

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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Second Session
(Eleventh Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, September 10, 1996/ Bhadra 19, 1918 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Two Minutes Past Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Konkan Region in Maharashtra

*521 SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY:
SHRI RAM NAIK:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to amend the constitution to make it possible to provide for a separate Statutory Development Board for the Konkan region in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal; and

(c) the time by which a separate Statutory Development Board for Konkan region would be provided?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) Yes, Sir. There is such a proposal from the State Government.

(b) and (c) The Union Government is interacting with the Government of Maharashtra on the proposal. As there are various legal and Constitutional complexities involved in the issue, it would not be possible to lay down a definite time-frame for resolving the issue.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the demand for constituting a separate Statutory Development Board for the Konkan region is not new. On March 13, 1989, both the Houses of Maharashtra had demanded setting up of a separate Statutory Development Board for Konkan. Separate Boards have been set up for Vidarbha as well Marathwada, but Konkan has been deprived of such a Board. Just as the lion and the goat are fed on the same plate in a circus, so is the case with Konkan which is treated on par with the developed areas of Pune, Nasik Nagar, Kolhapur and Satara. The problem of Konkan is like that of Bihar. Its problem is similar to the problems of other undeveloped areas in the country. Konkan is sucked dry by Mumbai. The aged people of the Konkan households wait for death and money order. They get meals only when the money order comes from Bombay. Therefore, if Konkan is to be developed....

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask your question now, it is not the occasion to make a speech.

SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY: Sir, I am asking the question. In view of a definite proposal to that effect, why is a time limit not fixed for constituting a Development Board for Konkan? This is my first question.

[*English*]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Sir, regarding the question of Development Boards, it is at the moment governed by Article 371(2) of the Constitution of India and it has given powers to the Governor of Maharashtra to take action in the matter. The Development Boards, as the hon. Member has correctly said, have already been set up and are functioning in Vidarbha and Marathwada.

The third one is supposed to be set up for the rest of Maharashtra which includes, of course, the Konkan region. But if a separate Development Board only for Konkan is to be formed, then it will require an amendment of Article 371(2). That is the position under the Constitution. It is a fact that the Government of Maharashtra for some years now has been pressing the Government of India and requesting that the separate Development Board for Konkan should be set up. But since this requires an amendment of the Constitution, the matter has not been definitely settled up to now. But the matter is not closed, it is open and it will be under continuing consideration.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Ask your next question.

SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY: When the demand for Uttarakhand was made, the Prime Minister lost no time in announcing a separate Uttarakhand state. Why can't it happen in the case of Maharashtra also? The boundary dispute between Maharashtra and Karnataka continues to be unresolved for the last 48 years, nobody cares for it. The development of Konkan will also suffer the same fate. Therefore, I want you to announce a time-bound period, may be of one year or two years, when it will be set up. It is not the first time that constitution will be amended. There have been so many amendments. Make this amendment also.

[*English*]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: We are quite conscious of the fact that the Konkan area is certainly a backward and undeveloped region, which requires special care and attention.

I may just mention that on the 12th of March, 1991, the then Government of Maharashtra have made a fresh proposal for setting up Development Boards for Vidarbha, Marathwada and the rest of Maharashtra. Again, on 1.1.1994, the Government of Maharashtra furnished a draft scheme. But this scheme did not include a proposal for

separate Development Board for Konkan. It was not mentioned by the State Government. It is a scheme of 1.1.1994. I do not know the reasons.

Subsequently, again, of course, on 25.3.1994, the Government of Maharashtra, within such a short interval, requested the then Prime Minister to initiate the process for amendment of the Constitution to provide for a separate Development Board.

On 18th May, 1995, the then hon. Minister in reply to a Starred Question in this House had said and I quote:—

"The Government is of the view that the Development Board set up under orders of the President for the rest of Maharashtra on 9.3.1994, includes Konkan as well and the special developmental needs of the region should be taken care of by this Board. The Home Minister proposed to discuss the matter with the Chief Minister of Maharashtra."

So, they had some discussions and the view emerged was that there will be no objection to the setting up of a separate Development Board for the Konkan region. The then Home Minister, however, stipulated that apart from the amendment of Article 371(2) the proposed Development Board would need to be carved out of the existing Development Board for the rest of Maharashtra.

Similarly, the financial allocation for the proposed Konkan Development Board should be out of the financial allocation for the Development Board for the rest of Maharashtra only. So, these discussions have been going on; exchanges have been going on. The present Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Shri Manohar Joshi, has also proposed that there should be a separate Development Board. The only question which I am not able to reply to specifically, at the moment, from the hon. Member is how long it may take because the matter is not closed. It is an open question. So far as the process of amending the Constitution, etc. is concerned, there are some objections by the Railways and by certain people.

I am not going into that just now. If the existing Development Board for the rest of Maharashtra is not in a position to effectively cater to the developmental requirements of the Konkan region over the period of next couple of years and the Government is convinced that the area could be developed better if it is separated out under a separate Board, then the matter of creation of a separate Board for Konkan can certainly be considered.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, the Hon. Home Minister has not stated the full facts before the House. The then Home Minister wrote a letter on December 4, 1995 to the Chief

Minister of Maharashtra that the Government was prepared to set up such Board and there was no objection to it. It is not that the Legislative Assembly only had made this proposal earlier to that. The Members of Parliament belonging to all political parties had met the Prime Minister in this connection. It was after that meeting that the letter was written by the then Home Minister. The people of Maharashtra want it, the Home Minister wrote a letter to that effect, but the present Home Minister says that there are many legal and constitutional complexities. I want to know what are these legal and constitutional complexities.

[English]

It is just an amendment of the Constitution.

[Translation]

I want to know what really are the difficulties. It has been stated on behalf of the Government just now that some people have opposed it. We want to know who those people are?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The main difficulty is that the relevant article of the Constitution will have to be amended. If the Government and the House so desire, the process to amend the Constitution can be initiated. As I have just told the House, there was no mention of Konkan in the proposal sent by the State Government in 1994. I do not know why it happened. I am not aware of it.

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK: The Constitution did not provide for that. That is why, after constituting three Boards, a fresh proposal came. Since the purpose of that Development Board is to improve the backward region, if Mumbai and Pune are included in the Statutory Board, that is of no use. That is why the proposal came subsequently.

[Translation]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: There is no dispute about the objection raised against setting up of a Board for Konkan. A person named Yashvant Jijabeg Mohit made a writ petition to the Mumbai High Court—petition No. 2481, 1980.—

[English]

challenging as *ultra vires* of the Constitution

[Translation]

the provision that gives special powers to the Governor. He has said that

[English]

the special responsibility given to the Governor gives him direct control which is against the basic structure of the

Constitution and the democratic norms prevalent in the rest of India. Now, this case is *sub judice*. It is still pending before a Division Bench.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK: That was long back...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: This is pending...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to tell the hon. Minister that this Board that has been set up under article 371 of the Constitution is of no use to Vidarbha. The rights of the people have been entrusted to the Governor. The thinking of the people of Vidarbha today is that they want nothing short of Vidarbha State. They consider it as their life...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I have a right to ask a question. There is great dissatisfaction among the people of Vidarbha. The people of Vidarbha have not benefited as a result of their rights having been given away to the Governor. Dismiss the Board and fulfill the people's demand...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is for the Minister to decide whether he can reply or not. If the Minister has no information, I will not insist on him. This relates to Maharashtra. Shri Meghe, please ask the question.

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE: It is the demand of two crore people of Vidarbha you must consider it.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Sir, he is only making a speech, not asking any question.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Megheji, please ask question. No speech can be made now. I do not allow it.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot make a speech now. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, do you want to answer?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Sir, the question which has been tabled and to which I am trying to reply does not pertain to the question of setting up a separate State for Vidarbha. Separate statehood for Vidarbha is not the subject matter of this question.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: I have been elected from Konkan. Sir, they want to put impediments in the development of Konkan. Please do not do that.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have given the floor to Shri Suresh Prabhu, Megheji, nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sarpotdar, nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. It is enough. You cannot do like that.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Prabhu, nothing is going on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: The Maharashtra people have always been united. Why are you agitating now?

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down, I am on my legs.

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE: What did you do for four years? You only suppressed the people of Vidarbha.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You do not have to shout like that. Please do not shout like that. You are inside the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I am standing. You are the leader of a party. You cannot be standing when I am standing.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are the leader of a party. The leaders should behave little differently from the others.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: That is not necessary. Each and every Member of Parliament should be given a chance.

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed a Member of your party He wants to ask a supplementary question.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question concerns me directly because I represent the constituency of Konkan area which has been neglected all throughout and I am happy to learn from the hon.

Minister that he also shares the same perception about the backwardness of the region. But now, our people are not going to be content with such lip sympathy expressed by the hon. Minister. When we heard that separate States were being created, we never asked for a separate State. We are willing to work within the purview of the Constitution. We have been a part of one of the most developed regions of Maharashtra, the Western Maharashtra. The Konkan area which has been neglected is more backward than Marathwada and Vidarbha.

MR. SPEAKER: That has been said by the Minister himself. What is your question?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: What was the criterion for such Boards to be created and if the criterion is applicable to Konkan, why was the Board not created? What is the constitutional hurdle that the Minister perceives in creation of the separate Board?

In view of the fact that—as the Minister has already said on the floor of the House—it is going to take some time, is the Government of India contemplating to offer a special grant to Konkan for the intervening period so that the backwardness should not wait for the constitutional modalities to be got over? Is the Government contemplating the constitution of a committee of the Members of Parliament hailing from that region so that such *ad hoc* grants could be monitored and it is ensured that they reach the targeted groups?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Sir, the whole idea of setting up these Development Boards for different regions of Maharashtra—whether it was right or wrong I cannot say—is precisely this that such regions should be given special assistance through these Development Boards for overcoming their backwardness and under-developed nature.

Now Shri Datta Meghe, of course, is very emphatic and thinks that as far as the Development Board for Vidarbha is concerned, it is useless. It has not done any work at all. So, he is entitled to his opinion. There may be differing opinions on the actual functioning and performance of the Development Boards which are already in existence. But the hon. Member here is not pressing—at least what I understood—for a separate Development Board for Konkan.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: No, Sir, I am saying that why the Development Board has not been created which should have been created along with Marathwada and Vidarbha? If it is not created that is a mistake which should *ab initio* be rectified.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Sir, why it was not set up in the first place, I cannot say. The Government which

was there at that time should reply or Shri Pawar is here, he can throw some light on this matter.

As far as the proposal that there should be again an *ab initio* setting in motion the process for setting up a separate Board for Konkan is concerned, I have told you already that the matter is not closed and it is open. It can be done provided it is quite clear that the Development Board which is for the rest of Maharashtra apart from Vidarbha and Marathwada, is not able successfully to tackle the problems of Konkan. Then certainly it can be taken up...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Speaker Sir, please also allow me to speak...

MR. SPEAKER: This is the time for asking question, not making a speech.

[English]

I have allowed Shri Sharad Pawar.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, Article 371A says, 'there will be a separate Board for Vidarbha and Marathwada and the rest of the Maharashtra.' The Konkan region comes under the rest of the Maharashtra. The Konkan region is one of the backward regions, that is why the Maharashtra Assembly and the Council both passed a unanimous resolution recommending the Government of India to make a suitable amendment to Article 371A and make a special provision for Konkan. Is the Government of India going to apply their mind for setting up a separate Board for Konkan which has been proposed by the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Sir, I have already made it clear that as far as the question of setting up a separate Development Board for the Konkan region is concerned, we have not rejected this demand, our mind is open and action can be taken. But there has been some confusion in between. Somebody is saying that the Development Board itself is a useless thing.

Secondly, it will require an amendment of the Constitution. So, that can be done provided that is the general feeling and general desire of the House.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Somebody might be thinking that this Board is not useful or that it is useless. But there are unanimous recommendations of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly and the Council both. So, this is a general feeling in every corner of the State. Therefore, is the Government of India going to apply their mind and propose an amendment to Article 371 in the near future?

MR. SPEAKER: I think, the Minister has already answered it by saying that it is not a closed

matter and that the Government is still applying its mind on that

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: There is no confusion in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister did not say that there is confusion in Maharashtra. It could be somewhere else.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: The State of Maharashtra is at present under Shiv Sena-BJP rule. But before this, it was under the Congress Party rule and the attitude of the Congress Government towards Konkan issue was no different. Konkan has always been a backward region and today when we are asking for a Statutory Development Board, efforts are being made to put hurdles in the way of development of Konkan by putting forward the demand for Vidarbha State. There are Development Boards for Vidarbha, Marathwada and the rest of Maharashtra as a result of which these areas have greatly benefited. But Konkan is still nursing a dream for its development. The people of Konkan are restive and I want to know what this Government has done to the proposal of the State legislature...

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask the question now. You cannot make speeches. If everybody makes speeches, we have to do away with the Question Hour.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: In the context of the proposal sent by the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly, I want to know from the Home Minister of the United Front Government as to whether he proposes to take immediate steps to set up a Development Board for Konkan?

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Sir, I have again to repeat what I had said earlier.

MR. SPEAKER: I know that the next question will also be repeated and again the same answer has to be repeated. You can repeat it now.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The hon. Members need not have any apprehension that there is any objection or resistance from the Central Government towards setting up of a separate Development Board only for the Konkan region. This will be favourably considered, in spite of some objections which are being raised and which you are seeing for yourself. I hope that we will be able to initiate the process as soon as possible.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, some questions have been asked and replies have been given. After my asking the question, I know that I will get the same reply. The only thing I would like to find out is—in the case of Konkan, after passing the resolution in the Maharashtra State Assembly, a strong unanimous recommendation was sent to the Centre—why has the Centre not taken this particular proposal into account? Is there any specific reason? He said, in 1980, someone had filed a writ petition in the High Court and because of that they have been thinking it over. After having that writ petition, this Government has taken the decision of forming various district development boards. In the case of Konkan, if at all any amendment is required in the Constitution, why has that amendment not been moved? After the parliamentary elections, after this Eleventh Lok Sabha has been constituted, a number of amendments have been introduced here. Why this particular amendment, despite having the recommendation from the State of Maharashtra, has not been undertaken?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Sir, as far as I am aware, I may be wrong, there is no special reason for this. What is being hinted is that there is some kind of a discrimination against the Konkan region. I am not aware of any such deliberate policy or attitude on the part of the Central Government. The hon. Members referred to the two resolutions which were unanimously passed by the Maharashtra Assembly and asked as to why no action has been taken on that. How can I reply to that question? We were not here at that time.

The unanimous resolutions of Assemblies are very important, no doubt. But they are not always found acceptable to many people. For example, the Uttar Pradesh Assembly had three times passed unanimous resolutions in favour of a separate State of Uttarakhand. In spite of that, it became a controversial question until we decided to go ahead with it. In the case of Konkan, I do not think that there is any special reason for opposing the demand for a Development Board. It should be there. That is my own opinion also. I hope that now, in view of the general feelings which are being expressed here, we will be able to start the process as soon as possible.

MR. SPEAKER: It is good enough.

[Translation]

Demand/Production of Fruits and Vegetables

1524. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS:
SHRI D. P. YADAV.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great demand of fruits and vegetables in the country, particularly in the urban areas;

(b) if so, whether the production of fruits and vegetables is far below than the requirement;

(c) if so, the reasons for this low production;

(d) whether the Government have formulated schemes aimed at increasing the production of fruits and vegetables, payment of reasonable prices to the growers and to ensure the availability of adequate quantity of fruits and vegetables in the market for the consumers at fair prices; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Demand of fruits and vegetables particularly in urban areas is on the rise. The production of fruits have gone up from 28.63 million tonnes in 1991-92 to 39.47 million tonnes in 1993-94 and of vegetables from 58.53 million tonnes in 1991-92 to 65.09 million tonnes in 1993-94. The produce is mainly consumed domestically particularly in the urban areas.

(b) and (c) The production of fruits and vegetables overall is adequate to meet the requirement as the average annual rate of growth of production of fruits and vegetables is quite high at 6.3 and 8.0% respectively from 1981-82 to 1993-94. The production per hectare, however, is low, the reasons for which are as under:—

- (i) Old plantation.
- (ii) Lack of availability of improved planting material.
- (iii) Inadequate extension facilities.
- (iv) Weak post-harvest and marketing infrastructure leads to annual loss of about 25% of the produce.
- (v) Poor adoption of improved technology and pest management measures.

(d) and (e) The following schemes are being implemented during the VIII Plan period to increase the production of fruits and vegetables and marketing facilities:—

1. Integrated development of tropical, arid & temperate zone fruits.
2. Production & supply of vegetable seeds.

3. Development of root and tuber crops.

4. Development of mushroom.

5. Use of plastics in agriculture.

6. Development of bee keeping for improving crop productivity.

7. Schemes under National Horticulture Board:—

- (i) Integrated Project on Management of post harvest infrastructure of fruits and vegetables.
- (ii) Development of marketing of horticulture produce through participation in soft loan.
- (iii) Establishment of nutritional garden in rural areas.
- (iv) Market information service of horticultural crops.
- (v) Transfer of technology through training and visits of horticulture growers.

In addition, market intervention scheme is in operation to ensure that growers of these commodities receive reasonable prices in case of glut in the market and in order to assure the availability of fruits and vegetables to consumers at fair prices, government organise sale through NAFED, state agencies and NDDB.

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the demand for fruits and vegetables in the country has risen to a great extent. According to the answer of the hon. Minister, it is found that under the Integrated Development of Tropical, Arid and Temperate Zone Fruits Programme, there was an investment of Rs. 4.720 lakh from 1992 to 1996. But till 1996, only Rs. 3,015 lakh could be spent and the rest Rs. 1,705 lakh could not be spent. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what the reasons for not utilising this money are.

Number two is, according to the present per day consumption recommended by the Dietary Alliance of ICMR, the demand for fruits is 40 million tonnes and the demand for vegetables is 95 million tonnes. How is the Government going to meet this demand? I would like to know from the hon. Minister that since heavy demand is there, what programmes they have got to meet the demand.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Yes. It is a fact that the funds released or provided are not utilised. It happened in the past. I have now started a new monitoring system scheme-wise and so I think it will improve. But the situation, as the hon. Member has said, stands that a proper utilisation of funds has not been done.

As regards the second question, there is some shortage of vegetables. The vegetables required are 95.6

million tonnes, according to the estimate that the hon. Member has given. We are having 65 million tonnes. Schemes are there. I have mentioned that if we can improve it, it is possible not only to fulfill but even to have more vegetables for export also. Similarly, for fruits also, it is manageable. But we want to improve it and there are schemes. If the State Governments fully cooperate, and if hon. Members also help us. I am ready to give more schemes so that more fruits and vegetables are available.

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: The Government has allotted Rs. 190 lakh in 1996-97 for vegetable development. But actually till now Rs. 103 lakh is released. What are the problems that the rest Rs. 87 lakh could not be released to different States?

Number two is, why is Orissa not allotted Rs. 6.25 lakh this year?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: It is because the utilisation certificate is not coming. So, it is held up. The moment it comes, I am ready to release it.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIV RAJ SINGH: Sir, it is a matter of satisfaction that India occupies an important place today in the export of fruits. The small farmers living in the villages do want to grow fruits and vegetables, but they face the problem of selling them. In many areas, cities are far from the villages and by the time they take their product to the market, it either rots or they are paid inadequate price with the result that these farmers are discouraged. I would, therefore, like to ask the hon. Minister whether in order to encourage the production of fruits and vegetables, the Government would make arrangements to purchase them from the farmer at the places of production at reasonable rates and make the available to the consumers at reduced prices?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: If the Government starts purchasing and selling Vegetables, you can imagine what would happen ... (Interruptions)

SHRI SHIV RAJ SINGH: My question is that when the small farmer goes to the market... (Interruptions) there are no arrangements for him for marketing.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Listen to the answer, please

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHIV RAJ SINGH: Please do not avoid the question by taking it in a light vein, understand the spirit behind it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let the Minister answer

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHIV RAJ SINGH: The position is that the small farmers are not getting the market for their products now-a-days.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: What is this? Sit down, please, let the Minister answer first. He has not completed his answer.

[Translation]

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: When you have raised the question, please hear the answer also.

SHRI SHIV RAJ SINGH: You are taking it jokularly... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Do you want a reply or not...

[English]

I will not allow the Minister to answer. If you do not want to get the answer, I will not allow the Minister to reply.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, sit down please. No answer is required. If the Member is not interested in getting the answer, Why should you answer?

[Translation]

SHRI SHIV RAJ SINGH: Please reply by understanding the basic idea behind the question.

[English]

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: You allowed him... (Interruptions). It is an important question ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No, if any Member of Parliament, after asking the question, interrupts the answer of the Minister, I will not allow the Minister to answer.

[Translation]

SHRI BHERULAL MENNA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to part (c) of the question in which a query has been made as to the reasons of low production of fruits and vegetables. The population of the cities is continuously increasing and houses have been constructed on lands which once grow vegetables. The vegetables can now generally be grown in far off villages only. I do not say that the Government should purchase Vegetables, but I do say that the Government should make means of transport available in villages so that the producers may bring and sell their vegetables and fruits in the cities or the purchaser may go there to purchase them. That would encourage production of vegetables. I want to know whether the Government would provide transport facilities in the villages.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: You have asked a very good question. At that time, you did not hear what I was saying. There is a National Horticulture Board which gives loans at 4% interest for growing fruits and

vegetables. It can give advance credit. Some amount is still left with it. We can also provide allowance for transport. (*Interruptions*). We can provide all these facilities. The farmers can organise themselves into cooperatives. All what I wanted to say was that it would not be a good thing for the Government to do it. I did not say that in a light vein. We are prepared to help you. In the area which the hon. Minister has in mind, he may have a cooperative formed there and send the scheme to us. We have got the money, the entire amount has not been utilised. Even if a scheme is given to us before the end of the current Plan period, we can give the money that we have. There is no problem from our side.

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR: Do the Government propose to set up some Board for construction of roads in those areas during the year 1996-97 where cooperatives are already functioning for marketing fruits and vegetables so that the production of fruits and vegetables may get an impetus and the producers may get a reasonable return?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: We do not have money for building roads but, as I have said, we can assist in cold storage, transport, improved seeds etc. Whatever cooperative scheme you send, we will consider that sympathetically.

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR: Is it necessary to forward the scheme through State Government or can it be sent direct to your Ministry?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Well, it will have to be sent through the State Government.

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR: Then, nothing will happen.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: State Governments also have powers. Both the Centre and the states function under the Constitution. However, the National Horticulture Board is also advancing funds directly. So, you can also bring it into the picture. Both arrangements are there, but don't say that you do not need State Government.

SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI: Sir, the hon. Minister has in his reply enumerated the reasons for low production. In part (iv) of his reply, he has said that 25 per cent produce is lost every year due to weak post-harvest and marketing infrastructure. I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that a fruit called 'Kinu', which is a variety of 'Malta', was produced in large quantity in Ganga Nagar, Hanumangarh and Bikaner areas. Many people cultivated large orchards of this fruit, but they had to destroy their crops and their orchards due to continuous lack of marketing facility and had to suffer heavy losses. Therefore, I want to know from the Government whether it would provide all necessary

marketing facilities so that the old orchards may be revived again.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: We are prepared to consider this. But you may please send me specific proposals. We are prepared to extend specific assistance.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: The hon. Minister has said that the present production of fruits and vegetables is not adequate and we have to increase it. My submission is that the biggest problem in increasing the production of fruits and vegetables is costly seeds. The seeds of high breed varieties of fruits and vegetables are very costly. I want to know from the hon. Minister what efforts are being made to make high breed varieties of seeds available at reasonable rates.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as the question of making them available at cheaper rates is concerned, we will have to see what category of people are purchasing them. If the people belonging to very poor category are taking them, we are considering in what way we can supply these seeds cheaper to them. But, for the present, we cannot give you any assurance that we will make them cheaper. This is under our consideration, but if your contention is that everybody including the rich should get it free, it is not possible.

[English]

Railway Users' Consultative Committees

*525. PROF. *RASA SINGH RAWAT:
DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures being taken to increase participation of commuters in the functioning of Railways;

(b) the system prescribed for setting up of the Railway Users' Consultative Committees at the Station, Division and Zonal levels indicating the number of members therein;

(c) whether any system exists to monitor the implementation of the suggestions given by the consultative committee of Members of Parliament convened at the Division, Zonal level and Ministry of Railways levels; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) In order to ensure increasing participation of commuters and other railway users in sustaining and

upgrading the level and quality of service to the customers, there is an institutionalised system of periodic consultation and interaction through various Passenger Associations and Railway Users' Consultative Committees. Various Passenger Associations formed to represent local interests with regard to different aspects of train services and facilities/amenities are free to interact with various levels of railway management i.e. at Station level, Divisional and Zonal levels as well as Apex level in the Railway Board's Office. In addition Railway Users' Consultative Committees at various levels are constituted to ensure participation of suburban and other commuters as well as other rail users and these Committees have formal representation from the Registered Passenger Associations. These Consultative Committees are as under—

- (i) Suburban Railway Users' Consultative Committees on Central, Western, Southern, Eastern and South Eastern Railways.
- (ii) Station Consultative Committees.
- (iii) Divisional Railway Users' Consultative Committees.
- (iv) Zonal Railway Users' Consultative Committees.

(b) The Station Consultative Committees at Zonal and Divisional Headquarters and also at selected stations serving important industrial and Commercial centres are set up by Zonal Railways. The Divisional Railway Users' Consultative Committees and Zonal Railways Users' Consultative Committees are set up by the Ministry of Railways after obtaining the recommendations from the respective General Managers and nomination of Members of Parliament from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

The membership of these committees varies from station to station, division to division and zone to zone, inter-alia, depending upon their geographical size and jurisdiction.

(c) and (d) There are two types of Committees of Members of Parliament for Ministry of Railways viz. Consultative Committee for the Railways as a whole and nine Informal Consultative Committees for nine Zonal Railways.

The Consultative Committee of Members of Parliament discusses the policy matters relating to the Railways and their meetings are held thrice a year during inter session period with specific agenda. The suggestions made by the Members of Parliament in the meetings of these Committees are examined in depth and suitable replies sent to the Members of Parliament concerned by the Minister of Railways. A consolidated action taken statement is also prepared for circulation amongst all the Members of this Committee.

The Informal Consultative Committees function separately for each of the nine Zonal Railways. The meetings of these Committees are held during the session periods with no formal agenda. The Members of Parliament discuss the matters pertaining to the Zonal Railway concerned and give their suggestions/recommendations which are duly examined and the Members are informed of the action taken on the issues raised by them. The replies to them are sent by General Managers concerned and in some cases by the Minister of Railways.

There is no Consultative Committee of Members of Parliament for Railway Divisions.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, although the hon. Minister has attempted to give a fairly detailed reply, it does not cover the point we wanted to clarify and for which we were expecting a satisfactory answer to come. The railways are regarded by the entire country as the veins carrying the blood of country's unity, being not only an agent of country's development, but also providing a public service to the people. They render passenger service and the people are the passengers. Thus, they are a public service. That being so, the people have certain expectations of the railways. For instance, it is very necessary to know what facilities are available to the travelling public in the form of drinking water, toilets, cleanliness of the compartments, waiting rooms at the stations and so on. The Railway Users Consultative Committees are set up so that a coordination may be established between the people's representatives and the railway officials and zones for knowing the situation and taking steps for providing the required facilities. But, within a month of the formation of this new Government, all the Committees were dissolved.

Sir, I am connected with Ajmer Zone. I received an invitation from the Ajmer Zone to attend a meeting on a particular date at specified place and time. I got the reservation done and when I was about to leave, I was informed that the Committee was dissolved and till today there is no information about the reconstitution of the Committee.

I want to know whether the Government have any specific plan to give proper representation to Members of Parliament in the Zonal Consultative Committees of the Zones from where they come as also to the Passenger Associations and other representatives of the people and by what time the Government propose to constitute the Passenger Committees.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let the hon. Minister reply now. You have got second supplementary also.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the hon. Member has rightly said, in order to keep a

proper watch on the functioning of the Railways and give suggestions to them, there are different kinds of Consultative Committees in the Railways including the National Committee, Divisional Committees and Zonal Committees. Then there are Committees at Sub-urban and station levels. The object of all these Committees is the same. The Railways are a big structure having nearly 16 lakh employees. There is decentralisation of power. All the Committees are being constituted to keep a watch. The hon. Member has said that the new Government has dissolved all the Committees. In this connection, I would like to point out that the term of the Divisional Consultative Committees was upto 30.8.96. This Committee is constituted for two years. The next Committee is the Zonal Consultative Committee, which was upto 30.9.96. The Divisional and Zonal Committees have Members of Parliament also among their members. But the Parliament was dissolved. Otherwise also, their two-year term was nearing completion...*(Interruptions)*

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI: They had only the Members of the Congress Party ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Please listen, it is very important. When two years were completed and fresh elections to the House took place, naturally the new Members of Parliament will be the members of these Committees. In the other situation, its work will come to a standstill. We thought that the new Committees should be constituted at the earliest in their place. I assure you that all the Committees will be set up before first October.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI: They should be constituted without discrimination between parties. In the previous Committees, there were only Congressmen.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: All right. We will constitute them without party discrimination...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have not allowed you, Joshiji. Mr. Minister, you do not have to answer him.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Not only this, I had said during my speech on Railway Budget that we cannot put pressure on the senior Members of Parliament. But the Railway Consultative Committee has been formed and we are soon going to call its meeting. With the concurrence of all the members of the Committee, the Members of the Parliament can send suggestions with regard to stations etc. of their areas, and the Government will take action on them.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Government whether any norms have been fixed for the constitution of these Consultative Committees. It is often seen that the Government in power stuffs these Committees with people

following its ideology without taking advice of the concerned Members of Parliament or the concerned peoples organisations. Has the Government of the United Front formulated any norms or reviewed the existing norms in order that the committees may be set up in a proper manner and right information and suggestions may reach the Government? Besides, informal Zonal meetings such as those of Western Railway, Northern Railway etc. are held with the participation of the Members of Parliament where discussions go on for two or three hours. Thereafter, the Parliament Members give their suggestions to the hon. Minister. Is the Railway Ministry seriously thinking of giving proper weight to their suggestions and looking into their complaints?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, part (c) of my question is also related to this point. Three Zones fall in my constituency and, therefore, this problem is not my problem alone, but relates to all of them. The Railway Zones have been so constituted that my constituency of Ajmer is distributed among Ratlam Zone, Jaipur Zone and Ajmer Zone. In fact, Ajmer Zone extends upto Gandhi Dham in Gujarat, thus involving several hon. Members from Gandhi Dham and Ahmedabad areas of that State. Sir, in those meetings the problems of Ajmer and those of other districts are covered by Ajmer Zone...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You are a professor. You should know what is the distinction between a speech and a question.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: I am only asking as to what norms have been fixed and if more than one Zone fall under the constituency of a Member, will the Members of Parliament coming from there be given representation in these Committees?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Under the norms of the Zonal level Railway management, the Zonal Railway Users' Consultative Committees include representatives of Local Chambers of Commerce and various Industrial Organisations, Agricultural Organisations, registered passengers' organisations and each legislative assembly. The representatives on the Consumers' Protection Committees include two Members of Parliament—one each from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha—and some very important people whose names are proposed by the Minister. In the Divisional Railway Users' Consultative Committees, there are representatives of leading Chambers of Commerce and Industry which are not more than five years' old, representatives of agricultural organisations and every Railway Users...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : There should be no political partisanship in the constitution of these Consultative Committees and efficiency and strong base should be the criteria in forming them *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: So far as this new Government is concerned, I assure the hon. Member that not one Member of Parliament, belonging to any party or group, has so far accused us of being partisan. We will also not give any occasion for complaint to any hon. Member in this regard. My job is to make them effective. Unfortunately, we found that as a result of pressures exercised by the Parliament Members and various organisations, the size of the Zonal Committees swelled to 400-500 members. With such a large number of members, what can any one do? Therefore, we want to limit the number of members of these Committees so as to make them effective. The Committees have to meet in three or four months. We want to ensure that their meeting are called within the prescribed period and we are trying to see that a Member of Parliament is not made dependent on D.R.M. or anybody else. We will so tighten it up that the committee functions effectively. The Government will take the report of the committee seriously and also try to implement it

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Member should be precise and pointed in asking their questions; so also the Minister while replying. Please be precise.

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: I want to know from the hon. Minister what arrangements exist at present to implement or keep a watch on the suggestions of these committees which include Members of Parliament. Who are the authorised officers at Zonal level and whether there is a time-limit within which the position of implementation has to be conveyed to the Members? If there is no such time-limit, will the Government fix a limit, say of one or one and a half months after the meeting, within which it should be disposed of and 'Yes' or 'No' conveyed to the Members?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: According to the present practice, there should be three meetings in a year of the Divisional and Zonal level committees. The National Committee should meet twice a year and the Station Committee three times in a year. The date of the next meeting is decided in the sub-urban meeting itself. Under the rules, the minutes of the previous meeting are placed before those meetings and action taken report is also presented. However, so far, there have been very few cases when meetings have not been held. But when there are 500-600 members, there is disorder. I assure the House that we shall convene the meetings within the prescribed period and the suggestions that emerge will be duly considered. A report on the action taken on those suggestions will be prepared and put before the next meeting.

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Sir, the meetings of the Consultative Committee of the Members of Parliament are called only twice a year and they are told nothing about the proceedings of the meetings and the action taken on the suggestions made. Will the Minister take steps to increase the number of these meetings per year?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, I have already informed the House as to the number of meetings of various committees that should be held every year. We have no objection in holding more meetings if that leads to greater efficiency and improvements.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: There is no consultative Committee of the Members of Parliament for the Railway Divisions. If there is one, it would be more effective because more number of MPs would be sitting there. Would the hon. Minister of Railways agree to this suggestion?

Why does the Ministry of Railways not hang up the proposals for each station in those stations so that the local people can also supervise them and force implementation in a standard way? Would the Hon. Minister agree to this also?

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: The first suggestion is very good. The other suggestion is also quite good and therefore, we have decided to set up Watchdog Committees in place of the consultative committee so as to provide the maximum empowerment to the local people.

KUM. MAMATA BANERJEE: But these should be impartial. That does not happen. The men of the ruling party of the State dominate them.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: As soon as I became the Railway Minister, I wrote personal letters to the presidents of all political parties to send a list of effective workers of their parties. Some parties have sent the names which are under consideration. We are taking other persons also irrespective of the parties. I will write to the party presidents again.

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, my specific question is this. This is an era of decentralisation of power. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister would be kind enough to convene the constituency-wise meetings of the Members of the Legislative Assemblies and the Railway Users Associations so as to discuss the problems faced by passengers and the other developmental activities. From the month of October

onwards, the rescheduling of the Railways is likely to go on. So, I would like to know whether a meeting would be convened before that

MR SPEAKER: He wants to know whether you will be willing to convene the constituency-wise meetings.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, as I have said, when all the Committees including those of the Divisional and Zonal levels start functioning, we would as a matter of fact be covering even a lower level than envisaged by the hon. Member. We take the responsibility at our level. At the lower level, the officers below us will be responsible for monitoring.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Child Abuses

*522. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any inquiry into the child abuses has been undertaken by the Union Government recently;

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

(c) the steps taken to check this menace?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (c) An Advisory Committee was constituted by the Government of India at the Central level in March 1994 to suggest measures to be taken for eradicating child prostitution. The recommendations made by the Committee have been sent to the State Governments for appropriate action

The Government of India is attempting to bring about an overall improvement in the status of children, especially girl children, through better education, health care and empowerment of women. The National Human Rights Commission has also formed a Core Group to study the problem of child prostitution in Delhi and Karnataka and to work on preventive and rehabilitative strategies.

The perception of child labour as a harsh outcome of the socio-economic conditions prevailing in the country has led to an enhanced consciousness on the need to

tackle the problem of child labour in a multi-dimensional and integrated manner. Keeping in view the fact that legislation alone would not be sufficient to tackle the problem of exploitation of child labour, the Government formulated the National Policy on Child Labour which was announced in Parliament in August 1987. The action plan under the National Policy on Child Labour comprises a legislative action plan, focussing of general development programmes for benefitting children wherever possible and project based action plans in areas of high concentration of child labour engaged in wage/quasi-wage employment. With a view to fulfilling the constitutional mandate, a major programme was launched on 15th August, 1994 for rehabilitating child labour working in hazardous occupations. A high powered body, the National Authority for the Elimination of Child Labour (NAECL) was constituted on 26th September, 1994 under the chairmanship of Labour Minister.

India is a signatory to the World Declaration on the survival, protection and development of children. In order to implement the World Summit Goals, the Department of Women and Child Development has prepared a National Plan of Action in consultation with the concerned Central Ministries/Departments, State Governments and voluntary organisations. This Plan addresses health and family welfare related activities, removal of gender discrimination and special protection for economically, socially and physically disadvantaged groups.

[Translation]

River Pollution

*523. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sought financial assistance from the foreign countries/agencies to make the Ganga and other rivers of the country pollution free,

(b) if so, the details of the schemes under which the assistance is expected, country-wise; and

(c) the time by which the amount of assistance is likely to be received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

DETAILS OF THE SCHEMES UNDER WHICH ASSISTANCE IS EXPECTED

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Country from which assistance is expected	Time by which assistance expected
1	2	3	4
1	Ganga Action Plan Phase-II (Kanpur)	The Netherlands	1996-97

1	2	3	4
2.	Industrial Counselling Tanneries-II (Kanpur)	The Netherlands	Under consideration of the Netherlands Govt.
3.	Gomti Action Plan at Lucknow (Phase II of the assistance)	Overseas Development Administration of the United Kingdom ODA (UK)	Exact time would be known after March 1997
4.	Pollution Abatement in the Coastal Stretches of Madras City	European Economic Community (EEC)	Under consideration of the European Economic Community (EEC)

[English]

Medicine Scam

*526. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item, appearing in 'The Hindustan Times' dated August 9, 1996 under the caption 'Rs. 4 cr. medicine scam in Tihar Jail'; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Inspector General (Prisons), Delhi had ordered an inquiry into the procurement, stocking and issue of medicines in the Central Jail, Tihar during the year 1994-95. The Committee set up for the purpose detected irregularities in the overall management of medicines in the Jail. The irregularities relate, inter-alia, to understating the cost of medicines proposed to be purchased, purchase of medicines when sufficient stocks were available, procurement of medicines of doubtful utility, inflated quantities of medicines shown as issued and purchase of medicines at high prices. The report of the Committee has been forwarded by the Jail authorities to the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi for appropriate action.

Setting up of Fertilizer Plant

*527. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Oman have signed a joint venture agreement for setting up of a fertilizer plant in October,

(b) the reasons for not undertaking the project earlier as the Memorandum of Understanding for the same was signed two years back;

(c) whether the project will be set up in Oman and the entire output will be purchased by India under a buy back agreement, at the international prices;

(d) the Indian equity in the joint venture;

(e) the role India expect to perform in the project which will produce both urea and ammonia with the participation of KRIBHCO and RCF; and

(f) the present status of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Government of India/Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO)/Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited (RCF) and the Government of Sultanate of Oman/Oman Oil Company on 30th July, 1994 to prepare a Detailed Feasibility Report (DFR) for setting up of 3500 tonnes per day ammonia and 4400 tonnes per day urea project in Oman. The DFR has been received. The project could not be undertaken because of delays in preparation of the DFR, finalisation of the project agreements and selection of the preferred Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) bidder for setting up the project on Lump Sum Turn Key (LSTK) basis. These activities have fallen behind schedule because of protracted negotiations between the two sides on the project agreements, delay in appointment of the LSTK consultant, acceptance of the request of EPC bidders for extension of the bid time and resignation of M/s. Morgan Stanley as the Financial Advisor to the project, consequent to changes in the management of the Oman Oil Company. Evaluation of the EPC bids had to be deferred till the new Financial Advisor was appointed

(c) The project is proposed to be set up at Sur in Oman. The entire production of urea is envisaged to be purchased by KRIBHCO/RCF under a buy-back arrangement at the prevailing FOB Oman price.

(d) The equity contribution by each of KRIBHCO and RCF is estimated at US\$ 69 million equivalent to about Rs. 242 crores (1 US\$ = Rs. 35).

(e) The Indian parties viz. KRIBHCO and RCF will perform three roles in the project, viz. shareholders in the proposed Joint Venture Company; buyers of the entire production of urea and supplier of manpower for major requirements of the Joint Venture Company.

(f) The DFR for the Project has been completed. Various agreements connected with the project have been discussed at different levels and are at an advanced stage of finalisation. The financial packages submitted by EPC bidders are being evaluated with the assistance of the Financial Advisor.

Staff Strength in Railways

*528. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had any plan to reduce the staff strength in the Railways;

(b) if so, the reasons for such a decision;

(c) whether the Government have since then reviewed the decision; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) The work force of Indian Railways is regulated both in terms of number and their skills so that the Railways are able to build, maintain and operate the system in the most productive manner possible, specially for remaining competitive with other modes of transportation. Owing to changing pattern of traffic and advancement in technology, retraining and redeployment of staff rendered surplus from diminishing activities has to be resorted to, however, no staff has been re-trenched on Indian Railways.

Narayan Sarovar Sanctuary

*529. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL:
SHRI SANAT MEHTA:

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

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has reduced the area of the Narayan Sarovar Sanctuary in Kutch;

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

(c) whether the Wildlife Institute in Dehradun had been asked in March to do a Rapid Environmental Survey of the effect of the order of the Gujarat Government;

(d) if so, the findings of the Survey of the Institute alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) if not, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Legislative Assembly of Gujarat through a Resolution passed on 27.7.95 delimited the Narayan Sarovar Sanctuary from its earlier area of 756.79 sq. kms. to 444.23 sq. kms. which was followed by a notification to this effect by the State Government on 9.8.1995. The State Government has stated that this was done to utilise the mineral resources of the denotified area for industrial development of the Kutch District which is underdeveloped.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Wildlife Institute was asked to do a Rapid Environmental Survey and its report was received just a few days ago.

(d) and (e) The main finding of the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun is that the alteration in the boundary of the sanctuary was influenced by industrial development considerations without taking into account all the ecological implications. They have, therefore, recommended a detailed review of the decision. This Ministry has sent the report to the State Government for comments and appropriate action.

Census in Jammu and Kashmir

*530. SHRI CHAMAN-LAL GUPTA:
SHRI P. NAMGYAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the census in Jammu & Kashmir was held and the population of each region at that time;

(b) the reasons for not having census for such a long time;

(c) the date on which the extensive revision of the electoral rolls was undertaken in Jammu and Kashmir and the number of electorate at that time and new strength of the electorate after the summary revision in 1996, region-wise;

(d) the date on which the delimitation commission to delimit the existing assembly constituencies was set up and the date on which it submitted its Report;

(e) whether this Report has been challenged in the High Court; and

(f) if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) The decennial population census was held in J&K in the year 1981 with reference date as 6.5.81. The population of each region at that time is given below

Jammu	:	27,18,113
Kashmir	:	31,34,904
Ladakh	:	1,34,372

(b) The last decennial population census of 1991 could not be taken in the State of J&K due to the disturbed conditions prevailing at that time.

(c) The intensive revision of the electoral rolls was undertaken in J&K State in the year 1988 (partly) and 1989 (partly). The electorate at that time was 41,41,369. The electorate as on 31.8.96 was 47,48,759. The regionwise break up is:—

Jammu	:	22,13,714	Plus Service voters = 27,881
Kashmir	:	23,71,207	
Ladakh	:	1,35,957	

(d) The Delimitation Commission was set up on 2nd December, 1981 and thereafter has been reconstituted from time to time. The final order of the Delimitation Commission was published on 27th April, 1995 which forms the basis of the current assembly elections in the State.

(e) Yes sir.

(f) It is for the courts to decide the cases pending before them.

Railways Outstanding Against Power Utilities

*531. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount which the power utilities owe to the Railways against the coal haulage from the pit-heads to thermal power plants of the National Thermal Power Corporation and the various States;

(b) the break-up of the amount outstanding against the various defaulters;

(c) whether it is proposed to recover the same; and

(d) the difficulties that Railways face to ensure timely payment of coal haulage charges by the consignees concerned and the manner in which it is proposed to tackle the issue?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The total amount outstanding against

National Thermal Power Corporation, Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking, and various States Electricity Boards on account of railway freight charges is Rs. 977.69 crore as on 30.6.96

(b) The amounts outstanding against the various defaulters as on 30.6.96 are given below—

(Rs. in crore)		
S.No.	Name of the State Electricity Board/Power House	Amount
1.	A.P. State Electricity Board	22.29
2.	Assam State Electricity Board	4.12
3.	Bihar State Electricity Board	3.96
4.	Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking	94.14
5.	Gujarat State Electricity Board	4.62
6.	Haryana State Electricity Board	44.26
7.	Karnataka Electricity Board	0.17
8.	Maharashtra Electricity Board	20.06
9.	M.P. State Electricity Board	2.34
10.	Punjab State Electricity Board	13.99
11.	Rajasthan State Electricity Board	1.53
12.	Tamilnadu State Electricity Board	0.05
13.	U.P. State Electricity Board	36.87
14.	W.B. State Electricity Board	15.19
15.	N.T.P.C./Badarpur T.P.P.	688.19
16.	N.T.P.C./Others	25.91
Total		977.69

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) The main difficulty which the Railways face is the failure of the power utilities to pay the freight charges whenever consignments are booked on 'To Pay' basis. The following important steps have been taken for timely recovery of coal haulage charges.

- Keeping a constant dialogue with the authorities of the power utilities for expeditious clearance of dues.
- Occasional stoppage of supply of wagons and delivery of consignments, as an extreme step.
- Keeping 15% difference between "To Pay" and "Paid" freight.
- Introduction of advance payment scheme through a deposit by the concerned State Electricity Board, of one month's transactions in advance in the destination Railway.

- (e) Compulsory pre-payment of freight, where consignments are now booked on 'To Pay' basis, w.e.f. 1.10.96.

It is expected that with the introduction of the measures at (d) and (e), the position in this regard will improve.

Protection to Forests

*532. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI:
KUMARI SUSHEELA TIRIYA:

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

(a) whether the Nepali Forest Mafia operating in Terai Region of Indo-Nepal Border has killed a number of forest guards during the last several years;

(b) if so, the number of forest guards killed during the last three years;

(c) whether the Uttar Pradesh Government has submitted a ambitious project for the protection of 416 kms. long forest in the region;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the assistance sought for the purpose;

(e) the time by which the funds sought for the project are likely to be sanctioned; and

(f) the measures proposed to be taken to provide protection to the forest areas in this region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As reported by the state governments of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh five forest guards have been killed during last three years in Tarai Region of Indo-Nepal border.

(c) to (e) A Project on 'Protection Measures Against Illicit Felling in U.P. Forest Areas Adjoining Nepal' has been submitted by the U.P. Government to Planning Commission, Government of India with a proposed cost of Rs. 12.18 crores, over a three year period, in six forest divisions, covering an area of 2.73 lakh ha. The Project is under consideration of Planning Commission for financial assistance to U.P. Forest Department.

The Proposed Project cost in three successive years is as under:—

S.No.	Major Head	Ist year	IInd year	IIIrd Year	Total
1.	Establishment	125.40	234.96	243.36	603.72
2.	Vehicles and communication	214.20	93.00	43.40	350.60
3.	Civil works	95.05	45.00	30.00	170.05
4.	Support Activities	30.45	31.20	32.45	94.10
	Total	465.10	404.16	349.21	1218.47

(f) Measures proposed to be taken to provide protection to the forest areas are as under:—

- Intensive patrolling in the sensitive areas
- Strengthening of the communication network
- Revamping and strengthening of armed forest protection force
- Provision of arms and ammunition to the forest staff
- Involvement of NGO's for prevention of illicit felling
- Coordination between various law enforcing agencies
- Establishment of forest check post with armed squad with facility of fast communication and movement
- Provision of additional vehicles for field inspections and for beat and highway patrolling
- Establishment of Watch Towers and Transmission Towers at strategic points
- Formation of a Trans-Boundary Conservation Board.

Decline in DAP Production

*533. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been sharp decline in the production of diammonium phosphate (DAP) during the last six months or so in the country;

(b) if so, the percentage of decline in the DAP production and the reasons therefor;

(c) the estimated shortage of fertiliser anticipated during the coming months; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to meet the shortage of DAP?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) DAP production during March-August, 1996 was 12.97 lakh tonnes. This constitutes a decline of 28.5% over the production during the corresponding period of the previous year. The reasons for this decline are:

- (i) lack of adequate demand resulting in accumulation of inventories. DAP sales during April-July, 1996 were 1.44 lakh tonnes less than the previous year.
- (ii) increase in the prices of imported intermediates like phosphoric acid and ammonia resulting in higher costs of production and the inability of the market to support the higher costs through better selling prices.

(c) and (d) The price distribution and movement of phosphatic fertilizers have been decontrolled since 1992. The availability of phosphatic fertilizers, which is determined by market forces of demand and supply, is presently comfortable. The government increased the rate of ad-hoc concession w.e.f. 6.7.1996 on all phosphatic and potassic fertilizers including indigenous DAP from Rs. 1000 to Rs. 3000 per metric tonne and imported DAP from Nil to Rs. 1500 per metric tonne. These measures are anticipated to spur its consumption. Department of Agriculture and Cooperation have estimated that DAP consumption will go up from 36.86 lakh metric tonnes in 1995-96 (provisional estimate) to 48.18 lakh metric tonnes in 1996-97. State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have also been impressed upon to fix realistic prices of decontrolled fertilizers under the ad-hoc concession scheme well in time during the Kharif and Rabi seasons in order to ensure that both indigenous production as well as imports of DAP are optimised by manufacturers/importers for meeting the higher levels of anticipated demand.

Forestry Research

*534 *PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any forestry research is being done by the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun;

(b) if so, the details of the research done so far and amount spent thereon; and

(c) the extent to which this research has helped to protect the forests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) with its eight Institutes and three Centres, is carrying out important research activities related to forest productivity enhancement, tree

improvement, vegetative propagation, tissue culture, seed technology, medicinal plants, multipurpose tree species, biofertilizers, biopesticides, social forestry, agroforestry, pests and diseases, utilisation of timber and non-wood forest products, afforestation of cold/hot deserts, reclamation of saline-alkaline and mined sites, control of shifting cultivation and biodiversity conservation etc. The expenditure incurred by the ICFRE during the four years of the 8th plan period, i.e., from 1992-93 to 1995-96 is Rs. 160.99 crores.

Forestry research being undertaken by the ICFRE Institutes and Centres has resulted in increasing tree productivity which has helped in reducing pressure on forests. Increased productivity and easy availability of quality planting material have also led to adoption of tree cropping on a large scale as part of their normal agricultural practices by farmers in Haryana, Punjab, Western Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and other parts of the country. Research directed at protection of forests against pests and diseases has helped in restoring the health of the forests. Research related to utilisation of species of less commercial importance and other forest products has helped in increasing the income of local people and at the same time consideration and development of forests.

Developmental Programmes

*535 SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the welfare and developmental programmes for the people of Uttar Pradesh announced by the Prime Minister between June 1 and August 18, 1996.

(b) whether the required resources for these programmes have been earmarked;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether necessary budgetary provisions have been made for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) The Prime Minister's announcements primarily related to—

(i) facilitation of payment of sugarcane arrears to cultivators;

(ii) facilitating payment of electricity dues and clearance of pending power applications;

(iii) exemption from stamp duty, etc. for mortgage of land and tractors by farmers;

(iv) sanction of certain irrigation programmes;

(v) payment of compensation at market value for acquisition of agricultural land;

(vi) opening of the closed Gorakhpur fertilizer factory.

- (vii) hike in the admissible cost of construction under Indira Awas Yojna and accelerating the pace of work under the scheme;
- (viii) Coverage of all development blocks under the Employment Assurance Scheme within one year;
- (ix) sanction of new Sugar factories along with enhancement of capacity of certain Sugar factories;
- (x) completion of the ongoing Mau-Shahganj railway line;
- (xi) provision of safe drinking water; and
- (xii) opening of primary schools, primary health services in unserved habitations and provision of roads for unconnected villages.

(b) to (d) Many of the announcements relate to acceleration/augmentation of the ongoing schemes such as Indira Awas Yojna and Accelerated Rural Water Supply Project Under the Indira Awas Yojna, for example, existing provisions amount to Rs. 470 crores and another Rs. 150 crores is proposed to be provided in consultation with the Planning Commission and Ministry of Rural Affairs and Employment. A similar amount additionally has been proposed for provision of safe drinking water. Further, additional Central assistance of Rs. 28 crores would be given for the Primary Health Centres. Unconnected villages will be provided with all weather roads through additional funds from the Employment Assurance Scheme over and above the provision of 188 crores already made in the State budget. The Central assistance has also been assured for some other schemes/projects. The additional Central assistance will be made available through appropriations and overall savings.

Drug Pricing Policy

*536. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether his attention has been invited to a news-item appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated April, 12, 1996 captioned 'Drug Pricing Policy in shambles';
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the norms by which the administrative ministry are fixing the prices of drugs;
- (d) whether the Ministry are following the recommendations of the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices in this regard;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (f) the corrective measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news item alleges that recommendations of BICP with reference to prices of bulk drugs and formulations are not being accepted by the Department and that prices are being fixed on extraneous considerations and are also being delayed.

(c) The prices are fixed under the provisions of DPCO '95 and in accordance with the established procedures of costing.

(d) and (e) Normally the recommendations of BICP are followed. Delays in notifying the prices so recommended are sometimes caused if the matter is sub-judice or interpretation of policy is involved.

(f) Corrective measures taken in this regard include expeditious resolution of interpretation of policy matters as and when they arise.

[Translation]

Purchase of Concrete Sleepers

*537. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of concrete sleepers purchased by the Railways during the last three years, year-wise and company-wise;
- (b) whether the Government have directed sleeper production units to stop their production;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the time involved between placing the orders for purchase of concrete sleepers and their supply along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The details are as per statement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Railway normally places order for manufacture and supply of concrete sleepers on various existing sleeper manufacturing units before completion of the previous order. The firm normally starts manufacture and supply of concrete sleeper immediately after placement of the order as infrastructure for manufacture and supply of additional quantity is already available with the factory. The time involved between placing of order and supply depends upon the capacity of each factory.

STATEMENT

(Figures in thousands)

Rly.	Name of the firm	93-94	94-95	95-96
1	2	3	4	5
CR	1. M/s Indian Hume Pipe Co. Ltd., Karari	130	91	87
	2. M/s Prestress (India) Pvt. Ltd. Warora	176	126	124
	3. M/s Keprecon Sleeper Works Pvt. Ltd., Butibori	235	111	182
	4. M/s Engineers Prestressed Structures Pvt. Ltd., Banmore	108	109	77
	5. M/s Stresscrete Pvt. Ltd., Budni	141	117	115
	6. M/s BEMCO Sleepers Pvt. Ltd., Nandgaon.	26	26	33
	7. M/s Khem Chand, Ghosalpur	74	65	64
	8. M/s Marathwada Prestress Pvt. Ltd., Borgaon	41	51	47
	9. M/s Concrete India, Lonavala	88	86	72
	10. M/s Engineers Prestressed Structures (Antri Unit) Pvt. Ltd.	103	117	56
	11. M/s Shree Kesharia Concrete Products (P) Ltd., Bareth	83	57	50
	12. M/s BEMCO Sleepers Pvt. Ltd., Khandwa	27	21	20
	SUBTOTAL	1232	977	927
ER	1. M/s Daya Engg. Works Ltd., Manpur	219	100	116
	2. M/s Daya Engg. Works (Sleeper) Ltd., Manpur	138	52	136
	3. M/s Prestressed Udyog (India) Pvt. Ltd., Chhota Ambona	100	51	97
	4. M/s Tantia Concrete Products (P) Ltd., Pannagarh	149	88	104
	5. M/s Tankrete India Pvt. Ltd., Rampurhat	4	12	0
	6. M/s MUVA Industries (P) Ltd., Jagdishpur	75	27	82
	7. M/s Stresscon. (Ind) Pvt. Ltd., Chamagram	40	69	51
	SUBTOTAL	725	399	586
NR	1. M/s Hindustan Prefab Ltd., Jangpura, New Delhi	171	158	75
	2. M/s Jay Prestressed Products Ltd., Kosikalan	143	85	97
	3. M/s Track Innovations (India) Pvt. Ltd., Chandigarh	110	54	22
	4. M/s Arvind Constn. Co. Ltd., Marwar Chapri	162	180	174
	5. M/s Daya Engg. Works (Sleeper) Ltd., Degana	168	154	113
	6. M/s Ashi Pvt. Ltd., Rewari	39	57	63
	SUBTOTAL	793	688	544
NER	1. M/s Annavaram Concrete Pvt. Ltd., Burhwal	99	75	81
	2. M/s Natraj Engineers (P) Ltd., Sarai	101	148	74
	3. M/s CCI Prestress Ties (P) Ltd., Clutterbuckganj	0	49	48
	SUBTOTAL	200	272	203
NFR	1. M/s P.C.M. Cement Concrete Pvt. Ltd., New Jalpaiguri	37	74	98
	2. M/s Daya Engg. Works, Mirza	54	47	75
	3. M/s Allied Engg. Enterprise, Badarpur	0	9	32
	4. M/s Prestressed Udyog (Assam) Pvt. Ltd., New Bongaigaon	0	36	73
	5. M/s Arunoday Const. Co. (P) Ltd., Jagi Road	52	105	125
	SUBTOTAL	143	271	403

1	2	3	4	5
SR	1. M/s. Concrete Products & Const. Co., Ambattur	130	131	132
	2. M/s Kottukulam Engg. Pvt. Ltd., Bommidi	95	163	85
	3. M/s Concrete Products & Const. Co., Tiruvalam	123	149	106
	4. M/s KEK Prestressed Concrete Ltd., Palghat	64	—	—
	5. M/s Malu Sleepers (P) Ltd, Birul Jn.	65	143	129
	6. M/s Nellai Concrete Products & Const. Co., Gangaikondan	35	102	105
	7. M/s Sri Maruthi Builders, Yeshwantapur	23	100	110
	SUBTOTAL	535	788	667
SCR	1. M/s Mysore Structural Ltd., Hafeezpet	210	145	35
	2. M/s The Concrete Products & Const. Co., Kondapalli	129	126	108
	3. M/s Rayalseema Concrete Sleepers (P) Ltd., Timmancharella	162	146	89
	4. M/s Raghavendra Prestress Products Ltd., Mantralayam Rd.	183	155	126
	5. M/s Coromandel Concrete Products Ltd., Kovvur	91	83	67
	6. M/s Lakshmi Prestress Concrete Works, Hasanparti Rd	45	58	47
	7. M/s V.S. Engineering Pvt. Ltd., Nallapadu	93	33	73
	8. M/s Mahadev Industries, Hospet	88	151	111
	SUBTOTAL	1001	897	656
SER	1. M/s Orissa Concrete Products (P) Ltd., Jharsuguda	152	153	119
	2. M/s Orissa Concrete & Allied Industries, Raipur	232	202	95
	3. M/s Vijay Prestressed Products (P) Ltd., Pendurti	125	117	91
	4. M/s DEW Concrete Ties (P) Ltd., Dalbhumgarh	81	67	105
	5. M/s ISCO Track Sleeper Pvt. Ltd.	210	40	106
	6. M/s Rayalseema Concrete Sleepers (P) Ltd., Kargi Road	85	106	98
	7. M/s Nilgiri Sleepers Pvt. Ltd., Nilgiri Road	87	82	90
	8. M/s Prestressed Udyog (India) Pvt. Ltd., Chandil	66	48	20
	9. M/s Mazda Concrete Products Ltd., Kaipadar Road	36	38	27
	10. M/s Daya Concrete Pvt. Ltd., Dalbhumgarh	67	68	68
	11. M/s United Vabs., Dongargarh	64	78	88
	12. M/s Gannon Dunkerley & Co., Rayagada	12	43	52
	13. M/s Sahuwala Cylinders Ltd., Garudabilli	62	7	0
	SUBTOTAL	1279	1049	959
WR	1. M/s Usha Prestressed Sleeper Udyog (Piplod), Godhra	96	98	62
	2. M/s Manibhai Bros. (Sleeper), Kharsalia	122	138	101
	3. M/s S. Subramanyam & Co., Kharsalia	102	95	74
	4. M/s Vaman Prestressing Co. Ltd., Panvel	165	135	150
	5. M/s Tankrete (India) 'P' Ltd., Udvada	6	8	29
	6. M/s Donyolo Udyog (P) Ltd., Shamgarh	133	95	115
	7. M/s Rural Engg. Co. (P) Ltd., Shambhupura	37	96	72
	SUBTOTAL	661	665	603
	GRAND TOTAL	6569	6006	5548

Foodgrains Production Data

*538. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the estimates regarding the quantity of foodgrain production and area under cultivation of different foodgrains are not accurate;

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

(c) whether the Centre Instituted Scientific Data Gathering System is in existence in the country for the last few years;

(d) if so, the reasons for not giving accurate agricultural data despite using the said system;

(e) the present system used for gathering the agricultural data; and

(f) the future plan of the Government to bring improvement in the existing system?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) Estimates of area under cultivation and production of foodgrains in the country are having a high degree of reliability and accuracy.

