absence of HIV INFECTION. Thereafter, on 14th February, 1989, detailed guidelines

have been issued by Director General of Health Services (DGHS) to all State Drug Controllers regarding screening of all units of blood received in blood banks in cities where surveillance centres have been established by ICMR.

Every blood manufacturer requires a licence which is issued under the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940. Draft rules under the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 have been framed and sent to the Government of India Press for publication in the official Gazette seeking suggestions within 21 days. The draft Rules provides that "every licences of a Blood Bank shall get sample of every blood unit tested for freedom from HIV antibodies from such laboratories specified for the purpose by the Central Government. Date of performing the test shall be recorded on the label of the container also."

Deposit of EPF Amount by Amrit Bazar Patrika Group, Calcutta

1788. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the EPF dues recovered from the employees by the Amrit Bazar Patrika Group, Calcutta during 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 so far;

(b) the amount deposited by them so far; and

(c) the steps taken for recovery of the amount still due from them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALVIYA): (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

Steps to Reduce Tobacco Consumption

1789. DR. PHULRENU GUHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of people die of tobacco consumption in India; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to reduce tobacco consumption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARISAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) It is estimated that about 6 to 10 lakh people die due to tobacco related diseases every year in India.

(b) The measures undertaken to reduce the consumption of tobacco products include;

- (i) educating the masses against the use of tobacco products by highlighting its evil effects on health like cardiovascular diseases, hypertension, oral and lung cancer etc.
- (ii) Printing of statutory warning on cigarette packets, hoardings etc.
- (iii) ban on advertisement of cigarette and tobacco products on mass media, sports stadia etc.
- (iv) ban on smoking in public places meetings, seminars etc.

Consortium of Jute Exporting Countries

1790. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether jute industry is facing crisis due to introduction of synthetic yarns or any other factor;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the jute exporting countries have formed an association to locate new jute markets; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) and (b). Jute Industry is facing stiff competition from synthetics both in the domestic and international market because of synthetic substitutes.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Committee for Environmental Reconstruction

1791. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee has been constituted for Environmental Reconstruction in the Doon Valley;

(b) if so, the constitution and terms of reference of the Committee;

(c) whether certain programmes have been drawn up to remove the environmental problems in the lower Himalayas, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether certain Centrally sponsored schemes to remove the environmental problems in the Himalayan States have been launched; and

(e) if so, the details thereof with specific

reference to Sikkim?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):

(a) In 1981 a Board was constituted for the Doon Valley and adjacent watershed areas of the Ganga and the Yamuna for environmental management of the area. The Board was reconstituted in 1985 and in 1988.

(b) The constitution and the terms of reference of the Board are shown in the statement below.

(c) Yes, Sir. Following programmes (projects) have been drawn up for this area and are now under implementation;

(i) Afforestation of mined areas in the Doon Valley;

(ii) Environmental Plan for mining in Uttar Pradesh Himalayas; and

(iii) Integrated watershed management project.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Centrally sponsored schemes in operation in the hill region are:

(i) Watershed management in the catchment of flood prone rivers—Upper Yamuna and Upper Ganga;

(ii) Soil conservation for the catchment of the Ramganga river;

(iii) Rural fuelwood plantation and afforestation;

(iv) Decentralised people's nurs-

- eries;
- (v) Plantation for minor forest produce; and
- (vi) Soil, water and tree conservation in the Himalayas under operation soil watch.

These schemes envisage protection to the fragile eco-system; development of degraded lands; reduction of grazing pressure on forest wealth by promoting fuel-wood/fodder production and augmenting

good quality grass and fodder; plantation of fruit trees, bamboo, cane, tendu, medicinal plants etc; and adoption of soil moisture conservation measures including water management.

Of these, the following three schemes—rural fuelwood plantation and afforestation; decentralised people's nurseries; and soil, water and tree conservation in the Himalayas under operation soil watch are under implementation in Sikkim also, apart from the other Himalayan States.

STATEMENT

Constitution and Terms of Reference of the Board for Doon Valley & adjacent Watershed areas of the Ganga and the Yamuna as per Resolution dated 14th July, 1988.

The following is composition of the Board:-

1.	Shri Z.R. Ansari Minister of of Environment and Forests, New Delhi.	Chairman.
2.	Shri B.B. Vohra Chairman, Advisory Board of Energy, New Delhi.	Member
3.	Minister for Hill Development, Government of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow.	Member
4.	Minister for Urban Development, (Town & Country Planning) Government of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow.	Member
5.	Minister for Forests, Government of Uttar Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh	Member
6.	Shri Arun Singh, 28A, Nizamuddin West, New Delhi.	Member
7.	Chief Secretary, Government of Uttar Pradesh Lucknow.	Member
8.	Shri Brahm Dutt, Minister of State for Petroleum, Government of India, New Delhi.	Member
9.	Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, New Delhi.	Member
10.	Secretary, Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, New Delhi.	Member

11.	Inspector General of Forests, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, New Delhi.	Member
12.	Shri Gulab Ram Chandani, Doon School, Dehra Dun.	Member
13.	Shri Avadesh Kaushal, Chairman, Rural Litigation and Entitlement Kendra, Dehra Dun.	Member
14.	Director/Deputy Secretary Incharge of the subject, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, New Delhi.	Member Secretary

The following are the Terms of Reference of the Board:

1) study and review package of proposed developmental projects in this region and provide guidelines for environmental management so as to optimally utilise the regional resources;

2) evolve an effective implementation mechanism for executing mitigative/ameliorative measures for checking further environmental degradation and improving the environment;

3) guide the dispersal of polluting industries and suggest incentives to attract the non-polluting industries;

4) formulated and workout a clear cut strategy for sustained development of the Doon Valley as well as the adjacent watershed areas; and

5) any other matter which the Board may consider necessary for achieving sustained development with minimal environmental degradation. xyz

Death of Migratory Birds in Punjab

1792. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of migratory birds are dying in certain areas of Punjab and other places due to sprinkling of pesticides;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the steps proposed to be taken by Government to check death of the migratory birds as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINSTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):

(a) to (c). The information is being collected from the State Government and would be laid on the Table of the House.

Sick Textile Mills in Gujarat

1793. SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sick textile mills in Gujarat and the names of textile mills out of them which remained closed as on 31 December, 1988; and

(b) the amount required for making the sick textile mills viable and the amount likely to be spent by the I.D.B.I. for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) As on 31.1.1989, 22 of the 47

non-SSI Textile Mills classified by the Reserve Bank of India as sick on the 30th June, 1987, were lying closed. (as per list given in the Statement below.

(b) The amount required for making the sick textile mills viable and the amount likely to be spent by the IDBI for this purpose, cannot be indicate as it depends on the number and the kind of rehabilitation packages worked out for viable mills.

STATEMENT

Name of Non-SSI sick Cotton/man-made fibre textile unit closed as on 31st January, 1989, in Gujarat.

1. Aryodaya Spinning & Wvg. Co. Ltd.,
2. New Gujarat Synthetics Ltd., Unit No. 1.
3. New Gujarat Synthetics Ltd., Unit No. 2.
4. Ahmedabad Mfg. & Calico.
5. The Aryodaya Gng. & Mfg. Co. Ltd.
6. Bharat Suryodaya Mills Co. Ltd.
7. Ahmedabad Sri Ramakrishna Mills Co. Ltd.
8. Borach Textile Mills Ltd.
9. Gaekwar Mills Ltd.
10. Gandhi dhām Spg. & Mfg. Co. Ltd.

11. The Maharana Mills Ltd.
12. Mandvi Spg. Mills Ltd.
13. The Navjivan Mills Ltd.
14. Navjyot Mills Ltd.
15. Commercial Ahmedabad Mills Ltd.
16. Star of Gujarat Textile Mills Ltd.
17. Shri Bansidhar Spg. & Wvg. Mills Ltd.
18. Shree Yamna Mills Co. Ltd.
19. Vijaya Mills co. Ltd.
20. P.G. Textile Mills Ltd.
21. Prasad Mills Ltd.
22. Omax Investors Ltd.

[Translation]

Concessions to Silk Industry

1794. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of silk mills functioning in the country at present and their financial position;

(b) whether the silk industry is facing a serious crisis these days;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to give any concession to such silk mills; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE
ALAM): (a) At present the number of silk

mills functioning in the organised sector are
as under:—

(i) Spun Silk Mills	—	6
(ii) Silk Weaving Mills	—	1
(iii) Silk Mills under 100% Export Oriented Scheme.	—	3

While production of these mills is monitored, the date of financial position of the mills is not being compiled.

(b) No, Sir.

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

[English]

Fire in Cotton Corporation of India

1795. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the losses suffered by the Cotton Corporation of India due to fire during the years 1987 and 1988;

(b) whether the cotton so lost was insured against fire; and

(c) if not, whether responsibility has been fixed in the matter and if so, the action taken against the persons responsible therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE
ALAM): (a) The CCI suffered losses due to fire to the tune of around Rs. 1.09 crores during this period.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Pollution in Sea Coast of Maharashtra

1796. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sea along the Coast of Maharashtra is getting polluted by the discharge from foreign oil tankers passing that way and also by our own;

(b) if so, the extent of pollution;

(c) whether it has reached the dimensions of posing a health hazard; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to deal with the problem?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND
MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) No major tanker route passes close to Maharashtra Coast. However, discharge of oil from coastal traffic and from ships entering the harbours cannot be ruled out.

(b) Oil pollution from ships is mainly localised and is of short duration.

(c) No adverse effect to the extent of causing health hazard has been reported.

(d) The steps taken include the following:—

- (i) The Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, has provisions for dealing with control oil pollution from ships.
- (ii) The anti-pollution provisions of this Act are reviewed periodically and rules have been made more stringent to control pollution arising from the ships.
- (iii) The Indian Coast Guard has been designated the Central Coordinating Agency to combat oil spills. Several agencies/departments have been assigned the task of preventing, monitoring and combating pollution due to oil spills.
- (iv) The Indian Coast Guard while on routine patrol within the Exclusive Economic Zone also carry out surveillance for any possible oil spillage by ships at sea.

Share of Handloom in Textile Exports

1797. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the share of handloom sector in export of textiles during 1986, 1987 and 1988;

(b) the share of Maharashtra out of the same during each of these years;

(c) whether any special efforts have been made by Union Government to update the design of handloom products so that they may get a better foreign market; and

(d) if so, the number of design institutes set up in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) According to Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council, the share of cotton handlooms (fabrics and made-ups) in the export of cotton textiles (fabrics and made-ups) was 26.83% in 1986, 25.89% in 1987 and 25.58% in 1988, in terms of value.

(b) State-wise export figures are not maintained.

(c) and (d). Government of India have set up a number of Weavers' Service Centres, including two in Maharashtra, which provide exporters with designs/samples of handloom products. Besides, the Handloom Export Promotion Council, Madras is also disseminating information on designs/fashion/colours to handloom exporters based on feedback from India Trade Centre; Brussels and other international bodies.

Powerloom in Maharashtra

1798. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of powerlooms lying closed in Maharashtra for more than one year and the reasons therefor;

(b) the production loss suffered on this account;

(c) the number of persons rendered jobless;

(d) whether Union Government have been closely monitoring the development of powerloom sector; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken to restart

them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (e). In the context of excess weaving capacity in the Country, the levels of weaving activity in the decentralised powerloom sector change from time to time depending upon the prices of yarn, offtake of cloth and various other factors. The profitability of weaving operations in this sector is subject to the prices of cotton yarn and demand for cloth etc. Because of the decentralised nature of the industry, it is not possible to give precise estimate of the number of powerlooms which have stopped weaving activity and the production losses which may occur as a consequence thereof. Government regularly monitor the situation in the decentralised powerloom sector for corrective action whenever required. Govt. have suspended export of staple cotton since July, 1987. To ensure that export of cotton yarn does not affect the domestic availability of cotton yarn, import of cotton against exports of cotton yarn, cotton fabrics and made-ups has been permitted on advance licensing basis. Government are also maintaining a constant watch on the situation regarding the availability of cotton required for production of yarn etc.

National Institute of Maternal and Child Health

1799. **PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to establish a National Institute of Maternal and Child Health;

(b) if so, whether Government of Maharashtra had proposed to locate it at Nagpur and offered all assistance for the purpose; and

(c) if so, whether the Union Government are agreeable to locate the project at Nagpur as well as to name the proposed institute after the late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru as per suggestion of Maharashtra Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b). Government have the question of setting up a National Institute of Maternal and Child Health under consideration.

(c) National Institute of Maternal and Child Health could not be set up during 7th Plan as no funds could be made available for the purpose.

Legislation to Regulate Use of Prenatal Diagnostic Techniques

1800. **PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to pass an All-India legislation to regulate the use of pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques on the lines of the Maharashtra Government Act; and

(b) if so, whether the proposed legislation will provide against misuse of the tests by a declaration before undertaking the tests to the effect that "birth of female child shall in no case be presumed to constitute a grave injury to the mental health of a pregnant women"?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the proposal are still under examination.

Scheme for Production of Low Priced Blended Cloth

1801. SHRI R.M. BHOYE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme for the production of low-priced blended cloth in the handloom sector for implementation by the States;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the price fixed for such cloth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The production of low-priced fabric on handlooms using blended yarn with duty free polyester fibre and duty concessional polyester filament yarn under the 'Susman Cloth Scheme' has been approved in the States of Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Karnataka, and Kerala and in the Union Territory of Pondicherry. The Scheme will be operated only by Apex Co-operative Societies and Central or State Handloom Development Corporation approved in this behalf.

(c) The retail prices of the fabric produced using duty free polyester fibre shall normally be in the region of Rs. 25/- per square metre for shirting and Rs. 40/= per square metre for suiting. The fabric produced using duty concessional polyester filament yarn are priced in the region of Rs. 30/= per square metre for dhoti, Rs. 35/= per square metre for shirting dress material, blouse material, saree and lungi and Rs. 55/= per square metre for suiting.

Scarcity of Medicines in CGHS Dispensaries

1802. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMBHARAJA WAQIYAR: Will the

Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a scarcity of medicines in the C.G.H.S. dispensaries in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to supply adequate quantity of medicine to the C.G.H.S. dispensaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c). There is no scarcity of medicines of I.S.M. and Homeopathy System. However, there has been temporary shortage of some allopathic medicines. Any allopathic medicine prescribed by the specialist as 'Essential' and not available in the dispensary is procured from M/s. Super Bazar/authorised Local Chemist and supplied to the beneficiaries. In case of urgency, by hand authority is also given to the beneficiary for procuring the medicine from Super Bazar without any payment. In the event of non-availability of medicine in Super Bazar, the beneficiary is also authorised to purchase it from open market and claim re-imbusement.

Separate Regional/Sub-Office of Savegrain Campaign In HP

1803. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up separate Regional/Sub-Office of the 'Savegrain Campaign' in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon and the likely date by which the office would be opened; and

(c) If not, the likely date by which a decision to open the office would be taken and the office opened?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) No, Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present there is no proposal to set up any Central Unit of Save Grain Campaign in Himachal Pradesh.

Number of Accidents in Mines

1804. SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mine accidents in the country during 1987 and 1988 State-wise;

(b) the number of persons affected by these accidents, and

(c) the precautionary measures taken to save the lives of mine workers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY

MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALVIYA): (a) and (b). The number of mine accidents in the country during 1987 and 1988 State-wise and the number of persons affected by these accidents are given in the statement below:

(c) Provisions for safety, health and welfare of workers employed in mines are contained in the Mines Act, 1952 and rules and regulations framed thereunder. These provisions are required to be complied with by the mine managements. The Director General of Mines Safety, Dhanbad and his officers inspect the mines periodically in order to enforce the statutory provisions and take appropriate action as provided in the Mines Act, 1952, against persons held responsible for accidents and for violating the provisions of the Act. The Director General of Mines Safety also issues guidelines in the form of circulars to the management of the mines from time to time for improving safety measures. The Officers of the Directorate General of Mines Safety enquire into every fatal accident and take appropriate action against persons held responsible for the accident. Depending upon the gravity of the situation, certain serious accidents are also enquired into by them.

STATEMENT

Statewise details of Number of Mine Accidents and Persons Affected in these Accidents during 1987 and 1988

State	Fatal		No. of accidents		Killed		No. of persons affected		9
	1987	1988*	1987	1988*	1987	1988*	1987	1988*	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Andhra Pradesh	30	19	329	227	33	20	340	235	
Arunachal Pradesh	1	—	1	2	1	—	1	2	
Assam	7	4	38	21	7	4	38	21	
Bihar	68	76	236	201	72	80	246	212	
Delhi	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	
Goa	—	2	7	1	—	2	7	1	
Gujarat	3	8	10	2	3	13	10	3	
Haryana	—	3	1	—	—	4	1	—	
Himachal Pradesh	3	1	—	1	3	1	—	1	
Jammu & Kashmir	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	
Karnataka	10	12	116	93	10	13	118	94	
Kerala	—	1	1	2	—	1	1	2	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Madhya Pradesh	37	33	218	179	40	36	227	186
Maharashtra	17	16	81	87	18	17	84	91
Orissa'	8	10	47	45	8	10	48	46
Rajasthan	12	7	104	73	15	9	109	76
Tamil Nadu	6	5	20	16	7	7	22	15
Uttar Pradesh	2	5	4	6	2	5	4	9
West Bengal	25	30	98	100	30	36	102	105

Figures for 1988 are Provisional

Limit of Payment of Gratuity

1805. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether fixing a ceiling of Rs. 50,000 for payment of gratuity under the Payment of Gratuity (Amendment) Act, 1987 is in consonance with the 20-Point Programme of Government ; and

(b) if not, whether there is any proposal to restore the earlier benefit of 20 months salary as gratuity to the workers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHAKISHAN MALVIYA): (a) The payment of gratuity under the Payment of Gratuity Act does not come under the 20 Point Programme.

(b) There is no such proposal.

Assistance Offered by Voluntary Agencies for National Health Education Programmes

1806. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Voluntary health Association of India had offered professional assistance for propagating the national health education programmes;

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

(c) whether Government propose to enlist the assistance of various voluntary agencies in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) and (b). Yes. Voluntary Health Association of India has offered two specific projects namely:-

i) Education and Information dissemination on Health and Family Welfare related issued at Kumbh Mela for which publicity material has been provided alongwith films for viewing. A sum of Rs. 40,000/- has been sanctioned for providing free counselling.

ii) Production of Video film.

(c) Yes.

Appointment of 'Deans' in National Institute of Health and Family Welfare

1807. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY:

SHRI MANIK REDDY:

SHRI A.J.V. B. MAHESHWARA RAO:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) how many Deans are presently working at the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi and their responsibilities;

(b) the procedure for their appointment;

(c) the pay scales of the Director and Joint Director in the Institute; and

(d) whether the Dean is equivalent to the Joint Director in rank and status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) There is only one Dean of studies presently in the NIHFV for carrying out curriculum planning, supervision and coordination of training activities between the various

departments and other matters connected with M.D. (Community Health Administration) Course.

(b) The appointment of Dean is made for 3 years by rotation from amongst the senior Professors (Med) of the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare.

(c) Pay scales are:-

Director - Rs. 7300-100-7600 with NPA of Rs. 900-

Jt. Director- Rs. 4500-150-5700-200-7300 with NPA of Rs. 900/-

(d) No, Sir.

Rehabilitation Package for Sick Mills

1808. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new Textiles Policy envisages tackling of sick Textile Units on a case by case basis to make them viable;

(b) if so, the progress made in this direction during the last one year; and

(c) the number of sick units provided with rehabilitation package?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Recommendations of the Technical Advisory Committee on Child Labour

1809. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE:
SHRI BANWARI LAL
PUROHIT:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have accepted the recommendations of the Technical Advisory Committee on the Prohibition of child labour;

(b) if so the recommendations accepted by Government;

(c) the recommendations out of them implemented so far ; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken against those who are found to be violating the orders issued for implementation of any of the recommendations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALVIYA): (a) and (b). The following recommendations of the Child Labour Technical Advisory Committee (CLTAC) have been accepted by the Government:-

1) Prohibition of child labour in the occupations/processes mentioned below:-

i) *Occupation*:-

— Employment in shops with temporary licenses to sell crackers and fireworks.

ii) *processes*

— Manufacture of slate pencils (including packing).

— Manufacture of products from agate.

— Manufacturing processes using toxic metals and substances such as Lead, Mercury, Chromium Cadmium, Benzene, pesticides and asbestos.

(2) Setting up of a Coordination Committee to be called the Research Coordination Committee to carry out further epidemiological studies in certain occupations/processes/industries on the basis of which a decision can be taken to advise Government whether or not to ban/regulate the employment of children in these occupations/processes/industries.

(c) and (d). For implementation of the first recommendation, the Government has issued a notification giving three months' notice of its intention to add the above mentioned occupations and processes to the Schedule to the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986. Violation of the implementation order will not arise at this stage as these occupations and processes are yet to be added to the Schedule.

The Government has also set up Research Coordination Committee as recommended by the CLTAC.

Carrying of Load on Head

1810. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Labour Organisation has recommended prohibition of carrying more than 50 Kgs. load on head by the labourers; and

(b) if so, whether Union Government have accepted this recommendation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALVIYA): (a) The ILO Recommendation No. 128 concerning the Maxi-

mum Permissible Weight to be carried by One Worker adopted by the 51st Session of the International Labour conference in 1967 lays down that where the maximum permissible weight which may be transported manually by one adult male worker is more than 55 Kg., measures should be taken as speedily as possible to reduce it to that level.

(b) The ILO Recommendation is in the nature of guidelines for member countries. While the Recommendation is acceptable in principle, it has not been possible to give effect to it due to practical difficulties in the unorganised sector. However, in so far as factories are concerned, under the model rules framed under the Factories Act, 1948 the maximum weight to be lifted or carried by an adult male worker, has been stipulated not to exceed 55 Kgs.

ILO Technical Expertise to Generate Rural Employment

1811 SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN:
SHRI T.V. CHANDRASHEKHARAPPA:
SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Labour Organisation has offered technical expertise to explore the possibility of generating more employment in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALVIYA): (a) Shri T. Nakamura,

ADG, ILO during his recent visit to India mentioned in a general way that ILO could provide expertise to India to explore the possibility of generating more employment in rural areas. However, no specific project has been posed by ILO for acceptance by India.

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

Target for Procurement of Wheat in 1988-89

1812. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the target set for procurement of wheat within the country for the year 1988-89;

(b) the quantity of wheat procured so far; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to import some more foodgrains during the year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) No target is fixed, as wheat is procured against voluntary offers by farmers under Government's price support scheme.

(b) 6.54. million tonnes.

(c) The Government of India is keeping a close watch on the domestic food situation and will exercise the option to import foodgrains if and when considered necessary.

Vector Control With Bio-Environmental Techniques in Gujarat

1813. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council Medical Research has successfully tried integrated vector control with bio-environmental techniques in Gujarat

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to implement the programme in other parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The integrated vector control of malaria using the bioenvironmental techniques was launched in 1983 in Nadiad, Kheda distt., Gujarat. The study was launched in villages comprising of 25,000 population and after one year it was extended to cover 75,000 population in 1985. In 1986 350,000 population was being protected by an alternate strategy known as the bioenvironmental control of malaria. In 1987 another control taluka (Kapadwanj) comprising of 350,000 population was covered under this strategy. Results so far achieved have been very encouraging as monitored by the entomological and epidemiological indices.

(c) Based on the success achieved in Gujarat, alternate strategy was extended to malaria endemic areas in some rural areas like - Shahjahanpur, Haldwani, Hardwar Shankargarh in UP, Berhampur, Rourkela in Orissa, Mandla in MP, Sonapur in Assam and urban areas in Madras and Delhi. The study was launched in phases at these field stations and the results so far achieved have shown promise in the control of malaria by the alternate strategy.

**Junior Engineers and Asstt. Engineers
in CPWD**

1814. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of junior Engineers and Assistant Engineers (Civil and Electrical) in the Central Public Works Department, surrendered and enhanced for both the cadres, during the last three years, year-wise ; and

(b) the number of Junior Engineers and Assistant Engineers (Civil and Electrical) sent back to the C.P.W.D. from Arunachal Pradesh and the Delhi Development Authority during the year 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Shortage of Trained Manpower
in Foot-Wear Industry**

1815. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of trained manpower in the foot-wear industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to impart training to additional hands to run the food-wear industry?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The shortage has not been quantified.

(c) Government proposes to open more training centres for training of different categories of personnel for foot-wear industry. In addition, it is proposed to examine to lower the entry qualification for training of Craftsmen and Apprentices under the Craftsmen and Apprenticeship Training Schemes respectively, so as to attract more number of persons for training.

[Translation]

**News Item Captioned "Pan Masala can
cause you Cancer"**

1816. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMMOOWALIA:

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:

SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH:

SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA:

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Pan Masala manufacturing units in the country;

(b) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item, appearing in the daily The Hindustan Times dated 10 February, 1989 captioned "Pan Masala can cause you Cancer";

(c) if so, whether after year long research in Gujarat Cancer Research Institute, it has been concluded that the use of pan masala can cause cancer;

(d) if so, the reasons for which a ban has not been put on the manufacture and use of pan masala;

(e) the action proposed to be taken by Government in this regard; and

(f) whether Government propose to seek the opinion of any other research institute in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) According to the information made available by All India Pan Masala Manufacturers Association, there are 11 main manufacturers of Pan Masala/Chewing Tobacco and Flavouring Agents in the country

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (f). The studies on adverse effects of Pan Masala are yet to be completed by the Gujarat Cancer and Research Institute Ahmedabad. The Government has already consulted the Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi which is of the opinion that unless carefully controlled epidemiological studies are done, it is extremely difficult to establish carcinogenic effects of Pan Masala.

Ayurvedic Cure for Cancer

1817. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:
SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vaidya Chandra Prakash Cancer Research Foundation of Meerut has made a claim that it has found an Ayurvedic cure for cancer;

(b) whether Government have gone into the veracity of their claim; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which Government pro-

pose to take necessary action in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Vaid Balendu Prakash of the Vaidya Chandra Prakash Cancer Research Foundation of Meerut has had a number of meetings with the scientists of the Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI), Lucknow, officers of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Central Council for Research in Ayurveda & Siddha (CCRAS) and the officers of the Ministry of Health & F.W. The ICMR is of the view that the traditional conventional method of preparation of anti-cancer remedy used by him is very cumbersome and time-consuming. They are also of the view that no attempt has been made by him at standardization and quality control of the drug and that the cost of project submitted by him is very high. They have, therefore, desired that Vaid Balendu Prakash should provide enough medicine for treatment of 15 patients of cancer and the Council would arrange for pilot trial of the drug after the CDRI clears the drug by carrying out pre-clinical toxicity studies.

Vaid Balendu Prakash was requested in December, '88 to let the Ministry of Health & F.W. know the minimum funds required by him for supplying the medicine to the ICMR for treatment of 15 patients. He was also requested to intimate the literary basis of his proposal. The required information has not been furnished by him so far.

"Awas Sakar Yojna" of Delhi Development Authority

1818. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:
SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:
SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority has launched a New Scheme "Awaz Sakar Yojana" Under which the registrants of the New Pattern HUDCO Scheme, 1979 have been asked to form Co-operative Group Housing Societies for construction of houses;

(b) whether the Delhi Development Authority had obtained the opinion of the registrants for the new scheme; if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the response from the registrants to the new scheme and the number of societies formed or being formed under the scheme; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to allow formation/registration of fresh Group Housing Societies for those persons who have not registered themselves for houses with the Delhi Development Authority under any scheme; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) 5642 persons have opted for Group Housing Societies upto the last date prescribed for this purpose i.e. 25.1.89. 763 more persons have opted after the last date. The number of societies to be formed for this purpose will be decided after the scrutiny of the options.

(d) Registrar of Cooperative Society had recommended allotment of land to 1281 Group Housing Societies registered upto 1983. There has been no progress in the allotment of land to these societies due to paucity of land available with DDA. The

formation/registration of any fresh Group Housing Society could be considered only after substantial progress has been achieved in the matter of allotment of land to the societies registered in 1983.

[English]

Check on Blindness in Poor Families

1819. SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of blinds in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether blindness is on the increase in poor families;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) the measures being taken to check blindness in the poor families?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) As per ICMR Survey conducted in 1971-73, there are estimated 9 million blind in the country. State-wise details of the blinds are not available.

(b) and (c). There are no such indications.

(d) Government of India has launched a National Programme for Control of Blindness 1976-77 throughout the country. The strategy involves establishing of infrastructure at primary, secondary and tertiary levels, camp approach for out-reach areas and health education measures. Besides, Vitamin 'A' prophylaxis programme is being carried out by the network of the MCH Department of Family Welfare. Special preference is given to children living in tribal areas, drought prone areas, other backward areas,

ICDS blocks and urban slums.

National Forest Policy

1820. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently drafted a National Forest Policy;

(b) if so, whether the draft policy has been circulated to State Governments for comments; and

(c) if so, the reaction of State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (c). The National Forest Policy, 1988 was announced by the Central Government in December, 1988. It has been circulated to the State Government for necessary action.

Increase in Penalty for Non-Construction of House on Land Allotted by DDA

1821. SHRI VISHNU MODI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority has decided to increase the penalty for those persons who fail to construct houses on the land allotted by the DDA during the stipulated period, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether persons who after completing the construction of their houses applied for the Occupancy Certificate during the years 1974 and 1975 have still not been issued the same on one pretext or the other if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any guidelines are pro-

posed to be issued to the authorities concerned to expedite the issue Occupancy Certificates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Delhi Development Authority has increased the penalty to 10% & 20% of the value of the plot on current market rates or 50% of the bid/premium whichever is higher at the end of the 10 & 15 year respectively and effective from 1.1.90. For construction upto 1989 additional penalty at the rate of 15% and 25% of the predetermined rates or 50% of the bid/premium amount whichever is higher at the end of 10 and 15 years respectively will be charged. The reasons for the increase of penalty are that in original Scheme of Large scale Acquisition, Development and Disposal of Land, it was envisaged that the allottees will complete the construction on the plots within a period of 3 years including grace period. Past experience is that the allottees are holding over plots for speculation purposes and thus defeating the objective of the scheme.

(b) There is possibility that the allottees/owners who applied for occupancy certificate in the year 1974 and 1975 have still not been issued occupancy certificates. Usually, the reasons for delay in such cases are as under:-

- i) time extension for belated construction, has not been obtained.
- ii) rectification of the non-compoundable items has not been done.
- iii) non-payment of the penalties for the compoundable items.

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

New Drug to Cure Arthritis

1822. SHRI VISHNU MODI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new drug to cure arthritis effectively has been developed by the I.D.P.L. through its own research and development activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this drug after examining its after-effects, has been put to use in various Government Hospitals; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). M/s. I.D.P.L. Hyderabad have developed a new non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agent " IDPH-82-61" in the country, which is claimed to be effective in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. Animal experiment studies have shown that the drug has marked anti-inflammatory and anti-pyretic properties.

The drug is undergoing clinical trials in the country in human beings and it has not yet been approved for marketing in the country.

Sick Textile Mills

1823. DR. DATTA SAMANT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of non-small scale textile mills which have been classified as sick under the sick industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act., 1985 and the reasons therefor;

(b) the number of workmen affected by it ; and

(c) the total financial liabilities of Banks on these mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Scheme to Control Japanese Encephalitis

1824. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU:
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have prepared any special programme for prevention of Japanese encephalitis during 1989 on the basis of recommendations made by the experts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The main components of special programme for prevention of Japanese Encephalitis are as under:-

- Sentinal Surveillance
- Vector control including selected spraying of insecticides and anti-larval measures.
- Treatment and rehabilitation.
- Training and Research including field trials with indigenous Japanese Encephalitis vaccine.

— Health Education.

The Central assistance both in cash and kind is being provided to the Japanese Encephalitis endemic states out of the overall plan outlay of National Malaria Eradication programme on 50:50 cost sharing basis.

Employment to Women Workers under Social Forestry Scheme

1825. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to provide employment to women workers under the Social Forestry Programme in Andhra Pradesh and Orissa,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made in this regard so far;

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (c). All schemes under the Social Forestry Programme, including employment generation schemes of the Rural Development Department, are providing employment to women and preference is given to them in activities like raising of nurseries. In addition, under the Social Forestry Projects with external assistance, there is special provision for recruitment of women as Village Forest Workers in Andhra Pradesh and Orissa. 112 women have been recruited as Village Forest Workers in Andhra Pradesh. In Orissa, 80 women have been recruited as Village Forest Workers and 3 women as Social Forestry Supervisors.

Development of New Anti Rabies Vaccine

1826. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK:
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) when the newly developed anti-rabies vaccine is likely to be made available in all the major hospitals of the country; and

(b) the difference between the newly developed vaccine and the injections administered at present in the case of dog-bites?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) The vaccine is currently at scientific stage of development in the laboratory. It has to undergo large scale safety studies and licensing it can be made available to the hospitals.

(b) The new vaccine is based on the cowpox virus, genetically engineered to carry the gene for a protective rabies protein. It is given as a single injection in the skin vis-a-vis 10-14 injections administered at present.

Press Report Captioned "Nanda's belonging Thrown out of Flat"

1827. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK:
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention

has been drawn to the press report appearing in the "Indian Express" dated 8 February, 1989 under the heading "Nanda's belonging thrown out of Flat"

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). There was a civil dispute in a court between the landlord and the tenant in respect of House No. A-331, Defence Colony, The landlord won the case and got the house vacated with the help of the court bailiff in pursuance of the orders of the Additional Rent Controller. Since the dispute was of a civil nature between the landlord and the tenant, the question of Government conducting any enquiry does not arise.

Recommendation of Eighth National Congress of Housing Corporation

1828. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK:
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Eighth National Congress of Housing Corporation has recently recommended a major role for the housing cooperate during the Eight Plan Period;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the other recommendations made therein; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d). The Eighth National Congress of Housing Cooperatives held on 4th & 5th February, 1989 has stressed the need to assign a major role to the housing cooperatives during the 8th Five Year Plan in terms of financial allocation and land allotment. The National Housing Policy emphasises the need to strengthen the Cooperative movement in various ways.

Setting up of An Independent Body for Drug Control

1829. SHRI V. TULSIRAM :
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up an independent body for quality control of drugs;

(b) if so, the details its composition and functions, and

(c) the time by which such body is expected to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c). The proposal to set up a National Drug Control Authority is under examination.

Practice by Quacks

1830 SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA-
CHANDRAN:
SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA
REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made to determine the number of unqualified doctors (Quacks) in active practice in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of reports received in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shortage of Drug Inspectors

1831. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of qualified drug inspectors in each State;

(b) for how long this shortage of drug inspectors has been existing;

(c) whether this shortage has affected the effective monitoring of quality of drugs; and

(d) if so, the measures being taken to fill up the vacancies at an early date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) and (b). According to the reports of the Task Force set up by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in 1982, there is a shortage of Drugs Inspectors in each State for quite some time.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Recommendations of the Task Force have been forwarded to each State/

UTs for taking necessary action for appointment of adequate number of Drugs Inspectors. From time to time resolution have also been passed by the Central Council of Health to have adequate testing facilities and Drug Inspectorate staff by each State. The State Drug Controllers have been asked regularly to implement these recommendations.

For the 8th Five Year Plan, proposals are under consideration to provide assistance to the States for upgrading/creating testing facilities and appointment of Drug Inspectors under Centrally sponsored Scheme.

Preservation and Development of Beaches

1832. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of scientific or other measures adopted by Union Government for the preservation and development of beaches along the Indian coast; and

(b) the allocation made to the Coastal States for the purpose, if any?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):

(a) In 1983 the Department of Environment prepared environmental guidelines for development of beaches and circulated the guidelines among the Coastal States. In 1984 the Coastal States were requested to prepare environmental status reports and conservation management strategies for the coastal areas in their respective States. In 1988, after reviewing the position, the Ministry advised these States to take, among others the following measures:-

(i) identification of present and fu-

ture developments and land use to demarcate areas for conservation, preservation and development in the environmental management plan;

- (ii) evaluation of marine/coastal pollution to take appropriate steps for its prevention and abatement;
- (iii) evaluation of legal and socio-economic status of fishermen villages along the beaches for their implications to conservation and preservation of beaches;
- (iv) Assessment of sea erosion protection measures with reference to urbanisation, marine exploitation activities, agriculture and port developments; and
- (v) assessment of coastal eco-system with reference to endemic species.

(b) No allocation has been made to the Coastal States for the purpose.

Use of Fly Ash for Making Bricks

1833. SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to use fly ash, a remanent of the thermal power stations, for making bricks;

(b) if so, the plus points for making bricks by using fly ash;

(c) whether necessary technology has been developed for the purpose; and

(d) whether it is likely to reduce the cost

of bricks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Fly ash is already being used in the production of clay-bonded flyash bricks, lime flyash bricks and cellular concrete.

(b) The use of flyash for the production of bricks will result in the utilisation of waste material thereby minimising environmental pollution, conservation of soil, and saving in fuel consumption.

(c) Necessary technology has been developed in India in various Research Institutions like Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee National Council for Cement and Building materials, Delhi Central Forest Research Institute, Sindri and Neyveli lignite Corporation for production of lime flyash and clay-bonded flyash bricks.

(d) The cost of fly-ash bricks are likely to be competitive if the unit is located close to the Thermal Power Plants.

Examination of Patients who used anti-D Vaccine Infected with Aids

1834. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research has conducted a detailed examination of the patients who had used the anti-D vaccine infected with AIDS antidote to ascertain the possible repercussions;

(b) if so, the findings thereof;

(c) the number of patients identified so far who were administered such vaccines; and

(d) whether corrective steps have been suggested to those who had been injected with the vaccine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (d). Two samples of injection anti-D immunoglobulin produced by M/s. Bharat Serum and Vaccines Pvt. Ltd. tested were found to be positive for HIV anti-bodies. Necessary orders have been issued to recall all batches of injections anti-D Immunoglobulin and stop production and distribution of all blood products manufactured by M/s. Bharat Serum and Vaccines Pvt. Ltd., Particulars of the distribution of the vaccine were given to the State Drug Controllers and they were requested to take steps to freeze the stocks and also to ensure withdrawal of stocks from Government hospitals and nursing homes.

It is contemplated to advise the State Health Authorities to follow up all those persons who received Anti-D Vaccine containing HIV anti-bodies for check up and laboratory tests.

Visakhapatnam Port Trust Causing Health Hazards

1835. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a coking coal stack yard is proposed to be provided in the Visakhapatnam Port Trust area where Manganese Ore is being dumped through conveyors from General Cargo berth at the outer harbour;

(b) whether the problem of coal dust pollution arises even though water is sprayed over the Manganese ore; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to re-examine the matter in the light of the health hazard posed by it to the people?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIRMAL MIRDHA):

(a) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal of the steel Ministry to construct a covered coal stack-yard at the manganese ore dump as part of the setting up of mechanised coal handling system to be installed at the outer harbour.