(c) and (d) There is no such scheme under implementation through the Central Government. As stated in parts (a) & (b) of answer above, the agricultural data carries a high degree of accuracy.

(e) Under the present system, statistics of area under crops is collected through complete enumeration in all the States except Orissa, Kerala and West Bengal which are non-land record states. In these three States, statistics of area are collected through Sample Surveys. The yield statistics are obtained by organising crop cutting experiments through a multi-stage stratified random sampling design. The production estimates are derived as a product of area and yield estimates. Under the Timely Reporting Scheme (TRS), there is a provision of advance enumeration of 20 percent of the area to provide early estimates of area statistics. Under the Improvement of Crop Statistics (ICS), there is a provision of supervision over the work of area enumeration by the revenue agency in about ten thousand villages in the country; and over crop cutting experiments by the Centre and State on matching basis on about 30,000 crop cutting experiments every year.

(f) Under the schemes for improvement of agricultural statistics, various programmes are likely to be initiated to improve the accuracy and reliability of crop production estimates. These include:

- (i) Extension of organisation of crop cutting experiments in the areas/crops which are not presently covered;
- (ii) Establishment of an Agency for Reporting of Agriculture Statistics (EARAS) in North-Eastern States where no system at present exists; and
- (iii) Use of satellite based remote sensing technique for crop area and production estimates to build pre-harvest estimates for all crops and in all the States.

[English]

Smuggling of Arms

*539. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL:
SHRI S.P. JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the type and number of illegal country-made/smuggled foreign arms seized during the last three years till date, State-wise/UT-wise;

(b) the details of the origin of these illegal arms;

(c) the steps taken to check the entry of the illegal foreign arms;

(d) the total number of persons arrested so far during the said period State-wise/UT-wise; and

(e) the action being taken against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) and (b) The information is being obtained from the States/UTs and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Government is alive to the situation and are taking appropriate steps in this regard. State Governments have been asked to appoint nodal officers for coordinating all actions for carrying out reinforced surveillance. Other steps include gearing up of intelligence machinery, stricter enforcement of existing regulations and a close coordination between the concerned Central and State agencies.

(d) and (e) The information is being obtained from the States/UTs and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Pulses

*540. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA:
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of pulses in the country leading to abnormal rise in their prices;

(b) if so, the extent of shortage in various varieties of pulses.

(c) the reasons for the shortage;

(d) the amount of Central assistance provided under various schemes to increase the production of pulses to each State particularly to Orissa during 1995-96 and 1996-97, and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to meet the shortage of pulses in the country and to arrest increase in the prices of pulses?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) (a) and (b) As compared to estimated demand of 17 million tonnes (production target fixed by Planning Commission for 1996-97), the estimated production of pulses during 1995-96 is 15 million tonnes. Thus, there is a gap of about 2 million tonnes of pulses. To meet the shortage, the country has been importing pulses to the extent of about 4-6 lakh MTs. In general, there has been short supply of pulses like arhar, moong, masur and urad. The assessment of variety-wise requirement is not monitored. The average wholesale price index of pulses has increased by about 8% during 1995 as compared to 1994.

(c) Pulses cultivation is less remunerative as compared to cereals like rice and wheat. About 90% of area of pulses is rainfed. The pulses crops are risky and susceptible to insect pests and diseases. Besides, there has not been any major genetic breakthrough in pulses development.

(d) A statement is enclosed.

(e) In order to increase the production of pulses in the country, a Centrally sponsored National Pulses Development Project is under implementation in 26 States/UTs covering 257 districts. A Central allocation of Rs. 34.8 crore has been made for the year 1996-97. Under this scheme, assistance is provided for production and distribution of seeds, distribution of minikits, rhizobium culture, sprinkler sets, improved farm implements etc. In addition frontline and general demonstrations are conducted on the farmers field to propagate the improved production technology. Further, import of pulses is made at 5% of import duty. The Ministry of Agriculture has written to the States for preparing Special Action Plan to increase the production of pulses. So far Tamilnadu and Bihar have responded to this.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State	1995-96 Central allocation	1996-97 Central allocation
1.	Andhra Pradesh	106.00	115.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.00	2.00
3.	Assam	12.00	10.00
4.	Bihar	140.00	131.00
5.	Goa	2.00	1.00
6.	Gujarat	96.00	101.00
7.	Haryana	35.00	35.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	15.00	15.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	30.00	30.00
10.	Karnataka	137.00	150.00
11.	Kerala	11.00	11.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	440.00	550.00
13.	Maharashtra	315.00	370.00
14.	Manipur	6.00	20.00
15.	Meghalaya	6.00	2.00
16.	Nagaland	12.00	12.00
17.	Orissa	115.00	160.00
18.	Punjab	27.00	25.00
19.	Rajasthan	325.00	450.00
20.	Sikkim	10.00	10.00
21.	Tamil Nadu	130.00	150.00
22.	Tripura	7.00	10.00
23.	Uttar Pradesh	385.00	506.00
24.	West Bengal	32.00	30.00
25.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1.00	1.00
26.	Delhi	1.00	1.00
	Sprinkler Sets	500.00	—
	TOTAL	2898.00	2898.00

[English]

Revenue Collections

4874. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the revenue collected by the South Eastern Railway from the passengers and goods Traffic during each of the last two years;

(b) the total liability of the Railways in the South Eastern Railway during the said period; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to collect more revenue from the South Eastern Railway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) The Revenue collected by South Eastern Railway from Passenger and Goods during last two years are as under:—

(Figures in lakhs of Rs.)

	1994-95	1995-96
Passenger	36545	40300
Goods	340740	379213

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

(c) The steps taken by the Government to collect more revenue from the South Eastern Railway are as under:

Passenger Services

1. Intensive ticket checking to reduce ticketless travel.
2. Issue of tickets through micro processor based Self Printing Ticket Machines.
3. Introduction of Coupon Validating Machine.
4. Running of fully unreserved trains on selected routes.
5. Better manpower management.
6. Energy conservation.
7. Cost control, cost reduction and cost effectiveness in all on-line as well as off-line activities.
8. Lowering of spending limits of the Railways
9. Introduction of new trains.
10. Zero base review of activities.

Freight Services

1. Own Your Wagon Scheme introduced to encourage private participation in ownership of wagons.

2. Quotation of Station to station rates for certain streams of traffic.
3. Zonal Railways have been empowered to quote reduced rates for traffic offered in empty flow direction.
4. Increasing the minimum distance for charge to 100 Kms to earn additional revenue.
5. Agglomeration of piece meal traffic through freight forwarders.
6. Multimodal transport of goods through door to door container services.
7. Scheme for leasing of SLR/Break Van space in passenger trains for committed parcel movement
8. Constant monitoring is being done on the loading of high profit yielding commodities.

Gour Express

4875. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gour Express under Eastern Railway is the only fast link train between Malda and Sealdah Division;

(b) whether there are several complaints about the old and outdated compartments being used in this prestigious train; and

(c) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to replace the old compartments in this train?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) (a) 3153/3154 Gour Express provides direct service between Sealdah and Malda. In addition 7 pairs of Mail/Express trains besides a Fast passenger connects Malda with Calcutta (Sealdah/Howrah)

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise

Steam Locomotive Engines

4876. SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM': Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the steam locomotive engines are still produced by the Railways;

(b) the number of steam engines still used by the Railways;

(c) whether the Government propose to withdraw these engines from the service completely; and

(d) if so, the details of the plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) At present 177 steam locos on Metre Gauge and 20 on Narrow Gauge are working on Indian Railways.

(c) and (d) Railways as a matter of policy have decided to replace steam locomotives with diesel/electric locomotives before the turn of century in a phased manner except in some sections of tourist importance where such locos will be an attraction.

Howrah Base Kitchen

4877. DR ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sanitation condition around the Howrah Base Kitchen is unhygienic;

(b) if so, whether any steps are being taken to improve the condition/sanitation in and around Howrah Base Kitchen; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) The sanitation condition around the Howrah Base Kitchen are maintained in satisfactory and hygienic conditions. However, due to recent heavy rains there was blockage of adjacent drains resulting in temporary flooding of the area around Howrah Base Kitchen. Necessary steps were taken to clear the blockage and hygienic sanitary condition have been restored.

Supply of Coaches

4878. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of coaches produced by different production units during the last three years, unit-wise and year-wise;

(b) the number of coaches supplied to the Zonal Railways during the said mentioned period, year-wise and zone-wise;

(c) whether less number of coaches were supplied to Eastern, South-Eastern and North-Eastern Frontier Railways; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to increase the supply of coaches to the said Railway Zones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) There are four Units manufacturing coaches in the country—two in Railway Sector, viz. Integral Coach Factory and Rail Coach Factory and two in Public Sector, viz. M/s Bharat Earth Movers Ltd. and M/s. Jessops & Company Ltd. The number of coaches produced by the different production Units during the last three years, unit-wise and year-wise are as under:

	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Integral Coach Factory	1038	780	890
Rail Coach Factory	1025	775	690
Jessops and Company Ltd.	61	15	33
Bharat Earth Movers Ltd.	375	9	139

(b) The details of category-wise coaches supplied to Zonal Railways are as under:

Railway	1993-94			1994-95			1995-96		
	AC	Non-AC	S.P.	AC	Non-AC	S.P.	AC	Non-AC	S.P.
Central	7	130	116	13	145	62	55	141	82
Eastern	41	323	42	50	340	62	6	26	92
Northern	34	331	17	58	180	66	43	199	57
North Eastern	1	43	—	—	—	—	16	91	—
Northeast Frontier	2	22	—	—	10	—	15	83	6
Southern	29	462	15	36	138	9	41	286	39
South Central	7	224	—	17	65	—	21	149	18
South Eastern	5	363	40	—	27	50	29	244	42
Western	35	234	54	76	132	48	36	36	122

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Coaches have been supplied to Eastern, South Eastern and Northeast Frontier Railways as required taking into account the total production planned during any year.

Development of Spices

4879. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had prepared any schemes for the development of spices in the country particularly in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) During 8th Plan, a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Programme for Development of Spices is being implemented in the country with an outlay of Rs. 125.00 crores. Of this, the allocation made for the State of Kerala is Rs. 60.21 crores. The details of the measures being implemented in Kerala for development of various spices are as follows:

1. Black Pepper

Production of rooted pepper cuttings; Rehabilitation of old pepper garden; Distribution of input kits; Adoption of plant protection measures against quick wilt disease; Laying out field demonstration plots; Promotion of cultivation as intercrop; and Area Expansion Programme.

2. Ginger

Production of nucleus seed material; Establishment of demonstration-cum-seed multiplication plots; Distribution of minikits of ginger; Plant protection demonstration programme; and Area expansion programme.

3. Turmeric

Production of nucleus seeds; Establishment of demonstration-cum-seed multiplication plots; Area Expansion programme; and Providing assistance for fabrication of polishing drums.

4. Chillies

Establishment of demonstration-cum-seed multiplication plots; Distribution of minikits; and Establishment of demonstration plots of paprika.

5. Tree spices

Production and distribution of quality planting materials of Clove, Nutmeg grafts & Cinnamon/Cassia; and Establishment of tree spices demonstration plots.

6. General

Distribution of plant protection equipments; Financial assistance for setting up irrigation units; Promotion of soil conservation measures; and Staff and infrastructure.

[Translation]

Crime at New Delhi Railway Station

4880. SHRI O.P. JINDAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Delhi mein Railway Station per choron ko police ka Sanrakshan', appearing in the 'Navbharat Times' dated August 8, 1996,

(b) if so, whether the gangs of thieves are active at the railway stations in Delhi under the protection of the Railway police;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to curb such incidents on the Railway Station?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (c) No such news item has come to the notice of the Government. However, no organised gang of thieves is active at the Railway stations in Delhi under the protection of the Railway Police

(d) The steps taken by the Delhi Police to prevent thefts at the Railway stations include, inter alia, intensification of patrolling and pasting of the photographs of known thieves at important places/platforms

[English]

Watershed/Lakes

4881. SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have selected some watershed/lakes as national watershed/lakes in the country;

(b) if so, names of watershed/lakes declared as national watershed/lakes;

(c) whether any steps are to be taken for their beautification;

(d) whether any amount has been allotted for the purpose for these watershed/lakes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) to (e) A National Lake

Conservation Plan covering 21 urban lakes in 10 States has been formulated. The state-wise break-up of these lakes is given in attached statement. The programme aims at restoring the ecological status of these lakes by preventing the entry of sewage through a sewerage system, catchment area conservation, improvement of water quality etc. However, the National Lake Conservation Plan has not been approved by the Government in the VIII Plan.

STATEMENT

NAME OF LAKE	STATE
1. Dal	Jammu & Kashmir
2. Bhoj	Madhya Pradesh
3. Sagar	Madhya Pradesh
4. Hussain Sagar	Andhra Pradesh
5. Nainital	Uttar Pradesh
6. Kodaikanal	Tamil Nadu
7. Ooty	Tamil Nadu
8. Powai	Maharashtra
9. Udaipur Lake System	Rajasthan
10. Sukhna	Chandigarh
11. Rabindra Sarobar	West Bengal
(Phase-II)	
1. Suchindra tank	West Bengal
2. Adra	West Bengal
3. Salt lake	West Bengal
4. Santragachi	West Bengal
5. Subhash Sarobar	West Bengal
6. A cluster of water bodies near Halisahar	West Bengal
7. Water Bodies in Garden Reach area	West Bengal
8. A cluster of water bodies around Belghoria Railway Station	West Bengal
9. Mirik	West Bengal
10. Senchal	West Bengal

Hindustan Insecticides Limited

4882. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Insecticides Ltd. is going to close its operation in Delhi by 30.11.96 as per the Supreme Court Order;

(b) whether the management of HIL has asked for the allotment of 25 acres of land in NCR, and a financial assistance of Rs. 100 crores for the relocation of HIL;

(c) whether the management of HIL has planned to take only 40-50 employees out of 530 employees on its relocation;

(d) the plan about its workers' colony called as HIL Township in New Motinagar area; and

(e) whether it is possible for the Ministry to accord ownership rights to the allottees by taking a token amount from the workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):
(a) and (b) Yes Sir.

(c) Delhi Unit of HIL is manufacturing only DDT. Keeping in view the decline in demand of DDT the company has decided to set up a formulation unit where the requirement of workers will be much less. The existing demand of DDT is likely to be met by the company's two units located in Maharashtra and Kerala, where DDT is also manufactured.

(d) and (e) No Sir. The company propose to utilise the quarters for the use of its staff in Marketing Division, R&D Complex and Corporate Office.

Foreign Visits by President of National Cooperative Union of India

4883. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign visits made by the President and Chief Executive of the national Cooperative Union of India during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the total foreign exchange spent on these visits together with D.A. allowed to these two officers;

(c) whether the Government have assessed the achievements of their visits to the foreign countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) As per attached Statement.

(c) and (d) As reported by the National Cooperative Union of India, the following benefits have accrued out of these visits abroad:—

(i) National Cooperative Union of India has been able to effectively represent the Indian Cooperative Movement in the International

Organisations like, International Cooperative Alliance, International Labour Organisation, F.A.O. etc.

- (ii) The visits increased collaboration with counterparts in the foreign countries in the fields of Human Resources development, cooperative insurance, banking etc.
- (iii) Three projects for artisans' cooperatives, one each in the National Capital of Territory of Delhi and the States of Karnataka and West Bengal have been sanctioned by the International Cooperative Alliance.

STATEMENT

	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
A. Number of foreign visits made by			
(i) President, National Cooperative Union of India	5	4	6
(ii) Chief Executive, National Cooperative Union of India	3	4	3
B. Foreign exchange spent on these visits (in Rupees)			
(i) President	2,39,321	3,33,622	6,72,945
(ii) Chief Executive	91,328	1,27,860	1,79,610

[Translation]

Stoppage at Tetulamari

4884. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request for providing stoppage of the Ganga-Damodar train running between Dhanbad and Patna, at Tetulamari Station under the Dhanbad Division;

(b) if so, whether the Government have approved the said proposal; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Lack of traffic justification and its close proximity to Dhanbad (9 Kms.).

Stoppage at Ferozabad

4885. PROF. OM PAL SINGH 'NIDAR': Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the superfast trains do not have stoppage at Ferozabad;

(b) whether the Government have received requests for providing the stoppage of the Kalindi, Vaishali, North-East, Prayagraj, Jodhpur-Howrah, Marudhar, Purushotam, New Delhi-Puri, Poorva Brahmaputra and Shatabadi Express trains at Ferozabad or Tundla Stations;

(c) whether the Government have also received requests to provide reservation facility in each class in the trains which stop at Tundla and Ferozabad stations and the trains which are likely to have a stoppage at the said stations in future; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir. Three pairs of superfast trains are already stopping at this station.

(b) Requests for stoppage of additional trains at Firozabad and Tundla have been received. Poorva Express, Vaishali Express, North-East Express, Brahmaputra Mail, Kalindi Express and Marudhar Express (in Down direction only) are already scheduled to stop at Tundla.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The stoppage of Marudhar Express at Tundla in the Up direction is being provided from 01.10.96. However, stoppage of any other additional train at Firozabad or Tundla is not found justified. As regards reservation quotas, the same is allotted at any station in a train taking into account the total availability of reserved accommodation and demand pattern. Accordingly, reservation quotas have been provided at Firozabad and Tundla in various trains. There is no proposal at present either to allot any fresh quota or enhance the present quota allocated to these stations.

Privatisation of Sanitation Work

4886. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of railway stations in the country particularly in Gujarat for which sanitation work has been assigned to the private parties; and

(b) the action taken to rehabilitate the surplus lower class Railway employees as a result of assigning the said work to the private parties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Speed of Maharashtra Express

4887. DR. G.R. SARODE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received to increase the speed of 7384/7383 Maharashtra Express running between Gaundia and Kolhapur under the Central Railway; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) Some representations, including from Shri Digvijay Khanvilkar, MLA, Maharashtra, have been received in this regard. The possibility of speeding up of 7383/7384 Maharashtra Express has been examined but not found feasible due to operational factors including reversals besides a large number of halts.

[English]

Recruitment in Delhi Police

4888. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to recruit persons from all over the country for the Delhi Police;

(b) whether the Delhi Police is recruiting persons barring the Eastern and North Eastern States; and

(c) the steps to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

EMU Car Shed at Barddhaman

4889. SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY:
SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY:
DR. ASIM BALA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether from the operational point of view there is urgent need to have a EMU Car Shed at Barddhaman;

(b) whether in absence of such shed, EMU services were disturbed frequently; and

(c) the reaction of the Government to run EMU service from Barddhaman to Sealdah, Bandel, Howrah (both directions), Dankuni, Kharagpur, Barakar and Chittaranjan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) EMU/MEMU services already connect Barddhaman to Sealdah, Bandel, Howrah, Dankuni, Barakar. Provision of EMU services between Barddhaman and Kharagpur is not feasible due to operational constraints. Introduction of EMU services from Barddhaman to Chittaranjan is not

feasible at present due to operational and resource constraints.

Industries in Dahanu

4890. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any communications from Industries' Association in Thane District complaining about the ill-effects of the Government Circular dated 20 June, 1991 on the Industrial growth of the Dahanu; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The action in the matter would need to be taken after the case pending in the Supreme Court has been disposed of.

Scientific Laboratories

4891. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to establish Scientific Laboratories for the Agriculture in every district headquarters of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of facilities proposed to be made available in these laboratories for the farmers;

(d) the manner in which the farmers are likely to be benefited by establishing these laboratories;

(e) the annual target fixed for establishing these laboratories; and

(f) the time by which these are likely to become operational?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) No, Sir. However the Government propose to establish Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) in each district of the country.

(b) Out of 503 rural districts, 252 districts have been covered by the Krishi Vigyan Kendras. Details are given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d) The aim of KVK is to help the farmers to adopt the latest agricultural technology through skill based training, on-farm testing on crops, livestock, horticulture, fisheries etc., frontline demonstrations, and

other extension activities. The KVK also conducts in-service training for the extension personnel to update their knowledge.

(e) and (f) The annual target and the time will depend on the availability of additional funds for which the Planning Commission has already been approached.

STATEMENT

State-wise Number of Districts With Krishi Vigyan Kendras

S. No.	STATE	TOTAL DISTT	DISTT WITH KVKs
1.	A & N Islands	02	01
2.	Andhra Pradesh	23	15
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	13	01
4.	Assam	23	05
5.	Bihar	52	18
6.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	01	—
7.	Daman & Diu	02	—
8.	Delhi	01	01
9.	Goa	02	01
10.	Gujarat	19	10
11.	Haryana	16	12
12.	Himachal Pradesh	12	09
13.	Jammu & Kashmir	14	04
14.	Karnataka	19	10
15.	Kerala	14	09
16.	Lakshadweep	01	—
17.	Madhya Pradesh	45	19
18.	Maharashtra	30	22
19.	Manipur	08	01
20.	Meghalaya	07	01
21.	Mizoram	03	02
22.	Nagaland	07	01
23.	Orissa	30	12
24.	Pondicherry	04	02
25.	Punjab	14	09
26.	Rajasthan	30	30
27.	Sikkim	04	01
28.	Tamil Nadu	22	16
29.	Tripura	04	02
30.	Uttar Pradesh	65	30
31.	West Bengal	16	08
TOTAL:		503	252

Coaches of Trains

4892. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the coaches of trains running from Calcutta to North Bengal and Assam and also to increase the frequency of the Howrah-Guwahati Express; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) Provision of additional facilities including new trains and coaches is a continuous process on Indian Railways subject to operational feasibility, resource availability and traffic justification. The frequency of 3045/3046 Howrah-Guwahati Saraighat Express is being increased from weekly to tri-weekly from October '96. There is however, no proposal at present to increase the coaches on trains from Calcutta to North Bengal.

Train Describer System

4893. SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Train Describer System was installed for management and control of the train operations in the New Delhi area;

(b) if so, the details of the date of commissioning, FOB cost of the system and percentage of time, the system has been used from date of commissioning indicating its usefulness;

(c) whether similar system has been installed at any other station; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Date of Commissioning: 27.3.1994

FOB Cost: Pound Sterling: 4352534

The system has been in operation since day of installation. The system has been useful for train working and dissemination of information to passengers.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Setting up of Human Rights Commissions at State Levels

4894. SHRI A.C. JOS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up Human Rights Commissions at the State levels;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any State Government has set up any such Commission; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) and (b) There are provisions in the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 for setting up of State Human Rights Commissions by the State Governments in Sections 20 to 29. The State Governments have been advised to set up State Human Rights Commissions in their respective states.

(c) and (d) As per available information the State Governments of West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Assam have already set up State Human Rights Commission as per provisions in the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.

Railway Dues

4895. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge outstanding amount is to be recovered by the Railways from the National Thermal Power Corporation and Electricity Boards to some of the States;

(b) if so, the amount outstanding as on June 30, 1996 against the NTPC and various Electricity Boards, separately;

(c) whether the Railways are facing financial crunch as a result of not getting the amount of this magnitude from them; and

(d) if so, the action being taken by the Government to recover the said dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Amount outstanding as on 30.6.96 is as under:—

S. No.	Name of State Electricity Boards/Power Houses	Amount (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh State Elec. Board	24.05
2.	Assam State Electricity Board	4.16
3.	Bihar State Electricity Board	4.66
4.	Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking	94.76
5.	Gujarat State Electricity Board	6.13
6.	Haryana State Electricity Board	56.91

1	2	3
7.	Karnataka State Electricity Board	0.51
8.	Maharashtra State Electricity Board	33.44
9.	M.P. State Electricity Board	3.29
10.	Punjab State Electricity Board	14.94
11.	Rajasthan State Electricity Board	1.49
12.	Tamil Nadu State Elec. Board	0.33
13.	U.P. State Electricity Board	37.59
14.	West Bengal State Elec. Board	20.78
15.	N.T.P.C./Badarpur Th. Power Plant	688.54
16.	N.T.P.C./Others	32.51
Total of freight and demurrage charges		1024.09

(c) Since the Railways have been asked to increasingly depend on internal generation of resources; the outstanding amount due from N.T.P.C. and other State Electricity Boards affects the resource generation of the Railways.

(d) The main difficulties which the Railways face is the failure of the power utilities to pay the freight charges whenever consignments are booked on 'To Pay' basis. The following important steps have been taken for timely recovery of coal haulage charges:

- Keeping constant dialogue with the authorities of the power utilities for expeditious clearance of dues.
- Occasional stoppage of supply of wagons and delivery of consignments, as an extreme step.
- Keeping 15% difference between "To Pay" and "paid" freight.
- Introduction of advance payment scheme through a deposit by the concerned State Electricity Board, of one month's transactions in advance in the destination Railway.
- Compulsory pre-payment of freight, where consignments are now booked on "To Pay" basis, w.e.f. 1.10.96.

It is expected that with the introduction of the measures at (d) and (e), the position in this regard will improve.

[Translation]

Atrocities by Police

4896. DR. RAM VILAS VEDANTI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of child killings are going on in the wake of terror of hyena in the Pratapgarh and other districts of U.P.;

(b) whether the people of Pratapgarh and adjacent areas are forced to stay outside their villages for the

whole night due to the terror of the police as the police beat the ladies and children in order to suppress their legitimate demands:

(c) if so, the action by the Government against the erring police officials;

(d) the number of children killed in the guise of terror of hyena; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (e) According to the information received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh the incidents of killing of infants/children were reported in the districts of Sultanpur, Jaunpur and Pratapgarh. Some wild animals like "hyena", "Wolf" and related species, who reportedly turned men-eaters, used to attack infants and small children. The Forest Department, with the help of the Police Department and District Administration, jointly launched a campaign to kill these animals. Steps were also taken to stop spreading of rumours. The media, social workers and other influential persons were actively associated with the campaign. A number of meetings were organised in different places, apart from intensifying police patrolling in the affected areas. Some beggars and mentally retarded persons also became the victims of fury of public, who mistook them to be hyenas/wolves in human form. Criminal cases have been registered in this regard. A number of persons have been arrested for their involvement in such incidents. The State Government has taken necessary steps to prevent recurrence of such incidents with the co-operation and participation of local public.

30 children were reportedly killed by animals in the three districts under reference during the current year between March and July 1996.

[English]

Loni Police Station

4897. SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several complaints against all the staff of Loni Police Station in district Ghaziabad (UP) have been received during the last three months;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the persons found guilty in different cases; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Removal of Refugees from Bangladesh

4898. DR. ARVIND SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether refugees from Bangladesh have settled at the Rohtak, Sampla, Bahadurgarh and Nangloi Railway Stations; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken to remove them from the platforms/Railway sheds?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Global Tiger Forum

4899. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state the experience so far in regard to the implementation of the National Tiger Action Plan and functioning of the Global Tiger Forum (1993)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NAHAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): The Global Tiger Forum will consider the National Tiger Action Plan of India after it is formally constituted. Therefore the question of experience in implementation of National Tiger Action Plan does not arise. The Global Tiger Forum will formally start functioning after a minimum of five tiger range countries have ratified its statutes. So far, ratifications have been received from three countries, namely, Bhutan, India and Myanmar.

[Translation]

Computerised Reservation Centres

4900. SHRI MAHABIR LAL BISHVAKARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of reservation centres where computerisation facility has not yet been provided; and

(b) the time by which these reservation centres particularly the one at Hazaribagh are likely to be computerised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Computerised passenger reservation facilities have yet to cover only about 8% of the total reservation workload spread over about 1600 stations most of which have limited or negligible workload.

(b) Provision of computerised passenger reservation facilities is an on-going process and these facilities are provided at stations as per norms and subject to the

availability of funds. The reservation workload at Hazarbagh is much less than the criterion of reservation related transactions per day and does not justify provision of these facilities at present. It can be considered when the criterion is met

[English]

Seizure of Teakwood

4901. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVIN CHANDRA MEHTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of seizure of teakwood along the Indo-Myanmar border during the last two years;

(b) whether security forces particularly BSF and Assam Rifles have failed to check the smuggling thereof; and

(c) if so, the steps being contemplated to check the smuggling which is the root cause of the escalation of insurgency in the bordering States; and

(d) the number and details of cases where the Indian vehicles were set on fire by Myanmar Army which were engaged in the smuggling activity?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Jharkhand Autonomous Council

4902. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the duties and powers conferred on the Jharkhand autonomous council in Bihar;

(b) the number of office bearers and members of the Jharkhand autonomous council and the norms prescribed for their appointments;

(c) the funds provided by the Centre and State since the establishment of the Jharkhand autonomous council till date;

(d) the details of expenditure incurred by the Jharkhand autonomous council, item-wise;

(e) the full details of pay and allowances etc. of all the members of the Jharkhand autonomous council including the Deputy-Chairman;

(f) the total number of members of the Jharkhand autonomous council and the number of members elected and of those nominated by the State Government, separately;

(g) the time by which the elections are likely to be held for the Jharkhand autonomous council;

(h) whether delimitation of the constituencies has been done for election to the Jharkhand autonomous council, and

(i) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (i) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Import of Electric Locomotives

4903. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of electric locomotives imported so far by the Indian Railways indicating their total price in Indian Rupees and arrival date in India;

(b) the number of such imported electric locomotives put into operation giving details of exact dates and names of the Zonal Railway where these locomotives are being used; and

(c) whether technology has also been assured from the company with which the import deal has been entered into?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) A statement is attached.

(c) Yes, Sir.

STATEMENT

(a) The number of electric locomotives imported since AC traction system was introduced (Upto 1-9-1996):

S.No.	Class/ Type of loco	No. of locos imported	Country from	Book value/Landed cost Rs. in lakhs (approx.)	Month/Year of arrival in India
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	BG-AC 25 kV 50 c/s WAM1/.) WAG1/3.) WAM2/3) WAG2	152	European Group, France	1687	WAM1, WAG1/3 —1960 to 1965.
		83	Japan	987	WAM2/3, WAG2 — 1961 to 1965

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	MG-AC 25 kV, 50 c/s YAM1	20	Japan	192	1964 to 1966
3.	BG-AC 25 kV, 50 c/s Thyristor controlled High Horse Power (6000 HP) Freight WAG6 locomotives	6 12	Sweden Japan	5345 10184	1988 1988
4.	BG-AC 25 kV, 50 c/s 3-phase, drive locomotives WAP5 passenger	10	Switzerland	24179	October, 1995 to June, 1996
	Freight WAG9 (SKD/CKD) locomotives	5	Switzerland	10825	July, 1996
	Total	288		53399	

(b) The number of imported electric locomotives put in service since AC traction system was introduced (upto 1-9-1996)

S.No.	Type & class of loco.	No. put in service	Year put in service	User Railway	
1	2	3	4	5	
1.	25 kV AC Broad Gauge loco- motives	WAM1 WAM2 WAM3 WAG1 WAG2 WAG3	100 36 2 42 45 10	1959 to 1961 1962 to 1964 1965 1963 to 1968 1964 to 1966 1965 to 1967	Eastern and Northern Eastern Eastern Southern, South Central, South Eastern and Western Central Eastern
2.	25 kV AC high horse power Thyristor control loco- motives	WAG6A WAG6B WAG6C	6 6 6	2-5-1988 to 24-1-1989 11-9-1988 to 29-10-1988 24-5-1988 to 21-8-1988	South Eastern South Eastern South Eastern

1	2	3	4	5	
3	Metre Gauge loco-motives	YAM1	20	27-3-1965 to 28-8-1966	Southern
4	3-phase drive ABB loco motives	WAP5	10	Under commissioning on Northern Railway	
		WAG9	5 (In knocked down condition)	Under assembly at CLW	
	Total		288		

Agents for Sale of Tickets

4904. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Department has appointed agents for the sale of tickets and reservation of berths at Guwahati; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Hiring of Vehicles by Mother Dairy

4905. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 1228 on March 11, 1996 and state:

(a) whether the Mother Dairy's Fruit and Vegetables Unit have changed the norms for hiring the private vehicles;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the transport companies and details of their trucks/matadors presently under the hiring contract of the Mother Dairy?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The details are given at attached statement.

STATEMENT

Names of the transporters having contract for providing vehicles for transportation of fruits, Vegetable And Packing Items from different centres to CDF, Mangolpuri, Delhi and Back.

Name of Transporter	No. of Vehicles
1. M/s Nagpur Gauhati Roadways	6
2. M/s National Milk Supplier	8
3. Sunil Kumar Sehgal	6
4. Bal Krishan	3
5. Hawa Singh	5
6. Rajender Kumar Bansal	2
7. Ramdhan Yadav	2
8. S.P. Sinha	2
9. M/s Khan Transport Co.	3
10. M/s Savera Transport Co.	2
11. M/s Sohna Milk Supplier	7

Name of the Transporters having contract for Transportation of Fresh/Frozen Vegetables From CDF, Mangolpuri to various Retail Outlets situated in and around Delhi and to Other Distribution Centres located at other stations outside Delhi.

Name of Transporter	No. of Vehicles
1	2
1. M.L. Burman	5
2. M/s Cosmos Interstate Carriers	4
3. Ramji Lal	10
4. M/s Sanjay Transport Co.	5
5. Suranjan Singh	3

1	2
6. M/s Dharmender Transport Co.	4
7. M/s Khanna Clearing Agencies	5
8. Surender Singh	5
9. M/s R.K. Verma Transport Service	2
10. Devender Singh	5
11. M/s Kamal Transport Service	1
12. Ram Raj Mudgil	1
13. M/s Sharma Transport	1
14. M/s Sai Baba Perishable Good Carriers	3
15. M/s Anand Frozen Food Carriers	3
16. M/s J.K. Frozen Food Carriers	3

Price of Trimethoprim and Sulphamethoxazole

4906. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed the price of Trimethoprim and Sulphamethoxazole;

(b) if so, the date on which and the rate for different packs;

(c) whether the companies like M/s. Wellcure Drugs and Paam Pharmaceuticals are charging higher than the approved prices of these drugs; and

(d) if so, since when and the action taken by the Government against such companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b) The details of prices of formulations based on Trimethoprim and Sulphamethoxazole under DPCO, 1995 are given in the statement attached.

(c) and (d) Information will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Name of the formulation	Strength	Pack Size	Ceiling prices (Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Trimethoprim + Sulphamoxole Tabs.	Trimethoprim 40 mg + Sulphamoxole 200 mg 5 ml.	50 ml. bottle	9.12
2.	Trimethoprim + Sulphamoxole Tabs.	Trimethoprim 80 mg + Sulphamoxole 400 mg per tablet.	10 × 10's Strip	56.44
3.	Trimethoprim + Sulphamoxole Paediatric Tabs.	Trimethoprim 20 mg + Sulphamoxole 100 mg per tablet.	10 × 10's Strip	17.48
4.	Trimethoprim + Sulphamethoxazole Injection	Trimethoprim 80 mg + Sulphamethoxazole 400mg/5ml	5 × 5ml. Ampoule	14.77
5.	Trimethoprim + Sulphamethoxazole Tablets.	Trimethoprim 80 mg + Sulphamethoxazole 400mg/ Tablet	10 × 10's strip	78.24
6.	Trimethoprim + Sulphamethoxazole Paed. Tablets	Trimethoprim 20mg. Sulphamethoxazole 100mg/ Paed. Tabs. Tab.	10 × 10's	23.16
7.	Trimethoprim + Sulphamethoxazole Paed. Susp.	Trimethoprim 40mg. Sulphamethoxazole 200mg/ 5ml.	50 ml bottle.	9.34
8.	Trimethoprim + Sulphamethoxazole Paed. Susp.	Trimethoprim 40mg. Sulphamethoxazole 200mg/ 5ml.	100 ml bottle	16.00

1	2	3	4	5	
9.	Trimethoprim + Sulphamethoxazole Double strength Tablets.	Trimethoprim Sulphamethoxa- zole.	160mg. 800 mg.	10's strip	14.04
10.	Trimethoprim + Sulphamoxole Tablets.	Trimethoprim Sulphamoxole Tablets.	80mg. 400mg.	10's strip	8.30
11.	Trimethoprim + Sulphamoxole Paed. Tablets.	Trimethoprim Sulphamoxole per tablets.	20 mg. 100 mg.	10's strip	2.44
12.	Trimethoprim + Sulphamethoxazole Injection.	Trimethoprim Sulphamoxole	16mg. 80mg/ml.	1 × 5ml (Amp.)	2.90
13.	Trimethoprim + Sulphadiazine Tab.	Trimethoprim Sulphadiazine Tablets.	90mg. 410 mg.	10 × 10's Strip/GP	76.90
14.	Trimethoprim + Sulphamethoxazole	Trimethoprim Sulphamethoxa- zole.	80mg. 400mg.	1000's Tin	533.22

Law and Order Situation in U.P.

4907. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Poorvi Uttar Pradesh Apradhiyon ke shikanje mein" appearing in the 'Dainik Jagaran' dated August 8, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether on August 13, 1996 in Civil Lines area in Allahabad some people were gunned down but the police has not yet been able to trace the killers;

(d) if so, the number of murders committed in Allahabad and Phulpur during the last 12 months and the number of cases traced out of them and the number of cases lying unsolved; and

(e) the measures taken to improve the law and order situation in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Vanishing of Pakistanis

4908. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOI): Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-items captioned "officials are worried

as Pakistanis vanish" and "Loopholes in security at Atari" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated August 27 and 28, 1996;

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

(c) the number of Pakistanis vanished in the country during each of the last three years and the reasons for their not being traced and booking them; and

(d) the measures taken to ensure that such vanishing tricks are curbed henceforth?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Horticulture Project

4909. SHRI GANGA RAM KOLI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a horticulture project has been launched in the hilly region of Uttar Pradesh with Italian cooperation for the promotion and upgradation of various varieties of fruit crops;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the total outlay of the project, the amount of Italian assistance, fruit crops covered under the project and the schedule of its implementation;

(c) the extent to which the benefits have accrued to farmers under this project;

(d) whether there are any deficiencies and administrative irregularities in implementing the project; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, and the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) A project namely Indo Italian Programme for the development of temperate climate fruit crops was implemented in two phases in the states of U.P., J&K and H.P. The first phase was from June 1984 to December 1987 and second phase from August 1990 to June, 1994. The outlays and expenditure in the project for Uttar Pradesh were as under:—

	Rs. in lakh		
	Italian Share	State/India Share	Total
Outlays	389.75	142.51	532.26
Expenditure	390.17	294.54	651.13

The important components of the project were technical assistance, supply of equipments, plant and planting material, nursery and laboratory equipments, green houses structures, training of personnels in India and abroad and transfer of technology etc. The important fruit crops were apple, pear, apricot, plum, peach, cherry, almond, walnut, hazelnut, pistachionut, strawberry and citrus fruits besides olive which was introduced as a new crop.

(c) The farmers were trained on the new technology in temperate fruit crops. The demonstration plots were laid on the farmers field for olive crop. The planting material, fertilisers and pesticides were also provided to the farmers under the project.

(d) and (e) During the implementation of the project, no deficiency/administrative irregularity has been brought to the notice of the Government. The project has been successfully implemented and has ended in June, 1994.

Konkan Railway Project

4910. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether for the construction of the Konkan Railway Project, the number of tunnels, major projects and minor projects were 71, 136 and 1605 respectively as planned in 1990-91;

(b) whether the numbers grew to 93 for tunnels, 171 for major projects and 1752 for minor projects during 1995-96;

(c) whether the construction work was forced to keep changing its alignment over the years resulting in these changes and cost overruns; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The numbers have increased to 92 for tunnels, 179 for major bridges and 1819 for minor bridges.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) When the construction of the Konkan Railway Project was entrusted to the Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd., they had to do the re-survey of the then proposed alignment as the earlier survey done by the Southern Railway was not complete. The Corporation, while surveying the alignment, eased the gradients from 1:100 to 1:150 and also eased the curvatures from 7 degrees to 1.4 degrees for better operational benefits. Due to these reasons the number of tunnels, major bridges and minor bridges have increased.

Resettlement of Refugee Families

4911. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Cabinet decision was taken on August 25, 1989 to resettle refugee families from the Punjab and Bangladesh and families of some ex-servicemen in the Kasturba Niketan Complex;

(b) whether even after seven years, no action has so far been taken in this regard;

(c) the reasons for delay and failure to monitor the Scheme;

(d) whether in view of the non-implementation of the Scheme, hundreds of refugees families are living in sub-human conditions and facing serious health hazards and running the risk of getting injured by the falling roofs and walls; and

(e) the measures contemplated to ward off the hazards and also to secure speedy implementation of the aforesaid decision?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (e) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Article 370

4912. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received proposals/suggestions for abrogating Article 370 and the utility of the Article in the present circumstances; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) Views have been expressed from time to time, in some quarters that Article 370 should be abrogated.

(b) The Government do not propose to amend or abrogate Article 370 of the Constitution.

[English]

Fake Citizenship Certificate

4913. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the issuance of the fake citizenship certificates to the Bangladeshi nationals with MBBS degrees by certain border districts officials to enable them to secure jobs in the country;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted by the Government to identify the officials involved in the issuance of fake citizenship certificates to the Bangladeshi nationals;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Commercialization of Agriculture

4914. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new schemes have been introduced by the Government to encourage the cultivation of more economical crops so that agriculture is commercialized in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of these schemes and the names of the agricultural products whose cultivation is to be encouraged?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING)(SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) There is no new scheme to "commercialise agriculture" in the country. However some schemes for the promotion of horticultural crops, other than foodgrains and cash crops, have been introduced during the Eighth Five Year Plan. A Statement in this regard is attached.

STATEMENT

New Schemes for Promotion of More Economical Crops during VIII Plan

The details of the new schemes started during the VIII Five year Plan for promotion of horticultural crops are as under:

Names of schemes	Activities taken up under the scheme	VIII Plan outlay (Rs. in crore)
1	2	3
(1) Commercial Flouriculture	Setting up of nodal centres for introduction of new varieties, their multiplication and supply of planting material, training centres for post-harvest handling of cut flowers and area expansion.	10.00
(2) Promoting cultivation of root and tuber crops	Introduction of improved technology and setting up of tissue culture units	2.50
(3) Mushroom cultivation	Setting up of spawn production units, pasturized compost units and training	10.00

	1	2	3
(4)	Development of medicinal and Aromatic plants	Development of selected varieties through production of seed/ planting material of improved varieties, setting up of herbal gardens and assistance for distillation units.	5.00
(5)	Development of betelvine	Construction of conservatory/trellies, developing water sources for irrigation, supply of plant protection equipment and establishment of demonstration plots.	2.00
(6)	Development of beekeeping for improving crop productivity	Aimed at improving productivity of crops through pollination by the honey bees, assistance given to the beekeepers for training, development of infrastructure and marketing facilities; R&D.	18.87

[English]

Riot Incidents at Muzzafarnagar

4915. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CBI has noticed the tempering of police records relating to Uttarakhand riot incidents at Muzaffarnagar;

(b) if so, whether the Government have constituted any inquiry in the matter.

(c) if so, the outcome thereof along with the action taken/to be taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A regular criminal case was registered in connection with this matter and a chargesheet under sections 120-B and 218 IPC has been filed against the concerned police officers in the Court of the Special Magistrate for CBI cases, Dehradun. The trial proceedings are presently stayed under the orders of the High Court of Allahabad on a petition moved by the accused for transferring the case to some other place.

Fertilizers Selling Agencies

4916. SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of agencies selling chemicals and fertilizers in Madhya Pradesh till 31st March, 1996;

(b) the number of agencies working under the cooperative societies; and

(c) the details of the programme launched by the Government for making the distribution of chemicals and fertilizers more effective in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (c) The information asked for is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Upgradation of Railway Services

4917. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHARA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received regarding the introduction of new trains between Vijayawada and Guntakal and Madras and Bombay, upgradation of Muddanur and Kondapuram stations, stoppages of Balaji Express at Muddanur and Kondapuram and Mysore-Kondapuram passenger train at Yenoguntala, increase in frequency of Balaji Express, extension of Mysore-Kondapuram train upto Gooty, doubling of line between Guntakal and Renigunta; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAI MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The demands for additional services, increase in frequency, extension of trains beyond its destinations and stoppages have been examined but not found feasible due to operational and resource constraints. As regards upgradation of Muddanuru and Kondapuram stations, these stations are already provided with facilities commensurate with the volume of traffic handled. Augmentation of the passenger amenities will be considered whenever so warranted by increase in the volume of traffic, subject to the availability of funds and other relative priorities. Regarding doubling of Guntakal-Renigunta section, a survey for the doubling of Gooty-Renigunta section has been taken up. Further action will be taken on receipt of the report.

[Translation]

Reservation Facility for Elected MLAs

4918. SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any reservation quota exists for the elected M.L.As/M.L.Cs. and

(b) if not, the steps proposed to be taken to extend the reservation quota to the representatives of the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) Separate quotas have been earmarked for MLAs/M.L.Cs of Bihar, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh as under—

Vidhan Sabha Madhya Pradesh	—	74 berths/seats
Vidhan Soudha Bangalore	—	36 berths/seats
Vidhan Sabha Bihar	—	84 berths/seats

MLAs/M.L.Cs of other States can seek reservation out of Emergency quota in case they are not able to get the confirmed reservations from the general counters. Their requests are considered alongwith others by the quota controlling authorities.

[English]

Curbing of Infiltration

4919. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to prepare and maintain a permanent register of the citizens in the country to check the infiltration;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) to (c) Various measures have been taken by the Central Government to curb/contain the problem of infiltration from across the border. However, the measures put in place and contemplated do not include, at this stage, preparation and maintenance of a permanent register for Indian citizens.

Kidnappings in Nagaland

4920. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some persons are missing in Nagaland since February 5, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Kohima bench of Gauhati High Court has issued any directive to the State Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the efforts being made and the time by which the missing persons are likely to be traced?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Jail Tribunals for Women

4921. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:
KUMARI UMA BHARATI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to set up Women Jail Tribunals in the country with a view to dispose of the pending cases of women culprits and to provide speedy justice to them;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Development of North Eastern States

4922. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Cabinet Sub Committee has been appointed to look into the all round development of the North Eastern States;

(b) if so, whether any specific programme has been chalked out in order to bring those States at par with the other States;

(c) if so, the details of programmes and the manner in which this is being implemented;

(d) the amount allocated to North East Council during each of the last three years and for current year; and

(e) the amount utilised by each State, project-wise during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) No such Cabinet Sub-Committee has been appointed by the Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The amount allocated to the North Eastern Council during each of the last three years and current year is indicated below:—

Year	Funds allocated (Rs. in crores)
1993-94	265.00
1994-95	307.00
1995-96	324.00
1996-97	294.00

(e) The information is being collected.

Bombay Bomb Blast

4923. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some accused involved in the Bombay serial bomb blast case have been released on bail;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the charges against them;

(c) whether the accused booked under TADA are also proposed to be released; and

(d) if so, the number of persons likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. A list indicating the accused released on bail and charges framed against them is given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d) No. The accused persons submit their applications for release on bail and the Court, after considering the material on record and hearing the Defence and the Prosecution, passes order as per Law.

STATEMENT

List of accused on bail and charges framed against them

Sl. No.	Name	Section of Law/Charge
1	2	3
1.	Abbas Dawood Sheikh @ Shaikhdare @ Galkadeo	U/s. 3(3). & 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
2.	Abdul Aziz Hazi Ghartkar	U/s. 3(3) of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
3.	Abdul Hamid @ Chuha Haji Mohd. Biryā (on Interim bail)	U/s. 3(3), 5,6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987, U/s. 3,7. r/w Sec. 25(1-A), 25(1-B)(a) of Arms Act, 1959.
4.	Abdulla Ibrahim Surti	U/s. 3(3) & 6. of TADA (P) Act, 1987.
5.	Amhed Shah Mubarak Shah @ Salim Durani	U/s. 3(3), 5, 6. & 3(4) of TADA(P) ACT, 1987 & Sec. 212 IPC
6.	Ajay Yashparkash Marwah	U/s. 3(3), 5, 6. of TADA(P) ACT, 1987 & U/s. 3,7. r/w Sec. 25 (1-A) (1-B) (a) of Arms Act, 1959.
7.	Altaf Ali Mustaq Ali Sayyed	U/s. 3(3), 5 & 6 of TADA(P) ACT, 1987.
8.	Anant Sakaram Bhoir	U/s. 3(3) of TADA(P) ACT, 1987, U/s. 202 IPC.
9.	Ashfaq Kasim Hawaldar	U/s. 3(3) of TADA(P) ACT, 1987.
10.	Ashok Narayan Muneshwer	U/s. 3(3) of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
11.	Ashrafur Rehman Azimulla Shaikh	U/s. 3(3), 5 & 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987. U/s. 3,7. r/w Sec. 25(1-A) (1-B)(a) of Arms Act, 1959.

1	2	3
12.	Ayub Ibrahim Patel	U/s. 3(3), 5 & 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987, U/s. 3, 7, r/w Sec. 25(1-A) (1-B) of Arms Act, 1959.
13.	Ayub Ibrahim Qureshi	U/s. 3(3), 5 & 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987, U/s. 3, 7, r/w Sec. 25 (1-A) (1-B) of Arms Act, 1959.
14.	Aziz Ahmed Mohd. Ahmed Shaikh (on Interim bail)	U/s. 3(3), 5 & 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987, U/s. 3, 7, r/w Sec. 25 (1-A) (1-B) (a) of Arms Act, 1959.
15.	Gulam Hafiz Shaikh @ Baba	U/s. 3(3) of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
16.	Devidas @ David Keshar Ghule	U/s. 3(3) of TADA(P) ACT, 1987.
17.	Eshan Mohd. Tufel Mohd. Qureshi	U/s. 3(3), 5 & 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987, U/s. 3, 7, r/w Sec. 25 (1-A) (1-B) (a) of Arms Act, 1959.
18.	Faki Ali Faki Ahmed Subedar	U/s. 3(3), 6 of TADA(P) ACT, 1987.
19.	Fazal Rehman Abdulla	U/s. 3(3) of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
20.	Hamid Abbas Miya Dafedar	U/s. 3(3) of TADA (P) ACT, 1987 U/s. 506 IPC.
21.	Harba Hari Khopatkar	U/s. 3 (3), 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
22.	Issaq Mohd. Hajwani	U/s. 3 (3), 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987, U/s. 3, 7, r/w Sec. 25 (1-A) (1-B) (a) of Arms Act, 1959. U/s. 201 IPC.
23.	Ismail Abbas Patel	U/s. 3 (3) of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
24.	Janardhan Pandurang Gambas	U/s. 3(3) of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
25.	Kersi Bapuji Adejanja	U/s. 3(3), 5 & 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987, U/s. 3, 7, r/w Sec. 25 (1-A) (1-B) (a) of Arms Act, 1959. U/s. 201 IPC.
26.	Khalil Ahmed Sayed Ali Nazir	U/s. 3(3), 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987, U/s. 3, r/w Sec. 25 (1-B) (a) of Arms Act, 1959.
27.	Krishna Sadanan Mokal	U/s. 3(3), of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
28.	Krishna Tukaram Pingle	U/s. 3(3), of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
29.	Liyakat Ali Habib Khan (on Interim bail)	U/s. 3(3), 5 & 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987, U/s. 4 r/w Sec. 6 of Explosive Substances, 1908.
30.	Majid Wali Mohmed Khan	U/s. 3(3), of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
31.	Manohar Mahadave More	U/s. 3(3) of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
32.	Manzoor Ahmed Sayed Ahmed	U/s. 3(3), 5 & 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987, U/s. 3, 7 r/w Sec. 25 (1-A) (1-B) (a) of Arms Act, 1959.
33.	Mohd. Dawood Mohd. Yusuf Khan	U/s. 3(3), 5 & 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987, U/s. 3, 7, r/w Sec. 25 (1-A) (1-B) (a) of Arms Act, 1959.

1	2	3
34.	Mohd. Jabir Abdul Latif Mansoor	U/s. 3(3), 5 & 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987. U/s. 3, 7 r/w Sec. 25 (1-A) (1-B) (a) of Arms Act, 1959.
35.	Mohd. Jindran Mumtaz Jindran	U/s. 3(3), 5 & 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987. U/s. 5 r/w Sec. 6 Explosive Substances, 1908, U/s. 201 of IPC.
36.	Mohd. Rafiq @ Rafiq Madi Musa Biyariwala	U/s. 3(3), 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
37.	Mohd. Sayeed Mohd. Ishaq (on Interim bail)	U/s. 3(3) of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
38.	Mohd. Yunus Gulam Rasool Batoniya	U/s. 3(3), 5 & 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987. U/s. 3 & 7 r/w Sec. 25 (1-A) (1-B) (a) of Arms Act, 1959.
39.	Moiddin Abdul Kadar Cheruvattam	U/s. 3(3) of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
40.	Ms. Mobina @ Baya Moosa Bhiwandiwala	U/s. 3(3) of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
41.	Muzamil Umar Kadri	U/s. 3(3), 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987. U/s. Sec. 25 (1-A) (1-B) (a) of Arms Act, 1959.
42.	Noor Mohd. Haji Mohd. Khan	U/s. 3(3), 5 & 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987. U/s. 5 r/w Sec. 6 of Explosive Substances, 1908, U/s. 201 IPC.
43.	Pandarnath Medukar Mahadik	U/s. 3(3) of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
44.	Ramesh Dattrey Mali	U/s. 3(3), of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
45.	Rashid Umar Alkware	U/s. 3(3), of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
46.	Riyaz Abubaker Khatri	U/s. 3(3), 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
47.	Rukhsana Mohd. Shafi Zariwala	U/s. 3(3), 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
48.	Rusi Framroze Mulla	U/s. 3(3), 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987. U/s. 3 & 7 r/w Sec. 25 (1-A) (1-B) (a) of Arms Act, 1959.
49.	Sanjay Sunil @ Balraj Dutt	U/s. 3(3), 5, 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987. U/s. 3 & 7 r/w Sec. 25 (1-A) (1-B) (a) of Arms Act, 1959.
50.	Sayyed @ Mujju Ismail Ibrahim Kadri	U/s. 3(3), 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
51.	Sayed Ismail Sayed Ali Kadri	U/s. 3(3), 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
52.	Sayed Abdul Rehman Sheikh	U/s. 3(3), of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
53.	Shahjahan Ibrahim Shaikhdare	U/s. 3(3), 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
54.	Shahnawaz Dadamiya Hajwani	U/s. 3(3), 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
55.	Shaikh Asif Yusuf	U/s. 3(3), 5, 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987. U/s. 3 & 7 r/w Sec. 25 (1-A) (1-B) (a) of Arms Act, 1959.

1	2	3
56.	Shaikh Kasam @ Babulal	U/s. 3(3), of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
57.	Sakeel Shahabuddin Shaikh	U/s. 3(3), 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987. U/s. 201 IPC.
58.	Sharif Khan Abbas Adhikari	U/s. 3(3), of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
59.	Shrikrishna Yaswant Pashlikar	U/s. 3(3), of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
60.	Sikkandar Issaq Hajwane	U/s. 3(3), 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987. U/s. 201 IPC, U/s. 3 & 7 r/w Sec. 25 (1-A) (1-B) (a) of Arms Act, 1959.
61.	Somnath Kakaram Thapa	U/s. 3(3) of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
62.	Sajjad Alam @ Iqbal Abdul Hakim Nasir	U/s. 3(3) of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
63.	Suleman Mohd. Kasam Ghawate	U/s. 3(3), of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
64.	Sultan-E-Rome Ali Gul	U/s. 3(3), of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
65.	Yashwant Nagoor Bhoinkar	U/s. 3(3), 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
66.	Yusuf Khan @ Kayoom Kasam Khan	U/s. 3(3), of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
67.	Yusuf Mohsin Mujwala	U/s. 3(3), 5, 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987. U/s. 3 & 7 r/w Sec. 25 (1-A) (1-B) (a) of Arms Act, 1959, U/s. 201 IPC.
68.	Zaibunisa Anwar Kazi	U/s. 3(3), 5, 6 of TADA (P) ACT, 1987. U/s. 3 & 7 r/w Sec. 25 (1-A) (1-B) (a) of Arms Act, 1959.
69.	Abdul Aziz Abdul Kadar	U/s. 3(3), of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
70.	Mohd. Iqbal Ibrahim S/o Shaikh Ibrahim	U/s. 3(3), of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
71.	Mrs. Rubena Suleman Arif Memon (on Interim bail)	U/s. 3(3), of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
72.	Mrs. Rahin Yakub Memon (on Interim bail)	U/s. 3(3), of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.
73.	Mujib Sharif Parkar	U/s. 3(3), of TADA (P) ACT, 1987.

In Addition, all the accused have been charged for criminal conspiracy punishable u/s. 3(3) of TADA (P) Act 1987 and Sections of 120 (B) of Indian Penal Code r/w Section 3 (2) (i), (ii), 3(3), 3(4), 5 and 6 of the TADA (P) Act, r/w 302, 307, 326, 324, 427, 435, 436, 201 and 212 of Indian Penal Code and offences U/s. 3 and 7 r/w Section 25 (1A), (1B), 9 (a) of the Arms Act, 1959, Section 9 (B) (i) (a) (b) (c) of the Explosive Act, 1894, Section 3,4, (a) (b) (c) of the Explosive Act, 1884, Section 3,4 (a) (b), 5 and 6 of the Explosive Substances Act, 1908 and Section 4 of Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act, 1984.

Railway Recruitment Board at Ranchi

4924. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry have set up an exclusive Recruitment Board at Ranchi for selecting the tribal candidates for group 'C' posts on the Eastern, South Eastern, North Eastern and North East Frontier Railways; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir, except North Eastern Railway.

(b) The Railway Recruitment Board, Ranchi, normally makes recruitment of tribal candidates for group 'C' posts in respect of the following Railways/Divisions:

North Eastern Railway
Katihar Division

Eastern Railway
Dhanbad, Danapur & Mughalsarai Divisions

South Eastern Railway
Chakradharpur Division.

Amendments to I.P.C.

4925. SHRI I.D. SWAMI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Standing Committee on Home Affairs in their 25th report on the Criminal Law (second amendment) Bill, 1995 had recommended amendments to the Indian Penal Code to empower the Courts to order payment of compensation to a victim of unlawful arrest or illegal detention; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A copy of the 25th Report of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs on the Criminal Law (Second Amendment) Bill, 1995 is given in the statement attached. The Bill which was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 21st August, 1995, lapsed due to dissolution of the Xth Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT

Twenty-Fifth Report of Committee on Home Affairs on the Criminal Law (Second Amendment) Bill, 1995

1. The Chairman of the Committee on Home Affairs, having been authorised by the Committee, present this Twenty-fifth Report of the Committee relating to the Criminal Law (Second Amendment) Bill, 1995. The Bill seeks to further amend the Indian Penal Code 1860, the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872.

2. In pursuance of the Rules relating to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee, the Chairman, Rajya Sabha, in consultation with the Speaker, Lok Sabha, referred the Criminal Law (Second Amendment) Bill, 1995, as introduced in the Lok Sabha on the 21st August, 1995 and pending therein, to the Committee for examination and report.

3. The Committee invited the Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, to make a presentation on the various provisions of the Bill. Accordingly, he made a presentation before the Committee on the 21st November, 1995. During his presentation, he explained the salient features of the Bill and the circumstances necessitating the present legislation.

4. The Committee took up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill in its meeting held on the 22nd November, 1995.

5. The Committee considered and adopted the Report in its meeting held on the 4th December, 1995.

6. The principal changes suggested by the Committee in the Bill and the reasons therefor are set out hereinafter:—

Clause 2

Clause 2 of the Bill seeks to amend Section 220 of the Indian Penal Code, relating to punishment for corrupt or malicious commitment for trial or confinement by persons having authority. As stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons to the Bill, India became a signatory to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in 1979. Para 5 of Article 9 of the said Covenant envisage: an enforceable right of compensation for illegal detention etc. At present, there is no provision for payment of compensation to a victim of unlawful arrest or unlawful detention. To fulfil this obligation, an amendment is proposed in the Indian Penal Code, 1860 to make a provision for payment of compensation to such victims. In the proposed amendment, a limit has been fixed that the Court may award compensation not exceeding the amount of fine which that Court is empowered to impose. The Committee, while appreciating the object of the proposed amendment, is of the view that there should not be any limit on the amount of Compensation to be awarded to the victims. Rather it should be proportionate to the period of unlawful detention or confinement undergone by the victims. The Committee is also of the view that there should be a provision for payment of interest in the event of delayed payment of compensation amount. The Committee recommends that Clause 2 be amended accordingly.

7. The Committee agrees with the provisions contained in the remaining Clauses of the Bill.

8. The Committee recommends that the Bill, as reported by it, be passed.

New Delhi
December 4, 1995

RAJNI RANJAN SAHU
CHAIRMAN
Committee on Home Affairs.