(b) Even after spraying of water, coal dust pollution may continue to some extent in the area. Hence apart from sprinkling of water, the other measures proposed for control of pollution from dust include the following:-

- (i) Provision of bag filters;
- (ii) Covering of storage sheds;
- (iii) Covering of conveyors; and
- (iv) Provision of enclosure for unloaders

(c) Does not arise.

Manpower Export to Iraq

1836. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have signed some agreement with Government of Iraq for export of skilled manpower;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to increase the manpower export to Iraq?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALVIYA): (a) No, Sir.

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

Social Forestry Scheme In Kerala

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

(a) whether a Social Forestry Scheme is under implementation in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details of the achievements made under the scheme; and

(c) the total amount spent thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). During the last three years (1985-86 to 1987-88) of the Seventh Plan, the total expenditure on all afforestation activities, including social forestry, in Kerala State was Rs. 44.21 crores and the area coverage was 2.12 lakh hectares. The allocation for 1988-89 is Rs 23.74 crores and the achievement upto December, 1988, was 67.627 hectares.

Chemical Industries In Maharashtra

1838. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are aware that a seven-member high powered committee, appointed by State Government of Maharashtra after the Bhopal tragedy has disapproved the setting up of warehouses at Antop Hill, Bombay to store both hazardous and non-hazardous chemicals; and

(b) whether Government propose to have any long term plan for the location and

development of hazardous chemicals industries at safe places for the protection of densely populated cities and towns?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):
(a) In the first report submitted on March 13, 1987, the committee disapproved the setting up of a warehouse at Antop Hill to store hazardous chemicals. In the subsequent report submitted in July, 1987, on further consideration, the committee identified 55 chemicals with quantity which could be stored at Antop Hill warehousing complex.

(b) The Site Appraisal Committees in the States approve the location of hazardous chemical industries taking into consideration the industrial location policy and the environmental guidelines.

Reluctance of Medical Personnel to Take up Leprosy work

1839. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of leprosy patients in the country;

(b) whether the number of medical personnel attending to these patients is inadequate;

(c) whether medical personnel are reluctant to take up leprosy work on account of the social stigma; and

(d) if so, whether special incentives are proposed for medical personnel and nurses working in the leprosy field?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARISAROJ KHAPARDE):
(a) The estimated number of leprosy pa-

tients in the country is about 4 million.

(b) and (c). No, Sir.

(d) In endemic districts where MDT project has been launched incentives are being given to staff engaged in detection and treatment of leprosy cases.

2. Government of India has also requested the State U.T. Governments to give leprosy allowance to Medical and para-medical personal involved in anti-leprosy activities.

[*Translation*]

Subsidy to State Handloom Regional Union, U.P.

1840. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of subsidy given to Uttar Pradesh State Handloom Regional Union during the last three years;

(b) the number of weavers benefited under the scheme; and

(c) the estimated quantum of Janta cloth produced by each Regional Handloom Union in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (c). No Handloom Regional Union is participating in the implementation of Janata Cloth Scheme in Uttar Pradesh.

ESI Hospitals In UP

1841. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Employees' State Insurance hospitals proposed to be constructed in Uttar Pradesh during 1989-90 and 1990-91; and

(b) the proposed location thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALVIYA): (a) and (b). Two Hospitals, one each at Pipri in district Mirzapur and Varanasi, are under construction. There is no proposal for construction of any other Hospital in Uttar Pradesh during the years 1989-90 and 1990-91.

[*English*]

Allocation for Afforestation Programmes

1842. DR. G.S. RAJHANS:
SHRI V.S. VJAYARAGHAVAN:
SHRI SURESH KURUP:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the state-wise amount allocated for afforestation programmes during the last three years and the actual amount utilised out of the same State-wise and year-wise ;and

(b) the area covered under the afforestation programme during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) The State-wise amounts allocated and utilised for afforestation activities during the last three years (1985-86 to 1987-88) are given in Statement I below:

(b) The State-wise area covered under afforestation activities during the last three years (1985-86 to 1987-88) is given in Statement -II below:-

STATEMENT-I

(Rupees in lakhs)

S. No.	State/U. T.s	Amount allocated				Amount utilised			
		1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-88	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-88
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2630.00	3312.60	3582.55	2004.59	3436.01	3172.03		
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	409.60	431.00	428.50	329.48	386.56	396.77		
3.	Assam	1595.00	1725.75	1892.75	1303.07	1616.51	1628.54		
4.	Bihar	3254.20	4066.37	4178.75	7633.56	2363.12	3641.96		
5.	Goa	119.20	119.50	131.65	100.68	110.35	112.20		
6.	Gujarat	2411.40	2837.97	3469.50	2445.56	2997.31	2669.66		
7.	Haryana	1247.40	1288.27	1459.75	1337.58	1395.27	1343.43		
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1352.20	1762.30	1932.75	1561.97	1675.47	1952.48		
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	708.00	892.00	1007.50	706.33	851.68	960.76		
10.	Karnataka	1965.80	2372.24	2353.25	2536.31	2259.54	1713.95		
11.	Kerala	1618.40	1757.50	2003.00	928.82	1789.26	1703.55		
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3144.60	4269.99	4687.75	2714.65	4650.82	4059.17		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13.	Maharashtra	2935.00	3955.37	4062.50	2539.31	2158.63	3401.37
14.	Manipur	231.60	246.25	303.50	199.38	226.07	307.41
15.	Meghalaya	507.60	557.00	670.50	518.32	413.88	623.59
16.	Mizoram	363.60	497.00	512.50	363.74	531.49	535.48
17.	Nagaland	290.60	352.50	506.75	337.64	387.13	492.86
18.	Orissa	1659.00	1964.59	2687.70	1340.46	2051.12	2538.51
19.	Punjab	717.40	696.00	873.75	813.97	863.85	859.20
20.	Rajasthan	1444.60	2723.17	2939.25	1536.80	3376.13	2847.84
21.	Sikkim	215.60	199.75	233.25	182.26	171.06	199.20
22.	Tamil Nadu	2890.40	3299.40	3606.00	2557.92	2703.21	3167.20
23.	Tripura	411.00	435.50	395.50	355.36	369.73	424.34
24.	Uttar Pradesh	3974.80	6617.14	7217.25	3817.86	5582.39	6023.12
25.	West Bengal	2065.00	2559.79	2609.20	1464.12	2769.26	2025.56
26.	A & N Islands	136.20	122.00	143.50	104.20	127.54	153.36
27.	Chandigarh	26.60	23.25	24.35	26.85	21.25	23.55

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
28.	D N Haveli	62.80	46.50	68.25	54.06	52.09	97.97
29.	Delhi	80.40	82.75	108.80	43.78	100.35	88.10
30.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—	—	—	12.48
31.	Lakshadweep	3.60	4.25	4.75	3.28	7.98	6.56
32.	Pondicherry	22.60	31.00	38.50	22.18	36.82	43.63
	Total	38494.20	49248.70	54083.50	39884.09	45508.88	47746.03

STATEMENT-II

Statewise Area Coverage Under Afforestation Programme from 1985-86 to 1987-88

		(Area in hectares)				
S. No.	State/U. T.s	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88		
1	2	3	4	5		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	157800.00	143707.50	152567.00		
2.	Assam	19800.00	31275.00	24893.50		
3.	Bihar	76150.00	135550.00	157600.00		
4.	Gujarat	124850.00	113550.00	107075.00		
5.	Haryana	46850.00	37079.00	19000.00		
6.	Himachal Pradesh	33600.00	33564.00	30754.50		
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	23350.00	28526.00	20000.03		
8.	Karnataka	127300.00	115837.00	157610.50		
9.	Kerala	58300.00	75862.00	77772.00		
10.	Madhya Pradesh	175050.00	196000.00	204523.00		
11.	Maharashtra	108250.00	119085.00	153998.00		

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Manipur	6250.00	7440.00	9012.50
13.	Meghalaya	6550.00	7900.00	11878.30
14.	Nagaland	13450.00	27175.00	10000.00
15.	Orissa	96500.00	116336.00	117002.00
16.	Punjab	29500.00	28379.50	24776.00
17.	Rajasthan	47900.00	67051.50	50000.50
18.	Sikkim	4100.00	5751.50	6693.50
19.	Tamil Nadu	60750.00	99064.00	95587.00
20.	Tripura	10000.00	13150.00	13356.50
21.	Uttar Pradesh	177400.00	243250.00	221035.50
22.	West Bengal	55750.00	70800.00	69554.00
23.	A & N Islands	4750.00	6116.00	5021.50
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	5150.00	6254.00	6352.00
25.	Chandigarh	76.00	191.50	179.50
26.	Dadra Nagra Haveli	1550.00	1700.00	1661.00

1	2	3	4	5
27.	Delhi	1250.00	3151.50	903.00
28.	Goa, Daman & Diu	2250.00	3396.50	3761.50
29.	Lakshadweep	12.50	14.50	12.00
30.	Mizoram	35000.00	23902.50	13875.00
31.	Pondicherry	550.00	649.50	516.00
	Total	1510038.50	1761869.00	1775564.03

Area notionally computed at the rate of 2000 per hectare.

Concessions to Textile Industry and their Benefits to Consumers

1843. DR. G.S. RAJHANS: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of concessions given during the period 1985-88 to the textile industry in general and the man-made and filament yarn industry in particular;

(b) the steps taken to ensure that the benefits arising therefrom reach the consumer; and

(c) whether any further reliefs are contemplated for the industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Statement I is given below.

(b) Government have constituted a committee to monitor the selling prices of polyester fibre, polyester filament yarn and nylon filament yarn. The Committee keeps a watch over the price trend of these items and advises the Government regarding remedial measures in the event of unreasonable hike in prices.

(c) Statement II indicating the reliefs granted in the Budget (1989-90) is given below.

STATEMENT I

Excise/import duty concessions given to textile industry in general and the man-made and filament yarn industry in particular during 1985-88 inter-alia include the following:-

1. Excise duty on Polyester Staple Fibre was reduced from Rs. 45/- per kg. to Rs. 25/- per kg. in August 1985. Again it is reduced from Rs. 25/- per

kg. to Rs. 15.66 per kg. in 1988-89 Budget.

2. Excise duty on acrylic staple fibre was reduced from Rs. 17.50 per kg. to Rs. 10/- per kg. in August, 1985. It is again reduced from Rs. 10/- per kg. to Rs. 8.35 per kg. in 1988-89 Budget.
3. Polyester/Cotton blended yarn (Polyester content above 40% but below 70%) excise duty was reduced from Rs. 5/- per kg. to Rs. 2/- per kg. in August 1985. It was again raised to Rs. 3.41 per kg. from 1.3.86. In budget 1988-89, it is further raised to Rs. 3.56 per kg. from 1.3.88.
4. Polyester staple fibre is fully exempted from excise/additional duty if intended for use for manufacture of low priced fabrics woven on the handloom subject to conditions prescribed in customs Notification No. 276/85, dated 28.8.85, 368/86, dated 24-6-86, 357/86, and 191/85 CE.
5. Polyester staple fibre is fully exempted from excise duty if intended for use for the manufacture of low price fabrics subject to the conditions prescribed in the Central Excise Notification No. 191/85 dated 28-8-85. The Polyester staple fibre is exempted from whole of the additional duty when imported into India for the manufacture of low price fabrics subject to the condition prescribed in the Customs Notification No. 276/85 dated

287-8-1985.

6. Excise duty on Viscose Staple Fibre for cotton blend is reduced from Rs. 7/- per kg. to Rs. 5.22 per kg. in 1988-89 Budget.
7. Excise duty on Polyester Filament Yarn is reduced in 1988-89 budget from Rs. 83-75 per kg. to Rs. 56.12 per kg.
8. Excise duty on Nylon filament yarn is reduced from Rs. 70/- per kg. to Rs. 41.76 per kg. in 1988-89 budget.
9. Excise duty on Nylon Filament Yarn has been reduced to Rs. 10.50 per kg. from Rs. 70/- per kg. if intended for use for the manufacture of nylon/cotton blended sarees subject to the conditions prescribed in the Central Excise Notification No. 208/87-CE, dated 11-9-1987.
10. Viscose filament yarn supplied to a registered handloom co-operative societies has to pay 50% of the duty prescribed for other users. (1988-89 budget).
11. Excise duty on Polyester/Wool blended yarn was reduced from Rs. 30/- per kg. to Rs. 15/- per kg. in 1987-88 budget.
12. Under a duty credit scheme rebate of Rs. 43-75 per kg. on Polyester Filament Yarn will be given for manufacture of fabrics under a programme duty approved by the Textile Ministry subject to certain conditions. (from 1-3-1988).
13. Import duty of MEG has been reduced from 155% to 90% from 2-5-88 onwards.
14. Polyester/Viscose blended yarn (Polyester content above 40% but below 70%) excise duty was reduced from Rs. 10/- per kg. to Rs. 4/- per kg. in August 1985. The duty was again increased to Rs. 6.82 per kg. from 1-3-1986. It is further raised to Rs. 7.12 per kg. from 1-3-88.
15. Import duty on Viscose Filament Yarn upto 600 D is reduced from 55% to 45% in 1988-89 Budget.
16. Import duty on DMT/PTA was reduced from 190% + Rs. 3/- per kg. to 190% with effect from 7-5-1987.
17. Import duty on Polyester Filament Yarn is reduced from 230% to 205% in 1988-89 budget.
18. Import duty on Nylon Filament Yarn upto 833 D is reduced from 145% to 130% in 1988-89 Budget.
19. Import duty on Polyester staple Fibre is reduced from 190% + Rs. 9/- per kg. to 180% + Rs. 7/- per kg. in 1988-89 Budget.
20. Import duty on acrylic staple fibre is reduced from 155% + Rs. 12.50 per kg. to 145% + Rs. 10/- per kg. in 1988-89

Budget.

21. *Cotton Yarn*: Excise duty on Cotton Yarn has been reduced in 1988-89 budget. (The reduction varies from one paise onwards depending on the counts of the yarn).
22. Excise duty on processing of cotton fabrics has been rationalised and in general concessions were given in 1987-88 budget.
23. Wool top was exempted from excise duty from 1987-88.
24. Import duty on raw wool was reduced from 40% to 20% from 1986-87. From 1988-89, this duty has been increased to 25%. However raw wool imported by Registered Apex Handloom Co-operative Societies State Handloom Development Corporation is exempted from Excise duty from 1988-89.
25. Woollen Fabrics Woven on handlooms processed by independent processor approved by Government of India on the recommendation of Development Commissioner for Handlooms are exempted from 1988-89
26. Value limit for exemption of excise duty on woven fabrics of wool, made of shoddy yarn (not containing worsted yarn) was raised from Rs. 25/- per sq. mtr. to Rs. 40/- per sq. mtr. with effect from 16-6-86 and was further raised to Rs. 60/- per sq. mtr. with effect from 1-

3-1987.

27. The effective rate of import duty on synthetic regs was brought down from 80% Advl. to 20% Advl. in 1987-88, and was increased to 25% in budget 1988.

STATEMENT II

Details of excise/import duty concessions given to Textile Industry in budget 1989-90 inter alia includes the following:-

1. Excise duty on Polypropelene Fibre has been reduced from Rs. 8.30 per kg. to Rs. 5.00/- per kg.
2. Custom duty on raw wool imported by Khadi and Village Industries Commission or State Khadi and Village Industries Board has been reduced to Nil from 25%.
3. Excise duty on blankets of shoddy synthetic yarn is Nil, if the value does not exceed Rs. 60/- per sq. mtr.
4. Custom duty is reduced from 120% advl. to 90% advl. on Paraxylene, a raw material for DMT/PTA.

Dispute Between CCI and NTC

1844. DR. G.S. RAJHANS: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any dispute between the cotton Corporation of India and the National Textile Corporation over payment for supply of cotton by the CCI to the NTC as reported in the Economic Times dated 1 August, 1988;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps taken by Union Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) No, Sir.

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

Guidelines for Environmental Clearance of New Mining Projects

1845. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATTNAIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prescribed some norms for according the necessary environmental clearance to set up the new mining projects; and

(b) if so, the details of the guidelines issued to State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b). The Ministry of Environmental and Forests has formulated guidelines for environmental impact assessment for mining projects. These guidelines are followed while examining mining project for according environmental clearance. The guidelines have been circulated among the concerned authorities including State Governments.

The essential features of these guidelines include the following:

- preparation of land use plans for different stages of mining operations;
- measures for waste/overburden disposal;

— reclamation of mined area concurrently with the mining operations;

— treatment of mine water;

— measures for controlling of air pollution; and

— rehabilitation of affected population.

Loss of Environment and Forests due to Sardar Sarovar Project

1846. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details and total loss incurred due to damage to environment and forests as a result of Sardar Sarovar Project;

(b) the steps proposed to make up the loss caused by damage to environment and forests;

(c) the amount needed for this purpose; and

(d) whether financial provision has already been made for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Total land needed for submergence and construction works of the Sardar Sarovar Project is expected to be 39134 ha. including 13385.45 ha. of forest land. It will displace 66673 persons settled in 237 villages. The project will have adverse impact on wildlife tribals, flora and fauna of the region and monuments of historical importance.

(b) To mitigate the adverse environmental impact, the project authorities are carrying out field surveys and studies to

formulate Action Plans on:

- Rehabilitation of oustees;
- Phased Catchment Area Treatment;
- Compensatory Afforestation;
- Command Area Development;
- Salvaging rare and threatened Flora & Fauna;
- Salvaging important monuments;
- Reservoir induced seismicity; and
- Health delivery system.

The scope of the Narmada Control Authority has been enlarged and a special Sub Group on Environment set up to ensure effective implementation of the environ-

mental Action Plans.

(c) and (d). Various studies and surveys are still under way for preparation of detailed Environmental Action Plans. Total financial requirements can be worked out only after the detailed Action Plans are ready.

Grants for Family Welfare

1847. SHRI R.M. BHOYE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise grants sanctioned for the promotion of Family Welfare Programmes/Family Planning during the year 1987-88; and

(b) the amount spent so far by each State during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b). The information is given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>Case assistance released during the year 1987-88</i>	<i>Expenditure reported by State Govts. during the year 1987-88</i>
1	2	3
1. Andhra Pradesh	4187.04	4642.65
2. Assam	1061.55	1134.24
3. Bihar	2789.33	3480.67
4. Gujarat	2083.48	3420.34
5. Haryana	843.47	823.22
6. Himachal Pradesh	413.76	429.74
7. J & K	289.53	313.47

1	2	3
8. Karnataka	3914.23	3828.58
9. Kerala	2414.73	2178.11
10. Madhya Pradesh	2832.00	3174.29
11. Maharashtra	5063.78	4986.00
12. Manipur	181.36	232.33
13. Meghalaya	117.63	129.56
14. Nagaland	48.88	159.89
15. Orissa	2443.33	2069.62
16. Punjab	1646.88	1090.94
17. Rajasthan	2558.18	2345.21
18. Sikkim	53.05	52.65
19. Tamil Nadu	3125.61	2295.60
20. Tripura	140.28	95.43
21. Uttar Pradesh	7077.29	8869.62
22. West Bengal	2631.47	2975.47
23. Arunachal Pradesh	22.42	22.40
24. Goa	97.84	61.41
25. Mizoram	60.27	71.10
26. Pondicherry	25.17	54.28
Total	46122.56	48936.82

Mandays Lost due to Lockouts

1848. SHRI S.M. GURADDI:
SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that loss of mandays due to lockouts and strikes in the country during 1988 was more than 1987;

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

(c) the steps contemplated to reduce the incident of lockouts and strikes?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALVIYA): (a) and (b). Based on the latest available information, a statement giving mandays lost on account of strikes and lockouts during 1987 and 1988 is given below.

(c) The Government have been maintaining a close and continuous watch on the industrial relations situation in the country. The Industrial Relations Machinery both at the Centre and in the States are taking steps to resolve disputes and reduce work stoppages through preventive mediation, conciliation and arbitration.

STATEMENT

Mandays lost (in millions) due to strikes and lock-outs during 1987 & 1988:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Strike</i>	<i>Lock-out</i>	<i>Total</i>
1987	14.03	21.33	35.36
1988 (Jan.-Nov.) (Provisional)	10.87	18.43	29.30

Source:- Labour Bureau, Shimla

Deaths due to Mosquito Borne Disease

1849. SHRI P. R. S. VENKATESAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of mosquito borne diseases continue to take a heavy toll of human lives;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARISAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Among mosquito borne diseases like Malaria, Filariasis and Japanese Encephalitis mortality due to Japanese Encephalitis is high.

(b) The number of deaths due to mosquito borne disease i.e. malaria, Japanese Encephalitis and Filariasis in the country from 1986 to 1988 are given below.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Cases (per thousand case)</i>	<i>Malaria Deaths</i>	<i>C.M.R.</i>
1986	1792157	323	0.182
1987	1663284	188	0.113
1988	1472059	165	0.112
<i>Filaria</i>			
1986		Nil	
1987		Nil	
1988		Nil	
<i>Japanese Encephalitis</i>			
1986	7500	2627	3.50
1987	3515	1346	3.83
1988	5920	2009	3.39

Note: C.M.R. — Case mortality Rate

(c) Steps taken to prevent deaths due to mosquito borne diseases are:

Malaria

1. Regular anti-larval measures in the mosquito breeding places with larvi-cides e.g. Temephos, Fenthion and Paris Green.

2. Minor Engineering measures for source reduction and maintenance of drains.
3. Pyrethrum space spray in and around the Malaria positive houses.

4. Malathion fogging operation during transmission season.

5. Biological control by use of Larvivorous fish.

6. Prompt detection of malaria cases and treatment.

7. Health Education for personal prophylactic measures.

Filaria

— Auto-parasitic by detection and treatment of cases with DEC.

— Anti-larval measures to control vector population. The

programme is implemented through 203 control units, 27 survey units and 186 Filaria Clinics.

Japanese Encephalitis

1. Symptomatic treatment is being given to all cases of Japanese Encephalitis.
2. Insecticidal spray is being carried out with BHC and DDT in the affected districts and antilarval operations has been intensified.
3. Fogging operations with Malathion is under taken in the affected areas.
4. Sufficient stock of common medicines for treatment of Japanese Encephalitis have been ensured in all the affected districts.
5. Adequate health education measures are being taken through publicity.

A special programme for control of Japanese Encephalitis has also been prepared. Under this programme central assistance both in cash and kind is being provided on 50:50 cost sharing basis from the overall plan outlay of NMEP.

Voluntary Organisations for Eye Care

1850. SHRIP.R.S. VENKATESAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the voluntary organisations taking eye care in the country, State-wise, and the number of cases handled by them;

(b) whether any assessment has been made about the capability of these voluntary organisation in taking eye care; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c). Under the National Programme for Control of Blindness, the voluntary organisations taking eye care are enlisted for conducting eye camps by the State/U.T. Governments. The grants-in-aid to these voluntary organisation are released by them after satisfying that the organisation follow the laid down guidelines for safe and scientific conduct of eye camps. Details of such voluntary Organisations are not maintained by this Ministry.

Project Submitted by National Association for Blind

1851. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Association for the Blind, India submitted a project amounting to Rs. 500 crores for implementation during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the main features of the project;

(c) whether it has been considered by Government; and

(d) if so, the decision taken thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No such proposal has been received by this Ministry.

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

Modernisation of Textiles Mills with Swiss Assistance

1852. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps to modernise some of the textile mills under the control of the National Textile Corporation;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of modernisation programme and

(c) whether Swiss assistance is proposed to be obtained for the modernisation of these NTC mills if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) and (b) Modernisation of textile mills under NTC is a continuing process. During the year 1988-89, an amount of Rs. 28 crores has been provided for modernisation/labour rationalisation in NTC mills

(c) The proposal of NTC for import of textile machinery with assistance from Switzerland is at an exploratory stage.

Proposal to Import Cotton from Pakistan

1853. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether government have a proposal to import cotton from Pakistan;

(b) if so, the number of bales of cotton proposed to be imported;

(c) whether Pakistan has exported cotton to India during 1988-89 also, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). A quantity of around 62,000 bales of duty-free cotton for the manufacture of hank yarn and a quantity of around 35,000 bales of cotton under the Advance Licensing Scheme was imported from Pakistan during the cotton year 1988-89 (upto Jan'89).

Computers Developed by NHDC

1854 SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Handloom Development Corporation has developed computer indigenously;

(b) whether the computers developed by the National Handloom Development Corporation has been pressed into service;

(c) if so, the results achieved therefrom; and

(d) the steps taken for the growth of handloom industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) No, Sir.

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

(d) A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

The Government of India implements the following schemes for the growth of the handloom industry:-

1) Share capital assistance to

Primary Weavers Cooperative Societies;

- ii) Share capital assistance to Apex Weavers Cooperative Societies;
- iii) Share capital assistance to State Handloom Development Corporations;
- iv) Assistance for purchase/modernisation/renovation of looms;
- v) Managerial subsidy for appointment of paid secretaries in the Primary Handloom Weavers Cooperative Societies;
- vi) Assistance for creation of Pre-loom and Post-loom Processing facilities;
- vii) Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme for Handloom Weavers;
- viii) Contributory Thrift Fund Scheme;
- ix) Special Projects for the development of handloom sector in hill areas etc.;
- x) Special rebate scheme on the sale of handloom cloth; and
- xi) Janata Cloth Scheme.

Promotion of Social Forestry

1855. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have

taken any positive steps for the promotion of social forestry during the Seventh Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the funds allocated to each of the States/Union Territories for the purpose year-wise and the main achievements of the States in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and whether adequate positive incentive would be provided to the States to encourage social forestry during the final year of the Seventh Plan and the Eighth Plan and the outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b). A number of steps have been taken for promotion of Social Forestry during the Seventh Plan period. The more important ones are mentioned in Statement-I below. The details regarding allocation of funds and achievements are given in Statements-II & III below.

(c) The steps already taken are being continued during the last year (1989-90) of the Seventh Plan and the target of afforestation (including Social forestry) has been raised to 540 crore seedlings (equivalent to coverage of about 2.7 million hectares). The Eighth Plan proposals are not yet finalised and hence it is not possible at this stage to give the details thereof.

STATEMENT-I

Important Steps Taken for Promotion of Social Forestry during the Seventh Plan Period

1. Afforestation work, including Social Forestry, has been made a thrust area by including it as a specific item under the 20 Point Programme.

2. At the Centre, the nodal responsibility for promoting, coordinating and monitoring all Afforestation work, including Social Forestry, has been assigned to the National Wastelands Development Board established in May, 1985.
3. Guidelines have been issued to the States from time to time to promote Social Forestry.
4. For stepping up the pace of work, higher targets have been fixed each year, as a result of which the achievement during the last three years of the Seventh Plan (1985-86 to 1987-88) has been 5.04 million hectares, as against only 4.65 million hectares during the entire Sixth Plan Period (1980-85) and 3.56 million hectares from 1950 to 1980. By the end of the Seventh Plan, it is expected that the total achievement in the five-year period would be about 10.0 million hectares.
5. Plan outlays have been increased. In the last three years (1985-86 to 1987-88), the total allocations for all afforestation activities, including Social Forestry, were Rs. 1418 crores, as against only Rs. 926 crores during the entire Sixth Plan period (1980-85) and Rs. 241 crores from 1950 to 1980. The allocation for 1988-89 is Rs. 620 crores.
6. Under the rural employment schemes (NREP and RLEGP) earmarking of funds for Social Forestry has been increased to 25%.
7. New and innovative Centrally Sponsored Schemes have been introduced for promoting Decentralised People's Nurseries, Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Projects, Minor Forest Produce Plantations, Silviculture Development and Seed Development.
8. Social Forestry Projects with assistance from foreign donors like the World Bank, SIDA, etc. have been taken up in 14 States of the country.
9. For promoting people's participation 286 projects with total outlay of Rs. 22.56 crores have been taken up through the Voluntary Agencies in different parts of the country.
10. Institutional finance for social forestry projects is being mobilised through NABARD. Tree Growers' cooperatives are being organised in 5 States.
11. A number of studies, workshops and seminars have been organised. Special attention is also being given to extension activities.

STATEMENT II**Statewise Allocation & Utilisation of Funds for Afforestation***(Rupees in lakhs)*

S. No.	State/U.T.s	Amount allocated				Amount utilised			
		1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	*1988-89	1985-86	1986-87	1988	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2630.00	3312.60	3582.55	3538.00	2004.59	3436.01	3172.03	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	409.60	431.00	428.50	451.75	329.48	386.56	396.77	
3.	Assam	1595.00	1725.75	1892.75	2188.00	1303.07	1616.51	1628.54	
4.	Bihar	3254.20	4066.37	4178.75	5298.00	7633.56	2363.12	3841.96	
5.	Goa	119.20	119.50	131.65	108.00	100.68	110.35	112.20	
6.	Gujarat	2411.40	2837.97	3469.50	3168.00	2445.56	2997.31	2989.86	
7.	Haryana	1247.40	1288.27	1459.75	1921.50	1337.58	1395.27	1343.43	
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1352.20	1762.30	1932.75	2257.50	1561.97	1675.47	1952.48	
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	708.00	892.00	1007.50	1124.63	706.33	851.68	960.76	
10.	Karnataka	1965.80	2372.24	2353.25	2710.50	2536.31	2259.54	1713.95	
11.	Kerala	1618.40	1757.50	2003.00	2374.00	928.82	1789.26	1703.55	

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
12. Madhya Pradesh		3144.60	4269.99	4687.75	4672.00	2714.65	4650.82	4059.17
13. Maharashtra		2935.00	3955.37	4062.50	4194.25	2539.31	2158.63	3401.37
14. Manipur		231.60	246.25	303.50	703.50	199.38	226.07	307.41
15. Meghalaya		507.60	557.00	670.50	756.00	518.32	413.88	623.59
16. Mizoram		363.60	497.00	512.50	658.00	363.74	531.49	535.48
17. Nagaland		290.60	352.50	506.75	518.00	337.64	387.13	492.86
18. Orissa		1559.00	1964.59	2687.70	2667.25	1340.46	2051.12	2538.51
19. Punjab		717.40	696.00	873.75	1035.25	813.97	863.85	859.20
20. Rajasthan		1444.60	2723.17	2939.25	3202.00	1536.80	3376.13	2847.84
21. Sikkim		215.60	199.75	233.25	235.00	182.26	171.06	199.20
22. Tamil Nadu		2890.40	3299.40	3606.00	3479.50	2557.92	2703.21	3167.20
23. Tripura		411.00	435.50	395.50	462.75	355.36	369.73	424.34
24. Uttar Pradesh		3974.80	6617.14	7217.25	7589.75	3817.86	5582.39	6023.12
25. West Bengal		2065.00	2559.79	2609.20	3292.88	1464.12	2796.26	2025.56
26. A & N Islands		136.20	122.00	143.50	259.50	104.20	127.54	153.36

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
27.	Chandigarh	26.60	23.25	24.35	23.50	26.85	21.25	23.55
28.	D N Haveli	52.80	46.50	68.25	111.25	54.06	52.09	97.97
29.	Delhi	80.40	82.75	108.80	85.50	43.78	100.35	88.10
30.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—	45.00	—	—	12.48
31.	Lakshadweep	3.60	4.25	4.75	7.25	3.28	7.98	6.58
32.	Pondicherry	22.60	31.00	38.50	48.00	22.18	36.82	43.63
Total		38494.20	49248.70	54083.50	59196.01*	39884.09	45508.88	47746.03

* In addition, an amount of Rs. 28 crores has been allocated under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of the National Wastelands Development Board and Housing.

STATEMENT II**Statewise Area Coverage Under Afforestation Programme from 1985-86 to 1987-88**

S. No.	State/U.T.s	(Area in hectares)*					
		1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89 (upto Dec. '88)	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	157,800.00	143,707.50	152,567.00	128,543.50		
2.	Assam	19,800.00	31,275.00	24,893.50	22,275.00		
3.	Bihar	76,150.00	135,550.00	157,600.00	161,150.00		
4.	Gujarat	124,850.00	113,550.00	107,075.00	200,680.50		
5.	Haryana	46,850.00	37,079.00	19,000.00	28,919.00		
6.	Himachal Pradesh	33,600.00	33,564.00	30,754.50	29,514.00		
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	23,350.00	28,526.00	20,000.03	7,961.50		
8.	Karnataka	127,300.00	115,837.00	157,610.50	143,601.00		
9.	Kerala	58,300.00	75,962.00	77,772.00	67,627.50		
10.	Madhya Pradesh	175,050.00	196,000.00	204,523.00	212,050.00		
11.	Madharashtra	108,250.00	119,085.00	153,998.00	201,439.50		
12.	Manipur	6,250.00	7,440.00	9,012.50	9,948.00		

1	2	3	4	5	6
13.	Meghalaya	6,550.00	7,900.00	11,878.50	16,488.50
14.	Nagaland	13,450.00	27,175.00	10,000.00	11,500.00
15.	Orissa	96,500.00	116,336.00	117,002.00	137,506.00
16.	Punjab	29,500.00	28,379.50	24,776.00	23,609.50
17.	Rajasthan	47,900.00	67,051.50	58,693.50	62,950.00
18.	Sikkim	4,100.00	5,751.50	6,693.50	5,567.50
19.	Tamil Nadu	60,750.00	99,064.00	95,587.00	66,036.50
20.	Tripura	10,000.00	13,150.00	13,356.50	13,350.00
21.	Uttar Pradesh	177,400.00	243,250.00	221,035.50	265,597.50
22.	West Bengal	55,750.00	70,800.00	69,554.00	55,000.00
23.	A & N Islands	4,750.00	6,116.00	5,021.50	5,281.50
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	5,150.00	6,254.00	6,352.00	1,572.00
25.	Chandigarh	76.00	191.50	179.50	160.50
26.	Dadra Nagra Haveli	1,550.00	1,700.00	1,561.00	1,916.00
27.	Delhi	1,250.00	3,151.50	903.00	2,881.00

<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>
28.	Goa, Daman & Diu**	2,250.00	3,396.50	3,761.50	3,644.00
29.	Lakshadweep	12.50	14.50	12.00	110.50
30.	Mizoram	35,000.00	23,902.50	13,875.00	15,000.00
31.	Pondichery	550.00	649.50	516.00	281.00
	Total	1,510,038.50	1,761,869.00	1,775,564.03	1,900,151.50

*Area nationally computed at the rate of 2000 saplings per hectare.

**Includes UT of Daman and Diu.

Closure of Jute Mills

1856. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise particulars of jute mills which are closed or under lock out; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed by Union government to re-open them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) and (b). At present nine jute mills are lying closed. The details relating to each mill are given below.

1. *Shri Ambica*: This mill is in West Bengal and is closed since 25.8.86. The virtual closure of the mill has been attributed by the management to acute financial crisis. The management has approached IRBI and Bank of India to provide them necessary finance for reopening of the mill. The mill is under liquidation w.e.f. 27.3.85 and the mill is under possession of official liquidator.

2. *Naffar Chandra*: The mill is in West Bengal and is closed since 24.3.87. The accumulated loss of the mill as on 31.8.87 was Rs. 187.52 lakhs. The mill was sanctioned on 31.3.88 modernisation loan of Rs. 340 lakhs and special loan of Rs. 65 lakhs under Jute Modernisation Fund Scheme. The mill has not yet approached for disbursement.

3. *Kanoria Jute*: The mill is in West Bengal and is closed since 20.9.87. The mill has been sanctioned on 12.9.88 Modernisation Loan for Rs. 268 lakhs, Rehabilitation Loan for Rs. 49 lakhs and a Special loan of Rs. 53 lakhs under JMFS. The disbursement is yet to be made to the mill.

4. *Eastern*: The mill is in West Bengal and is closed since 5.3.88. The financial

position of the mill revealed that the mill had suffered a cash loss of Rs. 75.42 lakhs during 1986-87 and the accumulated loss as on 31.3.87 was Rs. 567.54 lakhs. The mill is a sick unit as per definition of BIFR.

5. *Nuddea*: The mill is in West Bengal and is closed since 22.6.88. The mill's accumulated loss as on 31.12.86 was Rs. 332.93 lakhs. The mill applied for financial assistance under JMFS but their application was found not support-worthy and closed.

6. *Kelvin*: The mill is in West Bengal and is closed since 29.1.89. The mill suffered a cash loss of about Rs. 83.56 lakhs during 1986-87 and its accumulated loss as on 31.5.87 was about Rs. 1157.32 lakhs. The mill is a sick unit as per definition of BIFR. The mill has been sanctioned modernisation loan for Rs. 211 lakhs, Rehabilitation loan for Rs. 65 lakhs and Special loan for Rs. 172 lakhs (Rs. 177 lakhs under JDFS, Rs. 55 lakhs under JMFS), under JMFS and JDFS no disbursement has yet been made.

7. *Kanpur*: This mill is in Uttar Pradesh and is closed since 13.4.87. The acute financial crisis is the reason behind the lock out. The Company has suffered loss to the extent of Rs. 260 lakhs upto March, 1987. The Company's case was referred to BIFR which has appointed IRBI as operation agency. IRBI has submitted its report to BIFR which is under consideration.

8. *Katihar*: This mill is in Bihar and is closed since 24.12.87. The mill has gone into liquidation since 3.4.84. The mill has been taken on lease by Bihar State Industrial Development Corporation from 1985.

9. *Shri Bajrang*: This mill is in Andhra Pradesh and is closed since 2.5.88. The mill suffered an accumulated loss of Rs. 110.26 lakhs as on 30.6.86 and a cash loss of Rs. 20.27 lakhs during 1985-86.

Re-opening of closed jute mills is a state subject. However, Government of India have taken a number of measures for revival of jute sector as a whole like creation of Jute Modernisation Fund Scheme of Rs. 150 crores, creation of Special Jute Development Fund of Rs. 100 crores, and passing of an enactment for mandatory use of Jute Packing Material upto specified percentages of production in a number of consuming industries.

Permission for Purchase of Rice and Wheat from Open Market

1857. SHRI D.B. PATIL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have sought permission of Union Government for purchasing rice and wheat from the open market for distribution through the Public distribution System; and

(b) if so, whether the permission has been granted and if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise.

Modernisation of Jute Mills

1858. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some jute mills are proposed to be modernised;

(b) if so, the particulars of jute mills proposed to be modernised;

(c) whether modernisation of these jute

mills would lead to retrenchment; and

(d) if not, the main impact of modernisation of jute mills on the workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) A Statement is given below.

(c) and (d). Applications so far received/processed by the financial institutions do not envisage any retrenchment of labour. In certain cases, it has, however, been envisaged that a part of the labour who have already reached their age of superannuation, might be retired by payment of their normal terminal dues by way of Provident Fund, gratuity etc. The main impact of modernisation of jute mills will be the long term viability of the jute mills which might enable the mills to sustain the employment potential for the workers, besides ensuring timely payment of their wages and other benefits. The Scheme also envisages among others, need based assistance that might be required by the jute mills for safety/security of the workers.

STATEMENT

List of applications received under Jute Modernisation Fund Scheme are as under:

1. Anglo India Jute Mills Co. Ltd.
2. Hastings Mills (Jute Divn. of Shree Digvijay) Cement Co. Ltd.
3. Kanoria Jute & Inds. Ltd.
4. Kelvin Jute Co. Ltd.
5. Birla Jute & Inds. Ltd.
6. Nathati Jute Mills Co. Ltd.

7. Aekta Ltd.
8. India Jute & Inds. Ltd.
9. Naffar Chandra Jute Mills Ltd.
10. J.K. Jute Mills Co. Ltd.
11. Budge Budge Co. Ltd.
12. Caledonian Jute & Inds. Ltd.
13. Ganges Mfg. Co. Ltd
14. Vijay Shree Ltd.
15. Howrah Mills Co. Ltd
16. Fort William Co. Ltd.
17. Konark Jute Ltd.
18. Fort Gloster Inds. Ltd
19. Kankinarrah Co. Ltd
20. Shree Bajrang Jute Mills Ltd.
21. Nellimarla Jute Mills Co. Ltd.
22. Hukumchand Jute & Inds. Ltd.
23. Nuddea Mills Co. Ltd.
24. Chitavalsah Jute Mills (Unit of Willard India Ltd.)
25. New Central Jute Mills Co. Ltd.
26. Angus Co. Ltd.
27. Shree Hanuman Jute Mills Ltd.
28. Calcutta Jute Mfg. Co. Ltd.
29. Gourepore Co. Ltd.
30. Howrah Mills Co. Ltd.

31. Cheviot Co. Ltd.
32. Kamarhatty Co. Ltd.
33. Alliance Mills (Lessess) Ltd.
34. Rajasthan Rope Works (Pvt.) Ltd.

Setting Up of Hospitals and Dispensaries in States Under Central Sector

1859. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up some hospitals and dispensaries in the Central Sector in certain states;

(b) whether any such Central Sector hospitals and dispensaries have been set up in the tribal areas in Orissa; and

(c) if so, the location of such hospitals and dispensaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):
(a) No Sir.

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

Reservation of Seats for Emigrant Indians in Medical Colleges

1860. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state whether any seats are reserved in the Indian Medical Colleges for emigrant Indians and other Indians residing in the foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): The Government of India do not reserve seats in the medical colleges in the country

for emigrant Indians and other Indians residing in foreign countries. We, however, allocate every year, subject to availability of seats from the States/Union Territories having medical colleges, certain number of seats to the Ministries of External Affairs, Human Resource Development, Home Affairs and Finance for admission of children of India-based staff serving in Indian Missions abroad and other categories of candidates.

Import of Equipment for Treatment of Kidney and Gallbladder from France

1861. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a highly sophisticated equipment for treatment of kidney and gallbladder stones has been imported from France, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether functioning of this equipment has since been studied, if so, with what results; and

(c) whether this equipment is proposed to be made available to Union government hospitals so that the poor patients may also avail of this facility, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) In so far as Government Hospitals are concerned, no sophisticated equipment for treatment of kidney & Gallbladder stones have been imported from France.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Strike by CGHS Pharmacists

1862. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pharmacists working in the Central Government Health Scheme went on strike and staged a demonstration in front of Nirman Bhavan recently, if so, their main demands;

(b) if so, the difficulties in accepting and implementing their demands and the action taken by Government in this regard so far; and

(c) by what time all their demands would be met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) to (c). The Pharmacists working in the Central Government Health Scheme held a demonstration in front of Nirman Bhawan on the 10th February, 1989 and started a relay hunger strike from 21st February, 1989.

A statement showing the main demands and action taken thereon is given below. It is not possible to give exact time as it requires consultation with different Ministries in Government of India.

STATEMENT

<i>Demand</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
1. Recognition of CGHS Pharmacists Association of India	The demand will be considered after finalization of Recognition Rules by the Department of Personnel and Training.

<i>Demand</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
2. Promotional Avenues	Action is already in progress.
3. Selection Grade	-do-
4. Risk or Pharmacy Allowance to CGHS Pharmacists	No proposal has been received from the Association.

[English]

News Item Captioned "Jama Masjid Kshetra Ke Vikas Ki Yojna Thande Baste Mein"

1863. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether her attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Jama Masjid Kshetra Ke Vikas Ki Yojna Thande Baste Mein" appearing in the "Navbharat Times" (Delhi) dated 25 May, 1988,

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed by Government for the development of the area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes Sir

(b) and (c). The Delhi Agricultural Marketing Board has taken a plot of 15 acres for developing a wholesale fish, poultry and eggs market at Ghazipur in East Delhi. Some of the existing wholesale markets including the one in Jama Masjid are proposed to be shifted there. The project is estimated to cost Rs. 10-12 crores and is likely to be completed by 1992-93.

The Delhi Transport Corporation have reported that services at various routes operating from Jama Masjid were shifted to Red Fort/Subhash Park with effect from 14.5.1987 at the instance of the Delhi Traffic Police.

Comprehensive Plan for Development of Emerging Townships

1864 PROF NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any comprehensive plan for the development of emerging townships including semi urban areas and cities has been chalked out consequent upon the identification of such centres in the country as per recommendation of the National Commission of Urbanisation;

(b) if so, the names of such towns/cities State-wise and the details of the programme/plan chalked out for this purpose including the financial assistance, State-wise; and

(c) if not, whether such a plan would be drawn up and the likely date by which it would be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). No spe-

ific decision about the programmes and financial assistance for Urban Centres as identified by the Commission has been drawn up so far. However, the list has been forwarded to the state Governments/UT Admns. as to whether they would like to make additions or deletions thereto. The ongoing centrally sponsored Integrated Programme for the Development of Small and Medium Towns covers a number of these priority centres identified by the Commission.

Housing Schemes for A.P.

1865. SHRI K. NARAYANA SWAMY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of housing scheme sanctioned by HUDCO in Andhra Pradesh upto January 30, 1989;

(b) whether there is any proposal to sanction some more housing schemes for Andhra Pradesh during the year 1989-90; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Upto 31-1-89, HUDCO has sanctioned 778 schemes in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) and (c). Schemes are sanctioned each year according to the requirements of the States and availability of funds. During the year 1988-89, as against an annual allocation of Rs. 30.38 crores, HUDCO has already sanctioned schemes for a loan amount of Rs. 47.22 crores (as on 23-2-89), which are much in excess of the allocated amount.

Abolition of C & D forms by DDA

1866. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the formality of obtaining C & D forms have since been abolished by the Delhi Development Authority for small plot holders; if so, the details in this regard and the relief this abolition is likely to provide to the plot holders; and

(b) whether the above concession will be available to those persons also whose building plans were sanctioned before 31st December, 1988 but who are yet to complete the construction, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The procedure for the issue of Forms C & D relating to the verification of services has been simplified for residential plots measuring upto 500 sq. mtrs. Under the simplified procedure verification/certification of the laying of services done by the licensed architects will be accepted for the grant of C & D forms by the DDA.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Implementation of revised Pay Scales for Faculty of AIIMS and PGIMER, Chandigarh

1867. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether revised pay scales and designations for the faculty in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences and the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh have been implemented; and

(b) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):
(a) and (b). The pay scales of the faculty

posts of All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi and the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh have been revised for implementation with effect from 1.1.1986. The details of the revision of their scales of pay are as under:-

<i>Name of the post</i>	<i>Existing scales including NPA</i>	<i>Revised Scales</i>
1	2	3
(1) Lecturer Medical	Rs. 1500-60-2040	Abolished
Non-Medical	Rs. 900-50-1600	Abolished
(2) Assistant Professor		
Medical	Rs. 1800-75-2100-100-2400	Rs.3500-125-4500+NPA
Non-Medical	Rs. 1300-60-1720	Rs. 3500-125-4500
(3) Associate Professor		
Medical	Rs. 2100-75-2625	Rs. 4100-125-4850- 150-5300 + NPA
Non-Medical	Rs. 1600-60-2020	Rs. 4100-125-4850- 150-5300
(4) Addl. Professor		
Medical	Did not exist	Rs. 5100-150-6300 + NPA
Non-Medical	do/-	Rs. 5100-150-6300
(5) Professor		
Medical	Rs. 2500-100-3200	Rs. 5900-200-7300 + NPA
Non Medical	Rs. 1700-75-2325	Rs. 5900-200-7300

1	2	3
(6) Distinguished Professor		
Medical	Rs. 3350/- Fixed	Rs. 7300-100-7600 + NPA
Non Medical	Rs. 2750/- Fixed	Rs. 7300-100-7600
(7) Director		
	Rs. 3500/- Fixed	Rs. 8000/- + NPA

Handling Charges Incurred by F.C.I.

Food Corporation of India per tonne of wheat, rice and other foodgrains, if any; and

1868. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(c) the handling charges as percentage of profit or loss incurred by the FCI during these years?

(a) the quantity of foodgrains handled by the Food Corporation of India during each of the year 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 and break up of different types of foodgrains handled;

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) The quantities of foodgrains handled by the Food Corporation of India during 1985-86, to 1987-88 are as under:-

(b) the handling charges incurred by the

(Quantity Lakh tonnes)
Purchase + Sales

Year	Wheat	Rice (Including paddy in rice terms)	Others	Total
1	2	3	4	5
	Qty.	Qty.	Qty.	Qty.
1985-86	215.79	150.77	0.87	367.43
1986-87	224.88	170.42	0.38	395.68
1987-88	241.02	160.98	0.05	402.05

(b) The handling charges incurred by the Food Corporation of India on procure-

ment and distribution are as under:

(Rate Rs./Qtl.)

Procurement charges

Year	Wheat Rate	Rice Rate	Paddy Rate
1985-86	31.61	15.18	32.48
1986-87	34.81	12.98	34.19
1987-88	34.13	13.16	31.50

Distribution cost

*Pooled for wheat, rice and others Rate
Rs./Qtl.*

1985-86	53.19
1986-87	61.23
1987-88	62.05

(c) The Corporation procures foodgrains for Central Pool and issues them at the prices fixed by the Central Government. As the issue prices fixed by the Government do not cover fully the costs of handling of foodgrains, the difference between the economic cost and the issue prices is reimbursed to the Food Corporation of India by the Government as subsidy as a deliberate welfare policy.

Arrears of Licence Fee and Interest due against Meridian Hotel and Bharat Hotel

1869. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the moratorium granted to Meridian Hotel and Bharat Hotel in respect of payment of licence fee and interest thereon has expired in September and November 1988, respectively;

(b) the amounts now payable by each of

them as arrears of licence fee and as interest; and

(c) the steps taken for the collection of the dues so far and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The moratorium granted by the NDMC to Meridian Hotel and Bharat Hotel is reported to have expired in September and November, 1988 respectively.

(b) The NDMC have reported that a sum of Rs. 18.76 crores has become due from M/s. C.J. International (Meridian Hotel) on account of arrears of licence fee including advance licence fee for the current year and a sum of Rs. 7.79 crores is due from them as interest upto September, 1988. In the case of M/s. Bharat Hotels Ltd. a sum of Rs. 8.70 crores is due on account of licence fee arrears and the advance licence fee for the current year and a sum of Rs. 3.01 crores is due as interest upto November, 1988.

(c) The NDMC have reported that they have served a notice on M/s. C.J. International Hotels Ltd. to make the payment due and are in correspondence with them. They have reported that Bharat hotel have applied for grant of moratorium for one more year as the hotel has not yet been completed and commissioned in full and the request is

under consideration by the NDMC.

National Parks

1870. SHRIMATI N.P. JHANSI LAXMI:
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of the National Parks, State-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Union Government to set up more National Parks; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the

amount earmarked for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):
(a) State/Union Territory-wise details of National Parks in the country are given in the statement below.

(b) and (c). National Parks are set up by the concerned State Governments. After a park is set up, proposal for financial assistance for its development is considered by Central Government depending upon the merit of each case.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Name of Park	State/Union Territory	District(s)	Area in Sq. Kms.			Remarks
				Park	Total for State		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1.	Marine	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Andamans	281.50			
2.	Middle Button	"	Andamans	.44			
3.	Mount Harriet	"	Andamans	46.62			
4.	North Button	"	Andamans	.44			
5.	Saddle Peak	"	Andamans	32.54			
6.	South Button	"	Andamans	.03	361.57		
7.	Mouling	Arunachal Pradesh	Siang	500.00			
8.	Namdapha (Tiger Reserve)	"	Tirap	1807.82	2307.82		
9.	Kaziranga	Assam	Jorhat	430.00			
10.	Manas (Tiger Reserve)	"	Kamrup/Goalpara	390.00	820.00		
11.	Betla (Tiger Reserve)	Bihar	Palamau	213.00	213.00		
12.	Bhagvan Mahavir	Goa	Goa	107.00	107.00		
13.	Gir	Gujarat	Junagadh	258.71			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
14.	Marine	"	Jamnagar	162.89		
15.	Vansda	"	Balsad	24.00		
16.	Velavadar	"	Bhavnagar	34.08	479.68	
17.	Great Himalayan	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	1736.00		
18.	Pin Valley	"	Lahaul spiti	675.00	2411.00	
19.	City Forest	Jammu & Kashmir	Srinagar	9.07		
20.	Dachigam	"	Srinagar	141.00		
21.	Hemis High Altitude	"	Leh	3350.00		
22.	Kistwar	"	Kistwar	310.00	3810.07	
23.	Anshi	Karnataka	Uttara Kannada	250.00		
24.	Bandipur (Tiger Reserve)	"	Mysore	874.20		
25.	Bannerghatta	"	Bangalore	104.27		
26.	Kudremukh	Karnataka	South Kanara/ Chikmagalur	600.32		
27.	Nagarhole	"	Mysore/Coorg	643.39	2472.18	
28.	Eravikulam	Kerala	Iddukki	97.00		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
29.	Periyar (Tiger Reserve)	"	Iddukki	350.00		
30.	Silent Valley	"	Palghat	89.51	536.51	
31.	Bandhavgarh	Madhya Pradesh	Shahdol	448.84		
32.	Fossil	"	Mandla	0.27		
33.	Indravati (Tiger Reserve)	"	Bastar	1258.00		
34.	Kanger	"	Bastar	200.00		
35.	Kanha (Tiger Reserve)	"	Balaghat	940.00		
36.	Madhav	"	Shivpuri	156.15		
37.	Panna	"	Panna/Chatarapur	543.00		
38.	Pench	"	Seoni	292.85		
39.	Sanjay	"	Sidhi/Sarguja	1938.00		
40.	Satpura	"	Hoshangabad	524.37		
41.	Van Vihar	"	Bhopal	4.45	6305.93	
42.	Gujamal (Tiger Reserve)	Maharashtra	Amravati	27.07		
43.	Nawegaon	"	Bhandara	133.88		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
44.	Pench	"	Nagpur	257.26		
45.	Sanjay Gandhi	"	Bombay/Thane	86.96		
46.	Tadoba	"	Chandrapur	116.55	621.72	
47.	Keibul Lamjao	Manipur	Imphal/Bishnupur	40.00		
48.	Sirohi	"	East District	41.30	81.30	
49.	Balpakram	Meghalaya	West Garo Hills	220.00		
50.	Norkek	"	West Garo Hills	68.01	288.01	
51.	North Simlipal (Tiger Reserve)	Orissa	Mayurbhanj	845.70		
52.	Bhittar Kanika	"	Cuttack	367.00	1212.70	
53.	Keoladeo Ghana	Rajasthan	Bharatpur	25.73		
54.	Ranthambore (Tiger Reserve)	"	Sawai Madhopur	392.00		
55.	Sariska (Tiger Reserve)	"	Alwar	273.80	691.53	
56.	Khangchendzonga	Sikkim	North Sikkim	850.00	850.00	
57.	Guindy	Tamil Nadu	Madras	2.76		
58.	Indira Gandhi	"	Coimbatore/Anna	118.08		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
59.	Marine	"	Tirunelveli/Ramanathapuram (Gulf of Mannar)	—	120.84	
60.	Corbett (Tiger Reserve)	Uttar Pradesh	Garhwal/Nainital	520.82		
61.	Dudhwa (Tiger Reserve)	"	Lakhimpur	498.29		
62.	Nanda Devi	"	Chamoli	630.33		
63.	Valley of Flowers	"	Chamoli Saharanpur/Dehradun	87.50		
64.	Rajaji	"	Pauri-Garhwal	831.53	2568.53	
65.	Neora Valley	West Bengal	Darjeeling	86.89		
66.	Singalila	"	Darjeeling	78.60		
67.	Sunderbans (Tiger Reserve)	"	24-Parganas	1330.10	1495.59	
			Total	27754.92	27754.92	

Closing of Government Printing Presses and Stationery Depots

1871. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed its earlier decision to close down some of their printing presses and stationery depots;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The proposal regarding closure of the Government of India Printing Presses is under review. The matter regarding Government of India Stationery Office is sub-judice. Therefore, it is not possible to indicate a time frame at this stage.

Grant for Slum Clearance by ODA

1872. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Overseas Development Authority has given any grant for Slum Clearance in different States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). The Overseas Development Administration (O.D.A.), U.K. has been funding various Habitat Improvement Projects which envisage the Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums by the provision of basic amenities. Details are as below:

1) *Hyderabad Habitat Project Phase-II*—which envisaged coverage of 207 slums at a revised cost of Rs. 15.57 crores has been completed.

Phase-III—Covering of 8 lakh families in 330 identified slums at a total estimated cost of Rs. 62.34 crores. O.D.A. have allocated 15 million pounds for financing the project.

2) *Visakhapatnam Habitat Project*

Upgradation of 170 slums in Visakhapatnam at an estimated cost of Rs 19.00 crores. O.D.A. have approved an allocation of 9.7 million pounds for the Project.

3) *Indore Habitat Project*

Upgradation of 183 slums at an estimated cost of Rs. 37.92 crores. O.D.A. have agreed to aid allocation of 14.4 million pounds for the Project.

Allocations made to ESI Corporation

1873. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to the Employees State Insurance Corporation during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the allocation to the ESI Corporation is proposed to be increased in view of the growing expenditure on the employees; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALVIYA): (a) The Employees' State Insurance Corporation derives its income mainly from contributions from em-

players and employees. Their contribution income during the last three years was as given below:-

Year	Rupees in crores
1985-1986	311.60
1986-1987	323.40
1987-1988	324.12

(b) The present income of the Corporation is quite sufficient to meet their requirement.

(c) Does not arise.

Irregularities in Hindustan Prefab Limited

1874. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the staff association of Hindustan Prefab Limited, a public sector enterprise under the control of the Ministry, has been repeatedly complaining about irregularities and corruption;

(b) if so, whether the associations has volunteered to support their allegations with relevant material; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to investigate these allegation.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). Staff Association of Hindustan Prefab Limited, which is not recognised, has been writing time and again complaining about irregularities and corruption. In a few letters, the Association also wrote that, if necessary, it can provide material to prove its charge.

(c) The complaints were dealt with in accordance with the prescribed procedure and the verifiable allegations were taken up for investigation departmentally and through the Central Bureau of Investigation.

Enhancement of Labour Welfare Activities

1875. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to enhance the labour welfare activities, social security and to improve their working conditions;

(b) if so, the details of the study conducted, if any, in this regard and the suggestions put forward; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALVIYA): (a) to (c). Various labour laws and the schemes in respect of welfare, social security and working conditions of labour are reviewed from time to time. As a result necessary changes are made as considered necessary.

News Item Captioned "City Parks a Picture of Neglect"

1876. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA: SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether her attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "City parks a picture of Neglect" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 4 February, 1989;

(b) if so, the fact thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). Attention of the Government has been invited to the news item pertaining to the neglect of the Parks. The various organisations concerned with the maintenance of the parks have been advised to exercise better supervision of the staff deployed for the maintenance of the parks and to ensure satisfactory maintenance of the parks.

Mass Rapid Transit System for Delhi

1877. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA:
PROF. RAMAKRISHNA
MORE:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Road Research Institute has preferred any plans for Mass Rapid Transit System for Delhi; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government propose to accept the plans;

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(d) the other steps proposed to be taken to make transport system in Delhi more effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). The Central Road Research Institute had undertaken a study of the problem in 1971. It was followed by similar studies by different agencies in later years. The recommendations contained in all such studies need to be updated. It has been decided to undertake a detailed feasibility study of the mass rapid transit system in Delhi with special reference to East-West Corridor whose tentative alignment runs from Vivek Vihar in the East

to Vikas Puri in the West over a distance of around 36 kms.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Draft Master Plan Delhi-Perspective 2001 has recommended introduction of multi-modal mass transport system in Delhi. The number of DTC buses in Delhi has been increased from 2283 in 1978-79 to 4247 by the end of December, 1988. Municipal Corporation of Delhi is taking up underground car parking projects for the congested areas of the walled city of Delhi. Thus, the question of making transport system more effective is constantly under review and suitable measures are taken from time to time.

Indo-French Agreement on Urban Transportation

1878. SHRI P.M. SAYEED:
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL:
SHRI V. TULSIRAM:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Indian and French transport firms have entered into an understanding to set up an organisation to bring the latest technology in Urban Development to India;

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

(c) the names of the cities where such transportation schemes are likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). Rail India Technical and Economic Services Ltd. (RITES), New Delhi have signed Memorandum of Understanding with M/s. SOFRETO, France to set up a joint venture to undertake consultancy assignments in regard to development of urban transport systems in India and abroad. It is yet to be registered.

(c) Need to introduce mass rapid transit system in our metropolitan cities being increasingly felt. Work on the construction of metro-rail systems in Calcutta, Bombay and Madras is already in progress. A part of the system in Calcutta has already become operational. As for Delhi, it is proposed to undertake a detailed feasibility study in respect of a selected corridor. As for some other metropolitan cities, feasibility studies are at different stages. Implementation and progress of the schemes will depend upon availability of resources in the coming years.

Change in Procedure for Water Connections in Delhi

1879. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Water Supply & Sewage Disposal Undertaking has announced some procedural changes for sanction of water connections in the capital;

(b) if so, the details thereof vis-a-vis the earlier procedure;

(c) whether a separate office is proposed to be set up to lodge complaints and redressal of grievances regarding supply of water, disposal of water and other matters connected therewith; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). In the old procedure applicant had to produce sanctioned Building Plan, C&D forms, ownership/tenancy/occupancy certificates, sewer connection permission etc. and under the revised procedure he has to furnish the following documents alongwith application form for water connection:-

(a) Attested photo copy of Ration Card.

(b) Attested copy of affidavit in the

prescribed format.

(c) Attested copy of sanctioned plan. (Not applicable in case of rural areas, resettlement colonies & unauthorised regularised colonies and old structures).

(d) Attested copy of Sale Deed/Lease Deed/Allotment letter Power of Attorney.

(e) Attested copy of Trade Licence or having applied for (applicable only in respect of non-domestic connections). Under the simplified procedure road restoration charges at flat rate will be collected alongwith water connection charges under 'Single Window Scheme'.

(c) and (d). Grievances/complaints regarding supply of water, bills etc., will continue to be entertained by the Zonal Engineers/Asstt, Revenue Officer concerned in the Zonal Offices. Besides enquiry offices at all water treatment plants/big pumping stations will also receive complaints about water supply.

AIDS Patients Prone to Stroke

1880. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether AIDS patients are thirty times more likely to suffer a stroke than people in the same age-group not exposed to AIDS; and

(b) if so, whether similar results have been noticed in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) AIDS patients usually succumb to overwhelming opportunistic infections or malignancies because of immuno deficiency. Stroke is not a common cause of death

among AIDS cases. However, AIDS patients can have neurological manifestations.

(b) In India so far only 29 cases of AIDS have been detected of these 11 were foreigners and 18 were Indians. 7 patients had neurological manifestation though none of the Indians with AIDS suffered or died of stroke.

Construction of D.D.A. Flats Under S.F.S. by Private Builders

1881. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority has sent offers to private builders and estate promoters for construction of flats under the self-financing scheme;

(b) if so, the response thereof; and

(c) the details of the guidelines laid down by the DDA for private business and estate promoters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

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

Implementation of Recommendations of Fourth Pay Commission in AIIMS and PGIMER, Chandigarh

1882. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission as accepted by Government have been implemented in respect of different categories of non-faculty posts in All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi and Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh;

(b) the posts in respect of which these

recommendations have not been implemented fully;

(c) whether according to the Commission's recommendations private Secretaries to Secretaries of Union Government or persons working on equivalent posts have been given an upgraded scale;

(d) if so, whether the same scale has also been given to those persons who have been considered working on equivalent posts in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi and Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons for delay in implementing the upgraded scales in the said institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) and (b). Yes, the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commissions, as accepted by the Government of India, have been made applicable to different categories of non-faculty posts in All India Institute of Medical Science and Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh.

(c) to (e). The scale of pay for the post of Private Secretary to the Secretaries to the Union Government or equivalent posts included in the Central Secretariat Stenographers Service has been revised. This scale is, however, not applicable to posts outside the Central Secretariat Stenographers Service. Appropriate replacement scales have been given to the posts of Private Secretaries working in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi and Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh.

Peripheral Services in Mayur Vihar

1883. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority has speeded up peripheral services in the Cooperative Group Housing Societies located in Mayur Vihar extension area; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The schemes of water supply & sewerage are in progress and are expected to be completed by 31.3.89 except in the area under encroachment or in respect of which courts have issued stay orders. Efforts are being made to remove the encroachments and complete the work for the area under encroachment. The work relating to roads and drainage is expected to be completed by June, 1989. As regards the electricity, payment has been made by DDA to DESU. The DESU has intimated that they will be able to keep pace with the progress of construction of houses & other facilities although much will depend upon the speed with which the Societies come forward in making payments of their share towards the estimated cost & complete other commercial formalities.

Black Storks at Shindhovani Lake, Maharashtra

1884. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some black stroke have been located at Shindhovani lake in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some birds of these rare species have been caught to study their habits;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps Government propose to take to save this rare species from extinction?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (e). The information is being obtained from the Government of Maharashtra and would be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Alternative Plots in Rohini

1885. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the water and electricity wings of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi have laid their lines in Rohini on the plots allotted by the D.D.A.;

(b) if so, whether it is the policy of Government that such lines are not removed once these are laid on the allotted plots;

(c) whether the D.D.A. has recently cancelled many plots in L.I.G. category under the Rohini Housing Scheme and allotted alternative plots to their allottees if so, the reasons therefore; and

(d) the broad details of the criteria adopted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) Electricity lines once laid are normally not removed unless the party desiring their removal or shifting makes a formal request to the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking and pays for the expenses involved in this.

(c) and (d). No allotment of a plot of LIG category has been cancelled. However in

case of 4 plots under the MIG category, the location was changed because of modification in the layout plan of high tension line in Pocket I, Block A, Sector 15.

[English]

Allotment of Flats to Residents of Slum Areas

1886. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given on 16 November, 1988 to Unstarred Question No. 824 regarding allotment of flats to residents of slum areas in Delhi and state:

(a) whether some built-up flats have been allotted to the persons registered under the General Category upto the end of February, 1989;

(b) if so, the details thereof, area-wise; and

(c) the time by which all registrants are likely to get their allotment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 1.	Vivekanand Puri	- 76
2.	Jahangirpuri	- 103
3.	Raghubir Nagar	- 97
4.	Madipur	- 614

890

(c) DDA hopes to allot the flats to the remaining registrants by 1995.

Allotment of Plots under Rohini Residential Scheme

1887. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given on 16

November, 1988 to Unstarred Question No. 825 regarding allotment of plots under the Rohini Residential Scheme and state:

(a) whether some more plots have been allotted to the registered persons by the end of February, 1989;

(b) if so, the details of plots allotted so far category-wise;

(c) the total number of plots allotted so far to registered persons belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and under the General Category;

(d) whether the Delhi Development Authority has chalked out any further programme to clear the waiting list; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per details given below:-

EWS/Janta	900
LIG	1740
MIG	2064
Total	4704

(c) Out of 35436 allotted by DDA under Rohini Residential Scheme, 1981 4991 plots have been allotted to the SC/ST category and 30445 to General Category.

(d) and (e). During the current year, DDA has a Plan to allot 10,000 plots out of which 4704 referred to in reply to part (b) above have already been allotted in January, 89. Depending upon the availability of land, Delhi Development Authority hopes to provide land/plots to the remaining registrants in a phased manner within a period of 5 years.

Compulsory C.G.H.S. Facilities

1888. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether C.G.H.S. is being imposed on those employees of Delhi Administration and Municipal Corporation of Delhi whose husbands or wives are Central Government Employees;

(b) the reasons for depriving the employees of Delhi Administration and Municipal Corporation of Delhi from getting Medical allowance admissible to them; and

(c) whether Government propose to make it voluntary for the employees of Municipal Corporation of Delhi and Delhi Administration to avail of the C.G.H.S. facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):
(a) No, Sir.

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

(c) Instructions already exist (copy given in the statement below.)

Statement

Applicability of CGHS to Govt. Servants—clarification regarding.

As per the compilation of the CGHS (Orders & Instructions), a Government servant cannot opt out of the CGHS if he/she is eligible to be covered under the Scheme. In terms of explanation (a) under Rule 4 of the Compilation husband or wife of the eligible Government servant as the case may be, employed in Defence or Railway Services, State Govt. or Corporations or bodies financed partly or wholly by the Central Government or State Government, local bodies and private organisations may choose either the facilities under the Scheme or the medi-

cal facilities provided by his/her employer. A declaration to this effect should be made by the Government servant. This explanation does not allowed any relaxation to the eligible Govt. servant to opt out of the CGHS and choose the medical facilities provided by the employer of his/her wife/husband. Any relaxation allowed on this account either on receipt of a clarification or otherwise may be withdrawn immediately.

Pollution in Water

1889. SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether pesticide pollution in river water from factories and farms is being constantly monitored; and

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):
(a) and (b). Yes, Sir, Regular monitoring of 7 pesticides in river Ganga and a few of its tributaries has been started since November, 1986 on a monthly basis by collecting water samples from 27 different locations in UP, Bihar and West Bengal. The Central & State Pollution Control Boards have also been monitoring the effluents from the pesticide factories located in Delhi, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. The residues of three commonly used pesticides are also monitored in sediments at 173 stations all along the coast line of the country.

Scheme for Development of Yamuna in Delhi

1890. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK:
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn up an ambitious scheme for development of Yamuna in Delhi for recreational activities;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the funds allocated by Union Government for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). A Study to examine possibility of chanelising the river flow and conserving the maximum land mass for various uses has been entrusted by the DDA to the Central Water Power Research Station (CWPRS), Poona at an estimated cost of about Rs. 50 lakhs.

Review of Anti-Leprosy Measures

1891. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any review of anti-leprosy measures has been undertaken, if so, the outcome thereof;

(b) whether any intensive measures have been taken to locate the number of people affected by leprosy in Orissa if so, the number thereof during the last three years;

(c) whether any specific preventive measures are being taken in Orissa to prevent this disease, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether rehabilitation measures for leprosy patients in Orissa, particularly in places of pilgrimage like Puri, have been reviewed and found to be adequate, if not the steps Government propose to take to improve the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c). The Anti-Leprosy measures are reviewed from time to time. The following anti-leprosy measures have been under-

taken under the National Leprosy Eradication Programme:-

1. Early detection and regular treatment
2. Coverage of endemic districts with Multi-drug treatment in a phased manner,
3. Intensified health education activities,
4. Active involvement of voluntary organisations in survey, education, treatment and rehabilitation of leprosy patients;
5. Supply of Drugs free of cost to leprosy patients, The year-wise break-up of leprosy patients during the last three years in Orissa is given below:-

<i>Years</i>	<i>Number of Leprosy patients</i>
1985-86	31,114
1986-87	33,303
1987-88	39,955

MDT has been introduced in Puri, Cuttack, Ganjam, Balasore and Sambalpur districts in Orissa.

(d) Assistance is being provided by the Ministry of Welfare for developing services for the disabled for physical, psychological, social and economic Rehabilitation under the 'Scheme of Assistance to Organisations for the Disabled Persons'. However, so far as cured Leprosy patients are concerned, there is a scheme under the National Leprosy Eradication Programme for the "establishment of Leprosy Rehabilitation Promotion Units to provide rehabilitation facilities. The Government is giving financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 41.33 lakhs per unit for the recurring and non-recurring expenditure. Two LRPUS, one at Puri and one at

Aulapur have been sanctioned for Orissa to take care of the rehabilitation problems of the cured Leprosy patients.

Functioning of Super Bazars in M.P.

1892. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that super bazars and other consumer co-operatives in Madhya Pradesh are not working efficiently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken to remove all such constraints?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) to (c). No, Sir. Department of Civil Supplies is not aware of the working of Super Bazars in Madhya Pradesh. Cooperation being the State subject is expected to be looked after by the State Government.

Funds received from United Nations Environment Programme

1893. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to implement any ambitious scheme on environment pollution and fund the infrastructure cost thereof;

(b) the quantum of funds received from the United Nations Environment Programme during the last two years and their disbursement to the States, State-wise;

(c) the quantum of funds allocated to Orissa during the last two years; and

(d) the details of the environment projects suggested by the State Government of Orissa for assistance or proposed to be

assisted during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHAN):

(a) The Central and the State Governments implement the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, through the Central and State Pollution Control Boards by notifying effluent and emission standards, monitoring and enforcement of standards. The Central Government provides grants to the Central Pollution Control Board, State Departments of Environment and State Pollution Control Boards for supporting and strengthening their infrastructure for implementation.

(b) and (c). An amount of US \$ 5000 only has been received by the Government in the last two years from the United Nations Environment Programme for the purpose of providing environment information services.

(d) No environment project has been suggested by the State Government of Orissa. However, central financial assistance is provided to that Government under the schemes of project tiger, development of national parks and sanctuaries, control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife and education. The total assistance released in 1988-89 for this purpose is Rs. 22.87 lakhs.

[Translation]

Welfare of Retrenched Labourers of closed Textile Mills

1894. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of labourers have been rendered jobless as a result of closure of textile mills and weaving mills in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for

the welfare and rehabilitation of these unemployed labourers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALVIYA): (a) and (b). According to information received from the Ministry of Textiles the number of closed/locked out Textile Mills as on 31st January, 1989 was 140.

(c) The Government have taken a number of steps to avert closure and rehabilitate sick textile mills. Following the announcement of the Textile Policy 1985, the Government have set up a Nodal Agency in 1986 which draws up rehabilitation packages for the sick textile mills in consultation with financial institutions. With a view to rehabilitating the workers of closed textile mills, a Textile Workers Rehabilitation Fund has been set up which came in to operation in September, 1986. An amount of Rs. 1.33 crores has so far been disbursed out of the Fund.

[English]

Agitation by Employees of Medical Store Depot, Karnal

1895. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of Medical Store Depot, Karnal are agitating for a long period as per report appearing in the 'Nav Bharat' dated 17 January, 1989;

(b) if so, the details of the demands of those employees; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed by Government to meet their demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):
(a) Only a handful of employees have been

raising certain issues since October, 1988.

(b) In their representations made to the Ministry, the Sarkari Chikitsa Samagri Bhandar Karamchari Sangh, Karnal, have demanded action against officials of the Government Medical Store Depot, Karnal, who are allegedly responsible for victimisation of employees (in the form of suspensions/termination/irregular promotions), misappropriation of funds and acceptance of bribes for stocking sub-standard and spurious drugs. They have also demanded common facilities like canteen, public convenience and cycle stands for the benefit of the staff of the depot.

(c) Although the Sangh is an unrecognised body, their grievances have been looked into and preliminary enquiries indicate that there is no substance in the complaints regarding bribery and misappropriation of funds, leading to stocking of spurious/sub-standard drugs. Common facilities already exist in the Depot for the benefit of the staff.

Food and Drug Control Administration

1896. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to strengthen the Food and Drug Control Administration; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):
(a) and (b). Proposals to strengthen the Food and Drug Control Administration are under preparation for the 8th Five Year Plan.

Losses on Government Publications

1897. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the observations made by the C & AG in his report (Union Government Civil) for the year ending 31 March, 1987 on losses incurred by the Department of Publications;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken to reduce the losses of the Department on Government Publications; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The detailed examination of the observation in the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended 31st March, 1987 No. 1 of 1988 (Union Government-Civil) on Losses in the Stocking and Sale of Departmental Publications, pertaining to the Department of Publication, has not yet been completed.

Protection and Development of Sugar Industry

1898. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the memorandum recently submitted by the Indian Sugar Mills Association on measures necessary for the protection and development of sugar industry;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) steps taken during the current financial year for protecting and promoting the sugar industry?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) and (b). In recent months, the Indian Sugar Mills Association has submitted a number of memoranda/representations in which suggestions have been made on various issues concerning the sugar industry.

The Central Government have already announced the sugar policy for the current sugar season 1988-89 in December, 1988. The suggestions received from the industry from time to time, including those from the Indian Sugar Mills Association, are duly considered. No change in the policy already announced is, however, contemplated.

(c) The steps taken by Government during the current financial year for protecting and promoting the sugar industry include—

- (i) Increase in the statutory minimum price of sugarcane for 1988-89 season from Rs. 19.00 per quintal announced in December, 1987 to Rs. 19.50 per quintal linked to 8.5% recovery;
- (ii) advance announcement of a still higher statutory minimum price of sugarcane at Rs. 20.00 per quintal linked to 8.5% recovery for the next season 1989-90;
- (iii) change in the ratio of levy to free sale sugar for 1988-89 sugar year from 50 : 50 to 45 : 55;
- (iv) announcement of new incentive scheme for newly established factories and expansion projects;
- (v) grant of financial assistance to sugar factories from the Sugar Development Fund for rehabilitation/modernisation and also for sugarcane development.

Option by S.C. and S.T. for Avas Sakar Yojna

1899. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of registered persons under the New Pattern Hudco Scheme, 1979 have given their option to join

"Avas Sakar Yojna":

(b) If so, the details thereof, category-wise, with break-up of registered persons belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes and General category;

(c) the total number of registrants in each category on the waiting list for build-up flats as on 28 February, 1989;

(d) whether the DDA has chalked out any further programme to allot flats to the remaining registrants in future; and

(e) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are as under:—

Category	General	SC/ST	Total
(i) L.I.G.	3789	21	3810
(ii) M.I.G.	1832	—	1832
	5621	21	5642

(c)

Category	General	SC/ST	Total
(i) Janta	26,745	3048	29,793
(ii) LIG	46,536	1323	47,859
(iii) MIG	29,492	—	29,492
	102773	4371	107144

(d) Yes, Sir.

[Translation]

(e) As on 1.4.88, construction of 51,394 houses was in progress and construction of 15,213 new houses was taken up during 1988-89 thus making total of 66,607 houses. Increase in the pace of house construction is also being attempted.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no need to raise it. Because, it is up to the PAC Chairman.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You must see that the dignity of the Public Accounts Committee and the Parliament is maintained.

12.00 hrs.

[Translation]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: All right.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): I wish to raise an issue. Please listen to me.

[English]

I have not received any complaint so far.

If there is anything, it is the PAC Chairman who has to take action.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I have brought it to your notice. Grover Commission report has been suppressed from the PAC.

MR. SPEAKER: It is for the PAC and I have not received any complaint so far.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Here is the Chairman. You can ask him. Fortunately he is available.