[Translation]

Issue of Arms Licence

4926. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that fake arms licences have been issued in large number in Deoria in Uttar Pradesh since June, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the action taken against the persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Double Track and Broad Gauge Line

4927. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased state:

(a) the number of railway stations in the country connected with the double track and broad gauge railway line; and

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) There are 7056 railway stations in the country connected by 62660 Kms. of railway lines, of which 39612 route Kms. are on broad gauge, including 14995 Kms. of double lines on BG. It is not feasible to furnish station-wise information.

[English]

Gauge Conversion

4928. SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the conversion of the Nadiad-Kapadvanj Railway line from metre gauge to broad gauge was sanctioned in the year 1960 and the construction on this line has not even taken place so far; -

(b) whether the matter has since been investigated into;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to investigate the matter now and place the full fact on the table of the House;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (f) No, Sir.

It was sanctioned in the year 1978-79. Gauge Conversion of Nadiad-Kapadvanj section was completed in January, 1993 and new line works between Kapadvanj-Modasa has been taken up. The work has been proceeding slowly/ remained frozen due to constraint of resources and relatively lower operational priority of this line.

Police Welfare Memorial Funds

4929 SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:

SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether two police welfare memorial funds are still being contributed to even today though they had been begun to commemorate "laudable services" of Mr. Handyside and Mr. Saunders notorious for committing atrocities on the Indian including Lala Lajpat Rai; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Official Language Parliamentary Committee

4930. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:

SHRI VIJAY GOEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the official language Parliamentary Committee have been implemented in all the Government departments/Education Institutions; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) Orders have been issued by the Hon'ble President on the recommendations contained in four parts of the report submitted by the Committee of Parliament on Official Language. Most of the orders are being implemented.

[English]

Leela Seth Commission

4931. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN:

SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the terms of reference of Leela Seth Commission enquiring into the matters relating to the death of Rajan Pillai;

(b) whether the inquiry by the Commission to find out the circumstances which led to death of Rajan Pillai while in custody has been completed;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government thereon;

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(e) the time by which the inquiry is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) The terms of reference of Justice Leila Seth Commission of Inquiry are as under:—

(i) to ascertain the circumstances and sequence of events including deterioration in the physical condition of Shri Rajan Pillai leading to his death;

(ii) to ascertain the adequacy of the treatment given to him by the Jail Medical Officer and doctors in Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital in the context of the history of his past illness;

(iii) to ascertain the adequacy and promptness of response of the doctor(s) and other authorities both in the Jail and DDU Hospital when the health of Shri Rajan Pillai deteriorated;

(iv) to ascertain whether there was any negligence on the part of any authority and to fix responsibility for the same;

(v) to suggest remedial measures in connection with medical care for prisoners in jail; and

(vi) any other matter relevant to the incident.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The delay in the completion of the inquiry is mainly due to non-availability of two key witnesses including the widow of late Rajan Pillai for cross examination.

(e) The Commission has been asked to give its report by 30.10.1996.

Nutritional Garden in Goa

4932. SHRI CHURCHILL ALEMAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the State Government of Goa for the continuation of the Establishment of Nutritional Gardens in the Rural areas in 1996-97; and

(b) if so, the time by which the approval for this purpose is likely to be granted?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) "The Establishment of Nutritional Gardens in Rural Areas" is an on going scheme of National Horticulture Board and will continue till the end of 8th Plan. A proposal for 1996-97 from Goa State Department of Agriculture had been received by the Board, which was returned to the State Government for appropriate revision as per the norms of the scheme. The Board will take action as soon as the revised proposal is received.

Tenders by Railways

4933. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways Board has directed General Managers of the Zonal Railways that while calculating increase in handling rates, the base rate will be the month of opening of tenders;

(b) whether the Railways had incorporated Escalation Clause in all Goods/Parcels handling agreements which were in force before November 19, 1993 or thereafter;

(c) the labour rate on the date of opening of tenders for Goods and Parcels handling contracts at different stations falling under the Itwari and Gondia group of stations in the year 1990;

(d) whether labour rates were mentioned in the agreement at the time of execution of the same; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No escalation clause was included in the Agreement commencing before 17.11.93. The Clause has been incorporated in agreement entered into after 17.11.93 where the period of contract is 3 years and above.

(c) The average labour rate for Itwari Group of Stations was Rs. 33.15 paise. During 1990 no tender was opened for Gondia Group of station.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. There is no provision for mentioning labour rate in the agreement.

[Translation]

Shifting of Mughalsarai Division to Gaya

4934. SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to shift Mughalsarai Divisional Office to Gaya;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be shifted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Settlement of Compensation Claims of Refugees

4935 SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the displaced persons from Pakistan occupied Kashmir during 1947, 1965 and 1971 are agitating time and again for final settlement of their compensation and other claims; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to settle their claims?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) and (b) The displaced persons from Pakistan Occupied Kashmir have been asking for compensation for properties left behind by them in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (POK) areas of J & K. However, it was decided not to provide compensation to them, as whole of J & K has always been considered an integral part of India. The areas presently under occupation of Pakistan being under illegal occupation, any payment of compensation to these displaced persons would have amounted to abnegation of India's claim on the territories held under illegal occupation of Pakistan.

In view of this, instead of providing compensation, ex-gratia payments were given to the displaced persons of Pakistan Occupied Kashmir as per Government approved scales.

Jammu and Kashmir Elections

4936. SHRI M. SELVARASU:
SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers and employees sent to Jammu and Kashmir from the other States besides the J & K for performing election duty in the parliamentary election;

(b) whether any officers and employees suffered casualties and were affected by the accident or terrorists attacks;

(c) if so, whether the compensation has been paid to them or next of their kins; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) Around 10,300 officials from the Central Government and various other State Governments had been deployed for elections in Jammu & Kashmir during the Parliamentary Elections.

(b) There were no casualties in terrorist attacks or otherwise. There were some instances of minor accidental injuries and ailments where immediate medical assistance as required was provided.

(c) and (d) Details are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Manhandling with the Guard

4937. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a case of beating up of a senior guard of the Rajdhani Express by responsible persons at New Delhi Railway Station has been reported recently;

(b) if so, the full facts of the incident;

(c) whether the Government has taken any action against the persons responsible for the said incident;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to check recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (d) ON 3.8.96, when 2424 Down Guahati Rajdhani Express had just started off from the New Delhi Railway Station, one person entered the guard's cabin, identified himself as a Member of Parliament and reportedly asked the guard to stop the train as his wife, who was also to board the train, had not yet arrived. The train had in the meantime stopped as the guard on duty had applied brakes. However, when he tried to communicate with the train driver on intercom, the train again started. The said person is alleged to have thereupon pushed the guard as a result of which the guard sustained injury in his leg. By that time the train also had stopped. The injured guard eventually went to the Railway Central Hospital on his own where he disclosed the cause of injury but refused to prepare any M.L.C. or lodge an F.I.R. about the incident. However, later on, on the basis of his statement, a case F.I.R. No. 575/96 was registered at Police Station New Delhi Railway Station. The Member of Parliament in question was subsequently granted anticipatory bail by the Sessions Court, Tis Hazari, Delhi.

(e) The police staff detailed on the platform duty have been briefed to keep strict vigil and take proper preventive and legal action in such cases. The SHOs of Railway Police Stations have been directed to detail sufficient staff at each platform to maintain law and order and take all possible precautions at the time of the departure of the trains to avoid such incidents in future.

Forest Guest/Rest Houses

4938. SHRI K.V. SURENDRA NATH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT and FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been noticed that in the name of ecotourism forest guest/rest houses are being built in the heart of reserve forests in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken and proposed to be taken to restrict and regulate such constructions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) and (d) As reported by the State Government of Kerala no such buildings have been constructed in the name of eco-tourism in the heart of reserve forests in Kerala.

(c) Question does not arise.

Haldia Fertilizer Project

4939. SHRI JAYANTA BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made efforts to revive the Haldia Fertilizer Project;

(b) whether the Government have made nay assessment regarding the handing over this project to the Haldia Oil Refinery which will ensure its revival;

(c) if so, the status of the same; and

(d) if not, whether there is any proposal under consideration to do so?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) Various alternatives were explored to revive the Haldia project of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC). The revamp of the Haldia Project was not found to be techno-economically feasible. Since its revival/rehabilitation would have required setting up a new Ammonia/Urea plant of an economic size, the cost of which was estimated at Rs. 910 crore at 1994 price level, it was decided to attract private capital for its rehabilitation.

(b) to (d) The matter regarding take over of Haldia Fertilizer Project of HFC by IOC was examined by the Government in consultation with IOC. Since IOC does not have any interest in the field of fertilizers, it is not interested in taking over HFC's Haldia Fertilizer Plant. Since the existing/planned facilities within the premises of IOC's haldia Oil Refinery would be adequate even for the future expanded capacity of Haldia Refinery, IOC is not interested in taking over or utilising any of the facilities of Haldia Fertilizer Project.

[Translation]

Alleged Irregularities in CAEI, Bhopal

4940. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:
SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the alleged irregularities committed in the recruitment in the Central Agricultural Engineering Institute, Bhopal and have asked the State Government to conduct an inquiry into the matter; and

(b) if so, the response of the State Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir. Government is aware of the alleged irregularities committed in the recruitment at the CIAE, Bhopal. However, the State Government has not been asked to conduct any inquiry into the matter. The Director, C.I.A.E., Bhopal got the matter enquired through Vigilance Officer of the Institute.

(b) The question of response from the State Government does not arise. Action on complaint could not be taken as the matter was subjudiced. The CAT, Jabalpur upheld the decision of the Institute in its judgement dated 20.8.96 regarding employees who joined the Institute on deputation basis. However, the institute has now initiated action on complaints regarding alleged irregularities committed in recruitment.

[English]

Renovation of Old Railway Bridge

4941. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Railway Bridge near Nilayam at Secunderabad in Andhra Pradesh is too old, narrow and unable to meet heavy and ever growing traffic;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to widen the said bridge to accommodate the traffic flow;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any survey in this regard;

(d) if so, the details of project cost, extent of widening/capacity, completion date etc. of the said job; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) The Road Under bridge needs widening.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Cost of Work — Rs. 4.00 cr.
Rly's share — Rs. 1.65 cr.
State Govt's share — Rs. 2.35 cr.
Extent of widening — 9.15 M

Work will be completed in 2 years after acceptance of estimate by State Govt. and deposit of their share of cost.

(e) Does not arise.

Supply of Meals

4942. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the supply of meals in Rajdhani Express from the Base Kitchen at New Jalpaiguri has been discontinued;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The picking up of meals by Private contractors from Departmental Base Kitchens is optional. The contractor has made his own arrangement for supply of meals in the Guwahati-New Delhi Rajdhani Express Train.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Expenditure on Newspaper Advertisements

4943. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred by the Ministry on the Newspaper advertisements during the last six months;

(b) whether the number/volume of advertisements has increased manifold after the formation of new Government;

(c) whether services of any particular advertisement agency have been taken/utilised for advertisements;

(d) the criterion being adopted for selection of the advertisement agencies;

(e) whether the prescribed norms have been followed in taking the services of the said advertising agency; and

(f) if not, the reasons for selecting this agency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) An amount of Rs. 1,17,59,691/- has been incurred by the Ministry on the newspaper advertisements during the six months period from March, 96 to August, 96

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. The services of a number of different professional Advertising Agencies have been utilised for release of the advts.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

[English]

Training to Women

4944. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to educate/train the women in the modern techniques of agriculture through the Krishi Vigyan Kendras; and

(b) if so, the total number of women trained so far through Krishi Vigyan Kendras, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The total number of women trained during the last ten years (1985-95) is about 3.80 lakhs. The State-wise details are given in the attached statement.

STATEMENT

State-wise Details of Women Trained During 1985-95

S. No.	Name of the State	No. of Women trained
1	2	3
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	968
2.	Andhra Pradesh	22,635
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1,142
4.	Assam	6,545
5.	Bihar	26,108
6.	Delhi	512
7.	Goa	1,568
8.	Gujarat	15,581
9.	Haryana	16,090
10.	Himachal Pradesh	13,172
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	4,527
12.	Karnataka	19,598
13.	Kerala	18,678
14.	Madhya Pradesh	32,671
15.	Maharashtra	37,198

1	2	3
16.	Manipur	1,589
17.	Meghalaya	1,432
18.	Mizoram	1,014
19.	Nagaland	1,182
20.	Orissa	18,117
21.	Pondicherry	1,244
22.	Punjab	13,681
23.	Rajasthan	41,270
24.	Sikkim	868
25.	Tamil Nadu	23,148
26.	Tripura	2,409
27.	Uttar Pradesh	44,496
28.	West Bengal	12,948
Total:		3,80,391

[Translation]

Frauds in New Delhi Municipal Council

4945. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of frauds and irregularities detected in the New Delhi Municipal Council during the last one year;

(b) the nature of frauds alongwith the names of officers involved therein; and

(c) the action taken against the guilty officers?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (c) According to the information received from the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC), departmental proceedings were initiated against 53 officers involved in 39 cases during the period 1.9.1995 to 31.8.1996 as per details indicated in the enclosed statement. Of these 53 officials, 14 officials have since been punished at the end of the departmental proceedings instituted against them.

STATEMENT

S.No.	Name	Designation	Nature of irregularities
1	2	3	4
1.	Sh. Raj Pal	Driver	Accident of municipal vehicles.
2.	Sh. Davender Pal	Asstt. Fire Guard	Municipal vehicle was taken without prior permission of Competent Authority.
3.	Sh. Ram Dhir Singh	Fireman	
4.	Shri Jagdish Sharma	Sr. Clerk EE II	
5.	Sh. Shishu Pal Singh	Daftry	Exceeded his authority.
6.	Sh. S.C. Kapoor	head Assistant	Disobeyed the orders of Sr. officers.
7.	Sh. R.P. Sharma	Head Asstt.	Failed to process the case after receipt of information from the court about dismissal of the Writ.
8.	Sh. Sumer Singh	Driver	Non-compliance of orders of the Chairperson.
9.	Sh. H.K. Wadhwa	Sr. Clerk	Theft of municipal Vehicle.
10.	Sh. R.S. Sabharwal	Addl. Chief Architect	Taking too much leave and case of in subordination.
11.	Sh. P.C. Dixit	Dy. Chief Architect	
			Irregularities in giving possession and construction of shop in Sarojini Nagar Market.

1	2	3	4
12.	Sh. S.K. Jain	Executive Engineer	Irregularities in giving possession and construction of shop in Sarojini Nagar Market.
13.	Sh. J.N. Kakkar	Assistant Secretary	
14.	Sh. R.C. Sabharwal	Addl. Chief Architect	Irregularities in processing the case in respect of building at 10-Bhagwan Dass Road.
15.	Sh. H.S. Bindra	Dy. Chief Architect	
16.	Sh. P.C. Dixit	Dy. Chief Architect	
17.	Sh. K.K. Jetley	Asstt. Engineer (civil)	
18.	Sh. V.K. Sharma	Asstt. Engineer (civil)	
19.	Sh. V.K. Gulati	Asstt. Engineer (civil)	
20.	Sh. P.S. Jain	Asstt Engineer (Elec.)	Left India without permission of Competent Authority.
21.	Sh. Sukh Ram	Truck Driver	Disobedience of orders of seniors.
22.	Sh. Bhatnagar	Junior Engineer (civil)	Shortage of material in the store of Civil Engg.
23.	Sh. Vijay Pal Singh	Junior Engineer (Mech.)	Mis-behaviour with fellow worker & taking liquor while on duty.
24.	Sh. B.S. Bhatnagar	Junior Engineer (civil)	Improper maintenance of stores of Civil Engg.
25.	Sh. O.P. Sharma	Sr. Accounts officer (Retd)	Non-timely action in Court case.
26.	Sh. Rakesh	Safai Karma-chari	Burning of dry leaves in front of National Achieves Building.
27.	Sh. Chander Bhan	Asstt. Sanitary Inspector	
28.	Sh. S.P. Singh	Junior Engineer	Irregularity in the store.
29.	Sh. Mohinder Pal	Junior Engineer	Found absent from duty.
30.	Sh. R.K. Bhatt	Enforcement Inspector	Demanding and acceptance of bribe caught by Police and convicted by the Court.

1	2	3	4
31.	Sh. N.K. Gaur	Junior Engineer (Elect.)	Dowery case convicted by the court.
32.	Sh. K.L. Sharma	Office Superintendent (Retd.)	Violation of conduct rule by non-giving intimation about financial transaction.
33.	Sh. A.P. Gupta	Executive Engineer (civil)	Mis-conduct on account of abusing the security staff.
34.	Sh. Hari Chand	Painter (Auto)	Found in drunken condition on duty.
35.	Sh. A. R. Dhawan	Junior Engineer (civil)	Theft of mpl. material from stores.
36.	Sh. Raghubir Singh	Sadar Karamchari.	Absent from duty.
37.	Sh. Bishan Singh	Sr. clerk Elect.	Non-removal of unauthorised squatters.
38.	Sh. Chatter Singh	Meter Inspector	Causing harrasment to the consumer for over billing.
39.	Sh. Mohd. Anwar	Meter Reader	
40.	Sh. Rajinder	Mali	Mis behaviour with fellow staff.
41.	Sh. Babu Lal	Junior Engineer (civil)	Found drunken on duty.
42.	Sh. Chander Prakash	Driver civil	Theft of dynamo of municipal vehicle.
43.	Sh. Jag Mohan	Enquiry Attendent (civil)	Taking away of municipal vehicle without permission and causing accident.
44.	Sh. Jai Gopal	Lineman-II Grade	Making excess payment to M/s. Air Tech. Pvt. Ltd.
45.	Sh. B.S. Grover	Division Accountant (Auto)	
46.	Sh. H.K. Verma	Jr. Clerk	
47.	Sh. A.K. Goel	Executive Engineer (Auto)	Non-adjustment of advance drawn by him.
48.	Sh. C.P. Sharma	Director (Hort.)	
49.	Dr. Anjan Biswas	General duty Medical Officer	

1	2	3	4
50.	Sh. Prahlad	Safai Karam-chari.	Taking liquor on duty
51.	Sh. Radhey Shiam	Vaccinat	Criminal case convicted under deemed suspension.
52.	Sh. S.K. Mahresh	Asstt. Engineer (civil)	Non-submission of final bill.
53.	Sh. Arjun Singh Rawat	Gunman	Found Absent from duty.

[English]

Extremist Violence

4946. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to assist the Government of Andhra Pradesh in controlling the left extremist violation in the State and adjoining areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the measures proposed to curtail the left extremist activities in Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) and (b) The following funds have been released to the Government of Andhra Pradesh under the Schemes for Modernisation of Police Forces:

Year	Amount released (In Lakhs)
1994-95	104.780
1995-96	309.560
1996-97	209.560

Apart from above, an additional amount of Rs. 1 crore was released to the Government of Andhra Pradesh during 1995-96.

(c) "Public Order" and "Police" being State subjects, it is for the concerned State Government to devise various methods and take concrete steps in this regard. At the Central level, action is taken to facilitate coordination of the anti-naxalite operations of different States and to improve flow of information useful for control of naxalite activities among the States. Further, help is being provided to the State Governments in terms of financial assistance for modernisation of police, supply of improved weapons, deployment of para-military forces etc.

[Translation]

Production of Pepper/Clove

4947. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States producing black pepper and clove in the country;

(b) the total production of these items during 1994-95 and 1995-96, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government are considering to formulate any specific scheme to promote the production of these items; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) The States of Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and the Union Territory of A&N Islands in the country produce black pepper and clove.

(b) The latest available State-wise statistics of production of black pepper and clove is available for the year 1994-95 only which is given below:

	(tonnes)	
	Black pepper	Clove
1. Kerala	52,000	750
2. Karnataka	700	75
3. Tamil Nadu	300	830
4. A & N Islands	100	2
Total:	53,100	1,657

(c) and (d) The Government are not considering to formulate any new scheme to promote production of black pepper and clove. However, a Centrally Sponsored

Scheme on Integrated Programme for Development of Spices is being implemented during the 8th Plan with an outlay of Rs. 125 crores. Under this scheme, specific measures being implemented with an allocation of Rs. 63.30 crores and Rs. 0.50 crores for promoting production of black pepper and clove respectively, are given below:

Black pepper: Production of planting material; Rehabilitation of old pepper gardens; Distribution of input kits; Plant protection against Quick Wilt disease; Eradication of little leaf disease; Demonstration plots in farmers' fields; Demonstration of high production technology and Area expansion.

Clove: Production of quality planting materials; and Establishment of demonstration plots.

[English]

Schemes for Horticulture/Fishery

4948. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Central Sector/Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented for harnessing horticultural potential and fishing in West Bengal alongwith the details of allocation of funds, funds actually utilised, targets set and achieved and additional income and employment generated through each of such schemes during each of the last three years; and

(b) the details of similar information for the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) The horticulture Schemes implemented in West Bengal alongwith funds released and utilised between 1993-94 and 1996-97 are given in Statement I. Details of physical targets for the VIII Plan, achievements upto December 1995 and targets for 1996-97 is given in Statement II. The average income generated from horticulture activities in the State was Rs. 1 lakh per hectare and employment generated equivalent to 18 million mendays. The similar information in respect of fisheries is being collected and will be furnished later.

STATEMENT-I

Horticulture Schemes Implemented in West-Bengal

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Scheme Code & Name	1991-92		1992-93		1993-94		1994-95		1995-96		1996-97		Total as on 1-4-96		
	Un spent	Re.	Ult.	Rel.	Ult.	Rel.	Ult.	Rel.	Ult.	Re.	Ult.	Allo.	Rel.	Ult.	
024 WEST BENGAL															
DEVELOPMENT OF COMMERCIAL FLORICULTURE				4.81	0.00	14.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.00	7.00			19.31	14.00
DEVELOPMENT OF MEDICINAL & AROMATIC PLANIS									0.75	0.75				00.75	00.00
DEVELOPMENT OF MUSHROOM				0.75	0.00	23.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.26	5.00			23.75	02.26
DEVELOPMENT OF CASHEWNUT	0.64	2.92	0.00	3.11	0.33	9.00	0.00	5.00	13.60	12.00		35.11	4.67	32.67	13.63
DEVELOPMENT OF TROPICAL ARID & TEMPERATE FRUITS		4.00	0.00	15.64	0.00	48.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.10	4.17	0.00		68.01	04.10
DEVELOPMENT OF ROOT & TUBER CROPS						14.00	0.00	0.00	0.00					14.00	00.00
DEVELOPMENT OF SPICES	0.00	6.00	0.20	12.34	0.62	20.01	2.12	13.00	25.61	8.00	5.84	30.05		59.35	34.39
DEVELOPMENT OF VEGETABLES	0.00	7.65	0.00	10.80	9.28	21.54	16.44	5.95	11.00	14.60		7.00	0.00	60.54	36.72
USE OF PLASTICS IN AGRICULTURE	0.00	5.00	0.00	5.00	1.05	32.81	2.00	0.00	0.00			30.95		42.81	03.05
DEVELOPMENT OF BETELVINE				0.92	0.00	1.78	0.00	0.00	2.69	2.22	2.20	1.78		04.92	04.89
TOTAL	0.64	25.57	0.20	53.37	10.98	185.01	20.56	23.95	52.90	37.57	28.40	122.35	4.67	326.11	113.04

STATEMENT-II**Horticulture Schemes****PHYSICAL TARGETS & ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE VIII PLAN (1992-93 to Dec. 1995)**

Name of the Scheme	Physical targets for VIII Plan	Achievements upto Dec. '95	Projection 1996-97
1	2	3	4
Development of tropical arid and temperate zone fruits			
(a) Big nursery	4	3	1
(b) Small nursery	14	5	9
(c) Tissue Culture Laboratory	2	—	2
(d) Area expansion (ha)	2372	1000	1400
(e) Transfer of technology (Training of farmers)	400	200	200
(f) Rejuvenation of orchards	5850 ha	2000 ha	3850
(g) Demonstration plot (No.)	46	—	46
Production and supply of vegetable seeds			
(a) Production of hybrid vegetable seeds.	4	1	3
(b) Distribution of vegetable minikits.	33.4 thousand		
Mushroom Development			
Pasteurised compost production.	2	—	2
Commercial floriculture			
(a) Model floriculture Centre	1	1	—
(b) Post harvest handling centre	1	—	1
(c) Area expansion (ha)	150	85	100
Use of Plastics in Agriculture			
(a) Green house (ha)	4	—	4
(b) Drip installation (ha)	2300	150	2000
(c) Drip Demonstration (ha)	500	—	400
(d) Mulching (ha)	2500	—	2500

*[Translation]***Suicidal Squads**

4949. KUMARI UMA BHARATI:
SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Pakistan Intelligence agency is preparing suicidal squads to disturb the coming Assembly elections;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any precautionary measures to check the situation; and

(c) if so, the details therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (c) The Government have not received any specific reports regarding formation of suicidal squads by the Pakistan intelligence agency. However, it is a fact that Pakistan's ISI has continued to be actively engaged in sponsoring, aiding and abetting terrorist and secessionist violence in Jammu and Kashmir. There are reports of efforts to step up the violence with the aim of disturbing and thwarting the electoral process in the State including threats against candidates contesting the elections, political leaders and workers etc.

Government is fully alive to such designs and efforts and action has been taken to make elaborate arrangements for the security of the contesting candidates, political leaders, election staff, polling stations, etc., and to prevent possible activities aimed at disrupting the elections through intensified vigilance, patrolling and deployment of the security forces. The situation in this regard is being continuously and closely monitored.

*[English]***Rice Production Scheme**

4950. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA. Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the districts of Uttar Pradesh included under the Special Rice Production Scheme;

(b) whether any specific assistance has been provided to the farmers of the State under the said Scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) to (c) The Special Rice Production Programme (SRPP) was in operation in Uttar Pradesh from 1985-86 to 1989-90. Under SRPP Central funds to the tune of Rs. 35.88 crores were provided to Uttar Pradesh Government. A total number of 24 districts were covered under the Scheme. However, at present an Integrated Cereals Development Programme on Rice based cropping system areas (ICDP-Rice) is being implemented on 75:25 basis between Government of India and State in selected blocks in Districts of Gorakhpur, Maharajganj, Deoria, Padrauna, Basti, Sidharth Nagar, Azamgarh, Mau, Varanasi, Bhadohi, Mirzapur, Sonbhadra, Jaunpur, Gazipur, Ballia, Faizabad, Gonda, Behraich, Sultanpur, Barabanki, Lucknow, Unnao, Raebareli, Sitapur, Hardoi, Kheri, Fatehpur, Allahabad and Pratapgarh.

Under this programme, assistance is provided to the farmers for transfer of technology through field demonstrations, integrated pest management demonstrations and trainings of farmers as well as incentive for critical inputs such as seed, farm implements etc.

*[Translation]***Cheating with Banks**

4951. SHRI SUKH LAL KHUSHWAHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a case of cheating had been registered at Kavinagar Police Station on September 9, 1995 against the Secretary and President of the Ghaziabad Cooperative Bank Limited, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any other case of fraud in this bank has come to light; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[English]

Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act

4952. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to amend the Multi-State Cooperative Act;

(b) if so, whether the Government have appointed an Expert Committee in this regard;

(c) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report to the Government;

(d) if so, the main points proposed by the Committee for incorporation in the amendment; and

(e) the time by which the amendment is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Planning Commission appointed a Committee in the year 1990 under the chairmanship of Ch. Brahm Perkash to recommend a Model Cooperatives Act. The Committee had submitted its report in 1991 recommending, inter-alia, a Model Cooperatives Act. The Government has accepted the recommendation of the Committee in principle. It has been decided to replace the existing Multi State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984 by a new legislation on the lines of the recommendations of the "Model Cooperative Act" Committee Report. The basic object of the proposed legislation is to provide autonomy to Cooperative Institutions and to enable them to function as democratically and professionally managed institutions. It has been decided to set up a Committee to advise the Central Government on the policy to be adopted to ensure the autonomous working of the Cooperatives, structural reforms relating to the Cooperative Sector in the context of changing economic environment and the provision of appropriate and adequate policy support to the Cooperative Movement in the country. This Committee has been constituted very recently and question of submission of any report by the Committee does not arise.

(e) The proposed legislation will be introduced after the completion of the procedural formalities.

Forest Land to Private Sector

4953. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to allot forest land to the private sector in U.P. particularly in Agra and Firozabad districts for promoting afforestation programmes and setting up of the zoological garden with the view of decreasing pollution; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Foodgrain Production

4954. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ:
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL:
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several States have produced much less foodgrains during 1995-96 in comparison to their requirements;

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

(c) the reasons for the low production; and

(d) the per hectare production of foodgrains, cash crops and oilseeds, Crop-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) State-wise estimates of requirement of foodgrains are not prepared. However, the production of foodgrains—Statewise during 1995-96 (Likely) a statement is enclosed.

(c) There is a slight reduction in the production of foodgrains during 1995-96 as compared to the production level of 191.1 million tonnes in the previous year i.e. 1994-95. The lower production of foodgrains during 1995-96 is mainly attributed to:

- (i) Delay in on-set of monsoon adversely affecting the coverage of area under coarse cereals;
- (ii) Floods in the later part of the monsoon season adversely affecting standing paddy crop in northern States;
- (iii) Marginal reduction in area under wheat;
- (iv) Reduction in fertiliser consumption during rabi season of 1995-96; and
- (v) Abnormal rise in day temperature in late February and early March causing reduction in yield of wheat crop.

(d) Crop-wise per hectare production (Yield) of foodgrains and cash crops during 1994-95 is as follows:

Crop	Yield (Kgs./hect.)	Crop	Yield (Kgs./hect.)
Rice	1921	Rapeseed & Mustard	944
Wheat	2553	Total Oilseeds	848
Coarse Cereals	934	Cotton	260
Pulses	609	Sugarcane	71099
Total Foodgrains	1547	Jute	1983
Groundnut	1048	Mesta	1100

STATEMENT

STATEMENT SHOWING STATE-WISE PRODUCTION OF FOODGRAINS FOR 1995-96

Production '000 Tonnes

State	Total Foodgrains Production
Andhra Pradesh	12238
Assam	2583
Bihar	13632
Gujarat	4052
Haryana	10550
Himachal Pradesh	1509
Jammu & Kashmir	1448
Karnataka	9351
Kerala	1017

State	Total Foodgrains Production
Madhya Pradesh	18578
Maharashtra	11849
Orissa	7331
Punjab	21238
Rajasthan	10432
Tamil Nadu	9627
Uttar Pradesh	39274
West Bengal	13597
Others	2050
All India	190356

Chemicals and Fertilizers Units

4955. SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT:

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

(a) the total number of chemicals and fertilizers units running in the country, state-wise;

(b) the number of the sick units out of them; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to make these sick industries economically viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):

(a) State-wise number of fertilizer units in the country are:

Name of the State	No. of Fert. Plants
1. Andhra pradesh	8
2. Kerala	3
3. Karnataka	1
4. Tamil Nadu	10
5. Goa	1
6. Madhya Pradesh	9
7. Maharashtra	15
8. Gujarat	15
9. Rajasthan	10
10. Bihar	8
11. Orissa	5
12. West Bengal	9
13. Assam	4
14. Haryana	5
15. Punjab	10
16. Uttar Pradesh	26
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In addition, Projects & Development India Ltd. (PDIL) which is mainly an Engineering & Consultancy Organisation has a Catalyst Manufacturing unit located in the State of Bihar.

As far as the number of units in the Chemical sector is concerned, most of the industries in this sector have been decentralised.

State-wise data is, therefore, not available in the Ministry. There are 8 Central Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) in the Chemical sector.

1. Indian Petrochemicals Corpn. Ltd. (IPCL).
2. Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd. (HOCL).
3. Hindustan Insecticides Ltd. (HIL).
4. Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd. (HAL).
5. Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (IDPL).
6. Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (BCPL).
7. Bengal Immunity Ltd., (BIL).
8. Smith Stanistreet Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (SSPL).

There are also six Joint Sector Undertakings, namely Uttar Pradesh Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (UPDPL), Rajasthan Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (RDPL), Orissa Drugs and Chemicals Ltd. (ODCL), Karnataka Antibiotics and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (KAPL), Manipur State Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (MSDPL) and Maharastra Antibiotics and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (MAPL) two subsidiaries, namely Hindustan Fluorocarbons Ltd. (HFC) and Southern Pesticides Corpn. Ltd. (SPEC) and one multi-state cooperative, namely, Petrofils Cooperatives Ltd. (PCL).

(b) Two fertilizer manufacturing Central Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) namely, Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI) and Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFC) as well as PDIL had been declared as sick companies by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1995 on 6.11.1992, 12.11.92 and 17.12.92 respectively. In addition, 16 fertilizer enterprises in the private sector had been registered as sick companies with BIFR upto 31.7.96. The revival plans for sick fertilizer companies in the private sector are formulated by their respective promoters.

The following chemical units have been formally declared sick by the BIFR with effect from the dates mentioned against them.

S.No.	Name of the company	Date from which BIFR declared the companies sick
1.	IDPL	12.8.92
2.	BCPL	14.1.93
3.	BIL	9.3.93
4.	SSPL	21.12.92
5.	UPDPL	30.12.92
6.	ODCL	26.10.92
7.	HFL	1.08.94
8.	SPEC	15.09.94

(c) In order to restore the financial health of the two sick PSUs namely, FCI and HFC, the Government had approved in principle a revival scheme which envisaged the revamp of Sindri, Ramagundam and Talcher Units of FCI; and Durgapur, Barauni and Namrup units of HFC, entailing a fresh investment of Rs. 2201.13 crore (Rs. 1736.20 crore for FCI and Rs. 464.93 crore for HFC) at 1994 price levels, apart from other financial reliefs to these undertakings. The revamp of Haldia Project of HFC and Gorakhpur unit of FCI was not found to be techno-economically viable. It is proposed to attract private capital for their rehabilitation. The funding arrangements for these packages could not be tied up. In order to minimise the requirement of budgetary support for rehabilitation of the sick PSUs, an expert Group has been constituted to reformulate the revival packages from the stand point of funding by the Financial Institutions (FIs). The revival package in respect of PDIL is being reformulated based on the recast report of the Operating Agency viz. the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Limited (ICICI). The implementation of the final revival packages in respect of these sick Central PSUs is contingent upon the approval of the BIFR, which is a quasi-judicial authority.

For companies in the Chemical sector, revival packages have been finalized and are under implementation in all the sick companies except IDPL, UPDPL, HFL, SPEC. For IDPL, a new package is being formulated by the operating agency viz. IDBI. A revival scheme for the UPDPL was sanctioned by BIFR on 22.8.1995. But before the implementation of the package could be taken up, the bankers of UPDPL, namely, IOB and Bank of Baroda, and PICUP one of the promoters, filed an appeal each before the Appellate Authority for Industrial Financial Reconstruction (AAIFR). The revival Plans of SPEC and HFL are before BIFR.

[English]

Sukhana Lake

4956. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sukhana lake in Chandigarh is becoming polluted;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any international agency has submitted any report in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b) Heavy inflow of silt from the ecologically fragile and unstable Shivalik Hills has degraded the Sukhana lake.

(c) to (e) No international agency has submitted any report in this regard. A proposal for Management and Conservation of Sukhana Lake was submitted by the Chandigarh Administration in November, 1995 for its inclusion in the National Lake Conservation Plan. However, the National Lake Conservation Plan has not been approved by the Government in the VIII Plan.

[Translation]

Halt at Chandil

4957. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to provide a halt of Tata Express at Chandil;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Lack of traffic justification and availability of alternative train services.

[English]

Cashewnut Production

4958. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the annual production of cashewnut in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the annual domestic consumption of the cashewnut in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The state-wise annual production of cashewnut in the country is given in the statement attached.

(b) The annual State-wise consumption of cashewnut in the country is not available. However roughly 38% of the total cashewnut is consumed domestically.

STATEMENT

CASHEW PRODUCTION IN MT

State	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Kerala	143200	151600	140200	149000	140000
Karnataka	26750	31260	31540	33000	37600
Goa	14490	33810	34590	37000	17800
Maharashtra	31960	25590	28280	31200	69000
Tamil Nadu	12710	19190	19200	20000	30930
Andhra Pradesh	40360	44880	46570	50000	71700
Orissa	31840	39060	43420	46500	43000
West Bengal	3660	3660	3990	4100	6960
Others	340	340	360	370	840
Total	305310	349390	348150	371170	417830

[Translation]

Soyabean Production

4959. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN:
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR:
SHRI CHHATAR SINGH DARBAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the main areas where soyabean is produced;

(b) the total production of soyabean during the last two years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to produce soyabean in more areas;

(d) if so, the details of schemes formulated by the Government to promote the soyabean cultivation and to increase the areas under cultivation; and

(e) the estimated areas likely to be increased in each State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) The main Soyabean growing States are Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat.

(b) A statement is enclosed.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Government propose to extend the areas under Soyabean cultivation mainly in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, North Eastern States etc. In addition, emphasis has already been laid in major Soyabean producing States.

(d) A Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is under implementation in 22 States which aims, to promote the production of Oilseeds including Soyabean through higher coverage and to increase the productivity. The scheme provides incentives on basic key inputs for increase of area and production.

(e) The quantification of area to be covered in each State has not been made. However, there is a great potential for increasing the areas in the States indicated in (c) above.

STATEMENT

(thousand tonnes)

Sl. No.	State	1994-95	1995-96 (Adv.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4.8	6.0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.8	—
3.	Gujarat	13.6	5.0
4.	Himachal Pradesh	0.3	1.0
5.	Karnataka	41.6	28.0
6.	Madhya Pradesh	2586.6	3752.0
7.	Maharashtra	525.8	719.0
8.	Meghalaya	0.9	—
9.	Mizoram	1.6	—
10.	Nagaland	5.4	—
11.	Orissa	—	—
12.	Rajasthan	442.9	401.0
13.	Sikkim	3.3	—
14.	Uttar Pradesh	35.0	35.0
15.	West Bengal	0.4	—
	Others	—	14.0
	ALL INDIA	3666.0	4994.0

[English]

Forest Management

4960. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government contemplate basic changes in the forest management by involving the tribals and local people dependent on forests;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any representation/document on the issue;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) and (b) In pursuance of National Forest Policy 1988, the Central Government have issued detailed guidelines to State/Union Territory Governments for involvement of tribals and local people in protection and management of degraded forests on 1st June, 1990. So far 15 State Governments have adopted resolutions for Joint Forest Management.

(c) A monograph titled "Community Forest Management in protected Areas; Van Gujjars proposal for the Rajaji Area" from Rural Litigation and Entitlement Kendra, Dehradun has been received.

(d) The document pertains to Rajaji National Park, Dehradun District, in Uttar Pradesh, and *inter-alia* suggests that the "Van Gujjars" be given the prime responsibility for managing the national park for meeting their resource needs and restoration of their movement to the high hills.

(e) Comments of the State Government have been sought for on the document for suitable action in the matter.

Toxic Waste

4961. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the Greenpeace's views that the Indian Government is not capable of regulating the flow of toxic waste across its border and that the situation has become totally uncontrollable;

(b) whether as per the enquiry by Greenpeace and the Indian Environment Organisation—Sristhi, at the ports of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras it was found that 151 importers had brought in over the last two years more than 66,000 cubic tons of zinc and lead in the form of ash, residue and toxic slag from 49 countries;

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

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) to (d) The wastes containing lead and zinc in the form of ash and residue are imported as raw material for secondary processing industries. The Authority for issuing licence for import of wastes is the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT). All shipments are cleared, based on the licence. Till recently, i.e. 29th April, 1995, imports of all wastes were under the Open General Licence (OGL). In April 1995 the EXIM Policy was amended and Hazardous Wastes were placed in the restricted list, requiring a licence for imports.

The information on the actual imports based on the consignments cleared by the customs is compiled by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence (DGCIS), Calcutta. The quantity of imports of wastes containing lead and zinc during 1994-95 and 1995-96 (upto January 1996) as reported by DGCIS, is given below:

S.No.	Name	year	Quantity (Kgs)
1.	Lead Slag	1994-95	2497804
		1995-96	1889312
2.	Lead Residue	1994-95	7575025
		1995-96	7235665
3.	Hard Zinc Spelter	1994-95	2034831
		1995-96	1156243
4.	Other Ash & Residue containing mainly zinc	1994-95	64776790
		1995-96	47868317
5.	Ash & Residue containing mainly Copper	1994-95	44065261
		1995-96	—
6.	Lead Waste & Scrap	1994-95	48873529
		1995-96	33429022
7.	Zinc Waste & Scrap	1994-95	4048063
		1995-96	6144739

Freight Operations Information System Project

4962. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present position in regard to the development of Freight Operations Information System Project;

(b) whether the work on the project is progressing as per schedule;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the project is facing funds crunch; and
(e) if so, the corrective measures taken or proposed to be taken for early completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) The software of the modules developed so far has been under trial since August, 1994. A variety of software related problems and bugs were pointed out by Northern Railway and the Centre for Railway Information System (CRIS) has been endeavouring to rectify them. In view of these problems and the time taken in rectifying them, the Ministry of Railways had entrusted a review of the software by the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi. The IIT, Delhi has submitted its report, recommending certain corrective measures, which is under examination and necessary decisions will be taken shortly.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Samples of Medicines

4963. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the samples of medicines manufactured by drug companies are not being given to the doctors and the remaining samples are being sold in the open market;

(b) if so, whether the country is losing crore of rupees as revenue due to this practice of drug companies; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to prevent such practices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) To the extent information is available, no such report has been received by the Government.

(b) and (c) Clinical samples cleared by a manufacturer of Patent or proprietary medicaments falling under heading No. 30.03 of the Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 (5 of 1986), were exempt from the whole of the duty of excise leviable thereon vide notification 48/77-CE dated 1.4.1977, as amended by 78/86-CE dated 10.2.86 (w.e.f. 28.2.86), 91/86CE, dated 10.2.86 (w.e.f. 28.2.86), 104/86-CE, dated 27.2.86 w.e.f. 28.2.86), 51/88-CE dated 1.3.88. This Excise Tariff Notification (No. 48/77-CE dated 1.4.1977) was Rescinded vide Notification No. 64/94-CE, dated 1.3.94. Hence there is no revenue loss to the Government.

Environmental Projects

4964. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the projects started with the Central assistance to protect the environment and Forest in Maharashtra during each of the last three years;

(b) the achievements in this regard, project-wise; and

(c) the financial assistance provided under each scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) to (c) The names of the projects started with Central Assistance to protect the environment and forest in Maharashtra during the last three years alongwith achievements both financial and physical are given in the statement.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl No	Name of the Scheme	Broad Objective	Extent of funding		Status	Achievement during the last three years 1993-94, 94-95 & 95-96	
						Financial	Physical
1	2	3	4		5	6	7
1	Project Tiger	To ensure viable population of Tigers	100%	NR	Ongoing	152.06	2 Tiger Reserves covered
2	Central Zoo Authority Scheme	Upgradation of Zoo	100%		Ongoing	21.03	3 Zoos were covered
3	Eco-development around Tiger Reserves	To provide alternative sustenance to communities living on fringes of Tiger Reserves	100%	NR	Ongoing	33.99	2 Tiger Reserves covered
4	Association of Scheduled Tribes and Rural Poor in regeneration & degraded forest on usufruct sharing basis	To associate Scheduled Tribes and Rural Poor in afforestation of degraded forest	100%		Ongoing	95.51	340.6 ha. area covered
5	National River Conservation Plan Scheme	Pollution abatement of Rivers Krishna, Godavari	50%				Rivers Krishna & Godavari has been included in National River Conservation Plan. So far an amount of Rs. 145.01 lakh has been released.
6	Modern Forest Fire Control Methods	Controlling forest fires to protect and conserve forests	100%		Ongoing	13.09	Target fixed in terms of financial releases
7	Paryavaran Vahini Scheme	Create environmental awareness through active participation of public	100%		Ongoing	1.70	Set up in 8 districts
8	Development of National parks and Sanctuaries	To develop National Parks and Sanctuaries	100%		Ongoing	214.65	15 National Parks covered
9	Non Timber Produce including Medicinal Plants	Raising Non-Timber Produce including Medicinal Plants	100%		Ongoing	93.14	728 ha. area covered
10	Integrated Afforestation & Eco-Development project scheme	Promote afforestation and Eco-development	100%		Ongoing	116.55	NA
11	Area Oriented Fuel Wood and Fodder Scheme	Augmenting supply of fuelwood & fodder in identified fuelwood deficit districts	50%		Ongoing	141.58	2029 ha. area covered

R — Recurring
 NR -- Non-recurring
 NA --- Not Available

[English]

Border Area Development Programme

4965 COL SONA RAM CHOUDHARY Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the details of funds allocated for the Border Area Development Programme, Rajasthan during the last three years and the total amount spent on the programme and the amount surrendered

(b) the break down and percentage of funds spent on the water supply, roads, health, electricity and on infrastructure to achieve the total literacy,

(c) whether the funds have been spent strictly as per the guidelines priority and requirement of local population,

(d) if not the reasons therefor

(e) whether there is any agency monitoring the progress of works for development of border area and if so the details thereof

(f) whether the elected representatives are co-opted or associated for the identification and prioritisation of works and

(g) if so the details therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD MAQBOOL DAR) (a) The funds allocated/released and expenditure incurred by Government of Rajasthan under Border Area Development Programme (BADP) during 1993-94 to 1995-96 are as under

Year	Amount Allocated/ Released	Expenditure
		(Rupees in lakhs)
1993-94	1905 74	Nil
1994-95	2044 00	1527 36
1995-96	2563 00	2428 08
Total	6512 74	3955 44

(b) The Sector-wise progress of the Programme is not monitored by the Planning Commission

(c) and (d) The schemes are implemented with the approval and as per priority set by the Screening Committee constituted in each State as per guidelines of the Planning Commission

(e) The concerned State Government undertakes monitoring of the progress of work of the Programme. The Planning Commission also periodically reviews the

progress. The review of the Programme is also made by the Empowered Committee

(f) and (g) No, Sir

U.N. Convention

4966 SHRI PINAKI MISHRA
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the UN Convention against the torture and inhuman degrading treatment or punishment has been adopted by India,

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken for its adoption, and

(c) whether it finds a place in the Minimum Common Programme of the UF Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD MAQBOOL DAR) (a) No, Sir

(b) This issue was discussed in the Chief Ministers' Conference held on 5th May, 1995. Most of the Chief Ministers were either not in favour of India becoming a signatory to the Convention or were in favour with reservation on certain clauses of the Convention

(c) Yes, Sir

Diversification of Caprolactum

4967 SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL
SHRI P C CHACKO

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) Whether the import duty of Caprolactum is being reduced in the recent Budget which is affecting the indigenous units manufacturing caprolactum and some factories in the public sector including FACT at Cochin are facing a crisis situation as a result thereof, and

(b) if so, the steps proposed by Government to save these units from closure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA)

(a) and (b) As part of the over all policy measures, customs duty on various items have been reduced over the last few years. In keeping with the above policy and the recommendation of the Committees of Experts, in the budget for 1996-97, customs duty on caprolactum has been reduced from 45% to 30%.

On account of reduction in customs duty, domestic caprolactum manufacturers may have to face stiffer competition from imports. However, petro-chemical products are not covered under any administered price control system; therefore, their prices may have to be determined by market forces keeping in view the demand supply position.

Wagon Utilisation

4968. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI RAM SAGAR:
SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA
MEHTA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the wagon utilisation on the broad gauge was not put to optimum utilisation consequent to which the loss was suffered by the Railways;

(b) if so, the reasons for not fully utilising the wagon capacity on the broad gauge by the Railways;

(c) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General and others Consultative and Advisory bodies had recommended for making the optimum use of wagon capacity; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to put the wagons to optimum utilisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (d) Comptroller and Auditor General of India in their report for the year 1995 has commented upon the wagon utilisation on Indian Railways for the period 1990-91 to 1993-94. Year wise details from 1990-91 to 1995-96 in respect of wagon utilisation indices viz., NTKM/wagon day, wagon Kilometer/wagon day and wagon turnaround are as under:

Year	NTKN/wagon day	%Variation	Wagon Km./ Wagon day	%Variation
1990-91	1407		110.5	
1991-92	1439	2.3	113.2	3.5
1992-93	1457	1.2	116.4	2.4
1993-94	1506	3.3	125.0	7.4
1994-95	1590	5.6	138.5	10.8
1995-96	1754	10.3	148.1	6.9

Year	Wagon Turnaround	%Variation
1990-91	11.50	
1991-92	11.10	3.5
1992-93	10.83	2.4

Year	Wagon Turnaround	%Variation
1993-94	10.59	2.2
1994-95	9.89	6.6
1995-96	9.07	8.3

Improvement in wagon utilisation indices after 1993-94 has seen a quantum jump as compared to previous years. Continuous efforts are being made such as improving terminal management seeking cooperation of major users, cutting down avoidable delays and augmenting infrastructure inputs as may be necessary.

[Translation]

Ban on Communal Organisations

4969. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to impose a ban on the communal organisations and political parties;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts being made by the Government to check the communal forces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Attention of the State Governments, which are primarily concerned with the maintenance of 'Public Order' is drawn, from time to time, for taking action against persons spreading ill-will, hatred or disharmony between members of different communities as per provisions of various laws. The Central Government have also issued guidelines to the State Governments for promotion of communal harmony. The Central Government also assists the State Governments by sharing the intelligence and providing Central Para-military Forces as per requirement.

Poultry Complex Scheme

4970. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have sent some proposals to the Union Government for clearance under the Poultry Complex Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The proposals received from the State Governments are under consideration.

[English]

Grant of Statehood to Uttrakhand

4971. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a bill in the current session for according Statehood to Uttrakhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether similar demands have been received from other States also; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Article 3 of the Constitution of India provides, inter alia, that Parliament may by law form a new State by separation of territory from any State, provided that no Bill for the purpose shall be introduced in either House of Parliament except on the recommendation of the President and unless, where the proposal contained in the Bill affects the area, boundaries or name of any of the States; the Bill has been referred by the President to the Legislature of that State for expressing its views thereon. Uttarakhand is to be carved out of the existing State of Uttar Pradesh. Appropriate action will be taken when the Legislative Assembly of State of Uttar Pradesh is reconstituted after the forthcoming elections.

(d) and (e) A resolution for the formation of a separate State of Chhattisgarh passed by the Legislative Assembly of Madhya Pradesh in March, 1994 has been received in the Government of India.

Patta on Forest Land

4972. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any memorandum from Government of Kerala for getting permission for distribution of pattas on forest land to the local people;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) to (c) The State Government of Kerala had furnished a proposal under the Forest

(Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 28,588.159 ha. of forest land for regularisation of pre 1.1.1977 encroachments taken place over forest land in Idukki, Pathanamthitta, Thrissur, Ernakulam and Kollam districts of the State. Formal approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 to the above mentioned proposal of the State Government has already been accorded on 31.1.1995.

Penicillin-G and Rifampicin

4973. SHRI GOPAL KRISHNA T.: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of Penicillin-G and Rifampicin imported during the last two years, year-wise/product-wise;

(b) whether these are available in the country;

(c) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to safeguard the interest of domestic industry manufacturing these items; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):

(a)	Penicillin-G	
	Quantity	Value
1994-95	10905 kg.	Rs. 1,13,89,114
1995-96 (upto Sept '95 only)	221.72 kg.	Rs. 4,59,736
(a)	Rifampicin	
	Quantity	Value
1994-95	23509 kg.	Rs. 5,61,65,295
1995-96 (upto Sept '95 only)	5475 kg.	Rs. 1,55,74,288

(SOURCE: DGHS)

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Both Penicillin-G and Rifampicin continue to be in the negative list of imports. As per the Penicillin-G and Rifampicin Policy for 1996-97, announced on 13th August, 1996, the import of both the drugs, earlier linked to quantum of indigenous lifting has been done away with.

[Translation]

Hindi in Departmental Examinations

4974. SHRI VIJAY ANNAJI MUDE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been provision for exercising option to write answers in Hindi in the Departmental examinations;

(b) if so, whether this option is applicable only for four questions out of five in the departmental examination for the section officers;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to allow option for all the questions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The option to answer three out of five question papers in the Departmental examinations, either in Hindi or in English, is already available. Now it has been decided to allow all candidates, except those of the Ministry of External Affairs, the option to answer one more question paper, namely noting, drafting and precis writing, either in English or in Hindi.

[English]

Indo US Collaboration

4975. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have entered into contract with the General Motors of US for the transfer of technology to manufacture modern diesel electric locomotives;

(b) if so, the main points of the agreement reached; and

(c) the time by which the implementation of the said work is likely to take place indicating the total US aid to be provided in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is attached.

(c) The contract with General Motors, USA is under implementation and no US aid has been so far provided for this.

STATEMENT

The main points reached on the agreement are:

(i) The contract will be valid for a period of 10 years.

(ii) The contract would enable Indian Railways to fully assimilate the technology pertaining to design, manufacture, maintenance and operation of the high HP State-of-Art Diesel Locomotives so as to enable Indian Railways to manufacture them in Diesel Locomotive Works/Varanasi.

(iii) General Motors would keep Indian Railways constantly informed of all improvements in technology of their product made in the interim period during the currency of the contract.

(iv) General Motors would jointly work with Indian Railways to develop sources in India for manufacture of locomotive components other than those manufactured in Railways workshops so as to establish a 95% level of indigenisation by the end of the contract period. They also undertake the responsibility for establishing a manufacturing facility in India so as to make the electrical equipments available indigenously by March '98.

(v) Indian Railways would pay General Motors a lumpsum amount of US\$ 17.5m in four phases spread over 10 years.

Hazardous Chemical Industries

4976. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allowed or proposed to allow the production of certain hazardous chemicals in India being burnt out in other countries of the world;

(b) if so, whether the Government have examined the ill-effects of such chemicals;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the circumstances under which the industries have been allowed to produce such chemicals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (d) In order to keep a check on the production of hazardous chemicals, 21 chemicals/group of chemicals have been included in the list of industries in respect of which industrial licensing is compulsory. The Government of India have subscribed to the London Guidelines which require the taking of informed decision about banning/restricting imports of chemicals determined to be toxic/hazardous. Besides, the Government follows the guidelines of global Base Convention on the control of trans-boundary movement of hazardous waste and their disposal.

[Translation]

Displacement of Villages

4977. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the villages coming under the purview of the Tiger Project of the Melghat region of district Amrawati in Maharashtra will be displaced as a result of the said project; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme in this regard indicating the steps taken/to be taken to rehabilitate the populace of these villages thus displaced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) and (b) The Melghat Tiger Project authorities have included in their budget a proposal to consider shifting and resettlement of at least 6 villages outside the tiger reserve on the basis of enquiry completed over part of the area of the reserve. The displacement of the villages may be taken up under the Centrally Sponsored 'Beneficiary Oriented Scheme for Tribal Development' only if the tribal families are willing to shift and be resettled on an identified site(s). For this the State Government has to come up with a self-contained proposal. The scheme provides for financial assistance up to Rs. 1 lakh per family on the following items:

Activity	Amount in Rs.
(i) Land development (2 ha)	36,000
(ii) Building materials	36,000
(iii) Transport of household good	1,000
(iv) Community facilities	9,000
(v) Woodlots and fuelwood reserves	8,000
(vi) Pasture & fodder plantation	8,000
(vii) Cash incentive	1,000
(viii) Miscellaneous	1,000
Total	1,00,000

[English]

Regularisation of Encroached Forest Land

4978. SHRIMATI CHHABILA ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh had sent any survey report regarding the forest land occupied by the People before 1980 for regularising the occupied land;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) to (c) The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has furnished a proposal under the

Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of approximately 1.78 lakh ha. of forest land for regularisation of encroachments in the State. This proposal has been found lacking in certain essential details which *inter alia* include a documentary evidence to the effect that the State Government had taken decision to regularise such encroachments with reference to some eligibility criteria before the enactment of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Compensatory afforestation scheme in lieu of the forest area proposed for diversion has also not been submitted by the State Government, as prescribed in the guidelines. The question of taking a decision on the proposal in the absence of complete details, therefore, does not arise.

Sports Complexes

4979. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Sports Complexes' have been set up in all the railway Divisions/Zones;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to open sports complex in all the railway Divisions especially those falling in the Kerala State for the promotion of sports among rail employees; and

(d) the details of the railway employees who have made remarkable achievement in the sports during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) Sports Complexes with varying degrees of facilities have been set up in all the Zonal headquarters and 36 Divisions including Palghat in Kerala State.

Extension of facilities to all Divisions can be thought of in a phased manner on availability of funds.

(d) Details of railway employees having remarkable achievements in sports during the last three years are:

Year	No. of Employees
1993-94	161
1994-95	174
1995-96	205

[Translation]

New Centrally Sponsored Schemes in Bihar

4980. SHRI GIRDHARI YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the new centrally sponsored schemes being implemented/proposed to be implemented

in Bihar for the development of agriculture during 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) the details of the achievements made thereunder during the said period; and

(c) the amount allocated and utilised for these schemes so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) to (c) The details of new Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented in Bihar are given in the statement attached.

STATEMENT

New Centrally Sponsored Schemes Implemented in Bihar during 1995-96 and 1996-97

The following new Centrally Sponsored Schemes have been implemented in Bihar during 1995-96:—

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Amount released during 1995-96 (Rs. in lakh)
1.	Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System	159.13
2.	Integrated Seed Development for remote/ not easily accessible areas	5.74
Total:		164.87

The expenditure report of the above releases is still awaited from the State Government. However, the above schemes are likely to be continued during 1996-97, also for which release of funds would be made on receipt of expenditure report/proposal from the State Government.

There is no proposal under consideration at present to start any other new schemes during 1996-97.

Since the above schemes were started only in 1995-96 it is too early to assess the achievement at this stage.

[English]

Derailment of Narmada Express

4981. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bilaspur-Indore, Narmada Express recently derailed at Parvati Station Yard;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the results thereof and the action taken against the defaulters;

(d) the number of persons killed and injured in the mishap; and

(e) the precautionary measures taken to avoid such recurrences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS. (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) An enquiry was conducted by a committee of officers, who have held the staff of Electric Loco Shed, Bhusaval Division of Central Railway responsible for this accident. Action against them under Discipline and Appeal Rules has been initiated.

(d) No person was killed. Only one passenger suffered minor injury.

(e) Loco Sheds have been instructed to improve maintenance and supervision to avoid such recurrences in future.

Metro Rail Project

4982. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have announced the extension of railway line from Tollygunge to Garia under the metro Rail Project;

(b) if so, the amount of funds allotted for the said project;

(c) the time by which the project could be completed;

(d) whether the Government propose to dedicate this project in the name of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) and (e) No such proposal is under consideration.

Adulteration in Fertilizers

4983. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints against the large scale adulteration in fertilizers, pesticides, insecticides and chemicals resulting in huge losses in the production of foodgrains every year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to check this malpractice?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, some verbal complaints have come during my tour. Officers have been told to look into these.

(c) (i) However, quality control machinery of both State and Central Government keep on conducting regular checks by taking samples from manufacturing units as well as dealers, storage/godowns for ascertaining the quality of material being supplied to the farmers as per Fertilizer Control Order, 1985.

(ii) In case of pesticides, drawal of samples from manufacturing premises as well as distribution/sale points by notified Insecticides Inspectors for analysis in the State Pesticides Testing Laboratories and Launching of prosecution against the erring manufacturers and administrative course of action under the Insecticides Act, 1968 and the Rules framed thereunder, is undertaken.

Boards for Maharashtra

4984. SHRI SURESH R. JADHAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Statutory Development Boards for Vidharbha, Marathwada and the rest of Maharashtra have been set up;

(b) if so, financial allocation made for these Boards; and

(c) the plans of these Boards so far as development of these backward regions is concerned?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

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

Reconstruction of Railway Station

4985. SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Administration has a plan to reconstruct Thane Railway Station on the Central Railway in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the funds allocated for the purpose and the time by which the reconstruction work is expected to start indicating its probable date of completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The work would cost about Rs. 5.29 crore and in the year 1996-97, Rs. 1.80 crore have been allocated for the same. The time for starting the work and its completion cannot, however, be fixed with any degree of certainty as there are a large number of encroachments/

shops on railway land adjoining the existing station building and the building work shall be hindered until these encroachments are shifted.

Organic Farming

4986. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to promote the organic farming in the country;

(b) if so, the schemes prepared thereon; and

(c) the States where organic farming has been on the increase?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government is promoting organic farming system in agriculture in the country.

(b) For promoting organic farming involving the balanced use of organic manures in conjunction with chemical fertilisers, following schemes/projects launched by the Ministry of Agriculture are in operation in the country:—

(i) Balanced and Integrated use of Fertilisers

(ii) National Project on development of Fertiliser use in low-consumption and rainfed areas.

In addition, the following ICAR-sponsored schemes are also in operation:—

(i) AICRP on Biological Nitrogen Fixation

(ii) Micro-Biological Decomposition

(iii) National Centre on Blue green Algae (at IARI)

(iv) Testing of different species of Azola at CRRI, Cuttack

(v) Long-term Fertiliser Experiments (LTFE).

(c) Punjab, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamilnadu and Uttar Pradesh are some of the States where organic farming is being promoted.

Production of Onion

4987. SHRI CHHATAR SINGH DARBAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of onion in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the total quantity of onion exported during the said period; and

(c) the foreign exchange earned therefrom during this period?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) A statement on State-wise production of onion during the last three years is attached.

(b) and (c) As per NAFED, which is the canalising agency for export of onion, the total quantity and value of onion exported during the last three years are as follows:

Year	Quantity (Lakh tonnes)	Value (In I.N.R. lacs)
1993-94	4.49	2440
1994-95	4.97	2568
1995-96	4.35	3090

STATEMENT

Production of Onion During 1992-93,
1993-94 and 1994-95

State	Production '000' Tonnes		
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
ANDHRA PRADESH	152.0	415.2	314.1
ASSAM	12.7	15.1	15.1
BIHAR	144.5	149.2	154.0
GUJARAT	605.3	549.3	561.5
HARYANA	64.2	41.6	41.6
HIMACHAL PRADESH	1.8	1.5	1.5
KARNATAKA	425.7	414.1	489.1
MAHARASHTRA	170.4	227.1	181.2
MAHARASHTRA	831.6	1210.0	1210.0
ORISSA	306.4	320.8	320.8
PUNJAB	13.9	10.3	50.3
RAJASTHAN	118.9	122.4	83.2
TAMIL NADU	185.4	197.8	302.5
TRIPURA	0.3	0.3	0.3
UTTAR PRADESH	456.6	331.5	332.5
DELHI	0.9	0.0	0.0
PONDICHERRY	0.2	0.2	0.2
ALL INDIA	3490.8	4006.4	4057.9

Railway Projects

4988. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Railway projects launched in the country indicating the time limit fixed for the completion of these projects, project wise and zonewise;

(b) whether there has been inordinate delay in the completion of the said projects;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the revised time schedule for their completion;

(e) the original estimated cost of these projects and the extent of cost escalation; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to get these projects completed within the revised time schedule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Reservation Quota of Berths/Seats

4989. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of reservation quota of berths in each class in the trains at Jhansi station and the names of trains in which the quota was available during the last three years; year-wise;

(b) whether there has been reduction in the reservation quota at present; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) The reservation quotas available at Jhansi during the last three years are as under:

Year	Quota					
	Ex. CL	AC-2 Tier	AC-3 Tier	1st Class	A.C. Chair Car	Sleeper Class
1994	12	79	—	58	158	1039
1995	12	77	18	90	134	1096
1996	12	65	18	65	134	926

Train-wise details are given in the statement attached.

(b) and (c) The reservation work at Jhansi station has been computerised with effect from 23.3.1995. Consequently, the quotas at Jhansi in some trains were merged with the quotas at the train originating station, giving full access to Jhansi. Although, Statistically the quota at Jhansi has decreased, but actually, Jhansi passengers has got access to larger quotas of train originating station as well.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)
25.	2616	G.T. Express	—	2	—	—	6	—	2	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
26.	2618	Mangala Exp.	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
27.	2622	T.N. Express	—	—	2	—	15	—	—	—	2	—	15	—	—	—	—	2EQ
28.	2626	Kerala Exp.	—	2	2	—	16	—	2	—	2	—	8	—	2	—	2	—
29.	2628	Karnataka Exp.	—	4	—	—	12	—	2	—	—	—	12	—	4	—	—	—
30.	2723	A.P. Express	—	—	2	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
31.	2724	A.P. Express	—	2	—	—	12	—	2	—	—	—	12	—	2	—	—	—
32.	4309	Ujjaini Exp.	—	—	6	—	20	—	—	—	6	—	15	—	—	—	6	—
33.	4310	Ujjaini Exp.	—	—	4	—	32	—	—	—	4	—	20	—	—	—	—	—
34.	4667	Malwa Exp. Upto Jammu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
		Upto New Delhi	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
35.	4668	Malwa Exp.	—	2	—	—	10	—	2	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
36.	5012	Rapti Sagar Exp.	—	2	—	—	4	—	2	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
37.	5046	Gorakhpur- Ahmedabad Exp.	—	6	—	—	12	—	6	—	—	—	12	—	4	—	—	—
38.	5090	Gorakhpur- Hyderabad Exp.	—	4	—	—	24	—	4	—	—	—	24	—	—	—	—	—
39.	6017	Himsagar Exp.	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—
40.	6018	Himsagar Exp.	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
41.	6032	Madras Exp.	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
42.	6094	Madras Exp.	—	—	2	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—
43.	6687	Navyug Exp.	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
44.	6688	Navyug Exp.	—	2	—	—	8	—	2	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—
45.	7021	Dakshin Exp.	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
46.	7022	Dakshin Exp. Upto Hyderabad	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
		Upto Visakhapatnam	—	—	—	—	16	—	—	—	—	—	16	—	—	—	—	—
47.	8237	Chhatisgarh Exp.	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—
48.	8238	Chhatisgarh Exp. Upto Bilaspur	—	2	—	—	4	—	2	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
		Upto Visakhapatnam	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
49.	8302	Hirakud Exp. Upto Sambalpur	—	2	—	—	6	—	2	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
		Upto Rourkela	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
		Upto Titlagarh	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)
50.	8478	Utkal Express Upto Puri	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	2EQ
		Upto Bilaspur	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Upto Anuppur	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
51.	8544	Samata Express	—	—	2	—	16	—	—	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	—
52.	9166	Sabarmati Express	—	—	2	—	8	—	—	2	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
53.	9165	Sabarmati Express	—	—	2	—	62	—	—	—	18	—	62	—	—	—	18	—
54.	2432A	Rajdhani Express	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	—	—	—
55.	2429	Rajdhani Express	—	2	—	6	—	—	2	—	—	6	—	—	2	6	—	—
56.	2430	Rajdhani Express	—	2	—	6	—	—	2	4	—	—	—	—	2	4	—	—
57.	2431	Rajdhani Express	—	—	—	6	—	—	2	4	—	—	—	—	2	4	—	—
58.	2432	Rajdhani Express Upto Trivandrum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
		Upto Madras	—	2	—	6	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—
59.	2001	Shatabdi Express Upto New Delhi	4	—	—	40	—	4	—	—	—	40	—	4	—	—	—	40
		Upto Agra	6	—	—	27	—	6	—	—	—	27	—	6	—	—	—	27
60.	2002	Shatabdi Express	2	—	—	67	—	2	—	—	—	67	—	2	—	—	—	67

Divisional Office at Ranchi

4990. SHRI THOMAS HANSDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which the Railway Divisional Office at Ranchi would be set up; and

(b) the reasons for the delay in setting up the said Divisional Office despite Government's decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (b) Keeping various factors in view, the Government has decided to set up a Railway divisional office at Ranchi.

The date for inauguration of the office has not yet been finalised.

Prices of Life Saving Drugs

4991. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the multinational companies have highly increased the prices of life saving drugs whereas the

prices of medicines manufactured in the country are very less; and

(b) if so, whether the Government will implement the policy for promoting the small scale drug companies and discourage the multinational drug companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) Prices of scheduled formulations are fixed as per the provisions of the DPCO '95 irrespective of whether they are manufactured' by multinational companies or others. Companies are free to fix the prices of formulations falling outside price control. However, instances have come to notice where multinational companies tend to charge a comparatively higher price for their products outside price control, on the grounds that the drug is patented outside the country and the drug is imported from their principals.

(b) Ensuring abundant availability of quality medicines at reasonable prices is the foremost objective of the Drug Policy. To promote the small scale sector units in the drug sector, such units are exempted from price control as per the provisions of the Notification No. 134 (E) dated 2.3.95.

[English]

Jurisdiction of Police

4992. SHRI RAM SAGAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there had been instances of the police swinging into action without caring for their jurisdiction if a crime was reported to them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the police have acted immediately on receipt of the information of gang-rape being committed in the jungles of Sukhdev Vihar, Delhi;

(d) if so, the details of the action taken by the police in this regard and the number of rapists arrested therefrom; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) and (b) During 1996 (upto 31.8.1996), eight such instances were reported where, after the receipt of information regarding commission of cognizable offences, the police stations registered the cases under appropriate sections of law and made efforts to apprehend the culprits. However, during investigation when it was established that the said offences had been committed outside the jurisdiction of the said police stations, the cases were transferred to the police stations concerned.

(c) to (e) On receiving information on 19.8.1996 that a gangrape had been committed in the area of Sukhdev Vihar, the police immediately rushed to the spot, inspected the site of the crime and recorded the statement of the victim. A case vide FIR No. 849/96 u/s 365/376/34 IPC was registered. One accused was arrested on the same day while seven others were arrested on the following day i.e. 20-08-1996.

Law and Order in Uttar Pradesh

4993. SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether law and order situation in Uttar Pradesh has been deteriorating due to the power shedding in various places of the State;

(b) whether during the night hours and during power load shedding anti-social resort to various criminal acts and deeds;

(c) whether the Governemnt have planned to take effective steps to provide electricity during the night hours and to control the criminal activities effectively; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Theft of Power

4994. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any illegal supply of power in DIZ Area, Udyan Marg, Gole Market Area, Kalibari Marg and Raja Bazar;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the files of cases for temporary connections are pending for the last one year while no action is being taken against the persons illegally tapping power;

(d) the steps being taken to sanction temporary connections; and

(e) the action taken against the persons responsible for the theft of power?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) and (b) According to the information received from the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC), unauthorised tapping of power is not allowed and, if any such instance comes to their notice, action is taken for its removal.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Temporary electricity connections are sanctioned by the competent authority after the required formalities are completed by the applicants.

(e) In cases of unauthorised tapping of power, reports are lodged with the police authorities.

[English]

Inner Line Permit

4995. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the Government of Tripura for introduction of "Inner line permit" system in borders of Tripura Tribal Area Autonomous District Council; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to implement the system in that area?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The policy of the Government of India is to gradually open up the North-East for promoting tourism

and investment, both domestic and foreign, as also for promoting better integration of the North-East and its people with the rest of the country. It was in this context that a decision was taken some time ago to withdraw the requirement of Restricted Area Permit from Tripura and some other States in the North-East. The introduction of 'Inner Line Permit' in Tripura will not be in conformity with the existing policy.

Inner Line Limit

4996. SHRI P. NAMGYAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representations had been made by the people of Ladakh to extend the present inner line limit,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Reservation Quota in Uttranchal Region

4997. SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 708, on November 30, 1995 and state:

(a) whether the matter has since been considered by the Government;

(b) if so, the time by which the relevant notification is likely to be issued; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (c) Since it has been decided to create a separate State of Uttarakhand, the policy of reservation could be decided by the new Government of that State according to the legal provisions pertaining to reservation.

Railway Line between Kuttur-Harihara

4998. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the total cost estimated for the project of laying down new railway line between Kuttur-Harihara of the Southern Railway indicating the total distance of the line and the proposed period of completion of the project;

(b) whether the project was sanctioned during 1995-96 but work has not started even during 1996-97; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Kuttur-Harihara line is 65 kms long and its cost is Rs. 65.94 crores.

(b) and (c) The project was sanctioned in 95-96. The final location survey and preparation of land acquisition papers has been taken up. Actual construction work would be started once the land becomes available.

Direct Train Link Between Hyderabad and Bangalore

4999. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rail route between Bangalore and Hyderabad is circuitous and takes more time than the buses;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to connect these two important cities by the direct train link; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The work of gauge conversion of Hyderabad (Secunderabad)-Dronachellam-Guntakal section is already in progress and will be completed by December, 1997 which will create a direct shorter route between Hyderabad and Bangalore.

Freedom Fighter Pension

5000. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons receiving Central Freedom Fighters Pension for participating in the Mahe Liberation Movement, Goa Liberation struggle and Rin Mutiny;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of applications lying pending with the Centre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) No separate movement-wise record about number of persons who have been sanctioned pension on the basis of participation and suffering in these movements is kept.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As on 31.8.1996, 25 fresh applications received recently from the persons belonging to various movements/mutinies etc., were pending for consideration and disposal.

[Translation]

Electrification in Ratlam Division

5001. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the electrification of broad gauge and metre gauge lines and lines brought under diesel hauling in the Ratlam Division of the Western Railway during the years 1995-96 and 1996-97 and the demand and supply position of the coaches of each class therein;

(b) the kilometerage of the present broad gauge and metre gauge rail lines in Ratlam Railway Division and the estimated time period likely to be taken in the gauge conversion in each metre gauge section, section-wise;

(c) the proposals regarding the rail passenger service expansion on metre gauge during the said period; and

(d) the train-wise details of the metre gauge rail passenger service expansion undertaken during the last five years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No electrification works were taken in hand during 1995-96 and no new work has also been approved during 1996-97 in Ratlam Division as well as in Western Railway. No metre gauge lines are electrified.

During 1995-96 and 1996-97, the following sections have been fully dieselised:

1. Ajmer-Nimach (Ratlam Division)
2. Nimach-Ratlam (-do-)
3. Botad-Surendranagar
4. Bhavnagar-Paltana
5. Dhoda Jn.-Mutiva
6. Jatalsar-Warjalia

The following sections have been partially dieselised:

1. Veraval-Khijadia
2. Rajkot-Jatalsar

The requirement of coaches for any year is planned on all India basis taking into account the manufacturing capacity of production units. There after allotments are made to individual railways.

194 new coaches (BG) were supplied to Western Railway during 1995-96.

(b) Section-wise kilometreage data not readily available. In Ratlam Division the MG routes are from Ajmer to Khandwa. Of these gauge conversion is in progress between Nimach and Ratlam and is expected

to be completed in IXth Plan. The remaining sections are included in the first phase of the Action Plan under project 'Unigauge' and are slated to be taken up during the IXth plan period. Date of Completion would be fixed once the works are taken up.

(c) and (d) The details of Passenger Services provided on Metregauge on Ratlam Division during the last five years are as under:

YEAR	
1992-93	Nil
1993-94	Nil
1994-95	129/130 shuttle extended upto Bijaynagar w.e.f. 1.7.95
1995-96	69/70 Mhow-Indore Passenger introduced w.e.f. 5.2.96
1996-97	Nil

[English]

Rail Service from Krishnagar to Barddhaman

5002. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a long standing demand to run passenger service from Krishnagar to Barddhaman;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether due to heavy detention of the goods trains at Naihati, passengers services are not running smoothly;

(d) whether there is a proposal to construct a curve bypassing Naihati Railway Station through Jubli bridge to facilitate railway traffic on the said route; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) Some demands have been received for running a passenger train from Krishnagar to Bardhaman.

(c) Normally passenger trains are not detained for goods trains. However, sometimes due to accidents/equipment failure or other unavoidable reasons there is a disturbance in the smooth running of trains.

(d) and (e) There is no such proposal at present.

National Cooperative Union of India

5003. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the main objectives behind setting up of National Cooperative Union of India;

(b) the date on which it has come into force; and

(c) the progress made in achieving its aim so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) As per Bye-law No. 3 of the National Cooperative Union of India, the main objects of the National Cooperative Union of India are to promote and to develop the cooperative movement in India, to educate, guide and assist the people in their efforts to build up and expand the cooperative sector and to serve as an exponent of cooperative opinion in accordance with cooperative principles as enunciated in the first schedule to the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984.

(b) NCUI was registered on 1st November, 1989 under Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act 1984 and Rules 1985.

(c) National Cooperative Union of India has been monitoring an extensive countrywide cooperative education programme by supporting State Cooperative unions and also running special projects in the field of co-operative education at grass root level for agricultural cooperatives as well as artisans cooperatives. It is instrumental in educating more than 11 lakh members of cooperatives every year. Every three years the NCUI convenes a National Cooperative Congress where basic issues pertaining to cooperative movement are deliberated and recommendations are forwarded to the Government and other agencies for implementation. As an exponent of cooperative opinion in accordance with the cooperative principles, the NCUI has organised a wide range of seminars conferences, workshops for all types of persons involved in cooperative movement namely leaders, policy makers, executives, Government officials etc. For last two years it has been organising district level seminars in collaboration with State Cooperative Unions for sensitising the people at grass root level regarding impact of new economic policies on cooperatives. Nearly 150 district seminars have been organised so far. The NCUI has also maintained relationships with ICA, ILO, FAO to promote cooperative movement and international cooperative relations.

Retiring Room at Howrah and Sealdah

5004. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no Air conditioned Retiring Room at the Howrah and Sealdah;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to construct A.C. Retiring rooms at Howrah and Sealdah; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) While Howrah and Sealdah stations have no AC retiring room, 8 AC rooms are available in Rail Yatri Niwas at Howrah.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Construction of Railway Godowns etc.

5005. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes of the Government regarding the construction of railway godowns, Rail Yatri Niwas and development of the Railway Ticket Printing Press in Ajmer;

(b) whether Government have decided to construct a 'Rail Yatri Niwas' and a Railway godown in Ajmer; and

(c) if so, the full details thereof and the time by which these works would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) At present there is no scheme in this respect.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Accident on Bhusaval-Nagpur Line

5006. DR. G.R. SARODE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a train accident had occurred on Bhusaval-Nagpur line under Bhusaval Division of Central Railway on 8 June, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in addition to the financial assistance any other assistance is likely to be provided to the dependents of the railway employee victims; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) There was no train accident on Bhusaval-Nagpur section on 8.6.96, however there was a case of run over of railway employees by 7384 Up Express at the site of work of Ballast cleaning machine between Wadodra-Malkapur stations in which 6 railway employees were killed and 8 were injured.

(c) and (d) Apart from compensation to be given as per the Workman Compensation Act, the dependents of

dead employees shall be provided employment as per their eligibility.

[English]

Hauling of Trains

5007. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether long distance Mail/Express and goods trains are hauling with the diesel engines from Howrah to Asansol;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for hauling all the long distance trains by the electric locos upto Asansol and change the locos at Asansol for the main line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Such haulage is being done due to operational requirements.

(c) This movement is likely to be eliminated once electrification of the missing link is completed.

Alternative Route to Howrah

5008. SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an alternative route to Howrah could be provided from Barddhaman connecting it with Sehera Bazar-Raina to Arambagh-Tarakeswar; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Industries at Tarapur

5009. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a team from the Ministry has paid a visit to the Tarapur Industries Estate at Tarapur in the Thane District for the inspection of polluting industries;

(b) if so, the findings of the team; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) A team comprising of the representatives of the Ministry and the Maharashtra

Pollution Control Board visited the Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) installed in Tarapur Industrial Area. The team did not visit any individual units located in the industrial area.

(b) and (c) The team reviewed the related issues pertaining to the operations and maintenance of the CETP. A number of suggestions to overcome the operational problems and increasing the efficiency of CETP were made during the visit which were later on communicated in writing for compliance.

Wheel Flange Lubricators

5010. SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether twenty five Microprocessor Controlled Wheel Flange Lubricators were fitted in WAG5 Electric Locomotives at the South Central Railway's Vijaywada Electric Loco Shed in 1989;

(b) whether the Micro-processor Controller Boards were missing from at least the twelve locomotives;

(c) whether each of the Controller had a locking arrangement to prevent the theft;

(d) if so, the reasons for such thefts;

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(f) the duration of time for which the wheel Flange Lubricators had to be kept idle due to the missing of the Controller Boards indicating their number?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Twenty four microprocessor controlled flange lubricators were fitted in WAG5 locomotives of Electric Loco Shed, Vijayawada in 1989 and one lubricator was fitted in an electric locomotive in Electric Loco Shed, Arakkonam.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The microprocessor controller boards have resale value and hence appear to have been stolen while the locos were working on the Railways.

(e) A locking arrangement was provided to prevent theft.

(f) Twelve wheel flange lubricators were kept idle for periods varying from two years to five years due to the missing of the printed circuit boards.

Illegal Occupation of Railway Land

5011. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA": Will be Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are proposing to amend the existing provisions of Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act especially for the railway land; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Corruption in Delhi Police

5012. DR. ARVIND SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is wide spread corruption in the Delhi Police;

(b) whether the Government propose to carry out any survey in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it has been widely acknowledged that the standard of living and assets of the staff and officer of the Delhi Police are generally more than their known sources of income; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken to combat this menace?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (d) There is no hard evidence available to conclude that there is widespread corruption in the Delhi Police or its personnel generally have a standard of living disproportionate to their known sources of income. However, in individual cases where the conduct of a police official is suspect, action is promptly taken to verify the allegations so as to bring the erring officials to book. During the current year (upto 31.7.96), cases under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 have been registered against 21 police personnel.

Boycott of National Celebrations

5013. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in some of the North-Eastern States, particularly Manipur, the people boycott the national celebrations on the 15 August and 26 January;

(b) if so, names of the North Eastern States where such an attitude has been adopted; and

(c) the steps Government intend to take to ensure that the non-cooperation of the concerned people is

overcome and they celebrate the national days like the people in rest of the country?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (c) The people of the North-Eastern region, including Manipur, participate in the Republic Day and Independence Day celebrations. However, on some occasions, there is a call given by some insurgent or other groups to boycott such celebrations. Such calls generally do not evoke much response.

Pilferage of Vegetables and Fruits

5014. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted by the Mother Dairy's Fruits and Vegetables Unit to check pilferage of vegetables and fruits from the private trucks/matadors hired by them;

(b) the number of times during the past six months, the department have conducted secret raids to check such pilferage;

(c) whether the connivance of some officers of the Mother Dairy also exist in the pilferage of vegetables and fruits by the private trucks/matadors hired by them; and

(f) the fool proof system proposed to be adopted by the Mother Dairy to Completely eliminate the pilferage by private trucks/matadors owners/drivers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Acknowledgement of the quantity etc. is taken from the driver while handing over fruit & vegetables for delivery at booths. The concessionaires at the booth give payment as per the quantity received by them. In case of any short delivery by transporter sale value of the shortage is recovered from transporter and also penalty levied.

(b) In view of the system followed there is no need of conducting secret raids.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Not necessary in view of answer at (a).

Check on Drivers

5015. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fleet of Blue Line and Red Line Buses is responsible for the death of the office-goers, school childrens and injuring many others; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check this menace?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) The Blue and Red Line buses operating in Delhi have been involved in a number of accidents resulting in the death of or injury to the victims.

(b) With a view to improving traffic discipline, the Delhi Traffic Police organises special checking and prosecution drives against vehicle drivers. The steps taken in this regard include checking of the speed of vehicles by radar-gun; distributing road safety literature; announcement of traffic regulations through public address system at important inter-sections; training of drivers; introduction of conflict-free traffic circulation pattern; introduction of traffic signals and blinkers in accident-prone areas and closing of gaps in the central verges, etc.

Vacant Posts in Ramie Research Station

5016. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many posts of Scientists are lying vacant in the Ramie Research Station, Sorbhog Assam;

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

(c) whether the Government have any scheme to harness the full potentials of this Ramie Farm; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) Of the four sanctioned scientists positions three are lying vacant at Ramie Research Station, Sorbhog, Assam. The posts could not be filled due to disturbances in that region of Assam. Efforts are being made to fill the remaining vacancies.

(c) and (d) Full potential of the Ramie farm is being harnessed to the extent possible. Besides research, the station is catering to the planting materials needs of the region through various agencies like Tribal Co-operative and Marketing Development Federation, Govt. of Assam and Meghalaya.

[Translation]

Late Running/Detention of Train

5017. SHRI O.P. JINDAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints about late departure of the Haryana Express (4720-DN) from Rewari running between Delhi-Sarai Rohilla-Rewari;

(b) whether the Jodhpur Mail is detained at Delhi Cantt. for quite a long duration; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for timely

running of these trains and redressal of complaints thereabout?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Police Role in Human Rights

5018. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOI): Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned 'Human rights—police role undefined', appearing in the 'The Hindu' dated August 27, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The author of the Article captioned "Human rights—police role undefined", appearing in the 'The Hindu' dated August 27, 1996 has urged that the society must, from time to time, define and re-define the role of the police and their responsibilities in a democracy. The article, inter-alia, recommends measures for integrating human rights concerns with the police, such as stress on human rights in the training curricula for recruits at different levels, special reward/recognition for excellence in observance of human values, discouragement to short-cut methods in investigation, etc.

(c) The Government of India attaches highest importance to the promotion and protection of human rights and have issued guidelines, to the State Governments from time to time to ensure that police personnel behave in a humane manner during discharge of their duties and that alleged cases of police excess are taken serious note of and dealt with firmly wherever they occur. Special inputs have also been introduced in the 'induction' and 'inservice' training programmes to sensitise police about using scientific methods for investigation. Human rights as a subject has been introduced in the National Police Academy, Hyderabad and several State police training institutes. A Syllabus on human rights training has been drawn on the basis of a model syllabus prepared by the NHRC and sent to the State Governments for adoption.

Bomb Blast in Delhi

✓ 5019. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the bomb blast in Paharganj Guest House recently, the Government have made any survey to identify the illegal guest houses running in the city.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been made in the matter; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) There were 369 unauthorised Guest houses/hotels operating in the National Capital Territory in Delhi as on 24.7.1996. Prosecution proceedings have already been launched in 326 of these cases.

[Translation]

Ramesh Chandra Committee

5020. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA:
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ:
SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA":

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Ramesh Chandra was set up to investigate the incident of attack on the former Chief Minister of U.P. at Lucknow Guest House during the last year;

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

(c) if so, the findings of the report;

(d) whether any action has been taken by the Government on the basis of this report;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The major recommendations made to the State Government in the report of the Committee under reference were (i) to seek assistance of the CBI for unravelling the conspiracy behind the Guest house incident of the 2nd June, 1995, (ii) to strengthen the intelligence machinery and (iii) to improve the infrastructure and schemes relating to training and motivation of police officials/officers in order to prevent recurrence of such incidents.

(d) to (f) The recommendation in regard to seeking of assistance from CBI was not accepted by the State

Government, as the State CID was already investigating the criminal cases filed in connection with the Guest House incident. Action has been initiated by the State Government on other recommendations.

Chini Sahitya

5021. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Kirvi ke Nikat Chini Sahitya se lada Gubaara Gira", appearing in the 'Dainik Jagran' dated July 8, 1996;

(b) whether the transmitters and electronic items have also been recovered from the said balloon; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The balloon contained publicity material of Taiwanese origin meant for mainland China, besides four dry batteries, a plastic bottle and a compass type instrument.

[English]

Illegal Weapons

5022. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the intelligence agencies are examining the report suggesting that Pakistan is openly encouraging large scale illegal manufacturing of light weapons in the tribal areas of the North West Frontier;

(b) whether the industries manufacturing illegal weapons have mushroomed at various places and in these areas specific orders have been placed by the ISI with the tribal leaders with the intention of pushing weapon consignments to India;

(c) whether in September 1995, 36 army officers had brought nearly Rs. 4 million worth of Pakistani arms at the Dara Adamkhel;

(d) if so, whether these arms are brought or being brought by the money generated from the smuggling of narcotics to the Europe and Middle East; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to check such illegal practices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) to (e) Government is aware of the designs of ISI of Pakistan to carry out espionage, subversion and sabotage in India in a clandestine manner and is taking all necessary steps to combat and frustrate such objectives by gearing up the intelligence machinery, sharing of intelligence and coordinated action by the concerned Central and State agencies, strengthening the deployment of para-military forces at strategic locations, intensified coastal as well as inland patrolling, construction of border fencing and flood-lighting in vulnerable stretches of the Indo-Pak border.

It would not be in public interest to give further details in this regard.

Jute Material for Packing

5023. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have extended the validity of The Jute Materials, in Packing Commodities Act 1987 for the fertilizers for another three months from July 1, 1996;

(b) if so, the main reason for extending the package order; and

(c) the period of extension provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (c) The Standing Advisory Committee set up under the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 has commenced review of the type of commodities and the percentage thereof to be packed in jute bags. Meanwhile, since the reservation order for packing 50% of urea in jute bags was expiring on 30.6.96, the Ministry of Textiles has issued an interim status quo order effective from 1.7.96 to 30.9.96.

[Translation]

Fertilizers Unit in Delhi

5024. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fertilizer units functioning in Delhi;

(b) whether these units are functioning as per their capacity;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken to further increase the production capacity of these Units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) There is no fertilizer unit functioning in Delhi.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

[English]

Cogentrix Power Project

5025. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Expert Committee of the Ministry of thermal power projects and process/procedures by which the said expert committee went into the details of the environmental implications of the Cogentrix project;

(b) the recommendations/comments of the said Committee about the aforesaid project; and

(c) the stringent environmental safeguards to be implemented by the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) and (b) The Expert Committee for Thermal Power Projects constituted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests under the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 1994 as amended on 4th May, 1994 examined the proposal as per the procedure laid down based on the information contained in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report and additional information furnished subsequently. The Committee recommended the project subject to clarifications on availability of space for flue gas desulphurisation plant, use of sea water in cooling towers, possibility of dry fly ash collection, etc.

(c) The stringent environmental safeguards to be implemented in the project include: installation of flue gas desulphurisation plant, no intake from and discharge into Mulki river, use of sea water for the plant, rehabilitation of oustees and fly ash utilisation.

Reinstatement of Railway Staff

5026. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Running Staff of the Eastern Railway dismissed from services in the year 1981 are still to be reinstated;

(b) whether a number of such staff was reinstated in the year 1993 after the Supreme Court judgement;

(c) whether a number of such staff has not yet been reinstated;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which all the dismissed staff is proposed to be reinstated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Out of total 44 such employees, the cases of only 10 employees for reinstatement are yet to be decided.

(b) One employee was reinstated on the basis of judgement of the Supreme Court.

(c) and (d) 27 employees have not been re-instated. Their break-up is given below:—

(i) Attained age of superannuation/died	— 14
(ii) Re-employed	— 2
(iii) Sub-judice	— 9
(iv) Appeal rejected	— 1
(v) Appeal pending	— 1

(e) The reinstatement of ten employees depends upon outcome of the pending Court cases and decision on the pending appeal.

[Translation]

Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited

5027. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:
SHRI KASHI RAM RANA:

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

(a) whether several cases of corruption have taken place in IDPL during the last five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, casewise;

(c) the action taken by the Government in each of these cases alongwith the outcome thereof;

(d) whether the liaison officer of IDPL was working/ still working for the private drugs companies; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government against this officer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (c) Complaints and other information received on cases of alleged corruption are investigated by the Vigilance Division or CBI and appropriate action is taken wherever necessary by the competent authority. List of major cases of corruption where charges have been sustained, with details as received from Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL) is annexed in the statement.

(d) to (e) The management of IDPL has informed that they are not aware of their Liaison Officer working for the private drug companies.

STATEMENT

Name	Charge	Action	Remarks
1	2	3	4
RISHIKESH PLANT			
Shri Yad Ram Sr. Civil Engineer	Caught red handed while accepting bribe of Rs. 400/- by CBI in a trap case.	Criminal case filed in the court of CBI	Superannuated on 31/12/95. Pending in the court of Dehradun.
MARKETING			
Shri S.N. Singh, Regional Manager Bangalore	Diversion of Govt. Order to Private party.	Dismissed from services of IDPL	Case was investigated by CBI. Departmental action for major action for major penalty was initiated.
-do-	Claim of false mileage allowance, TA etc.	Charge-sheet issued for major penalty.	In view of his dismissal from the service of IDPL, this charge-sheet became redundant.
-do-	Non-supply of drugs to Directorate of Health & Family Services and hoarding of huge stock of samples at his residence.	-do-	-do-

1	2	3	4
Shri S.N. Singh, Regional Manager Bangalore	Illegal replacement/exchange of underwriters assessed and certified stock against Destroyed stock.	FIR registered with the Police.	—
-do-	Criminal conspiracy, fraud and cheating IDPL of a sum of Rs. 20,36,895/-	Criminal case No. 8015/93 under various Sections of IPC is going on in Court of 4th Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate.	—
Shri V.P. Singh, Sr. Accounts Exec. RSO-DELHI	A case of disproportionate assets was investigated by CBI.	CBI recommended Departmental action.	Relieved under VRS. The case filed by him against IDPL in the Court was withdrawn.
Shri A.N. Reddy, MR Bangalore	Implementing un-lawful orders from his superiors.	Charge-sheet for major penalty issued.	Departmental action recommended by CBI.
Shri M. Ranganadha Rao, Zonal Manager, Hyderabad	Misuse of official telephone.	Case pending for final action.	Superannuated.
Shri Y.R. Suri, Draughtsman, Gurgaon	Tempering of records.	Criminal case filed in the Distt. Court, Gurgaon.	Pending in the Court.
DR. R.K. Anand, Incharge Hospital, Rishikesh	Irregularities in purchase of medicines.	Major penalty	Dr. Incharge & Store Keeper placed under suspension charge-sheet issued.

[English]

Foreign Aid to Voluntary Organisations

5028. SHRI CHURCHILL ALEMAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of voluntary organisations from Goa which have sought permission to obtain the foreign aid; and

(b) the time by which these organisations are likely to be given permission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) Associations having a definite cultural, economic, educational, religious or social programme require either registration or prior permission under Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976, before receipt of foreign contribution. At present, applications from two organisations from Goa have been received for grant of prior permission to receive foreign contribution. As per provisions of the Act, such applications are required to be disposed of within a maximum period of 120 days from the date of receipt of the application in the Ministry.

Travelling Concessions

5029. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to allow retired railway employees/officers to travel by the Shatabdi Express trains on the complimentary passes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) Retired railway employees can travel in Shatabdi Expresses on their post-retirement complimentary passes. The details are as under:

Status	Entitlement on each pass by Shatabdi Express
1	2
(1) Board Members	2 seats in Executive class, or 2 seats in Chair Car.

1	2
(2) Officers with pay of Rs. 7300/- and above	One seat in Executive class (on payment of one-third of difference of fare between Executive class and II AC of Rajdhani) or two seats in Chair Car.
(3) Officers with pay Rs. 4500/- and above	Two seats in Chair Car.
(4) Officers with pay below Rs. 4500/-	Two Seats in Chair Car.
(5) First Class Pass holders.	Two seats in Chair Car.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Private Plantation

5030. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH:
SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR:

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

(a) the policy of the Government in regard to the private plantation;

(b) whether the private parties promoting the plantation are entitled to fell the trees on their maturity without attracting the Indian Forest Act, 1927;

(c) whether the private individuals are given any assistance for afforestation to promote the environmental forests; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) The National Forest Policy, 1988 envisages to encourage the planting of trees on unutilised lands under private ownership. Emphasis has been given in policy to facilitate and motivate individuals to undertake tree farming and grow fodder plants, grasses and legumes on their own land. The Policy stipulates that farmers, particularly small and marginal farmers would be encouraged to grow on marginal/degraded lands available with them, wood species required for industries.

(b) National Forest Policy, 1988 emphasises for appropriate regulation to govern the felling of trees on private holdings. The private parties are entitled to fell trees from the plantation on their own land on maturity subject to the provisions of any rule or amendment under Section 35 of Indian Forest Act, 1927 or State Forest Acts or any other relevant Act under implementation in a particular State.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The proposals for financial assistance under the Grants-in Aid Scheme of the National afforestation and Ec-Development Board is entertained from voluntary agencies and non-governmental organisations of the following categories:

- Registered Non-profit organisations;
- Registered Societies, Cooperatives, Companies or Trust; and
- Recognised Schools, Colleges and Universities.

In very exceptional cases, one time non-recurring grant may be given to individuals. So far, no financial assistance has been given to any individual for this purpose.

[English]

Small Farmer Agri-Business Consortium

5031. SHRI D.P. YADA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted small Farmers Agri-business Consortium;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the benefits to be accrued to the farmers in Uttar Pradesh during 1995-96 as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium was set up in 1992-93 and registered as a Society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 on the 18th January, 1994, as an autonomous independent entity funded by RBI, NABARD and IDBI. The SFAC is intended to be a catalytic/promotional organisation aiming at bringing about linkages between production, processing and marketing so that farmers are enabled to derive maximum economic benefit from their efforts. Twelve districts have been identified for implementation of projects in various States. Detailed studies were commissioned with UNDP Assistance under the auspices of M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Madras for preparing projects for these districts. The Central SFAC would play a catalytic role and provide financial support for project formulation, training etc. The funding of the project in the States is to be arranged through financial institutions like NABARD etc. by State implementing agencies.

(c) Pithoragarh District in Uttar Pradesh has been selected for implementation of the project. The Government of U.P. have nominated the Secretary, Uttarakhand Vikas Vibhag, Lucknow as the Nodal Officer for implementing the project. The project is yet to be implemented.

[Translation]

Halt at Ganj Basoda

5032. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated for beautification of Ganj Basoda Station of the Central Railway during the Current year;

(b) whether reservation quota of berths of this station is proposed to be enhanced keeping in view the heavy rush of passengers there;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Railways keep their stations in a proper state of maintenance and upkeep by undertaking regular repairs and periodic colour-washing and painting, for which funds are expended each year.

Ganj Basoda railway station has recently been given a face lift, the work of which was completed in April 1994. There is no fund allocation for any special work at Ganj Basoda station during the year 1996-97.

(b) to (d) The existing reservation quota in various trains at Ganj Basoda remain under-utilised. There is, therefore, no proposal to enhance the same.

National Parks and Sanctuaries

5033. PROF. P.J. KURIEN:
SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE:

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

(a) the name of National Parks and Sanctuaries in India at present, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have a plan for expansion of the existing National Parks and Sanctuaries and to develop more National Parks and Sanctuaries in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) The State-wise list of National Parks and Sanctuaries in India is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) & (c) National Parks and Sanctuaries are declared by the State Governments/Union Territories concerned under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. In a study conducted by the Wildlife Institute of India in 1984 the existing network of wildlife protected areas was reviewed and it was recommended that the total protected area coverage should be atleast 4.6% of the country's land area. Currently, there are 441 sanctuaries and 80 national parks covering an area of 1.48 lakh sq. kms. which is about 4.5% of the total geographic area of the

country. However, certain biogeographical regions are less represented like North-East semi arid areas, gangetic plains and trans-Himalayan regions. The State Governments have been asked to implement the recommendations made in the said study.

STATEMENT

Wild Life Sanctuaries of India

S.NO.	NAME	DISTRICT	AREA (sq Km.)
1	2	3	4
ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS			
1.	Arial	Andamans	0.55
2.	Bamboo	..	0.05
3.	Barren	..	8.11
4.	Battimalve	..	2.23
5.	Belle	..	0.08
6.	Benette	..	3.46
7.	Bingham	..	0.08
8.	Bliter	..	0.26
9.	Bluff	..	1.14
10.	Bondovile	..	2.55
11.	Brush	..	0.23
12.	Buchanan	..	0.33
13.	Channel	..	0.13
14.	Cinque	..	0.54
15.	Clyde	..	0.54
16.	Cone	..	0.65
17.	Curlew	..	0.03
18.	Curlew (B.P.)	..	0.16
19.	Defence	..	10.49
20.	Dot	..	0.13
21.	Dottrel	..	0.13
22.	Duncan	..	0.43
23.	East	..	6.11
24.	East of Inglis	..	3.55
25.	Egg	..	0.05
26.	Enterance	..	0.96
27.	Elat	..	9.36
28.	Gander	..	0.05
29.	Goose	..	0.01
30.	Gurjan	..	0.16
31.	Hump	..	0.47
32.	Interview	..	133.87
33.	James	..	2.10

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
34.	Jungle	Andamans	0.52	75.	South Reef	Andamans	1.17
35.	Kwangtung	..	0.57	76.	South Sentinal	..	1.61
36.	Kyd	..	8.00	77.	South Brother	..	1.24
37.	Landfall	..	29.48	78.	Spike	..	11.70
38.	Latouche	..	0.96	79.	Spike	..	0.42
39.	Lohabarrack	..	106.00	80.	Stoat	..	0.44
40.	Mangrove	..	0.39	81.	Surat	..	0.31
41.	Mask	..	0.78	82.	Swamp	..	4.09
42.	Mayo	..	0.10	83.	Table (Delgrano)	..	2.29
43.	Megapode	..	0.12	84.	Table (Excelsior)	..	1.69
44.	Montogemery	..	0.21	85.	Talabaicha	..	3.21
45.	Narcondum	..	6.81	86.	Temple	..	1.04
46.	North	..	0.49	87.	Tillenchong	..	16.83
47.	North Brother	..	0.75	88.	Tree	..	0.03
48.	North Reef	..	3.48	89.	Trilby	..	0.96
49.	Oliver	..	0.16	90.	Turf	..	0.29
50.	Orchid	..	0.10	91.	Turtle	..	0.39
51.	Oyster	..	0.21	92.	West	..	6.40
52.	Oyster	..	0.08	93.	Wharf	..	0.11
53.	Ox	..	0.13	94.	White Cliff	..	0.47
54.	Paget	..	7.36				437.16
55.	Parkinson	..	0.34				
56.	Passage	..	0.62	ANDHRA PRADESH			
57.	Patric	..	0.13	1.	Coringa	East Godavari	235.70
58.	Peacock	..	0.62	2.	Eturnagaram	Warangal	803.00
59.	Pitman	..	1.37	3.	Kaundinya	Chittoor	357.60
60.	Point	..	3.07	4.	Kawal	Adilabad	893.00
61.	Potanma	..	0.16	5.	Kinnersani	Khammam	655.41
62.	Ranger	..	4.26	6.	Krishna	Krishna/Guntur	194.81
63.	Reef	..	1.74	7.	Kolleru	West Godavari	673.00
64.	Roper	..	1.46	8.	Lanjamadugu (Sivaram)	Adilabad (Karimnagar)	36.29
65.	Rose	..	0.01	9.	Manjira	Medak	20.00
66.	Rowe	..	0.01	10.	Nagarjunasagar (Tiger Reserve)	Guntur, Prakasam, Kurnool, Mehboobnagar, Nalgonda	3568.00
67.	Sandy	..	1.58	11.	Nelapattu	Nellore	4.40
68.	Sea Serpent	..	0.78	12.	Pakhal	Warangal	860.00
69.	Shark	..	0.60	13.	Papikonda	East Godavari, West Godavari, Khammam	591.00
70.	Shearme	..	7.85	14.	Pocharam	Medak/Nizamabad	130.00
71.	Sir Huge Rose	..	1.06				
72.	Sister	..	0.36				
73.	Snake	..	0.03				
74.	Snake	..	0.73				

1	2	3	4
15.	Pranahita	Adilabad	136.02
16.	Pulicat	Nellore	500.00
17.	Rollapadu	Kurnool	614.00
18.	Sri Venkateswara	Chittoor, Cuddapah	153.94
19.	Sri Lankamalleswara	Cuddapah	464.42
20.	Gundla Brahmeshwaram	Kurnool/Prakasam	1194.00
			<u>12084.594</u>

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

1.	Eagle Nest	East Kamang	217.00
2.	Itanagar	Papum pare	140.30
3.	Kamlang	Lohit	783.00
4.	Lali (D'ering)	East Siang	190.00
5.	Mehao	Dibang Valley Lohit	281.50
6.	Pakhui	East Kamang	861.95
7.	Sessa Orchid	West Kamang	100.00
8.	Dibang	Dibang valley	4149.00
9.	Kane	West Siang	55.00
			<u>6777.75</u>

ASSAM

1.	Barnadi	Kamrup	26.00
2.	Dibru Saikhowa	Kamrup	640.00
3.	Dipar Beel	Kamrup	4.14
4.	Garampani	Sibsagar	6.00
5.	Laokhowa	Naogaon	70.00
6.	Manas (Tiger Reserve)	Kamrup/Golapara	391.00
7.	Nameri	Sonitpur	130.00
8.	Orang	Darrang	75.60
9.	Pabitora	Naogaon	38.84
			<u>1381.58</u>

BIHAR

1.	Bhimbandh	Monghyr	681.99
2.	Betta	Palamau	747.60
3.	Dalma	Ranchi	193.22
4.	Gautam Budha	Gaya	259.50
5.	Hazaribagh	Hazaribagh	186.25
6.	Kaimur	Rhotas	1342.00
7.	Koderma	Hazaribagh & Gaya	177.95
8.	Kabar Lake	Beusarai	63.11
9.	Lawalong	Hazaribagh	207.00

1	2	3	4
10.	Mahuadandanar	Palamau	63.25
11.	Nagi Dam	Monghyr	1.91
12.	Nakti Dam	Monghyr	3.32
13.	Parasnath	Hazaribagh	49.33
14.	Rajgir	Nalanda	35.84
15.	Topchachi	Dhanbad	8.75
16.	Udaipur	Champanan	8.74
17.	Valmiki (TR)	Champanan	544.54
18.	Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin	Bhagalpur	50.00
19.	Pant Aranya	Nalanda	
			<u>4624.30</u>

CHANDIGARH

1.	Sukhna Lake	Chandigarh	25.42
			<u>25.42</u>

DAMAN & DIU

1.	Fudam	Diu	2.18
			<u>2.18</u>

DELHI

1.	Indra Priyadarshini (Asola)	Delhi	13.20
			<u>13.20</u>

GOA

1.	Bhagvan Mahavir	Goa	240.00
2.	Bondla	Goa	8.00
3.	Cotigao	Goa	85.65
4.	Chorao (Dr. Salim Ali)	Goa	1.78
			<u>335.43</u>

GUJARAT

1.	Balaram Ambaji	Banaskantha	542.081
2.	Barda	Junagadh Jamnagar	192.31
3.	Dhumkhal (Shoolpaneshwar)	Rajpipla, Bharuch	607.70
4.	Gaga (GIB)	Jamnagar	3.33
5.	Gir	Junagadh	1153.42
6.	Hingolghadh	Rajkot	6.54
7.	Jambughoda	Panchmahals	130.38
8.	Jessore	Banaskantha	180.66
9.	Kachchh Desert	Kachchh	7506.22
10.	Khijadiya	Jamnagar	6.05
11.	Marine	Jamnagar	295.03
12.	Nalsarovar	Ahmedabad & Surendranagar	120.82
13.	Narayan Sarovar	Kachchh	765.79*

1	2	3	4
14.	Paniya	Amreli	39.63
15.	Porbandar	Junagadh	0.09
16.	Rampura	Rajkot	15.01
17.	Ratanmahal	Panch-Mahal	55.65
18.	Thol	Mehsana	6.99
19.	Wild Ass	Surendranagar, Banaskantha, Rajkot/Mehsana	4953.70
20.	Purna	Dangs	160.84
21.	Kutch Bustard	Kutch	2.03
			<u>16744.27</u>

HARYANA

1.	Bhindwas	Rohtak	4.06
2.	Chhilchhila	Kurukshetra	0.28
3.	Nahar	Rohtak	2.09
4.	Bir Shikargarh	Ambala	7.58
5.	Chautala	Sirsa	113.96
6.	Saraswati	Kurukshetra	49.98
7.	Bir Baraban	Jind	4.14
8.	Kalesar		46.28
9.	Khaparwas		0.81
			<u>229.18</u>

HIMACHAL PRADESH

1.	Bandli	Mandi	41.32
2.	Chail	Solan	108.54
3.	Churdhar	Sirmaur	56.15
4.	Daranghati I & II	Shimla	167.40
5.	Gamgul Siya-Behi	Chamba	108.85
6.	Gobindsagar	Bilaspur	100.34
7.	Kalatop & Khajjar	Chamba	69.26
8.	Kanawar	Kullu	60.70
9.	Khokhan	Kullu	14.05
10.	Kias	Kullu	14.19
11.	Kugti	Chamba	378.86
12.	Lippa Asrang	Kinnaur	30.89
13.	Majathal Hasarang	Solan	39.38
14.	Manali	Kullu	31.80
15.	Nargu	Mandi	278.37
16.	Nainadevi	Bilaspur	122.68
17.	Pong Dam Lake	Kangra	307.29
18.	Raksham Chitkul (Sangla)	Kinnaur	650.00
19.	Renuka	Sirmaur	4.02
20.	Rupi Bhaba	Kinnaur	269.14
21.	Sachu Tuan Nala	Chamba	102.95

1	2	3	4
22.	Shikari Devi	Mandi	72.00
23.	Shilli	Solan	2.13
24.	Simla Water Catchment Area	Shimla	10.25
25.	Simbalbara	Sirmaur	19.03
26.	Talra	Shimla	40.49
27.	Tirthan	Kullu	61.12
28.	Tundah	Chamba	64.22
29.	Kibber	Lahaul-Spiti	1400.50
30.	Dhauladhar Sanctuary	Kangra	944.00
31.	Darlaghat	Darlaghat	6.00
32.	Sangla	Kinnaur	650.00
33.	Sainj	Kullu	90.00
			<u>6315.92</u>

JAMMU AND KASHMIR

1.	Baltal	Srinagar	203.00
2.	Changthang	Leh	4000.00
3.	Gulmarg	Baramulla	186.00
4.	Hirapora	Srinagar	110.00
5.	Hokersar	Srinagar	10.00
6.	Jasrota	Jammu	4.00
7.	Karakoram	Kargil	5000.00
8.	Lachipora	Baramulla	80.00
9.	Limber	Baramulla	26.00
10.	Nandani	Jammu	33.34
11.	Overa	Srinagar	32.00
12.	Overa-Aru	Srinagar	425.00
13.	Ramnagar Rakha	Jammu	12.20
14.	Surinsar Mansar	Jammu	39.13
15.	Tirkuta	Jammu	3.00
16.	Thajwas		
			<u>10,163.67</u>

KARNATAKA

1.	Adichunchunagiri	Mandi	0.84
2.	Arabithittu	Mysore	13.50
3.	Bhadra	Shimoga & Chikmaglur	492.46
4.	Biligiri Ranga Swamy Temple	Mysore	539.52
5.	Brahmagiri	Madikeri	181.29
6.	Cauvery	Mysore, Mandya Bangalore	510.51
7.	Dandeli	Uttara Kannada	834.16
8.	Ghataprabha	Belgaum	29.78

1	2	3	4
9.	Gudavi	Shimoga	0.37
10.	Melkote Temple	Dakshina Kannada	49.82
11.	Mookambika	Mandya	247.00
12.	Nugu	Mysore	30.32
13.	Pushpagiri	Kodagu	102.92
14.	Ranganthittu	Mysore	0.67
15.	Ranebennur	Dharwad	119.00
16.	Shettihally	Shimoga	395.60
17.	Sharavathi Valley	Shimoga	431.23
18.	Someshwara	Dakshina Kannada	88.44
19.	Talakaveri	Kodagu	105.59
20.	Doraji Bear Sanctuary	Bellary	55.873
			<u>4229.213</u>

KERALA

1.	Aralam	Cannanore	55.00
2.	Chimmony	Trichur	100.00
3.	Chinnar	Idukki	90.44
4.	Idukki	Idukki	77.00
5.	Neyyar	Trivandrum	128.00
6.	Parambikulam	Palghat	285.00
7.	Peechi Vazani	Trichur	125.00
8.	Peppara	Trivandrum	53.00
9.	Periyar (TR)	Idukki	427.00
10.	Shenduruny	Trivandrum	100.32
11.	Thatttekad	Idukki	25.16
12.	Wayanad	Calicut & Wayand	344.44
			<u>1810.36</u>

MAHARASHTRA

1.	Andheri	Chandrapur	509.27
2.	Aner Dam	Dhule	82.94
3.	Bhimashankar	Pune/Thane	130.78
4.	Bor	Wardha	61.10
5.	Chandoli	Sagli Satara, Ratnagiri/Kolhapur	308.97
6.	Chaprala	Gadchiroli	134.78
7.	Gautala Autramghat	Aurangabad/Jalgaon	260.61
8.	Great Indian Bustard (Nanaj)	Solapur/ Ahmednagar	8496.44
9.	Jayakawadi	Aurangabad	341.05
10.	Kalsubai Harish (Chandragarh)	Ahmednagar	361.81
11.	Karnala	Raigarh	4.48

1	2	3	4
12.	Katepurna	Akola	52.79
13.	Koyna	Satara	423.55
14.	Malvan (Marine)	Sindhudurg	29.12
15.	Melghat (TR)	Amravati	1597.23
16.	Nagzira	Bhandara	152.81
17.	Nandur Madmeshwar	Nasik	100.12
18.	Painganga	Yavatmal/Nandad	324.62
19.	Phansad	Raigarh	69.79
20.	Radhanagari	Kolhapur	371.88
21.	Deulgaon Rehekari	Ahmednagar	2.17
22.	Sagareswar	Sangli	10.87
23.	Tansa	Thane	304.81
24.	Yawal	Jalgaon	177.52
			<u>14309.51</u>

MADHYA PRADESH

1.	Achanakmar	Bilaspur	551.55
2.	Badalkhol	Raigarh	104.55
3.	Bagdara	Sidhi	478.90
4.	Barnawapara	Raipur	244.66
5.	Bhairamgarh	Bastar	139.00
6.	Bori	Hoshangabad	518.00
7.	Gandhi Sagar	Mandasaur	368.62
8.	Ghatigaon Great India. Bustard	Gwalior	512.00
9.	Gomarda	Raigarh	277.82
10.	Karera Great Indian Bustard	Shivpuri	202.21
11.	Ken Gharial	Panna Chattarpur	45.00
12.	Kheoni	Dewas	132.70
13.	Narsingarh	Raigarh	59.19
14.	National Chambal	Moreana	320.00
15.	Neoradehi	Sagar Damoh, Narsinghpur	1034.52
16.	Pachmarhi	Hoshangabad	461.85
17.	Pamed	Bastar	262.00
18.	Panpatha	Shahdol	245.84
19.	Palpur (Kuno)	Moreana	345.00
20.	Pench	Seoni/Chhindwara	449.39
21.	Phena	Mandla	110.74
22.	Ratapani	Raisen	686.79
23.	Ralamandal	Indore	234.55
24.	Sailana	Ratlam	12.96
25.	Sanjay (Dubri)	Sidhi	364.59
26.	Sardarpur	Dhar	348.12

1	2	3	4
27.	Semarsot	Sarguja	430.36
28.	Singhori	Raisen	287.91
29.	Sitanadi	Raipur	553.36
30.	Son Gharial	Sidhi, Satna, Shahdol	209.00
31.	Tamor Pingla	Sarguja	608.52
32.	Udanti Wild Buffalo	Raipur	247.59
			<u>10847.29</u>

MANIPUR

1.	Yagoupokpi Lokchao	Chandi	184.85
			<u>184.85</u>

MEGHALAYA

1.	Baghmara (Pitcher plant)	West Garo Hills	0.027
2.	Nongkhyllem	East Khasi Hills	29.00
3.	Sijju	West Garo Hills	5.18
			<u>34.207</u>

MIZORAM

1.	Dampa (TR)	Aizawal	500.00
2.	Ngengpui	Ngengpui	170.00
3.	Khwanglung	Thenzwal	50.00
			<u>720.00</u>

NAGALAND

1.	Fakim	Tuensang	6.41
2.	Puliebadze	Kohima	23.24
3.	Rangapahar	Kohima	4.70
			<u>34.35</u>

ORISSA

1.	Balukhand-Konark	Puri	71.72
2.	Bhitarkanika	Chandbali	170.00
3.	Chandka-Dampara	Puri	175.79
4.	Chilka	Puri and Ganjam	15.53
5.	Debrigarh	Sambalpur	346.91
6.	Hadgarh	Keonjar Mayurbhanj	191.60
7.	Khalasuni	Sambalpur	116.00
8.	Kotgarh	Phulbani	399.50
9.	Kuldiha	Balasore Mayurbhanj	272.75
10.	Lakhari Valley	Ganjam	185.87
11.	Mahanadi Baisipalli	Puri	168.35
12.	Nandankanan	Puri	14.26

1	2	3	4
13.	Satkosia Gorge	Dhenkanal Puri Cuttack, Mayurbhanj	795.52
14.	Simlipal	Mayurbhanj	2200.00
15.	Sunabeda	Kalahandi	600.00
16.	Ushakothi (Badrama)	Sambalpur	304.03
17.	Karlapat	Kalahandi	147.66
			<u>6175.49</u>

PUNJAB

1.	Abohar	Ferozepur	186.00
2.	Bir Bunerheri	Patiala	6.50
3.	Bir Gurdial Pura	Patiala	6.10
4.	Bir Motibag	Patiala	6.40
5.	Harike Lake	Ferozepur	86.00
6.	Takhani Rehampur	Hoshiarpur	3.82
			<u>294.82</u>

RAJASTHAN

1.	Bandha Baretha	Bharatpur	192.76
2.	Bassi	Chittorgarh	152.90
3.	Bhensroadgarh	Chittorgarh	229.14
4.	Darra	Kota	265.80
5.	Jaisamand	Rajsamand	52.00
6.	Jamwa Ramgarh	Jaipur	300.00
7.	Jawahar Sagar	Kota	100.00
8.	Keladevi	Sawai Madhopur	676.38
9.	Kumbhalgarh	Udaipur	578.25
10.	Mt. Abu	Sirohi	288.84
11.	Nahargarh	Jaipur	50.00
12.	National Chambal	Kota	280.00
13.	Phulwari-Ki-Nal	Udaipur & Pali	511.41
14.	Ramgarh Visdhari	Bundi	307.00
15.	*Sariska (TR)	Alwar	492.00
16.	Sajjangarh	Udaipur	5.19
17.	Shergarh	Kota	98.71
18.	Sita Mata	Chittorgarh	422.94
19.	Sawai Mansingh	Sawai Madhopur	127.60
20.	Tal Chappar	Churu	7.90
21.	Todgarh Rawli	Ajmer	495.27
22.	Van Vihar	Dholpur	59.93

5694.02

1	2	3	4
SIKKIM			
1.	Fambung LHO	East Sikkim	51.76
2.	Kyongnosla Alpine	Rongneck Chu	31.00
3.	Maenam	South Sikkim	35.34
4.	Shingba (Rhododendron)	Yumthang	43.00
			161.10
TAMILNADU			
1.	Anamalai (Indira Gandhi)	Coimbatore	841.49
2.	*Kalakad (Tiger Reserve)	Tirunelveli	223.58
3.	Mudumalai	Nilgiris	217.76
4.	Mundanthurai (Tiger Reserve)	Tirunelveli	567.38
5.	Point Calimere	Thanjavur	17.26
6.	Pulicat	Chengalpattu	153.67
7.	Vedanthangal	Chengalpattu	0.30
8.	Vettangudi/Chitrangudi/ Kanjirankulam	Ramanathapuram	1.90
9.	Karikili	Chengai Anna	0.61
10.	Srivilliputhur Grizzled Squirrel	Kamarajar	485.20
11.	Udayamarthandapuram	Thanjavur	0.45
12.	Vallanadu	Chidambaranar	16.41
13.	Vaduvoo	Quid-e-Millath	1.28
			2527.29
TRIPURA			
1.	Gumti	South Tripura	389.54
2.	Trishna	South Tripura	194.70
3.	Sepahijala	West Tripura	18.53
4.	Roa	North Tripura	0.85
			603.62
UTTAR PRADESH			
1.	Askot	Pithoragarh	600.00
2.	Bakhira	Basti	28.94
3.	Binsar	Almora	45.59
4.	Chandra Prabha	Varanasi	78.00
5.	Sohagibarwa	Maharajganj	428.21
6.	Govind Pashu Vihar	Uttarkashi	953.12
7.	Hastinapur	Meerut, Moradabad, 2073.00 Muzzafarnagar, Ghaziabad	

1	2	3	4
8.	Kaimur	Mirzapur	500.75
9.	Katerniaghat	Bahraich	400.00
10.	Kedarnath	Chamoli	957.00
11.	Kishanpur	Lakhimpur Kheri	227.12
12.	Lakh Bahosi	Farukhabad	80.23
13.	Mahavir Swami	Lalitpur	5.00
14.	National Chambal	Agra/Etawah	635.00
15.	Nawabganj	Unnao	2.24
16.	Ranipur	Banda	230.00
17.	Samaspur	Rae Bareilly	7.99
18.	Sohelwa	Gorakhpur	452.57
19.	Sonanadi	Pauri Garhwal	301.76
20.	Turtle	Varanasi	7.00
21.	Sandi	Hardoi	3.00
22.	Okhla	Ghazibad	4.00
23.	Saman	Mainpuri	5.00
24.	Parvatiarga	Gonda	11.00
25.	Vijay Sagar	Hamirpur	3.00
26.	Patna	Eta	1.00
27.	Sursarovar	Agra	4.00
28.	Surahatal	Balia	34.00
			8078.52
WEST BENGAL			
1.	Ballavpur	Birbhum	2.00
2.	Bethuadahari	Nadia	1.21
3.	Buxa (Tiger Reserve)	Jalpaiguri	251.89
4.	Chapramari	Jalpaiguri	9.60
5.	Gorumara	Japaiguri	8.73
6.	Halliday	24-Paraganas	5.95
7.	Jaldapara	Jalpaiguri	216.51
8.	Jore Pokhri	Darjeeling	0.04
9.	Lothian Island	24-Paraganas	38.00
10.	Mahananda	Darjeeling	127.22
11.	Narendrapur	24-Paraganas	0.10
12.	(Parmadan) Bibhuti Bhusan	Nadia 24-Paraganas	0.60
13.	Raiganj	West Dinapur	1.30
14.	Ramnabagan	Burdwan	0.14
15.	Sajnakhali	24-Paraganas	362.40
16.	Senchal	Darjeeling	38.60
			1064.29
GRAND TOTAL		114164.484 SQ. KMS.	
TOTAL NO.		441	

National Parks of India

S.NO.	NAME	DISTRICT(S)	AREA(sq km)
1	2	3	4
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS			
1.	Marine	Andamans	281.50
2.	Middle Button	Andamans	0.64
3.	Mount Harriet	Andamans	0.46
4.	North Button	Andamans	0.44
5.	Saddle Peak	Andamans	32.54
6.	South Button	Andamans	0.03
			<u>315.61</u>
ANDHRA PRADESH			
1.	Shri Venkateshwara	Chittoor & Cuddapah	352.62
			<u>352.62</u>
ARUNACHAL PRADESH			
1.	Mouling	East Siang	483.00
2.	Namdapha (Tiger Reserve)	Tirap	1985.23
			<u>2468.23</u>
ASSAM			
1.	Kaziranga	Jorhat	430.00
2.	Manas (Tiger Reserve)	Kamrup-Golapara	500.00
			<u>930.00</u>
BIHAR			
1.*	Betta (Tiger Reserve)	Palamau	231.67
2.*	Valmiki (Tiger Reserve)	West Champaran	335.65
			<u>567.32</u>
GOA			
1.	Bhagwan Mahavir	Goa	107.00
			<u>107.00</u>
GUJARAT			
1.	Gir	Junagadh	258.71
2.	Marine	Jamnagar	162.89
3.	Vansda	Valsad	23.99
4.	Velavadar	Bhavnagar	34.08
			<u>479.67</u>

1	2	3	4
HARYANA			
1.	Sultanpur	Gurgaon	1.43
			<u>1.43</u>
HIMACHAL PRADESH			
1.	Great Himalayan	Kullu	765.00
2.	Pin Valley	Lahaul-spiti	675.00
			<u>1430.00</u>
JAMMU AND KASHMIR			
1.	City Forest	Srinagar	9.07
2.	Dachigam	Srinagar	141.00
3.	Hemis High Altitude	Leh	3350.00
4.	Kishtwar	Kishtwar	310.00
			<u>3810.07</u>
KARNATAKA			
1.	Anshi	Uttarakanada	250.00
2.	Bandipur (Tiger Reserve)	Mysore	874.20
3.	Bannerghatta	Bangalore	104.27
4.	Kudremukh	South Kanada & Chikmagalur	600.32
5.	Nagarhole	Mysore Kodagu	643.39
			<u>2472.18</u>
KERALA			
1.	Eravikulam	Idukki	97.00
2.	Periyar (Tiger Reserve)	Idukki	350.00
3.	Silent Valley	Palghat	89.52
			<u>536.52</u>
MADHYA PRADESH			
1.*	Bandhavgarh (Tiger reserve)	Shahdol	105.40
2.	Fossil	Mandla	0.27
3.*	Indravati (Tiger Reserve)	Bastar	1258.00
4.	Kanger valley	Bastar	200.00
5.*	Kanha (Tiger Reserve)	Mandla Balaghat	940.00
6.	Madhav	Shivpuri	337.00
7.	Panna (TR)	Panna, Chatarpur	543.00

1	2	3	4
8.	Pench	Seoni	293.00
9.	Sanjay	Sidhi, Sarguja	1938.00
10.	Satpura	Hoshangabad	524.00
11.	Van Vihar	Bhopal	4.45
			<u>6143.12</u>

MAHARASHTRA

1.	Gugamal (Tiger Reserve)	Amravati	361.80
2.	Navegaon	Bhandara	133.88
3.	Pench	Nagpur	257.26
4.	Sanjay Gandhi	Bombay Thane	86.96
5.	*Tadoba (TR)	Chandrapur	116.55
			<u>956.45</u>

MANIPUR

1.	Keibul Lamjao	Imphal Bishenpur	40.00
2.	Sirohi	East District	41.80
			<u>81.80</u>

MEGHALAYA

1.	Balphakram	West Garo Hills	339.22
2.	Nokrek	West Garo Hills	47.48
			<u>386.70</u>

MIZORAM

1.	Blue Mountain		50.00
2.	Murden		200.00
			<u>250.00</u>

NAGALAND

1.	Intanki	Kohima	202.02
			<u>202.02</u>

ORISSA

1.*	North Simlipal (Tiger Reserve)	Mayurbhanj	845.70
2.	Bhitar Kanika	Cuttack	367.00
			<u>1212.70</u>

RAJASTHAN

1.	Keoladeo Ghana	Bharatpur	23.73
2.*	Ranthambore (Tiger Reserve)	Sawai Madhopur	392.00

1.	2	3	4
*3.	Sariska (Tiger Reserve)	Alwar	273.80
4.	Desert National Park	Jaisalmer	3162.00
			<u>3856.53</u>

SIKKIM

1.	Khangchendzonga	North Sikkim	850.00
			<u>850.00</u>

TAMILNADU

1.	Guindy	Madras	2.82
2.	Indira Gandhi	Coimbatore	117.11
3.	Marine	Gulf of Mannar	6.23
4.	Mudumalai	Nilgiris	103.24
5.	Mukurthi	Nilgiris	78.46
			<u>307.86</u>

UTTAR PRADESH

1.*	Corbett (Tiger Reserve)	Garhwal Nainital	520.82
2.*	Dudhwa (Tiger Reserve)	Lakhimpur Kheri	488.29
3.	Gangotri	Uttar Kashi	2390.00
4.	Nanda Devi	Chamoli	630.33
5.	Valley of Flowers	Chamoli	87.50
6.	Rajaji	Dehradun-Hardwar	820.03
7.	Govind Pashu Vihar	Uttar Kashi	472.08
			<u>5409.05</u>

WEST BENGAL

1.	Neora Valley	Darjeeling	88.00
2.	Singalila	Darjeeling	78.00
3.*	Sunderbans (TR)	24 Paragans	1330.10
4.*	Buxa (TR)	Jalpaiguri	117.10
5.	Gurumara	Jalpaiguri	79.45
			<u>1692.65</u>

Total Area	34684.53 SQ. KMS.
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Total No.	80
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* Denote Tiger reserves where there are included National Parks and Sanctuaries in addition to other Forest areas.