MR. SPEAKER: Why should I? He can ask me. He can approach me and we can settle it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not want any intermediary between me and the PAC Chairman.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Not allowed.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: The Minister has said that it is a confidential report. But it is on the records of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

MR. SPEAKER: He can say anything. Does not matter. I am not going to discuss it here.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: What is the remedy available?

MR. SPEAKER: He can ask me. The remedy is, the PAC Chairman is quite capable and he can ask the Speaker.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Through you, I request him.

MR. SPEAKER: No, no. Why do you waste the time of the House like this?

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada): The Food Corporation of India has increased the issue price of rice and they are putting the rice eaters to inconvenience. This is a discrimination.

MR. SPEAKER: You give me something; not like this.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar): The report of the Privileges Committee which contains a dissenting note in regard to the illegal bank accounts of Shri Kamal Nath and the privilege motion against Shri Arun Shourie should be discussed immediately in the House.

MR. SPEAKER: You give me a motion. I will see.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: We should be able to find time to discuss it.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam): I have given an adjournment motion.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no question of adjournment motion. The Government will take care.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: One Mr. Gopalaswamy, a member of the other House has gone to Sri Lanka by violating the Passport Act.

MR. SPEAKER: The law will take care of it.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Now the Sri Lankan Government is asking the Tamil Nadu Government... *(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Not allowed.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Jaipal, why are you unnecessarily again raising it? I have given

my ruling.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: He is agreeing...

MR. SPEAKER: Might be; does not matter. I cannot run the House according to your agreement. I have to run the House according to my own ruling.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: It is a serious matter, violation of the Passport Act.

MR. SPEAKER: It will be taken care of by law.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): Government is abusing the powers of the Revenue Department to suppress the freedom of the Press. Raids are conducted on flimsy grounds

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing doing. Not allowed. It is a law and order question

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: No question Not allowed.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Mr Amal Datta you are a very seasoned person You must realise that law takes its own course

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am not going to interfere How can I be a judge whether it is flimsy or not? I am not going to be a judge

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Not allowed.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You take your seat

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Not allowed. This gentleman is unnecessarily harassing. Not allowed.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please, will you take your seat now? Mr. Amal Datta, you are contravening all the rules. I have told you it is a law and order problem. It can be taken care of; if any infringement takes place there are courts. Not allowed.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Press cannot be gagged and it will never be gagged.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There are other people also in this House. They also want to say something. Please do not monopolise the time of the House. Please sit down. Otherwise I would like you to withdraw from the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If it is on insufficient grounds they can go to the courts.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Not allowed.

SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD (Baroda): Under your direction I have given a second notice under Rule 377 concerning the death of 127 people after consuming methyl alcohol.

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed you next week to make a statement under Rule 377.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Amal Datta, will you withdraw from the House? If you persist like this I will ask you to withdraw from the

House. Please do not do it. You cannot have a monopoly of the House. You are wasting the time of the House unnecessarily. I have explained to you, the law takes its own course. There are courts to challenge the validity or invalidity of any action of the Government. I cannot interfere and I am not the judge to see whether it is flimsy or not.

SHRI AMAL DUTTA: There should be a statement.

MR. SPEAKER: Why should there be a statement? There are courts in this country.

SHRI AMAL DUTTA: Because the freedom of the newspaper is concerned... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Freedom of the press is assured in this country. Nobody has been able to gag it and nobody will be able to gag it.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Everybody is equal in the eyes of the law. There is no question.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Now sit down. Otherwise, I will take action.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI VYJAYANTHIMALA BALI (Madras South): In connection with Jawaharlal Nehru Centenary celebrations, when the Marathon Run took place for the country, girls and women were molested and humiliated. What is the use of this Run? What was the Run for?... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you shout-

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRIMATI VYJAYANTHIMALA BALI: It is a colossal waste of energy... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is that there should be law and order assured by the State Government.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar): Kindly direct the Minister to make a statement on this... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA (Sangrur): Sir, the doctors in Punjab are on strike. They are courting arrest... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing doing.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Robertsganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the tactics adopted by the Opposition have confused the people of the country... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please speak one at a time. I cannot hear anything.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Papers to be laid.

12.07 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Review on and Annual Report of National Jute Manufacturing Corporation Limited, Calcutta for 1987-88 and a statement giving reasons for delay in laying the papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956.—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the National Jute Manufactures Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1987-88.

(ii) Annual Report of the national Jute Manufactures Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No LT—7441/89]

Review on and Annual Report of Indian Medicines Pharmaceuticals Corporation, Ltd. for 1987-88 and a Statement re delay in laying these papers and Annual Report of and Report on Institute of Post Graduate Teaching and Research, Gujarat Ayurved University, Jamnagar for 1987-88 and a Statement re-delay in laying these papers, etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY

WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):
I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Limited, for the year 1987-88.

(ii) Annual Report of the Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Limited, for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 7442/89]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute of Post Graduate Teaching and Research, Gujarat Ayurved University, Jamnagar, for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Institute of Post Graduate Teaching and Research, Gujarat Ayurved University, Jamnagar, for the year 1987-88.

(4) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 7443/89]

(5) (i) A copy each of the Annual Reports (Hindi and English ver-

- sions) of the Population Research Centres, located at Delhi, Dharwad, Baroda, Bangalore, Lucknow, Pune, Patna, Karavattam (Kerala) and Gandhigram (Tamil Nadu) for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 7444/89]
- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Vishwayatan Yogashram, New Delhi, for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Vishwayatan Yogashram, New Delhi, for the year 1987-88.
- (7) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 7453/89]
- (8) A statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Central Research Institute for Yoga, New Delhi, 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- 7454/89]
- fications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:—
- (1) (i) The Pulses, Edible Oilseeds and Edible Oils (Storage Control) Fourth Amendment Order, 1988, published in Notification No. S.O. 1063(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th November, 1988.
- (ii) The Pulses, Edible Oilseeds and Edible Oils (Storage Control) First Amendment Order, 1989 published in Notification No. S.O. 3(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd January, 1989. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 7455/89]
- (2) A copy of the Food Corporation of India (Contributory Provident Fund) Tenth Amendment) Regulations, 1989 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. 48/F. No. 41-1/85-EP in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 1989 under sub-section (5) of section 45 of the Food Corporation Act, 1964. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 7456/89]

12.08 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS'
BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

[English]

SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI (Dharmapuri): I beg to present the Sixtieth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

Notifications under Essential Commodities Act and under Food Corporation Act.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Noti-

12.08/1/4 hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Hundred and forty first and Hundred
and forty second Reports

[English]

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Public Accounts Committee:—

- (1) Hundred and forty first Report on Interest Tax Assessment.
- (2) Hundred and forty second Report on Metropolitan Transport Project, Calcutta.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA (Sangrur): Doctors are sitting on a 'dhama'. They are courting arrest in Delhi. You please give directions to the Government. They are courting arrest...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You give it to me in writing.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): Sir, I have a different matter. Yesterday also we tried to raise it...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You give it to me in writing and come to me.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Thousands of Indian workers in Kuwait are denied salary. They are stranded there... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have already taken up this matter with the Ministry and they will let us know what is happening. You should know how to raise this question. You are unnecessarily wasting the time of the House.

Matters under Rule 377.

12.09 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (1) Demand for giving due importance to teaching of Sanskrit language, publishing old Sanskrit handwritten manuscripts now in possession of Sanskrit Scholars in Mithila region of Bihar and for providing funds to Bihar for Sanskrit Scholars.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur): New Education Policy does not give the importance to the teaching of Sanskrit. Sanskrit has not even been provided a place under three language formula in Navodaya Schools— not even one of the optional subjects.

Sanskrit is as old as the history of India. The highest ideals and basic principles of human life are available in Sanskrit literature. The Sanskrit scholars have spoken of the entire world and one family.

Sanskrit is a secular language. It does not belong to any community, nation or country. It is a source of inspiration for the entire world. Therefore, it is necessary to give due respect to Sanskrit.

Mithila in North Bihar has been a seat of Sanskrit learning for thousands of years. It has given birth to innumerable outstanding Sanskrit scholars over the years. Even today, there are thousands of Sanskrit scholars in Mithila, the like of which is difficult to

find. Unfortunately they are languishing in abject poverty and there is none to look after them. Some of these Sanskrit scholars possess very old and valuable hand-written manuscripts.

Government of India should send a team of experts to Mithila to locate these scholars with the help of local administration, procure these manuscripts and make arrangements for their publication. Special efforts should also be made to ameliorate the lot of these scholars. Sufficient funds should be given to Bihar for Sanskrit scholars.

- (ii) Demand for taking steps to modernise the Government Opium and Alkaloid Works, Ghazipur (U.P.) and save it from closure in the interest of workers.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghazipur): The Government Opium and Alkaloid Works at Ghazipur (U.P.) is more than 100 years old. There are about 600 workers who are working in the said factory and a large number of farmers are engaged in the production of opium. It has been reported that this factory is going to be closed on the orders of the environmental authorities. It has been alleged that the water discharge from the factory is polluting the river Ganga.

12.11 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

The environmental authorities have been insisting for long for the installation of anti-pollution devices at the factory but the management is ignoring their repeated directions. The workers and the farmers are suffering.

The management is not taking desired steps for the modernisation of this factory. More than Rs. 50 crores were sanctioned about three years back for the modernisation of the factory, but it appears that nothing has been done in this matter. I fear that there

is a conscious conspiracy on the part of the management to close this factory for ever.

There is an apprehension in the minds of workers and farmers due to the recent orders of the environmental authorities. The Mill management has installed a temporary device of anti-pollution in the factory.

I urge upon the Finance Minister to give immediate attention to this matter so that the factory is not closed, anti-pollution devices as per the suggestion of the environmental authorities are installed and the factory is fully modernised and expanded.

- (iii) Demand for re-starting the closed Textile Mills in Bombay and steps to prevent further closure of like Mills.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central): On the last Republic Day three more textile mills in Bombay named Swan Mill (Kurla), Swan Mill (Seewari) and Swan Process (Sewari) have been suddenly closed making a total of 12 textile mills which have been closed in Maharashtra rendering nearly 25,000 textile workers unemployed. Further, three mills, two of Khatau and one of Raghuvanshi in Bombay are also facing closure. Efforts should be made by the Government to re-start the closed mills and to take preventive action regarding further closures.

- (iv) Demand for Sending a Central team to Orissa to assess intensity of drought in Bolangir and Kalahandi districts of the State and suggest remedial measures.

SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA (Bolangir): Scanty and erratic rainfall this year has created a severe drought situation in Bolangir and part of Kalahandi district in Orissa and people there have no means or morale to face more severe and extensive drought this year. The rural economy has collapsed, rural indebtedness has become too heavy, unemployment position is ex-

[Sh. Nityananda Misra]

tremely acute and lakhs of people of my constituency have left their hearth and home and migrated in search of jobs. Unfortunately, this drought prone zone is extremely deficient in irrigation where a meagre 5 per cent of the total cropped area enjoys irrigational facility. Though the people have become victims of drought for the past five months, adequate measures have not yet been taken to provide relief or employment. Union Government should formulate special schemes and take immediate and prompt steps to allocate adequate resources to implement those schemes. Agriculture Ministry should send a Central team to assess the intensity of drought and sanction funds for implementing employment oriented schemes, to improve watershed management and construct small, minor and lift irrigation projects to augment irrigation potential.

- (v) **Demand for measures to save Uluberia town from Subsidence.**

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Sir, the Municipal town of Uluberia, situated at the bank of the river Ganges (the Hooghly River), is facing threat of subsidence or massive erosion. Already a large portion—about one kilometre— has subsided and more than thirty shops have gone under water. Lives of several thousands of people are in danger. Due to massive siltation on the east bank, the west bank of Hooghly, from Sankrait-Rajgunge to Uluberia, is facing danger of subsidence.

Due to massive erosion in northern India, the river is carrying earth and other materials from the upstream causing massive siltation in the lower Ganges. The river is losing its navigability. Due to construction of Farakka Barrage and the Indo-Bangladesh agreement on sharing of water, the quantity of water and water flow have reduced. Instead of 40,000 cusecs, only 20,000 cusecs water is available in the lower Ganges during lean period. Besides, during the past few years, three big ships have sunk in this part and the Calcutta Port Trust did not

remove them. Over the year, there is siltation around them and the river-bed has lost its depth, causing obstruction to natural course of the river.

The Man Singh Committee, the Pandey Commission and the famous expert Shri Kapil Bhattacharya have emphatically suggested continuous dredging of lower Ganges to maintain navigability. But since, 1953, there is no proper dredging and even the CPT is not dredging the lower stream river-bed.

Due to accumulated effects, Uluberia town is threatened. Under the circumstances, it is of utmost importance that coordinated action is taken to save Uluberia town from subsidence.

- (vi) **Demand for Setting up the proposed Vijayanagar Steel Plant at Hospet in Karnataka early.**

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South): Sir, the people of Karnataka are very much agitated over the fact the Vijayanagaram Steel Plant, for which foundation was laid by the then Prime Minister in 1971, has still not been set up. Many other steel plants which were conceived along with this steel plant have already been set up and are functioning. Further, there is a disturbing report that instead of steel plant, a thermal plant will be set up at Hospet, which is the location for the proposed Vijayanagaram Steel Plant. People of Karnataka will not accept the thermal plant as a substitute of the steel plant. They want both the steel plant and the thermal plant and priority is given for the steel plant.

- (vii) **Demand for buying at remunerative price the Cotton and Chillus produced in Andhra Pradesh by the Cotton Corporation of India and the State Trading Corporation, respectively, to alleviate farmers suffering.**

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda): Sir, the farmers of Warangal, Karimnagar and Adilabad districts in Andhra

Pradesh are facing problems due to non-marketing of cotton in regulated markets. There is no purchaser to purchase the cotton brought by farmers over last thirty days. The entire transactions of cotton in Warangal Agricultural Market have come to a standstill because of non-cooperation of cotton traders and non-purchasing of cotton by them as well as by the Cotton Corporation of India and the State Trading Corporation of India. The farmers in the above districts raised huge agricultural loans through commercial banks, agricultural cooperative banks and invested for raising cotton. At the time of sowing cotton, the open market rate in regulated markets was between Rs. 1000 and Rs. 1200 per quintal. Now the cotton price has fallen to Rs. 500 to Rs. 700 per quintal in open market. The said farmers are not in a position even to recover the investment cost.

Likewise, the price of chillies which shot up to Rs. 5000 per quintal at the time of sowing has now come down to Rs. 500 to Rs. 800 per quintal in the open market. State agencies and the traders are not coming forward to pay remunerative prices for cotton and chillies.

The farmers are being harassed by the commercial banks, cooperative banks and agricultural banks for repayment of the loans. Due to this, one farmer committed suicide on 23rd February 1989 in the bank premises in Karimnagar district of Andhra Pradesh.

In these circumstances, the Cotton Corporation of India should come forward to purchase the entire produce of cotton at a minimum rate of Rs. 1,000 per quintal in the said districts. The State Trading Corporation should also purchase the entire produce of chillies in the said districts at a minimum rate of Rs. 2,500 per quintal.

[Translation]

- (viii) **Demand for financial assistance to Rajasthan Government for relief work in the drought affected areas**

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN
(Barmer): Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, the

majority of villages in Rajasthan were affected by drought last year. We appreciate the assistance given by the Central Government to the people of Rajasthan, particularly, in the districts of Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur. Since there has been no rain from 15 August to September, 1988 and dust-storm also played havoc continuously in July, August and September, the 'kharif' crop in Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur was adversely affected. As many as 4500 villages are affected by drought. Barmer, Jaisalmer and Shergarh tehsil of Jodhpur have been severely hit.

The Rajasthan Government has requested the Centre for an assistance of Rs. 168.41 crores.

The Rajasthan Government has been unable to start famine relief measures this year due to lack of funds. This had led to acute unemployment problem in the districts just mentioned.

The Centre is requested to immediately depute a study team to make an on-the-spot assessment of the situation in desert districts of Barmer, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Jalore, Bikaner and Sirohi in Rajasthan and sanction Rs. 100 crores as relief before 15 March, 1989 to combat drought. Keeping in view the financially weak position of the State due to successive droughts, an amount of Rs. 168.41 crores may be provided as grant. This will make it possible to start famine relief works and arrange for drinking water.

- (ix) **Demand for according to the development of Jalandhar-Hoshiarpur-Hamirpur-Mandi road as a National Highway**

[English]

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur): The setting up of National Highways Authority is a step in the right direction. It underlines the significant role to be played by the Union Government in the provision of transport infrastructure in the country cutting across State boundaries so as to ensure balanced development of all regions. Special category States like Himachal Pradesh,

[Prof. Narain Chand Parashar]

J & K and the border States like Punjab should be given a high priority in respect of sanction of the new National Highways.

I urge upon the Union Government to sanction the development of Jalandhar Hoshiarpur-AMB-Nadaun-Hamirpur-Re-walsar-Mandi Road as a National Highway. It will link Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and J. & K beyond Manali upto Leh by the shortest and safest route and provide a link between National Highways No. 1 and 21. It would be a strategic highway for the defence of the country.

12.20 hrs.

RAILWAY BUDGET 1989-90 GENERAL
DISCUSSION —CONTD.

[English]

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: We will now take up the next item, that is, Further General Discussion on the Budget (Railway) for 1989-90.

Shri Vakkom Purushothaman

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN (Alleppey): Sir, I support the Railway Budget presented by our dynamic Railway Minister, Shri Madhavrao Scindia, in this House for the year 1989-90. Sir, I must appreciate that the Railway Minister has a complete knowledge about what is happening in his Ministry and he has got a complete control or grip over the entire bureaucracy working in the Ministry as also the entire operations of the Railways. This position is seldom obtained in other Departments. Sir, the development achieved during the last four years in the Railways is tremendous. The Railway Minister, Shri Madhavrao Scindiaji is not present here. But he richly deserves a special bouquet from this House.

Sir, about the financial performance, he has stated that the surplus achieved was Rs.

84.29 crores against the budget estimate of Rs. 69 crores and this surplus has been reckoned after the payment of full dividend of Rs. 638.86 crores to the General Revenues. It is really remarkable and I congratulate him for this. Sir, railway is not a commercial concern. It is for the service of the common people. So, even by incurring heavy losses, the Government have a responsibility to provide the transport facility to all the people of the country and Railway is the best and the cheapest mode of transportation, especially in a vast country like ours. Once for a change, I would like to support Prof. Madhu Dandavate who said while initiating the Budget, that the Planning Commission should give a special consideration to Railways and sufficient funds should be allotted to meet the demands of the people to have more and more railway lines in various parts of the country.

Sir, the statistics given by the Minister in his speech showing that the Railway accidents in this country are declining very much may be correct, but, Sir, the people in Kerala shudder when they think of travelling in the train. The accident at Perumon which caused the death of more than 100 persons and injuries to more than 200 persons is even now a nightmare to the people of Kerala. Even after that, a series of accidents mostly derailing by goods trains took place. Of course, it has not taken away the human lives, but the fear complex is there. You know the press in my State is very sensitive and they are writing a series of articles one after another criticising the railways and the poor conditions of the track. I do not want to enter into that criticism, but the fact remains that the track in my State is really old and over-used by innumerable trains run over this track.

Sir, the Railway Minister has started an ambitious programme to wipe out the backlog of track renewal. That is good, I congratulate him, but I request him to give preference to the Railways in my States because of the innumerable accidents we had during the last one year.

Sir, during the last year as well as this year he has given so many concessions to the deserving people. And this year also he has given certain concessions to the old people, past 65. That is a good thing, but I want to submit before the Railway Minister that he is not going to lose much by giving concessions to the old people because no old man after 65 is going to travel alone in the trains a long distance of more than 500 kilometres. So, if he really wants to give some help to the deserving old people, he must reduce the minimum distance at least to about 200 kilometres.

Sir, as the time given to me is very little I am not going into the general things. I want to submit certain things regarding my State. First of all, I am thankful to the Railway Minister for giving special consideration for the Ernakulam-Alleppey Railway line and he has declared that it will be open to traffic during the next financial year. Immediately after the Railway budget is out, our Chief Minister of Kerala— of course, he will say anything and everything, I do not want to comment— has criticised the Railway budget and he has even said that the construction of the new Ernakulam-Alleppey line is also not going to be completed because sufficient fund is not provided for that. Of course, I admit that he does not know much about the budgeting and all those things, but I would request and Railway Minister to give special instructions to the concerned authorities to complete this work by the coming June itself, which I understand is possible. Sir, the full utilisation of this railway line will be there only if the construction of the line from Alleppey to Kayamkulan is also completed. Now I understand that you have completed doubling work from Madras to Ernakulam and the idea is to double it upto Trivandrum. This line Ernakulam-Alleppey-Kayamkulan is the an alternative for the double line. So, in order to ease the over-utilisation of the existing Ernakulam-Trivandrum line, this doubling work is to be completed as early as possible. So, this Alleppey-Kayamkulan railway line is also to be completed as early as possible. I request the hon. Railway Minister to pay some special attention to complete it earlier

than one year. There is a demand for doubling of the existing broad gauge line from Shoranur to Mangalore. This became all the more important, in the present context, since the Railway Minister has already approved the concept of West Coast line from Kanya Kumari to Bombay and as a result of that they have included in the Budget the construction of new line from Mangalore to Udipi. So, my request, in that context is, that this doubling may also be taken up.

I need not narrate the importance of Guruvayur Temple where even our beloved Prime Minister has visited more than once. Taking into consideration the importance of Guruvayur, a new line has been sanctioned in 1987, from Trichur to Guruvayur. It is only 24 kms. in distance. If the hon. Minister takes some special interest, it can be completed very shortly. I request the Minister to provide sufficient funds. There is demand to connect Alleppey and Thiruvalla by a new railway line. I request that orders may be given to conduct a survey about the feasibility of this line.

There are also so many other demands. I am not going into all those demands in detail. The people including the Chief Minister are complaining that no new line has been given and the State of Kerala has been miserably neglected. Some struggle has already started into State. I do not want to go into detail. Finally, I request the hon. Railway Minister again that this work on the line Ernakulam-Alleppey must be completed by June itself. We the people in Kerala are waiting anxiously to give a heroic welcome to the Railway Minister on the auspicious occasion of the inaugurations of this new railway line.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN (Cooch Behar): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am sorry that I cannot support this Railway Budget.

I would say about what happened on the 18th of February, when I had the opportunity to board the Shatabdi Express, the prestigious train and the fastest train of our country. On that particular day, I boarded New Delhi-bound Express. It was late by 35 minutes at

[Sh. Amar Roypradhan]

Agra Cantonment hand when it reached New Delhi, it was late by 45 minutes. I know about the punctuality of our trains, Hon. Members on this side and on that side are habituated to that. We are habituated to the delay in the train by 1 hour, 2 hours, 8 hours, 16 hours, 24 hours and 32 hours also. A few days back, one train was late by 32 hours. Of course, up to one hour late, it is all right; it is on time. So, when the Express came to New Delhi Station, I went to the Taxi Stand. There were so many taxis but nobody was ready to ply. Even I showed my identity as M.P. to the police but they could not pull up the drivers. At the dead of night, I walked to my residence, NORTH Avenue. This is the condition. But I do not like to Comment on punctuality and the time-table.

What I was astonished in the particular train was, it was announced there: We are welcoming you all— from the Central Railway. Why it was from the Central Railway? We have the experience in the Rajdhani Express. They say, Indian Railways welcome you. Why it is Central Railway here. I came to realise it only on the 23rd February, when the Railway Budget was presented, it was not a budget of the entire country but it was only for Madhya Pradesh. If Mr. Madhavrao Scindia is called the Minister of State for Railways, Government of Madhya Pradesh, then it would not be wrong. I can say that the entire North-Eastern region and the West Bengal region have been neglected and had been very much deprived of resources by this Budget. All these names of regions, the North-Eastern region, Sitchar-Tiribon region, Lalaby-Bhairabi region, Bali-para-Bhalupong region and Dharmanagar-Kumarghat region, have been mentioned in the Budget. If you go through the last 10 years railway budgets, you will find all these names of the regions and it is a continuous process. But, in the particular North-Eastern region, you are doing nothing. You have shown step-motherly feeling towards North-Eastern region. North-East frontier railway is the most neglected railway in the country. There is not a single railway line which has

been electrified till today in the North-East frontier region even after 42 years of independence. This is the progress made by the North-Eastern region. In Malda-New Jalpaiguri section, double line was started but the progress of work is very slow. The allotment of money for that purpose is so meagre that it will take at least one hundred years to complete the double line from Malda to Gauhati. This is how you are treating the railway zone.

Regarding the trains, I must say that we are only to take care not to board the train because the trains are so much packed up that even in the chicken box, you will get some space but not in the trains. In those trains which come from Gauhati and other side even in North Bengal and from Cooch Behar to New Jalpaiguri, you will not get that much of space of stand even. What a worst condition?

You have allotted many trains. You have introduced 15 new trains. The frequency has been increased for five trains. But, in the North-Eastern region, not a single train is introduced. You are treating the North-Eastern railway and the people of North-Eastern region in such a manner that you should be shameful for it. You are moving in a political way and with such a sectoral view that you do not think that the entire country is yours. It is not only our interest. It is your interest also.

Regarding 165/166 New Bongaigaon-Howrah Janata Express many times Mr. Scindia said "All right. It will be done as soon as flood damaged rail track will be repaired." He wrote to me many letters. He said "All right. It will be done" and after that, now when I wrote to him he said, "No, no. It will not be possible. It will cost so much." I again wrote to him as to what has been done regarding the introduction of 165- New Bongaigaon-Howrah Janata Express because it is the only Convenient train for North Bengal people to go from North Bengal to Calcutta. You have introduced many trains like the Cochin train, Trivandrum train and Bombay train but, it is of no avail to the people train

and Bombay train but, it is of no avail to the people of North Bengal. There are many trains from Delhi to Madras and to Bombay which go through the Madhya Pradesh region but not a single train stops there. What would be the condition of the Madhya Pradesh Railway passengers. Will it be good? It will certainly not be good. This is the condition which prevails at present.

Regarding the Balurghat-Eklakhi line, in this Budget, the hon. Minister has made an allocation of Rs. one lakh. But what is required is a sum of Rs. 42 crores and 85 lakhs. How much time would it take to complete this work? I think it will not be possible to complete this work within the 21st century. We will have to wait for the 22nd Century to come to complete this.

Regarding the Calcutta Metro Railway, so many things have been said. The hon. Minister has allocated a sum of Rs. 81 crore only. How much time the Government is taking? Upto last year, it had spent a sum of Rs. 645 crores and 26 lakhs. But it requires a sum of Rs. 863 crores and 37 lakhs. Therefore, still a sum of Rs. 137 crores and 11 lakhs is required for the completion of this project. If you allocate money in such a way, it will take much time. If the Government is late in completing this work, there would be escalation of price and it would cost more. It means the people of Calcutta will have to suffer more for the construction hazards of Metro Railway.

Regarding the Circular Railway for Calcutta, it has been state that there is no land available for this project and the West Bengal Government is not giving land for this purpose. The Circular Railway at present between Dum Dum and Princes Ghat does not look like a circular railway. At present it looks like just a 2nd day Moon. It is not in circular shape so to say.

I would like to pose one question to the hon. Minister now. What steps had the Government taken to complete the project? If you like to have the Circular Railway from Majherhat to Princep Ghat, then you have to

take possession of the Defence land there. You cannot have this over the Hooghly river. So, if you have to have this Circular Railway, then really you must take possession of the Defence land. The Ministry of Defence is your sister organisation. Are they making the land the available? I think it is not. But the hon. Minister is blaming the Government of West Bengal in this regard. On the other hand, the Central Government's own sister organisation is not making the land available to them. The West Bengal Government had already allotted the required land for the Railways. But this Government is not doing anything. More over, this Government is not eager to complete the entire circle of this Circular Railway. So, I do not support this Railway Budget.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now the hon. Deputy Minister of Railway will intervene.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the hon. Minister's attention needs to be drawn to some important points. If my turn comes earlier, he could reply to those points.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He is only interventining.

[*Translation*]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): Hon. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, discussion on the Railway Budget has been going on in the House for several days. I thank you for giving me an opportunity to intervene in the debate.

Till now 23 hon. Members have expressed their views. I am sure their valuable suggestions will help us in our future efforts in improving railway services. I think the hon. Members who participated in this discussion. A number of hon. Members have criti-

[Sh. Mahabir Prasad]

aised the increase in freight rate and have expressed their concern in this region.

In this context, I would like to mention that my senior colleague hon. Shri Scindia had mentioned in clear cut terms while presenting the Railway Budget, that increase in parcel and freight rates had become necessary to offset the increase in the cost of inputs and mobilise additional internal resources to finance plan expenditure. I do not want to go into the details of inputs used in the Indian Railways. I am sure, all hon. Members will agree that such increases in freight rates improve the operational efficiency of the railways.

Sir, in this context I would like to inform the august House that in the first three years of the Seventh Five-Year Plan, there has been considerable improvement in the efficiency and overall performance of the Railways. There has been 27% increase in freight traffic and 19% increase in passenger traffic. In terms of net tonnage per kilometre per wagon per day, the increase in the broad gauge lines has been 26% and in the metre gauge, it is 29% which shows better utilisation of wagons. Not only, this manpower utilisation has also, gone up by 22 per cent. We have taken up modernisation projects for railway engines, wagon, coaches, railway lines are signal and telecommunication network.

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): Please speak in simple Hindi. The one which you are speaking is hard to understand... (Interruptions)

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: You are an Indian, As an hon. Member of this august House it is your duty to adopt the official language as listed in the Constitution (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI. N.V.N. SOMU (Madras North): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to know from

you whether he is saying that non-Hindi speaking people should learn Hindi compulsorily. We have got every right to know from the Chair... (Interruptions). This is the Jawaharlal Nehru centenary year. What he said is that you must respect the feelings of the non-Hindi speaking people also.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Hon. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are three main issues before the Indian Railways. These are new lines, gauge conversion, and ...

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): You are speaking very tough Hindi.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: We want to pay special attention to passenger amenities. The hon. Ministers want the railway schemes to progress smoothly...

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Let me also understand what he is trying to convey.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: To take up these works, we need additional funds. That is why we have raised this matter in the House. Despite limited resources, the Planning Commissions has made allocations in the best possible manner. Most of the hon. Members who spoke here complained that new railway lines are not being laid in their respective constituencies. They also put forward some suggestion for expansion. We have to attend to important projects within the limited resources at our disposal. Today what Indian Railways need most is modernisation and renewal of tracks. We would like the hon. Members to ...

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Gandhiji and Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru both had said that we should speak simple Hindi.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Am I is act as a lecturer of Hindi?

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: We must also know what you are speaking.

[English]

We want Hindi which is understandable by common man in India.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: You are not following my point. The hon. Deputy Speaker will decide it. If you are not able to follow, you should switch on the simultaneous interpretation system and use the head-phone.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer): He has rightly suggested that you should speak in Hindustani.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: You should speak simple Hindi which is understandable by common man in India.

[English]

That is why Mahatma Gandhi had said that we should speak Hindustani, that is Hindi and everybody should understand it.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: I was saying that...

[English]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: I respect Hindi as *Rashtra Bhasha*. I speak Hindi, but he is speaking Sanskritised Hindi.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESHWAR NEEKHRA (Hoshangabad): Shri Soz speaks high class English which many persons are unable to understand.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: You should speak simple Hindi before us.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Whether

Sanskritised Hindi or Hindustani, I don't know. When he is speaking Hindi, it is Hindi. He has got the right to speak in Hindi.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, my point is that we are willing to concede your demands for extension works, construction of under-bridges, over-bridges or new railway lines but in the first instance we must ensure and improve punctuality, security and safety in railways and of this purpose we have to modernise and renovate the system. We do not say that we will not undertake development work, we want to prepare and implement new schemes also. We in the railways take the country as a whole. (*Interruptions*) Now I will take up the suggestions given by a number of learned Members. Firstly, the hon. Learned Member, Prof. Madhu Dandavate has thrown light on two-three points. His first point was that the bearers working on commission basis should be made regular railway employees. I want to tell the august House that this work is being done in a phased manner. During the period from 1978 to 1988 services of approximately 1490 commission bearers have already been regularised. Recently in January 1989, 429 new posts have been earmarked to absorb them. The services of remaining 1272 commission bearers are also proposed to be regularised.

The second point raised by Prof. Madhu Dandavate related to safety as to how the Warning System could be improved. I want to inform you that automatic warning system has been introduced on suburban section on Western Railway where E.M.U. trains are operated. This work has been completed on 60 kilometre long Church Gate-Virar section. This work is in progress on suburban sections of Central Railway, which will cover a total length of 76 kms. including Bombay V.T. Kalyan Section, the main line and Harbour Branch line. Sanction has been accorded for providing automatic Warning System on New Delhi, Agra, New Delhi, Mughalsarai and Mathura-Bombay Central

[Sh. Mahabir Prasad]

Sections, total length of which is about 2200 kilometres and tenders have been issued for the purchase of necessary equipment and material. Thus if we are able to procure necessary equipment and material, the automatic warning system is likely to become operational in about three years.

Prof. Dandavate made a very valuable suggestion for introduction of welded rails on large scale in the interest of safety and conservation of energy. It can also reduce the cost of laying of new tracks and replacing the old ones. In this connection, I want to tell you that first welding of joints of rails was taken up. Out of about 49,895 kilometres long railway lines laid upto 31.3.88, welded rails were used for 15,000 kms. By the end of 1988-89 this figure is likely to go up to 51,000 kilometres. Out of which length of welded rail will be 16,000 kilometers. Every year about 1,500 kilometre long rails are being welded. Thus, I have thrown light on the three suggestions given by the hon. Member, Prof. Madhu Dandavate.

13.00 hrs.

An hon. Member from Kerala, Shri K. Mohandas and Shri Purushottaman, who spoke just now, charged us of discrimination, which is not correct. Similarly, the hon. Member Shri Pradhan said that it was a budget for Madhya Pradesh. I want to make it very clear that this is not the budget for Madhya Pradesh, We do not make provisions in Budget on provincial or regional basis but the transport needs are the basic consideration. Therefore, it is totally unfair to allege that the present budget is a Scindia Budget or Madhya Pradesh Budget... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask him whether even one kilometre of electric line has been proposed for the N.F. Railways.

You have done nothing for the N.F. Railways. You have not introduced a single train in this budget... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: I consider you as a very well-behaved member, why are you feeling agitated? It will be better if you listen patiently. Our hon. member Prof. Parashar was present here but now he has gone out. Our hon. learned member Shri Ajay Mushran had raised a question about railway employees. I want to bring it on record in this House that I congratulate the railway employees for the progress made by the railways which would not have been possible without the co-operation and dedication of all the junior as well as senior officials. Therefore, I want to congratulate them.

As regards provision of offices, railway colonies, health care and schools for the children of railway employees, I want to tell you that we had provided for an average expenditure of Rs. 20 crores per annum during the Sixth Five Year Plan which was increased to Rs. 47 crores in the Seventh Five Year Plan and now in 1989-90 and allocation of Rs. 65 crores has been made for their welfare so that we could provide maximum benefits to them. Yesterday, the hon. Member, Shri Ajay Mushran had pleaded for opening of maximum number of schools and Central schools for the education of children of railway employees. Through you, I want to inform him that although education is a state subject, we open schools for children of railway employees at places wherever the number of railway employees is quite large. These schools are run by the Railways. At present, 684 educational institutions are being run by the railways, comprising of one degree college, 7 intermediate colleges, 85 higher secondary schools, 29 middle schools and 562 primary schools. These schools are for the welfare of the children of the railway employees. I want to thank the Ministry of Human Resources that they conceded our demand for central schools and 59 such schools are being run

through Indian railways and efforts are being made to establish more such central schools.

I want to tell another thing through you. In 1988, a model school was opened in Jaharipani, Mussoori and outstanding children of the railway employees are admitted to this school. Thus, we are striving hard to provide maximum possible amenities to the railway employees and undertaking measures for their welfare.

A number of honourable and learned members viz. Prof. Parashar, Dr. Chandra Shekhar Tripathi and several other members gave their suggestions in the House regarding passengers amenities. We are engaged in a constant exercise to improve the amenities for our valued railway passengers. We provide drinking water, accommodation, electricity and qualitative catering facilities on railway stations. In this connection, I may tell you that an average sum of Rs. 15.8 crores per year has been allocated for the purpose in Seventh Five Year Plan while an allocation of Rs. 5.1 crores only had been made in the Sixth Five Year Plan. In comparison to 1988-89, 30 percent more expenditure is to be incurred in the year 1989-90 and an amount of Rs. 25 crores has been allocated for passenger amenities in the Budget for 1989-90. I want to assure the House that the Government is eager to further improve passenger amenities, sitting, drinking water and catering facilities at railway stations. We are working hard to provide maximum to the passengers.

I want to say a very important point in this House. Computerised reservation is a very good facility and it was first started in Bombay, New Delhi, Madras and Calcutta. It is our endeavour to further extend this facility so that maximum number of the people could get reservation easily. We are also trying to introduce computerised reservation for return journey as well. We are making all possible efforts to improve the facilities in this regard. Shri Ram Singh, an hon. Member asked me as to what has been done regarding reservation for harijans. I

want to inform this House that railways is a public enterprise employing 18 lakh people from top to bottom and efforts are being made to fulfil the reservation quota for the candidates belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.

AN HON. MEMBER: It has not been filled.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: I also admit it that it could not be filled. But, I agree with you. I would like to tell all the hon. Members that our young Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi wishes that more and more benefits should reach to the adivasi and harijan people. Their quota in jobs should be filled. Sir, we want that centuries old exploited and suppressed people should be uplifted through a continuous process of development. I would like to assure the hon. Members of the House that Railway Ministry has been making their all efforts to remove these lapses. With a view to look into the cases of complaints and reservations, we have opened complaint cells at zonal and Divisional levels.

SHRI R.P. SUMAN (Akbarpur): Are you taking steps to clear the backlog in regard to the recruitment to group A, B, C and D category of posts?

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member that since March, 1988, we have achieved the reservation target of 18.61 percent for Scheduled Castes and 5.16 percent for Scheduled Tribes. Regarding the recruitment to group A, B, C and D category of posts, I would like to inform that for group A, the recruitment is made through U.P.S.C., group B posts are filled by promotion and for group C and D direct recruitment including reservation quota, is made by the Railway Recruitment Board.

In the end I would like to say that I am sorry to note that some hon. Members of this August House have expressed their opposition to Hindi. I am an India. I respect of Hindi, Indian railway functions with this spirit that

[Sh. Mahabir Prasad]

India is one and the entire country is one. To strengthen the unity and integrity of our country, we welcome each and every individual of the passengers and we want our railway to go ahead on the path of progress to provide maximum facilities to its passengers. I think all the hon. Members of the House who participated in the discussion.

13.13 hrs.

[English]

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that the Speaker has received the following message dated the 7th March, 1989 from the President:

"I have received with great satisfaction the expression of thanks by the Members of the Lok Sabha for the Address which I delivered to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on 21st February, 1989".