Tiger Reserves of India

Name	State	Area in Sq. kms.
1. Bandipur	Karnataka	866.00
2. Corbett	Uttar Pradesh	1316.00
3. Kanha	Madhya Pradesh	1945.00
4. Manas	Assam	2840.00
5. Melghat	Maharashtra	1597.00
6. Palamau	Bihar	1026.00
7. Ranthambore	Rajasthan	1334.00
8. Simlipal	Orissa	2750.00
9. Sunderbans	West Bengal	2585.00
10. Periyar	Kerala	777.00
11. Sariska	Rajasthan	866.00
12. Buxa West	Bengal	759.00
13. Indravati	Madhya Pradesh	2799.00
14. Nagarjunsagar	Andhra Pradesh	3568.00
15. Namdapha	Arunachal	1985.00
16. Dudhwa	Uttar Pradesh	811.00
17. Kalakad Mundanthurai	Tamil Nadu	800.00
18. Valmiki	Bihar	840.00
19. Pench	Madhya Pradesh	758.00
20. Dampa	Mizoram	500.00
21. Panna	Madhya Pradesh	542.00
22. Bandhawgarh	Rajasthan	1162.00
23. Tadoba	Maharashtra	620.00
Total		33046.00

*[English]***Reservation Counters**

5034. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that people living in Municipalities located on the outskirt areas of Secunderabad city have to cover a distance of at least 15 to 20 kms. to go to the Secunderabad Railway Station for fetching their journey tickets, making reservation etc.:

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to open additional reservation counter in the municipal areas in the outskirts of Secunderabad which are far by more than 10 kms. from the main Railway Station.

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (d) In addition to the main office at Secunderabad, ten satellite reservation offices are functioning in and around this city at Boiguda, Darulshafa, A.P. Assembly, Dr. A.S. Raonagar, Ameerpet, Kukkatpally, Sarooranagar, Hyderabad, Kacheguda and Rail Nilayam. These satellite locations are adequately serving the needs of intending passengers living in areas on the outskirts of Secunderabad and Hyderabad. Additional reservation offices are opened from time to time in a need-based manner.

Complaints Against MPs

5035. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints that some Members of Parliament and Legislatures take with them unauthorised persons without valid tickets while travelling by train and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the instructions issued to the ticket checking staff in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have received complaints from the Railway staff and passengers about the rude behaviour of Members of Parliament and the unauthorised persons accompanying them towards the passengers having reservations and travelling with the valid tickets; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to protect the legitimate passengers from such harassment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) During the checks conducted by the railway staff, cases of persons travelling unauthorisedly without valid tickets either alongwith the Members of Parliament or on the reservations made in the name of Members of Parliament/Legislatures have been detected from time to time.

(b) The ticket checking staff have standing instructions to treat such persons as travelling without ticket and charge them according to the extant rules.

(c) No such case has been reported.

(d) Does not arise.

Railway Protection Force

5036. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to strengthen the Railway Protection Force, which is facing severe manpower crunch and entrust it the work of safety of passengers and their luggage;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) The question of strengthening the Railway Protection Force (RPF) is under consideration. The creation of four additional Battalions of RPSF is under examination. This will help the Railway Protection Force to pay better attention to problems like ticketless travel, unauthorised alarm chain pulling as well as guarding of additional assets like new sheds, store depots, goods trains, passenger/mail/express trains and providing aid to civil power on occasions like Parliamentary/State elections and in hours of national crises. In addition, it is also proposed to increase the mobility of the Force, introduce modern security gadgets enhance training facilities, computerise data and improve communication network. These requirements have been projected in the Ninth Plan paper. There is, however, no proposal to entrust the Railway Protection Force with the work of safety of passengers and their luggage in view of the fact that 'Police' is a State subject, and, therefore, maintenance of Law and Order and control of crime on Railway premises, including Railway stations and running trains, is the responsibility of the State Governments concerned, which they discharge through their Government Railway Police (GRP). The duties of RPF and GRP are quite distinct and are not interchangeable. Hence, it is not possible to dispense with the GRP and entrust their duties and responsibilities to Railway Protection Force, so long as the present Constitutional provisions are in vogue.

[Translation]

Law and Order in Bihar

5037. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the Government of Bihar for making available twenty companies of the security personnel to maintain Law and Order in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon;

(d) the reasons for delay in making the said companies available to the Government of Bihar; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME-AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) to (e): A request was received in June, 1996, from the Government of Bihar for providing 20 coys of CRPF for a period of 2 months for conducting a Special Drive before the rainy season to check the activities of various gangs. However, due to non-availability of CPMFs and pressing commitments elsewhere (including J&K and the North East), it was not found possible to meet the requirement. No further request has been received, in this Ministry, from the State Government.

[English]

Fish Farmers Development Agencies

5038. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI N.J. RATHVA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Fish Farmers Development Agencies set up in Gujarat so far;

(b) the Central assistance given to these agencies during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government have reviewed the performance of these Fish Farmers Development Agencies;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether thousands of fishermen families are facing difficulties in eking out their living due to decline in the quantum of fish catching in the State; and

(f) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Seventeen Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs) have been set up in Gujarat so far.

(b) The Central assistance given to FFDAs in Gujarat during the last three years in as stated below:

1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Rs. 17.00 lakhs	Rs. 17.00 lakhs	'Nil'

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A review of the performance of FFDAs in Gujarat indicates that all the 17 FFDAs are in operation. They have so far brought under fish culture a water area of 30,401 ha. and have trained a total of 11,846 fishermen. The number of beneficiaries so far under this scheme is 12,794 in Gujarat.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Question does not arise.

Cash Crops

5039. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a scheme to encourage the growing of cash crops in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the assistance proposed to be provided to each State under this scheme for 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) (-) Such a separate scheme is not envisaged at present. However, at present the following schemes are being implemented to increase the production of cash crops in various States of the country:—

(i) Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP).

(ii) Special Jute Development Programme (SJDP).

(iii) Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System Areas (SUBACS).

(iv) Oilseeds Development programme (OPP).

These schemes are being funded on 75:25 percent basis between Government of India and State Governments except SJDP which is funded on 100 percent basis by Government of India. Under these schemes, assistance is provided for the transfer of technology through field demonstrations, Integrated Pest management demonstrations and trainings of farmers/extension workers as well as incentives for essential inputs such as seeds, farm implements etc. Incentives also are being provided for sprinklers and pheromone traps under Intensive Cotton Development Programme and Oilseeds Production Programme and drip irrigation equipment under Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System Areas.

The State-wise allocation under each scheme for the year 1996-97 is given in the statement enclosed.

STATEMENT

Statement Indicating State-Wise & Scheme-Wise Outlay During 1996-97

States	Outlay (Rs. in lakh)/(Central Share)			
	ICDP	SJDP	SUBACS	OPP
1	2	3	4	5
1. Andhra Pradesh	177.75	28.76	163.76	1075.00
2. Arunachal Pradesh				34.00
3. Assam		82.26	38.00	155.00
4. Bihar		28.71	132.33	100.00
5. Gujarat	84.36		128.82	500.00
6. Haryana	105.45		90.63	175.00
7. Himachal Pradesh				30.00
8. Jammu & Kashmir				70.00
9. Karnataka	59.04		200.26	600.00
10. Kerala			22.71	50.00
11. Madhya Pradesh	68.55		73.30	1210.00
12. Maharashtra	326.09		439.34	1025.00
13. Manipur			12.95	80.09
14. Meghalaya		6.54		15.00
15. Orissa	15.79	36.95	42.62	450.00
16. Punjab	304.57		101.16	100.00
17. Rajasthan	120.20		47.81	1075.00
18. Sikkim				50.00
19. Tamil Nadu	187.58		188.02	850.00
20. Tripura		13.55	12.97	25.00
21. Uttar Pradesh	10.62	16.81	671.70	550.00

	1	2	3	4	5
22. West Bengal			192.77	29.68	250.00
23. Nagaland				14.78	
24. Mizoram				12.96	
25. Pondicherry				16.36	
26. Goa				14.84	

Indian Citizens in Indian Enclaves

5040. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply to USQ. No. 1568 dated July 23, 1996 and state:

(a) since when the recommendations of the National Human Rights Commission are under consideration of the Government; and

(b) if so, the more time the Government propose to take to solve these problems?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) Since 19 March, 1996.

(b) Government remain committed to the full implementation of the provisions of the Indo-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement, including the exchange of enclaves. However, it is not possible to indicate any time frame. Efforts are underway to complete procedural formalities pertaining to the 1974 Agreement both in the Centre and concerned State Governments.

[Translation]

Atrocities on Blinds

5041. KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some blind persons were beaten mercilessly by the security guards and policemen at the time of the Prime Minister's Lucknow visit recently;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the action taken against the persons found responsible therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Assistance to Uttar Pradesh for Pollution Control

5042. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have provided any financial assistance to Uttar Pradesh for pollution control during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The year-wise details of financial assistance provided to Uttar Pradesh for pollution control during the last three years are given below:—

1993-94	Rs. 3720 lakhs (Approx.)
1994-95	Rs. 1161 lakhs (Approx.)
1995-96	Rs. 1292 lakhs (Approx.)

Konkan Railway Lines

5043. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is some technical problem in the tunnels dug for laying the Konkan Rail Lines;

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

(c) the corrective measures taken or proposed to be taken to overcome the said problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Out of the 92 tunnels, totalling to a length of 83.4 kms of the Konkan Railway project, 9 tunnels for a length of 15.042 kms were initially giving problems on account of very adverse geological conditions. These problems are in the form of roof collapses, mud flows, heavy seepage of water, soil squeezing etc. Of these 9 tunnels, all except 3 have been now made through. In these three tunnels which are situated in Goa, about 605 meters of heading is till to be made through. KRC has availed consultancy assistance from leading tunnel Engineers from within the country as well as abroad. Special machines have also been mobilised for this purpose, and the work is being monitored at the highest level on a day-to-day basis.

Extension of Train

5044. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to extend Hazrat Nizamuddin-Gwalior Taj Express upto New Delhi Railway Station as per the earlier schedule;

(b) whether the Government also propose to re-introduce the catering services in the Taj Express; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Extension of Taj Express upto New Delhi is presently not feasible due to non-availability of spare terminal/maintenance facilities at New Delhi station.

As per extant policy pantry cars are provided in order of priority on selected long distance Mail/Express trains keeping in view the timings, stoppages, adequacy of catering services from static units enroute, etc. subject to availability of pantry cars and maximum permissible load of the train.

[Translation]

Dropping of Transmitters

5045. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an unidentified aeroplane dropped nine bags containing the foreign transmitters near the Jafflaun Railway Station in July, 1996:

(b) the contents of the arms and goods found in the bags:

(c) whether the vigilance branch of the Central Government had any prior information of the movement of the aeroplane; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (d) The facts are being ascertained and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Superfast Train Engines

5046. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Superfast long distance trains of the Central Railway run with the help of goods train engines;

(b) if so, whether there is a dearth of Superfast train engines;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to procure adequate Superfast train engines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir. Goods train locomotives are however deployed, occasionally as a distress measure, whenever the locomotive of a superfast train fails in the section.

(b) No, Sir. There is no dearth of locomotives fit for working superfast trains.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

Seeds of Pulses

5047. SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the assistance provided by the Union Government to State Governments in the form of quality seeds of pulses during the years 1994-95 and 1995-96, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): A statement is enclosed.

*Allocation of funds made under N.P.D.P.
for Seed Component*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	State/U.T.	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	77.00	56.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.50	2.50
3.	Assam	10.00	8.00
4.	Bihar	108.00	85.00
5.	Goa	2.00	2.50
6.	Gujarat	62.00	54.00
7.	Haryana	54.00	22.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	9.00	11.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6.00	20.00
10.	Karnataka	82.00	25.00

1	2	3	4
11. Kerala		4.00	4.50
12. Madhya Pradesh		285.00	271.00
13. Maharashtra		170.00	191.00
14. Manipur		4.00	4.00
15. Meghalaya		4.00	4.00
16. Nagaland		8.00	8.00
17. Orissa		66.00	65.00
18. Punjab		17.00	16.00
19. Rajasthan		186.00	186.00
20. Sikkim		7.00	7.00
21. Tamil Nadu		80.00	80.00
22. Tripura		4.00	4.00
23. Uttar Pradesh		230.00	230.00
24. West Bengal		20.00	20.00
25. A & N Islands		1.20	0.50
26. Delhi		0.50	0.50
Total		1499.20	1437.50

[Translation]

Container Service

5048. SHRI TARA CHAND BHAGORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cities in the country where the container service has been provided;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide this service in Jaipur in near future; and

(c) if so, the time by which the said service would be introduced in Jaipur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Container Service has been provided by Container Corporation of India Limited (CONCOR), a Public Sector Unit under the Ministry of Railways, in twenty-two cities of the country.

(b) and (c) An Inland Container Depot (ICD) is already being operated by Rajasthan Small Industries Corporation (RAJSICO) at Sanganer near Jaipur. This ICD is presently linked by road. CONCOR proposes to start rail transport of containers shortly.

World Bank Loan for Agriculture

5049. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has granted loan to various States in the country for the development of agriculture during the last three years;

(b) if so, the amount of funds granted since 1993-94 till the end of 1995-96, State-wise;

(c) whether this amount has been utilised by the State Governments for the development of agriculture;

(d) if so, the facts in this regard; and

(e) the rate of increase likely to be registered in the development of agriculture as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of assistance provided to each State is given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The facts regarding utilisation is given in the enclosed statement as the assistance by the World Bank to the States is given by way of the reimbursement. The Projects are ongoing. The Projects are to minimise the process of ecological degradation, enhance the level of agriculture production and for creating basic infrastructure for multi-sectoral activities, keeping in view the overall agriculture strategies and priorities of the beneficiary States. The projects have impact in terms of increase in cropping intensity and productivity augmented income generation from such productivity activities as crop husbandry, agro-forestry, dry land horticulture, live stock management, rural roads, drinking water, minor irrigation, the infrastructural facilities for varietal development of Seed etc., which could be effective in increasing agricultural production and help in poverty alleviation in the rural areas of the States.

STATEMENT

Details of World Bank Assistance to the States on Agriculture Sector

(Rs. in lakhs)

State/Name of the World Bank Projects	Years			Total	Rmks
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96		
1	2	3	4	5	6
ANDHRA PRADESH					
1. Shrimp & Fish Culture Project	36.38	68.97	113.39	218.74	
2. National Seeds Project-III	64.00	—	219.60	283.60	
3. National Agri. Research Project-II	155.01	91.00	144.22	390.23	
				<u>892.57</u>	
ASSAM					
1. National Seeds Project-III	6.83	20.45	—	27.28	
2. Assam Rural Infrastructure and Agriculture Services Project	—	—	430.00	430.00	
3. National Agri. Extn. Project-III	717.03	401.59	—	1118.62	
4. National Agri. Research Project-II	85.81	87.89	23.46	197.16	
				<u>1773.06</u>	
BIHAR					
1. Shrimp & Fish Culture Project	6.72	6.14	4.19	17.05	
2. Bihar Plateau Dev. Project	741.51	2282.29	2400.82	5424.62	
3. National Agri. Research Project-II	105.30	117.00	31.39	253.69	
				<u>5695.36</u>	
GUJARAT					
1. Integrated Watershed Development Project (Plains)	235.24	440.39	1024.81	1700.44	
2. National Seeds Project-III	41.50	155.06	30.00	226.56	
3. National Agri. Research Project-II	157.58	100.25	8.43	266.26	
				<u>2193.26</u>	
HARYANA					
1. National Seeds Project-III	38.70	426.00	56.80	521.50	
2. Integrated Watershed Development Project (Hills)	203.53	394.58	659.17	1257.28	
3. National Agri. Research project-II	281.00	119.47	168.82	569.29	
				<u>2348.07</u>	

	1	2	3	4	5	6
HIMACHAL PRADESH						
1.	Integrated Watershed Development Project (Hills)	416.81	597.84	784.68	1799.33	
2.	National Agri. Extn. Project-III	1589.93	769.10	—	2359.03	
3.	National Agri. Research Project-II	48.07	154.11	87.89	290.07	
					<u>4448.43</u>	
JAMMU & KASHMIR						
1.	Integrated Watershed Development Project (Hills)	578.54	709.52	956.83	2244.89	
2.	National Agri. Research Project-II	87.06	340.47	22.60	450.13	
					<u>2695.02</u>	
KARNATAKA						
1.	Rainfed Watershed	830.61	—	—	830.61	
2.	National Seeds Project-III	396.37	—	162.57	558.94	
3.	National Agri. Research Project-II	121.75	207.14	127.67	456.56	
					<u>1846.11</u>	
KERALA						
1.	National Agri. Research Project-II	75.73	131.41	102.95	310.09	
MADHYA PRADESH						
1.	Rainfed Watershed	144.03	41.63	—	185.66	
2.	National Seeds Project-III	6.90	528.70	97.86	633.46	
3.	National Agri. Research Project-II	544.27	241.84	198.18	984.29	
					<u>1803.41</u>	
MAHARASHTRA						
1.	Rainfed Watershed	239.15	77.94	—	317.09	
2.	National Seeds Project-III	693.57	212.45	21.86	927.88	
3.	National Agri. Research Project-II	359.19	310.91	144.91	815.01	
					<u>2059.98</u>	
ORISSA						
1.	Integrated Watershed Development Project (Plains)	393.11	438.62	497.93	1329.66	
2.	Shrimp & Fish Culture Project	64.26	43.32	397.47	505.05	
3.	National Agri. Research Project-II	157.08	132.37	72.47	361.92	
4.	National Seeds Project-III	41.12	360.41	—	401.53	
					<u>2598.16</u>	
PUNJAB						
1.	Integrated Watershed Development Project (Hills)	896.05	1288.37	1029.45	3213.87	
2.	National Agri. Research Project-II	72.34	81.73	31.00	185.07	
3.	National Agri. Extn. Project-III	3268.40	2643.50	—	5911.90	
					<u>9310.84</u>	

	1	2	3	4	5	6
RAJASTHAN						
1.	Agri. Dev. Project—Rajasthan	1258.06	3699.53	5928.75	10886.34	
2.	Inteegrated Watershed Development Project (Plains)	860.18	1324.96	1718.89	3904.03	
3.	National Seeds Project-III	—	267.65	—	267.65	
4.	National Agri. Research Project-II	224.24	156.38	125.74	506.36	
						15564.38
TAMIL NADU						
1.	Agri. Dev. Project—Tamil Nadu	2531.99	4741.00	6905.97	14178.96	
2.	National Agri. Research Project-II	63.75	105.17	82.57	251.49	
						14430.45
UTTAR PRADESH						
1.	Shrimp & Fish Culture Project	21.23	2.48	9.54	33.25	
2.	U.P. Sodic Land Reclamation Proj.	210.89	645.82	2561.40	3418.11	
3.	National Seeds Project-III	197.00	24.92	—	221.92	
4.	National Agri. Research Project-II	342.95	319.22	203.76	865.93	
5.	National Agri. Extn. Project-III	4498.10	—	—	4498.10	
						9037.31
WEST BENGAL						
1.	Shrimp & Fish Culture Project	24.21	40.06	329.47	393.74	
2.	National Agri. Research Project-II	218.57	133.41	28.49	380.47	
3.	National Seeds Project-III	274.00	101.00	—	375.00	
						1149.21
NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY, DELHI						
1.	National Agriculture Research Project-II	313.86	32.63	368.20	714.69	

[English]

Expiry of Exemption to Nalidizic Acid

5050. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the validity of exemption granted to Nalidizic Acid expired in October, 1992:

(b) whether till date the price of formulations has not been fixed and companies have been allowed to mint crores of rupees; and

(c) the steps being taken to establish the accountability in the matters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of ceiling packs of formulations of Nalidixic Acid notified on 3.9.96 is given in the attached statement.

(c) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the formulation	Strength	Pack size	Price (Rs.)
EACH TAB. CONTAINS				
1.	NALIDIXIC ACID TABS.	NALIDIXIC ACID	500MG 4's AL/BLS	12.18
2.	NALIDIXIC ACID TABS.	NALIDIXIC ACID	500MG 10's AL/BLS	30.14
3.	NALIDIXIC ACID + METRONIDAZOLE TABS.	NALIDIXIC ACID METRONIDAZOLE	300MG 200MG 10's AL/BLS	21.00
4.	NALIDIXIC ACID + METRONIDAZOLE TABS.	NALIDIXIC ACID METRONIDAZOLE	300MG 200MG 6'S AL/BLS	12.70
EACH 5ML CONTAINS				
5.	NALIDIXIC ACID + METRONIDAZOLE SUSP	NALIDIXIC ACID METRONIDAZOLE	150MG 100MG 30ML BOTT.	10.54
6.	NALIDIXIC SUSP.	NALIDIXIC ACID	300MG 30ML BOTT.	14.68
7.	NALIDIXIC SUSP.	NALIDIXIC ACID	300MG 60ML BOTT.	26.86

[Translation]

Oilseeds Cultivation

5051. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the area of land under the oilseeds cultivation in the State of Maharashtra;

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

(c) the targets fixed for the Eighth Five Year Plan period and achievements made against them?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The production strategy of Oilseeds spells out the area increase programmes through sequential cropping, inter-cropping, replacement of low economy crops and as substitute crops in problematic areas/situations under different oilseed crops. To encourage higher area coverage, a Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is under implementation in the State of Maharashtra.

(c) The targets fixed for the production of Oilseeds in the State and the achievements made during the Eighth Five Plan are indicated below:

(lakh tonnes)

S.No.	Year	Production targets	Production achievement
1.	1992-93	17.00	17.72
2.	1993-94	18.00	23.46
3.	1994-95	19.00	18.14
4.	1995-96	22.00	21.10
5.	1996-97	21.15	Awaited

[English]

Construction of Border Road

5052. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the present policy of the Government to seal the Indo-Pak border running along Barmer, Jaisalmer, Bikaner and Sri Gangangar of Rajasthan, to stop anti-National activities and smuggling of arms and ammunitions and the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(b) whether there is any Policy for construction of roads network along Barmer and Jaisalmer districts of Rajasthan;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the total expenditure incurred on the construction of roads in the border districts of Barmer and Jaisalmer during the last three years alongwith the total allocation made and funds surrendered during each of the last three years;

(e) the reasons for the surrender of funds;

(f) whether the State Government is diverting the funds allocated and earmarked for Border Roads to other items like construction of residential houses, offices and welfare centres at the District headquarters of Barmer and Jaisalmer; and

(g) if so, the details of such assets created and amount spent thereon during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) For effective policing of the border, concerted action to check infiltration/exfiltration and smuggling of arms and ammunition, a decision has already been taken to fence/flood lit the Indo-Pak border in Rajasthan. Out of the 1035 Kms. of border, nearly 720 Kms. has already been fenced/flood lit and about 276 Kms. will be fenced by December, 1998. For remaining 39 Kms., feasibility studies are being carried out.

(b) to (g) For fulfilment of the objectives indicated above, a decision was taken to construct 150 Kms. of border road in Shahgarh Bulge Area of Jaisalmer District of Rajasthan. The road has since been completed. During the last three years, the position regarding the budget provision for roads, expenditure incurred and savings are as under:

	(Rs. in crores)		
	Budget provision	Expenditure incurred	Saving/ Excess
1993-94	0.30	3.96	(+) 3.60
1994-95	9.00	5.39	(-) 3.61
1995-96	3.00	3.88	(+) 0.88

During 1994-95, there was a saving due to slow pace of work. The State Government cannot divert these funds earmarked for roads since the work is being carried out directly by Central Public Works Department with the funds provided by the Central Government.

Eco-Friendly Technologies

5053. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps have since been taken in pursuance of the Global Environment Convention to adopt the eco-friendly technologies and for the treatment of polluting elements particularly in respect of the chemical and fertilizer industries;

(b) the expenditure incurred so far in this connection, year wise; and

(c) the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) to (c) The Government has not signed any convention by the name "Global Environment Convention". There is a proposal to set up an Indian Centre for Promotion of Cleaner Technologies with a two million dollars grant-in-aid from the World Bank for the

purpose of assisting in collection, collation, and dissemination of information on clean technologies.

[*Translation*]

Betala National Park

5054. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the Sanctuaries and National Parks where Tiger Projects at undertaken;

(b) the number and the genes of the tigers in Tiger Project at Betala National Park; and

(c) the details regarding the number of tigers in the Betala National Park?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) A list of Tiger Project areas indicating the National Parks and Sanctuaries covered by them is given in enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) According to 1995 Tiger Census, there are 47 tigers in Palamau Tiger Reserve which covers Betala National Park and Betala Wildlife Sanctuary. Out of these, 30 tigers are reported in Betala National Park. Genetically, these tigers belong to the species *Panthera tigris tigris*.

STATEMENT

List of Tiger Reserves comprising National Parks and Sanctuaries

S. No.	Name of the Tiger Reserves	Name of National Park	Name of Sanctuary
1	2	3	4
1.	Bandipur (Karnataka)	Bandipur N.P.	—
2.	Corbett (Uttar Pradesh)	Corbett N.P.	—
3.	Kanha (Madhya Pradesh)	Kanha N.P.	—
4.	Manas (Assam)	Manas N.P.	Manas W.L.S.
5.	Melghat (Maharashtra)	Gugamal N.P.	Melghat W.L.S.
6.	Palamau (Bihar)	Betala N.P.	Betala W.L.S.
7.	Ranthambhore (Rajasthan)	Ranthambhore N.P.	Keladevi W.L.S.
8.	Simlipal (Orissa)	Simlipal N.P.	Simlipal W.L.S.
9.	Sunderbans (West Bengal)	Sunderban N.P.	Sajnekhali W.L.S.
10.	Periyar (Kerala)	Periyar N.P.	Periyar W.L.S.
11.	Sariska (Rajasthan)	Sariska N.P.	Sariska W.L.S.
12.	Buxa (West Bengal)	Buxa N.P.	Buxa W.L.S.
13.	Indravati (Madhya Pradesh)	Indravati N.P.	—
14.	Nagarjunsagar (Andhra Pradesh)	—	Nagarjunsagar W.L.S.
15.	Namdapha (Arunachal Pradesh)	Namdapha N.P.	—
16.	Dudhwa (Uttar Pradesh)	Dudhwa N.P.	Kishanpur W.L.S.
17.	Kalakad-Mundanthurai (Tamil Nadu)	—	Kalakad W.L.S. Rs. Mundanthurai W.L.S.
18.	Valmiki (Bihar)	Valmiki N.P.	Valmiki W.L.S.

1	2	3	4
19.	Pench (Madhya Pradesh)	Pench N.P.	Pench W.L.S.
20.	Tadoba-Andheri (Maharashtra)	Tadoba N.P.	Andheri W.L.S.
21.	Bandhavgarh (Madhya Pradesh)	Bandhavgarh N.P.	Panpatta W.L.S.
22.	Panna (Madhya Pradesh)	Panna N.P.	—
23.	Dampha (Mizoram)	—	Dampha W.L.S.

[English]

Import of Electronic Barbed Wire

5055. SHRI JAGATVIR SINGH DRONA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to import sensor attached electronic barbed wire system from Israel to spruce up the vigil in porous western border;

(b) whether any delegation has been sent by Government to Israel to study the system; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD MAQBOOL DAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. DG BSF, IG (Prov.) BSF and JS (Security), Ministry of Home Affairs had visited Israel in January, 1995 to study the system.

(c) The study group had submitted a report of the systems available for border surveillance and protection. No final decision on the adoption of the system has been taken.

[Translation]

Earnings by Western Railway

5056. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the annual earnings of the Western Railway Divisions during the year 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96, Division-wise.

(b) the names of the Divisions which suffered losses during the said years, the names of the items in which they suffered losses and the loss suffered therein;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to conduct an inquiry in respect of those Divisions which suffered the losses:

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Divisions are not treated as Cost-profit Centres as earnings of a Railway are not apportioned amongst them. Hence, it is not possible to state the Division-wise apportioned (for carried traffic) earnings.

(b) to (e) Do not arise

Private Investment in Rail Projects

5057. SHRI SANAT MEHTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects identified for private investment by the Government during the year 1994 indicating their total cost

(b) whether all such projects are being executed; and

(c) the number of such projects currently in progress indicating the cost involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) 40 Railway projects costing Rs. 4390 crores (approx.) were identified, in the year 1994, for being taken up through investment by private sector under Build-Own-Lease-Transfer (BOLT) scheme. Subsequently, 13 more projects costing Rs. 951 crores (approx.) were added.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) 3 projects costing approximately Rs. 360 crores.

[English]

Setting up of Railway Hospital

5058. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for setting up Railway Hospitals;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up a Railway Hospital at Punalur in Kerala; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Railway medical facilities are developed taking into account, the number of railway establishments, employees, quarters and availability of nearest Railway and civil medical facilities in a particular area.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Urea Import Contracts

5059. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering a pre-condition for all the urea import contracts and tightening their grip on the public sector fertilizer companies in the light of recent Urea Scam;

(b) if so, the new conditions laid down by the Government;

(c) whether Government have decided that financial decision taken by the public sector fertilizer units will be approved by the Government norms and Company Board, and

(d) if so, the extent to which this would help to check the scams?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (d) In the aftermath of NFL-Karsan experience, the Government is reviewing the procedures for import of urea with a view to make them more foolproof. The Government has, in the meantime, reiterated to all the fertilizer manufacturing PSUs that all important matters having major financial implications including unusual issues involving departure from the laid down procedure shall be placed before the Board of Directors for prior approval.

Shifting of Railway Line

5060. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:
DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to shift the railway line from Jalukbari to Guwahati to avoid congestion in the Guwahati city;

(b) whether a master plan was prepared for Greater Guwahati by the Government of Assam in which the existing railway line was shown to be shifted to the foothills of Kalapahar, the southern-most edge of Guwahati; and

(c) if so, the response of the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) It is understood that some proposals were made but no such masterplan including any shifting of Railway Line has been finalised or approved.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Veterinary Hospitals in U.P.

5061 SHRI S.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of veterinary hospitals and insemination centres in Uttar Pradesh particularly in the Meerut and Varanasi districts;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the number of veterinary hospitals and insemination centres in the State; and

(c) if so, the time by which the same would be done and the locations where these hospitals, centres are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) The information is being gathered from the State and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[English]

Recruitment of Women in Paramilitary Forces

5062. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the policy on the women recruitment in the Paramilitary Forces;

(b) the total number of women personnel recruited upto March 31, 1996 in the Para-military Forces;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide any priority to NCC Cadets; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) Women are eligible for recruitment in the Central Para-Military Forces in different fields.

(b) Total number of women personnel recruited in the Para-Military Forces upto 31.3.1996 is 3663.

(c) and (d) 'A', 'B' & 'C' Certificates issued by the N.C.C. are considered as Special qualifications and candidates with these certificates are given weightage in the selection process.

[Translation]

Bodhghat Project

5063. SHRIMATI CHHABILA ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of final decision taken regarding the clearance to Bodhghat project from environment and forestry angles;

(b) the area of land required for rehabilitation of the persons affected from the said project; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to rehabilitate the affected persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) Bodhghat Hydro-Electric Project was cleared from Environmental angle in January, 1979, with some safeguards. Additional safeguards were also suggested in February, 1985. The proposal of diversion of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, has been rejected in September, 1994.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Flights by B.S.F. Aircraft

5064. SHRI N.J. RATHVA:
SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of flights taken off by aircraft of the Border Security Force during the last three years. State-wise;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the people travelled therein and dates of their journeys along-with the purpose thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) and (b) The requisite information is given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(c) The aircrafts available with the Border Security Force are utilised for operational requirements of the Central Para Military Forces. These aircrafts are also used for the officials Commitments of the Ministers and officials in the Ministry of Home Affairs. At times these aircrafts

are also made available to other Ministers/VIPs for official purposes on payment basis. The list of names of such Ministers/other VIPs along with their date of journeys, who used the aircraft in the year 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 is given in the statement II enclosed.

STATEMENT-I

S.No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of Flights during		
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11	26	24
2.	Andaman & Nicobar	1	4	—
3.	Assam	8	14	12
4.	Bihar	8	14	10
5.	Chandigarh	11	21	19
6.	Daman & Diu	2	—	2
7.	Goa	1	—	—
8.	Gujarat	8	5	3
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3	—	2
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	58	49	55
11.	Karnataka	3	10	8
12.	Kerala	5	6	3
13.	Lakshadweep	3	—	—
14.	Maharashtra	21	28	32
15.	Manipur	4	9	13
16.	Meghalaya	2	3	6
17.	Madhya Pradesh	22	15	21
18.	Nagaland	1	4	5
19.	Pondicherry	1	—	—
20.	Punjab	14	49	16
21.	Rajasthan	42	37	36
22.	Tamil Nadu	1	2	—
23.	Tripura	5	8	5
24.	Uttar Pradesh	30	46	57
25.	West Bengal	8	15	14
26.	Orissa	—	—	1

STATEMENT-II

S.No.	Date	Name	1	2	3
1993-94					
1.	07.04.93 to 08.04.93	Shri Dinesh Singh, Minister of External Affairs.	20.	21.10.93	Doordarshan Team.
2.	12.04.93	Press Party	21.	05.11.93	Press Party
3.	19.04.93 to 22.04.93	High Court Tribunal under the Chairmanship of Justice Y.K. Sabharwal.	22.	06.11.93 to 07.11.93	Parliamentary Committee led by Shri Bapu Kaldate.
4.	24.04.93	Shri B.S. Bedi, Director General of Police, Jammu & Kashmir	23.	12.11.93	Doordarshan Team.
5.	07.05.93	Gen. K.V. Krishna Rao, Governor of J&K.	24.	19.11.93 to 20.11.93	Shri Eduardo Faliero, Minister of State (Chemicals and Fertilisers).
6.	08.05.93 to 09.05.93	Bangladesh delegation led by Col. O.H. Ahmed, Communication Minister Bangladesh.	25.	04.12.93	Delegation led by Shri S.A. Abdildina, Chairman of Republic of Kazakistan.
7.	06.06.93	CBI delegation led by Shri D.P. Singh.	26.	05.12.93	IB Team led by Shri S.A. Shah.
8.	14.07.93 to 15.07.93	Delegation led by Shri R.S. Bansal of Deptt. of Telecommu- nication.	27.	07.12.93	Shri Digvijay Singh, Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh.
9.	20.07.93	Gen. K.V. Krishna Rao, Governor of J&K.	28.	10.12.93	Gen. K.V. Krishna Rao, Governor of J&K.
10.	20.07.93 to 21.07.93	Meteorological Team led by Shri K.S. Koya.	29.	11.12.93	Shri Bal Ram Jakhar, Minister of Agriculture.
11.	25.07.93	CBI Team led by Shri P.C. Sharma.	30.	15.12.93	Shri Arjun Singh, Minister of Human Resource Development
12.	19.08.93	Gen. K.V. Krishna Rao, Governor of J&K.	31.	22.12.93 to 23.12.93	U.P. Police delegation led by Shri S.D. Tiwari.
13.	26.08.93	Shri Arjun Singh, Minister of Human Resource Development.	32.	04.01.94	Shri Arjun Singh, Minister of Human Resource Development.
14.	14.09.93	Shri Bal Ram Jakhar, Minister of Agriculture.	33.	08.01.94	Shri Subhash Yadav, Dy. Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh.
15.	16.09.93	IB Team led by Shri A.K. Sharma.	34.	13.01.94	Bangladesh delegation led by Major Gen. Mohammad Anwar Hussain.
16.	01.10.93	CBI Team led by Shri H.M. Samouya	35.	14.01.94 to 17.01.94	Bangladesh delegation led by Major Gen. Mohammad Anwar Hussain.
17.	16.10.93	Shri Bal Ram Jakhar, Minister of Agriculture.	36.	27.01.94	Finance Commission under the Chairmanship of Shri K.C. Pant.
18.	17.10.93	Russian delegation led by Shri Victor F. Yenn, Minister of Internal Affairs.	37.	07.02.94	Ambassador of Greece, Germany, Belgium and U.K.
19.	21.10.93	IB Team led by Shri Ajit Kumar.	38.	07.02.94	Shri Hiteswara Saikia, Chief Minister, Assam.
			39.	04.03.94	Parliamentary delegation led by Shri Sudhir Sawant.
			40.	07.03.94 to 09.03.94	Human Rights delegation of Ambassadors/High Commissioners of Various countries.

1	2	3	1	2	3
41.	23.03.94	British delegation led by Shri Jack Cunningham.	18.	15.10.94	Shri T.N. Seshan, Chief Election Commissioner.
42.	24.03.94 to 25.03.94	British delegation led by Shri Jack Cunningham.	19.	03.12.94 to 05.12.94	Shri A.L. Marma, Deputy President of Tanzania.
1994-95			20.	06.12.94 to 09.12.94	CBI team led by Shri Vijaya Rama Rao, Director, CBI
1.	05.04.94	French delegation led by Shri Alan Juppe, Minister of Foreign Affairs, France.	21.	01.01.95	Shri T.N. Seshan, Chief Election Commissioner.
2.	27.04.94 & 29.04.94	Ambassadors of various Countries.	22.	21.02.95 to 22.02.95	Director, I.B.
3.	20.05.94	Shri T.N. Seshan, Chief Election Commissioner.	23.	23.02.95	Shri T.N. Seshan, Chief Election Commissioner.
4.	28.07.94 to 29.07.94	I.B. Team led by Shri B. Guha.	24.	23.02.95	Shri K.P.S. Gill, Director General of Police, Punjab.
5.	06.08.94	Shri R.L. Bhatia, Minister of External Affairs.	25.	09.03.95	Shri T.N. Seshan, Chief Election Commissioner.
6.	20.08.94 to 21.08.94	Shri Venkataswami, Minister of State (Textiles).	26.	23.03.95	Shri Buta Singh, Minister of Food and Supply.
7.	23.08.94	German delegation led by Shri Alexander Sharkov.	27.	28.03.95	Shri Jagannath Mishra.
8.	30.08.94 to 31.08.94	Shri Balaram Singh Yadav, Minister of State (Mines).	28.	29.03.95	Shri Matang Singh, Minister of State (Parl. Affairs).
9.	03.09.94	Shri N.D. Tiwari.	1995-96		
10.	16.09.94 & 19.09.94	1CBI team led by Shri Vijaya Rama Rao, Director, CBI.	1.	05.04.95 to 06.04.95	Russian delegation led by Col. Gen. A.I. Nikilaev.
11.	17.09.94 to 18.09.94	British delegation led by Rt. Hon. Betty-Bodhroyd, Speaker of House of Commons, U.K.	2.	07.04.95	Shri Farookh Abdullah.
12.	21.09.94	British delegation led by Rt. Hon. Betty-Bodhroyd, Speaker of House of Commons, U.K.	3.	21.04.95	Shri T.N. Seshan, Chief Election Commissioner.
13.	23.09.94 & 24.09.94	Director, I.B.	4.	23.04.95	Shri Madhava Rao Scindia, Minister for Human Resource Development.
14.	24.09.94 to 25.09.94	British delegation led by Rt. Hon. Betty-Bodhroyd, Speaker of House of Commons, U.K.	5.	02.05.95 to 04.05.95	U.N. High Commission for Human Rights.
15.	27.09.94 & 29.09.94	British delegation led by Shri Toby Jassal.	6.	11.05.95	Shri M.M. Zaqi, Advisor to Governor, J&K.
16.	01.10.94 to 02.10.94	Shri N.D. Tiwari.	7.	20.05.95	Parliamentary delegation led by MOS (ST).
17.	08.10.94	Delegation of World Health Organisation led by Dr. Hirole Norkajam.	8.	27.05.95	Shri T.N. Seshan, Chief Election Commissioner.
			9.	31.05.95	Parliamentary delegation led by Shri Buta Singh, Minister of Food & Civil Supplies.

1	2	3	1	2	3
10.	11.06.95	Shri T.N. Seshan, Chief Election Commissioner.	29.	29.10.95	Director, I.B.
11.	21.06.95	Thai delegation led by Gen. Charan-Kattavanijayu.	30.	30.10.95	Foreign delegation led by Shri Toam Doru-Taracila
12.	29.06.95	Bangladesh delegation led by Maj. Gen. Ejaz-Ahmed Chawdhury, Director General, BDR.	31.	31.10.95 to 01.11.95	Foreign delegation led by Shri Toam Daru-Taracila.
13.	30.06.95 to 01.07.95	Bangladesh delegation led by Maj. Gen. Ejaz-Ahmed Chawdhury, Director General, BDR.	32.	05.11.95	Indo German Consultative Group.
14.	30.07.95 to 31.07.95	IB team led by D.C. Pathak, Director, IB.	33.	27.11.95	Dead body of late Shri Shankar Dayal Singh.
15.	16.08.95 to 18.08.95	Foreign delegation with US/UK and German representatives.	34.	19.12.95 to 20.12.95	I.B. Team.
16.	18.08.95 to 20.08.95	Foreign delegation led by Col. Tom Hering.	35.	20.12.95	Shri Matang Singh, MOS (Parliamentary Affairs).
17.	01.09.95	Director, CBI.	36.	03.01.96	Shri V.C. Shukla, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.
18.	02.09.95	Shri Madhav Rao Scindia, Minister of Human Resource Development.	37.	05.01.96	Shri Buta Singh, Minister of Food and Civil Supplies.
19.	05.09.95	CBI team led by Shri P.L. Sharma.	38.	06.01.96	Foreign delegation led by Shri Michael Howard.
20.	15.09.95	Director, I.B.	39.	18.01.96	Dr. Mostafa Kamal Helmy, Speaker of Egyptian Shoura Assembly.
21.	18.09.95 to 19.09.95	Shri Rajesh Pilot, Minister of Environment and Forests.	40.	26.01.96	Napalese delegation led by Shri Moti Lal Bohara IGP, Nepal.
22.	24.09.95 to 25.09.95	Shri Buta Singh, Minister of Food and Civil Supplies.	41.	28.01.96	U.S. delegation led by Mr. Dan Glickman, Secretary (Agriculture) of USA.
23.	27.09.95	Director, CBI.	42.	28.01.96	Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad, Minister of Civil Aviation.
24.	28.09.95	Shri Jagadish Tytler, Minister of Coal.	43.	28.01.96 to 29.01.96	Dead body of Shel Bhadra Jee, President, All India Freedom Fighters accompanied by Shri Ram Lakhani Singh Yadav.
25.	28.09.95	Shri Rouman Gechev, Dy. Prime Minister of Bulgaria.	44.	20.02.96	Smt. Margret Alva, Minister of State (PP).
26.	06.10.95	Shri V.C. Shukla, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Shri Jagadish Tytler, Minister of Coal.	45.	14.03.96	Shri Hiteshwar Saikia, Chief Minister, Assam.
27.	07.10.95	Shri A.R. Antulay, Minister of Health.			
28.	17.10.95 to 18.10.95	Myanmar delegation led by Shri V.Ohn Han.			

Cultivation of Coconut

5065. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether total area of cultivation of coconut has been increased during the past five years;

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

(c) the amount spent by the Government for coconut cultivation during the said period, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) State-wise and year-wise area under cultivation of coconut for the year 1990-91 to 1994-95 is given in the Statement I enclosed.

(c) State-wise and year-wise amount spent by the Government for coconut cultivation for the years 1991-92 to 1994-95 is given in the Statement II enclosed.

STATEMENT-I

State	Area ('000 ha.)				
	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1. Andhra Pradesh	61.2	63.4	71.7	79.9	86.6
2. Assam	10.3	13.6	15.6	17.3	17.3
3. Goa	23.8	24.0	24.2	24.0	24.6
4. Karnataka	232.4	238.6	246.0	252.9	259.8
5. Kerala	870.0	846.3	877.0	882.3	900.7
6. Maharashtra	7.8	7.9	7.9	7.9	8.2
7. Orissa	34.5	36.4	38.4	38.4	38.4
8. Tamil Nadu	179.5	240.3	196.4	272.8	272.8
9. Tripura	7.0	10.5	11.3	9.4	9.4
10. West Bengal	20.3	19.2	20.4	21.1	21.6
11. A&N Islands	23.9	24.1	24.1	24.4	24.4
12. Pondicherry	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.9	2.1
13. Lakshadweep	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8
All India	1475.3	1528.9	1537.7	1635.1	1668.7

STATEMENT-II

State	Amount spent (Rs. in lakhs)				
	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Kerala	165.583	145.909	559.716	859.441	742.926
2. Tamil Nadu	25.493	45.047	143.507	131.896	152.030
3. Karnataka	71.156	112.865	155.758	206.660	186.537
4. Andhra Pradesh	19.414	98.463	70.858	132.606	98.606
5. Orissa	11.158	8.064	16.553	18.314	16.164
6. Maharashtra	0.797	2.313	0.443	2.605	—

Amount spent (Rs. in lakhs)

1	2	3	4	5	6
7. Lakshadweep	0.430	8.062	7.313	—	—
8. Pondicherry	—	6.451	1.871	3.469	1.335
9. A&N Islands	3.788	9.762	8.784	10.858	11.262
10. Goa	1.956	0.933	1.892	2.824	1.544
11. Tripura	5.863	13.679	10.651	12.432	7.492
12. Bihar	19.650	17.489	11.694	21.555	27.776
13. Assam	16.472	23.223	24.551	14.102	18.603
14. Madhya Pradesh	6.503	13.267	23.162	15.314	15.347
15. West Bengal	4.953	3.180	8.312	6.058	11.000
16. Manipur	0.386	0.392	0.051	0.343	0.584
17. Gujarat	0.396	0.445	1.336	2.676	1.519
18. Nagaland	—	0.306	2.41	1.905	3.515
19. Arunachal Pradesh	—	0.708	—	2.524	—
20. Rajasthan	—	—	—	0.499	—

—Nil

Crop Insurance Scheme

5066. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS. Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress made in regard to the implementation of Insurance Scheme in the Agriculture Sector;

(b) whether the Government are satisfied with the practical aspects of the present Crop Insurance Scheme;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the time by which the Scheme could be fully implemented; and

(e) the names of districts where Crop Insurance Scheme is being implemented at present in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND

DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) to (d) A "Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS)" has been under implementation since 1st April, 1985 in the agriculture sector. The details of the progress of the implementation of CCIS from Kharif 1985 to Kharif 1995 are given in the statement attached. Some inherent limitations of the scheme such as its non-viability, limited coverage of crops and farmers, low premia rate, voluntary nature of the scheme were pointed out by various States/ Union Territories and representatives of the farmers. Based on the number of suggestions received from the different quarters on the revision of the present scheme, a Concept Paper on the issue was circulated to all the Members of Parliament. A proposal for revision of the present scheme will be prepared after receiving views from them.

(e) The Crop Insurance Scheme is being implemented at present in all the 27 districts of Orissa.

STATEMENT*Statewise Progress of Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme From Kharif 1985 to Kharif 1995*

SR NO	STATE/UNION TERRITORIES	NO. OF SEASONS PARTICIPATED	TOTAL NO. OF FARMERS	AREA COVERED (IN HECTARES)	SUM INSURED (RS. IN LAKHS)	TOTAL INS. CHARGES (RS. IN LAKHS)	TOTAL CLAIMS (RS. IN LAKHS)	CLAIMS PAID (RS. IN LAKHS)	CLAIMS PAYABLE (RS. IN LAKHS)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	ANDHRA PRADESH	19	8306472	15673010.00	327470.11	5673.55	16742.65	16742.65	—
2.	ASSAM	16	217614	88294.79	2057.97	36.13	50.90	50.90	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3.	BIHAR	18	2789694	360435.36	70635.30	1412.62	3495.65	3495.65	—
4.	GOA	18	14449	23273.55	127.86	2.54	4.06	4.06	—
5.	GUJARAT	18	6777260	16371609.00	305419.64	3734.83	70343.91	70210.38	133.53
6.	HIMACHAL PRADESH	16	24380	27744.73	319.96	6.38	37.29	36.40	0.89
7.	JAMMU & KASHMIR	3	54586	77358.00	789.78	15.80	65.20	65.20	—
8.	KARNATAKA	17	1818481	3124563.03	60345.97	933.66	2499.27	2499.27	—
9.	KERALA	19	379547	436381.07	12545.94	250.99	605.14	605.14	—
10.	MANIPUR	1	8840	4759.00	191.77	3.84	—	—	—
11.	MADHYA PRADESH	19	7013208	17549334.39	122201.64	1642.14	3433.00	3082.12	350.88
12.	MAHARASHTRA	19	12107766	15735289.32	197180.93	3284.65	13221.81	13208.14	13.67
13.	MEGHALAYA	11	14020	23366.07	295.54	5.80	7.50	7.50	—
14.	ORISSA	18	2257561	2973502.02	45770.18	891.14	3270.98	3254.87	16.11
15.	RAJASTHAN	2	535400	1544600.00	8296.89	159.78	2292.59	2292.59	—
16.	TAMIL NADU	18	1945182	2620334.69	81662.08	1500.10	2554.40	2514.30	40.10
17.	TRIPURA	18	34294	23199.44	603.22	12.06	6.48	6.48	—
18.	UTTAR PRADESH	7	2762178	5335468.00	43182.43	852.64	499.79	499.79	—
19.	WEST BENGAL	19	4158749	2622587.61	74072.16	1480.27	1511.58	1388.58	123.00
20.	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR	10	3200	6311.15	98.96	1.88	2.16	2.18	—
21.	DELHI	5	372	1359.00	26.37	0.53	—	—	—
22.	PONDICHERRY	17	17561	36995.76	1229.79	24.58	49.03	49.03	—
			51240814	87559775.98	1354524.49	22125.91	120693.41	120015.23	678.18

[Translation]

Stoppage at Jalesar Road

5067. PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR': Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether very few trains have stoppage at Jaleswar Road, Barhun;

(b) whether any representation has been received to provide a stoppage of Magadh and Poorva Express trains at the Jalesar Road Station and Kalindi Express 4023-4024 at the Jalesar Road Barhun Station;

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

(d) the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) 5 pairs of

trains each at Jalesar Road and Barhun are stopping at present.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Examined, but not found justified.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

States Reorganisation Commission

5068. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:

SHRI KASHI RAM RANA:

SHRI PAWAN DIWAN:

SHRIMATI CHHABILA ARVIND NETAM:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up a States Reorganisation Commission; and

(b) if so, the time by which and the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Krishi Pension

5069. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a national policy with regard to Krishi-pension like the old age pension for those kisans who are unable to till their land due to the old age;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which such policy is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) to (c) At present there is no proposal to formulate a national policy with regard to krishi-pension. However, the destitute farmers who are above the age of 65 years, are also covered under the National Old Age Pension Scheme of Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment.

Railway Quarters

5070. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of residential railway quarters in the country particularly in Gujarat in a dilapidated condition till September 30, 1995;

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to construct multi-storeyed quarters in place of these quarters; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time limit fixed for the construction of said quarters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (d) Railways do not maintain quarters in a dilapidated condition. The quarters are regularly maintained as required.

Reconstruction of quarters is, however, undertaken on age-cum-condition basis. When the quarters are reconstructed, they are reconstructed as single, double or multi-storeyed quarters depending upon the availability of land and the requirement of housing at the particular station.

Railways do not maintain this information State-wise.

Reservation Quota of Berths/Seats

5071. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the reservation quota of berths in the trains from 'Manmad' station near Shirdi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to full utilisation of quotas at the existing quota holding stations, there is no proposal at present to enhance the existing quota at Manmad Station.

Coastal Marine Fisheries

5072. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government develop Coastal Marine Fisheries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the work done in this regard in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b). The details are furnished in Statement-I.

(c) The details of work done in Kerala in this regard during the 8th Plan are furnished in Statement-II.

STATEMENT-I

The following Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes are under implementation for development of coastal marine fisheries in the country at present:—

I. Development of Coastal Marine Fisheries.

(a) Motorisation of traditional craft

Under this component 50% of the cost of engine is provided as subsidy limited to Rs. 10,000/- for out board motor (OBM) and Rs. 12,000/- in board motor (IBM). The cost of subsidy is shared equally between the Centre and States and met fully by the Centre for Union Territories.

(b) Introduction of plywood craft

Under this component 25% of the cost of the craft is provided as subsidy limited to

Rs. 30,000/- per craft. The cost of subsidy is shared equally between the Centre and the States and met fully by the Centre for Union Territories.

(c) Introduction of intermediate craft

25% of the cost of craft and gear unit subject to a maximum of Rs. 2 lakh per unit is provided as subsidy which is shared on 75:25 basis between the Centre and States and met fully by the Centre for Union Territories.

II Reimbursement of Central Excise Duty on HSD Oil supplied to mechanised fishing vessels below 20 metre length

Under this scheme the cost of Central Excise Duty on HSD oil supplied to mechanised fishing vessels below 20 metre length is reimbursed @ Rs. 351.75 per Kilo Litre to the owners/operators of these vessels. The reimbursement cost was met by the Centre and the States on 80:20 basis till 1994-95. From 1995-96 onwards this cost is met by the Centre fully provided the States exempt fully the sales tax levied on HSD oil supplied to such vessels.

III Enforcement of Marine Fishing Regulation Acts and Introduction of Artificial Reefs & Sea Farming Projects

Under this scheme the capital cost of patrol craft is fully met by the Centre @ Rs. 110 lakhs for category 'A' vessel for west-coast and Rs. 90 lakhs for category 'B' vessel for east-coast. Besides, Central Grant-in-aid is also provided for setting up of artificial reefs limited to Rs. 4 lakhs per reef and Rs. 20-30 lakhs for setting up of sea farming projects for pearl oyster, edible oyster, mussels etc.

IV Major fishing harbours

Under this scheme 100% Central grant-in-aid is provided for setting up of fishing harbour facilities at major ports.

V Minor Fishing harbours and fish landing centres

50% cost of setting up of fishing harbour facilities at minor ports and fish landing centres is provided by the Centre under this scheme.

STATEMENT-II

The details of work done in Kerala for development of coastal marine fisheries are furnished as under:-

Name of the scheme	Details of benefits provided during 8th plan	Amount of Central share released during 8th plan (Rs. in lakh)
1	2	3
I. Development of Coastal Marine Fisheries		
(a) Motorisation of traditional craft.	2100 traditional craft have been sanctioned to be motorised.	99.12
(b) Introduction of plywood craft.	120 plywood craft have been sanctioned to be introduced.	18.00
(c) Introduction of intermediate craft.	5 intermediate craft have been sanctioned to be introduced.	2.75
II. Reimbursement of Central Excise Duty on HSD Oil supplied to mechanised fishing vessels below 20 metre length.	About 50 such fishing vessels have derived benefits per annum on an average.	2.75
III. Enforcement of Marine Fishing Regulation Acts and Introduction of Artificial Reefs & Sea Farming Projects.	6 patrol boats have been sanctioned to carry out surveillance in territorial waters of Kerala and a few artificial reefs have been sanctioned to be set up.	630.00 (patrol boats) 2.50 (artificial reefs)

1	2	3
IV. Major Fishing Harbours.	The fishing harbour facilities stage II at Cochin are under construction	100.00
V. Minor Fishing Harbours and Fish landing Centres.	1 minor fishing harbour has been commissioned and construction of 5 minor fishing harbours is under progress. Besides, 11 fish landing centres have also been completed.	2190.04

Stalls Near Palika Awas

5073. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of allottees and present occupants of 9 stalls near Palika Awas, near Sarojini Nagar Railway Station;

(b) the purpose for which these stalls were allotted and the purpose for which they are being presently utilised;

(c) the time by which these nine stalls would be covered by a boundary wall; and

(d) the time by which the barricades would be erected to prevent misuse of these stalls?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) Out of the nine stalls in question, only seven stalls stand allotted at present. The names of the allottees and the present occupants of these seven stalls are given below:

Stall No.	Allottee	Present Occupant
1.	Ram Prakash	Man Mohan
2.	Satish Chand	Manoj (Son)
3.	Ghan Shyam	(Locked)
4.	Mahavir	Akh lakh
5.	Mohd. Iqbal	Mohd. Iqbal
8.	Ajit Nayyar and Rahut Harit	Ajit Nayyar and Rahul Harit
9.	Ashist Ranjan	T. Salwan

The transfer of allotment is permitted by the NDMC subject to fulfilment of certain conditions.