We shall adjourn now to reassemble after Lunch at 2.15 P.M.

13.14 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till fifteen minutes past fourteen of the Clock

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Eighteen minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

[MR DEPUTY SPEAKER in the chair]

RAILWAY BUDGET, 1989-90 GENERAL DISCUSSION - CONTD.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ganga Ram.

[Translation]

SHRI GANGA RAM (Firozabad): Mr. Deputy -Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Railway Budget for 1989-90 presented in this august House by the Hon. Minister of State of Railways. I congratulate him for presenting a very good Budget. The performance of the Ministry of Railways is praiseworthy and its credit goes to the hon. Minister of State, the hon. Deputy Minister, officers and staff of the railways. I appreciate them very much for their dedication sincerity and efficiency. This is the fifth budget presented by hon. Shri Scindia which is a rare honour for a minister. Financial position of the Ministry of Railways for the year 1987-88 has been quite encouraging. There has been a surplus of Rs. 84.29 crores as against the budget estimate of Rs. 69 crores. This surplus has been achieved after making a contribution of Rs. 638.86 crores in the general revenues. Passenger fares have not been raised in the budget which has been welcomed by the public. Freight rates are proposed to be increased by 11%. Rates for other goods and parcels are also to be increased by 11%. Although increase in freight rates would mean an increase in prices of essential commodities which will in turn affect the life of the common man, there was no other way out to mobilise finances. The hon. Minister was probably compelled to do so by prevailing circumstances otherwise this year he would not have increased the freight rates by 11%. Somehow the public shall have to bear with it. On the occasion of Nehru Centenary year the budget proposes a concession of 25% in rail fares for renowned sport coaches, war-veterans and aged persons of 65 years or above for the purpose to long journeys beyond 500 kms. It is my suggestion that senior citizens having vast experience and expertise in a particular field should also be given a concession of 50% like the people of other special categories. The distance restriction should also be brought down from 500 kilometres to 100 kilometres. Sir, I have been stressing it because the aged persons rarely travel. Chanakya has also spoken about it that journeys inflict strains beyond descrip-

tion. In spite of it society should give due respect to the aged. As a poet says "when old age came it was given the language of experience and education. Which ultimately benefits the society itself. I want to give one more suggestion that hon. Minister should kindly consider to issue first-class railway passes valid for all trains to all ex-M.Ps. Other proposals in the Railway Budget include introduction of new trains in different regions, increase in frequency of several trains, extension of services of five trains, provision of 27 additional E.M.U.S. in the Bombay area and improvement in the hawage capacity of some trains. Some more new railway divisions are proposed to be opened during the next financial year wherein 191 kilometres of railway lines will be laid. But it is unfortunate that no new railway line has been proposed for the backward areas of Agra division. Since 1985 I have been demanding a railway line from Agra to Baha in the Chambal Valley for the development of this area. But the hon. Minister has not paid any attention to this demand. I once again request the Government to accept this proposal for laying a new railway line. The slow progress of electrification of the Agra-Tundla railway line also needs attention. At present Avadh Express operates between Agra and Lucknow which has now been extended upto Kota and Gorakhpur. So the residents of Agra do not have any convenient and fast train. I would like to make suggestion that in view of the importance of Agra and Lucknow a super-fast train should be introduced connecting these two cities. The condition of the Avadh Express is deplorable. I would like to suggest that this train should be run on a 'loop' line to replace it with a better train for the public. There are already a few number of first class coaches available from Agra on the Avadh Express. I would like to submit that reservation quota for Agra in first class coaches should be kept at a minimum of 20 berths. There is a long-standing demand for the provision of a half of the Gomti Express at Tundla. This point should be seriously considered and a five-minute halt of this train should be provided at Tundla. Sir, Firozabad has been declared a separate district now.

So we cannot ignore it. The condition of this railway station is deplorable. At least four sheds and good waiting rooms should be provided there. Even the drinking water facility as this station is not satisfactory. It is necessary that provision of stoppage for some trains is made at Firozabad. The Kalka-Mail does not stop here. The up and down Deluxe and Neelachal Express should be made to stop here. Everybody nearly 200 persons from Firozabad have to go to Tundla to board these trains. this cause a lot of hardship to them. For Firozabad there is a quota of only two berths in second class 3-Tier of Toofan Express. This quota should be increased to ten. Similarly reservation quota in the Kalka Mail should also be increase. Previously there was a quota of 10 berths in the Magadh Express and Unchahar Express. But now this has been reduced to five. In Janta Express they have quota of two berths. It should be raised to twenty. The quota of two berths in Sangam Express should also be increased to ten.

In the end I would like to congratulate the hon. Railway Minister, the hon. Deputy Minister and the entire railway staff once again for this fine budget. I hope the Indian Railways will make a rapid progress.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would like to inform the House that already I am having 82 Members from the Congress Party on the list to speak. So, the problem is that I cannot accommodate all the members within the time left at our disposal. so, I request all the members to take 5-6 minutes each strictly. You put forward your points in brief; only then I can accommodate all the Members. Otherwise, it is impossible for me to give time to all the members to speak. Therefore, please do not come to me and put pressure for getting time to speak. After five minutes, I will ring the bell; then within one minute you can conclude your speech. After that, if any member goes on speaking, it will not go on record. I am telling you that I will be very strict about it. If you want to take 10 minutes each, then you have to reduce the number of

[Mr. Deputy Speaker]

speakers. Only then I can give to 10 minutes each. But if you want that this debate should be over by tomorrow and 100 members from the Congress Party and 20 members from the opposition Parties should also be given time to speak, then how it is possible to accommodate all the member. You calculate it and then tell me.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara)
: There are not 100 members.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member who has to speak, he will come and speak and then go away. Therefore, most of the members will speak and go away. Their purpose is over. Like that, everybody will come, speak and then go away. Then how to help everybody? I know that you will also leave after some time. So, I will give each member 5-6 minutes to speak. You have to adjust your speech within 5-6 minutes. Every member is interested in speaking on this Railway Budget because it is an important thing. I can understand that this year is a special year in which you have to speak on this Budget to attract the public. Therefore, I will accommodate every one. So, I hope every member will try to finish his speech within 5-6 minutes. That is all I can say

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI (Sambalpur): "Sah Navvatu, Sah no bhhunaktu. Sah Viryam Karvavahai, tejasvi-navdhita-mastu. Ma vidishava hai" (Upanishad)

The word "Sah" is meant for both of you i.e. yourself and the hon. Minister. It means come here with a sympathetic corner to give equal facilities to all of us. Do not create malice within us. I welcome this Railway Budget. Railways are the life-line of the nation without which the process of development would come to a standstill. There has been no change in the infrastructure which was provided by the Britishers in India for the transportation of minerals and other raw material from this country. What is the argument raised by the geologists of the Rail Ministry with the Planning Commission ?

And does the Planning Commission have any geologist on its staff? Once when Shri-mati Indira Gandhi was on a visit to Japan, a child asked her

[English]

"Which is the 'RHUR' of India? Mrs. Gandhi laughed and said, "RHUR of India is Orissa".

[Translation]

The Government should frame a short-term and long-term policy. The short-term policy should envisage the ways of mobilising funds for the development of backward areas. This is possible only the developing railway lines in the areas which are rich in diamonds, gems, atomic minerals and the nickel deposits which is 17,000 tonnes. The Planning Commission should have geologists on its staff to find the best way to mobilise resources and to see how to exploit minerals in the far-flung areas. That shall also be the implementation of the Report of the Pandey Committee. Therefore, I will request the hon. Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways to convey it to hon. Shri Madhavrao Scindia to appoint a Geologist who will enlighten you about the areas abounding in mineral deposits and where it can be more profitable to lay new railway lines. This point should be discussed by the Planning Commission also.

Calcutta has been the headquarters of South-Eastern Railway and Eastern Railway since the British days and it has now become the headquarter of the third zone i.e., of the Metro-Railway system. I want to demand that the headquarters of South-Eastern Railways should be shifted from Calcutta to Sambalpur so that it can feed Madhya Pradesh and Orissa in a better way and benefit Bihar as well. There are huge mineral reserves in Orissa, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh because of the Gondwana land and old formation of rocks in this region. The extent of resource mobilisation which can take place here, is not possible in any other area. The Railways have substantial

earnings from the Steel Plants in Flourkela, Durgapur and Bhilai but these areas are not getting proportional attention of the Railways. If the headquarter of the South Eastern Railways is shifted to Sambalpur it will provide considerable help in the development of the economically backward regions. I had made a request to you earlier also in this regard and I cannot understand as to why you are not willing to shift the headquarter to Sambalpur.

Thirdly, there are several religions and historical places in Orissa, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh. Till this step motherly treatment in the matter of Railway facilities is continued with our region, you may ask to prepare any number of project Reports, South-Eastern Railways will not allow them to be proved economically viable. The hon. Minister has all the figures regarding economic viability of different regions and if he does not have, I can provide the relevant figures. But you should shift the Railway headquarter of South Eastern Railways from Calcutta to Sambalpur. As regards Railway division, I will refer to it on some other occasion because it will take a lot of time. We have been the victims of mischief there as well.

The Hon. Prime Minister laid the foundation stone of Sambalpur-Talchar Railway line on 14 September, 1984 and hon. Shri Ghani Khan Chowdhary was also present on this occasion. Rs. 28 crores have been earmarked for this project this year. It will benefit Nabal-Talmer-Anugul but Sambalpur will not receive any benefits. As such, a very meagre provision has been made for Sambalpur-Rarhakul railway line. I cannot understand as to why such a meagre provision has been made in the Budget for a railway line which can make you earn profit of Rs. 500 crores. This area is rich in atomic minerals, diamonds, gems and other precious stones deposits. I want the hon. Minister to clarify the position in his reply. These minerals are being smuggled. The Hon. Prime Minister had accepted the jurisdiction of Sambalpur division to be 1100 kms and hon. Shri Ghani Khan Chowdhary had agreed to allocate Rs.

30 crores but I received a letter from the Railway Ministry on 2 February, 1985 in which the jurisdiction of our division was reduced to 738 and 172 kms and Sambalpur-Talchar line was truncated. The South-Eastern Railways is behind this clique and which I think is a grave injustice and cannot be tolerated. I want to request that you should maintain the status of 1985 and make allocations in the Budget accordingly. I know that many hon. Members from Orissa would like to make submissions on this point but you will not provide them with the opportunity to do so. You should pay attention towards Chattisgarh area of Madhya Pradesh and Orissa which is very backward. The people belonging to the areas where the railway coverage is 44 to 45 percent are making demands for more railway facilities whereas Orissa's share is only 13 percent in this regard. I want the hon. Minister, Shri Madhavrao Scindia to explain as to why Chattisgarh and Orissa have remained neglected. I would demand that Kalinga Express which was discontinued should be reintroduced because in the absence of any other fast train, the people of Western Orissa are facing a lot of inconvenience. Similarly, Chattisgarh-Waltair link train should also be reintroduced and a two-tier A.C. coach from Waltair to Delhi Via Raipur should be attached to it. A separate boggy should be attached to Sarnath Express from Tittagarh to Allahabad so that the Hindus are able to go there directly on auspicious occasions. I have been demanding it since long and you have given me assurance as well but no action has been taken so far. The survey of Bargaj, Raipur and Bolgor Khurdi railway lines should be conducted this year. If all these points are not clarified in the reply, the hon. Members from Orissa will walk-out during the reply by the hon. Minister to the debate.

[English]

SHRI BIMAL KANTI GHOSH (Serampore): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Railway Budget. There are many good proposals in the Budget for which I am grateful to the Hon'ble Railway

[Sh. Bimal Kanti Ghosh]

Minister. There are many proposals for the construction of new railway lines but unfortunately, West Bengal is practically deprived of new railway lines. Even the approved works have not yet been taken up for implementation.

With profound grief, I may submit that implementation of 14 years old approved project for construction of BG railway line in lieu of Howrah-Amta-Champadanga (74 KMs) and Howrah-Sheakhala (17KMs) Light railway track is not yet completed. Only 24 KMs of new line from Santragachi to Bargachia (S.E. Rly) was opened in 1984.

I may also submit that this proposed project of new BG lines does not mean a new railway line, but just a replacement of earlier Martin's light railways net work which connects the entire rural and semi rural belts of two districts of Howrah and Hooghly. In spite of our all persuasions, even your present Budget does not reflect any ray of hopes for early implementation of this project during the ongoing Budget period.

This project was launched by our late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi 1973. It has been assured by or late Prime Minister and present Prime Minister repeatedly in public gatherings that this project will be completed soon. Nearly twenty five lakhs of people are suffering for the non-implementation of this project, since then although the foundation stone was laid by our late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi.

I think you are also aware that I have been consistently persuading the Railway Ministry and personally requesting you for immediate implementation of this pending project.

With profound grief, I may submit that during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 Railway Budgets, atleast a token allocation of Rs. 1000/- was shown against Howrah-Sheakhala Section of Eastern Railway while during 1988-89 and 1989-90 Budgets, no

provision has been indicated. On the other hand, Howrah-Amta-Champadanga (S.E. Rly.) project shows only a token provision of Rs. 1000/-. Looking at the provision kept, it is evident that this project is also neglected thoroughly.

In view of all the explained circumstances, may I request you to take up the construction work immediately and complete the work by 1990-91.

I sincerely hope that you will do justice to the people of the area by beginning its implementation within the financial year 1989-90.

I would like to say that for the projects, Balurghat-Eklaki; Lakshmikantapur to Nam Khana and Tamluk-Digha, only a small amount is kept. If this rate goes on, it will take thirty of forty years to complete the scheme. Moreover, I would like to emphasise that Sheoraphuli Tarakeswar line (Eastern Railway) should be extended upto Vishnupur via Arambagh. Also Bandel-Katwa electrification project is absolutely essential. This project should also be taken up immediately.

There are the most urgent problems of West Bengal. I request the hon. Railway Minister to consider our most important requests so that the hardships of the people there may be removed. I request the Railway Minister to look into these matter any do the needful at the earliest.

I have been hearing about constraint of resources for the last 14 years. But people there say that it is beyond their toleration. So they are under hardship. Their hardship must be removed. In a welfare state like ours the desire of the people must be fulfilled. Therefore, I hope and firmly believe that the Railway Minister will be kind enough to look into the matter and solve the problem of the people of the area.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU (Madras North): I am thankful to you for having given me this opportunity to speak.

This Railway Budget does not look like the Indian Railway's Budget. This Budget looks like the Railway Budget for Madhya Pradesh only. Southern States, more particularly Tamil Nadu, are neglected.

Patry allocation to the Madras City rapid transit system and Karul-Dindigul-Madurai-Mamiachi-Tuticorin project marked the continued neglect in the Railway Budget. Rs. 9.85 crore allocation from Rs. 105 crores for MRTS for 1989-90 will not help even to meet the cost escalation. Only funding at a level of Rs. 25 crores per year will help complete phase I from Beach to Chepauk by the targeted date 1990-91 and ease road traffic from Paris corner to Central Station areas.

Worst treatment is given to Karur-Dindigul-Madurai-Maniachi-Tuticorin new broad-gauge line project. with the allotment of Rs. 4 crores only to Dindigul-Madurai segment, this will be completed only after a decade at this rate of funding. The project is pending for the last seven years. Now its cost may even go upto Rs. 114 crores. The low priority to this project affects the backward region of Tamil Nadu. Even the Railway sources are reported to have expressed disappointment at the meagre allotment for the broad-gauge line from Dindigul to Madurai. They said that it was the project which could bring greater development to the region and Tamil Nadu itself if completed. When such is the condition, I request the hon. Minister to allot some more funds both to Dindigul-Madurai segment and the Madras Rapid Transit system as immediately as possible.

With regard to providing a road under-bridge in my constituency in Madras North at Rayapuram Railway Station, I have raised this issue in this august forum several times and also in the Railway Consultative Committee and in the Zonal Consultative Committee meetings. The Minister of State for Railways, Shri Madhavrao Scindia, was kind enough to concede to my request and he wrote to me on 13th April, 1986 as under:

"Dear Shri Somu,

During the Meeting of Informal Consultative Committee of MPs for Southern Railway Zone held on 9.8.85, you had raised the matter of providing an over-bridge at Rayapuram. You will be glad to know that after finalising the details with the Tamil Nadu State Government the Railway has included the work of providing road under-bridge in lieu of special class level crossing No.5 at km 2/3-4 on monegar Choultry Road between Washerman Pet and Rayapuram Stations in Madras area in their 1986-87 annual programme."

It was included in the 1986-87 programme. Now 36 months i.e. 3 years have gone and still the scheme is to see the light of the day. I request the Government to implement the assurance given to the Member of that area. I need not describe it, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, because you also belong to Tamil Nadu and you know that patients coming to the Government Stanley Hospital in Atrayapuram area have to wait for four-five hours because the level crossing is closed. Even there was an occasion when a patient died on the cycle rickshaw itself. A pregnant woman gave birth to a child when the level crossing was closed for hours together. Such calamities should be averted. So, I request the Minister that the assurance given by him three years ago, should be implemented immediately.

During the last three years, time and again I have requested about the level crossing at Korukkupet area of Madras North where there are long time closures of the level crossing. It is closed for six-seven hours together, resulting in heavy traffic problem. Madras North is an area where many factories are situated, particularly public sector factories. Therefore, it is high time that the Railways should provide a subway near Kurukkupet railway station.

There were direct passenger trains

[Sh. N.V.N. Somu]

from Madras Central to Raichur and Tirupati. The trains were cancelled with an assurance that reintroduction of the trains would be taken up when the Madras-Arakonam section is electrified. But the trains are yet to be restored. The authorities should be instructed to reintroduce the above-said two passenger trains for the poor travelling public going on pilgrimage.

Sir, the Ambattur industrial estate is the biggest one in our country and this is in my constituency. The workers from this area and the workers of Avadi area are finding it impossible to reach home when their shift ends at mid-night. A train from Avadi to Madras Central at midnight would help the workers who are now stranded at the platform till four a.m.

Turning to Railway employees, I join the Minister in congratulating them for their devotion to duty. I hope the Minister would do well to maintain cordial relationship with the workers and ensure industrial peace.

May I also suggest that the reputed Railway Hospital at Perambur is in need of facility to scan the patients at the hospital itself. The ambulances are in very much short supply to bring sick employees to the Hospital. As a gesture of appreciation of the services, could the Railway Minister not offer free health services to the retired Railway employees?

The staff of the State Government working at Tiruvallur in Madras Division are receiving House Rent Allowance for a long time. The Railway staff working at Tiruvallur are not being paid this HRA. They are only in few numbers. Payment of HRA to them would not cause much financial strain on the Railways. Therefore, I request that HRA should be given to the Railway employees working in Tiruvallur, as is being given to the State Government employees.

I do not know why the plan for running direct suburban trains between Tiruvallur

and Ennore is not put into action. It was first explained that the stretch from Vyasarpadi to Kurukapet on Madras Division was yet to be electrified. Now that every segment of suburban section is electrified, please introduce immediately direct suburban services between Tiruvallur and Ennore. By doing this, the Railways would earn the gratitude of the industrial workers of the two complexes, that is, Ambattur and Ennore.

Lastly, I would request that all the Express trains running on the South-West line of the Southern Railway in the up direction of Madras Central should stop at Villivakkam and at Perambur also, to enable passengers to get down and reach their destination. At present, they are needlessly reaching Madras Central and returning to Villivakkam and Perambur. This will avoid city congestion to some extent.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI MANORAMA SINGH (Banka): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while supporting the Railway Budget 1989-90, presented by the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways, I want to submit a few points. In the current budget the hon. Minister has made no increase in the passenger fare which is a very big achievement and I want to congratulate the entire organisation of the Indian Railways and the hon. Minister for it. The Indian Railways has done extraordinary work and has made several achievements for which the credit goes to the whole organisation and the hon. Minister.

The Indian Railways stands second among all the railway systems of the world and enjoys the first position in Asia. Our railways connect Kashmir with Kanyakumari and Maharashtra with Bengal and thereby becomes the most effective means of national unity and cultural integration in the country. It is the best evidence of our national unity and integrity. It has united the whole country. Therefore, howsoever much we may applaud the Railways it will not be enough. Two Ministers of Railways have

earned good reputation for their insight and understanding and for which I want to congratulate them. The Railway Department has earned a profit of Rs. 24 crores this year and it will earn profits worth Rs. 140 crores in future. The Railways achieved it despite the heavy odds which it had to face during the past years and in this context the severe draught conditions and floods can be mentioned. The alertness and understanding with which the railway employees helped in transporting relief materials from one place to another is indeed creditable and in this way the Indian Railway have taken a concrete step to provide relief to the people. Therefore, I want to congratulate them once more for it.

It is a matter of common discussion that freight tariff has been enhanced. However, exemption from this increase has been provided to certain commodities like salt, fruits, food grains, fodder etc. I want that exemption should also be extended to kerosene and diesel. Kerosene is an essential item in the rural areas. The people living in rural areas can afford to reduce their salt consumption but they cannot do without kerosene. Electricity has still not reached many villages and they have to use kerosene lamps. Besides, it is also used as the cooking fuel by many people. I would, therefore, like to make special request to the hon. Minister to exempt diesel oil also from freight increase along with kerosene. Diesel is very essential for agriculture. The freight hike of diesel oil will directly affect the farmers. Therefore, I want to request the hon. Minister to pay attention to this matter.

In this Budget, particular attention has been paid to the weaker sections and to the rural people. Freight rate hike will result in high inflation rate. But the Railways can control this situation because of its strong system. It is the responsibility of the Railway administration. The Railway employees and the public to cooperate in this matter. Now I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways to certain points. It seems as if Bihar has remained neglected so far as the Railway

Budget is concerned. A train from Katihar to Delhi has been introduced which will benefit the people of Northern Bihar. But it will not benefit Central Bihar at all. A train from Asansol to Dhanbad has been introduced but people cover this distance usually by bus. I had demanded a train from Asansol to Varanasi to be introduced which will benefit the people of Eastern Uttar Pradesh. Workers working with coal mines and steel plants are facing a lot of inconvenience in going to their place of duty. A bi-weekly train must be introduced for their benefit. You have increased the frequency of two trains. When Eastern-India company was established there were two commissioners, Bhagalpur and Patna, in Bihar. But there is no direct train from Bhagalpur to Delhi. I want to submit that Bhagalpur is a very important city from the point of view of business because the tussler industry is located here. People come to this place from Delhi, Madras, Bombay, Calcutta and other cities for business purposes.

Vikramshila train running from Bhagalpur has been discontinued and now-a-days its five bogies are attached in Patna for Delhi in Magadh Express, Vikramshila should be extended up to Delhi with adjustments in its time Schedule. The train should reach Delhi at 8 A.M. and Bhagalpur at some convenient time. Hon. Minister Sir, the people of Bhagalpur are facing a lot of inconvenience. The air conditioned sleepers attached to Magadh Express for Patna are disconnected there and it becomes a big rush in 1st class for Bhagalpur. Therefore, A.C. sleeper should be extended upto Bhagalpur. Earlier when requests were made in this connection, it was replied that there is no place for A.C. sleepers to be stationed at Bhagalpur.

I want to say one more thing. The railway land has been given to the State Government for constructing Bus Stand there. I don't know why this was done. When they had no land, why this land was given to Bihar Government. I hope that you will take back your land and will make special arrangements for the train to be stationed in the yard

[Smt. Manorama Singh]

at Bhagalpur.

Today, new lines are being laid. The members elected from Bhagalpur in 1952 had requested for laying a rail line at Madar Hill but till today no such line has been laid. A survey was conducted for extending the line beyond Madar field but the same routine reply was reviewed that it is not feasible. This is a backward area. Prof. Madhu Dandavate had mentioned in his speech that unless the rail lines are laid in backward areas, their condition cannot be improved. The rail lines should be laid at places where these are needed. There are coal mines in Lalmatia and a N.T.P.C. project is coming up at Kahalgaoon. If a rail line is provided there, it will facilitate transportation of coal from mines to the project site. Instructions should be issued to conduct a survey so that this scheme may be implemented.

I would like to make another submission that is the loop line at Bhagalpur should be doubled. This project should be undertaken and adequate funds should be allotted for it. Doubling of this line would result in saving time and will provide a facility to the people. The loop line should be doubled up to Gaya. The electrification work from Sitarampur to Mugalsarai should be included in this year's plans, specially when you are taking up the electrification programme for Hawara to Bombay. The construction work of Diesel Loko-Shed at Jamalpur was started last year. I am sorry to say that how the foundation stone was laid there when the land acquisition process was not complete. The Government propose to phase out steam locomotives. But I want to know as to what will be the fate of 4 thousand employees in Jhajha. There should be a diesel shed at Jhajha. Hon. Prime Minister wants that people should rise above the poverty line. It is, therefore, necessary to construct a diesel-shed at Jhajha for the benefit of the people living there. Arrangements should be made to provide the facility of 'Yatri Niwas' at places of pilgrimage where it does not exist. Catering service in trains should also be

improved. Bed rolls, bed sheets and blankets etc. are provided in trains. Blanket should be provided with a cover as without it looks very unhygienic.

Finally, I want to congratulate you for the efficient running of trains and wish for their successful operation in future. With these words, I support this Budget.

[English]

SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA (Hassan): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, with a heavy heart, I am participating in this discussion. The Railway Ministry is so important that it should have been headed by a Cabinet Minister. But even the Minister of State has not taken the discussion in this House seriously because of his continued absence yesterday and today.

Any way, we all speak about unity and integrity of the country. But we have not identified which are the enemies. There are two enemies one is regionalism, another is communalism. This Railway Budget is a God given opportunity for the Government to create a feeling of oneness in the people of all regions. But unfortunately that has not been done. I have seen in this House for the last 9 years that in the case of Karnataka, this has always been neglected for the last 2/1/2 decades. No work worth the name has been executed. You cannot paralyse a portion of the human body because the man cannot be healthy in that case. So also, if they paralyse a portion of the country without providing proper facilities and progress in the field of Railways, then it is not a healthy sign. This only encourages regionalism. Nobody took Bal Thakrey or NTR seriously a few years back. They became very important because they could whip up regional chauvinism. We, the Karnataka people very much want to be in the national mainstream. Do not drive us to that. We the elected Members of Parliament, particularly from the Congress Party, because we are more in number here, own an explanation to the people of Karnataka. I have been receiving letters after letters from many organisations

telling that time may come when they would make Dharna before our houses. The situation is serious. You people do not realise because nobody reads the local newspapers here. It is all Delhi edition or Bombay edition. They do not read Bangalore edition.

Former Maharajas have always been known for generosity. Of course, Shri Scindia is no exception. He is very generous to his subjects. But he thinks, his subjects are limited to Madhya Pradesh. The point is, it is his responsibility to create a feeling of oneness in all the regions of the country.

Now, I want to give some constructive suggestions so that if they are implemented, the people of Karnataka feel happy because we deserve better treatment. In the South, we have lost all the States. This is the only State where Janata Party or Congress Party or Janata Dal, which is in the national mainstream is in power. Do not drive the people of Karnataka outside the national mainstream like Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY (Nalgonda): We welcome your suggestions

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA: We do not want NTR or Bal Thakrey in Karnataka.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: Definitely they will come.

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA: When hon. Member, Shri V.S. Krishna Iyer asked a question about creating a new South Western Zone with its headquarters at Bangalore, our hon. Minister stated the constraint of funds. How much fund is required? There are three divisions already. Four districts are attached to Palghat, Sholapur divisions and it deserves a separate zone. At least, this is the minimum expenditure. You are not spending anything extra. Building is ready. Everything is ready. Kindly expedite action of creating a new zone because the Railway Reforms Commission also recommended it and the Government approved and accepted it. Either you implement the recommendations of the Railway Reforms

Commission or throw them away in the waste paper basket.

We have got Wheel and Axle plant and Diesel Loco Shed at Krishnarajapuram. I am very sorry to say that though the State Government has given land and everything to Krishnarajapuram Diesel Loco Shed, not even a single Kannadiga is employed there. All are outsiders including the Class IV staff. In the Wheel and Axle Plant, a few Kannadigas are there. Even the 1% of the employees who are there are forcibly sent out or made to resign. We entertained high hopes when the Railway Recruitment Board was formed. Now it is headed by a non-Kannadiga who hates Kannadigas. You can imagine the fate of the recruitment made by this Chairman. There is Petroleum Refineries at Mangalore. Petroleum Ministry is planning the drawing pipeline from Mangalore to Arisikere for loading the oil to the small gauge tankers and then bringing to Bangalore and then transfer it to the broad gauge tankers. The railways have already examined it. I do not know whether the hon. Minister is aware of it or not. The Mangalore-Bangalore railway broad gauge is to be converted. It will cost less money and it will save the maintenance charge of pumping to the 3,300 feet height. I wish you travelled once from Hassan to Mangalore. It is a very picturesque and panoramic view that I cannot imagine anywhere in the world. Such a beautiful scene and such a height are there. That is also of tourist importance. If you are having constraint of funds for this purpose, you can ask the Ministry of Petroleum. Instead of pipeline, they can give the money to the railways. The railways can take up this broad gauge. Repeated surveys were conducted on Kottur-Harihar railway line but no work is started. Nothing is provided except for Mysore-Bangalore conversion. You have provided Rs. 50 lakhs for Mangalore-Udupi and Rs. 66 lakhs for Chitradurga-Raidurga lines. It will be sufficient only for establishment charges. You cannot retrench them. You want to keep them. So, you provided some nominal funds. Mysore-Bangalore line was to be completed by the end of 1978. Now we are in 1989. You have given Rs. 17

[Sh. H.N. Nanje Godwa]

crores. It may take another five to six years at this rate.

Regarding circular railway in Bangalore, Bangalore is one of the fastest growing cities in the world. It would be difficult to take up this work after some years. You may have to spend ten times, if need be, if you take up this work after some years. The situation will become so complicated after ten years.

I have some more points. I will send a note to the hon. Minister.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, I wish to be as brief as possible. Agricultural labour is one section of our society which has been very much neglected by the railways. I have already given a note to the hon. Minister. I would like to suggest that special steps should be taken at all those stations from which during peak agricultural seasons, workers start from one State and then go to another State where there is regular seasonal employment and for these people special steps will have to be taken in order to see that sheds are provided for shelter and security also and then bathing facilities, sanitary facilities and first-aid facilities also should be provided. In addition to all this, they must be provided special carriages from those areas wherefrom they start to those areas and from which they would return once again. Till today no special steps have been taken to help them. It does not need much expenditure on the part of the railways but it is a matter of humanism and I hope this simple facility would be provided by the Government in all the States.

15.09 hrs.

[SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM *in the Chair*]

For instance, now from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh labourers go to Punjab, Haryana and sometimes even to certain parts of Rajasthan also. From Orissa labourers go to all these States and especially to West

Bengal and Assam and from Andhra Pradesh, from the delta areas to the dry areas and so on. Wherever different crops are to be harvested or where some other demands are coming up for more and more labourers, migration of labourers take place and they must be given special consideration and protection.

There is the question of improvement of facilities for Second-class passengers. Last year also, I raised this point. Special steps are being taken now in order to help them in regard to shelter, in regard to booking facilities and in regard to sanitary facilities also. Fans and sanitation facilities within the carriages and more and more Second-Class carriages have also to be provided in order to help these people. There is demand now from every side of the House and from all the States for more and more Railway lines etc. Wherefrom are the funds to come? The hon. Minister finds it impossible to persuade the Planning Commission to place more funds at their disposal. Years ago when Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri was the Railway Minister, I made a suggestion. I would like to repeat it again and it is only to go back to the earlier days, the ancient days when the Local Boards—at that time they were called so and now they are being called as Zilla Parishads were encouraged to start their own short railways areas and railways and finance them. It may not be possible for the Zilla Parishads now to do that. But the State Governments should be authorised to raise special funds by issuing bonds carrying interest at the rate of 12 per cent assuring the local people to invest their money. The payment of interest should not be less than 12 per cent. Let them raise the funds. With those funds, let them come forward and start these railways for the local areas. With the permission of the Railway Board and on the initiative and cooperation of the Railway Board financial arrangements can be made as to their respective responsibilities as well as facilities between the State Governments and the Railway Board. In that way, you can raise funds.

Sir, there are strategic areas and back-

ward areas. I am glad that my hon. Friend Prof. Dandavate raised his voice in their favour. I am especially glad that due to the initiative and the pressure exercise by the hon. Prime Minister, funds are being provided for starting new railways or extending the existing railways in the strategic areas especially in the North-East Frontier. More and more funds are also needed and they must be placed at the disposal of these projects. The backward areas as well as the North-Eastern States are badly in need of railway extension and more especially Kashmir also. People might say: wherefrom are we to get funds? After all, so far as these strategic areas are concerned, even in those British days they used to place funds from the Defence grants at their disposal of these areas. Similarly, now I would like to suggest to the hon. Railway Minister as well as the Prime Minister to ensure that a part of the funds that we are placing at the disposal of the Defence Forces must be diverted in order to develop these railways in these areas.

I wish to congratulate the Government for having come forward with the proposal of giving some concessions to the senior citizens. Why do we do it? It is because they are old people; they are not able to move about so easily; they do not have enough funds. Then, why do you put this restriction of minimum 500 Kms? There should be no restriction at all. When they are not able to move about too freely, too frequently. They would not be moving about for business also. Most of them would like to go and see their relatives or go on pilgrimages. Therefore, I would like that there should be no mileage restriction at all—no minimum, no maximum or nothing like that. All the senior citizens—whether you fix it at 65 or 70, that is your own decision—let them be free to move about taking advantage of this railway concession.

Lastly, I would like to repeat what I have been saying for a number of years and what quite a number of Members from Tamil Nadu irrespective of political parties have been suggesting, that there should be improve-

ment of the gauge between Kathpadi and Tirupathi. Up till now, Tirupathi to Renugunta is a broad gauge line. But from Kathpadi to Tirupathi which will be a distance of hundred kilometres or less than that, if you change it from metre gauge to broad gauge, this would economise the railway in every possible manner, from the carriages, from the maintenance and other expenses point of view and this would make it possible for the people of the whole South to reach Delhi much more quickly and more comfortably. I would like that special attention be given to this. Some survey is supposed to have been made. God alone knows about its recommendations. Irrespective of the economic side of it, I would like that top consideration be given to the social advantages that would accrue by the change of gauge. I would like the hon. friend and the Minister, the Planning Commission and the Railway Board to give special consideration to this particular proposal that we have been making on behalf of the people of the whole of South.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY (Nalgonda): I rise to oppose this Madhya Pradesh oriented Railway Budget presented to this House by the hon. Maharaja of Gwalior. The Indian Railways are the biggest public enterprise organised by a single management in the country as well as in Asia and second largest in the whole world managed by a single management. Ten million people travel by railways per day but the development is very negligible.

Before independence, we had nearly 48,000 of line track. But after 42 years of independence, only 14,000 new lines have been taken up. Coming to Andhra, it is only 200 kilometre which means, it is not even five kilometres per year between B. B. Nagar and Nadkuda. If this is the state of affairs, we should be ashamed of this progress.

Coming to the plan outlay, from 15 per cent during the First and Second Plan, it has come down to 5.3 per cent in the Sixth Plan.

Even the receipts have increased from Rs. 547 crores to Rs. 6,428 crores. But the

[Sh. M. Raghuma Reddy]

working expenditure has gone up from Rs. 358 crores to Rs. 5,823 crores. Percentage-wise, it is 11 per cent on the receipt side and 12 per cent on the expenditure side. Not only this. Every Railway Minister has increased the fares and freights except the years of 1977-78, 1978-79, 1987-88. This year, our Minister has cleverly raised only the freight charges thus neglecting and keeping at stake the passengers. This is an election year. He wants to cheat the public by his dubiousness. Last year, enhancement in the freight charges was only Rs. 241 crores. But this year it is Rs. 876 crores thus an increase of 11 per cent. Passengers travel now and then. But the goods move daily. Whatever you have imposed, this 11 per cent directly hits the common man. If this Government is interested in the welfare of the common man, they should not have done this. But they wanted to cheat the public. That is why, they have adopted this indirect method. But this is a known fact and the people will know it. The Railway Department people say that the price increase is only 0.3%; but it is not that. It is 0.5% and even more. They have extended some concessions; but they are not sufficient. Even the reclassification also has affected the transportation of coal and foodgrains. On the subsidised food, also because of the reclassification you are enhancing Rs. 240 crores. That is the state of affairs on the subsidised food front.

The recent reclassification has affected the fertilisers and cement which are daily used. By this, the surplus shown is Rs. 140 crores. One way you are increasing the freight charges and the other way you are showing the surplus. I don't know how you will justify this.

About the carriages, this year the proposal is Rs. 4450 crores; but when it comes to South-Central Railways it is only Rs. 250 crores. I fully agree with Mr. Nanje Gowda that this is sheer dishonesty of the Railway Ministry towards the South zone and the entire South India. This is a pro-North budget; specially the Madhya Pradesh budget. People of South will not tolerate this

Government.

I have a lot of respect for Mr. Ranga who spoke just before I started. Half of your budget is going towards the establishment charges; I don't grudge that. But you have manage it effectively and efficiently. You have to look into the problem of overstaffing and the negligence of duty. When we go through the accident chart, we find that the accidents are on the staff side. 62% to 65% of the accidents are due to the failure of staff and the remaining is due to mechanical and other defects. You increase the staff, you give all the welfare facilities to the staff; but you have to extract efficient work from them.

In regard to electrification of course 8155 kms. have been electrified so far out of 62000 track lane. When compared to other countries, you have already taken up more than 50% of the work. You said you will be abandoning the locomotives. But how much time will it take? On this priority item you are allotting only meagre amounts. I request the Railway Minister and through the Speaker the Planning Commission to enhance this.

In the South and Central Railways, Bibinagar-Nadikude has got only Rs. 83 lakhs. What for is this amount? I don't know. What is the purpose of it? Will you complete this at all? In the Vijayawada Division for replacement of worn out lever frames only Rs. 50 lakhs have been allotted. For Guntur-Macherla you have given only Rs. 23 crores. But for modernisation depot it is only Rs. 1.45 crores. I don't know you can modernise this. There are many items. But I will mention only a few. For Nancherla-Guntakal you have allotted Rs. 57 lakhs, Gullaguda-Vikarabad Rs. 58 lakhs, Tandur-Malkaid Rs. 19 crores, Yermaras-Raichur Rs. 3 crores, Raichur-Matmari Rs. 11 crores and Vikarabad-Tandur Rs. 5 crores. These are the amounts that you have allotted on the big lines of South-Central Railway. Even for the Hyderabad area computerisation you have given only Rs. 3 crores. You have given only Rs. 5 crores for Maulali bye-pass. You compare this allotment with that of Madhya Pradesh or Northern India and see how does

it compare! (*Interruptions*) This is the situation especially in our area. Macherla-Raichur railway line via Dewerkonda & Gadwal had been surveyed. Survey was completed long back but not even a single paisa has been earmarked for this line in this budget. Is it because Andhra is being governed by Telugu Desam party or is it because of the generosity of the hon. Minister that this area has been neglected? I do not know the reason.