(b) The purpose for which these stalls were allotted and their present utilisation is as under:-

1	Groceries	Tourist service
2.	Groceries	Groceries
3.	Groceries	(Locked)
4	Groceries	Tailoring
5.	Tailoring	Meat
8.	Medical Store	Yet to start
9.	Vegetable	Tourist service

The change of trade is allowed by the NDMC subject to fulfilment of prescribed conditions. However, the allottee of Stall No. 5 has made the change without obtaining permission for which he is liable for action against him.

(c) and (d) These 9 stalls are situated at one end of a small park near Palika Awas Housing Complex. The park is already provided with a boundary wall. There is no proposal to provide a separate boundary wall or barricades around the stalls.

Reservation for ST in NDMC

5074. SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the orders regarding reservation for Scheduled Tribes are applicable to posts of Allopathic, Homeopathic and Ayurvedic doctors (Vaidhya) in New Delhi Municipal Council Health Department;

(b) if so, whether all the posts reserved for Scheduled Tribe have been filled up.

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which all the vacant posts reserved for Scheduled Tribe are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The vacancies reserved for Scheduled Tribes candidates in these grades are filled up strictly in accordance with the procedure laid down. There are, at present, five vacant posts of allopathic Doctors in the NDMC. Two of these posts are reserved posts, one for a Scheduled Castes candidate and the other for a Scheduled Tribes candidate. Action is in hand to fill up all these vacant posts including the reserved ones.

[Translation]

Unauthorised Shops in NDMC Area

5075. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the milk, fruit and vegetables are being sold without any licence/permit on pavements of the adjoining parks in the N.D.M.C. area particularly in DIZ Area, Gole Market and the Department of Enforcement is not doing anything to check the same;

(b) if so, the name of the authority by whose order these shops are being run on the pavements closing the road thereby; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to remove the said shops in DIZ Area, Gole Market and clear the pavements?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (c) According to the information received from the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC), milk, fruit and vegetables are not allowed to be sold on the pavements of adjoining parks. If any unauthorised hawker/squatter is found selling such items, the goods are liable to be removed under section 226 of the NDMC Act, 1994. During the last six months, the NDMC has removed about 592 unlicensed hawkers/squatters from the DIZ Area, Gole Market.

[English]

Transportation of Cement

5076. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of container racks put into service for transporting cement from Nimbahada and Chandesia in Ratlam Division of the Western Railway;

(b) the total freight charges recovered from respective companies during 1995-96;

(c) the system by which these charges are recovered;

(d) whether there is accounts' verification and auditation in respect of the said system;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Normally three rakes for Nimbahera and two rakes for Chanderiya are provided.

(b) During 1995-96, Rs. 157.69 lakhs and Rs. 470.59 lakhs were recovered from Nimbahera and Chanderiya respectively.

(c) The freight rates are fixed by Container Corporation of India Limited (CONCOR) on the basis of Railway tariff taking into account the tonnage and distance involved.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Accounts of container rakes are prepared & settled on fortnightly basis between CONCOR and Indian Railways. The Accounts are verified periodically by internal auditors, and certified by a firm of Chartered Accountants appointed by the Company Law Board with a review by the Comptroller & Auditor General of India.

(f) Does not arise.

Refugees from Sri Lanka

5077. SHRI I.D. SWAMI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of refugees from Sri Lanka have landed in Rameshwaram in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the number thereof;

(c) whether it has been ensured that no militants have sneaked into the country in the garb of refugees;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which they entered into India;

(e) the number of refugees from Sri Lanka who landed some years ago in India and are still residing in the country; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to check the influx of refugees in the country from Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Burma etc.?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, A total of 1134 Sri Lankan refugees have arrived in Tamil Nadu since February, 1996.

(c) and (d) A system has already been put in place for reception, interrogation and sifting out the militant elements from ordinary refugees. The militants/their supporters are detained in Special Camps for restricting their movements.

(e) About 57,000 refugees who entered India before 1992 are still staying in refugee camps in Tamil Nadu. About 30,000 refugees who are registered with the State Government are living outside the refugee camps.

(f) The Government of India have conveyed their concerns at the recent refugee influx to the Sri Lankan authorities who have assured that efforts are being made to control the situation. These include the steps to ensure adequate food supplies, relief activities and presence of International Relief Agencies in the area. There is no recent influx of refugees from Mynamar. As regards Bangladesh, the problem of illegal migration has been taken up with the Government of Bangladesh, on various occasions. The Various measures taken to curb and prevent infiltration include strengthening of the BSF, fencing, flood lighting and patrolling; surveillance on the coastal area and intelligence gathering, sharing and coordination. JWG and BSF-BDR Fora are also regularly used for raising the issue in the context of proposed preventive measures.

[Translation]

Directorate of Maize

5078. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the place where the Directorate of Maize is located;

(b) whether the maximum maize is produced in Bihar particularly in Begusarai district;

(c) if so, whether no maize research centre is there;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to set up Directorate of Maize in Begusarai district of Bihar; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) The Directorate of Maize Research (ICAR) is located at Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi.

(b) Yes, Sir. Maximum maize is produced in Bihar. In Bihar, Begusarai has maximum area.

(c) Under the All India Coordinated Maize Improvement Project (ICAR), two research centres are already in operation at Agwanpur (Distt. Saharsa) and

Dholi (Distt. Muzaffarpur). The Agwanpur Centre is just adjacent to Begusarai district and caters to the need of Begusarai region also.

(d) and (e) It is proposed to develop a Centre of Excellence for Maize Research at IARI, Regional Station, Pusa, Distt. Samastipur (Bihar) under the Directorate of Maize Research. The Centre will cater to the need of entire Bihar State. Agwanpur centre will be further strengthened to work on improvement of maize for spring season. It is also proposed to open a centre during the IX Plan at Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi for the benefit of South Bihar and tribal areas.

[English]

Transportation of Essential Commodities

5079. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wagons for Karnataka allotted by the Railways for the transportation of essential commodities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the number of wagons allotted to Karnataka is sufficient for the transportation of essential commodities in Karnataka; and

(d) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the demand in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (d) Statistics regarding allotment of wagons is maintained Railway-wise and not State-wise. However, requirement of wagons for transportation of essential commodities to and from Karnataka are being adequately met.

[Translation]

Misuse of Railway Passes

5080. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the misuse of railway passes by the staff of Allahabad Division of the Northern Railway;

(b) if so, whether any order for inquiry was issued in this regard;

(c) whether the process of inquiry is still in progress or has been completed; and

(d) if so, the details of the persons found guilty and the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

- (c) The inquiry is in progress.
 (d) Does not arise.

Restriction on Marketing of Insecticides

5081 SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Insecticides Board, Faridabad has restricted the marketing of indigenously developed insecticides name 'Indira' certified by the Dandi Krishi Vidyalayapitha, which are very beneficial to crops besides being harmless to the farmers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to remove this restriction?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Sir, no such restriction has been imposed by the Government of India. Besides, no application for registration of 'Indira' is pending with the Registration Committee, constituted under the Insecticides Act, 1968 for granting registration for import, manufacture, sale and use of insecticides in the country.

(b) and (c) In view of reply to (a) above question does not arise.

Water Logging at Faridabad Railway Station

5082 SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is the problem of stagnation of water especially in the rainy season at Faridabad railway station; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken for proper drainage of the stagnated water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A work for improvement of the drainage system at Faridabad has been sanctioned and the work will be taken in hand shortly after completion of the requisite formalities.

[English]

Joint Programmes for Disposal of Hospital Waste

5083 SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any joint programmes with Bangladesh for the disposal of waste including hospital waste; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Rail Link to Bangladesh

5084 DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to undertake electrification work on Ranghat-Gede section for the facilitation of rail transport;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard specially as the said rail line, links to Bangladesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) There is no proposal at present to electrify Ranghat-Gede section.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Export by rail to Bangladesh via Gede-Darsana is limited by the infrastructural constraints on Bangladesh Railway.

Rail Bridge

5085 SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a rail bridge over Bhagirathi connecting Jiaganj with Azimganj;

(b) whether the rail journey from Sealdah to North Bengal and North Eastern States would take lesser time if the said bridge is reconstructed;

(c) if so, whether the Government are considering to conduct a survey to reconstruct the said bridge; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Diesel Engine

5086 DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the action plan regarding the replacement of the diesel engines and rakes of the metre gauge trains running from Ujjain, Indore, Mhow, Khandwa and Ajmer under the Western Railway; and

(b) the time by which the fast trains with diesel engines are likely to be introduced between Indore-Ratlam and Ujjain-Indore metre gauge line ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No diesel locomotive is being replaced for metre gauge trains running from Ujjain, Indore, Mhow, Khandwa and Ajmer under the Western Railway.

(b) At present, there is no such proposal to introduce additional train on Indore-Ratlam and Ujjain-Indore metre gauge sections.

Fake Insecticides

5087. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of insecticides units relating to producing technical grade insecticides;

(b) the number of such units, making formulations for the insecticides;

(c) whether complaints of sale of fake insecticides are received from time to time;

(d) if so, the number of complaints received during 1995-96 and the action taken thereon; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that fake insecticides are not manufactured?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) Six, over 125 units are currently engaged in the manufacture of technical grade pesticides. Almost all these units also manufacture pesticide formulations.

(c) and (d) Complaints about sale of sub-standard (fake) insecticides are dealt under the Insecticides Act 1968 and the rules framed thereunder. During 1995-96, 3% of the insecticides samples were found as sub-standard. Statewise details of the action taken are enclosed as per statement.

(e) The steps taken by the Government to regulate the quality of insecticides are as under:

(i) A network of 42 State Pesticides Testing Laboratories has been established for testing of insecticides samples.

(ii) Government of India have set up two Regional Pesticides Testing Laboratories to supplement the efforts of the State Governments.

(iii) A Central Insecticides Laboratory has been established at Fardabad as provided under the Insecticides Act 1968 to undertake statutory testing of pesticides.

(iv) A large number of officers from the respective States and UTs as well as officers of the Government of India have been notified as Inspectors under the Insecticides Act for drawal of samples.

STATEMENT

QUALITY CONTROL ARRANGEMENTS

Action taken Statistics During 1995-96

Sl. No.	State/UT	Licence			Prosecution	
		Suspended	Cancelled	Launched	Judgement obtained	Convicted
1.	Andhra Pradesh	151	2	50	22	15
2.	Assam	—	—	3	—	—
3.	Bihar	—	—	—	—	—
4.	Gujarat	—	1	42	44	41
5.	Haryana	—	—	134	—	—
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	—
7.	Karnataka	6	2	9	—	—
8.	Kerala	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Madhya Pradesh	63	68	24	1	—
10.	Maharashtra	18	—	35	4	2
11.	Manipur	—	—	—	—	—
12.	Orissa	—	—	—	—	—
13.	Punjab	—	152	68	—	—
14.	Rajasthan	—	—	7	—	—
15.	Tamil Nadu	20	—	5	10	5
16.	Uttar Pradesh	—	1	49	4	4
17.	West Bengal	—	—	—	—	—
18.	Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	—

[English]

Bus Parking in Shanti Niketan

5088. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Shanti Niketan Residents' Association (Regd.) submitted a representation to the Delhi Traffic Police Authorities regarding parking of buses sometime back highlighting the considerable inconvenience caused to the residents especially that of Street No. 2 of the Colony; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Traffic Police authorities in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The school authorities were contacted and persuaded to ensure that buses take minimum time to pick up or drop children. They were also advised to park their buses inside the school premises. Private hired buses are not allowed to be parked in front of the houses. However, buses arrive a little earlier than the time the school opens/closes. The school authorities have been advised to reduce this time to bare minimum.

[Translation]

Liberation of Munyari Region

5089. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA': Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to liberate the 'Munyari' region of the Pithoragarh district in Uttar Pradesh from 'innerline' system; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): According to information furnished by the Government of Uttar Pradesh, the position is as under:—

(a) No, Sir. Munyari region of district Pithoragarh in Uttar Pradesh is already out of 'Innerline'.

(b) Not applicable.

[English]

Purchase Scandal in Bihar

5090. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation has sought arrest of the five IPS officers of Bihar in connection with the Rs. 70 lakh purchase scandal;

(b) if so, the number of IPS officers from Bihar involved in the said scandal;

(c) whether a number of IPS officers in almost all the States and Union Territories have been found indulging in various scams;

(d) if so, whether the reports from various State Governments and Union Territory Administrations regarding the involvement of IPS officers have been received; and

(e) if so, the action proposed to be taken against the officers found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A statement is enclosed.

(c) to (e) No report regarding involvement of any IPS officer in any scam has been received so far from any State/UT, except the purchase scandal in Bihar. Appropriate action is taken against the IPS officers found guilty in any scandal/irregularity, as per the prescribed procedure.

STATEMENT

(a) After filing the charge-sheet in the Court of Spl. Judge CBI, Patna in the cases concerning Rs. 70 lacs purchase scandal, the Court issued warrant of arrest against 5 IPS Officers of Bihar Cadre namely S/Shri R.C. Khan, R.H. Das, V.M. Diwakar, Anil Kumar and Ajit Dutta. Shri R.H. Das, was arrested and 3 other officers namely S/Sh. R.C. Khan, V.M. Diwakar, Anil Kumar surrendered in the Court. The fifth accused, Shri Ajit Dutta, has been directed by the High Court, Patna to surrender before the trial Court on the date "Required to do so by the Court".

(b) Amongst the serving IPS officers, so far, only the above officers have been found involved in these scandals.

[Translation]

Bhopal Gas Victims

5091. SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by a Central team of medical experts on the Bhopal Gas Victims during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details of the diseases common in all the Gas victims;

(c) whether some of the diseases are incurable;

(d) the details of the assistance provided by the Union Government for the proper treatment of Bhopal Gas victims; and

(e) the total number of patients died due to non-availability of the proper medical care?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (c) To the extent the information is available, no survey has been conducted by central team of medical experts on the Bhopal gas victims during the last two years.

(d) Government of India has provided financial assistance to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh to the extent of Rs. 5777 lakhs for the treatment of Bhopal gas leak victims and for setting up of medical infra-structure at Bhopal for gas victims.

(e) According to the information furnished by the Government of Madhya Pradesh, no such case was reported.

[English]

Cogentrix Power Project

5092. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN:
SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI:
SHRI O. BHARATHAN:

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

(a) whether the Cogentrix company gave deliberately false figures about the extent of flyash discharge etc. to get the environmental clearance for the power project in Mangalore;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to cross check the figures, about the flyash discharge through some independent agency;

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

(d) whether there is any protest against the proposed power project from the farmers of Karnataka;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) to (c) As per the information furnished by the project proponents, about 1450 tonnes/day of ash will be generated, keeping in view the coal of specified quality to be consumed in the project. Ministry

of Environment and Forests have accordingly stipulated necessary conditions for use of the specified quality of coal, management and disposal of ash.

(d) to (f) Representations were received from the local people raising concern about environmental issues such as rehabilitation of project effected persons, pollution of sea water and its impact on fish culture, flora, fauna as well as destruction of vast area of prime agricultural land. These issues were examined by the Expert Committee for Thermal Power Projects and necessary mitigative measures have been stipulated to be implemented by the project authorities.

[Translation]

Poultry Eggs

5093. SHRI D.P. YADAV: Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great demand of poultry eggs in the country;

(b) whether the current production of eggs is insufficient to fulfill the requirement of the consumers;

(c) if so, the total requirement and the present availability of eggs in country, State-wise;

(d) the schemes taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the demand of the consumers; and

(e) the targeted production for 1996-97, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) The demand of poultry eggs depends upon the price and purchasing capacity of consumers. There are no separate norms of requirement of eggs. State-wise figures for production of eggs in the year 1995-96 are given in the statement enclosed

(d) Animal Husbandry is a State subject. The Government of India assists the States in strengthening of infrastructure for the development of Animal Husbandry and Dairying sector. It has established four large-scale Central Poultry Breeding Farms located at Bangalore, Bombay, Bhubaneswar and Chandigarh besides, a Central Duck Breeding Farm at Bangalore. These farms produce egg and broiler type breeding stock. Besides, the State Governments and private sector are playing significant role in production of eggs to meet the demand of consumers.

(e) The State-wise targets of eggs production for the year 1996-97 are also given in the statement.

STATEMENT

[English]

Egg Production—Statewise (Million Nos.)

STATES/UT	YEAR	
	1995-96 (Provisional)	1996-97 (Target)
1. Andra Pradesh	5495	4700
2. Arunachal Pradesh	33	34
3. Assam	604	640
4. Bihar	1420	1498
5. Goa	104	92
6. Gujarat	450	390
7. Haryana	570	400
8. Himachal Pradesh	71	70
9. Jammu & Kashmir	382	369
10. Karnataka	1563	1820
11. Kerala	1991	2600
12. Madhya Pradesh	1130	1130
13. Maharashtra	2600	3417
14. Manipur	124	164
15. Meghalaya	75	90
16. Mizoram	3	3
17. Nagaland	40	47
18. Orissa	587	800
19. Punjab	2510	2670
20. Rajasthan	450	350
21. Sikkim	17	19
22. Tamil Nadu	3046	2960
23. Tripura	44	44
24. Uttar Pradesh	690	2500
25. West Bengal	2800	3000
Union Territories		
1. A & N Islands	52	67
2. Chandigarh	35	38
3. Dadra & N. Haveli	4	6
4. Daman & Diu	4	2
5. Delhi	70	60
6. Lakhsadweep	5	6
7. Pondicherry	10	15
Total	26979	30000

Employment Guarantee Programme

5094. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL:
SHRI SANAT MEHTA:

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

(a) whether the Government do not allow implementation of the employment guarantee programme for the rural poor in the areas of Wildlife Sanctuaries;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any demand from State Governments for such programme particularly from the Government of Gujarat;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, in wildlife sanctuaries the main priority is the conservation of wildlife in particular and biodiversity in general. The employment guarantee programmes can be implemented so long as they are consistent with these objectives.

(c) No, such demand has been received in this Ministry.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Clearance to Paper Unit

5095. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government accorded environmental clearance to the M/s Sinar Mas Pulp and Paper (India) Ltd. in Pune without the proper environmental impact assessment;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the company has been allowed to dispose its effluent in an open nullah instead of purchasing its own land for the disposal of effluent and also allowed to draw water from the Ujjaini dam when there is not enough water for farmers use;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to review the matter;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The treated effluent will be disposed off into Nira river basin downstream of existing drinking water schemes through a 8-10 km long pipeline laid in the natural nullah. Also, the company has entered into an agreement with Maharashtra State Irrigation Department for drawal of water from the Ujjaini dam.

(d) to (f) The State Government has assured that the Pollution Control Board will monitor the compliance of pollution control measures and related conditions before consent to operate is granted to the said project.

Marine Potential

5096. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the full potential of India's marine wealth has been exploited;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there is any plan under implementation to exploit the full marine potential; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) to (c) The marine fisheries production in 1995-96 is provisionally estimated at 27.07 lakh tonnes against the assessed potential in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone of 39.00 lakh tonnes. A substantial proportion of the potential is being exploited and marine fish production has grown at a satisfactory rate of 4.6% per annum in the period 1984-85 to 1995-96.

(d) and (e) The following schemes are implemented to exploit the full marine potential of the country:

1. Development of Coastal Marine Fisheries comprising:

- (i) Motorisation of Traditional Craft;
- (ii) Introduction of Intermediate Craft and Introduction of Plywood Craft.
- (iii) Re-imbusement of Central Excise Duty on HSD Oil supplied to mechanised fishing vessels below 20 mt. length.

2. Enforcement of Marine Fishing Regulation Act and Introduction of Artificial Reefs and Seafarming Projects.

3. Central Sector Scheme for Fishery Harbours at Major Ports and Centrally Sponsored Scheme for development of Minor Fishery Harbours and Fish Landing Centres.

These schemes will enable fishermen to go for longer voyages into the deeper water for both demersal and pelagic fisheries and to land the catch and turn around the boats faster for more voyages per annum.

Besides the above, the Ministries of Food Processing Industries and Commerce have also been implementing various schemes to exploit the marine fisheries potential of the country such as :

- (1) Grant-in-Aid for Deep Sea Fishing and Processing.
- (2) Grant-in Aid for Deep Sea Fishing for providing interest subsidy for acquisition of Deep Sea Fishing Vessels.
- (3) Grant-in-Aid for Diversified Fishing.
- (4) Fishery Survey of India.
- (5) Export Production—Capture Fisheries.
- (6) Export Production—Culture Fisheries.
- (7) Introduction of New Technology and Modernisation.

Changing the Parts of Stolen Vehicles

5097. SHRI RAM SAGAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of criminal cases registered against the officials of the Delhi Police for changing the parts of the seized vehicles;

(b) the details thereof;

(c) the guarantee/surety/proposal to be given to the effect that the goods seized during searches are not changed in the light of experience in this regard; and

(d) whether any official receipt of the items/goods seized, recovered or deposited by the persons including 'cash' is to be issued by the Police to the person from whom the items/goods are seized or recovered or to the person who deposits them including 'cash'?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) and (b) According to the Delhi Police, there was no such instance during the recent past.

(c) To avoid any misappropriation/pilferage/change in the properties seized and kept in Police Malkhana, Standing instructions for the safe custody of the case property have been issued. These instructions require the police personnel on duty to give full description of the articles seized (viz. kind of property, value, make, etc.) in

the Seizure Memo and to obtain the signatures of the witnesses present during the seizure. The SHO and other senior police officers make periodic verification of the property kept in the Malkhana.

(d) Section 100 Cr. PC provides that it is essential for the police officer to prepare a list at the time of seizure/recovery in the presence of two or more independent witnesses and such lists are also signed by these witnesses. Similar list is prepared in respect of items/cash deposited by any person with the police. Proper receipt is given as provided in the above section.

Criminal Cases Against VIPs

5098. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Home Secretary conducted any enquiry into the alleged criminal charges made against the former Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Taslimuddin);

(b) If so, the outcome of the enquiry made; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (c) The Union Home Secretary had sought from the State Government of Bihar details of criminal cases in which Shri Taslimuddin was allegedly involved. Investigation into criminal cases is the responsibility of the Police.

Constitutional Breakdown in Bihar

5099. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Patna High Court in a judgement delivered on August 7, 1996 stated that there has been a constitutional breakdown in Bihar and that Article 356 of the Constitution should be invoked to deal with the situation; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) and (b) In deciding a writ petition challenging the dissolution of a Municipality in Bihar, the Patna High Court has made, inter alia, the following observation:

"In the instant case there has been willful flouting of the orders of the Court by the State Government threatening one of the basic pillars of our Constitutional democracy amounting to a breaking

down of the Constitutional machinery in the State calling for immediate remedial measure."

There is no proposal to invoke the provisions of article 356 of the Constitution in the instant case.

[Translation]

Development of Surat Railway Station

5100. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any programme has been chalked out for the development of Surat station of the Western Railway in view of the insufficient facilities available at this station;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of amount provided for the development of Surat station;

(d) the time by which the development work of the said station would be commenced; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to expedite the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (e) Surat station has already been provided with amenities commensurate with the volume of traffic handled. To further augment the existing facilities, works of extension of foot-over-bridge and extension of cover over platforms have been taken up at a cost of Rs. 50 lakh and are targeted for completion by December, 1997. A work for the provision of a new booking office on the East Side has also been sanctioned in 1996-97, at a cost of Rs. 12 lakh and shall be taken up after completion of the requisite formalities.

[English]

Case Against a Canadian National

5101. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a criminal case against a Canadian National having Canadian Passport was registered by the Badarpur Police Station on May 30, 1996;

(b) if so, whether Delhi police has not been able to locate his whereabouts;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the SHO, Badarpur Police Station, New Delhi with the approval of his Asst. Commissioner of Police, requested the Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO) within three weeks from the date of

registration of FIR to open a LOC (Look Out for Culprit) to ensure that the accused does not leave India;

(e) if so, the date in which the LOC was made operational;

(f) whether the accused went Canada even after the LOC being made operational;

(g) if so, the reasons for the security lapse; and

(h) the steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A criminal case was registered against a Canadian national on 30.5.1996 at the Badarpur Police Station on receipt of a complaint. The complainant did not, however, indicate the address of the accused. Though the police tried to trace the accused at likely hideouts, he could not be located. As it turned out subsequently, the accused had already left the country on 28.5.1996 i.e. before the registration of the case.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The Deputy Commissioner of Police (South) had made such a request on 31.5.1996 on the basis of which the Foreigners Regional Registration Office opened the LOC on 1.6.1996.

(f) to (h) The accused had left the country even before the complaint against him was registered at the Badarpur Police Station. There was, therefore, no security lapse as such.

Train from Secunderabad to Belapur

5102. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is only one weekly train from Secunderabad to Belapur due to which thousands of pilgrims who wish to visit Shirdi from Hyderabad/ Secunderabad are facing hardships;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any representation for the extension of Railway line upto Shirdi via Belapur and introduction of more trains on the said route; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) The weekly 7061/7062 Secunderabad-Belapur Express, leaving Secunderabad on Saturdays and Belapur on Sundays, caters by and large to the weekend pilgrims traffic between Secunderabad/Hyderabad and Shirdi.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Pulse Production

5103. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have called for a brown revolution to augment the production of pulses;

(b) if so, whether he has written a letter to all the Chief Ministers and Heads of the Union Territories and suggested certain measures in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the assistance proposed to be provided by the Centre to the State Governments to achieve the goal?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) to (d) Union Minister of Agriculture has written a letter to the Chief Ministers of all the States and Heads of the Union Territories on 15th July, 1996 and have requested them to formulate time bound programme for increasing the production of pulses. No proposal has been received so far in this regard.

Stamp Duty Scam

5104. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rs. 35.59 crores stamp duty scam was unearthed in Uttar Pradesh during the month of July;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has ascertained the facts about the stamp duty scam;

(c) whether CBI has been entrusted to enquire into the scam; and

(d) if so, the time by which the inquiry is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A criminal case against Shri R.P. Gupta, retired Sub-Registrar, has been registered in Police Station Kotwali Kanpur, under sections 409/420/477A/199/120-IPC, section 27 of the Stamp Act and section 13 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, the matter has been referred to "Aarthik Apradh Anusandhan Sangathan", Uttar Pradesh.

STATEMENT CORRECTING REPLY TO UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3108 DATED 27.8.96 REGARDING DEVELOPMENTAL PROJECTS IN FOREST AREA

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): I invite attention to the English and

Hindi versions of the reply given to the unstarred question No. 3108 answered on the 27th August, 1996 regarding "Developmental Projects in Forest Area". The reply given to the part (b) and (c) of the Question is as under:

(b) Yes sir.

(c) Does not arise.

The corrected answer to the question may kindly be read as follows:

(b) and (c) Reports regarding illegal mining in the forest areas of the country including in Karnataka have been received from time to time from various fora including Regional Offices, non Governmental Organisations, individuals etc. These reports are mostly pertaining to the mining activities going on over forest land without obtaining prior approvals of the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or continuation of mining operations over forest land after expiry of the previous mining lease. In all such cases the State Governments are asked to ensure that the mining activities going on in forest land in violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 should immediately be stopped. Further, such cases involving violation, are decided in accordance with the guidelines issued for implementation of the Act stipulating condition of penal afforestation.

12.00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Report and Memorandum of Action Taken on the Annual Report of the National Human Rights Commission for 1995-96

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of Section 20 of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993:-

- (1) Annual Report of the National Human Rights Commission for the year 1995-96.
- (2) Memorandum of Action Taken on the Annual Report of the National Human Rights Commission for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-480/96]

Notification under Sub-Sections (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): Sir, I beg to

lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:-

- (1) S.O. 574 (F) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th August, 1996 constituting the Central Fertiliser Committee.
- (2) The Fertiliser (Control) (Amendment) Order, 1996 published in Notification No. S.O. 575 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 10th August, 1996.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-481/96]

Review of the Working of and Annual Report of Madhya Pradesh State Dairy Development Corporation Ltd.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): Sir, on behalf of Shri Raghuvans Prasad Singh, 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) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Madhya Pradesh State Dairy Development Corporation Limited, Bhopal, for the year 1994-95.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Madhya Pradesh State Dairy Development Corporation Limited, Bhopal for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-482/96]

Central Zoo Authority Officers and other Employees Recruitment (Amendment) Rules 1995 and Annual Report and Review on the working of Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 481(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th July, 1996 directing that the expansion of industrial area, townships, infrastructure facilities and such other activities which could lead to pollution and congestion shall not be allowed within the "No Development Zone" Specified in the notification except with

the prior approval of the Central Government, issued under sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-483/96]

- (2) A copy of the Central Zoo Authority Officers and (Other Employees) Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 1995 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 3131 in Gazette of India dated the 2nd December, 1995 under sub-section (2) of Section 63 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-484/96]

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling, for the year 1994-95 alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling, for the year 1994-95.

- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-485/96]

Railway Claims Tribunal (Salaries and Allowances and Conditions of Services of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members) Amendment Rules, 1996

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : Sir I beg to lay on the Table:-

A copy of the Railway Claims Tribunal (Salaries and Allowances and Conditions of Service of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members) Amendment Rules 1996 (Hindi and English Versions published in Notification No. G.S.R. 185 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th April, 1996, under sub-section (3) of Section 30 of the Railway Claims Tribunal Act, 1987.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-486/96]

12.01 hrs.

[English]

RESIGNATION BY MEMBER

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House that I received a letter dated 9th September, 1996 from Shri Ajit Singh, an elected Member from Baghpat constituency of Uttar Pradesh, resigning from membership of Lok Sabha.

I have accepted his resignation with effect from 9th September, 1996.

12.01¹/₂ hrs

[English]

...(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): Have you received any such information from Pandit Sukh Ram?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, have you received any information from Shri Sukh Ram because he was to come yesterday?...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have said yesterday that I have received two letters from him informing his inability to attend the House.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, according to your information he was expected today.

MR. SPEAKER: No, it is not correct.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: What was the information?...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Why don't you have patience? Please have patience. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I want to say something. Why don't you sit down?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What is this?

I have received notices from 54 hon. Members for making their submissions during the Zero Hour.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand my position. I want to give a chance to all of you. If all of you want to get a chance, then every hon. Member would get one minute each. So, if all of you want to speak, please share the time among yourselves. But if each hon. Member takes ten minutes instead of one minute to make his or her submission, then I am not responsible for that. So, you have to regulate yourselves.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN (Mumbai-North East): You have to thank the other hon. Members for not having given notice.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, I thank them very much.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly): I will take just one minute. There has been a long standing demand for setting up a Doordarshan Centre at Bareilly

and the Government of India, realising the need for such a centre there, gave its approval in 1991. The Doordarshan Centre was formally inaugurated in January, 1994 and on 30.6.95, the then External Affairs Minister, Shri Salman Khurshid, inaugurated the P.G.F. Centre. But it is a matter of regret that even after one year the artists are not getting the P.G.F. facilities. Crores of rupees were spent on establishment of the Centre and lakhs of rupees are being spent every month on salaries and allowances. It has become a white elephant. Bareilly is an important centre of Uttar Pradesh. These facilities should be made available there immediately. The artists are now on strike. I request the hon. Minister to pay urgent attention to this and issue directions without delay to provide P.G.F. facilities particularly. I thank you for giving me the time.

[English]

SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN (Alleppey): Sir, in spite of repeated requests from the MPs and the Government of Kerala, the Ministry of Environment seems to be adamant in its Coastal Management Plan imposing severe restrictions on coastal construction works in coastal areas. According to the provisions of the plan no construction within 500 metres from the reaches of the high tideline and within 100 metres of the backwaters and rivers is allowed.

This would create a lot of difficulties for the people of Kerala. This would adversely affect the fishermen of the State. This would also adversely affect the tourism industry of the State. The Government of Kerala and the MPs from Kerala brought these difficulties to the notice of the Government of India. But the Ministry of Environment still stick to their earlier stand on this...*(Interruptions)* Sir, this has confounded the already created confusion and anxiety in the minds of the people of Kerala. I request the Government to have an open mind on this issue and initiate immediate steps to amend the provisions of the notification and to formulate guidelines to suite the interests of the people of Kerala. As a prelude to this, I request the Government to convene a meeting of the MPs of Kerala to discuss this burning issue...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the situation in Indian Bank is very serious. This Bank has incurred a loss of Rs. 1336.40 crore for the year 1995-96.

The accumulated loss of it comes to Rs. 1712 crore. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: They have taken notice of it. The Government has taken notice of it.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The non-performing asset is 37.8 per cent, and the total domestic advance is Rs. 7800 crore. Its entire capital and reserves were wiped out which amounts to Rs. 1050 crore. All these things happened because of the arbitrary and corrupt practices adopted by the former Chairman of the Indian Bank. Without credit appraisal and without ascertaining the repaying capacity, the Bank has sanctioned huge loans to some selected beneficiaries which are business establishments disproportionate to their financial standing. I can mention the names of such companies. They are : MRV group whose non-performing asset is Rs. 350 crore, East-West Airlines whose non-performing asset is Rs. 150 crore, Gemini Pictures, JJ TV, Rama Rao Adik Educational Society, Saket India, Ganapati Exports, Square Deal Agency, Sinclair TV, Hemraj Mahavir Prasad Group of Calcutta, Jaya Publications, Pleasant Stay at Kodaikanal, SM Dyechem ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I expect cooperation from senior Members. Please give a chance to other hon. Members.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: In view of this, I demand a thorough probe by the CBI and punish the guilty; formation of Debt Recovery Tribunal to recover all non-performing assets and infusion of funds of Rs. 1369 crore as required by the management to put the Bank back on proper rails.

So, Sir, there should be a thorough probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation into the affairs of the Indian Bank. Thank you ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. MALLIKARJUN (Mahbubnagar): Sir, in 1956 Fazal Ali Commission was constituted to reorganise the States. This was done 48 years ago. In the meanwhile a number of demands were made for the formation of small States. I am happy that the Prime Minister has declared the formation of Uttarakhand State. At the same time, the Home Ministry is examining the feasibility for formation of Jharkhand State and Chattisgarh State.

In 1969-70, there was a historical agitation for the creation of a separate Telangana State. At that time, the students, the non-gazetted officers and the people in general were involved in the agitation. More than 300 lives were sacrificed for the separate Telangana State. In 1971 Lok Sabha elections, people of Telangana gave their mandate by electing 10 members out of 14 in the name of Telangana State. However, a compromise was made by a six-point formula which has failed ultimately.

I demand that the Prime Minister should declare the formation of a separate Telangana State and the Government may constitute the Second State Reorganisation Commission so that these demands could be sent to the State Reorganisation Commission which can work out the viability of the small statehood ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have not called you. You have already had your chance by putting the same type of question by way of a supplementary. I am not going to give you a second chance. It is not fair. The same issue cannot be raised twice a day.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will give a chance to everybody. Why are you worried?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGRAWAL (Chandni Chowk-Delhi) Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Delhi Rent Control Act was passed by this House and thereafter all the political parties of Delhi opposed it contending that the enactment of the legislation in this form was wrong and that it should be amended. Calls for Delhi Bandh were also given several times. The tenants and traders of Delhi are extremely agitated against this legislation. The Government of Delhi called on all-party meeting and sent its recommendations to the Central Government. I request the Government to take immediate steps for amending the Act.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South Delhi): Sir, I want to raise an extremely important issue in the House. It requires to be stated in some detail, but you have fixed a time limit of one minute.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I give you one and a half minutes.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Sir, I shall try to finish within that time. Day in and day out, the Government harps on secularism, but it appears to me that we are gradually becoming culture-secular. The difference between religion and culture is being forgotten.

Sir, you must have had many occasions to travel by train. Early in the morning at around 7 o' clock cassettes of devotional songs used to be played in the trains. A few days back, I had an opportunity to travel by Rajdhani Express from Baroda to Delhi and was so surprised that film songs on disco tunes were being played at seven in the morning. The passenger came to me to register their unhappiness and also gave me a representation signed by 80 persons. When I asked the officials, to my amazement they showed me a directive from the Railway Ministry which said:

[English]

"No religious music will be played in trains. And this order is for compliance with immediate effect".

[Translation]

Sir, I want to ask whether devotional songs are a prerogative of any particular religion. May be, some people have allergy to the names of Ram, Krishna and Shiv, but the hon. Railway Minister cannot have it because the word Ram is an intrinsic part of his name. Hundreds of cassettes are available today with songs without any of these names. 'Allah tero nam, Ishwar tero nam'—This is not a song associated with any religion. Similarly,

"Aye maalik tere bande hum,
Aise hon hamarey karam,
Neki par chaleyn aur badi se dareyn.
Taki hanste huye nikley dam"

Is this a song of any religion? Further,

"Humko man ki Shakti de, hum Vijaya karen,
Doosron ki Jaya se pachele, Khud ki jaya karen"—
To which religion does this song belong?

Sir, I want to ask, under what provocation has this directive been issued? Religious songs will not be played, but disco music tunes will be forced on us. My information is that recently, on the occasion of the festival of Janma Ashthami, you yourself had enjoyed devotional songs for three hours. Devotional songs create a spiritual atmosphere in trains and the passengers have a feeling of contentment. It is my request to the Government that these silly directions should be withdrawn immediately and playing of devotional music in the trains should be restored.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore): Hon. Mr. Speaker, Smt. Sushma has just now pointed out how our culture is being undermined in the name of secularism. I want to point to another similar blow being ministered to our country's culture. I do not want to go into the question whether the World Beauty Contest proposed to be organised at Bangalore in Karnataka should be held or not; that is to be decided by a general opinion. But we will have to seriously consider certain issues related to this contest. Several women's organisations as well as some other organisations are opposing the World Beauty Contest. This opposition has reached such a pitch that suicide squads are getting ready to protest. I would like to bring to your notice certain implications. I was really surprised how the Indian women suddenly started becoming world beauties. Is there some international conspiracy?

Sir, this is something that requires to be given a serious thought. There is a multi-pronged onslaught on our markets. I have seen that the world beauties are used for advertising the products of the multi-nationals. Secondly, I would like to submit that women are not commodities. It is not such an important item, it is vitiating

our culture. I want to give an example. It is highly objectionable that the mentality of our country is being changed in such manner. If it goes on like this, our children will also succumb to this mental outlook.

The Chief Minister of Karnataka ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Madam, I would have allowed you to say more if we had time. But we are short of time.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: What he said about our women ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You have made your point.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: He said that Draupadi was disrobed, Sita was abducted. He argued that when we can look at a tree and a hill, what is there in looking at a nude woman? If a woman wants to show herself in nudity, then what should be the objection in watching her, he says. If the Chief Minister has such mentality, it is to be seriously considered how the character of our children will be affected. Sir, I submit that this requires serious consideration. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot do like that

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw your attention to an extremely important issue...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (Bangalore South): Sir, he has told this.

MR. SPEAKER: Why do you not recognise the rights of those Members who have given notice?

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: But the question is that the House should take note of it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is not the way.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: I have wanted to raise this issue before the House for quite some time. It is a matter of great anguish that in Bhiwandi in Maharashtra, 82 people were killed by consuming poisonous food. Our Health Minister went there and he was also of the view that the hospital doctors and local authorities had been extremely careless. The Government of Maharashtra gave only Rs. 25,000 to the next of kin of those killed.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Banatwalla, it is a State subject.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: I want to emphasize that this amount of Rs. 25,000 is very meagre and, therefore, the Central Government and the Prime Minister should come forward and take immediate steps to provide more financial assistance to those who are seriously ill and to the families of those killed.

[English]

Sir, I also support the earlier submission made here about the coastal management policy in Kerala. It is a very important matter and I request you to give a directive to the Government to take the MPs of Kerala into confidence and modify the policy accordingly.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Banatwalla, you are going outside the scope of your notice.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Hon. Speaker Sir, according to the UF manifesto, the Government has promised that in the current Session, they will introduce a Bill on one-third reservation of women in Parliament. The Minister for Parliamentary Affairs is sitting here. I want to know from him whether that Bill is going to be introduced in the current Session or not. ...*(interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. The Minister is replying.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): Sir, about the Bill on reservation of women in Parliament, notice has already been given and I hope, today or tomorrow, after getting your permission, it will be introduced. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister is making an important statement.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Sir, the Bill has been circulated today. ...*(interruptions)*

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: We have already given the notice. Sir, I hope, today or tomorrow, after getting your permission, the Bill will be introduced in the House.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Sir, it should be passed without discussion.

[Translation]

The Bill has come, get it passed.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, please take note of the point regarding Kerala.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Sir, I fully appreciate their sentiments. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He is replying. Why are you not listening to him?

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: I fully appreciate the sentiments expressed by the MPs from Kerala. It is really a serious problem not only for the coastal management but the tourism sector is also being affected due to this. I hope the matter is pending before the Supreme Court and we will certainly do whatever best that can be done by the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not be misled by the clock of the Chamber. It is out of order.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN (Quilon): Sir, different Ministers are giving different replies ...*(Interruptions)* The Government should make the position clear ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Why do you not appreciate that time is very limited. You have raised your matter. The Minister has replied. Now, would you please not allow your colleagues to raise matters which, according to them, are as important as yours.

Yes, Kumari Selja.

KUMARI SELJA (Sirsa): Sir, the textile industry of Surat has been crippled by the callous, indifferent and unresponsive attitude of the Central Government. The traders of the textile mills have been on strike for the past ten days and the Government is simply not responding to their demands. The Government wishes to impose amendment in section 4 for the textile mill owners. On the one hand they want to liberalise the economy and on the other, through this amendment, they want to impose the 'inspector raj' and even tighten the noose around the textile mill owners. Many of the traders are from my State.

Sir, moreover, fabrics of the value of less than Rs. 700/- metre have been imposed a net duty increase of 1.6% of sales value. On the other hand on fabrics of the value of more than Rs. 100/- metre there is a net duty reduction of 8.4% of sales value. I do not know what kind of a Government is this. This Government want to project a pro-poor image but this is a very funny way of showing it—on the one hand, they have increased the rate for the poor people and on the other hand they have given relief to the upper sections of the society.

Sir, so we would like to have an immediate response from the Government in regard to the problem being faced by the textile mill owners of Surat.

MR. SPEAKER: Mahadeepak Singh Saikia Ji, it is a State subject. So, Just bring it to the notice.

[Translation]

DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA (Etah): Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, Uttar Pradesh is at present under President's rule. The situation of law and order in the state is deteriorating, the responsibility for which rests on the Central Government. Yesterday, some of our colleagues had referred to mass killings and I too want to bring to your notice a similar personal incident. My nephew, Dr. Jagat Pal Singh, resident of Raja Ke Rampur, was living at Etah. On 22nd March, 1996 three persons of his family were killed due to political conspiracy and four were seriously injured. The police, inspite of being informed about it, neglected the matter. The reason for this is that the police is aware that police officers are involved in this conspiracy. When this case came to light, it transpired that the Samajwadi Party leader who is a candidate from Aliganj legislative assembly seat and the Additional A.S.P...* are involved in this conspiracy. He is the same person who is an accused under sections 382 and 376 in Muzaffarnagar case and is on bail. Besides three other notorious persons belonging to Samajwadi Party...* are also involved, but the police has not taken any action against them. When the police came to know of their involvement, it instead implicated our family members under section 164.

Sir, I request you that a C.B.I. enquiry may be instituted against the Additional Superintendent of Police ...* and the other five persons involved so that the facts may come out and the culprits punished ...*(interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not worry. Still there is time. You will also have a chance.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to draw the attention of the House and the Government to the plight of education in Bihar. A policy of education without remuneration is being followed under which the lecturers are teaching in the colleges for the last 15 years. The colleges have been recognised by the university and the Government, but the teaching institutions are not giving any salaries to the teachers, lecturers and employees. These institutions are running since the Congress rule in Bihar when Shri Jagannath Mishra was the Chief Minister. Not one, but many representations have been given to the Government in this matter and as a last resort these people have come here. They have submitted a memorandum to the

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

President and have also held a demonstration with bare clothing on their bodies. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Jena, expressed to me his surprise at this state of affairs in Bihar and told me that the Prime Minister was also surprised as to what was happening. Sir, such is the situation there. The Prime Minister has visited Bihar. What is happening there is not hidden from anybody and it is beyond the capacity of the Government of Bihar to pay them salaries. The Minimum Wages Act operates in this country, but the teachers and the non-teaching staff of colleges are given one hundred to two hundred rupees a month out of the collection of tuition fees from the students. In some places, even that is not given to them. There are in all about two lakh such people. I urge the Government to pay immediate attention to their problem. If the Government ignores it on the ground of its being a State subject, they will go on starving. In fact, several persons have died of starvation. While this is the situation in the colleges, even in the universities and their affiliated colleges where education with remuneration is prevalent, they have not got their salaries for the last four or five months. Only the day before yesterday, I had to go to a college in my constituency of Barh where I found that salaries have not been paid for five months. This is the state of many universities and the Government does not know where all the money goes. The Centre must take some initiative and save these educated people who are M.As and Ph.Ds from starvation. Sir, I also request you to give some direction to the Government in this matter in view of the human problem involved.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You have brought it to the notice of the Central Government. It is enough.

[Translation]

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR (Katihar): Sir, the point raised by the hon. Member Nitishji is of a very serious nature and the Central Government should direct the Government of Bihar to do something for the unpaid teachers. They are spending their lives in frustration. I would also like to draw your attention to the minority institutions running in Bihar which are recognised and where salaries were being paid, but for the last one year salaries have not been paid there also. In the *Madarsas* and *Sanskrit Vidyalayas*, they have not been paid for the last six or eight months. I would like the Government to pay attention to this also.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Should we keep on discussing the same subject?

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY (Buxar): The problems of Bihar should be properly discussed. There are not one or two problems only; Bihar has become a jungle of problems. The Government must look into the condition of people there ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Will the House go on discussing Bihar only?

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY: Please give some directive to the Government to take steps for ameliorating the lot of the unpaid teachers there.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please, I want to say something ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is all right. Though it is purely a State subject, I share the sentiments of the hon. Members. After all, teachers must receive some special attention as they are the people who are sacrificing and building up the next generation. I have also been receiving representations from the teachers of Bihar. A delegation of teachers from Bihar has also met me. I request the Central Government to convey these sentiments and whatever is possible, should be done. This may kindly be conveyed to the Bihar Government.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Yes Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT (Nagpur): Sir, I had given a notice of breach of privilege.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am looking into it. Tomorrow or day after tomorrow all these notices will be disposed of. I have promised it in the House.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH (Aurangabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have been informed that hefty commissions are taken for additional allotments of Sugar, Wheat and rice in the public distribution system and these commodities are sold in the open market. I am told that additional allotments are made by charging Rs. 40 extra per quintal on wheat, Rs. 38 on rice and Rs. 118 on sugar. Thus a big racket is going on in the name of additional allotments. What happens is that under the plea of floods, drought and other problems, a demand is made for additional allotments. This comes from the State Government, but behind this cover is some person who gives a commission and gets additional allotment done which are then sold in the open market.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You have exceeded your time

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH: This should be enquired into.

MR. SPEAKER: you have taken more time. Your time is over.

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH: Sir, I am concluding. But I want that it should be got investigated by C.B.I. and the deserving people should get the benefit of additional allotments. That is my submission.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA (Shimoga): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in Karnataka, in my constituency, there is one big steel plant called Vishveswarayya Iron and Steel Limited (VISL). This has been established long back, about one hundred years back, by the ex-Diwan of ex-State of Mysore, Vishveswarayya, famous engineer and statesman. The present position of shareholding of the VISL is about 34 per cent of the total shares are held by the State Government. Sixty-six per cent of the shares are held by the Steel Authority of India (SAIL). Now the State Government is prepared to transfer 34 per cent of the shares to SAIL. SAIL, in principle, have also agreed to take the shares of 34 per cent because the production of steel has gone down considerably. As has been done to upgrade the Steel Plants in Durgapur and Salem, upgrading of the VISL is also required. Therefore, what I am bringing to the notice of the Government is that for revamping of VISL, an estimated amount of Rs. 700 crore is required. SAIL is ready to invest and take over the 34 per cent of the shares held by the State Government. They have got money at their disposal. The State Government is also ready to transfer the shares to SAIL. The Chief Minister has made a categorical statement to this effect.

Therefore, through you, I am urging the Government to consider this and give a direction to SAIL to take over, not as a subsidiary, as has been done now, but to take over the entire company. Let the SAIL run the whole show and then bring up a factory called VISL on par with the Steel Plants in Salem, Durgapur, etc. Thank you. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am coming to one by one. Do not waste time

...(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH BHARADWAJ (Jamshedpur): I would like to draw your attention to a serious matter which concerns the security of this country.

We all know that America is propagating CTBT by taking initiative in the nuclear non-proliferation of arms and trying to stop the spread of arms in this world. But

at the same time, there are also reports that China is supplying missiles to Pakistan and America is also supplying arms, ammunition and weapons to Pakistan.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a report in the newspaper with the picture where we can see the Pakistan Prime Minister receiving the arms shipment. This is the second consignment. The first consignment has already come. The third one comes in November and the fourth one by the year end. On the one hand, America is talking like Mother Teresa and on the other hand, their behaviour is like Adnan Kashoggi. What are they trying to prove? If they want to be very idealistic, they have to lose their billions of dollars worth of business in arms deals.

[Translation]

India should lodge a protest in the United Nations, in the Security Council, about U.S. behaviour.

Secondly, India should also ask Washington:

[English]

How should we take these supplies? Should we take this as a support to military activities of Pakistan?

[Translation]

Last year, Doordarshan entered into a contract with CNN. It has been stipulated in that contract that CNN would project India's point of view to world media. Sir, this is very important. Once in the past, when the western media did not carry the speech of late Shri Krishna Menon, Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru had expressed regret over it. All I want to say is that Doordarshan should project India's point of view to the world media through the channel of CNN.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sat Mahajan.

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS (Kalahandi): Sir, I have given a notice.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Das. I have not called you. Please sit down

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Some hon. Members will get chance in Zero Hour, some hon. Members, will get chance under Rule 377 and some others will get an opportunity to put supplementary questions. If you do like that, some hon. Members will not get any chance anywhere. I have to see all this in a balanced way.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Sir I have given a notice. In my constituency, 300 people have died of diarrhoea. Besides my notice, it has also been telecast on TV.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Have I rejected your notice?

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: I have given my notice at 10 o'clock. You are saying that it is not serious. It is a very serious matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Did I say that I will not allow you? Have I said it? The whole House is witness to it.

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: You said that you have not received my notice.

MR. SPEAKER: Did I say that I will not allow you?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot behave like this.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: You cannot ignore like this.

MR. SPEAKER: What kind of behaviour the hon. Member is indulging in? I have not said that I will not allow him.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have not said 'no' to you. I am saying half-an-hour time is still left. I am calling one by one. Can the House approve the behaviour of an hon. Member like this to the Chair? I have not said that I will not allow him.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What is happening here?

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: You are saying 'sit down'. More than two-hundred people have died.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, you were kind enough to say that 54 more members will be allowed.

MR. SPEAKER: I am very sorry, this is not the way to behave. I deeply feel about it. This is not the way to behave. I am trying to be as accommodative as possible. Because of your behaviour like this I am not allowing you to speak today.

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: I have not said anything wrong.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing you to speak today because of your behaviour. It is a condemnable behaviour.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: Sir, we share your feeling. The whole House shares your feeling.

MR. SPEAKER: I deeply feel about it. Shri Bangarappa, do not open this question again.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: Sir, we are very sorry. But, Sir, he has a point that about 250 people have died in his constituency.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bangarappa, you close it now. Please sit down. You do not have to open it up again.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Balia): Mr. Speaker, I am very sorry. Is it for the first time that an hon. Member has lost his temper? Many a time, the hon. Members have lost their tempers in worst form. But you have never condemned anybody's behavior. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have not denied anybody. I am saying that I will be calling one by one. Shri Chandra Shekhar, I am sorry to say that if you do not want me, I can resign just now. I do not want this post at all.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: I am also sorry.

MR. SPEAKER: I am very sorry, I am least interested in this job. What is this?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Who wants this post?

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry, Shri Chandra Shekhar. I do not expect such a behaviour. I am making it very clear. I am trying to accommodate as many hon. Members as possible. I have already said it. I am very sorry to say that I do not want such things.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: Sir, we share your feelings. We are with the Chair. When we have got respect for the Chair, we also have respect for senior Members like Shri Chandra Shekhar. Sir, please do not take it so seriously ... (Interruptions)

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN (Kangra): Hon. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry about what has happened just now in the House. Sir, you are one of the most impartial Speakers. I have ever seen in my life. At least, I apologise to you for what has happened.

MR. SPEAKER: You do not have to say that.

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN: Sir, Himachal Pradesh is a beautiful State. For the last two consecutive years rains have ruined and damaged it. Last year, we lost Rs. 500 crore because of rains. We also lost 114 lives; more than 5,000 cattle perished and 25,000 houses collapsed last year but we got a relief of only Rs. 18 crores. This is very sad. There should have been some magnanimity.

Sir, this year again there is a lose of Rs. 500 crores. 31 human lives have been lost, 1200 Cattles have died and 1,500 houses have collapsed. In addition to this, three lakh hectares of land has been affected. In Solan district, one whole village Ramshehr has sunk. Villages like Bontha and Kanala have also collapsed. Hindustan-Tibet road is not functioning. Kangra-Jamna roads has collapsed and because of this vehicular traffic has stopped there. Fruit growers are facing a lot of difficulties. Their goods will perish if proper action is not taken immediately. Similarly, Manali has also totally collapsed. Rivers Beas, Yamuna, Sutlej and Ravi are on spate and people have started shifting from their banks.

I request the Central Government to send immediate relief to Himachal Pradesh, otherwise we are going to face a lot of difficulties.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to a serious matter. One United States-based Human Genome Diversity Project is clandestinely procuring human genetic resources from indigenous Indian communities through several hospitals in the country.

Sir, it is reported that the controversial three billion dollar project is collecting about 1,00,000 human genome from all over the country. The biological samples including blood, semen, perspiration, bone marrow, hair and the like from the targeted communities are being quietly exported to the US. A Hyderabad-based hospital, for instance is exporting blood samples drawn from certain individuals who are believed to be carrying genes responsible for the eye disease *retinis pigmentosa* to the National Eye Institute in Washington.

Sir, the targeted Indian communities are Gauds, Thakurs, Nairs, Cholanaikayans and Kadars, Lohanas and Jats as well as endangered tribes like the Onges and Shompen from the Andman and Nicobar Islands.

We can understand if turmeric is being patented in the US but if a Thakur or Jat is patented in America then what will happen to this country! This is a serious matter. There is no check on such exports but for an Indian Council of Medical Research Committee which, in turn, is pathetically inadequate to protect the country's rights. We have no regulatory body to monitor them.

I demand that export of human material should be with the knowledge of the Government and that should be checked. This is a serious matter. The Government should take a note of it and make a statement in the House.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra): Hon. Mr. Speaker, I want to draw the attention of the Government and the country to the Agra Heritage Project which was prepared to attract tourists to Taj Mahal. In the name of keeping the surroundings clean and removing encroachments, people who were settled there in the time of Shahjehan are being uprooted. But no efforts are being made to remove filth from the city of Taj and to provide civil amenities to the people. The administration is also not properly putting before the Supreme Court the matters relating to the Taj Protected Area. As a result, a situation of great uncertainty is prevailing there. The people are in a sorry plight and they are being exploited. The interests of the Taj Protected Area are not being served. The Agra Heritage Project envisages setting up of a Development Authority for Taj Protected Area and an all round development of that area. I therefore, appeal to the Tourism Minister to implement the Taj Heritage Project immediately and make a statement in the House in this regard. I request the hon. Minister that huge sums amounting to crores of rupees that have been spent by the Government of India and America on this ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa): Sir, I am on a point of procedure. I am seeing for the last 15 days that Shri Chandra Shekhar is shifting from the Congress benches to the Congress benches. He is not sitting in the original bench. A call has been given to the Congressmen who left after 1969 to come. Had he accepted it? I do not know. The Working Committee has given a call. Had he accepted it?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is an aspersion and I shall like to explain it. My friend, Shri Rajesh Pilot, is a little demoralised. He wanted a morale booster. So, I said those things ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra): Sir, I have not yet completed my point. The hon. Minister is present here ... (Interruptions). He wants to give a response ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, you please sit down. Kindly listen to Shri Jena.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Sir, the hon. Member from Agra has raised the issue of Taj Mahal and the Mother Heritage Centre. I fully appreciate his feelings. I had a detailed discussion with him.

On the Mother Heritage Centre, I am going to call a meeting. I hope, whatever has been recommended by the Heritage Centre, after a high-level meeting, can be implemented. I also invite the hon. Member to that meeting so that we can take a view on that.

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Thank you.

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK (Phulbani): Sir, it is a matter of grave concern that a major part of Orissa, that is, mostly the Western Orissa including Bolangir, Phulbani, Sonpur, Boudh and Ganjam districts have been affected by severe and acute drought. This is very much an unprecedented one. There has been rape, murder and so many other things because of the migration of women, men and children due to drought condition. Therefore, I seek your indulgence to give a direction to the Government that they should send a delegation to Orissa to take stock of the situation, to provide necessary relief operation and also to give report thereof.

DR. M. JAGANNATH (Nagarkurnool): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government that in the recently constituted Planning Commission, there is no representative from the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Previously there used to be one representative from the Scheduled castes and one from the Scheduled Tribes. By this action, 25 per cent of the total population of the country is going unrepresented. Sir, through you, I request the Government. As there is no bar, there is no limit on the membership—to select one candidate from the Scheduled Castes and one from the Scheduled Tribes and to include them as representatives in the Planning Commission.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh): Sir, incessant rains during the last two or three days have caused great damage in the centrally Administered Area of Chandigarh. It has a population of eight lakhs ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Katheria, you have not given any notice.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Out of a population of eight lakhs, nearly two lakh people live in Villages and colonies. They do not have electricity and water connections. Heavy rains have resulted in accumulation of two feet deep water and there are no means of draining out the water. The English paper 'Tribune' has printed a photo on its front page. There is a colony named Dr. Ambedkar Nagar near Dhanas Village where the nullah is over-flowing endangering the entire colony being washed away.

Sir, I am making two demands because the Centrally Administered area has no income of its own. All the

finances come from the Central Government. I request the Government that a grant of at least Rs. 5 crores may be sanctioned so that the people of that area may get electricity and water connections because the electric connections have been cut off and the people are living in darkness. The streets are under two feet deep water, but the people are not getting water to drink. Houses and *jhuggis* are crumbling due to the effect of rains. I request that they may be paid compensation for this loss. I again urge upon the Government to sanction a grant of at least Rs. 5 crores to save the Administration from the burden.

[English]

SHRI M. KAMALUDDIN AHMED (Hanamkonda): Sir, I wish to bring to your notice the serious violation of human rights going on in my State. Ever since the ban has been re-imposed on the activities of People's War Group and its associated organization by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, there has been a tremendous increase in the number of killings of the young political activists in the so-called encounters with the police. It is a common knowledge of the people that those encounters were all fake and the young men are simply picked up from the villages and killed by the police. It is a sheer violation of human rights. This is happening all over Telangana region of Andhra Pradesh and more so, in my constituency, Hanamkonda. I urge upon the Government to see that these above-said killings are stopped forthwith.

[Translation]

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the 6th August, 1996, the C.B.I. registered a case under section 8 of the Prevention of Corruption Act against the corruption king Sukh Ram and on the 16 August, they recovered Rs. 3.76 crores from his Delhi residence kept in a suit case in the workshop room. Since then, from 8th August till today, he has not been arrested by the Government and we were deceived into believing that he would be arrested before the end of the Parliament session. The Supreme Court has today Charged C.B.I. with deliberately delaying ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You have made your points. Please give chance to your colleagues.

[Translation]

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA: Mr. Sukh Ram should be arrested today itself, before the end of the session of Parliament. He should not be given time ... (Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record. We have still seven minutes and seven Members can speak.

*Not recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT (Hamirpur, U.P.): Sir, I accuse the Government of not taking the proceedings of the House seriously.

I had raised a matter on Friday pointing out that the S.P. of Mahua had killed my representative. Four days have passed, yet the Government has not taken any action against that S.P. So much so, that the F.I.R. which the brother and sister of the deceased youth Rakesh Kaushal wanted to lodge was not registered and no action was taken on their complaint.

I want to know whether the I.P.S. officers are above law. The law and the constitution are applicable to everybody including the big leaders and Prime Ministers. The ex-Prime Minister, Shri Narsimha Rao was charge-sheeted in the court of a Metropolitan Magistrate and he had to leave his party post. One Jain noted down the names of certain leaders in his diary and the Supreme court issued warrants against them and they had to appeal for bail. All of them honoured and followed the orders of the Supreme Court. But that S.P. tore away the orders of the Supreme Court and beat up my representative so mercilessly that he died in the hospital four days later. Is that S.P. above the Supreme Court? Is he above the Members of Parliament? Is that S.P. above the Constitution and the laws of this country? If the names of Lal Krishna Advani, S.R. Bommai and Sharad Yadav appeared in the Jain Diary, they had to seek bail. Whether one is a Prime Minister, Minister or leader—he is not above the Constitution and the law. How can then an I.P.S. officer be above the Constitution and the laws of this country? I had raised this question on Friday and I want to know why the Government has not taken any action so far. Even an F.I.R. has not been registered against that S.P. till now. On the other hand, he is harassing me and my workers. The children of one of my workers, who were the students of Calvin College, Lucknow, were put behind bars to take revenge on him. If no action is taken against this S.P., he can even get me killed.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, please conclude. You cannot monopolise all the time.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There are so many Members who want to speak. Now, Shri Mohan Singh will speak.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT: When the arrogance of the officers is at its height, Parliament is silent, Government is silent. I want the Government to take action against him without any delay. The Government should tell here and now as to why no action

has been taken so far and by what time action will be taken. Can't even an F.I.R. be filed against an IPS officer?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record. Only what Shri Mohan Singh says will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

12.56 hrs.

[At this stage, Shri Ganga Charan Rajput Came and stood on the Floor near the Table]

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Ferozepur) : Mr Speaker, I want to draw the attention of the Government to the people of Backward classes in Punjab. The first elections took place in the country in 1952. In 1953, Kaka Kalelkar Commission was set up for the people of Backward classes...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It makes no difference for me whether the Parliament goes on or not. But it is a question of the country. It makes no difference for the Speaker, but it does make a difference for the country.

...(Interruptions)

12.57 hrs

[At this stage Shri Ganga Charan Rajput went back to his seat.]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Every Member will be given a chance to speak. I will give you a chance. If necessary, we will extend the time by ten or fifteen minutes. Please do not worry about it.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: They are waiting for the time when the country's Government will give the Backward classes their rights. The Central Government set up Kaka Kalelkar Commission in 1953 and now it is 1996 nearing completion. For the last 43 years, those belonging to the Backward classes are waiting to get their rights. The Central Government has given 27 per cent reservation to Backward classes. But inspite of the announcement of the Central Government, the Government of Punjab is not prepared to confer this right upon them. The Bahujan Samaj Party sat on *dharna* inside the Punjab Legislative

*Not recorded.

Assembly and held many demonstrations outside. But so for, the Punjab Government is not prepared to give them their reservation rights.

I request the Central Government to immediately write to Punjab Government to give to the backward classes their rights of reservation so that the youth may make use of those rights.

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA (Navadwip): Sir, the National Highways are in a very bad condition. The State Government is taking initiative to improve upon the infrastructure with their meagre fund. Now, the National Highways have been neglected for a long time. The input cost is growing high due to damage of roads on the National Highways. The extra fuel cost comes around Rs. 15,000 crore every year and accidents caused by vehicles have increased many-fold.

I would also like to draw the attention of the Union Government that the National Highways Nos. 34 and 35 are situated in West Bengal. The National Highway number 34 is so much damaged that vehicles cannot ply on them properly. Again, a bypass by name Shantipur is supposed to be completed on the National Highway No. 34. However, due to delay in work, the bypass has not yet been completed.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to sanction some funds so that repair work of the National Highway No. 34 can be completed. I also request the Government to complete the work pertaining to Shantipur bypass at the earliest so that smooth running of vehicles can be maintained.

[Translation]

SHRI S.P. JAISWAL (Varanasi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. Four months back, Kashi Hindu University cancelled the affiliation of D.A.V. Degree College. During the course of the last four months, since I became a Member of this House, I have made two dozen requests to raise this issue. You gave me this chance today for which I express my heart-felt thanks to you. This is the first case in the country of cancelling such affiliation. Nearly 58 years ago, Mahamana Madan Mohan Malaviya had with great affection affiliated this D.A.V. college in Kashi to the Kashi Hindu University, but the present Vice Chancellor cancelled that affiliation four months back.

I had met the Minister of Human Resource Development in this connection and given him a letter. There is, however, no reply from him even after 3 months, 10 days. A delegation had also met him. I have requested the President also to intervene in the matter. There has

been no admission of students in that collage for the last four months and teacher are without work. The friends and colleagues of the Mahamana had set up the Dayanand Degree College and had built it up with the help of all the property they had, but the affiliation of that college stands cancelled today. I want to urge upon the Government that if there is some difficulty in regard to admissions in the college, the Kashi Hindu University can take this matter in its own hands. It is already the body holding the examinations. The affiliation of the college should continue.

SHRI M.P. JAISWAL (Betia): Sir, it is a very serious matter. There are two sugar mills in my constituency belonging to B.I.C. company—one at Chatia in East Champaran and the other at Chanpatia in West Champaran. Both the sugar mills are closed for the last three years. The Ministry of Textiles supervises them. Nearly Rs. 7 crores of dues remain to be paid to the farmers of the region. On account of the flood-prone Gandhak river, these farmers cannot grow any other crop in that area. It is only the sugarcane crops that remains immune to the flooding of the river and that is why the farmers there grow only sugarcane. I request the Government of India to start the two sugar mills at Chatia and Chanpatia in the coming season and issue orders for payment of dues to the farmers to save them from starvation.

SHRI SHARAT PATTANAYAK (Bolangir): Mr. Speaker, Sir, nearly 50,000 people belonging to Bolangir constituency and its adjoining areas of Kalahandi, Phulbani and Korapur have left their homes and migrated to Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh due to starvation. As many as five former Prime Ministers have visited the area and the former Prime Minister Shri Narasimha Rao had also prepared a scheme. However, the funds that were to be given by the Centre to Orissa under that scheme have not yet been released by the Central Government and, as Bhai Bhakt Das was pointing out today, in the neighbouring Kalahandi district nearly 300 people have died of starvation. I, therefore, request the Government to come out with a statement.

[English]

Whether they are interested to give some funds to the backward district of Orissa or not. Sir, the Government should react ... (Interruptions). Sir, this is a very serious matter ... (interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not think we should start a practice of Ministers replying to every question raised in Zero Hour. It will be a very bad precedent.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister may reply in exceptional cases, but not in every case.

[Translation]

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (Shimla): Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to the recent heavy rains in Himachal Pradesh the road approaches to the interior villages of my constituency have been cut off. The apple crops are rotting due to the blockage of roads and the people there are suffering great hardship. The Government of the State does not have resources for opening the road. Many people and cattle have died and great damage has been done by the rains. The Government of Himachal Pradesh has demanded an assistance of Rs. 400 crores. Everywhere in the districts of Sirmour, Solan and Simla, there are signs of ravages. The apple crops and vegetables are held up and are not reaching the markets. I request that the Government of India should send a team to Himachal Pradesh to make an assessment of the damage done and provide necessary assistance. The Ministers of Tourism and Parliamentary Affairs are present in the House and they should assure us that something would be done to provide relief to those people.

SHRI BHAKT CHARAN DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, when we are going to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of 50 years of our independence, in one corner of the country, even ordinary medicines are not available. In my constituency, more than 300 persons have died and more than 1200 are ill. Yesterday's New Delhi Times has carried this news and I had also given a notice in this regard about a week back. However, the matter could not be raised in the din and noise of the House. Today morning, I sent a notice to your office giving a list of the people who have died, Blockwise and village-wise. Sir, it is not something new for the people of Kalahandi to die of diseases. People have been dying there ever since 1985. The communication system of 1500 villages gets cut-off. There are small dispensaries situated at distances of 40 kms. and the people cannot reach there for absence of transport. They cannot even go to their offices. We have not been able to provide the facility of doctors in the villages of our country even after 50 years of independence with the result that people die in hundreds like insects even in small ailments. Presently, 1200 to 1500 people are lying ill. The arrangements for medicines are so poor in that area that even preventive medicines are not available to the people. The medicines that are distributed in the Blocks are very insufficient. I therefore, urge the Government to arrange supplies of adequate quantity of medicines and also provide the facility of doctors.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You have made your point. Shri Sharad Pattanayak has made his point.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAKT CHARAN DAS: Sir, I request the Government to pay proper attention to this.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra): I want to draw the attention of the Petroleum Minister to a special issue. Bitumen is being supplied to Bihar for the last five years by Indian Oil Corporation, Bharat Petroleum and other Companies. Reports have come from 54 districts of Bihar of a scam to the tune of Rs. 100 to 200 crores in the supply of bitumen through some middlemen of the Government. The supplies are made by the Central Government. Bihar has a population of ten crores ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It appears we will have to convert this House into Bihar Assembly !

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Sir, this country will have to worry about Bihar. Conditions in Bihar are very bad and this is a big scam that ... (Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: A scam of a magnitude involving crores of rupees . (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: I demand that an enquiry be instituted in this important matter.

SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE (Jabalpur): Mr. Speaker, A committee was constituted by the Labour Department of Madhya Pradesh to consider the problems of *bidi* workers. The Committee submitted its report in December, 1995. It is an all India issue because the *bidi* workers are not confined to Madhya Pradesh, but are spread all over the country. The findings of the Committee are: Tendu leaves are supplied in short quantity, the quality of Tendu leaves is bad, tobacco and thread are not supplied free of cost, wages are not paid in time, records of *bidi* workers are not maintained, *bidi* workers are not given wage slips, there is inadequate representation to workers in expert committees. The committee did not even make an effort to probe into the implementation of the schemes of Provident Fund, Employees State Insurance Scheme, medical facilities and welfare schemes.

I want to request the Government to take proper steps for improving the condition of *bidi* workers.

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH (Vidisha): Mr. Speaker, Sir, even though the Indian markets are flooded with foreign products, there are many Indian commodities which are still popular in foreign countries. Rice, particularly Basmati rice, holds a pride of place. In foreign countries, specially in U.S.A. and U.K., Basmati rice is in great demand. Our exports of rice to foreign countries amount to about Rs. 950 crores. To cash on the popularity of Basmati rice, some foreign companies have started their own production of Indian style Basmati under several names such as Kasmati, Jasmati etc. This has created a piquant situation.

Sir, this has two implications firstly, our exports are being adversely affected because these foreign companies are selling the rice, which is a product of America, in the name of Basmati. Secondly the attraction towards Basmati rice is diminishing. Therefore, I request the Government to pass some law whereby our *Basmati* is protected and other Indian products also get protection so that the foreign companies may not produce and sell their own products in the name of our products and the country's exports may not suffer.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Ferozabad): Hon. Mr. Speaker, the area between Faizabad and Agra in my constituency has suffered great damage from the floods in the rivers Yamuna and Chambal. Nearly 10,000 cattle have died and six thousand houses have been destroyed. People have become homeless and are arranging for shelters by putting up small tents. The Prime Minister had announced relief for the flood-stricken people and Members in the House had also pleaded for it. The Government of Uttar Pradesh have asked for monetary assistance. It should not be delayed.

Sir, many people have died there. The Prime Minister of the country had given an assurance that compensation will be paid to the families of the deceased. People are dying in large number due to non-availability of medicines. Epidemic diseases are spreading, taking a big toll of life in absence of medicines. I request the Government of India to provide full compensation to the families of the deceased and make adequate arrangements for supply of medicines.

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV (Gonda): Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, An agitation has started in Bihar from today in favour of the demand for Vananchal. This is the beginning of the blockade. The Prime Minister announced the formation of Uttarakhand in Uttar Pradesh with an eye on the coming elections. The struggle for Vananchal has been going on for so many years. From administrative point of view and from every other angle, it can become a viable state and should, therefore, be conceded as a full-fledged state. Hon. President had mentioned this in his speech also ... (*Interruptions*) formation of Uttarakhand was announced, but there was no announcement for Vananchal due to which the people of that region are greatly agitated. If the Government do not announce it early, I am afraid the agitation might turn violent causing much damage. ... (*Interruptions*). The Government should pay attention to this issue.

SHRI R.L.P. VERMA (Kodarma): Mr. Speaker, there is discrimination against the candidates of S.C., S.T. and O.B.C. in all the examinations held by the Union Public Service Commission. For instance, in the examinations held in 1994-95 and 1996, only 22 per cent O.B.C. candidates were taken as against the reservation of 27

per cent for them. In the Civil Services examinations of 1994, only 25 per cent candidates were cleared. The O.B.C. candidates who qualify in the open competition are added to the reserved category. What will be their future? There does not appear to be any transparency in the implementation of the Government policy. The Railway Board results declared recently in Bangalore reflect adequate transparency.

In the policy that has been notified by the Government, I want that rule 15(1) of the 1994 Notification should be nullified and the interview marks should be placed at 100 instead of 300.

SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA (Satna): Mr. Speaker, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the situation in village Patra falling under the Development Block of Amarpatan in my constituency. It is a forest area, inhabited by Adivasis. Between 1991 and 1994, Government officers and workers have misappropriated Rs 20 lakhs by preparing fake bills. Thumb impressions of minors were taken and money withdrawn in their names. Officers who tried to enquire into this racket have been transferred. Those involved in this scandal have got the protection of the Government. I want to request the hon. Minister to institute a high level enquiry and arrest and punish the guilty. The Government money which has been drawn in the name of Adivasis for Jeewan Dhara wells and Indira Awas should be immediately returned to the Adivasis.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Sir, there is a new dimension with regard to corruption—what we find in the functioning of banks in some parts of Orissa. Firstly, there is not enough money available in banks even to clear the salary bill of the Government employees, leave apart developmental expenditure bills, and thereby the developmental activities are adversely affected. Secondly, there are also shortages found that too increasingly in the stamped, sealed and tied note bundles issued on withdrawal by the depositors. This is a serious matter and also affects the credibility of the banks.

I would, therefore, request the Government of India, particularly the Finance Ministry—the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is present here; he should convey it personally to the Finance Minister—to look into this and remedial measures should be taken immediately.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Das, he has already raised the issue of shortage of currency notes. You can simply associate yourself.

PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaiguri): Sir, we are facing much difficulties for want of currency notes of

lower denomination, for want of currency notes of the denomination of Re. 1, Rs. 2 and Rs. 5, the Bhutanese currency of lower denomination is in circulation in the Northern region. So, it is a dangerous thing, and I request the Government to look into this matter so that the currency notes of lower denominations are made available.

SHRI A. SAMPATH (Chirayinkil): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government regarding the deadlock in the investigation carried out by the Central Bureau of Investigation on the death of Sister Abhaya, which happened four-and-a-half years ago in the district of Kottayam, Kerala. Sister Abhaya was an inmate of the Pious Tenth Convent, Kottayam. Her dead body was seen in a well of that Convent on 27th March, 1992, and the investigation was taken up by the CBI some three-and-a-half years back. The Special Investigation team under the Joint Director of the CBI came to Kottayam and after the conduction of a dummy experiment revealed that this was a clear case of murder. But so far, unfortunately, nobody has been arrested.

Another thing that I would like to point out is that a team of CBI men were posted at Kottayam. They were having their office at the PWD Travellers' Bungalow and they were conducting the investigation from there. But unfortunately, they have closed down that office at Kottayam. On 14th March, 1996 the CBI team came back to Delhi and now the investigation has come to a deadlock.

I would like to urge upon the Government to give necessary instructions to the Central Bureau of Investigation so that this investigation could be carried out and the CBI should expedite the investigation and arrest the culprits immediately. That is all, Sir.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your kind attention and through you I would like to urge upon the Parliamentary Affairs Minister about a very important matter. Yesterday while replying to the debate on Rural Development, the hon. Minister has admitted in the House that he himself during his tours to several States had witnessed the non-utilisation and mis-utilisation of rural funds which are usually granted by Parliament for various schemes like Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and Indira Awas Yojna and many other programmes.

Article 148 of the Constitution of India gives ample power to the Comptroller & Auditor General to audit the entire matter both in the purview of the States and Union. Article 243 after the 74th Amendment of the Constitution gives the power to Governor to raise the taxes and revenues of the panchayats. I would only like to submit through you that there are serious misappropriations going on in the name of the poor people's money and funds. No forest is there, but the money has been shown.

In this country, we are entrusting every scam to CBI. I would like to know from the Government and from the concerned Legal Department whether a regular Cell could be appointed to go into the matter as to why thousands and thousands of crores of rupees of development funds for rural poor people are being misappropriated in the name of implementation of the schemes which are nothing and not being accounted for in the books. There are several audit reports.

This matter is very important and the CBI must look into this irrespective of political party and power of the States. This is my submission because thousands and thousands of crores of rupees are involved and this Parliament has voted this account.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I want to say one thing today. From now on, each hon. Member will get only one chance to raise a matter during zero hour in a week. Otherwise, it is impossible to distribute time to everybody. One chance one week for each hon. Member would be given. Therefore, those hon. Members who have got a chance today will not get it tomorrow.

13.22 hours

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to protect the interests of sugarcane growers in UP by removing the role of sugarcane cooperatives**

[Translation]

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH (Meerut): Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to surplus production of sugarcane in 1995-96 in UP, the sugarcane growers have suffered huge financial loss. The middlemen purchased sugarcane at the rate of Rs. 30/- per quintal from the farmers and sold it at the rate of Rs. 70/- to the mills. Purchasing slips were not issued to those farmers who had sugarcane. The inquiries conducted so far in this regard have confirmed that corruption and irregularities have taken place. So I request the Government that the inquiries pending may be completed and the sugarcane cooperatives should have no role as between the sugar mills and the farmers.

13.24 hours

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

- (ii) **Need to provide special grant to state Government of Madhya Pradesh to overcome acute drinking water problem in Sagar**

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (Sagar): Sir, Sagar city has been facing acute problem of drinking water during summer season for the last several years. The work on Rajghat Project launched to overcome the problem has

come to a standstill due to shortage of funds. With the beginning of the month of February, the frequency of water supply in the pipes goes down to once in two or three days. In many wards of the city, the water pipes are completely dry. The city continues to suffer this trauma until July. The execution of Rajghat Project stands postponed. According to newspaper reports, the Project Division set up for Rajghat Dam Project is proposed to be shifted to Guna. If this project is shifted outside Sagar, it will adversely affect the ongoing drinking water project for Sagar city and further aggravate the problems of the people. I, therefore, earnestly request the Central Government to take over this project to provide adequate funds to the State Government under a special scheme so that the people of Sagar may get relief from the problem of drinking water.

(iii) Need to Dispense with 'Users Charge' being Levied on Passengers Going Abroad from Calicut Airport

[English]

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanore): Sir, it is highly essential that the users charge being levied upon passengers going abroad from Calicut Airport be discontinued without further delay in order to ensure justice and equal treatment to such passengers.

The users' charge of Rs 500/- per head on both tickets of adults and children is being levied on all passengers going abroad from Calicut Airport since October, 1995. At that time, objections to such a discriminatory charge was overcome with an assurance that the charge would be levied only over a period of six months. However, in spite of this assurance the charge is still being levied and is a big burden upon all passengers going abroad and especially those travelling with family.

This charge is in addition to the Rs 300/- per head by way of foreign travel tax.

Many passengers even from the Northern Districts of Kerala are, therefore, forced to take flights from Trivandrum where no such charge is being levied. The passengers are deeply agitated over this indiscriminate charge and I seek the intervention of the hon Minister for Civil Aviation to ensure early discontinuation of such a levy. Thank you.

(iv) Need for Construction of Sluice Gates to Check Fresh Floods in Katihar District, Bihar

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR (Katihar): Sir, under the Master Plan, Water Resources Department in 1974 had constructed the Mahananda embankment to stop the floods originating from the rivers like Ganga, Mahananda and Koshi entering the Katihar district. But the embankment proved to be a curse rather than a boon as it created more serious problems for the farmers of the

district. The land on which the embankment was constructed accumulated fresh floods. With the result, thousands of acres of land could not be cultivated and the farmers had to flee to other districts for work.

To clear the fresh flood waters, it was decided to construct Sluice Gates in Manihari, Amdabad, Azamnagar, Pranpur etc but the State Government has not been able to construct the Gates. I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to take up the urgent steps for the construction of Sluice Gates at the required places in Katihar district.

(v) Need to improve the Functioning of Telephones in Rural Areas of Tiruppattur Parliamentary Constituency, Tamil Nadu

[Translation]

SHRI D VENUGOPAL (Tiruppattur). In the past few years through certain Technology Missions, an impetus was intended to be given to provide telecommunication facilities etc in rural areas. But the availability of modern communication facilities is still eluding the rural areas. The avowed policy of the Ministry of Communications is to link all the villages of the country by way of providing them with telephone connections. At this juncture, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government the sorry plight of certain rural telephone exchanges in my constituency. Improvisation and modernisation of already existing rural telephone exchanges should be given priority. The rural telephone exchanges in Northamboondi, Vattavalam, Thandarampattu, Vanapuram, Mallavadi and Veraiyur are at a distance of 15 to 20 Kms around Thiruvannamalai. Most of these exchanges often meet with service shut-downs due to poor maintenance and obsolete equipment. Many surrounding villages get connected to these exchanges and the telephone link is often found disrupted. Apart from that, a good number of villagers of this area are waiting for long to get telephone connections. The same is the case with rural areas around Tiruppattur town. This industrially backward, agricultural area has sparsely located units of leather industry. So, this area must have improvised communication network to grow and prosper along with other parts of the country. I request the Central Government to take up modernisation work at the earliest in the rural telephone exchanges in Tiruppattur constituency.

(vi) Need to Take Effective measures to Check Sea Erosion in Sunderbans, West Bengal

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Joynagar). Sunderbans area, though rich in flora and fauna and renowned for its Tiger Project, its people are extremely poverty-ridden, there being no industry or even any agricultural activity—as it is very marshy and is a constant

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil

victim of vagaries of weather—worst of all the high tidal waves from the Bay of Bengal eroding the embankments of its rivulets measuring about 3500 Kms. and rendering the land unfit for any worthwhile agricultural cropping. The only solution is to further strengthen the embankments of its rivulets so that these can stand the crushing tidal waves. For this, some Dutch experts are needed from Holland, as that country has got expertise in countering the impact of devastating tidal waves and for that I would appeal to the Central Government to get into touch with the Dutch Government and secure the services of some experts from there to meet this threat to this poor land. It may be stated that the West Bengal Government is itself in the throes of acute financial crunch and are thus unable to spare any money for this enterprise. It is the Government of India, which can really help the poor people of Sunderbans area and save it from further ruination by the tidal waves, which at times claim some precious human lives also; apart from causing large-scale erosion of the soil, which can be very usefully utilised.

(vii) Need to Provide LPG Connections on Demand to the Consumers of Dakshina Kanada and Kodagu Districts in Karnataka

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore): Dakshina Kannada and Kodagu Districts in Karnataka State stretching north to south in between the Arabian Sea and Western Ghats, has been maintaining perfect ecological balance with its rich green forestry. Due to the recent decision of successive State and Central Governments for granting permission for setting up a number of industries in this area, the people are facing the hazard of environmental pollution. Now it has become incumbent on the people not to cut any more fire wood for the fuel purposes.

The people of this region are becoming more and more dependent on LPG for domestic cooking purposes. But the LPG has become a scarce commodity with limited supply outlets. A large number of consumers are waiting for more than five years to get an LPG connection.

In the interest of maintaining the ecological balance of the region and also to meet the greater demand for LPG connection, I request the Government of India to extend the benefit of granting immediate LPG connections to every consumer on demand, in this region, as has been done in the hilly regions elsewhere in the country.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned for lunch to meet at 2.35 p.m.

13.33 hours

[The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Thirty-five Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.]

14.41 hours

[The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Forty-one Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.]

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair)

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House shall now take up further consideration of the Bill moved by Shri Ramakant D. Khalap on the 26th July, 1996. The time allotted for this Bill is one hour. The balance is 30 minutes.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai North): The discussion has not yet started on this.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I think it had commenced. At least five persons have already spoken on this and thirty minutes has already been spent. Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat, Shri Satya Pal Jain, Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar have all spoken.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh): What happened was that when it was taken up for consideration, we spoke on that and then the consideration was deferred. At that time they withdrew from the discussion saying that they would like to bring forward an amended Bill.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): There was a demand that the Schedule be further amended to include Gram Panchayats in the case of Karnataka. This was the suggestion of certain Members. So we decided to ponder over this issue afresh. Accordingly the debate was adjourned on that issue. We have now come back with an official amendment that Gram Panchayats are also to be included in the Schedule relating to Karnataka. This is in deference to the wishes of the Members from Karnataka.

SHRI RAM NAIK: There may not be many speakers. Each Member will try to complete his speech within five minutes. We would not take much time.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Last time two points were raised. They have accepted one point. Another point was—he was here on that day—the MPs and MLAs are ex-officio members of Municipal and Cantonment Boards. The point raised was that by virtue of their being

members, whether they will also be entitled to vote or not. That is also one of the points raised.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: Do not go into the vote and all that. We can understand about Gram Panchayats.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Members of Municipal Corporations, Cantonment Boards, Zilla Parishads will be entitled to vote. Whether MPs and MLAs who are ex-officio members of the Municipal Corporations and Municipal Committees after the 73rd Amendment, will also be entitled to vote or not in the Legislative Council, was also one of the points raised.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: That will depend on what the Panchayati Raj Act contains.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You can express these views while discussing the Consideration Motion. Now Shri Dhananjaya Kumar.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the consideration of this Bill has come up again after the lapse of a long time.

At least now, the Government has awakened to the reality. After the amendments to the Constitution, that is the 72nd and the 73rd Amendments, the local bodies such as *gram panchayats*, *taluk panchayats*, *zila parishads*, the municipal corporations, the town municipalities and the city municipalities have been given a constitutional status. It is now mandatory that none of these bodies can remain without an election for more than six months.

We are now dealing with the election of Members to the Legislative Councils, who are to be elected from the electoral college consisting of the elected members of these local bodies. I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that there are twenty-five seats in the Karnataka Legislative Council to be filled by the elected members of these local bodies. These bodies will have to elect twenty-five members to the Legislative Council. The term of a Member of the Legislative Council is six years. For the last more than seven years the entire twenty-five seats from the local bodies constituency in the Karnataka Legislative Assembly have remained vacant.

Earlier, we had the system of *mandal panchayats* and *zila parishads*. Of course, there were the municipalities, the municipal corporations and the cantonment boards also. After the amendment to the Constitution, the various local bodies have been redefined: the *gram panchayats* have now taken the place of the *mandal panchayats*; the intermediary *panchayats* called the *taluk panchayats* have been constituted; the *zila*

parishads at the district level have been constituted and the structures of the town areas have also been redefined, or, rather reclassified into town municipalities, city municipalities and municipal corporations. The cantonment boards have been constituted and we have a new category called town *panchayats*. With this new Bill, the Government would like to include all these local bodies and bring them into the electoral college of the elected bodies. So, all these local bodies will constitute the electoral college.

My main objection is this. Even today, some of the local bodies are still under the administration of the Administrators. The elections for these bodies are long due. In my constituency in Dakshina Kannada district, none of the local bodies have elected representatives. They do not have elected bodies at all. The elections were last held more than a year ago. Even after the amendment to the Constitution, even after it has become obligatory on the part of the State to hold elections to these local bodies, the elections have not been held. The elections were declared twice, the process of filing nominations was gone through and at the eleventh hour, after the finalisation of the nominations, for one reason or the other, the elections were cancelled. We do not know when the elections would be held. From Dakshina Kannada district two members from the local bodies constituency will have to be elected to the Karnataka Legislative Council. The said two seats will have to remain vacant. We could not elect two members from the local bodies constituency of Dakshina Kannada. Similar is the case with the Bangalore urban district. The Bangalore urban district consists of only the Bangalore Municipal Corporation.

The election to the Bangalore Municipal Corporation is not held. So, now we are in a dilemma as to when we are going to fill up these vacancies in the Legislative Council. Then, yet another dispute may arise. Once the electoral college is duly constituted and the elections are held, as we know the term of an elected member of the Legislative Council would be for six years and one-third of the members would retire every two years by rotation. Now, the dispute is, which are the members among these 25 members elected from the local bodies constituency who would retire at the end of the first two years, which are those members who would be retiring after four years and which are those members who would complete their full term. Probably, a provision has to be made, otherwise there would be great confusion.

I do not know whether the Government would resort to the method of lottery. Normally, in such cases, they always resort to the method of lottery. Whoever is lucky, would get a chance to complete the full term. Rest of the members would retire either at the end of two years

or at the end of four years. Why I am bringing this to the notice of the Government is, due to the lapse and lethargy on the part of the Government, the electoral college could not be properly constituted. And, what was needed was an amendment to the Representation of the People Act, under the changed circumstances, enabling the members of the local bodies to vote in the election of a member to the Legislative Council.

Sir, I, with some reservations, thank the Minister for having agreed to the amendment proposed by some of the hon. Members, especially Shri Anantha Kumar who would dwell on it at length when his turn comes. I do not know for what reasons the Government had committed to include in the original Bill a class of voters, the largest number who are the members of the Gram Panchayats.

In fact, Sir, as we know the life of the local bodies lies in the Gram Panchayats which is the lowest representative body of the voters. The member of the Gram Panchayat would be in a position to take better care of every voter and every citizen in that area. If such a member is kept out of the electoral college and is denied of his right to select a representative to the Legislative Council, then probably the very purpose of electing the representatives from the local bodies constituency to the Legislative Council would have been defeated. Now, rightly the Government has agreed and the Minister himself has proposed an amendment, including the members of the Gram Panchayats also in the electoral college. The purpose for which the representatives are elected from these local bodies constituency to the Legislative Council is very specific.

These local bodies are very often left at the mercy of the State Governments. Though the local bodies are given a constitutional status by making a mandatory provision that they cannot remain under the administration of the administrators for more than six months' period and that elections will have to be held at regular intervals, still there is no provision made for augmentation of the resources. As you know, these local bodies are entrusted with the responsibility of providing basic facilities to the citizens such as drinking water, sanitation, lighting, etc. But many a time, we find that none of these local bodies are in a position to perform their duties. They are not in a position to augment their resources because of lack of funds also. The powers of the authority vested in these local bodies to collect taxes are also taken away one after the other by the State Governments like the entertainment tax, motor vehicles tax and even the professional tax. Now, the State Governments are collecting these taxes; and they, in turn, give a portion of that to these local bodies.

So, to fight for the rights of these local bodies, a due representation in the Legislative Council is very much necessary. There is nobody to speak for these local

bodies, to put up their case and to make a proper representation I will not be wrong in saying that only such representatives in the Legislative Councils would be in a position to fight for the rights of these local bodies. So, it is a great injustice on the part of the Government to keep these seats vacant for a long period of time which is more than a complete term of an elected representative in the Legislative Council. I wish that at least now, after this Bill is made an Act, the Government should request the Karnataka Government to immediately hold the elections to all these local bodies wherever elections were not held in time, complete the constitution of the electoral college and then take necessary steps to elect the representatives to the Legislative Council.

So far as the other part of the Bill pertaining to the State of Uttar Pradesh is concerned, my leader, Shri Ram Naik would make the submissions. In fact, there are some lapses there also I do not know why the Government has not come up with a similar amendment, including the members of the gram panchayat. They have omitted the members of the gram panchayat from the electoral college, so far as the State of Uttar Pradesh is concerned I do not know whether anybody in his Ministry has given some thinking to this or not. But they have blindly drafted it ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: May be, because of elections in UP.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: *Kshetriya* panchayats are there, but gram panchayat, which is the root of democratic institution is omitted in the case of Uttar Pradesh.

So, I would again request the Government to take immediate steps to give the fruits of this Bill. That is, once this Bill becomes an Act, immediate steps may be taken to fill up all the vacancies in the local bodies; so also, in the Legislative Council so that proper representations could be made and the citizens residing in these areas may get the benefits from the State Governments. Thank you very much.

15.00 hrs.

(SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE *in the Chair*)

[Translation]

PROF. I.G. SANADI (Dharwad-South): I am grateful to hon. Shri Ramakant D. Khalap. There was utter confusion in Karnataka. Neither the Assembly nor the council were functioning. An agitated atmosphere was prevalent in the whole State. The Government has cleared this atmosphere with a very cool-minded approach and Gram Panchayats which had been left out have now been included to be represented. This is a great obligation done to us. I recollect what Gandhiji had said:

[English]

"Democracy cannot function with a few men sitting in Delhi. It has to be operated from below by the people of every village. This is possible only through Panchayat Raj. A village Panchayat is a basic unit of self-government."

[Translation]

This amendment will ensure that 80,000 to 86,000 elected members of the Village Panchayats will get a right to elect their representatives who could echo the problems of the villages in the legislature to have them solved. This far-sighted step has been enthusiastically received by the elected members of the Gram Panchayats. I conclude by thanking you personally and on behalf of Karnataka.

[English]

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (Bangalore South): Madam, at the outset, I want to thank the Government for moving this official amendment which also includes the Gram Panchayat Members of Karnataka. But I want to point out at this juncture that only after a protracted battle both in the Karnataka Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council—it was also fought in both the Houses of Parliament—the Government awoke to this decision. Our Government got enlightened to amend its own steps. I remember a saying that everything is fair in love and war. It can be continued as: 'Everything is fair in love and war and parliamentary practice'. I feel our hon. Minister, Shri Khalap, adopted this dictum and protracted the whole thing to such an extent.

I want to bring one or two things to your kind notice. Twenty-five seats are vacant in the Legislative Council of Karnataka since June, 1994. The Fourth Schedule to the Representation of the People Act, 1950 clearly specifies that the local bodies should also have representation in the Legislative Council. In 1992, the Seventy-third Amendment and the Seventy-fourth Amendment to the Constitution were brought forward for the purpose of giving constitutional rights to the local bodies.

When these constitutional amendments were brought, it was very clear that the local bodies, according to the Fourth Schedule of the RP Act of 1950, comprise city municipal corporations, city municipal councils, town municipal councils, town panchayats, zila panchayats, taluk panchayats, cantonment boards including gram panchayats. I just do not understand as to why the whole thing was delayed so much. There has been a case of flip-flop-flip. Bill No. 13 of 1995 was brought on 20th March, 1995 by the previous Government and in that amendment—the same amendment—gram panchayats were included. But suddenly, when Bill No. 20 of 1996

was presented in this House on 11th July, 1996, the clause relating to gram panchayats was omitted and again today, the 10th September, this has been included as official amendment.

Everytime, the spokespersons and leaders of the Government say, both in the House and outside, that they represent the sons of the soil, the farmers, the landless labourers, the weavers, the fishermen and such downtrodden classes. But by excluding gram panchayat members, they had almost taken away the right, the voice and representation of these grassroot people who would have got their representation otherwise in the Legislative Council.

I am really suprised to see that in both the Houses of the Karnataka Legislature as well as in Parliament, we have to wage a battle to enlighten the Government and to bring to their kind notice that they are saying one thing in their election manifesto and Common Minimum Programme and behaving otherwise while governing the country and giving representation to the downtrodden people, farmers, landless labourers, weavers and fishermen. At last, because of the concerted fight by Opposition benches—I should mention the BJP—and even the Congress members in Karnataka State Legislature and Members of Parliament like hon. Shri Kondaiah, Prof. I.G. Sanadi, a colleague of mine in BJP, Shri Satpal Jain and Shri Dhananjaya Kumar and others raised this issue in this august forum to give voice to those persons who would have otherwise lost their representation of selecting their representatives to the Legislative Council.

Before concluding, I would just like to bring to your notice that there would have been a dimension of damage. There are 5640 gram panchayats in Karnataka which have 80,627 gram panchayat members. If this official amendment which has been the product of the concerted effort of the Opposition Members had not seen the light of the day, then only 8000 members of municipal corporations, city municipal councils, zila parishads and taluk panchayats would have voted. Whereas more than 80,000 representatives of the farmers would have lost this opportunity.

Therefore, this was the gravity of the situation. At last, the concerted fight of the Opposition Parties has been able to enlighten the Government that according to the 73rd and 74th Amendment of the Constitution, decentralisation means that power, both representative as well as executive, should devolve to the village level, the grassroot level. I think, that has come to stay. I would once again, if I am permitted to say, like to thank the recently enlightened hon. Minister of Law because at last the Government has brought this amendment.

Sir, before concluding I would like to point out that in the State of Karnataka, elections to the two city corporations—Bangalore City Corporation and the

Mangalore City Corporation—have not been conducted. Election to some other local bodies are also due. The elections to these two city corporations are being stalled for the last one and a half year. There are more than 56 lakh people in Bangalore city. It is the heart of the entire State of Karnataka. The Bangalore City Corporation is without any popular mandate and without people's representatives. It is being run by an Administrator. Therefore, I would like to urge upon the hon. Law Minister to persuade the Government to hold elections there. The Party in power at the Centre is also ruling in Karnataka and has their own Government there. Let the elections to these bodies be held immediately; let them seek the mandate of the people; let there not be any scare; let there not be any apprehension about the outcome of the results. The people would give their mandate and the people's voice should ultimately be regarded. I feel that this would be a fitting example of the triumph of the voice of the people.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Madam Chairperson, I welcome the Bill further to amend the Representation of the Peoples Act, 1950. Panchayats are the base and the backbone of administration in our country and it is through the Panchayat that the development of the people of that area can take place. People will be benefited more if the representatives of Panchayat members come in the legislature because they can present the local problems better before the legislature and effectively seek their solutions. It is a very useful Bill, particularly because it will give an opportunity to the Village Pradhans or Mukhiyas to present their point of view at the State level.

[English]

SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH (Bellary): Respected Madam I stand here to support the Bill further to amend the Representation of the Peoples Act, 1950. The Karnataka Government has proposed a Bill that excludes the *Gram Panchayats* from the list of voters for the Legislative Council. The amendment to the Representation of the People Act has been proposed because it appeared that more than 5,600 *Gram Panchayats* are excluded from exercising their right to elect their representatives to the State Legislative councils. In effect, it means that about 80,000 Members of *Gram Panchayats* who have directly been elected by the rural population of India are being deprived of their right to vote for the State Legislative Councils.

These 80,000 members represent the basic grass-root democracy of India.

Representing the common rural masses of India, the Gram Panchayats are involved in day-to-day life of the

common man of rural India, from the landless labourers, village artisans to the farmers at a small scale and to the downtrodden women's community.

This Government has, time and again, claimed that their major plank is poverty alleviation. The highest of poverty is admittedly prevailing in poor rural areas. Depriving the Gram Panchayats from the right to vote is to deprive the poor man to have his representative in the Council. All poverty alleviation programmes have to be implemented at the Gram Panchayat level, whether it is the Awas Yojna or the Vikas Yojana or the Rojgar Yojana. Most of the 20-Point Programme have to be implemented at the Gram Panchayat level for the Gram Panchayat area and by the Gram Panchayats.

It is at the Gram Panchayat level that we are implementing 30 per cent reservation for the women apart from the reservation for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and OBCs. If we do not give the right to the Gram Panchayats to vote for the Council membership, we are depriving women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the backward classes from having their representatives in the Council.

It is strange to see that only the Gram Panchayats have been excluded from the right to vote when all other local bodies have this right. The Municipal Corporation can vote. The Town Municipal Councilors can vote. The Zilla Parishad members can vote. The Taluk Panchayat members can vote. It is only the Gram Panchayats that cannot vote. The Gram Panchayat is the cutting edge of the Indian democracy. They alone are being excluded.

It is heartening to note that the State of UP has included the Gram Panchayat as voters. Why is Karnataka refusing to honour the Gram Panchayats? Are they afraid of democracy at the grass-root level?

Anyhow, now the Government has come up with an amendment to give gram Panchayats the right to vote to the Legislative Council. I congratulate the Government for at least having agreed to include the Gram Panchayats in it and hence I support this amendment.

SHRI C. NARAYANA SWAMY (Bangalore North): Madam Chairperson, the amending Bill to provide for representation of the Panchayati Raj Institutions at different levels in Karnataka—Gram Panchayats, Taluk Panchayats and District Zila Panchayats—is a welcome one.

There have been provisions for representation of various sections like the teachers and the graduates in the Legislative Council and hence it is very apt that we have brought forward this Bill. In this context, I would like to bring to the knowledge of this august House, through you, that very often elections to the Legislative

council, from local body constituencies, are not held for long periods of time even after the term of the previously elected member is over. We should set a time limit for holding the elections or for filling the vacancy caused due to the expiry of the term of the Member.

In this context I would like to say that we have the 73rd Amendment of the Constitution which has given a statutory basis to the local bodies, both urban and rural, in the country. After the coming into force of this Constitution Amendment, all the States in the country are now bound to have the elected Panchayats. Unfortunately, even though the Eleventh Schedule, as brought in through the Constitution (Seventy-third) Amendment, mentions various programmes and schemes to be implemented by the Panchayats at different levels in the country, in various states though the State Legislatures make a mention of the item relating to the programmes, the Panchayats that are established are not given the freedom to implement or to plan these programmes.

While giving most of the programmes to the Panchayats for implementation or those programmes which are centrally sponsored or which are Central sector programmes where some are from the state sector, guidelines were framed by the Centre and the State. Sometimes uniform guidelines are framed for implementation throughout the country. But with varying degree of local conditions, it is necessary for the Union Government to give freedom to the implementing agencies at the grassroot level to vary the guidelines to suit the local requirements. This is one of the important factors that would enable the local bodies to implement the programmes.

Another important thing is that there is a provision in the Constitution Amendment for compulsory establishment of District Planning Committee at the District level. This District Planning Committee in each District would include members of the Gram Panchayat Raj institutions and Urban Local Bodies like the municipalities and the Corporations. Unfortunately, in many States including Karnataka I should say here that the District Planning Committees have not been formed in the way they should have been formed according to the provisions of the Constitution. There is the mandate under the Constitution Amendment to give powers to the Panchayati Raj institution. The Constitution lays down that it is not just sufficient to establish Panchayats but in order that they function as self-governing institutions, sufficient powers and authority should be given to them. In many States where we have the Panchayati Raj institutions functioning, I am sorry to find that the mandate of the Constitution is not found in the spirit of implementing the provisions of the Constitution because these Panchayati Raj institutions are not given sufficient administrative powers to implement the programmes. They are not given the administrative control over the officials working with the Panchayats. It is a negation of the principle of self-government that is sought to be given to the local bodies.

Though it is a State subject under the Constitution, I would call upon the Union Government, through you, to issue or frame model guidelines so that the States are able to follow them and implement these guidelines by bringing in amendments in their respective State Legislatures. This new measure especially enabling the Panchayat Raj institutions to have their own representatives in the Legislative Council of Karnataka is, as I already said, a welcome measure. Earlier we had Zilla Parishads and Mandal Panchayats between 1987 and 1992. Then in the earlier Local Bodies constituencies the Members of the Zilla Parishad and Mandal Panchayats were given the right to vote in those constituencies.

Now, in view of the Constitution Amendment we have a three-tier set up in Karnataka. As I already said, the Karnataka State has a population exceeding 20 lakhs which necessitates a three-tier Panchayat Raj set up for the State. So, in view of the measures now being taken up, all the representatives of the three-tier are going to be represented in the Legislative Council. I congratulate the Government, both State and the Centre, for having come forward with this measure to enable election of Members of the Legislative Council from the Local Bodies constituencies.

At this juncture, it would not be out of place for me to suggest the general tendency among the legislators, even unfortunately the tendency among some of my own parliamentary colleagues is that everything that the Panchayat is expected to do, we want to interfere and want to do it ourselves.

The Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution, as I said, contains a list of items to be given to the Panchayats. That should be the endeavour of the Panchayats themselves to plan for social welfare schemes and also plan and implement rural development programmes.

So, it should be the endeavour of all of us to support the Panchayati Raj institutions, to cooperate with the Panchayati Raj institutions, and also allow them to function in an independent manner as units of self-Government.

With these few words, I thank the hon. Minister for conceding to bring in an official amendment to enable the Members of the Gram Panchayats in Karnataka also to participate in the election of representatives to local bodies in the State.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai-North): Madam Chairperson, like the speakers preceding me, I also welcome the Bill and thank the hon Minister for bringing it before the House. However, the Bill has been presented belatedly because the 73rd and 74th Constitution Amendments after being signed by the President came into force on 20th

April, 1993. This means that the Karnataka Legislative Assembly remained deprived of one-third Members due to the inefficiency and incompetence of the Congress Party. It is a serious matter in a democracy not to elect 25 out of 75 members. So, while congratulating the hon. Minister, I also ask the Congress to think of their lapses. It is indeed something very serious that one-third seats of the Assembly remained vacant. However, since it is better late than never, I welcome the Bill.

Representation of the Gram Panchayats in the legislature has been recognised and this Bill has been brought forward with a view to implement that. Even though the Government was late to recognise this obligation, it deserves thanks for correcting the mistake through this official amendment. However, I feel that the Government is discriminating between states in this matter. If you want to give that right to the Gram Panchayats of Karnataka then why not give it to the Gram Panchayats of Uttar Pradesh also, where there are elected Gram Panchayats? Is it because the Prime Minister comes from Karnataka and has nothing to do with Uttar Pradesh? It smacks of discrimination and, therefore, the House must be told why this Amendment has not been applied to Uttar Pradesh and why this discrimination has been done.

When we consider that the vacancies that were existing in Karnataka Legislative Council for 2 or 3 years will now be filled, opening the way for making arrangements for elections, it also comes to the mind that elections in other places will also become due in the days to come. In view of this, I specifically draw your attention to Maharashtra. The difficulties that I am going to mention about Maharashtra may also hold good in respect of several other States after the 73rd and 74th Amendments. Since I know more about Maharashtra, I will place before you the problem of that State and would like you to answer to the point during your reply to the debate. The 73rd and 74th Amendments to the Constitution envisaging Panchayat Raj were heartily welcomed by all sides. Not only there was no opposition to that proposition in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, but all the States also welcomed it enthusiastically. But certain points were forgotten in that enthusiasm. For instance, the present amendment would not have been necessary if provision for representation to District Councils, District Panchayats, Gram Panchayats and Taluka Panchayats was made at that time. However, it does happen that certain things are skipped in our enthusiasm. As example, I want to put the case of Maharashtra only.

Our Minister comes from Goa. Karnataka is situated on its right and Maharashtra on its left. He has attachment to Maharashtra also because of language and visits ... (Interruptions) His party is known as Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party. He is close to Mumbai city. So, he

knows Maharashtra well. The Zila Parishad Act in Maharashtra is in force since 1962. In other words, what we wanted to achieve through the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments for the whole country was already prevalent in Maharashtra since 1962. But a sudden hurdle is to appear soon. In the 73rd Amendment, we have provided in section 343 M-1 that elections to Panchayats in the Scheduled Areas will not be held until notified. In Maharashtra, the term of Taluka Panchayats, Gram Panchayats and District Panchayats is coming to an end in February, 1997. In my constituency of Mumbai-North, there are 4 Assembly seats and the area of Thane, which is a rural area, has 2 Assembly seats. The whole Thane district is an Adivasi area. In this district, there are 6 Panchayat areas that are entirely Adivasi. Besides, 4 Taluka Panchayat areas are half Adivasi and half general. Under the 73rd Amendment, elections in the Adivasi areas will not be held for District Councils. That means that elections for District Councils, Taluka Panchayats and Gram Panchayats cannot take place there. An amendment to the Fifth schedule should therefore, be made, laying down when these elections will take place. If that is not done, a sizeable area will be deprived of elections. Without such an amendment, 11 District Panchayats, 20 Taluka Panchayats which are wholly Adivasi and 27 Taluka Panchayats which are half Adivasi and half general, and 2236 Gram Panchayats will be deprived of election in the State. After February, 1997, a situation will emerge when there will not be any representative of the people in such a big chunk. When election are not held in 11 out of 13 Taluka Panchayats, it means that the entire District Council would be constituted from representatives of 2 Taluka Panchayats only. That would be gross injustice. Therefore, it is my earnest request to you to give a serious thought to this issue. If elections are to take place there in February, 1997, then you will have to bring a constitutional Amendment Bill. Karnataka remained without these elections for nearly 3 years. This should not be repeated in Maharashtra.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): Mr. Naik, the question you have raised—is it about the Sixth Schedule?

[English]

Is it applicable only to Scheduled Areas?
... (interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK: Yes. In those Scheduled Areas, there are 11 Zilla Parishads, 20 fully affected Taluka Panchayats, 27 partially affected Taluka Panchayats and 2236 villages.

[Translation]

This, therefore, requires a serious consideration and, for this, you will have to bring a Constitutional Amendment Bill. Only 2 or 3 days are now left when this session will be over, so, it would not be possible to bring it now. But you should come forward with the necessary amendment during the session beginning in December. If you want to do it before that, it can be done through an Ordinance. It is another thing whether an ordinance can be issued or not for amending the Constitution—that you have to see.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah): Today Lodhaji is not present here at the moment. He has objection on ordinance. If the ordinance is to be issued, it can be done only after getting his permission.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: We will have to obtain necessary advice for this.

SHRI RAM NAIK: If the people get their franchise through the Ordinance, it is worth it. However, it is to be considered whether an Ordinance can be issued to amend the Constitution. In any case, you will have to bring this Bill in the Winter session. The Scheduled Tribe people of Maharashtra must not be deprived of their right to vote. Like Maharashtra, there might be some other States also affected by the same malaise. It would, therefore, be better to take an integrated view and then bring a Bill. With these words I conclude and thank you.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the hon. Minister will reply.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Madam, two amendments were proposed by me. If you permit, I will take one or two minutes to clarify my amendments. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the hon. Minister reply now. When we take up the amendments, at that time I will allow you.

Since you have already participated in the discussion, your amendments can be moved as such.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Madam, when I was speaking last time, the hon. Minister withdrew the Bill and said that he would bring an amended Bill next time. Therefore, it was adjourned. I will not take more than two minutes. If you permit me to speak now, then there will be no need for me to speak on my amendments. One of them has been accepted and the other has not been accepted. With a view to save time, if the hon. Minister permits, Madam, you can allow me to speak for two minutes. I will not speak for more than two minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Madam, I have moved two amendments. One was about the introduction of this clause in both Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka. I am very thankful to the hon. Minister because he has accepted one. In Karnataka, they have now introduced an amendment in the Act that the members of the Gram Panchayats and Sarpanchs would be entitled for voting and for electing representatives to the Legislative Council. I am very happy about it.

The second one was about Uttar Pradesh. Now, as Shri Ram Naik has pointed out, it is a very strange thing. By the same Act, in Karnataka, the members of the Gram Panchayats and Sarpanchs will be entitled to cast their votes for electing representatives to the Legislative Council but they will be deprived of the same right in Uttar Pradesh. There is no justification for that. I would like to seek a clarification and also an assurance from the hon. Minister. In spite of the fact that there are Municipal Committees, Corporations, Gram Panchayats and all that, the elections are not held for a very long time.

For example, I come from the Union Territory of Chandigarh. In my constituency, the Municipal Corporation was created three years back. Parliament provided that by an Act. But no elections have been held so far. No elections have been held to the Zilla Parishad. No elections have been held to Panchayat Samiti. I want only one thing. Let the Minister kindly assure that wherever these institutions are there—may be in Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, anywhere Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti, Zilla Parishad, Municipal Corporation, Municipal Cantonment Board, whatever it is, the Government should ensure the elections within a reasonable time. This is the only thing that I want from him. Thank you very much for giving me the time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I allowed him because he specially requested. Since he has already participated in the discussion, at the time of moving the amendment, he will not speak on that.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): Madam Chairperson, I am grateful to all the hon. Members who were kind enough to congratulate me for agreeing to amend this Schedule to the Representation of People Act in regard to inclusion of Gram Panchayats in Karnataka. I accept these congratulations with all humility.

However, I also wish to make a point that we have to look at this in the context of the existence of Legislative Councils in different States of our country. As far as may knowledge goes, in just about four States we have the

Legislative Councils. So the question that we are not permitting gram panchayats to have representation in the Council does not appear to be a point which can be universally applied.

Madam Chairperson, in the Fourth Schedule to this Representation of People Act, we have Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka. And in this Schedule as it existed or as it exists till now, we find that in none of these four States, Gram Panchayats have been included in the electoral colleges. In this Amendment now we are considering only two States. We are considering Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh.

I have a letter here which we received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh. It very clearly states that the new nomenclature of local bodies specified under Schedule is being mentioned. The important portion is here. Pradhans of Gram Panchayats are ex-officio Members of the concerned Kshetra Panchayats which are included in the Fourth Schedule. There are about 58,000 Gram Panchayats in the State. If these Panchayats are included in the Fourth Schedule and their members totalling about six lakhs will have to be registered in the electoral roll of the concerned constituencies. Since the Gram Panchayats get the representation through their Pradhans, the State Government is of the view that it is not necessary to include Gram Panchayats in the Fourth Schedule.

In fact, this argument which is put forward by Uttar Pradesh is also applicable to Karnataka because in Karnataka also, the Taluk Panchayats give representation to the Gram Panchayats and one-fifth of the Adhyakshas get a representation in the Taluk Panchayats for a period of one year and this changes by rotation. Now the very concept of local council is this that it is not election by adult Panchayats and representation is given in an indirect manner.

If you also go through these provisions as laid down in the Constitution, Article 243 (c), sub Article 3, it says as under.

"The Legislature of a State may by law provide for the representation (a) of the Chairpersons of the Panchayats at the village level—in the Panchayat, it is at the intermediate level—or in the case of a State not having Panchayats at the intermediate level, the Panchayat at the district level; (b) of the Chairpersons of the Panchayats at the intermediate level in the Panchayats of the district level."

Similarly, it says that the Members of the House of the people and the Members of the Legislative Assembly of the State representing constituencies which comprise wholly or partly a Panchayat area at a level other than the village level in such Panchayats.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: That is so far as the panchayat is concerned.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: Yes. Here, what has happened is that the lowest rung of our panchayati raj, is given a representation at the intermediate level and the members of the intermediate level get a representation at the district level. So, this has been the ladder of representation so far as the panchayati raj is concerned, as laid down in Article 243(c).

Since it was the desire of Members from Karnataka from different political parties which are represented in this House and also the wish of the Karnataka Government and, of course—the credit also goes to the hon. Prime Minister, who responds to the wishes of the Members of this House—we decided to accede to this request and bring about this amendment.

Now, some more questions have also been raised. One of the question, particularly raised by Shri Dhananjaya Kumar is whether M.Ps who are members of local authorities, will be entitled to vote or not.

Therefore, I will request the hon. Member to read with me Section 27 sub-section (2) of the Representation of the People Act, 1950. It says and I quote:

"For the purpose of elections to the Legislative Council of a State in any local authorities' constituency—

- (a) the electorate shall consist of members of such local authorities exercising jurisdiction in any place or area within the limits of that constituency as are specified in relation to that State in the Fourth Schedule;
- (b) every member of each such local authority within a local authorities constituency shall be entitled to be registered in the electoral roll for that constituency."

Now, Members of Parliament, as per Article 243(c), sub-article 3(c), again Legislature of a State may by law provide for the representation of the Members of the House of the People and the Members to the Legislative Assembly of the State representing constituencies which comprise wholly or partly a panchayat area at a level other than the village level in such panchayats.

Therefore, if a Member of Parliament becomes a member of the local panchayat, automatically he gets a right to vote. So, your right to vote even at that stage has not been taken away.

The second question he asked was why was it that the village panchayats were excluded from electoral college in the first instance. I have given this answer in my opening remarks itself that initially the gram panchayats were not included. Now, the demand has come.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Earlier, it is very clearly said that in Karnataka Municipalities and Mandal Panchayats were there. What are Mandal Panchayats? Mandal Panchayats are group of villages and even Gram Panchayats are group of villages. There is only change in the nomenclature.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: You mean to say Mandal Panchayats and Group Panchayats are the same.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: It is almost the same, except for the population.

SHRI C. NARAYANA SWAMY: Earlier, mandal panchayats in Karnataka were set up for a population of 10,000 each. The present Gram panchayat represents a population of 3,000 to 5,000 each.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Gram panchayat does not mean a panchayat for one single village. Gram panchayat is for two or three villages. Mandal panchayat is for three or four villages of 10,000 people. There is only a small variation of the nomenclature.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: I thank you for this information. There has been basically a difference between a village panchayat and a mandal panchayat, either it may be in terms of the population or in terms of the number of villages which form the group. Probably, we can compare this with the *chietra* panchayats of Uttar Pradesh.

The hon. Member has also raised the issue of augmentation of resources of village panchayats, etc. I think that issue does not really pertain to the discussion that we have in this House.

I now come to hon. Shri Ram Naik and, first of all, thank him for raising a very important issue.

In connection with elections to the Scheduled Areas, there is also a provision in Sub-Article 4(b) of Article 243M which says:

"Parliament may, by law, extend the provisions of this Part to the Scheduled Areas and the tribal areas referred to in clause (1) subject to such exceptions and modifications as may be specified in such law, and no such law shall be deemed to be an amendment of this Constitution for the purposes of article 368."

I do not know whether I can make use of this particular provision. But I will assure the hon. Member that first of all I accept the proposal that the Panchayati Raj System should be universally made applicable to all the areas, whether they are Scheduled Areas or non-Scheduled Areas. If the Scheduled Areas are deprived of this particular provision, some steps have to be taken to see that they also get the benefits of Panchayati Raj

System. Therefore I will examine this issue in greater detail and if at all a law has to be made under these provisions of the Constitution, we will take steps to bring that law. Now, we have intervening period between this Session and the Winter Session. During that period, we will study this and hopefully, before the date for elections in Maharashtra which is declared as 2nd February, we may be in a position to enact a law and thereby provide Panchayati Raj System in Scheduled areas of not only Maharashtra but also other States, if it is required in such States. I hope that this assurance will satisfy the hon. Member.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: What about taking steps to hold immediate elections to the local bodies for which elections have not been held for a long time? The electoral college will not be complete unless elections to these bodies are held. The very purpose of the Bill will be defeated.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: Let me tell you that these elections to the local panchayats have to be held by the concerned States. How can I direct them?

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: You will have to impress upon them. Otherwise, the very purpose of this Bill will be defeated ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): Have the elections completed in your own state of Bihar first ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): The Central Government had decided that ...*(Interruptions)* the elections to Panchayats and Councils in all the States should be held before ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: All of you are speaking. Let Shri Naik speak.

SHRI RAM NAIK: You may not direct the State Election Commission, but you can just bring to their notice the feelings of the House.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: We will advise them to abide by the provisions of the Constitution.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Yes, Please also advise them to hold the elections early. That is the sense of the House. It should be communicated.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: We are not asking for any mercy. It is a constitutional right after the Seventy Third and Seventy Fourth Amendments to the Constitution.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has not said that you are asking for any mercy or not. All that he has said is that it is the duty of the State. Naturally all of you are there also.

SHRI B.L. SHANKAR (Chikamagalur): Madam Chairperson it is not correct that elections are not held in Karnataka, 99 per cent of the elections have been completed for all the local bodies except one district where Shri Dhananjaya Kumar belongs to. Shri Anant Kumar, only two districts—Bangalore City and South Canara—have been left.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: It is the State Capital which has been left. Without conducting these elections, the representation of local bodies become unfulfilled to that extent. You conduct a time-bound election. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI B.L. SHANKAR: It is we who conducted elections to Zila Panchayat, Taluk Panchayat and municipalities. It is not correct ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: All of you have spoken peacefully. You have made a point. Now, when you go back to Karnataka, I am sure you can settle it there.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are many other things also.
(Translation)

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Will the hon. Minister hold elections in Bihar?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This cannot go on. I have given an opportunity to everyone. Now, the Minister has to conclude.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU (Rajapur): May I ask a question to the hon. Minister?

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: Madam I am prepared to answer if you give the permission.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Madam I would like to know from the hon. Minister that whether up to the Seventy Third and Seventy Fourth Amendment of the Constitution, in whichever State it is, if the elections are not held, what are the penal provisions possible for a citizen to invoke?

What type of remedial measure the Central Government is contemplating; or is there any provision in the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments itself to make sure that those amendments are put into being in all the States?

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: Madam, there are constitutional provisions which have to be abided by all the States and all the citizens. They are binding on us. If any State does not go along as per the provisions of the Constitution, there are courts. You can approach the courts and ask for implementation of those provisions...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, I will put the motion for consideration.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Madam, is the reply of the Minister over?