There is another metre-gauge line between Bangalore to Hyderabad via Jadcharla. Many a time Andhra people have raised their voice for conversion of this metre gauge line into broad-gauge line. Bangalore to Guntakal section is already broad-gauge. You have to broad-gauge it from Guntakal to Hyderabad. This will reduce the distance by 200 km. Nobody bothers about it I request the hon. Minister to kindly take note of this

There is a railway track from Vijayawada to Jaggapet. They are taking the material from this area for the steel plant but there is no passenger train being run on this track. This track is almost 180 km in length and you have only to run passenger train on this track. Local M.P. has already suggested about this three-four times.

Now, I come to my constituency Nalgonda. You have to enhance allotment for Bibinagar-Nadikuda railway line. You have allotted only a meagre sum of Rs. 83 lakhs. Further you should construct level crossing at Nandnam village on Nalgonda-Bibinagar line. You should also have one cross level at Kondamadugu near Bibinagar and stoppage of Charminar express at Bohngir. There should be stoppage of Narsapur express at Bibinagar and stoppage of Krishna express at Nayagiri and China express at Yerraguntla in Guntakal division of South Central Railway

You have shifted the coach factory from Kazipet to Punjab. I do not grudge about it but you have not even given a single factory to Andhra Pradesh. Do you think people of Andhra will forgive this government? They

will not. There are some employees working at Wagon Repair Shop at Guntakapalli near Vijayawada. People who come from Vijayawada are eligible for CCA whereas those who are staying and working in the factory are not eligible for CCA. On the representation of the local MP at least you gave CCA to those coming from Vijayawada but why you have not considered the case of those who are staying in the factory premises.

I request the hon. Minister to take up all these issues and take into confidence Andhra people also. Andhra is not outside the country. Southern States are not outside the country. They are well within this nation. They are part and parcel of this nation. Had you allotted the amount which you have allotted to Madhya Pradesh that would have suffice for the entire South. You have only Rs. 250 crores to South Central Railway out of budget proposals to the tune of Rs. 4450 crores. People of South will not forgive this government if you continue to show this kind of partiality

[*Translation*]

SHRI R. P. SUMAN (Akbarpur): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak on railway Budget. I rise to extend my full support to the railway Budget. We are discussing the Railway Budget in this House. I went through your budget speech which contains a number of achievements made. It also makes a mention of the records established. I fail to understand the allegation of the opposition members that they have been ignored. We do not claim that we have met with every demand raised from every corner of the country. But it is a fact that the Railways have made their best efforts to extend the possible facilities in every part of the country despite their limited resources. If we see the records of last 2-3 years, we will find that Railways have made achievements and progress in several directions and made efforts to fulfill demands related to railways. Still today there are certain areas in the country where much remains to be done. Ministry of Railways is busy with that. I am happy that no h

[Sh. R.P. Suman]

the hon. Ministers of Railways are making their best efforts with total devotion to extent the railway facility to every part of the country and to provide all possible amenities to the railway passengers. We are now moving to attain that goal which was let forth by our elders, leaders and freedom fighters. But you know that because of constraint of resources, Railways find themselves unable to make progress upto the desired extent.

Now, first of all, I would like to say that the Planning Commission should allot funds to Railways according to the requirements of the Department because transport facilities are needed in every corner of the country. Today in this House, our hon. Members are demanding laying of the lines and introduction of railway trains in their regions. But, this is possible only when the Planning Commission allocates the adequate funds to railways keeping in view the requirements of the Railways.

The Ministry of railways has made efforts to give some new trains to every part of the country and to increase the frequency and speed of the existing trains. I would like to submit that in future special attention should be paid towards those regions to which attention of hon. Ministers is being drawn by hon. Members. Arrangements should be made to start new trains and to increase the frequency and speed of the existing trains in those regions.

This Budget has provided a number of facilities and the concessions to the extent of 25% to 50% to the brave and aged persons and this has been welcomed. But I regret to say that no such provisions has been made for freedom-fighters who contributed a lot in achieving independence for the country.

Previously, Freedom Fighters were given the facility of a 1st class pass. Now in the present budget this facility has been withdrawn. It is really a matter of shame for us. It is our responsibility to see that the freedom fighters are provided a 1st class till they are

alive. A provision should also be made to extend similar facilities to the dependents, children and widows of those freedom fighters because we in the society and the country owe a lot to them. They should be encouraged so that we may be somewhat free of the indebtedness to them.

You have given a concession of 25 per cent in fare charges to the persons above 65 years of age. I would also like to say that there are a number of small stations in the country where the trains stop but there are no platforms there. Aged persons, ladies and children find it very inconvenient to board the trains, sometimes they fell down. I would like to repeat my previous demand that every railway station in the country should have at least one raised platform. Facilities of drinking water should also be provided there at all the stations. As measures have been taken to provide ample facilities in the air-conditioned trains, some attention should also be paid to the conditions of passenger trains, second class coaches, difficulties faced by the poor and short distance passengers from small railway stations and measures should be taken to meet their requirements and solve their problems. Much leeway is to be covered in this regard.

I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards a few matters before I say something about my own constituency. Only yesterday there was a headline in a newspaper published from Delhi, to the effect that just pay Rs. 30/- and get a seat reserved in a train. While travelling it has been our experience that one can get a seat in a train by paying Rs. 50-40-30 extra. I read a news item in a Delhi newspaper yesterday that some musclemen enter the compartments and occupy the reserved seats. They allow the bonafide passengers to occupy their allotted seats only after extracting money from them. You can well imagine the extent of corruption at other stations when this is the state of affairs in Delhi. The Government should take steps to check this malpractice and ensure order on the Railways.

While going through the budget speech I observed that the passengers coming to Delhi from Varanasi *via* Lucknow, particularly those coming *via* Faizabad have been neglected. The Government did not pay any heed to their very simple demands, whether these related to inclusion of certain stations in the list of model railway stations or the renewal of railway lines or starting small trains. Long back I had submitted in the House that in my constituency a small train with two coaches only running between Tanda and Akbarpur, which was being used by a very small number of passengers, might be extended at least upto Faizabad so as to make available a new train *via* Tanda, Akbarpur, Gosainganj and Ayodhya. It would not cost much. More distance would be covered with the same coaches and same engine and it would provide considerable relief to the people residing in the region east of Faizabad. The long standing demand for a railway bridge in Ayodhya could not be fulfilled due to track problem. The Government of Uttar Pradesh have approved the Tanda-Kalwari Ghat bridge. The hon. Deputy Minister of Railways visited the area earlier and he went there recently also and a delegation met him to press their demand. The bridge is estimated to cost about Rs. 25 crores. If a railway bridge is also sanctioned alongwith it, it would benefit the people immensely. It would link the foot-hills of Nepal with Gorakhpur, Basti Tanda, Akbarpur, Sultanpur and all parts of South India. I would urge the Government to accept this demand in order to provide relief to the districts of eastern Uttar Pradesh. It would provide a link for Sultanpur and there will be a direct train for Bombay. The Faizabad-Bombay superfast train runs only once a week causing hardship to the passengers. With the exception of Faizabad and Ayodhya, facilities of reservation in this train have not been provided at Malipur, Akbarpur, Gosainganj railway stations. Moreover, the people have been demanding constantly to run this train daily. It will benefit more than a lakh people of 3-4 districts in my constituency.

I would also like to say something about

the reservation of posts. It is a matter of great regret that even after 40 years of freedom, the people of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes are being deprived the benefits of the provisions in the constitution for reservation of posts for them. Reserved quota has not been filled in Railways. What to talk of class I posts, even in case of class III and class IV posts this quota has not been filled. I, therefore, suggest that a time-bound programme may be started. The Government should resort to special recruitment, if required. But the people of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes should not be subjected to stepmotherly treatment. The relief granted to them in the constitution of India should be made available to them and their reserved quota should be filled within a specified period in order to remove increasing resentment among them.

With these words I support the demands of the Ministry of Railways and conclude.

[English]

SHRI D. P. JADEJA (Jamnagar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Railway Budget presented by the Hon. Minister and would like to compliment all those who have been concerned with making this excellent Railway Budget, a Budget which has satisfied the travelling public in the whole country. It is but natural that all of us want more facilities, more trains, more conversions and we want more survey work to be done but there is always a limitation and especially when there are no new fares or no excess fares to be added and such a lot of new facilities given to the travelling public. I believe that they need to be congratulated. If we want to have more trains and more surveys, we should bring some sort of pressure on the Union Finance Ministry to give them more grants so that they can give us more facilities as they have done this time.

Sir, I come from the Western most region of this country, a backward area, an area which is a terminal also but the railways have been very kind to us this time. From my

[Sh D.P Jadeja]

region they have given us direct trains to Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Madras and to Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh. We also have a train up to Madhya Pradesh. Now we got a direct train right up to Kashmir. We are grateful to the Railway Ministry for connecting our area with these trains. Though, of course, we may all not be fully satisfied with the frequencies that we have got or the stoppage that we are getting, but these are the secondary things which we can later on suggest. Better facilities should be given to the travelling people from my region, i.e. Saurashtra.

Sir, on behalf of the people of Gujarat, I would like to thank the Railways for giving us new train between Bhavnagar and Ahmedabad which was most essential. The Broad-gauge conversion between Kapadwanj and Modasa is welcome. It was long due but we hope that you will soon include the Rajkot-Viraval broadgauge conversion also.

Sir, I will now come to the specific area which I would like to mention and that is Hapa which used to be known as Jamnagar. In Jamnagar we have three defence services, the Army, Navy, Air Force and MES also. So, we have a very big defence contingent there. Sir, in the services more than 80 per cent of the people are either from the South or from the North. Gujaratis are not even one per cent. So, these trains are going to be a great boon to the servicemen who are stationed at Jamnagar in a remote area. But unfortunately the trains which you have given to us are all stopping at Rajkot. Hapa is only 50 miles away. I would only request the Railway Ministry that all the trains which are terminating at Rajkot should be extended up to Hapa and the trains which go up to Dwarka should be connected to these long distance trains. People who are going to Dwarka are mainly the pilgrims from South India Central India and Northern India. Of course, they come from Eastern India also. For the benefit of the pilgrims, I would request you to see that these long distance

trains should be extended up to Dwarka or Okha, as it is known or even Porbandar.

I am sure all these things would be considered.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Railway Minister to one important point. In our area, we had more railway lines during the meter-gauge era than what we have today with the broad-gauge. It is okay if the uneconomical lines are dismantled. But there is a very important port called the Bedi Port in Gujarat where we used to have a railway line even right upto the jetty. In the name of broad-gauge conversion, you have left out just a patch of 3 KM. Out of this 3 KM, one has to do a double trans-shipment because of which the cost of the products which are going to and coming from the port have gone up.

Finally, I would like to draw the attention of the Railway Authorities to one very important matter. The 11 per cent fare hike needs to be reconsidered. In the classifications and regroupings that you have given, there are commodities for which people have to pay 20 to 30 per cent more. This is going to have a cumulative effect on the prices of the mass consumption items. I would only request that this may be reviewed again. I will be giving more details about this to show how this 11 per cent is not actually 11 per cent, but it is in fact more than 25 to 30 per cent.

I am sure this House will join me in congratulating the Railway Ministry once again for doing their utmost. They have done a wonderful job in presenting this Budget and in giving all support to the travelling public.

Before I conclude, I would like to say just one thing. I disagree with some of my colleagues who have mentioned about corruption, delays and inadequacies in the Railway Department. If we can be proud of any Department in the country, it is the Railways. In Railways, corruption has been going down. Timings of the trains are being maintained excellently. We do not have much delay in train timings. The efficiency of the

Railways has grown much higher. We only have to congratulate them and wish them better luck.

[Translation]

DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA (Janjgir): Mr. Chairman, Sir I congratulate the hon. Minister of Railways and the Ministry of Railways for winning a place for Indian Railways in the world. I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister in particular for owing moral responsibility and submitting his resignation. He set a healthy tradition by accepting his moral responsibility being the minister in charge of railways.

It has been alleged here that this railway budget was in fact a budget for Madhya Pradesh. If you examine the budget you will come to know as to how many lines have been sanctioned for Madhya Pradesh. If a train at present terminating at Jhansi is extended upto Bhopal, you say that a line has been sanctioned for M.P. A person going from Delhi to Madras or from Bombay to Calcutta has to pass through Madhya Pradesh. In this case it is totally unfair to conclude that a train has been allotted to Madhya Pradesh. It amounts to saying that the train should overfly Madhya Pradesh. I feel extremely sorry to hear such allegations from very responsible persons. We are all sitting here in Parliament and the budget is before you, wherefrom you can see how many trains have been sanctioned for M.P. Merely extension of a train in a state does not mean that a new train has been sanctioned for that state.

The Ministry of Railway have made their full contribution in the economic development of the nation and I congratulate the hon. Minister for this. When you talk of Madhya Pradesh, why do you forget that this is the state which provides iron to run the trains. Madhya Pradesh also provides cement and coal, movement of which contributes to the railway revenues by increasing their freight earnings. Is it unjust to introduce new trains in Madhya Pradesh? Is it unfair for a Minister to belong to Madhya Pradesh?

In the end I would like to make it clear in the House that we welcome the concessions announced in the Budget and the new trains introduced and we praise the hon. Minister and commend the railway authorities for their good work and involvement in improving the image of the railways. I would like to submit one point that at the time of railway budget demands are often made to further supplement, improve and extend the railway facilities in the areas already served by the railways. For instance Metro railway was demanded in Calcutta where railway facilities already existed and when Metro railway has been built, there is a demand to extend it further to serve more areas. But when we put forth a demand for laying a metre gauge railway line in a rural area, where people have not even seen a railway train, inability is expressed. The people of Madhya Pradesh are particularly unhappy because on approaching the hon. Minister with the request for a new train, he concedes no ground lest he may be accused of showing special favour to his state and thus Madhya Pradesh fails to get any facility. I would like to show you a copy of a three page letter which I wrote on February 4, 1989, regarding the Headquarters of South Eastern Railway, Bilaspur located in my constituency. (Interruptions)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, if we can not be given a train, please give us some time to express our views. I had put forth 10-15 demands in this letter. It is a very big division, which accounts for 1/9th of the total Railway revenue but not a single demand has been accepted. I would also like to point out that the replies despatched by the Railway Ministry are not issued with the approval of the hon. Minister although they bear his stamp. I am led to this conclusion because plea of resource constraint is taken even in case of works announced in the area by the hon. Minister himself. So I would specifically like to caution the railway officials not to send replies in such an irresponsible manner which may compromise the position of the hon. Minister.

[Dr. Prabhat Kumar Mishra]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this region provides coal, iron, electricity, water and space for running the railways, but, as Shri Bhoi pointed out, the office of South-Eastern Railway has been stationed in Calcutta. The local people are not employed in the railway offices and their percentage is generally very low. People belonging to Orissa and Madhya Pradesh fail to get any jobs.

Besides, I would like to draw your attention to few other matters. We have the highest track utilization. But whenever a demand is made in respect of South Eastern railway, it is said that the track is not free. Will the Government penalise us for our contribution for the development of the country? Have we to suffer on this account? I will cite an example that booking facilities in Calcutta bound trains, such as Bombay-Howrah Mail, available at Bilaspur, Shakti, Raigarh and Champa etc. since 1890 during the British period, have now been discontinued. The local people should have been consulted before discontinuing this facility. Nowhere except the South Eastern railways such a state of affairs is to be seen. I feel extremely embarrassed when the people of my constituency ask me to show up only after this facility is restored. Whom should we approach because the hon. Minister is vary of the charge of favouring his home state Madhya Pradesh with the result that we do not get anything except a bad name along with the hon. Minister. I am saying it in no uncertain terms. Then no A.C. first class has been provided till now in Utkal Express in which people of 8 states travel, even the food served is of poor quality. Blankets provided in the Bed-Rolls are not worth using and it appears as if they are not dry-cleaned regularly. The Government should pay adequate attention to all these matters. The provision of water cans in the trains is there but I am not sure whether they are cleaned. Special attention should be paid to cleanliness. Whenever a demand for Bilaspur-Mandla-Jabalpur railway line is raised, it is said that a survey is being conducted. We have been hearing the same reply for the last 4 years. I

do not know when this survey work will be completed and we will get the facility of train. Such assurances should not be given if the required work is not to be done, because it is we who are answerable to the public and have to face the consequences. Your contention is that the Governments earning income through railways which is contributing to the development of the country. However, when the demand for setting up tenth zone in Bilaspur is raised, I do not know what problem to the hon. Minister faces in accepting it. My submission is that tenth zone should be set up in Bilaspur. I do not want to take much time. I have submitted a number of times that this is not the budget of Madhya Pradesh as is alleged. The hon. Minister has arrived in the House and, therefore, I would like to submit that we should not be made to suffer on both counts. He says that he is earning a bad name since he belongs to Madhya Pradesh. Yet we do not enjoy any facility. It is alleged in the House that this is the budget of Madhya Pradesh and is exclusively a Scindia affair. However, the situation is just the other way round. With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI K.S. RAO (Machilipatnam): Sir, I rise to support the Railway Budget. I have always an admiration for the hon. Minister Madhavrao Scindia for generating internal resources for financing his own budget. Right from the beginning, it was my slogan that Ministries like Railways, Civil Aviation, Telecommunications and such other Ministries must not depend upon budgetary support. For the last three years, it has been visible that the generation of internal resources in the railways has gone up from 21 per cent to 61 per cent. More than that, his management of the railways is quite satisfactory in respect of increasing assets utilisation, staff productivity and modernisation of the system. Though there is an increase of 27 per cent in the freight handling and 19 percent in passenger km., the running track is added only by .9 per cent with no considerable increase in the staff. This clearly indicates that the productivity of the staff has

also increased with the result that the management is very good. Keeping in view his background, his nature, his management, I can say that, if he spends more time in going to the field-it is not that he is not going to the field-than in office, I am sure, he can do much more.

When I went through the expenditure of Rs.7000 and odd crores, I found that if he had gone into the minute detail of the various aspects of it, I am sure, he would have avoided even an increase of 11 per cent and saved Rs. 873 crores from the execution of the projects. I hope he will think on this line.

I find that this is the only Ministry which is contributing to the general revenue Rs. 805 crores, apart from the depreciation reserve fund of Rs. 715 crores and development fund of Rs. 140 crores. This means out of the capital at charge which is around Rs. 11,000 crores, he is saving more than Rs. 2,700 crores, but he is not adding any new lines; he is concentrating only on renewal of track. Though there is an increase in the number of trains, I think it could have been much more. For this, I wish the hon. Minister will concentrate also on production. The Railways is one department which can increase the employment in a considerable manner. We do not require much foreign exchange. If you take a decision, I know that we can manufacture locomotives, we can manufacture coaches, we can manufacture wagons, not increasing the speed as you are doing but in a geometrical progression. The reason being as you have already started a Finance Corporation and raising a few hundreds of crores from the public, if you can increase that money from the public, add more and more new lines and railway track. I know you are increasing the burden and in return you have to pay interest to the public, but you are generating employment.

16.00 hrs.

A talk is there in the country that though you are very shrewd in tightening the management and running it in an efficient manner, yet you are not increasing the employ-

ment. You are not increasing the track in a considerable manner. This can be done by you.

I have admiration for you, that you are there continuously in the Railway Ministry for the past four years unlike many. This itself is an asset and an advantage for you while you can keep your thoughts and you can run your administration efficiently in restricting the energy increase the efficiency and also in adding the assets.

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE:
(Rajpur): This is a good lesson for the Prime Minister.

SHRI K.S. RAO: I am only speaking about the hon. Minister. It is with a view to criticise, in fact, I told you that I have inherent admiration for your functioning. I wish you increased the lines in a more and more progressive manner for crying more and more employment and more tracks. After all, it only the internal natural resources that we are going to the, largely we require for the track the sleepers, the resources, all of which we can manufacture indigenously. I sure that you will give a thought and get a still better me in running the Railway more efficiently and in a progressive way.

Now, let me go to Andhra. I have gone through the allocations made. I have seen that you said that you will be completing the Guntur Macherla conversion into broad gauge by the 30th March of this year. But when I saw the allocation, I find that you have made provision out of the Rs. 66.38 crores total anticipated expenditure and Rs. 7.5 crores was left beyond this budget. This means, will some more balance of work is left. May be, I do not know nether you will be opening the line of for traffic and this Rs. 5 crores left must have been for something else, in which case I am happy.

I have seen the allocation for the new bridge across Godavari in place of the bridge which is to be possibly abandoned. And the allocation that you have made is only Rs. 8.6 crores. You know th importance of the bridge

[Sh. K.S. Rao]

there on Godavari. The traffic is too high, and the area is also coastal belt area, from Madras to Howrah and if this bridge is completed early it will certainly get you that much increased revenue. You can think in terms of increasing the speed of constructing the bridge and you can take some more lines in Andhra.

Then for Vikarabad-Tandur line Rs. 46.84 crores is the total cost and you have spent Rs. 1 crore but allocated Rs. 5.94 crores only. I know the constraint of resources which you will be facing. But my request to you is, as my predecessor was telling, the way he spoke and also the way in which the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh is functioning....*(Interruptions)* The moment I mentioned the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh the Chair person is ringing the bell—my request to you is knowing fully-well the attitude of the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, that he will exploit the regional tendencies by provoking the people on the pre-text that the Government of India is prejudicial in not allocating the funds to the State of Andhra Pradesh, then you know the consequences, how it leads to creating differences among the citizens of this country.

Sir, people from Madhya Pradesh have said that they have been neglected for quite a long time. Telangana also falls under that category. Vikarabad-Tandur line, which is located in Telangana area, has been neglected for generations. I request you to increase its allocations. I am not asking for my own area Krishna, Godavari and other coastal belts, because it is a developed area. Still it is not that I will come on your way if you make some allocations for it. My constituency Machilipatnam has got a great history. This is now being neglected. Machilipatnam which had been very active even 1,500 years back, is dying now. You take this into account now and see that Machilipatnam station is developed. It will not cause any revenue loss to you.

Sir, I do not want to take more time. But

it would have been wiser—I do not want to detail the reasons for had you not made an increase of eleven per cent in freight rates. I feel that we could have used the balance in the Depreciation Reserve Fund of Rs. 823 crores for this year and avoided this increase in freight rates.

With these words, I admire and congratulate the Hon'ble Minister for Railway, particularly Mr. Scindia, and request him to think in a new way in increasing the employment and the track.

[*Translation*]

*SHRI GOKUL SAIKIA (Lakhimpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to take part in the discussion of Railway Budget for the year 1989-90. Hon. Railway Minister is present here at the moment. I do not intend to make a detailed discussion on the whole of the budget. I will try to confine myself to the demands relating to Assam. Specially I would like to refer to the demands of the people of district Lakhimpur in Assam. These are very long standing demands which we are demanding since several years. This is the last year of the Eighth Lok Sabha and nobody knows whether we will be in a position to take part in the Railway Budget next year. After the Chinese war in the year 1962 the railway line was extended to Jonai. At that time we were hopeful that there would be much more development in respect of railways in Assam. But it is a matter of great regret that the railway lines which were constructed in 1962 remained the same. There has not been any extension so far. In a lighter vein I would like to submit that if there is a second Chinese war then only some more railway lines will be sanctioned to Assam. At present there are only two bridges over the mighty river Brahmaputra. The second bridge which was recently constructed near Nowgong, that is only a road bridge. There is no railway facility. In that way there is only one railway bridge over the river Brahmaputra. The railway line at Lakhimpur goes through the heart of the town which causes great inconvenience to

*Translation of the speech Originally delivered in Assamese.

the people. If one is to go to a school or a College or to the hospital or to the cantonment area he will have to wait for a long time at the railway crossing because of the fact that the railway gate remains closed at most of the time. There is a long standing demand to construct a railway overbridge there. Last year also I made a reference regarding this. An agitation was also launched by the All Assam Students Union for the same demand; but the railway authority has not paid any heed to this popular demand.

As you are aware Lakhimpur is the gateway of Arunachal Pradesh. Arunachal Border is at a distance of 50 kms from Lakhimpur. There is no railway line from Lakhimpur to Itanagar, the capital of Arunachal.

In the field of employment in the railway departments whether it is inside Assam or outside Assam hardly to 4% people are from Assam.

For the last 30 years there is a demand for setting up a railway division at Rangia. So far nothing has been done in this direction. The people of Assam are agitating for this railway division and many people died in these agitations; but the railway authorities turned a deaf ear to this long standing demand. Many hon'ble members are of the opinion that non-congress(1) ruled states are being neglected by the railway department because we find that there has not been any development in those states.

In the year 1986 a serious accident occurred in Lakhimpur where more than 32 people died. It is to be particularly noted that there was not even the gateman whose duty it was to look after the gate at the crossing. The other victims of the accident have not been paid any compensation. In this regard I wrote many letters to the Hon'ble railway Minister for releasing compensation to the victims of that accident. So far nothing has been done. I requested the Railway Minister to provide atleast one job per family of those victims; but till today nobody has got any

employment. It is a fact that the Hon'ble Railway Minister acknowledges the receipt of our letters but no action is taken to the points raised in those letters.

It is most unfortunate that that after forty two years of independence some people of my constituency have not seen any railway line. The biggest river Island Majuli is now out off from the main land and it can be connected by two bridges for which NEC made a detailed project report but the work has not yet started. I urge upon the railway Minister that these two bridges should be constructed as road-cum-railway bridge. Similarly, there is a road leading to Sadiya where a railway, bridge is needed. The people of that area are deprived of the benefit of Railway lines. If a Railway line is constructed there, the whole area will be benefitted and there will be economic development of that area.

I do not want to take more time of the House. At the end I want to submit that there should be more employment avenues for the people of Assam and specially the people of Lakhimpur. Once again I request the Hon. Minister to sanction a Railway overbridge at Lakhimpur for want of which so many fatal accidents occur there every year. Sometimes it so happens that some very serious patients going to the hospital find that the railway gate is closed and while waiting for the railway gate to be opened, the patient dies at the railway gate itself. Therefore, it is a very serious problem. Hon. Minister should look into it and do the needful. In the absence of the railway overbridge there, the students cannot reach their examination centres on time at the time of their examinations. This is a very pitiable condition. Therefore my humble submission is that the Hon. Railway Minister would kindly look into the popular demands made by the people of my constituency and kindly do away their grievances.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, once again I thank you very much for giving me time and with these words I conclude my speech.

SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH (Jaunpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I heartily welcome and support the Railway Budget presented by the hon. Minister of State of the Ministry of Railways, ~~Shri Madhavrao Scindia~~. He has presented a good and public welfare oriented Budget. This has certainly ~~provided~~ relief to the masses and the people belonging to all sections.

An increase of 11 per cent has been made in the rates of freight traffic. Keeping in view that the people belonging to weaker sections, speciality farmers, should be benefited, the vegetables, jaggery, edible oil and oil seeds, oil cake and fodder have been excluded from freight hike. As a result, the people have received a lot of relief.

Since there has been no increase in the passenger fare, it has certainly given relief. Before the presentation of the Budget, people were apprehensive that the railway fare might increase. However, the day the budget was presented, the people were congratulating the hon. Railway Minister and the Hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi for having presented such a good and public welfare oriented Budget.

Sir, due to time constraint, I do not want to go into the details of figures. I congratulate the hon. Minister for having introduced 15 new trains. When he was making a mention of introduction of new trains in his Budget speech, I was expecting to find a mention of Jaunpur too. But to such mention was made. Had Jaunpur been included in it, it would have been more appropriate. I would like to request the hon. Minister that Jaunpur should also be included in it.

Ganga -Yamuna Express and Saryu-Yamuna Express pass through Jaunpur thrice a week. It leaves Jaunpur at 9 P.M. and arrives at Delhi at 12 in the noon or 1.00 p.m. If one travels by this train, one gets late and even we are unable to participate in the meetings in the Parliament House in time when we travel by this train. My submission is that the speed of this train should be accelerated or else some change should be

introduced in the departure timings of this train so that it may arrive here on time.

This is a major achievement that as a part of Nehru Centenary Celebrations, Nehru Yatri Ticket has been introduced from 14.11.88. 61 travelling programme have been included in it to cover places of cultural, historical and tourist importance. Jaunpur is also a historical ~~district~~ and there are a number of pilgrim centres ~~there~~. Kashi-Vishwanath Temple is situated in Varanasi district which is adjacent to Jaunpur. Towards the west, we find the Triveni Sangam in Allahabad. Recently more than 1.5 crore people took the holy dip in Sangam on the occasion of Kumbh. Towards the North, quite close to it is Ayodhya. Jaunpur being a historical place, there should be a provision of trains at regular intervals from there. We have repeatedly impressed upon the need to introduce a train for Bombay from Jaunpur. People from our State, particularly from Eastern region including Azamgarh and Ballia very often travel to Bombay. I have been demanding for this train ever since I was elected to the Parliament. But not even a single train has been introduced for Bombay. As a result, the people face a lot of trouble during the marriage occasions due to non-availability of reservations. People literally stuff in that train. A train must be introduced from Jaunpur to Bombay. I had also asked a question in the House. I do not know who the officials are who frame the answers to the questions. I had submitted that there is hardly a distance of one kilometre between the main road and the city railway station. That approach road is fully of big ditches which make it difficult for the public to walk or move by any other mode of conveyance. That road belongs to the Department of Railways. Not it is being said that it is not under the Railway Department. All this has been said in reply to that question. I would like to request that the Government should at least get that road repaired. To cover that one kilometre of distance is equivalent to 20 kilometres of travel. Therefore, the Government must get it repaired. There is neither any waiting room nor a godown at the city station. I would like to submit that one or two

taps of drinking water have been fitted there but these will be inadequate to serve the purpose in summer. All along I have been requesting for the provision of drinking water, lavatories light and platform. There is just one platform at the city station and people have to cross the railway line if two trains reach at the same time. Therefore, my submission is that another platform should be constructed there. Secondly, the condition of Mahabhandari junction station is such that there is no shed on the entire platform. There is a need to build a shed over the entire platform there. The people there have to face innumerable problems during summer rains and winter. Therefore, I would like to demand that provision to build a shed there should be made. Sir, I listen to the speech of hon. Shri Harish Rawat with rapt attention but our hon. Minister is unable to listen to me properly. My submission is that Varun Express an inter-city train which runs between Varanasi and Lucknow passes from there. Its conditions has become very miserable. That train is scheduled to pass through Jaunpur at 6 a.m. and arrive at Varanasi at 9 a.m. but it gets late by two-and-a-half to three-and -a -half hours from its starting station Lucknow. Nobody can say for certain when the train will actually arrive. The train runs upto Lucknow and from that point it returns to Varanasi. I do not know what makes that train run so late. I would like to submit that when a train has been started for the convenience of the people, they will certainly face inconvenience if it reaches at 12 or one'O clock in the night. The businessmen travelling by it will certainly face problem as there is no conveyance available on the station at such odd hours and there is every possibility of their luggage being stolen. Therefore, I would like to submit that the Varun Express Inter City train which runs between Varanasi and Lucknow via Jaunpur should leave from the starting station on time so as to adhere to its scheduled timings.

I always put forward my points in the meeting. Besides, I also keep on requesting and writing to the hon. Minister. I congratulate and thank him for giving the prompt reply

but the same is not the case with other departments. The Government also tries to take action but at times the officials create unnecessary hurdles, which I feel is wrong. Whatever points we make carry weight and we also put the truth before you. I would like to submit that the Government should invite us as well as the officials to discuss the issues face to face and if they are convinced that we are right then they should abide by our suggestions. I am sure that the Government certainly pays attention to whatever suggestions we make regarding our problems. There are no two views in this regard. The Government certainly tries to remove our problems by paying attention to them since it feels concern for us. Therefore, I would like to submit that since the Government and the officials have taken a note of our problems, it should take steps to remove them. I once again heartily congratulate the hon. Minister and the Hon. Prime Minister. I fully hope that the hon. Minister has listened to my points and will try to take steps to remove those problems. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI ARVIND NETAM (Kanker): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Railway Budget presented by the hon. Minister in the House. This balanced Budget provided a lot of relief to the common man. I am sure this 5 years period will be termed as a period of achievements in the history of the Railways as Shri Scindia and his Deputy Minister made exemplary improvements in the functioning of the railways, especially in the fields of observance of punctuality in running of trains, increase in passenger amenities and improvement in quality of catering service and ensuring better cleanliness. The most important of all, the hon. Minister of Railways and the employees of the railway have all along been maintaining very cordial relations during these five years and as a result of which these achievements could be possible. The hon. Minister did a very good thing by not increasing the passenger fare. The freight charges have been increased by 11 per cent, but essential commodities have been spared from hike. People will be benefited by this and also get relief.

[Sh. Arvind Netam]

A concession of 50% in railway fares has been given to eminent sports coaches and winners of Dronacharya Award. I think the scheme of awarding Dronacharya Award has been in operation for the last two to three years, but a very few coaches have been given this award. This year only two coaches i.e. in wrestling and the other in cricket have been awarded. I would like to submit that it will be better if all those who received Arjuna Award be also given this concession. The old man and aged persons have also been given some facilities which is a good step. I welcome the decision that going by our tradition to have respect for old people, the Government has also provided some relief to them. I welcome this decision.

While the hon. Minister was referring to the proposal with regard to new railway lines I had a high hope that he would make some sort of announcement to lay a railway line from Dalirajhara to Bailadila. It is not known as to why the hon. Minister did not say anything about this line. This line would cater to the needs of the Steel Ministry, because iron ore for the Bhilai Steel Plant will be transported through this line. It is therefore, very essential that this line be constructed. I am not aware whether the Ministry of Steel and Mines and the Ministry of Railways have arrived at any decision or not in this regard. If this line is not laid immediately, a situation may come when it will be difficult to supply iron ore for the Bhilai Steel Plant. I would like to make a submission in this regard that the Government should, in consultation with the Ministry of Steel and the Planning Commission take a decision about it. I would also like to submit that the hon. Minister is requested not to make an announcement that the railway line will be extended upto Raoghat only. The Ministry of Steel and Mines would prefer to have the line extended upto Raoghat only and they would make a plea to lay the extended line upto that place only. But I request the hon. Minister to extend this line upto Bailadila so that iron ore could be supplied to Bhilai Steel Plant. There has been a long standing demand of gauge conversion

of the line from Raipur to Dhamtari from narrow into a broad gauge. We are grateful to the hon. Minister for providing diesel engines to haul trains on narrow gauge lines. This will raise the frequency of the trains. The proposed broad gauge line to be converted upto Dhamtari be extended upto Valod. If that is done, it will serve the purpose of running circular trains for Raipur and Durg. The Mahanadi and Amarkantak Express running from Bilaspur and Durg to Bhopal run thrice in a week on one side and 4 times a week on the other side. I request the Government to run both the trains daily. A new train should be introduced from New Delhi to Vishakhapatnam via Bina, Katani, Bilaspur, Raipur and Bolangir in Orissa with a view to making full use of this track. The parallel track running between New Delhi and Vishakhapatnam in South should be utilised for a new superfast train so that people living in Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and eastern part of Andhra Pradesh could avail of this facility. As has been said by Dr. Mishra, the South Eastern Railway is the highest revenue earner among all railways. The headquarters of this railway is situated at Calcutta. As it is, there is shortage of space in Calcutta. I want that the headquarters of this railway should be shifted either to Orissa or Madhya Pradesh, because most parts of this railway fall in Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar. There are huge natural resources in these parts. These natural resources could be well utilised with the shifting of the headquarters to this part and the people will also have new employment avenues.

Most of the hon. Members said that it is the Budget tilted in favour of Madhya Pradesh. I request the hon. Minister to clarify as to what has been the share of Madhya Pradesh vis-a-vis the other states in this budget. Firstly, headquarters of none of the railways is located in Madhya Pradesh. Area of Madhya Pradesh comes under the jurisdiction of different railways such as South Eastern, Western Central or Northern Railway. I request the hon. Minister to remove this misconception that the budget is tilted in favour of Madhya Pradesh, as several of the

hon. Members stated so in their speeches. The hon. Minister should at least tell us what are the Budgetary provisions for Madhya Pradesh. On going through the Budget, I could find that no special provision has been made for Madhya Pradesh in the Budget. This false impression created due to reporting of some of the trains, for example Ujjain, Haridwar and Dehradun bound trains have been routed through Guna and Bina in Madhya Pradesh. Similarly, trains running between Lucknow and Hyderabad have been routed through Bhopal and the trains running between Jhansi and Madras will also cover a large part of the areas of Madhya Pradesh. That is why the people started thinking that special favour has been shown to Madhya Pradesh in matter of running of new trains. I would, therefore, like to request the hon. Minister to clarify as to what has been the Budgetary provisions for Madhya Pradesh so that their mis-apprehension about Madhya Pradesh could be removed.

Dr. Mishra was stating that whenever he meets the hon. Minister, he is reluctant to make any request about Madhya Pradesh lest it should bring ignominy for him. He has absolutely right in saying so. The hon. Minister should clarify all these things so that people may know the truth and the misgivings could be removed from their minds.

I am of the view that the hon. Minister prepared a very good Budget. He has been managing the railways very well for the last 5 years. I congratulate him on his efficient handling. People may have some different impression in their minds about the railways but everybody will say one thing that there has been much improvement in the functioning of the railways. Its credit goes to him and he deserves our congratulations.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for providing me time to speak.

[English]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA (Sangrur): Mr. Chairman, Sir while

taking part in the Railway Budget discussion, at the outset, I want to convey my thanks to the hon. Minister, Shri Madhavrao Scindiaji for bringing Goindwal Sabhi on the railway map.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): Please clarify that it is not in Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: I express my thanks for bringing Goindwal Sahib which is in the State of Punjab on the railway map. Goindwal Sahib is an upcoming industrial site of Punjab and this step of the hon. Minister will certainly give a boost for rapid development of that area.

Sir, at the outset I also express my satisfaction regarding net tonne km. per wagon per day utilisation of passenger coaches. Staff productivity in terms of transit units per employees has shown considerable improvement.

Transport output of freight rose by 27% and passenger kilometres by 19%. While making a balanced appreciation of the Budget, one must concede that these steps taken by the hon. Minister have resulted in bringing improvements. As a personal friend, through you, I want to once again press my constant demand for restoration of Jammu-Tawi Express for all the seven days of the week. Jammu Tawi Express passes through my Constituency, from Sunam, Sangrur, Dhuri and it touches Ludhiana and then goes to Jammu. I have received a number of representations from Shri Surinderpal Modgil, Delhi Passenger Association and from Journalist Association through Shri N.C. Nagpal, ex-mc Journalist, Sunam, and various other Delhi commuters. It is a very serious problem which the workers and the employees daily face in going to Ludhiana from Sunam, Sangrur and Dhuri areas. They are facing these hardships and difficulties because of the timing of the trains and also the cancellation of the trains. During the last week, I have put up a supplementary that trains were cancelled in large numbers

[Sh. Balwant Singh Ramoowalia]

in Punjab but, God knows, or some officials are jealous of my Constituency, I am sorry to say that most of the trains which were cancelled affected my Constituency very seriously. The worst affected is my Constituency.