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: My statement is over. I have given you the assurance about the schedule areas, proper steps will be taken very soon. Secondly, where the elections are not held, we will call upon the concerned State Governments to see that the elections are held at all levels right from villages to the Zilla Parishad and also municipality levels.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): When the 73rd and 74th Amendments to the Constitution were passed the then Government had declared that the funds allocated for rural development will not be released to the States which do not hold the elections within the prescribed time-limit. I want to know whether any warning has been issued to the States that have not so far held elections to the Panchayats or other autonomous bodies.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How can he answer that?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950 be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill. Shri K.C. Kondaiah, are you moving your amendment to clause 2?

SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: I am not moving.

Clause 2

Amendment made:

Page 2,—

for line 10, *substitute*—

"7. Grama Panchayats,

8. Cantonment Boards." (6)

(Shri Ramakant D. Khalap)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Satya Pal Jain, are you moving your amendment?

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Madam, as my amendment has already been accepted by the Government, I am not moving it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 1

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 3,—
for "(Amendment)"
substitute "(Second Amendment)" (5)

(Shri Ramakant D. Khalap)

16.00 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Enacting Formula and the long Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

16.01 hrs.

JAMMU AND KASHMIR BUDGET, 1996
AND
DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—JAMMU AND KASHMIR

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up item Nos. and 10 together.

Motion moved:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the Fourth column of the Order Paper, be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Jammu and Kashmir to *complete* the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1997, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1 to 27."

Demands for Grants—Budget (JAMMU AND KASHMIR) for 1996-97 submitted to the Vote of Lok Sabha

No. and Name of Demand		Amount of Demands for Grants on Account voted by the House on 12.3.96		Amount of Demands for Grants submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3		4	
1.	General Administration Department	14,13,17,000	1,35,30,000	14,13,18,000	1,35,30,000
2.	Home Department	149,76,47,000	3,59,45,000	209,76,46,000	3,59,45,000
3.	Planning and Development Department	2,80,66,000	2,95,85,000	2,80,66,000	2,95,86,000
4.	Information Department	2,68,27,000	32,18,000	2,68,27,000	32,17,000
5.	Ladakh Affairs Department	63,09,62,000	32,89,12,000

1	2	3		4	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
6.	Power Development Department	294,52,73,000	141,19,29,000	294,52,74,000	141,19,29,000
7.	Education Department	195,04,64,000	8,04,38,000	195,04,63,000	8,04,38,000
8.	Finance Department	88,19,89,000	2,20,00,000	88,19,89,000	2,20,00,000
9.	Parliamentary Affairs Department	95,31,000	—	95,32,000	—
10.	Law Department	7,82,17,000	—	7,82,17,000	—
11.	Industries and Commerce Department	22,67,73,000	22,15,87,000	22,67,73,000	22,15,88,000
12.	Agriculture, Rural Development & Co-operatives Department	46,86,46,000	30,73,98,000	46,86,46,000	30,73,98,000
13.	Animal Husbandry Department	25,93,34,000	4,59,86,000	25,93,34,000	4,59,86,000
14.	Revenue Department	42,82,15,000	1,23,40,000	42,82,14,000	1,23,39,000
15.	Food, Supplies and Transport Department	31,71,00,000	279,01,02,000	31,71,01,000	279,01,02,000
16.	Public Works Department	72,53,16,000	38,29,44,000	72,53,16,000	38,29,44,000
17.	Health & Medical Education Department	86,63,97,000	9,25,85,000	86,63,97,000	9,25,85,000
18.	Social Welfare Department	12,91,10,000	4,73,77,000	12,91,09,000	4,73,78,000
19.	Housing and Urban Development Department	15,96,39,000	25,75,09,000	15,96,39,000	25,75,08,000
20.	Tourism Department	6,63,18,000	5,78,33,000	6,63,17,000	5,78,33,000
21.	Forest Department	27,38,73,000	12,01,61,000	27,38,72,000	12,01,62,000
22.	Irrigation & Flood Control Department	35,61,50,000	19,72,83,000	35,61,51,000	19,72,82,000
23.	Public Health, Engineering Department	50,11,53,000	20,69,72,000	50,11,53,000	20,69,72,000
24.	Estates, Hospitality and Protocol, Parks & Gardens Department	9,55,27,000	1,07,78,000	9,55,28,000	1,07,78,000
25.	Labour, Stationery and Printing Department	6,04,10,000	8,91,23,000	6,04,10,000	8,91,24,000
26.	Fisheries Department	2,56,86,000	1,15,05,000	2,56,86,000	1,15,05,000
27.	Higher Education Department	27,84,74,000	4,87,28,000	27,84,74,000	4,87,27,000

SHRI JAG MOHAN (New Delhi): Thank you, Madam, for giving me this opportunity. The Budget provision is quite substantial and I have not much to say about the inadequacy or the adequacy of the provision. The main point I would like to emphasise is how all the money that is provided is actually spent.

In 1947-48, when Jammu and Kashmir State acceded to India, the total Budget provision was about Rs. 4.8 crore only. Now, it is about one thousand times more than what it was earlier in 1947-48. The main point to be considered is how this money is being utilised. I would say that, in absence of effective civil administration during the last few years, and even earlier, a lot of money that was provided had not gone in the right channel or in the positive channel—particularly, during the days of insurgency. Whatever liberal amount was provided has, in fact, gone to feed terrorism. It has gone into the wrong hands, and also the recruitment that has been done with the extra amount that was made available has only helped the militant and terrorist bodies. The contracts have been taken by them and so many other advantages have been reaped by them. So, if the hon. Finance Minister is really serious about proper management of finances in Jammu and Kashmir, he has to ensure that a very effective, honest and result-oriented administration comes into being at the earliest possible. Otherwise, the liberal financial provision might be counter-productive. That is the first point I would like to make. If the newspaper reports are correct, the hon. Finance Minister himself has criticised the fiscal management of the State and has expressed his dissatisfaction over it.

Another point which I would like to make is that we must understand that the entire plan money is made available by the central kitty. About 40 to 50 per cent of non-plan expenditure is also made available by the Central Government. Therefore, it is all the more incumbent on us to ensure that this money is properly utilised. In fact, the Government of India has not been able to bring home to the people of Jammu and Kashmir the fact that they are receiving a very liberal financial assistance from the Centre. Whereas the population of the State is 0.8 per cent of the total population of the country, it has been getting financial aid to the extent of three to four per cent of the total central allocation. So it is a big gap and this point should have been brought home to the people saying, "look, the Government of India is and has always been treating Jammu and Kashmir as a special case and has been most liberal in so far as the State is concerned."

The other point which I wish to mention at this stage is that if there is no effective control and if even the normal norms of administration are not involved, then the result will be lop-sided. When I say that you do not have

an effective civil administration, I would only quote a recent example of the Lok Sabha elections. When the Lok Sabha elections were held in the State, the Government servants did not work, did not cooperate and about 10,600 employees were brought from outside the State to do the job. Imagine the expenditure that was incurred on them. So many bullet-proof cars were brought; so many bullet-proof jackets were brought. And those who did not cooperate were let off and no action was taken against them. The issue is about the type of attitude of people. All that money that is being spent will go waste and will produce contrary results because you are encouraging an attitude which encourages indiscipline, which encourages them to do anything and get away with that. This type of attitude is counter-productive.

I am very sorry to say that now we are very loosely talking of maximum autonomy or 'Kashmir short of Azadi' without realising the financial aspects involved in it. If you go back to 1952 or 1953, then do you mean that you will not have any financial integration between the State and the rest of India. No one is asking the question as to what will happen if there is no financial integration, what will be the consequence of this? No one is asking this. Everyone is asking about maximum autonomy and giving a false hope. What would be the result of it? I have the latest bulletin of the Reserve Bank and I will quote some figures from this latest publication of the Reserve bank, December 1995. According to it the per-capita central assistance for 1994-95 was Rs. 3,010 crore for Jammu and Kashmir as against Rs. 190 crore for Bihar; Rs. 305 crore for Tamil Nadu; Rs. 385 crore for Rajasthan and Rs. 341 crore for U.P. So this is the gap, this is the difference. Just imagine this. In case of Jammu and Kashmir 90 per cent of this assistance is in the shape of grants and ten per cent is in the shape of loans. While in respect of four other States, 30 per cent is in the shape of grants and 70 per cent is in shape of loans. Our distinguished friend from West Bengal always mentions about more autonomy without realising what it would mean if financial integration is no longer there in Jammu and Kashmir.

Likewise, per capita non-Plan grants for Jammu & Kashmir in the same year comes to Rs. 720 crore while it is Rs. 72 crore for Bihar, Rs. 23 crore for Tamil Nadu, Rs. 81 crore for Rajasthan and Rs. 23 crore for UP. Now all this shows the tremendous gain that has flowed to Jammu & Kashmir.

Now those who are talking of the maximum autonomy should think, what will happen if this financial integration is no longer there. Who is going to foot the Bill? Obviously, someone else will come in, fill in the gap. And, who will be the foreign power that will be trying to fill in the gap? Why are they encouraging this attitude? Well, I leave it to your imagination.

The other issue is this. You say that 'we will give everything'. Every power is given to the Jammu & Kashmir—autonomy. But what is the nature of that 'autonomy' If you say, "All right. We will continue our financial assistance and the rest of the powers they can have." Supposing, you give them all the civil law powers they will say, "we will have *Shariat* as our Law. We will have the same type of Law as Pakistan has got—Islamic Law." If you give them the autonomy, they will be able to do so because there is a considerable element which is in favour of that.

Now, have we considered the implications of it? If you go on giving the money and that power, it means that the secular India will go on financing a theocratic State. Have you understood the consequence of it? What will happen? These are all inter-linked issues. By talking about this, we are creating a lot of problems in Jammu & Kashmir for the future.

Then, take another case. When you say this, what will happen to Article 356? But if the State does not follow any of the instructions relating to Defence, relating to Communications, relating to External Affairs or some other things, what is the remedy available to you, particularly, when you are giving '*Sadr-e-Riyasat*' a sort of different hallow—I mean—above the President? So far as he is concerned, he will be the '*Sadr-e-Riyasat*'—the President of the State—and he has to be recognized by the President but, has to be elected by the State Assembly. Supposing, he does not listen to the President's advice, what will happen? Or you say, "All right, the President withdraws the recognition." Then, supposing, if the State Assembly again elects the same person, what will happen? You will create a constitutional deadlock which will be unresolved.

So, my point is, why are you creating all this trouble? In fact, if you ask me, honestly it is not the lack of power but it is the surfeit of powers that has led to the present problem. Giving them too many powers and allowing them whatever they like, you have created a lot of regional discrimination in the State.

Both Jammu and Laddakh are feeling very aggrieved because the Valley people get all the veto because they are the virtual decision makers in all respects. You make the money available but how do they allocate it? That depends upon them. At least, up till the time, when the Laddakh Regional Council was created, this has been the position, Jammu is still having the same position. I am not saying that Kashmir Valley should not get all that but we have to be fair to every region. That is also very important.

Now, why is this discrimination? About the election law, Jammu & Kashmir has got a separate election law.

Although there is a provision for supervision by Election Commission of India, they have their own election law. I will just give you some figures to make my point more clear. For every 1.4 million people, Jammu gets one representative in the Lok Sabha whereas in Kashmir, for every one million people there is one representative. Therefore, by this delimitation of the Constitution or you can say constitutional manipulation you get more representatives from Kashmir than from Jammu although the population figure may justify allocation of larger number of seats to Jammu.

16.15 hours

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

Therefore, this is a sort of manipulation. That was for the Lok Sabha. For the State Assembly also the same thing is repeated. For ninety thousand population, Jammu sends one representative whereas for seventy-three thousand population Kashmir sends one representative. So, *vis-a-vis* the population, the number of representatives is much more in Kashmir than in Jammu. Why do we create this imbalance and heart burning among the people? What are the figures for the last so many years? In terms of area, Jammu is much larger than Kashmir, but the length of road there is much less. If you compare the two figures you will find that whereas Kashmir has 15,853 sq. kms. area, its Road length 5000 kms. But in the case of Jammu whereas the area is more, 27,000 sq. kms., its road length is only 3700 kms.

Ladakh, which was discriminated earlier, of course now has a separate Council. I hope substantial funds have been made available to Ladakh Council. I am not saying that Kashmir should not get what it has been getting. But it should be ensured that everybody gets a fair share of the central allocation.

About the autonomy or the so called decentralisation of power I would like to make one thing clear that no one is against it. But we must make a distinction between the autonomy that leads to efficiency, that leads to speedy development, that leads to enlargement of human personality and creative potential of the community and the autonomy that leads to subversion, terrorism and separatism. There is a lot of difference between the two. I do not understand why we should create this difference in so far as other States are concerned *vis-a-vis* Jammu and Kashmir. After all the need for speedy development is everywhere, the need for efficiency is everywhere, the need for enlargement of human personality is everywhere. The creative potential has to be encouraged, which is also common. But why do we create a situation which encourages separatist tendencies? We should see that all that we are investing, all that we are spending in J&K produces concrete results because there is no emotional integration or national integration in the real sense. The fact that this is a sort of appeasement is very evident. If

the Government had been really sincere in giving more power to the States or ensure decentralisation, it should have accepted the Sarkaria Commission's Report long ago.

In the case of Delhi, the State status has been accepted. But every effort has been made to ensure that the State does not get any power at all. It has no control over the land, it has no control over police, it has no control over the Delhi Development Authority; nothing. If the Government believes in the philosophy of decentralisation, then it is understandable. But if you are doing it as a sort of appeasement in J&K, then it is not at all understandable. Then you are creating a separatist psyche, you are whetting the appetite of the aggressors. This is what we must understand. It was unfortunately, not being understood in spite of the problems that we have got.

Now the real problem is, with all the amount that is being made available we have to ensure that there is an effective integration between the State and the Union. What are we doing? We are going the other way round.

All right, let us see whom could we give regional autonomy to. There is no such unit. For example, if we take Jammu, it is not a homogeneous unit; Rajouri and Poonch are not the same; Doda district is not the same; and even Udhampur is not like other areas. Then, there are Gujjars, Bakerwals and other castes. You cannot really subdivide and give autonomy to the various other units. If you do that, you would create innumerable claims and counter-claims, which you would not be able to resolve both in the Valley and in the Jammu region.

In Ladakh, the case is similar. Ladakh has been given a Council. But Kargil has remained separate. This type of an attitude is not going to serve any purpose. You may say that we want to give encouragement to ethnicity. This would be counter-productive. But what is the real problem? The real problem is the elimination of poverty, ignorance and disease. Instead of attending to and attacking that problem, we are going astray and allowing everybody to think in separatist terms. Those who do not get into the power structure will go on creating problems here and there by taking up some small issues. In Rajouri, Poonch, Doda and Udhampur, there are many castes and subcastes. The claims will be unending. All the money and administrative energy which we should be spending on positive work would go waste.

In fact, we will add to our problems the problems of claims and counter claims. So, if we really want to help the people of Jammu and Kashmir, we have to create an environment in which real development takes place, effective development takes place and effective integration

takes place between Kashmir and the rest of the country. We must emphasise the integrative links between the States and the Union.

For example, if you see the five thousand years of Indian history, you would see the various signs of Indian culture in Kashmir. Very many scholars have pointed out that if you want to see the best of Indian civilization, you have to see it in the ruins of Kashmir. Do you know why people go to Amarnath Yatra, why Shankaracharya went from Kerala to Kashmir, and why Swami Vivekananda went there? Even now people in Tamil Nadu get up in the morning and pray looking at the direction of Kashmir, saying, 'Sarda Devi, give us learning'. There are integrative links which no one teaches or include them in any of the text books.

What is the place of Kashmir in the Indian vision? Why was it that even Subrahmanya Bharati said, "Kashmir is the crown of Mother India and Kanyakumari is her lotus feet". We have not taught our youngsters any of this. We have not told them what the relationship is. This is the abiding relationship between the Union and Kashmir. But what we do is only to refer Article 370. It is unfortunate that Article 370 has now become a problem, a millstone around our neck.

Now, everybody is talking about liberalisation of the economy. Government's are opening up but in Kashmir, you want to block more. If there is no investment from outside, how will Kashmir prosper? You do not want the people from the other States to go and invest there because of the various restrictions that have been imposed. Therefore, even if you say that you would give or grant some special dispensation, that is not going to help. So far, it has not helped. Therefore, make the State as good a part of the union as other States. That is the way you can solve the problem of Kashmir and ensure that all the money that is being spent is well spent. There is a future. I must express my apprehensions. Elections are now going to take place.

We want the elections to be successful. But elections are not an end in themselves. Elections are means to an end. We must ensure that real peace takes place after that. This will take place only if you build an effective civil administration in the State. This has not been done and this has not been attended to. Unless that is attended to, the problem would remain, whether you hold elections or not. Now, this type of false hopes are being created about autonomy, strengthening of Article 370 and so on. When elections are held, a particular group would come to power and those who are left out of that power structure, would create innumerable problems. We must acquire an effective attitude to deal with them effectively.

I would leave other points for my colleagues to deal with. What I would like to say is that we must ensure

that the money that we spend is effectively spent. This would not be possible unless we have an effective civil administration and all the talk about maximum autonomy is going to create further problems. Let us be more clear about our objectives. Let us not create false hopes and later on cause some sort of frustration and more problems for us in the future.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I share some of the opinions expressed by our colleague from BJP, Shri Jagmohan, especially his opinion about financial situation being not proper in the past. The reasons are well-known that accountability was not in the system at all. We were trying to bring accountability in the system. But when the system was just gearing up, the Government had fallen and President's Rule was announced.

I would touch his other points at a later stage. I think within a month we will have an elected Government there. Some provisions, if possible, should be left available for the elected Government because they are going to fix the priorities. We are going to have a Government after nearly nine years and the State has passed through a very hard time.

I have come back from Kashmir just two days back. Let me tell the House how our brothers and sisters are facing the gun culture today to save the democratic values of the country. The people of Jammu & Kashmir have proved to this world that India loves democracy and India stands for democracy. They are voting when there is a threat that they would not be allowed to sit there and their hands would be cut. Such threats are being given by foreign powers and militants aided by them. Still the voting percentage has gone to 53 per cent in the last two or three days of elections in Kupwara and Baramullah. The response for democratic values is a clear signal as to how our brothers and sisters in that part of the State are brave enough to face these challenges. So, let us keep something available to the elected Government because they are going to fix the priorities.

I personally feel that the power structure has been totally neglected in the past. Some of the major power projects which were started, did not pick up well due to the insurgency and militancy in the State. Today power is one of the main requirements of the State. Tourism did pick up during 1983-85, but due to militancy it has again come down. It is a major industry in Jammu & Kashmir. Tourism has to be developed so that the country could earn foreign exchange. This industry provides livelihood for the majority of the people in Jammu & Kashmir. So, I would request that some portion of the plan allocation should be made available for the elected

Government to have their own priorities. The new Government can have discussions with the Planning Commission after they took over when the elections are completed.

Sir, I differ with Shri Jagmohan on two points. He has said that the formula for Jammu & Kashmir is different. Yes, it is different and the reasons are known as to why it is different. He was the Governor when the formula of 90 per cent grant and 10 per cent loan was approved.

This is the Government which approved this in 1989. It was during this time that this formula was proposed and approved by the Central Government. We appreciate that and it was the need. But again, if the utility of the funds is done to the right degree, then the purpose would have been served.

Unemployment has been one of the causes in that Valley. In some of the rural areas which we visited, they have pointed out that unemployment was one of the causes of even militancy. If Shri Jag Mohan would recollect, in 1986 or in 1987—this was picking up from that time—Jama'iet-e-Islam has started moving to the rural areas, picking up young children, brainwashing them on religious grounds. We had that information. It is unfortunate that even being in Government we could not control that situation and openly persons were saying, "You are to go to that side." There were signals available at that time. But the administration and the system which should have stopped them, did not stop them but increased them.

So, I would at this moment say—when the Budget is being proposed here—that when the elected Government comes, there would be some steps which they would take. As he has said, election is not the end; and I share with him. The way the foreign powers are trying to destabilise us in that part of the country, they would continue to do that. What has been done, just the day before yesterday? They picked up the children who were wearing ferons and said that they would give them Rs. 100, but they were to throw a hand grenade on any jeep coming there or the bus coming there. That sort of a policy and that sort a tactic is planted in that State. So, the new Government has to take some initiatives to curb these activities of organisations like Jama'iet-e-Islam or any other organisation which has been the root cause of militancy which has been propping the militant outfits like Hizbul Muzahideen or Iqwan or any other outfit which has total links with those organisations.

So, I would request that some sort of a step has to be left to the elected Government because they could come out with some new schemes. They would come out with the implementation of law and order, etc., in that form.

I have one point to make about industry. The industrial growth was picking up in 1982 or 1983 very well in Kashmir. I would not agree with Shri Jag Mohan that investment was there from outside. There were industries in electronics, there were people who had set up industries there. But he would bear me out. Sometimes, untimely signals given by politicians also had spoilt the situation. You may immediately blame me that it was not the BJP which was there then. But I must humbly request you and say that Article 370 was sustaining from 1952 onwards. But you never spoke in 1955, you never spoke in 1960, you never spoke in 1967 and you never spoke in 1970. But you suddenly started speaking about Article 370 in 1989 in the whole country; and it spread like a fire.

It may be wrong and I am not saying about that. According to you, it may be wrong. But time has to speak the language and sometimes, you have to see where the national interest lies. You have said in UP that one can buy a land in Etah, one can buy some land in Lucknow, but one cannot buy some land in Kashmir as if it is not our country. Such sentiments created a lot of problems for us. Why am I saying this? You may not agree with my view and may not agree with your view also. I am not saying that. But from the national approach, you have to time and you have to see the occasions.

You are the same person—when your Government took over the country for 13 days—who said that Article 370 is not on the agenda and Ram Mandir is not on the agenda. So, that is not the language which should be spoken at a place where it is going to harm our national interest. You yourself have said that for votes, sometimes, you do all this. I would request and say that there is a way. When Article 370 was thought over, even Pandit Nehru or the people on the scene, must not have thought over it for so long. Why have those people not come to the mainstream? Why has alienation taken place? We have to think it over. Why could we not bring them into the mainstream? We had been crying and I would still suggest to the House that till such time you do not involve the people, the young people from Jammu and Kashmir in the mainstream of the country, the position would not improve. Why can we not have them in the higher services? How many people of Jammu and Kashmir have been selected for the higher services? No. It is very negligible. There are public sector undertakings all over the country, but how many of them have joined them? Yes, there is the factor that they also do not want to come out from there, because they have such a climate, such an easy job available to them at that moment. I agree with it.

He has said that the rate of financial help given to them per capita is much higher, and I agree with it. There is a reason for that. Now with this militancy—I am

on the positive side of it which I am not happily appreciating—a lot of people have gone from Jammu and Kashmir to other parts of the country and settled very well. You go to Lakhimpur in Assam. I found a carpet shop there. In Goalpara also, they are very well settled now. They felt that they were not in this country earlier. But now they feel that this is our country and we are a part of it.

So, let us keep that feeling. We have to see that. Yes, there is a section of the society in Jammu and Kashmir which may not be agreeing on our lines of mainstream. But if majority was not on this line, the election could not have taken place in this form today. And this ratio would not have been voted. So, let us all work on that line.

Today, after the Government takes over, the Central Government also has a lot of responsibilities. I feel, the first and foremost will be about the hurt feelings of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. So many people had died. So, we have to really take decisions which can bring those people closer to us. There should be more transparency in action. There should be more transparency in administration and accountability in administration.

Shri Jag Mohan said that till such time we did not have transparency in administration and accountability in administration, they will not work. There was a rumour in Jammu and Kashmir that outsiders would not be allowed to become DCs or take important posts. Believe me, DC, Srinagar is an IAS officer from outside the State. He is the most lovable officer in Srinagar. Wherever you go, you will hear that he is a very fine DC, a person who can give them justice, a person who can give proper instructions in administrative form. They all appreciate that. But somehow, we—politicians—did not allow it. I would blame the local politics and local politicians more.

Today, all the district headquarters or districts are headed by various officers. Somebody may be from Jammu and Kashmir. He may be from outside. Now, the time is very good. I have gone to two or three districts. I found IAS officers. During my tenure, when I was Minister for Security, I initiated a move with the hon. Prime Minister that young IAS and IPS officers must be sent to Jammu and Kashmir and North-East so that they know about those areas. Otherwise, they get a State cadre. If one is allocated to Rajasthan or Madhya Pradesh or Bihar, he spends most of the time in that State. They do not get time to know the problem areas like Jammu and Kashmir and North-East. It was agreed to.

I hope that this Government follows the policy that after passing from Academy, there should be a minimum tenure of three years for every young officer to go to the North-Eastern States and also to Jammu and Kashmir so that they know that part of our country very well.

So, I would request the Finance Minister to keep that in mind.

Lastly, I have one point. It is a very serious situation even after elections because the forces outside know that Kashmir is a very sensitive part of our country. They have tried their best many times as in 1965 and 1971. I think, internal sabotage is the best policy they have achieved. And they know that for nine years, they could keep us in this position. We have lost many brave soldiers. I think never have we lost soldiers of the rank of Major-General and Brigadier. We have lost them in war. But we have never lost Brigadiers and Major-Generals in peace time. They must have died in an accident or some such thing. But we have lost them on duty. Many young and brave soldiers have sacrificed their lives for the integrity of this nation.

I would request a balanced approach on two counts. One, how should we bring them into the mainstream? There are a lot of people who are in detention. Some of the people do not even know why they are in detention. During my time, I tried my best that within 24 hours, we would tell them why they had been arrested or within 48 hours, we would tell them what was our next course of action. This transparency did come at some level in DCs. But people were already detained in jails here and there. We tried our best. But some of the legal complications came in. We could not really give a very justified answer to this question. Somebody said: "My son has been in jail for three years. What is his fault? What did he do? Shri Pilot, please let me know from the Government side."

In many cases, I could not answer. So, I would request the Government to take a complete picture of it. I am not saying that you release those people who have really gone against the law. But prepare a list. Screen them and once and for all, take a decision that these twenty persons have committed a crime and they shall not be allowed to leave the jails till law clears them. But there are people who are having a case and just some paper work is going on and nobody is ready to take the responsibility. We must clear them so that their feelings are settled and they can start a fresh chapter.

Two years back, the Governor and the administration had started a new scheme that we train those people, who want to come into the mainstream, in some rehabilitation centre and bring them to the right path. There are boys 12 years old or 15 years old. Some of them really did not know what they were doing. They have been misguided by the forces.

Poverty also became a factor. A young boy or a girl from a poor family succumbed to it. I know about the case of a young girl hardly of 16 years. I was touring Srinagar. In the Guest House, a lady was crying: "Shri Pilot, my daughter has been Kidnapped; my daughter

has been kidnapped nearly ten days back." I said: "How old was she?" She replied: "She was 16 years old." I also felt bad.

I called the Company Commander of the BSF and asked him as to where her daughter was. He said that he would tell me separately. He took me separately and told me that she does not want to go home and that she is in detention in the BSF camp. Then I said that they cannot keep her in the BSF camp. Then he told me the whole story that her brother was picked up by militants, her younger brother was picked up by militants and finally, she was also picked up by militants. But she fought with them and ran away from there. She said that she will not go home because they will again pick her up from home. She also said that she wanted to pick up a gun and teach them a lesson as they had damaged her respect and honour. Then, I brought her to Delhi and she was enrolled in CRP. Now, she is one of the sepoy in CRP. So, such cases should be considered. This girl ran away from that militant camp and got one CRP post. If she had taken to militancy, then she would have spoiled her career. But she was honest enough to open up and today, she has a peaceful career. So, let us review them. It is not that everybody who is caught is a militant and that anybody who has got trapped by some means is a militant. Let us open our hearts to them. With that approach, it would be easier to gain peace in Kashmir.

We have said that our party's concern was peaceful elections in Kashmir. There was a feeling that elections would not be fair and free. This was the feeling for the last six to seven years in everyone's mind. I would request the hon. Minister that one round of elections is over. It was very peaceful, fair and free from all sides. We must keep that credibility high. The whole world is watching the elections in Kashmir and we are open to the whole world. Those powers who were saying that India does not want democracy and that India is bulldozing Jammu and Kashmir have been misleading the whole world in UN Conventions in Geneva and other places. That point has been clear. Indians have proved it and Indian Government has proved it and the people of Jammu and Kashmir have proved that we are lovers of democracy and we respect democracy. They are proving it by way of ballot papers in the next two rounds of elections. So, I would request the hon. Minister to see that the arrangements should go in the same manner. We should not make it lenient just because there was 53 per cent of voting in the first round. We should not be lenient on that account.

As far as autonomy is concerned, every party may have a different version. We have been saying, when our Government was in power, and we were of the view that autonomy to a State was a subject which could be discussed and that it would certainly differ from State to

State. Every State cannot have the same autonomy and neither the formula which Mr. Jag Mohan said would be there that 73,000 people have it in Jammu and less people in Valley. If you go to Lakshadweep, we will find that an MP has hardly 40,000 to 50,000 votes and Member from Andaman and Nicobar Islands may have one lakh votes. So, that formula may not be there.

There was a statement and from the Government side, fortunately, the Home Minister had denied it. We were for autonomy jointly for three sectors of the State, that is, Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh and Kashmir Valley. We are also against any division of the State. We do not want separate autonomy for three sectors. That is the policy of some powers who certainly want division and separate autonomy for Valley, separate State for Ladakh and separate State for Jammu. We want joint autonomy and for that, we have said that we are open to the elected representatives as to which way they want so that the State should not feel that they can prosper with this much of autonomy which the Centre is rejecting. We do not want to become the rejecting partner of that. We want to open and allow what is allowed within the Constitution. It depends on the type of agreement and the elected representatives. But I would request the House to respect the sentiments of the people who have been saying that they should have autonomy to keep their culture and traditions alive. We are open to any kind of autonomy, whether it is administrative or cultural autonomy, but it should be within the Constitution and as a total unit of Jammu and Kashmir. We should never go in for bifurcation like separate autonomy for Ladakh, separate autonomy for Kashmir region and separate autonomy for Jammu. That will involve national security risk because some powers want that. We should be aware of this point.

Lastly, I am happy that allocation has been quite good. But in one sentence, Finance Minister has said that allocation for 1996 has been as per the original plan for 1995-96, that is, Rs. 1050 crore which was the figure in 1995 also. As I have said, the State has faced a very rough weather. Roads are totally broken and bridges are not there except some bridges on the main river built with the help of the Army. Militants have really ruined the State.

So, please keep an open heart for the State of Jammu and Kashmir. We do not mind even if you cut some portion of the Budget of some other States including your State Tamil Nadu for giving to the State of Jammu and Kashmir. But Jammu and Kashmir should be given priority; the State of Jammu and Kashmir needs it and they need it in the real sense because they have upheld the respect of the country by enabling the holding of free and fair elections in the State.

Sir, with these words, I support the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad): The electoral process in Kashmir has commenced and, after some time, the new Government will prepare its own budget. At first I thought of concluding my speech after congratulating the United Front Government for holding the elections in Kashmir and the way the Election Commission is handling the process, and then supporting the budget presented here. However, there are certain issues which have induced me to dilate a little.

Those who used to raise the demands of Uttarakhand and Jharkhand in the House were always accusing that justice was not being done to them and that they would also have to adopt the path of Kashmir and take to arms. I heard that elsewhere also. I would like to add that there is no hill area in the country which has full faith in the Government of India. Right from the North Eastern region to Kashmir, all people of the hill areas believe that justice has not been meted out to them. We have never tried to go deep into their sentiments and that is why we are faced with the problem not only in Kashmir, but the question of Uttarakhand and Jharkhand is also coming up. I would, therefore, urge upon the new Government to think over this question a little minutely and see where it hurts. The hon. Member from BJP raised a point. But the conditions are such that we have perforce to do what we do not actually want. Where the law does not allow it, we have to change the law. Can I cast my vote living in Delhi? But the conditions in Kashmir are such that it became necessary to allow postal voting to the Kashmir Pandits who have been uprooted from their homes. The force of circumstances required it and we had to keep that in mind. He raised the question of article 370 of the Constitution and said that the people of West Bengal are talking of maximum autonomy. The Constitution has provided for this and that is why the people are raising it. In earlier days, the attitude of the Central Government was to grant statehood to whosoever was unhappy and demanded it. If anybody felt hurt and raised a voice, a State was granted. Assam was divided into seven parts. Division of U.P. has already been announced. Jharkhand people are demanding a separate State of their own. Now the question of division of Kashmir has been broached up and we do not know when this voice may turn into a demand for a new State. Our Constitution speaks of autonomy. This is why I say that autonomy may be granted to them. Secondly, So long as article 370 is there, the people of Kashmir are united with us. They are with us because the Line of Control is nearby. The people of Pak occupied Kashmir, which they call Azad Kashmir, are their relatives. They are watching how the people of Kashmir in India are getting their democratic rights. They do not enjoy

democratic rights in Pak occupied Kashmir. Article 370 is the protective shield of our Kashmiri people and so long as it is there, they will have the feeling of remaining united with the rest of India. There are some misguided people there and also some pro-Pakistani elements. But the fact is that a vast majority is with India and wants to stay with India.

Sir, the issue of development was raised. A huge amount of money has been spent in Kashmir, there is no doubt about it. You know more about Kashmir than I. Are there any Primary Schools in the Villages there? It is claimed at the beat of drum that education upto university level is free in Kashmir. But what is the position in Srinagar? Villages do not have even primary schools. Of course, *Madarsas* are there. And where there are *Madarsas*, religious education will be imparted and fundamentalism will develop. There is no doubt about it. The main source of income of Kashmir are tourists. The people of Kashmir are very poor and are being exploited. I went there in 1989. There was nobody there who could purchase walnuts at the rate of Rs. 100 per Kilo. This is how they have been exploited. The money sent from here was swallowed by the State Government. The Central Government has not provided railway line at a place where tourism is the biggest source of income. If Kashmir had been connected with railway line, the situation would have been different. A big tragedy occurred this year in the Amarnath Yatra which created a great flutter both inside and outside the House.

Sir, could there not be a highway upto Amarnath even after 50 years of our independence? If it could be there in Shimla, there is no reason why it could not be built here. The people of Kashmir are dependent upon tourism. The facilities that should have been provided for promotion of tourism have not been provided. The State Government has misused the money, but leave that aside. Why did the Central Government not do anything?

One more point. Hon. Shri Jag Mohan will be remembering when the Kashmir situation deteriorated. In any case, there were clear indications of the situation worsening. The situation started worsening when the Central Government brought Gul Mohammad Khan just like the Punjab situation worsened after the Operation Blue Star. The Indian flag was burnt in 1989 and the foodgrain supply was stopped. Pakistan was not only sending arms, but foodgrains also. The situation in Punjab has improved today. Very small number of militants are now left. The foodgrain supply line is now normal.

Hon. Members have talked about article 370 of the Constitution, but they have not said anything about article 371. If they have no objection to article 371 continuing for the North East region, why do they object to article 370 continuing for Kashmir? We should think over it. Like Uttarakhand, it is also a hilly region. The issue in

Uttarakhand was that of reservation for O.B.C.s. This problem could have been solved with an honest approach on the part of the Central Government. But instead of being solved, the problem has now become complicated. Sir, I want to request the House to stop this run for separate States.

Kashmir is going to polls and who will form the new Government is unknown. But there would be some sensitive responsibilities before the new Government. I am raising this question today. I accept that temples were damaged in Kashmir. But the Government should not ignore who were the people who did it. Kashmiri Pandits had migrated and no priests were left in the temples. There could not be a better place for the militants to hide. The operations that were launched to flush out the militants from there must have caused some damage to the temples. The militants also took shelter in Charar-e-Sharif. They could not have got a better place to hide. Firing was resorted to by the military to flush out the militants from there.

One of the main responsibilities before the new Government will be to provide finances to reconstruct the temples. The other will be to persuade the Kashmiri Pandits, who had become refugees and were scattered in different parts of the country, to come back. It is true that the militants are their enemy, but the common people are their friends. The way that the people helped the Amarnath pilgrims is a clear proof of the fact that the common man has no enmity with the Kashmiri Pandits.

1700 hrs.

It has been repeatedly said that Pakistans' hand is there in what is happening in Kashmir. There is no doubt about it. They do not like our country to forge ahead on way to development. However, I would like to say in this connection that when a child in the family goes stray, who will reform him except the family? Therefore, you tackle the people and they will support you. This has been proved in 1947 when the Muslims and Hindus had unitedly fought the Pakistan aggression and repulsed it. We will have to create the same atmosphere.

Sir, in the end, I would like to refer to Mr. Jinnah's Visit to Kashmir. His sole aim was to unite the Muslims in favour of Pakistan. Perhaps Shri Jag Mohan may recollect that one Maqbool Sherwani raised before Mr. Jinnah the slogan "Kashmiri Hindu-Muslim unity zindabad"; and when Pakistan sent its army for operation in Baramula, Shervani was captured and asked to say 'Pakistan Zindabad', but he shouted "Hindu-Muslim unity Zindabad". The consequence was that a bullet pierced through his chest and he died. Now, neither a State Government is there, nor the Central Government. A memorial should be built at Baramula where Maqbool Sherwani became a martyr. It will not cost much, but would provide a healing touch. At least after 50 years of

independence, honour somebody who had sacrificed his life. You have been awarding Padam Shri, Padam Vibhushan and Bharat Ratan to people who made sacrifices for the country. Therefore, think of doing something for him even if it is late in the day. Conditions in Kashmir are improving. Kashmir always belonged to us, it is ours, it will remain with us. If Pakistan intrudes into Kashmir and tries to interfere in our affairs, it will not be necessary for Delhi to send the army, the people of Kashmir will face it unitedly.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me time to speak.

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me time to speak. Before I go to other questions, let me congratulate the people of Kashmir for launching the process of peaceful election. Let me also congratulate our Government which had taken steps so that the election could be held properly. I am glad that the next Budget of Jammu and Kashmir will not be debated here. For nine years we have been doing this futile exercise.

Next year it will be different. I am also glad that the allocation is more than the revised budget. That is necessary for Kashmir. I am not going into the details of allocation but I would say that on very important sectors like roads and bridges, etc. allocation has increased considerably.

Now, I would like to say something about the situation in Kashmir, on the question of autonomy to the State of Kashmir and the stand taken by the Communist Party of India because a few days back there was a lot of misunderstanding and misreporting about the stand taken by our Party with regard to the autonomy to the State of Kashmir and its regions. So I want to make it clear that we want that as per Article 370 Kashmir's autonomy be granted. About that we have no reservations and that this has to be given. I am not going into the details. Kashmir has its own history and with the understanding of Article 370, Kashmiri people refused to go to Pakistan, as is said. So that must be honoured.

Regarding other regions, as a whole our stand is this and I quote:

"The stand of Communist Party of India on Jammu and Kashmir is well known ..."

That is the first thing that I said.

"...Even so to clear any confusion, we reiterate that the CPI stand for the integrity of the State of Jammu and Kashmir and its people as an alienable part of India. There can be no question of demarcation or division along the religious lines. As stated in the Common Minimum Programme of the United Front, we stand for resolving the problems of Jammu and Kashmir through giving the people of that State the

maximum degree of autonomy and by respecting Article 370 of the Constitution as well as the wishes of the people. The State Assembly, which will be elected through the forthcoming election can deliberate on the issue of maximum autonomy including the question of setting up Regional Councils for the three regions, if it deems fit and the Parliament can thereafter take an appropriate decision."

So, it is for the Assembly of Kashmir to decide what kind of arrangements they will make both with regard to respecting the feelings of the three regions as well as for the integration of these three regions.

I believe that people of Kashmir have gone through a long experience of various kinds. Therefore, after the elections the Assembly will take all this into consideration and will find a way out to live peacefully alongwith all the regions in Kashmir irrespective of their religions.

Now, Sir, about Article 370, Shri Musadal Hossain has said, if Article 371 can be there, why all the anger is on Article 370, which actually has, in a way, much more historical significance. The people of Kashmir took a very wise decision on the basis of this at that time.

I would not like to take long time because I know the time is short.

Let us all hope that after the Government is formed, the Government will take care of those who had to come out and to take them back as well as to give necessary employment to the Kashmiri people so that the people are not forced to go in for insurgency or anything.

I fully agree that the people of Kashmir themselves will be enough to see to it that the Pakistani designs are defeated and nobody else will be needed. But what will be needed is our goodwill, what will be needed is our patriotism and what will be needed is our feeling of integration of the whole country. I believe, we shall give that to the people of Kashmir.

I will conclude with one episode. The National Council member of CPI, Comrade Ranjur was asked to come out of Kashmir when there was tremendous insurgency. He refused to come out. He dug his own grave and waited there knowing fully well that on any day he would be slaughtered by the militants. Comrade Ranjur was assassinated. But let me tell you that it was the first time that after Ranjur's death, there was a huge demonstration of Hindus and Muslims together in that area, which had never taken place earlier. Let us understand that there are people who have stood by the people of Kashmir and if we do stand by the people of Kashmir in that spirit, surely Kashmir will go ahead and remain an integral part of India.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Hon. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kashmir is the crown of mother India. Jammu-Kashmir is an inseparable part of this country. The hon Finance Minister has presented a budget for the State for the whole year. I wish that the elections to the State Assembly were held earlier so that the elected Government presented its own budget in the Assembly. However, better late than never. The first phase of elections has been completed in which the courageous people of Kashmir participated with full enthusiasm even in face of Pakistani pounding in the border areas. They deserve our special congratulations for this and we hope that the people of Jammu & Kashmir will similarly accomplish the second and third phases of elections through democratic procedure and decide their future, irrespective of the plotting and scheming that may be resorted to by Pakistan and then I.S.I. agents. It would have been better if this Central Government had provided for a temporary budgetary arrangement for the State through some device like Vote on Account and left the main budget and priorities to be decided by the newly elected State Government. However, the budget has to be passed in accordance with the existing procedure. We in our party believe in

[English]

appeasement to none and justice to all.

[Translation]

All sections, communities and religions as also all States in the country should get justice and a policy of appeasement should not be followed to favour anybody. It is true that when Kashmir was merged with India, there was an extra-ordinary situation prevailing due to which a special provision had to be made in the Constitution. But when debate took place in the Constituent Assembly and the leaders were asked to clarify the position, Pandit Nehru had himself declared that article 370 will erode gradually and a day will come when it will no more be erased completely. The merger of Kashmir in India was like the merger of any other State, but ever since the United Front Government came to power, it has created new complications by giving the slogan of autonomy. We do not know whether there were secret confabulations about autonomy between the Prime Minister and Farooq Abdullah or some groups of militants who at one time were prepared for negotiations. Reports have appeared in newspaper that some such talks were held in which the question of restoring the pre 1952-53 position in Kashmir was discussed. I think it would be a mockery to resort to this action because the situation of one country and two flags and one country and two sets of laws is unacceptable.

Sir, ever since the announcement conceding formation of Uttarakhand was made, there have appeared demands of Gorkhaland, Bodoland, Telingana Pradesh, Vidarbha Pradesh, Rohelkhand, Chattisgarh and so on. If special powers were given to Kashmir under article 370, it would not be a right thing. In Punjab, Nagaland and Mizoram also, this notion of autonomy had once gained ground on the reasoning, that they are border States having special circumstances which warranted more rights. Kashmir was granted a measure of autonomy under article 370 and many other facilities were announced, but if an attempt was now made to take the State back to 1952-53 position, the people in the country will not tolerate it. At that time, besides several other restrictions, a permit was required to enter Kashmir, there was a separate flag for Wazir-e-Azam and Sadar-e-Riyasat, and a different Constituent Assembly was set up. Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee had fought against all these. Even now the position is that the President of India cannot acquire land in Kashmir for opening a post office. The refugees who came from Pakistan settled down in various States in the country, but those who settled in Kashmir were not granted citizenship and could not purchase land there under article 370. Things were done at will in Kashmir leading to the emergence of militancy. Whatever money the Central Government gave as grants was misused by the State administration. The money passed into the hands of wrong people and reports have come from some agencies about that money even going to certain foreign countries. That money was to be used for removing poverty of the people of Kashmir by taking up developmental work, setting up small industries, constructing roads etc. The saffron of Kashmir and the high quality carpets made by skillful workers of the State are famous and attract huge crowds of buyers in whatever part of the country they are exhibited. If efforts had been made to develop small industries in Kashmir, this situation would not have arisen. Sir, I put it to the Government whether it is not unfair to talk of autonomy for the people of the valley only, but ignore the people of Jammu and Laddakh.

Sir, during the last 40-50 years, importance has been given to the Kashmir Valley only in the name of Jammu and Kashmir while the regions of Jammu and Leh-Laddakh have been continuously overlooked. Therefore, I want to stress that Government should pay equitable attention to all the three parts of the State, namely, Kashmir Valley, Jammu and Leh-Laddakh. There should be no discrimination against any one of these regions. The development plans should be implemented according to the population of each region. The regions which are large in area but where population is small, should not be discriminated against but treated like any other part of the country and there should not be any hesitation to undertake development activities there.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to add one more thing. There are many ex-servicemen who are living

in Jammu and Kashmir and are prepared to take up their own defence against the militants, particularly those living in Doda or other border areas. They have been requesting for arms for self-defence, but no decision has been taken in this regard even after a long time although there is President's rule in the State. They have formed village Defence Committees and want to defend their villages from the militants which they could do only with the help of arms, but arms are not provided to them. Therefore, I would like to urge the Government to supply arms to those ex-servicemen who are patriots and are ready to defend themselves and can take on the terrorists.

Sir, the army should be given a free hand in dealing with the militants and militancy. The militants play into the hands of the enemy, kill innocent people of Jammu-Kashmir, dare to dishonour our mothers and daughters, demolish and put on fire our temples and mosques, destroy the holiness of Hazarat Bal or threaten the Amarnath pilgrims on the strength of foreign arms and with the support of ISI. The para military forces must have a free hand in facing their threat ... *(Interruptions)*

Mr. Priyaranjan Das Munshi, this is very important. The situation today is that those who present themselves as an afflicted party in the name of human rights are heard, but when the soldiers who are on duty are ambushed and killed and when they return the fire in self-defence or when they fire on the elements engaged in destruction, they are accused of committing atrocities. The militants have killed so many people. Our hon. colleague Shri Jag Mohan was the Governor of Kashmir and he tried hard to tackle and improve the situation. But there are some people here who did not like the establishment of peace and tranquility in Kashmir and created sharp controversy on the basis of certain events. The situation that resulted is before you, and you can see what kind of people are ruling the roost. Kashmir had gone backwards and after many years now, the wind of democracy is flowing there. The Lok Sabha elections have taken place and their representatives are here in Parliament who partake in every decision. It is a matter of great satisfaction for us. Assembly elections are now taking place there and the Assembly will soon be constituted. We should be cautious about autonomy. God forbid, if a majority of the elected members to the Assembly reject Kashmir's merger with India, saying that their constitution is different, what will be our position? I hope that this situation will not come, but to extend a blind support to autonomy will be playing with the future of the country. Therefore, we will have to proceed cautiously. The issue of Sadar-e-Riyasat and Wazir-e-Azam has already been forgotten and there is no need to revive it.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: (Howarah): If that happens, we will dissolve it, dont worry.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: That is something for the future. We should exercise caution in this respect from now. If we take caution now, that situation will not arise. We are already suffering from the bad results by pursuing the policy of digging the well after the fire sets in. There is vicious propaganda being carried on the world over about Kashmir, and Pakistan is using every forum in the world against India on the Kashmir issue. It becomes the duty of the Government to present the true picture to the world through our missions abroad to give a forthright reply to Pakistani propaganda.

Any talks with the militants should be started only on the condition that they accept the Indian Constitution and all its provisions. When they accept that, negotiations can be held to solve their problems, if any. But there could not be any bargain on country's unity and integrity.

Sir, specific provision should be made to provide financial assistance to the families of those of the para military forces who are killed at the hands of militants. Also, there are innocent people engaged in different vocations. Some are doing business, some are traders, some have *shikaras* and so on. The militants sometimes kidnap them or kill their family members, drowning the families in grief. Protection should be given to such families and they should be paid adequate compensation or some member of their family should be absorbed in service.

Nearly three lakh Kashmiri Pandits who had been forced to leave their homes in Srinagar are now living in Jammu, Delhi, Chandigarh and other places. Many of them are spending their lives in tents. They should get financial assistance of an amount which an ordinary family requires for a living. Their children should be provided educational and other facilities. But that is not being done. The Finance Minister should clarify this in the course of his reply. We must be clearly told what arrangements the Government have made for rehabilitation of lakhs of those Kashmiri Pandits who have been uprooted from their homes in Srinagar and compelled to migrate and are now living in tents under tremendous strain and stress, sleeping on the ground with sky overhead, undergoing untold hardships during rains and biting cold. They should be given some guarantees for their security.

Just now, our friend was referring to the facility of postal voting provided to them. Reports have appeared in the newspapers today and in the last two days that the voting procedure is so complicated that the Punnoon Kashmir and other organisations of Kashmiri Pandits have complained that the leaders of the Central Government are holding talks with other leaders about Kashmir, but nobody talks to them about their interests. In view of this, they have decided not to cast their vote. It is, therefore, absolutely necessary that we should simplify

the voting procedure in order to facilitate their participation in the election process and devise ways like setting up of pollings stations so as to ensure that the maximum number of them cast their votes ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please finish now.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: I am concluding. At the same time, it is also important that the schools demolished by terrosists ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: May I request you to please confine your speech to the budget only and not take up other issues.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: I am coming to the budget ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: This speech will help removing terrorism. One should speak like this ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Sir, every year we are passing the budget on Kashmir, but it must be ensured that the budgetary allocations are entrusted in the hands of right people so that they are spent properly and bring change into the lives of the common man. As has been pointed out repeatedly, the Central Government was giving grants freely, but they were landing in the wrong hands, the corrupt people. In the result, the poor remained poor and out of frustration from poverty, they took to militancy. So, while we support the large central grants for Kashmir, we demand that these funds should be judiciously spent. The demolished schools have become bases of terrorist. Teachers have been killed by them. The temples damaged by them should be refurbished ...*(Interruptions)* There is the problem of transport also in Kashmir. The Baramula road is closed when there is some rain or the snowfall starts. Provision should be made in the budget for entrusting to the Border Roads Organisation the work of constructing a road parallel to the National Highway which may remain open throughout the year so that the supply line is not disrupted and tourism may be promoted.

Thank you for giving me the time.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: Your speech is like a missile.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I hope you will confine yourself to budget only.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the budget in respect of Jammu and Kashmir, presented in the House.

As far as budget estimates for 1996-97 are concerned, you have left a deficit of about Rs. 1000

cröre. The conditions through which your State is passing, are reflective of the fact that you have brought the budget proposals to the level of last year and have also increased the central assistance in every sector, for which I thank you very much. But the need of the hour is to utilize it properly because in the past, the budgetary support that the central government has been providing, has not been properly utilized due to militancy.

Now the political process has started in Jammu and Kashmir and first phase of election is over. I thank the Government for the process that it has started. General Krishna Rao, the Governor, took personal interest in making arrangements for elections and the security, though the political parties including my own party, criticised him very much. But in Ladakh particularly, the people are satisfied with the arrangements made by him for the elections.

17.32 hrs.

(SHRI NITISH KUMAR *in the Chair*)

We, the people of Ladakh are thankful to him for the interest that he took in the developmental activities in Ladakh. We are also thankful to the state administration and the bureaucrats at the higher level who extended help in our developmental programmes.

We, however, have certain complaints about several sectors which I want to bring to your kind notice. Hon. Jagmohanji raised certain points about the political situation in Kashmir. The employees of the State did not extend their cooperation to the Government at the time of Parliamentary elections and went on strike and when the elections were over, no action was taken against them by the Government. Even now, thousands of employees are on strike. These employees should be asked either to continue in service or quit it and join politics. No leniency should be shown towards them. The Government that comes into power after the elections, should take stern action in the matter or it will be hard put to run the administration. So far these employees have been given a free hand with the result that they had a hand in militancy and in political situation in Kashmir. The Government has always been compromising with these employees because of its weakness or whatever it is. In my opinion, such a thing should not happen in future. As far as budget is concerned, Jagmohanji mentioned about the plan and non-plan per capita expenditure. I feel that due to present security problem in the State, the per capita expenditure there may rise. The Government should monitor whether the expenditure has been made properly. Besides, the Government should also keep a watch on the per capita income. Though the expenditure has been on the high side, the benefits have not reached the people proportionately.

There has been rampant corruption in the state. The new government will have to pay attention to it. I am in agreement with the point raised by Shri Rajesh Pilot that there should be flexibility for the new Government for bringing about necessary changes so as to meet the aspirations of the people there, on the lines of the suggestions put forth by the newly-elected members. There has been a reference to the question of autonomy. Even the Government earlier spoke about the greater autonomy. But it has not been spelt out as to what type of autonomy it will be. As far as the people of Ladakh are concerned, it is being said that the position prior to 1953 would be restored. The National Front has mentioned it in their election manifesto as well. We oppose it. The political problems about the developmental activities of the people of three regions have not been sorted out in a proper manner. As far the position of 1953 is concerned, all the subjects except communication, defence and external affairs will be with our State. In that case, we will not be able to get proper justice.

There goes a saying that a person bitten by the snake dreads even a rope. Therefore, we shall have to consider the matter very coolly. We shall oppose the provisions of Article 353. Besides, as far as greater autonomy is concerned, the Central Government should categorically state as to what it wants to give. We are grateful to the Central Government for giving Autonomous Hill Council for Ladakh region. But the provisions of this Autonomous Hill Council have not been implemented in letter and spirit. No decision has so far been taken about the powers that were to be given. For example, no decision has so far been taken about the status and the powers of the Chief Executive Councillor. This matter is still pending with the State Govt. The difficulties of the people there are not being resolved in true spirit. We have not been able to get what was promised in the undertaking for parity. Besides the autonomous council, we had made a demand for special funding that the grant should be given at one time so that we are atleast able to develop the sources there, solve the problems of communication and other related issues. But the said demand has not so far been fulfilled. We wanted to solve the problems of the people. But our main grouse is that this budget is in no way different from the previous budget.

There was mention of giving autonomy in the Kargil sector. There is a provision that autonomy should be given for the Kargil district as well. But even the people of Kargil have not accepted it. We hope that they would accept it. But as far as budget allocation is concerned, the Government have not made any difference. These

allocations should be need-based. We have divided the Central grant in the ratio of 50:50. It is, in my opinion, injustice. The budget allocations should be based on the needs and not on religion etc. We have always been making this demand and continue to do so in future as well.

The area of Ladakh is 85000 sq. kms. out of which Kargil district is in 14000 sq. kms. The area of Leh district alone, where the Council has been provided, accounts for 50,000 sq. kms. As far as communication is concerned, we need more money for constructing long roads etc. For removal of poverty, more money should be provided for Kargil District. Therefore, we urge the Government to ensure that the budget should always be need-based and not based on religion etc. If there is more agricultural land in some sector, we should provide more money to that sector. If in the other sector there is more horticulture, we should provide still more money there. There is need to study this inequality in a proper manner. As I said earlier, we had demanded one time grant. We are grateful to Prime Minister that he sanctioned Rs. 16 crore for the Ladakh region. We had demanded money for infrastructural development because council had been formed only a short time ago. We infact needed more money but he gave us Rs. 16 crores. He gave Rs. 8 crores to a place where there is council and an equal amount to the place where there is no council. It is not justice. Therefore, we have a complaint against the Central Government as well as the State Government. They have always been sowing seeds of inequality and setting communities against one another, in the name of giving help and in the name of region. We do not want to quarrel amongst ourselves and only want justice. Therefore, the hon. Finance Minister should set up a study-group and send an expert team there which should draw up a need based plan and our new council should be provided one-time infrastructure or any extra grants, if need be.

Sir, the Government have made certain changes in The Peoples Representation Act. But no provision has been made for S.T.s Therein, though there are provisions for S.Cs. Government should make adequate provisions for S.Ts as well. At the time of filing nominations, a money Rs. 5000 has to be deposited by way of security. But in the case of S.Cs and S.Ts., this amount is Rs. 2500 only. In our entire area, S.Ts account for 98 per cent of our total population but no provision has been made for them. The politicians and the bureaucrats have always been treating us in such an unjust manner.

In the end, I would like to submit that in our region, the Buddhists and Muslims live in equal strength. Parliamentary elections here are fought on communal lines

because in one district the Muslims dominate and in the other the Buddhists. Therefore, I suggest that at the time of next delimitation of constituencies whether it takes place in the year 2001 or earlier, there should be two separate constituencies for Ladakh region. Whenever elections are held, under clashes take place between the two communities, resulting in disharmony between the Hindus and Muslims and a setback to our age-old customs. Government should pay due attention to this aspect. Census could not take place in 1991 due to terrorism. The same should take place now. When we prepare our budget on the basis of the census, we should have a special census conducted there. Since what we get is based on the 1981 census, we always incur a loss. With these words, I thank Shri Chidambaramji for providing sufficient funds for J&K this time. But still I feel that the budgetary increase that the Government has made this time appears to be inadequate because sizeable funds are frittered away due to militancy and security problems. Thousands of schools and bridges are torched and they have to be rebuilt. This entails a lot of expenditure. Therefore, I request the Government to reconsider this matter in the light of my submission.

In the end, I would make one more suggestion that the people of Ladakh should be given income tax exemption from the year 1988-89. All the details in this regard have been furnished to Shri Chidambaramji. Therefore, I would request that this income tax exemption should be allowed for next five years.

With these words, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Before I call the next speaker to speak, I may inform the House that one hour was allotted for it but we have already taken one hour and 50 minutes. Therefore, we should bear in mind the time. Shri Hannan Mollah.

[English]

SHRI HANNAH MOLLAH (Uluberia): Mr. Chairman Sir, I hope this will be the last discussion on Jammu and Kashmir Budget in this House. I have taken part in all the previous discussions on the subject. So, in the last discussion, with your permission, I would like to take part in the discussion.

I thank the hon. Minister for increasing the allocation of certain aids and priorities which was most necessary. The Central Government has prepared this Budget to be implemented by the newly elected State Government. I do not know how far they will feel it convenient or whether they will be able to have some flexibility according to their new priorities. In any case for one year it will be a problem for the newly elected Government. Anyway, some of the aids, specially the public works, health and family

welfare, employment, are very important ones, after their long suffering in the hands of militants and after massive destruction at the instigation from outside, specially from Pakistan, backed by the United States.

In this situation what I would like the hon. Minister to see is that whatever money has been provided in this Budget by the Central Government is not misused as it used to happen in the past. We have visited the Kashmiri people and every time they complained that not only the money was looted there, but even from Delhi itself it was looted. That means, not only a major portion of the money has gone to militants in the past, but a part of it has been looted by the Government of India officials also. That is one of their major complaints. Mr. Chairman Sir, you had also gone there as a member of the delegation. You know what the people had complained.

Now we have to see that after all this, every single paisa is properly utilised. We can help the newly elected Government to implement the post-war reconstruction programme.

The Central Government had announced certain packages like construction of roads, railway lines etc. and certain other assurances were given by the Prime Minister in this House. This Budget should take care of the needs of implementing those packages.

A lot has been said about autonomy. Although we demanded that the maximum autonomy should be granted, objection is being raised from certain corners of this House. As already mentioned by many hon. Members, the Central Government should also, with an open mind, discuss the issue with them and come to an agreement so that the people of Kashmir can run their State. There should be no confusion; no wrong signal should be sent from the Centre or from any other part of the country. There are a lot of other problems. There are no doctors in the hospitals... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are a lot of problems. Leave them and be brief.

[English]

SHRI HANNAH MOLLAH: Finally, I would like to say something regarding Article 370. Again and again, in spite of repeated discussion and persuasion, our friends on the other side are insisting on raising the issue of Article 370. This would help only the enemies when normality is coming back.

Special treatment is being given to Jammu and Kashmir for certain special reasons. History is known to all. Please do not repeat raising the issue of Article 370. The nation is ready to give whatever is due to that part of the country so that the accession of Kashmir to India

is final. Massive participation of the people in the elections has proved that we took the correct decision. The finality of the accession will ultimately be proved in the eyes of the world and all the false propaganda of Pakistan would be thwarted.

After this election, I hope, a new situation will emerge, a new Kashmir will emerge. Kashmir is beautiful and that beautiful land is an integral part of India. It will be more beautiful; it will grow with an all-sided development. We will be able to combat our enemies from across the border. We will be able to defeat all the conspiracies. A new Kashmir will emerge.

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY (Buxar): Mr. Chairman, are you extending the time?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please sit down. It is not yet 6 O' clock. Does your watch strike six even before it is actually 6 O' clock?

[English]

SHRI SURESH PRABHU (Rajapur): Thank you, sir.

I will be very brief. I would say that I want to seize this opportunity of speaking on the Jammu and Kashmir Budget, probably, for the last time. I hope that I do not get any more opportunity to speak because the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly would be debating that ... (Interruptions)

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, shall I continue tomorrow?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, you may continue tomorrow. Now the House stands adjourned.

18.00 hours

[The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, September 11, 1996/Bhadra 20, 1918 (Saka)]