That is why I make humble request to the hon. Minister to take note of my request about the 5 LJH and 6 LJH which were suspended. This train has been running since 11th April, 1985. It has been cancelled. In between hon. Minister wrote to me that he will give favourable consideration to my letter. The suspended train must be restored. Delhi passengers Association demanded that LJA should leave Ludhiana at 8 PM and 5 LJH should reach Ludhiana at 7.45. Ludhiana is a town which provides employment to lakhs of people adjoining the area from Jullundur and Chandigarh, and Moga side and hundreds of people from Sangrur side go to Ludhiana through morning trains and come back through evening trains. Something solid should be done to satisfy and to meet the requirement of the people going from Sunam and Sangrur are, Delhi to Ludhiana and back. The Delhi Association has written to me that if a train reaches by 7.45 AM. then may of the employees can go to their offices and factories etc within time. This shows the attitude of the authorities. They requested the Divisional Railway Manager Ambala Division, Ambala Cantt to enhance the time from Ludhiana by 10 minutes i.e. instead of leaving at 1800 hrs. they wanted that the train should leave by 1810 hrs. But the authorities have not accepted this request, a very minor request. I have received a letter signed by almost 50 journalists of the area.

[*Translation*]

He has written that 131 up and 132 DN train should be run daily. The Jammu-Tawi express may also be run daily. 59 up and 60 DN Abha Express should be run ex-Jakhal via Laharagaga Sonam, Sangrur, Dhuri, Barnala and Rampuraphul. I would like to thank the hon. Minister for his taking care of

Punjab for the first time in last 5 years. I want that the trains which were cancelled in my area may please be restored.. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Regarding Kapurthala, we had decided it two years ago.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: I thank you for the steps taken for Kapurthala also, but I would like to express my special thanks to you for Govindwala. With these words I conclude.

[*English*]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal): Sir, I rise to support the Railway Budget. I congratulate the young and dynamic Minister of Railways for the very efficient management he has shown both in terms of internal and external budgetary resources which have contributed to the national exchequer-Plan and Finance- by contributing Rs. 805 crores as well as effecting a surplus of Rs. 104 crores. This would help in containing inflation and budgetary deficit. Otherwise, it would have affected our entire economy and entire plan formulation and implementation. In spite of the lesser allocation in real terms as compared to the Fifth and Sixth Plan, he has been able to carry out the much needed modernisation, track conversion and track renewals. He has introduced newer, more frequent and speedier trains as well as helped in connecting the strategic cultural and important places as well as the growth centres and commercial centres. In this very House, many of the hon. Members have time and again demanded that our border areas be connected properly with broad-gauge lines which have been affected specially due to geo-strategic and geo-political situations. It is a very welcome thing. He has given concession to various target groups likes the old as well as the aged, the handicapped, the brave people and I congratulate him for that.

He has also introduced effective comprehensive technology upgradation systems in the Railways which would make the Indian Railways a modern Railways comparable with the best in the world. He has also showed improvement in the performance of the Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Railways. He has also effected expansion. He has paid greater attention to staff amenities and welfare as well as security measures which are welcome things. I hope that the other Ministries will emulate him especially people who are in Uniform. The most important of all, in spite of doing all this with lesser resources, he has been able to hold the price line by effecting no increase in the passenger fares, exempting the vital needs of common and weaker sections from freight increase like salt for human consumption, fruits and vegetables, gur and jaggary, edible oils oilseeds, oil cakes, fodder, live-stocks, organic manures, foodgrains, pulses and fertilizers. Also on essential commodities, he has been able to keep it to a bare minimum cement Rs. 1.96 per bag, sugar 2.6. paise per kilo; potatoes 7.3 paise per kilo; dal 4.2. paise per kilo; kerosene 2.6. paise per litre; petrol 3.3. per litre; salt for human consumption 2.6 paise per kilo; wheat 4.2. paise per kilo. Therefore, it is a very commendable Budget. Apart from that, productivity linked bonus in the railways is the highest. The railway sportsmen and sportswomen have contributed to railways winning twenty medals out of 24 medals in the national events. I once again congratulate him for that.

But, Sir, here I have to sound a discordant note. Coming from a very historically backward and under -developed region like Orissa and Chattisgarh are- historical area I say because Orissa was the last province to fall to the Britishers because they kept on fighting till 1803 it is because of this historical reason that the British never developed the infrastructure for railways which is the most important harbinger of progress as the hon. Minister said in his opening statement while presenting the Railway Budget. This State which has been beset with natural calamities in the form of drought, floods and cyclone,

has affected the movement of relief as well as passengers and freight leading to various logistic problems. It is from that point of view that we would have felt very very happy, we would have shared the happiness with everyone if the abundant natural resources which this area is endowed with could have been tapped. This has been enumerated by the D.D. Pande Committee Report on Transport which has recommended some of the lines like Talchar Sambalpur line as well as some of the lines in the Western tribal areas of Orissa and Chattisgarh area of Madhya Pradesh. This should have also helped him in tapping large resources. In fact, Orissa has the largest deposit of coal fields in the Ib valley and the Talchar area. It would have helped opening of the tribal district in phulbani, Koraput, Bolangir, Sundargarh and parts of Ganjam if the kurda Bolangir railway line could have been taken up. If the Jagpura Keonjhar line which connects the entire chromite and iron ore belt of Talchar district as well as Mayurbhanj district could have been opened up, where this railway line is coming up at a snail's speed for the last 25 years, this would have helped in reducing the saturation point reached in the Kharagpur and Cuttack Section and the entire industry would have opened up the rich hinterland and the ports of Vizag and Paradeep. We feel disappointed that this has not been reflected in this year's Budget and I do hope the Minister who has been managing the economy of the Railway Ministry so magnificently over the last four years will find ways and means for it. He is a financial wizard. We know that he will find some means to see that this under-developed and historical neglected area will get its rightful place so that the regional imbalance and regional inequalities do not persist. It is the endeavour of our Prime Minister to reduce this regional imbalance and this could be effected by more allocation and more investment in Orissa for tapping the various areas. We would have even felt happier if the emphasis now on decentralisation of administration had been effected in Orissa too. The Sambalpur Division should be given more allocation for it to function effectively so that the problems in the South-Eastern Rail-

[Sh. K.P. Singh Deo]

way areas of Orissa in the Khurda Division as well as the Sambalpur Division could be dealt with in a more systematic and effective manner and a new zone comprising Khurda-Sambalpur and Vizag-Chakradharpur Divisions could be effected. This is a food for thought. I know the Hon. Minister cannot reply to me all of a sudden. My Hon. friend Shri Panigrahi says about Bilaspur Division. If it is provided with the headquarters somewhere between Bolangir and Sambalpur, we would have felt extremely happy.

Since the Hon. Minister has introduced so many new trains from religious and cultural places, if Lord Jagannath of Puri and Konark, the lands which end in the East, had been connected to the land which ends in the West, i.e. Dwaraka, it would have been very nice.

SHRI N. DENNIS (Nagercoil) Sir, supporting the Railway Budget I would like to make a few points. The Hon. Minister deserves appreciation for presenting a surplus budget that too after paying the full dividend of Rs. 805 crores to the General Exchequer.

The long term interest of the Railways and the economic and practical aspects are taken care of in the Budget. The passenger fare is untouched. The 11% hike of tariff on goods traffic is done in such a manner that the interests of the weaker and the rural sections particularly *Kisans* are not affected. Essential commodities are exempted from the hike.

I would like to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister that South, particularly Tamilnadu is let down in the Budget. Out of an allocation of Rs. 4450 crores new projects and improvement schemes, only Rs. 26 crores is allotted for Tamilnadu. Karur-Thindugal and Madurai-Maniachi BG lines have been given only Rs. 4 crores, in the place of Rs. 6 crores in the current year. It would cause a long delay. Already several years have passed by.

The allotment of Rs. 9.85 crores for the MRTS, Madras is also not adequate. Its early completion would reduce traffic congestion in the Madras City.

The allotment of Rs. 6 crores for the doubling of Thamparam Chingleput line and also Rs. 6 crores for Pattabipuram-Thiruvalluvar third line is also inadequate for the completion of these works earlier.

Out of the introduction of 15 new trains, only one train touches Madras—that too in the northern part of Tamilnadu. With regard to Kanyakumari which is the southern most part of the country, the tempo of implementation goes down and down in consonance with the distance it travels and when it reaches the southern most part, Kanyakumari, everything subsides without anything left for implementation. This is the agony of the place. This place is isolated.

The Tamilnadu part of Trivandrum Division is also neglected. Stations are not provided with adequate platforms, approach roads and other facilities.

I would like to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister that a coaching yard complex which is proposed for establishment at Nagercoil is kept pending for a very long time. It is a very convenient and suitable place for its establishment. It is connecting junction between east coast and west coast traffic and an extensive area of 98 acres is also available. There are other facilities like cheap labour water and electricity while that is so, there is a proposal to shift this coaching yard complex from Nagercoil to outside Kanyakumari district. It has to be established at Nagercoil itself.

Trivandrum-Kanyakumari line is a newly formed railway line. There should be crossing stations at Nagercoil town and Parassala. There are demands for opening new stations at Thengankodhi, Parvatipuram and Ozhukinacheerry. This should be favourably considered and stations should be opened at these places. A platform should be provided at Palliadi, Veerai Allur

and Suchindram, Eraniel and Kuzhithurral should be provided with second platform.

Kanyakumari is a tourist centre. Thousands of national and inter-national tourists and pilgrims are visiting this place daily. Instead of providing more and more trains to Kanyakumari already operated trains have been cancelled. Apart from weekly Himsagar Express there is only one 81/82 Kanyakumari-Bombay Express which alone terminates at Kanyakumari. Cannanore Express 47/48 which operated from Kanyakumari has been stopped. That has to be restored. Also 19/20 Madras-Trivandrum Mail has to be extended to Kanyakumari. People from Kanyakumari cannot go to Madras through a direct train. Moreover 901/902 Guwahati-Trivandrum Express train was proposed to go upto Kanyakumari with its name as Vivekananda Express. It has been dropped finally. It has to be extended to Kanyakumari. Similarly 903/904 Trivandrum Ahmedabad Express train scheduled to go upto Kanyakumari also did not materialise. This express train has to go upto Kanyakumari. Apart from this 126 Kerala Express which terminates at Trivandrum, the 25/26 Bangalore-Nagercoil train which now terminates at Nagercoil and also 139/140 Ganga-Kaveri-Madras-Banaras Express train have to be extended to Kanyakumari.

At present Kanyakumari terminus is under-utilised. Railway line between Kanyakumari and Trivandrum is also not adequately utilised. Trivandrum is overcrowded and congested. So trains that are terminating at Trivandrum have to be extended upto Kanyakumari. It is only 85 km away from Trivandrum. It is the natural, national and convenient terminus. That would promote national integration too if the trains that are terminating at Trivandrum are extended to Kanyakumari.

Electric train facility should be introduced between Ernakulam and Kanyakumari. Colachel harbour is to be linked by a new railway line.

Another point I would like to bring to

your notice is that regional imbalance should be removed. Backward and rural areas should be allocated more funds. Now, more and more facilities are given to big stations whereas small stations in the remote corners of the country are neglected. The platforms are low and small there. In some places, the stations are without platforms.

The casual labourers should be regularised after they put in a certain period of service. The casual labourers, who work for construction of new railway line project, are thrown out of employment. That was the case with the casual labourers who were employed for constructing the Trivandrum-Kanyakumari railway line. At the time of construction, several labourers worked there but they have not been retrenched. They are without work. They should be provided with work at the earliest.

I would also like to suggest that the trains should not take more time than that of bus service to cover the same distance. Otherwise people would prefer to travel by bus. For example, the speed of trains running between Kanyakumari and Trivandrum is about 45 to 60 kilometres per hour.

17.03 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

The Railway track is 9-10 year old. The speed of the trains could be increased to 80-100 kilometres. With these words, I conclude.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH (Chapra): Sir, I would not like to term it a Budget tilted in favour of Madhya Pradesh, but I would certainly say that Bihar has not totally ignored in the budget. It is not only my view, but also all the hon. Members of the ruling party who come from Bihar have expressed similar view, of worse in a bit subdued tone. In this very House I had made a submission that Bihar is a backward State

[Sh. Ram Bahadur Singh]

and it is endowed with rich natural resources. Besides, the State has 95305 kilometre railway line. I, therefore, urged that a railway zone should be set up there. But, I did not get any concrete reply in this regard. There are instances where the Government has set up railway zones with only 3763 kilometre long line and a railway zone has also been set up with 4291 kilometre lines. But replies given in this regard was only an eye wash.

Keeping in view the strategic location and convenience to passengers and expenditure involved in it, I have made a request to construct a railway bridge on river Ganga at Digha on Patna, but my demand was not accepted. Then, I made request to double the line between Patna and Gaya but it was also not accepted. Besides, I made a request that the most backward region of Bihar i.e. Hazaribagh and Dumka, which is also an Adibasi area should be connected by train services, but that too has been ignored. I was not taken by surprise for that. It was so because all my demands were new. Without completing these projects, we cannot do any work and there can be no development in Bihar. That is why I place these demands before the hon. Minister. It is a different thing that my demand has not been fulfilled, but the fact remain that Government has cancelled those services, which provided traditional amenities to people and on which work had already started. For instance, at the time of gauge conversion, the railway crossing at Kachahari station of Sonpur Division was closed, although it was open ever since the railway line was laid there. As a result, the district has been divided into two parts. When I mentioned about it, I got the reply that Bihar Government does not wants to cooperate in the matter. The Railway crossing cannot be opened due to the delay in providing help by Bihar Government. I would like to submit that whether or not the State Government of Bihar provides you funds, you have no right to deprive us of our traditional rights. This railway crossing has been open all these years. Maharajganj is

one of the good markets in North Bihar. But as I said earlier also, after gauge conversion, Gharonda-Maharajganj metre gauge line was closed. When asked to open it, it was replied that it would not be financially viable to open this railway line. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister is prepared to close all uneconomic line in the country where ever they are? For instance, the Bhatni-Barhaj and Madhosingh-chilh lines are uneconomic lines. If I say that whole of the North Eastern railway runs in loss, will be close it down? No, he will not close it, because Indian Railways is not a commercial institution. It has been set up to serve the people. I would like to submit that Government must restore all our traditional rights. I would also request to fulfil my demands.

Bihar is rich in minerals, yet it is a backward State. With the development of Bihar, whole country will be developed. I agree that 21 schemes have been included in this Budget for the development of Bihar. These 21 schemes—all of them ambitious projects involve an outlay of Rs. 145 crores but only Rs. 5.5. crores have been provided for 1989-90. In view of the large gap between the allocation and the outlay, it seems that the Government does not really want to implement these schemes. You should stop neglecting Bihar from now onwards, otherwise the results will not be good. But to this regional imbalance is growing and when people express their resentment against it, allegations are levelled that they encourage regionalism and want to harm Country's unity and integrity. But I would like to submit in clear words that the main cause of regionalism is the unbalanced development which has started in the country of late.

Now, when you have rung the bell, I have to conclude. There should be a check on the officers who give irrelevant replies. They do not observe even the common courtesy. When I raised the issue of providing stoppage to Jhansi Express at Ekma station—my hometown in the meeting of Consultative Committee, I was told to give it in writing. When I wrote, they replied that it is not possible. I told the hon. Minister also

about it, and then they replied that in acceptance to your demand, Avadh-Assam Express has been given a stoppage at Ekma. I wanted something else and they give me something else. It means that the officers do not study the suggestions thoroughly—once, I wanted to have some information on telephone from the Personnel officer of Northern Railway about the vacancies of class 3 posts for which Allahabad service Board had put up advertisement and an examination was also conducted for it. After the examination, a panel was formed, from which several persons were given appointment letters. But the rest of them were not given appointment letters. When I asked why those people were not given appointment letters, I was told that I would get the reply within 7,8 days. Later, the officer asked me to give it in writing as he did not remember what it was about. I wrote to him thrice but there was no reply. This has been going on for the last one and half or two years. Whenever a letter is written to a Minister, he promptly sends the reply, but the Chief Personnel Officer does not send a reply. It is his duty to observe simple rules of courtesy. If zonal railway officers behave like this, how will the railways function?

With these words, I conclude and hope that the hon. Minister will pay attention to my points.

17.10 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
 TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF IN-
 FORMATION AND BROADCASTING
 (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): Sir, as the House is aware, the Report of the Sarkaria Commission on Centre State relations is scheduled to be discussed on Thursday, the 9th March, 1989, as recommended by the Business Advisory Committee and agreed to by the House.

In this connection, I have consulted the Leaders of various parties/groups who have agreed that the discussion on the Sarkaria Commission's Report may be taken up on Tuesday the 28th March instead of Thursday the 9th March, 1989. It was further agreed that the Minister of Railways would reply to the debate on Railway Budget on Friday, the 10th March, 1989, after disposal of Questions and the general discussion on General Budget would begin on Monday, the 13th March, 1989.

I hope the House would agree to this proposal.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think the House agrees to it.

HON. MEMBERS : Yes, Sir.

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Shiv Prasad Sahu.

17.12 hrs.

RAILWAY BUDGET, 1989-90- GENERAL DISCUSSION—Contd.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIV PRASAD SAHU (Ranchi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister of State for Railways, Shri Madhavrao Scindia for presenting a grand Budget. He has laid emphasis on modernisation of Railways, especially electrification, replacement of steam engines with diesel engines etc. which indeed, is a commendable step. We have earned fame in this field even in foreign countries. We have been able to get more contracts for laying railway lines in African countries and in the Middle East which proves that they are recognising our technology and our capability in the field of railways. Not only this, the sportsmen and sports-women working in the railways have also earned glory for their country and at least three of them have held the flag of the

[Sh. Shiv Prasad Sahu]

Railways high by getting Arjuna award. It is because the blessings and cooperation of Shri Scindia and other railway officials is always there for the sportsmen. The Railways have produced many outstanding sportsmen and sportswomen for the country. Besides, the hon. Minister has done a very good work by providing concessions in train fares for the freedom fighters, sports persons and the persons above the age of 65 years. Freight charges of a number of items have been reduced and it is a very commendable step, but on some goods, freight charges have been raised by 11 percent, which, I feel, will result in increase in the prices of consumer goods and will add to inflation. I would request the hon. Minister to reconsider the increase in the freight rates and reduce it.

I would request you, as I have done earlier also, to do justice to Bihar. I would like to submit few points, particularly, about my area-Chhota Nagpur. We are providing coal, iron, manganese, copper, wood and many other things to the country, but still we are being grossly neglected. Now where there is so much poverty, as it is in my area. In the previous Budget sessions also, I had said that Ranchi and Palamu is such an area from where about 2.5 lakh people leave every year for other cities such as Delhi, Kanpur, Allahabad and Benaras in search of jobs. There also the situation is very pathetic. There is no other district in the world except Ranchi and Palamu, where people leave their villages in search of jobs in such a large number. Most of the villages bear deserted look. Acute poverty is prevalent there. Our Hon. Prime Minister is quite concerned about the poverty in the country and wants that the people should be lifted above the poverty-line.

Four surveys have been conducted for the Ranchi-Hazaribagh-Kodarma-Lohardaga metre gauge line. These areas have coal and bauxite deposits. But that line has not been laid till now. Let us take another

example. The work of laying of a new railway-line from Palamu to Sarnadi via Barwadih (Madhya Pradesh) was started during the British period. Construction on that line was started and pillars were erected for the bridge and station was also constructed. This line is 70 kilometres long. But three years after Independence, the construction work was stopped saying that this scheme is not economically viable. Crores of rupees were spent on it to construct the station and pillars. You can well imagine how the people felt after the work was stopped. It is quite disturbing for the people if you provide them a scheme and abandon it subsequently.

I would request you that in case it is not possible to execute this work, you convert the Ranchi-Lohardaga metre gauge line into broad gauge line. This area has large deposits of minerals. A new railway line from Lohardaga to Tohri a distance of 20 kms. - should be laid. Tribals constitute 72 per cent of the total population of that area. You can do justice to Chhota Nagpur if you pay attention to typical condition prevailing there.

There is a provision in many companies that the child of the retiring employee is provided employment. I strongly demand that children of the employees retiring from railway department, should be provided employment.

I would like to make another request. The headquarter of South-Eastern Railway is in Calcutta. When Shri Kedar Pandey was alive, he had assured to open a Zonal office in Ranchi. I think that after Patna, Ranchi may be most appropriately called the second capital of Bihar. It has been the constant demand of this area that a Zonal headquarters of Railways should be set up there. The total population of Ranchi as at present is 9 lakhs. Besides Hatia Plant, there are many other small industries in this city. Bokaro Steel Plant is also there in the adjoining area of Ranchi. If a new train is introduced from Ranchi to Calcutta, it would provide a considerable relief to the people of that area. A new train from Ranchi to Bombay should also be started.

With these words I extend my thanks to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I would urge upon the hon. Minister to oblige the residents of Ranchi.

SHRI M.L. JHIKRAM (Mandla): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I support the Budget presented by the hon. Minister of Railways in the House.

It is the last Budget for the seventh Five Year Plan. Never before in the history of Railways they have launched such effective programmes as have been undertaken during the last four years. The Railway department and the Minister of Railways deserve congratulations for this achievement.

Though I want to speak on a number of issues, but not going into the details, I would like to say a few things about my own constituency.

On February 26, there was a major railway accident at Shikara in my constituency and it had occurred mainly due to the inadequate maintenance of railway lines. I have already brought it to the notice of the hon. Minister. In the past its divisional office was at Nayanpur which has now been shifted to Nagpur. Let this divisional office be there but an additional divisional office may be opened at Nayanpur, because it happens to be the biggest junction of the metre gauge in the country and this would help in the proper upkeep and maintenance of the railway lines of the section. On this very railway section there was a major railway accident at Charegaon in the year 1984 in which 3-4 coaches of the train had submerged into the water. Hundreds of people had lost their lives in it and thousand others had been injured. Just after four years of this accident, one more accident had taken place there on the same date i.e. on the 26th Feb. itself. Lack of proper maintenance has been the main factor responsible for those accidents. Amount of Rs. 1 lakh was supposed to be given to the dependents of those 25 persons who had lost their lives in this accident. But only an amount of Rs. 1000/- has been paid

to them while the remaining amount of Rs. 9000/- has been deposited in their bank accounts. Full amount of compensation should be given to them immediately. I have recently visited the families of 20 such persons, who discussed their problems with me. All these families are poor and belong to scheduled tribes, so special attention should be paid to them. I would like to mention those injured persons who have not been paid a reasonable amount of compensation. A nominal amount of Rs. 500/- has been given to them for their serious injuries whereas they should have been given at least Rs. 2000/- as compensation. Names of such persons are- Pahap Singh, son of Bhadu, age 22 years, resident of Jhilpur, Shraavan, age 60 years, resident of Khairi, Thana Ghamsaur, Munni, age 30 years, resident of Chargaon, Thana Kindarai, Sobhulal, age 30 years, resident of Ghat Piparia, Thana Ghanaura. Similarly, the dead body of Kunwar Singh, son of Mohan, age 22, has not yet been traced. A thorough search should be made in this regard.

Shantilal, resident of Baisakher Gaund, village Tikra Padinara could not go to the hospital because he was directed to stay at the site to look after the dead bodies. So he has not been paid any compensation. He should be given compensation.

Similarly, Mathan Singh, son of Bhan Singh Gaund, resident of Bamhani, age 20, suffered serious ankle injuries and has also lost three fingers of his hand. He has also been paid a nominal amount of Rs. 500/- . The Government should increase the amount of compensation.

This was about accident victims. Now I would like to concentrate on a few other problems of my Constituency. I would like to reiterate the necessity of a divisional office at Nayanpur for the proper maintenance of the railway lines. You have also seen the situation there and have felt the urgency of such an office. Attention has never been paid to this metre gauge line since it was provided there. And now when the Government has started to pay attention in this direction, the

[Shri M.L. Jhikram]

Government should also meet this particular demand of the people. Similarly our demand for a survey of Mugeli-Mandla railway line has been long overdue. A survey has not been yet conducted. Attention should be paid to it. We had also demanded a new train from Mandla to Jabalpur but the demand was turned down on the plea that the adequate number of passengers is not available here so as to start a new train. But it has been evident that the train which was involved in the accident was overcrowded to such an extent that those who did not find any place in a bogie of the train preferred to travel on the roof top, and all the persons who lost their lives were poor tribal labourers who were going to Jabalpur in search of employment. Since Mandla and Gaunsaur are hit by drought because of the failure of monsoon, the labourers have been rendered unemployed. If the Government had provided some employment opportunities in this area, accidents could have been averted. I would like to repeat the demand of Shri Mishra for the conversion of Mandla-Sehindwara metre gauge section into broad gauge one. It must be done urgently. Nayanpur is the biggest station on the metre gauge in the country. Hence it should be developed as a model station. A passenger halt has been provided at Tuiapani and Kajarnara but arrangements should also be made for a shed and drinking water etc. I am highly thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI SHAMINDER SINGH (Faridkot).
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Ministry of Railway is a very important department. In the first five year plan, 15 percent of the total Budget allocations was allocated for this department. But the Congress Government reduced it to 11 percent and then to 7 percent during the third five year plan period. Similarly it was further reduced to 5 percent in the fourth plan and to 5.2 percent in the next plan and brought to the level of 6.3 percent in current plan. Every time it has been totally unfair on the part of the Government. The allocations continued to be reduced with the

increase in the number of passengers. Due to this very fact the Railways are running in deficit and stand in a deplorable condition. It is just because of the reduced allocations. The hon. Minister has been quite skillful in preparing the Budget. It is nothing but jugglery of figures. They say that the Government has not increased the fare being it the election year. Through you, I would like to submit one thing. A very small number of people would have been affected by the increase in fare. The Government itself believe that as 35 percent of the total population is living below the poverty line, it cannot afford to travel by train whereas some others travel by air. People have started going in for road journey instead of train journey which has created a setback for the railways. Hence the percentage of the people affected by the increase in fare would, consequently, have been negligible. So, this load has been shifted towards the freight side. A person who cannot afford to spend 5 rupees on a railway ticket will have to spend one rupee more on that account. It will certainly affect him. The entire burden has been spread over to the entire population of the country. But an increase in the passenger fare would not have had its bearing on more than thirty percent of the people. The hon. Minister has shown his capability in this regard. During the last three-four years he has tried his best to bring about a considerable improvement in the working of Railways. This department is among those five or six departments against which we, even being in the opposition, cannot level any charge of corruption. I would request the hon. Minister that he should make use of his influence and get the funds allocated for tracks renewal increased from the proposed 6.8 per cent to 10 percent. If we have more funds, it will enable the railways to replace more than 4 thousand metre long old track. The very old instruments should also be changed so that accidents may be avoided. The military personnel travelling by railways have not been given special facilities, especially in reservation. They travel in the train sitting on their own boxes and baggages. One of my colleagues from Punjab Shri Ramoowalia left the House after

having repeatedly requested to re-introduce the trains which have been cancelled. The hon. Members from the ruling party were thanking the Government for having started such and such train in their state or for having taken certain positive steps. This is good and should be done in our State as well. In Punjab, the Governemnt has linked a number of pilgrim places with the railways. I would suggest that Rajdhani Express which runs from Delhi to Calcutta may be extended upto Amritsar. Moga sub division is the second biggest grain market in the country. But if someone has to travel to Delhi from there, he has to travel via Ludhiana, which involves an overnight journey. There are quite a few trains coming via Ludhiana and there are also a number of tracks there. Thus if only two bogies are provided between Moga and Ludhiana it would enable the passengers reach Delhi, directly by taking any train. The businessmen have to come to Delhi quite frequently. Therefore the Government should take immediate steps in this direction. There are two thermal power plants in Punjab one at Ropar and the other at Bhandinda. Coal is required for these plants. The power generated by them goes to the central pool. Electricity is required in Punjab for agricultural production and therefore the Government should decrease the freight of coal so that low priced power may be made available for agriculture and central pool. This will also enable us to provide more food grain to the people. While I am all praise for your pleasant disposition, yet I oppose this Budget.

SHRI LAL VIJAY PRATAP SINGH (Sarguja): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Railway Budget presented by the hon. Minister Shri Scindia. You all know that railways have a crucial position in India and wherever the railway network has spread the pace of development has accelerated. The areas which have been deprived of this have certainly lagged behind in development. While waiting for my own turn I was listening to the views of the Members of Ruling Party as well the Opposition Party very carefully. Many of them have appreciated this Budget open heartedly. I agree

with them. However, there are some Members of the Opposition who have opposed this Budget. This is so because either they are not familiar with the actual situation or else their aim is to spread misconceptions. My submission is that next to Orissa, it is Madhya Pradesh where railways have not fully expanded. Thus the work which should have been completed 30-35 years ago is being undertaken now in some stages. I welcome this.

I do not want to go into the details of the Budget as I have very little time left. However, through you I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to my own constituency where a practical solution to the problems is urgently required. Shri Sahu was saying just now that the Britishers had started the construction work of the railway line from Karwadih to Vishrampur via Sarnadih. Thereafter our own Government came to power but I fail to understand why the priority of that line was cancelled and the project was thrown in the cold storage forever. Due to this, our district has been deprived of not only a railway line but another major benefit also. This 100 kilometre railway line would have shortened the route by about 400-500 kilometres in the country. Probably, our term will end this year. I would, therefore, request the hon. Railway Minister that though it may not be possible to include this proposal in this year's Budget now but I am sure that the Government will certainly give priority to this line in the future years and make provision to lay the railway line upto the district headquarter Ambikapur of Sarguja district. If the Governemnt takes steps to lay this line, then it will help in developing backward area like Sarguja.

Besides, the hon. Minister has introduced a number of programmes during his tensure and I feel it is my duty to appreciate them. So far as the laying of new railway lines, starting new trains, fast trains, computerisation, modernisation or increasing the passenger amenities are concerned, the Railway Ministry has made rapid progress in every sphere. No amount of appreciation shall suffice. I feel that the Indian Railways

[Sh. Lal Vijay Pratap Singh]

can be compared with the best Railways in any other part of the world. Indian Railways occupies a high place in the world today. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have been to many foreign countries and have travelled by various railways. I am very sure that the Indian Railways are by no means inferior to any other country's Railways. I would like to add here that our attention has been drawn to some of the prestigious trains of the country only whereas there are many other trains in the country. We have not paid attention towards them. It would be excellent if the Government pays attention to all the small trains and those running in remote areas in our country.

At this point through you, I would humbly like to submit that the planning Commission and the Finance Commission of our country have always given a step-motherly treatment to the Railways. This is my personal feeling. My submission is that you should communicate the feelings of the whole House to Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the Planning Commission. Further such a provision should be made so, that the Railway Department becomes financially strong and may progress in the future.

In the present situation we find that the Indian Railways functions either on its own sources or through some borrowing. I feel that if the Railways is under resource constraint then a part of these proposal may be handed over to some private sector. In this regard it will be best if the Government conducts a debate. This will surely help the growth of railways.

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI (Bilhaur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all I thank the hon. Minister of State of the Ministry of Railways for having presented such a good Budget. In this Budget the Government has provided certain facilities also, for example the privilege of train passage to the gallantry award winners. Besides, 15 new trains have been introduced and the trips of some trains have also been increased. Apart from this

the long standing of demand of Kanpur has been met and a new inter-city superfast train has been provided for Kanpur. I thank you for this.

In this regard, I would like to submit that the timings of this train are not appropriate. This train will start from Delhi in the morning for Kanpur and leave in the evening on its return from Kanpur. My submission is that this train is meant for the Kanpur passengers. They frequently travel to Delhi. Therefore, the Government should reconsider this and fix the timings of this train. It should leave Kanpur at 6 am so that the Kanpur passengers can attend to their work in Delhi during day time and return by night. The train should leave Delhi in the evening for Kanpur. At this point, you may point out that there is no provision of siding at Kanpur. So the Government should make provision for it because this train has been introduced for the benefit of the passengers and not for the convenience of the Railway employees. If this change of timing is not made, nobody will like to travel by this train and then the Government will say that it is running in loss.

Kanpur is a junction. But has not been included in the list model stations. A number of trains from Central Railway, Northern Railway and North-Eastern Railway pass through this junction. I would, therefore, like to request the Government to include this station in the list of model stations and introduce computerised reservation system as well at this station.

There are some problems in my constituency. There are certain stations like Arol and Manakpur in North Eastern Railway where trains do not halt though it is very necessary. I made requests several time that 55 up and 56 DN-Kanpur-Lucknow Fast Express, which is also known as K.K. Express should be provided a halt at these stations. It should also halt at Chaubepur station.

At the same, I would like to request that some bridges and fly-overs should also be constructed. Rura is a very big station in

Northern Railway and there is rush of traffic also. It is, therefore, necessary that a flyover should be constructed there. Further, the people experience great difficulties in crossing over the lines in North Eastern Railway at Kanpur city station. I would, therefore, like to request that a fly-over should be constructed at a level crossing No. 5 or in front of Coca Cola so that it may facilitate public movement.

I would like to make one more submission that Brahma-Varta-Bithur is a place of mythological and historical importance. Tourists not only from North India but also from all over the country visit this place. Here, a local train runs from Mandhana station on a branch line. I would like to request you that Bithur should be brought on the main line and keeping this necessity in view a railway line from Bithur to Choubepur should be laid. This is a distance of 6 kilometres. A survey should be conducted for laying a railway line here. This will help a large number of passengers coming from different parts of the country to visit this place.

The narrow gauge line from Hathras to Kanpur may also please be converted into broad gauge. It will reduce the rush of passengers in Kanpur bound trains from Delhi and reduce the load on those trains.

The old railway crossing near village Bhul between panki and Bhaupur stations in the Northern Railways may please be reopened, because it is causing a lot of hardship to people. I want that it must be reopened.

There is a block-but at Rainpalpur between Bhaupur and Maitha stations. It may please be converted into a halting station.

Finally, I would like to make a submission that Lucknow and Kanpur are two major cities but the railway track between these two cities has not been electrified. I request the hon. Minister to take up the electrification of this line at the earliest. At the same time, I would like to request him that single broad

gauge line which exists between these two stations may be doubled so that Lucknow and Kanpur link may have fast running trains.

With these words, I would like to say that suburban trains may please be introduced from Kanpur to nearly sub-urban towns like Etawa, Farukhabad, Fatehpur, where this facility does not exist at present. This will help the local traffic.

With these words, I support the Budget.

SHRI ABDUL HANNAN ANSARI (Madhubani): Mr. Deputy Speaker, and hon. Minister for Railways, it gives me pleasure to say that the hon. Minister of Railways, the employees and others deserve our thanks for the far sightedness honesty and efficiency in their working.

It is a fact that the Indian Railways has not only served our own nation but has also earned the reputation by opening its branches in foreign countries as well. It is a matter of pride for us. But when I go through the Railway Budget I find that the allocations for the railways is very meagre. The population has gone up by 2 3/4 times after independence. But the allocations for this department are being reduced day by day. Our colleagues from the opposition have also expressed the same view.

I would like to urge the Government to ask the Planning Commission to re-consider the Budgetary allocations and increase the amount for the Ministry of Railways so that, in view of the increasing population, it may discharge its duties conveniently.

Nobody can deny the merits of this Budget. This department did justice to all the sections. But there are certain things which need the attention of the Government. There are certain areas which have gone backward for some reasons or the other. No special attention has been paid to these areas.

In this connection I would like to state

[Sh. Abdul Hannan Ansari]

that Bihar is a very backward State. The survey of water way in 1950-51 revealed that the water way is not suitable for navigation. As such the entire burden of transportation fell on the railways. A total of 750,000 lines have been constructed since 1950-51. Out of it Bihar has got a share of less than 5,000 lines. Out of 61,000 kilometre lines constructed, Bihar has got only 5,000 kilometre lines. The Railway Convention Committee was set up in 1980-81 and Bihar's problem was put before the Committee but the committee failed to do justice to Bihar. I fail to understand as to why Bihar has been placed at the bottom. The State Government had made a provision in its Budget. On 20 March 1982 and had made recommendations to the Central Government for the extension of certain lines. It will do a lot of good to Bihar if those 29 lines recommended by the State Government are extended by the Government of India. The State Government is prepared to provide land for this work. Despite its constraints, the Ministry of Railways should take note of these points. I am sure that the matter will be considered by the Government.

Now, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards the problems being faced by my constituency. I have been requesting the hon. Minister to convert the Darbhanga-Samastipur line into a broad gauge line. It will be a big achievement and change the over all condition of this backward area if the hon. Minister kindly pays his attention into the matter. I need not say anything in detail about this line. It is an approved scheme which was taken up when Shri Lalit Narayan Mishra was the Minister of Railways. The foundation stone of this Project was laid during the time of Shri Kedar Pandey. At that time the total cost of this project was estimated to be Rs. 12 crores. When I draw the attention of the hon. Minister to this matter time and again, I was informed that survey of the work was being conducted. When I draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards it again, he said that survey had been conducted for a parallel

line. When the survey was completed he said that there were no funds. I request the hon. Minister to reconsider this Project on humanitarian grounds. The foundation stone of Digha-Chitoni bridge was laid by Shrimati Indira Gandhi in 1974. I am of the view that it is the duty of the Government in power to complete the work, foundation of which was laid by their revered leader. I hope that the Government will pay attention to all these things.

Survey is also being undertaken on the Darbhanga-Hasanpur line. I am sure the hon. Minister will consider these things sympathetically so that, I am sure, people who developed anger in their minds will start praising him. I want to say this much that "Shikvaye gher nahin, Yeh hai Shikayt apani" I am always with him and know his constraints. Even then, if he is a bit considerate it will reduce the hardships being experienced by the people of this area.

"phul ki patti se kal-sakata hai hire ka jigar, murde nadan pe kalame narm nazuk be - asar

For me Shri Scindia is just like a diamond. I am sure he will definitely pay attention to various problems placed by me.

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Railway Budget for 1989-90. I express my thanks to Shri Madhavrao, Shri Mahabir Prasad and the employees of the railways for the commendable work done by the railways.

The Ganganagar Express is a problem in my constituency, Ganganagar. When the Ganganagar Express started running from Jaipur it was attached with a very old engine and very old coaches. Due to that this train never reached in time. Ganganagar is mainly an agriculture district. I, therefore, request Shri Mdhavrao to introduce a new train in the name of Kisan Express from Ganganagar to Jaipur.

Secondly, I would like to say that Tibi should be made a station. Tibi is a tehsil headquarters and there is a mandi also. This area is very fertile and irrigation facilities are available here. It is a granary of wheat and rice. Wheat and rice can also be loaded from this station. Besides, half the coaches attached to the train running between Hanumangarh and Delhi are third class coaches and the remaining half are first class coaches. These coaches are also very old. Their condition is very bad. I would like to make an appeal that new coaches should be attached to this train. One more thing is that the level crossing on Hanumangarh Raosar road is very narrow. At times, there is a heavy traffic there and accident may take place at any time. It was only a few days back that two children were run over by a train. This crossing should be widened.

The problem of level crossing is a major problem in my district. Level crossings should be constructed at cross roads about which there are clear indication in the revenue records. People very often meet with accident's at these cities. Railway crossings must be constructed there. I would also like to make an appeal for a new railway line. A new track may be laid from Sardarsahar to Hanumangarh via Pallu and Raosar. This entire area is a desert. Transportation facilities like roads etc. are totally absent in this area. This area consists of densely populated big villages. Pallu is a place of historical importance where Durga Mata fair is held. Lakhs of devotees attend the fair to have darshan of the deity. Not only that, the area from Sardarsahar to Raosar contains gypsum. Thousands of trucks are being loaded with this metal from this place and loading is also done from Hanumangarh. Raosar is the main mandi in this Indra Canal area. Large quantities of rice, cotton and wheat is being grown in this area. Laying of this line is therefore, essential. A new line may please be laid from Ganganagar to Radampur. It is a distance of 60 kilometres only. This area is a granary of rice, cotton and wheat. That is why this line should be laid. I express my thanks to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Budget. The financial performances of the Railways during these years are remarkable. The Railways are undergoing a very desirable modernisation. The main constraint is finan.

Sir, through you I want to invite the attention of the Railway Minister to the railway communication system in Ganjam District in Orissa. During the British regime Berhampur in Ganjam in Orissa— not in West Bengal because there are two Berhampurs, one is in Orissa and one is in West Bengal. So at times it is confusing. When I speak of Berhampur, I speak of Berhampur in Ganjam District in Orissa. In the Bengal-Nagpur Railway map one will find a mention has been made of survey from Berhampur Railway Station to the then Russelkonda now Bhajanagar border of Phulbani District where there is no inch of railway line. This is evident in the railway map of 1932-34. The proposal to survey the railway line has not yet materialised.

18.00 hrs.

Now a port has come up at Gopalpur-on-sea near Berhampur. Ganjam, Phulbani, Kalahandi and Bolangir districts are the hinterland of this port. Unless and until a port is connected with railway line more so, with the hinterland, it cannot be developed and it will not be viable. No port in the world has been developed without railway line being connected. So, I urge upon the Minister through you that the railway line from Berhampur to Bolangir via Phulbani district should be surveyed and it should be implemented. The policy of the Government being that we should have a railway line in the area which is not developed, more so inhabited by Adivasis and Harijans, and added to it, this line will link the port with the hinterland, specific attention should be given.

Another point, I want to impress upon the hon. Minister through you is that people

[Sh. Somnath Rath]

of Bejput situated in between Khalikot and Chilka railway stations of aussa have come in a big way to offer their mite and labour for the construction of a platform for passenger halt at Bejput. This area is inhabited by fishermen and poor people. When the people are coming forward and cooperating, which is a unique one, I think, the Government will consider to have a passenger halt at Bejput for the benefit of fishermen to export their fishes.

The hon. Minister has replied to a letter of mine that he will sympathetically consider the stoppage of Konark Express at Khalikot. I hope he will do so at an early date.

In the Khurda Railway Division, Bhubaneswar, capital of Orissa is situated. Since Bhubaneswar is the capital of Orissa, Bhubaneswar Railway station has been modernised, and is going to be a model railway station it cannot be taken for granted that other railway stations in the same division should not be modernised and converted to model railway station, because the policy of the Government is that the railway stations at the State capital headquarters should also be modernised and made model railway station. In that event, I would request the hon. Minister not to take a plea that because the railway station at Bhubaneswar has been modernised, they will put an end to modernisation of any other railway station in the Khurda division. I request that Berhampur railway station which is in the Khurda division, should be modernised and converted to a model railway station.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Railway Budget presented by our hon. Minister, Shri Madhavrao Scindia. I commend and compliment Scindiaji because he has given a budget to the entire satisfaction of all sections and all regions. Frequency of accidents has gone down and more satisfactory thing during his period is that there has not been any Hartal like in other public sector units. This is very

much satisfactory. This is a budget which is beyond anybody's imagination. He has tried to reach the 21st century by his efforts.

One thing that I have to say is that Shri Madhavrao Scindia at one end has been given compliments and at the other end, he has been criticised. I hold the view that criticism should be constructive, helpful and without prejudice. Some of our hon. colleagues were telling that it is Madhya Pradesh Budget. It is quite injustice to him. He has never done any injustice to any State. For example, he has not given anything to Bihar. But it is not that he has done any injustice to Bihar.

The hon. Minister has taken up the work of modernisation and renovation with vision and imagination and works of imagination are as old as the practical and material tools. Nothing is fixed and fated. Efforts are being made by the Railway Minister and human efforts count. It is impossible for any nation to stand still and stiff within its closed gates while humanity is marching on. Unceasing change is the rule of life and our Railway Minister is striving and taking resort to creative activities.

But, he has his constraints and his limitations. If he goes to public borrowing, then the opposition will say that every citizen of India is loaded with such and such amount of loan and debt. If he goes to tax the people, even indirectly, they will say that poor people are suffering on account of indirect taxation. As, for example, 11% hike in freight. He has tried to mobilise the resources. Wherefrom the resources are to come? In developing countries, there would be deficit financing. In which developing country, there is no deficit financing? I say that even in Russia, even my Communist colleague will appreciate that in the Budget of USSR, this year, there is deficit of Rs. 80,000 crores in Indian coins. On food subsidy, Russia had given Rs. 1,98,000 crores. India is a developing country. It has to mobilise resources either by direct taxation or indirect taxation or public borrowing, internal or external, whatsoever that may be. Therefore, it is injustice to say that the hon.

Minister of Railways has done any injustice to any State.

There are certain problems of my areas, Madhepura and Saharsa. There is one 921-UP and 922-Dn to and from Gawahati to Delhi. In between Katihar and Barauni, there is a distance of 178 KM only and the time consumed for this distances only is five hours. Of course, this train is superfast and is running this distance at a speed of 35 KM per hour. Of course, there was a time when the line was new but now the difficulties and defects have been removed. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to see that timings are changed and loose time so much given is removed.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Railways to the fact that there is a gap of only about 18 KM in between Nirmali and Saraigarh and this gap is due to Kosi river. There is requirement of one bridge. You will appreciate that Saharsa passengers have to cover a distance of about 225 KM to reach Nirmali via Samastipur. If this one bridge is given, then one passenger will have to cover 18 KM only to reach Nirmali.

Railway lines between Mansi and Saharsa are very very old. There are bridges which are old and weak. There is also one wooden bridge. As a result, the speed of the train is very slow. I would request the hon. Minister of Railways to see that the wooden bridge is removed and the old pucca bridges are reconstructed to give the train speed.

The Railway Minister will appreciate that in the areas of Saharsa and Madhepora, nothing new has been given. He has his constraints and limitations. If he cannot give us railway, if he cannot give us survey, at least he should give us, his tour ways. That will, in a way, satisfy the general public.

[Translations]

*SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM (Arakkonam): Hon. Dy. Speaker, Sir, I wish to say a few words in support of the Budget

presented by our Hon. Minister of State for Railways Shri Madhavrao Scindia.

I welcome the allocation of funds for the construction of a Road over-bridge near Arakkonam. I also welcome the allocation made for modernising the Railway Engineering workshop in Arakkonam. In the same way, I welcome the allocation made for the construction of bridges over railway crossings near Arakkonam. I am highly obliged to the Hon. Minister of State for Railways and the Hon. Prime Minister for making these allocations.

I would like to take this opportunity to request the Hon. Minister to expand and modernise the Railway Station at Arakkonam. It was constructed some 100 years before by the British. There are a number of places of religious importance around Arakkonam. Tirupati, Tiruthani, Kanchipuram and Tiruvallur are certain of them. People who wish to go to these religious places have to alight at Arakkonam and then proceed. Therefore, the Hon. Minister must renovate the Arakkonam Railway Station and take immediate steps to restructure on modern lines.

Sir, the railway line from Salem to Bangalore is now a metre-gauge line. I am now speaking for the constituency represented by our Hon. Dy. Speaker. I am now speaking for him. Hon. Minister may, therefore, kindly take note of this and favourably consider this proposal. The Salem-Bangalore line should be converted into broad-gauge line. First when this project was taken up, it was to be constructed as a broad-gauge line. Land was so acquired. Brick-works were undertaken. Bridges were constructed. All these were done for constructing the Salem-Bangalore broad gauge line. However, when railway lines were laid they were laid to make the line a metre-gauge one. The Hon. Minister may therefore appreciate that this was a old problem. He must take steps to convert this metre-gauge line into a broad-gauge line. This would not require much money. This project would benefit three States. Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu would be

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

[Sh. R. Jeevarathinam]

benefitted. Trains coming from Kerala and other areas would easily pass through this line to cities in North, line Delhi and Bombay. This conversion project should be undertaken without delay.

Pondicherry and Bangalore industrially and culturally important cities. At present there is no direct link between these two cities. A new railway line via Villupuram, Tiruvannamalai, Oothangarai, Krishnagiri, Kaveripattinam, Palakodu, Vellisanthai and Osur must be laid. This would benefit Pondicherry, Tamilnadu and Karnataka. All these pertain to the Constituency represented by our Hon. Dy. Speaker. Now let me come to my Constituency.

My demand is that a shuttle service from Katpadi to Arakkonam should be run. I have requested the Hon. Minister several times. I had even voiced this demand in the Consultative Committee also. Arakkonam is a growing industrial centre. A naval air base has been under construction. The foundation was laid in last year by the Hon. Prime Minister. There is heavy traffic congestion in Arakkonam. The proposed shuttle should run from Arakkonam at 5.30 PM and run through Sholinger, Walajan, BHEL and then touch Katpadi. Likewise, the same shuttle should depart Katpadi at 7.30 so that the commuters alighting at Katpadi from Brindavan and Kovai Expresses be able to reach Arakkonam and Vellore. The shuttle will reach Arakkonam at 8.30 PM. Hon. Minister may kindly take note of this also.

Trains coming from Trivandrum and Mangalore to the south have to take a circuitous route via Arakkonam, Renigunda Gudur. Whether the trains require to go to Howra, Calcutta or Delhi, they have to take this circuitous route. This circuitous route involves 80 Kms. of distance and 1 1/2 hours time. If a broad gauge via Renigunda, Trupati and Pathala is constructed, then this circuitous route could be avoided. Hon.

Member Shri N.G. Ranga also made such a demand. He belonged to that Constituency once. Hon. Minister may, therefore, order a survey and consider the running of this shuttle from Katpadi to Arakkonam. This would not only add glory to the Hon. Minister but would also honour the veteran leader Prof. Ranja Ji.

The allocation made for Karur-Dindigul line is not sufficient. Increased allocation must be made for this new line. Yesterday also I received a letter from the Madurai Chamber of Commerce. They have pointed out that for this project only 4 crores have been allocated. This is a paltry allocation. This should be increased. This was the demand made in the letter also. This is the people's demand. The allocation made for the MRTS is also not sufficient. I have received many representation against this paltry allocation. Hon. Minister visits Madras several times. We welcome him always. In the same way, Hon. Minister should listen to our demands also. All necessary help must be done for Tamil Nadu. I hope Hon. Minister would not fail to consider my demands.

The Railway workmen have no grievances. Under the able leadership of the Hon. Minister, the railway employees are overwhelmingly happy. However, there are some categories of employees whose services have not been made permanent. I urge upon the Minister to make their services permanent.

Sir, kindly give me some more time. I spoke about your constituency for half-an-hour. Let me take some more time.

I conclude with the hope that the Hon. Minister will agree to one or two of my requests. I have been able to make within this short time.

18.15 hrs.

HALF—AN—HOUR DISCUSSION

[English]

Strike by Research Scholars of all India Institute of Medical Sciences

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH (Padrauna): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you to have permitted this discussion as when the Question was asked, there wasn't enough time to ask supplementaries. This is an important issue pertaining to the medical health of our country and specially of an Institute which, I think, is one of the largest, one of the best staffed and one of the most troubled in South-East Asia. The scientific community, Sir, in this country has sacrificed a tremendous amount financially and physically. They can get far better amenities, better salaries, better allowances abroad. But it is their nationalism that keeps them working in this country. Let us not pay lip service; let us not make excuses, let us try to help the young scientists, the budding scientists, whether they be working in laboratories, in libraries, in demonstration halls, in the clinical sections and even in picking up poor and sick patients. The unfortunate part is that when one becomes a senior scientist—I may be wrong—but I feel he or she becomes a board-room scientist and forgets what a hospital's OPD is like what a laboratory is like and what happens when you start at that level with very little salary, a lot of hardship and very little appreciation. The board room scientists are the bane and impediments of the youth, of our brilliant academic young scientific community of this country. The board room scientists with their file pushing manage their contacts in air-conditioned comforts of the beautiful offices located around New Delhi and the various State headquarters. Who are these junior doctors? Why does a strike take place? Why does a *Hartal* take place? The dissatisfaction is not merely that of salary. There are various tensions and various problems.

I disagree with what the Minister said that day that it could not be resolved because the Finance Minister was busy with the Budget. The problems have been on for over two years. The Prime Minister intervened once in 1986 and gave the doctors an enhancement of salary. The doctors do a fantastic service. One has to only see to believe it. If one goes to the OPD and see what conditions and pressures that the doctors are working under, one would realise this.

To categorise them and say 20-40, 50 or 60, we have to go through this channel or that channel; these are the red-tapisms and problems that people face. And our intelligent, hard working, nationalistic youth in frustration leave this country.

What happens? On the 1st of March, this question is listed in the Parliament. The night before police are called and the so called scientists, doctors, staff, Ph.D-what-ever they be—are arrested and taken to the Defence Colony police station like ordinary criminals. There must be some self-respect. What is the time factor for a doctor to become a doctor and a student to become a Ph.D? It is years of hard work; it is years of sacrifice. They are the hopes of their parents, the hopes of this country. Let us not with our words and with our excuses not give them their legitimate demands.

I will just take a little more time and talk from the new facts that I could get from newspapers and certain friends here—not from the medical institute. The problem is, I believe, of 20 Ph.d students or more. It is not the numbers. There must be some principle. They are all helping in the medical health of the country.

A new trend has started. Ministers come to Parliament and say that help us to get more money from the Planning Commission or from the Finance Ministry. It is not our job; we are Members of Parliament. It is an internal affair of the Cabinet. A Minister should not come to the Parliament and say; help me get more money. That is his job. He

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is a Minister. He should resign and let the MP who is helping out getting more money from the Finance or the Planning Commission become the Minister instead. There are other problems, Sir. I talked about the arrest and the police in the campus. There should be some restraint. Physical violence and physical persuasion did not pay with the mild Indians when they faced the British and the problems of Punjab are before us. We are a democratic set-up and let us behave with the educated people in a civilised educated manner.

There are various other problems that these scientists and young people face. They are the ones who are working down there in the laboratories—the various scientists in the lower rungs are India's mechanised technological force and future. They mess their hands. They mess their clothes. They tear their clothes. They miss their meals while working. Let us not be directed by these senior scientists administrators who sit in their air-conditioned comforts who have forgotten what a laboratory is like who have forgotten what pure science is and who are no more physicists but talkers, and men who manipulate. Let us not be directed by them if we want the future of this country to be bright.

Sir, a lot of money is given to the laboratories and to various senior professors for research. It is for what? It is for purchase. The Department of Science and Technology and ICMR give lakhs and crores of rupees for research and for buying of the equipment. Mr. Deputy Speaker: Please put the questions now. Shri Chandra Pratap Narain Singh: I will just take a few more minutes. I do not take much time. (Interruptions) With all humility, Sir, I am speaking, I think, because the people have sent me here to speak and in the five years you should also see as to who spoke how much.

Sir, there is something called centralisation of the basic facilities of a laboratory. The ICMR and Department of Science and

Technology give lakhs and crores of rupees for equipment. Why is there no centralisation of the basic laboratory facilities? People should not take those things away. It is the Government money, the research money and the research equipment funded by the Government of India's organisations ICMR and DST etc. and it should be centralised and left in the faculty. It is Indian money. It is Indian research. It is the sweat and toil of the poor who lie on the pavements of AIIMS. The affluent should not have the advantage of taking those funds home. Centralisation must take place and scientists should get many other facilities. I would request the hon. Minister who has recently taken over charge—I do not hold him responsible at all—but I only hope and pray that he shall begin a new chapter for the youth and the scientific community will look up to his innovation and new directions that he will give, I hope!

I, in the end, will once again implore that the police should only be used when there is physical violence. Let us not insult our Indian culture by violence.

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Member has raised a number of points which not only concern the All India Institute of Medical Sciences and its immediate problems but he has touched some very basic issues which the country has to face so far as scientific manpower is concerned. I fully agree with him that the country owes it to our scientists to give them a fair deal, that is not only fair but generous with them because it is through them only that the nation can develop and progress in various areas. I also agree with him that these problems have arisen in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, which, he admits, is one of the most prestigious institutions not only in our country but abroad also. Its administration should be more sympathetic and see that the young scientists are treated properly.

Let us straightaway come to the police.

Entry of the police in the Institute, about which the hon. Member has mentioned, was not because of any law and order situation. It was called because the doctors attending on the hunger-striking students felt that a stage had reached when they should be removed from there. It was done with very great tact and courtesy at a time when there were not many people around and the students were taken willingly—lot of others also—in almost a cordial atmosphere. It was not a police action in the sense that they were dragged or arrested or anything. But because of medical advice, this action had to be taken that they should be removed to a hospital where they can be properly treated. They preferred one hospital. They were taken there. Then, they went to another hospital. So, it was done in cooperation with them and in a very proper atmosphere.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: If for the advantage of the functioning of this House, the police is called in a very mild manner we are removed in a very sympathetic manner, would it be a good thing? Because of the police calling, there was a strike by the general students' union and next day, the entire Medical Institute went on strike.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Again I will repeat, Sir, it was not to suppress them, trouble them or give them sort of a police action atmosphere but it was on medical advice that they had to be removed. It would have endangered their lives not to do it. We tried to persuade them to give it up. We tried to persuade them to come along and enter the hospital. They did not do it. So, the administration was duty bound to report it to the police so that they could take action. Again I repeat that it was not done as a sort of punitive measure but in a way to protect the lives of people who were on hunger strike. It should be seen only from that angle.

While agreeing with the broad approach of the hon. Member, I would like to disagree when it divides scientists into young scientists and what he terms as board level scientists. The board level scientists were at

one time young scientists. They have served the institutions all their lives. In the young days and even now they have distinguished themselves in the various areas of specialisation, brought honour to the institutions and to the country. Their expertise and their experience has to be made use of in running this institution. There is no other way in which you can run them. So it is most unfair and, I think, completely a misguided conception. of the whole situation to say that as if there exists a situation where they are at loggerheads. It is not so. They are the teachers. They passed through their hands. They taught them. they are still guiding their research.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: I have never said all—some young, some old. Bad and good exist everywhere.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: We are talking of the generality. There are 20 Ph. D. students concerned with this as the hon. Member said. There are 60 other Ph. D. students who are funded from other sources and they have no problems. But because these students get their stipend etc. from the AIIMS, this problem has arisen.

I do not say that the House or the Members should assist me in getting the clearance from the Finance Minister, though whatever they say, will strengthen my hands to take a particular stand vis-a-vis certain sections of the Government. Of course, the Government is one.

As the question has come up before the House, I would like to say that we have also Ph. D. students under the general University system and University Grants Commission system and they have a certain way of working. So we have to see this in totality and not act in a way which would create precedents fro other services who perform almost the same duties, who have the same nomenclature and things of that nature. Even if our proposition has not been accepted at the present stage, we are still trying to see and trying to differentiate that these students should be given a certain amount of prefer-

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once compared to others. We have already given them preferences in many ways.

In this connection, I would like to say about the concern of the Government for the scientists, particularly medical scientists. I would just give certain examples. The Pay commission appointed to look into the pay scales and other service matters for the Government employees had recommended non-practising allowance of Rs. 250 to Rs. 550 for the Central Health Services doctors. The Government enhanced this to Rs. 600 to Rs. 900. There was no mention of contingency allowance in the Pay Commission's report, but the Government gave it to them in view of the contingencies of service. Then time bound promotions were agreed to. More promotion opportunities are being explored. I would also say that recently AIIMS itself had revised the nomenclatures in a very satisfactory way which was welcomed by the scientific community. I assert with all sense of responsibility that the scientists in the country, particularly the medical scientists, with which my Ministry is concerned, are being treated not unfairly, but generously and as I said, we have tried to exceed the recommendations of a high-powered Committee, like the Pay Commission.

There are two problems. One, if you concede certain things to junior doctors of Ph.D. students, it has reflections in various other services. The Government acting in totality cannot ignore that. Secondly, there is constraint of resources. However much we may like to help them to overcome their problems, we cannot certainly right away concede to their demands because of financial constraints.

The same holds good for the other demands like centralization of facilities, laboratories etc. Certain instruments, certain laboratories can be centralised, but others have to be in the respective departments. There is no holy principle involved to centralise everything. What matters is that it

should be operational and there should be optimum use of the machine. As the hon. Member has said, equipment costing crores of rupees have been sanctioned by ICMR and other authorities and those have to be used properly. It is the institute itself, faculty and students who have to sit together and see which instrument and laboratories have to be centralised and which have to be with the respective Departments and in which way they should proceed so that the costly facilities are used to the advantage of not only of the Ph. D. students and scientists, but others also who are working in the various departments of the institute.

When the question was asked, I would like to set the record straight. The hon. Member asked—way do we call them non-medical. Non-medical term is being used by the Ph. D. students themselves. When we mention non-medical, it means they do not have a basic medical degree. That is all. I tried to express it in another way which was not correct. The situation is that they themselves use this term. This just describes a certain situation that they are not medical graduates from AIIMS or any other institute. Therefore, the term non-medical has been used. They are a part of the medical institute and in every possible way we try to see that they have all facilities.

About hostel facilities, some categories have more than 80 per cent hostel facility and others have different types of facility and our attempt is to augment them but here again the resources come in the way. From time to time, some are getting house rent allowances and others are helped in other way. Therefore, the situation is being watched every time with a view to give more facilities.

I will end by convincing or pleading through you, Sir, to the House, particularly, Hon. Members that the Government is not indifferent to the demands of these students or of the scientific community as a whole. We are not only sympathetic but we really want to see that they are a satisfied a lot and contribute to the progress of the country in

the medical and health area.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all I thank you for admitting this Half-an-hour discussion. Earlier when several Members who were very much agitated over the strike by the research scholars and the non-medical scientists working in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences sought to raise a Calling Attention Motion, it was not admitted. Anyway this Half-an-hour discussion has given some scope to raise a very important issue regarding the strike by the scientists and research scholars working in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences.

I will not respect what my predecessor, Shri, C.P.N. Singh has said in his speech. I agree with the sentiments expressed by him and I also agree that the police should not have been called inside to tackle the non-medical scientists and the research scholars who were demonstrating quite peacefully.

Sir, this problem is there for quite some time. Unfortunately it is the indifference shown by the Director of that Institute which has resulted in a situation where the non-medical scientists and research scholars had to resort to strike. Sometimes, I wonder why some senior officers do like this. If you remember more than a year back, I believe, there was a strike in the Post Graduate Institute at Chandigarh and the reason was that the post graduate students who were doing their Ph. D. and MDMS were denied their due rights. Some students who were doing post graduation from the same institute were getting higher emoluments while others were getting lesser emoluments. Then when compared with the emoluments which are given in other post graduate institute they were far far less. So, ultimately they went on strike and the then Union Minister for Medical and Health, I believe it was Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, called them to have a dialogue with him. Ultimately Government accepted their demand. It is a good thing. But if the Director had taken enough interest, sympathy and care to resolve the problem, students would not have lost so many days.

They would not have been put in the trouble to come to Delhi and have talks with the Hon. Minister.

Similarly, Sir, my information is that the Director of AIIMS was also asked to give equal emoluments to these 20 scientists and Ph. D students but the Director has not taken any step in this direction. Even after the Standing Finance Committee of the Institute had recommended that these 20 Ph. D students of AIIMS may be given the same emoluments as announced by the UGC, they have not taken any step. It was most unfortunate.

Now, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister, about whom we have a great regard and respect, as to whether he will use his good offices to direct the Director of the AIIMS to take necessary steps for the revision of the emoluments to be given to the senior demonstrators (non-medical) and make it at par with the Senior demonstrators (Medically qualified) and for the revision of emoluments to be given to the Ph. D students and make it on at par with the Junior demonstrators (Medical). These posts are almost identical and they are interchangeable also. There is full justification in the demand of these scientists for payment of NPA also because the posts are interchangeable. Moreover they work for more than 12 hours a day and they do laboratory work also. Some of them are doing teaching work also. Let the Government take a positive and sympathetic view over these issues.

Also, will the Government take necessary steps for providing hostel accommodation to these 20 Ph. D. candidates?

There is yet another grievance expressed by these scientists. This grievance is of course not limited to these people alone, and it is faced by all the research scholars as a whole. When a candidate conducts his research, finishes it and prepares his thesis, he has to incur a lot of expenditure to put the material in a proper form, to get copies and to get them bound, etc. I am told that the expenditure amounts to Rs. 3000 to Rs.

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4000. My information is that a very meagre rather a paltry sum of Rs. 350 is given. It is not at all sufficient. The students who come to pursue their studies in this institution may not be very rich either. So we have to keep the average Indian citizen in view. Will heavens fall if the Government pays the actual amount spent by the students to put all the research material in a proper form? They can get it properly calculated and pay the money to the students.

These students are also asking for a central laboratory facility.

The previous Health Minister, Shri Motilal Vora, assured the non-medical scientists and the research scholars on 13 January that their demand for a hike in their pay scales had been referred to the Ministry of Finance for clearance. I would like to know the latest stage in regard to this assurance. I would also like to have a clear and categorical clarification from the Minister as to whether it requires the approval of the Ministry of finance or whether the ball is in the court of the Director, All India Institute of Medical Sciences who is empowered to take a decision on these demands of the striking research scholars.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central): Sir, my honourable friend Shri Chandra Pratap Narain Singn while raising this discussion has covered many of the important points. After the hon. Minister's reply, Shri Rao has also covered further points. Therefore, I would like to have certain clarifications only.

In the first place the hon. Minister asserted that the police action was only to remove the fasting scientists just to protect them. It is also said that only a minimum of police force has been used. But the newspaper reports appear to be quite contrary to what the hon. Minister has said. I would like to know as to which statement is true.

For example in the *Times of India*, dt. 1.3.1989

"The drama at the AIIMS began around 2,00 A.m. when a large contingent of police swooped down on the fasting scientists and others including students and doctors, sitting in the institute foyer. This created quite a stir. Some of those on strike resisted arrest, while others rushed to the nearby hostels and came back with a huge crowd. Another group of scientists doctors and students rushed to the director, Dr. Sneh Bhargava's residence in the campus to get her to call off the police.

Meanwhile, the police picked up about 100 agitators and sent them off to the Defence Colony police station. An almost equal number was picked up from the director's residence by the police."

In view of this report which was published in *The Time of India* of 1st March, I would like to know as to how the hon. Minister is justifying by saying that a nominal police force was sent just to protect or to take care of these fasting student scientists whose health was deteriorating? This is my first question.

Their demands mainly consisted of revision of salaries of junior and senior demonstrators, centralised laboratory facilities, enhancement in their grant for MSc. and Phd., hostel accommodation for all scientists and well-defined research programmes. Now, Sir, it appears that some of these demands were considered also by the Fourth Central Pay Commission and in Paragraph 10.237 they have stated and I quote "The non-medical teaching staff of the All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, Jawaharlal Institute of Post-Graduate Medical Education and Research and Lady Hardinge Medical College and Hospital have represented that there is difference in the pay scales of non-medical and medical teaching staff. They have suggested that pay scales fixed for the posts should be the same."

Then, they have stated and I quote: "There appears to be considerable force in this contention." In spite of the Fourth Pay Commission's recommendation and also in spite of the decision of the governing body of 9th January, 1989, the minutes of which say "the members agreed that the matter would be reviewed and referred to the Finance Ministry again with reviewed recommendations so that there is no distinction between medical and non-medical scientists except NPA (which was accepted in principle by IVth Pay Commission and the Government)." and in spite of the fact that, it is reported that the Health Ministry also gave direction to the Director of the Institute to decide the matter within the competent body of the institution. Why there is so much delay? The agitation was there for nearly 52 days and nothing has been done even today though technically the agitation has been withdrawn. But it appears that that has been withdrawn on the understanding that immediately the decision will be taken by the Government.

Sir, I would like to know in view of this background within what time, the Government would be able to take decision with respect to the demands of these scientists?

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are now discussing about the AIIMS in the Jawaharlal Nehru Centenary year, this institution being the brain child of Panditji. This is a prestigious institution. The hopes and aspirations of millions of people, the common men of India and mostly the ailing persons are with this institute. So the institute must be well equipped with the modern equipments, and provided with staff etc. for serving the ailing people.

Twenty Ph. D. Students were called non-medical. They were educated just like Junior Resident Doctors; they are far decent. Besides preparing thesis, they teach students, they do the laboratory job, they do the research and treat the patients. Under these circumstances, why should not these 20 Ph. D students be given the same facili-

ties as are given to the Junior Resident Doctors?

I want to know whether the Health Ministry had given a directive to settle the matter in September 1987; and whether the Director has given any suggestions to the Government for this settlement? Unless these suggestions come from the Director, the Health Minister cannot do anything. So, what is required is a good administration; the administration should appoint adequate number of doctors and provide quarters in the campus to the doctors. There should not be different yerdsticks for different persons. May I know whether the directive given by the Health Department to this Institution has been observed?

For example, it seems our Parliamentary Affairs Minister, H.K.L. Bhagat, has written for the upgradation of the post of the PA to the Medical Superintendent, which is also recommended by the Health Minister. I want to know whether this suggestion of the government has been implemented at the Director's level? We have got efficient doctors in that Institution. In the Eye Department, Dr. Madan Mohan and Dr. Khosla are a very efficient doctor; so also in other faculties. When these professors go abroad-they are to go-to attend conferences and seminars, it is the Associate Professor or the Assistant Professor who should do their job. So, has this Institute got a sufficient number of Assistant Professors/Associate Professors to do the jobs of the Professors when they go abroad or when they are absent? These are the lacunae; these are the burning questions which require the consideration of the Minister. When will this matter be settled? Will he call the Director of the Institute and solve the matter? I suggest that it would be better if a House Committee is appointed; because if a House Committee is appointed, then it could go and probe not only into the pushing and urgent matters of the specialised institutions but also the affairs relating to the Ph. D. students. There are many other matters, many pressing matters which require the immediate attention of the Government for the benefit of

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millions of ailing patients of the country. So, I want a specific reply from the Minister. Whether a House Committee will be appointed?

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my perspective of the problem is entirely different. The recent strike is just a symptom of the disease; it is not a disease itself. So, I would be raising broader questions before the hon. Minister.

We have a Medical Faculty at AIIMS with 350 staff. It is a complete Medical Faculty and a very well-trained Faculty. When they go abroad or when they work here, they earn laurels from the people here and from abroad also. But the basic point is that the AIIMS was constituted as a Referral Hospital; it was not going to be just a college or a hospital. Now, it has not become a Referral Hospital. If the trend of deteriorating continues in the AIIMS, then within 4-5 years it will become as good or as bad hospitals as you have in Delhi or any other city.

10.00 hrs.

When one goes to AIIMS, one finds a lot of overcrowding, not only in the OPD, not only in the wards, but even in the corridors. It is very difficult to pass through the corridors even. The atmosphere is totally uncongenial. And then, due to paucity of time I cannot say in detail, but there is no coordination in the Delhi hospitals. So, AIIMS is overburdened, overcrowded and just across the road there is the Safdarjung Hospital. I wish the hon. Minister takes notice of this situation that most of the equipment and facilities in the Safdarjung Hospital lie unutilised and the total pressure is on the AIIMS.

There is no apex body to organise coordination or oversee the work, and the Secretariat is as good or as bad as in any other place, perhaps worse.

I would also point out one thing to the hon. Minister that I find there is a medical

bureaucracy that has taken shape in the Ministry. That medical bureaucracy does not treat the faculty well. Something may be wrong in the faculty. I do not go into the promotions, that somebody should become the Assistant Professor, or somebody should become something else and so on. I do not really bother also although my hon. friend has raised those points. I do not expect that those people who are taught now can say that they have got greater acumen than their professors. We cannot support it. The faculty is a totally credit worthy one. Their work is to be appreciated. But the problem of the faculty is that the medical bureaucracy is very bad. It has to be looked into.

Now, my point is this. The Ministry of Health does not receive proper treatment from the Government of India. My questions is to the Prime Minister. This Ministry cannot be attached to one Minister today and tomorrow to another. That is important for this Ministry. From the way he conducts himself, I would welcome it, I have got lot of respect for him, he is an honest and a dedicated man and he has brought credit for the Government. But I wish this Ministry were permanently with him, but the Government of India will have to take a decision on that. I have two questions to ask.

Will the hon. Minister kindly rise in his seat and assure this House that he will try, as long as he is the Minister, to make the AIIMS a referral hospital? Will he kindly do it? Because the wards, the casualty and the OPD and the the corridors and even the faculty itself is cramped. They work like labourers in a factory. They deserve respect, better treatment and the medical bureaucracy just sends circulars one after the other. Beyond circulars, there should be proper treatment.

And my next question to the hon. Minister is that he should organise a dialogue with the faculty, I want him to go on the AIIMS, sit with the faculty and discuss the problems, not just about their promotion and then organise their personal well-being. This is

important, but to me patients are more important. He may kindly organise a dialogue, sit with them and give this institution the prestige that Jawaharlal Nehru wanted to give, which it deserves.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: I am thankful to the hon. Members for raising these issues and also for appreciating the role that the AIIMS is playing and, in their expectation, should play in that area of medical education and treatment.

I will start by again saying that the governing Body of the AIIMS did not take any unanimous decision which is not being followed. It was said on the previous occasion when the question came and it was also mentioned just now. No such decision was taken by the governing Body and there is no question of decision not being implemented. The Standing Finance Committee considered certain suggestions, which now stand referred to the Ministry of Finance and that is where the matter ends. So, there is no question, as Mr. Rath has said, of the Government giving the directive or the Director writing to us. AIIMS is governed by a Governing Body, which has the last word in its management. It is the Standing Finance Committee which considers financial matters and once all procedures are gone through, the decisions are implemented. But in this case, the basic decision has not been taken because it has certain implications. You can ask, way don't you give them the UGC pay? But that is not the point. They want something different. That is where the problem arises. Therefore, we are trying to see as to how that problem could be solved and to see that we give them proper satisfaction.

Sir, the question of thesis grant was mentioned. Now again I would like to say that there are thousands of Ph. D. students in the country and none of them gets thesis grant. But the Institute gave it to our scientists another instance of being generous with them. That is being revised from time to time. It was revised sometime back. Even now the Committee is going on and we shall see that

it revises to a reasonable extent. There is no question of not doing it. Even the grant is something very extra-ordinary, which no Ph. D. student in any University system gets in our country. But we gave it to them because of the special circumstances.

For the residential accommodation, I have already said that some categories have 80 per cent and above, and it is not possible to give cent per cent satisfaction in that respect.

I will again come back to the police action. I do not want to emphasise it too much. It was not done in the sense it has been reported in the paper, which was quoted by the hon. Member. The Station House Officer was a lady. Because of medical advice that the two hunger strikers have to be removed, they were called in and they came with lady constables. The hon. Member has mentioned that some students were arrested in the Director's house. No one was arrested. But again I am sorry to mention, I wish I could have avoided saying these things, that some students after this went to the Director's residence, pushed their way in spite of the guards there, threw stones and broke the window-panes. So, there is no question of being high handed with them. Even then police acted with restraint.

There is a High Court case regarding the students strike. The High Court has clearly said that meetings are banned, demonstrations in the foyer are banned, and loudspeakers are banned because it disturbs the patients. Again I am sorry to say that all these instructions of the High Court were ignored by the students. But we do not want to pursue that. They are our students. We want to resolve it in consultation with them, with deepest sympathy towards them. I wish I was not made to say these things even in this House. But since it has been raised. I cannot help mentioning the real situation. After all, the interest of the patient also is something important. The whole system is run because of the patients. And if their care suffers because of these demonstrations, these loudspeakers, these noises

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and shouting of slogans all over, then we have to sit back and think whether what is being done is proper or not. I agree with the hon. Members that a very balanced view of the whole thing should be taken. I can assure them, as I said in the beginning, that we want to resolve this issue in the best possible way and we will do as soon as possible. This is the only assurance I can give it to the House at the present moment.

As regards specialists not being utilised in Safdarjung hospital, etc., Mr. Soz has insisted that AIIMS to be made a referral hospital. He had also raised it on earlier occasion. The referral system is not working in our country. It is true that it was intended so. Even now this is supposed to be a referral hospital. The whole concept was that only specialist cases should be referred here and that O.P.D. would not be like any General Hospital. Because of the paucity of medical institutions and hospitals in Delhi and in the whole country, as a matter of fact, the patients come from all over the country, not just from Delhi. But whatever has been done or is being done would probably mitigate the situation to some extent. Very important institutions of this nature are coming up in Patna and in Lucknow. We are expanding the health facilities in Delhi itself. Some hospitals are under construction like the 500 bedded. Teg Bahadur Hospital, Upadhaya Hospital and lot of other 100 bedded hospitals which are coming up. We hope that is the only long term solution to avoiding this referral problem and not by banning it. We just cannot do it. If patients come with their beddings from Bihar or from Rajasthan, they just cannot be thrown out. There might be crowds there might be smells, it might disturb our work. But it just cannot be done. We want to cure this overcrowding situation in OPD and other places by having these facilities where we can divert patients so that only the real genuine specialised cases which need specialised treatment are sent here. That model concept still remain our concept. And we will try to see that this is done.

As regards dialogue with the faculty, there is a continuing dialogue with them. I myself have discussed with a number of senior, junior and middle rung teachers in an informal way how the things should be done. The recent grades and designations are very satisfactory. They all assured me about that. And I can assure the House that the atmosphere is conducive to good work. As far as faculty is concerned, they are very competent. There will be no interference from the Ministry of anybody. They will not be made to run to the Ministry for any work of theirs. And they should do their work where they are. And the Ministry's functions will be to strengthen and support them wherever they are and in the type of work they are doing. There is no question of interference by the Ministry in their day to day work. We would like to see that they work and they do not have to go to the Ministry for anything and everything as is imagined by the hon. Members.

Again I would like to assure the House that the question of the students as well as other problems that remain to be sorted out, we are trying to sort them out.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Mr. Sharad Dighe has clearly pointed out the recommendations of the Pay Commission also. In view of that, what about their emoluments? What is your concrete assurance to this House?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: The concrete assurance to the House is that the matter is under consideration.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: When will it be decided?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Very soon.

19.13 hrs.

*The House then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, March 9, 1989/
Phalguna 18, 1990 (Saka)*

