

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Fourteenth Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XLIII contains Nos. 1 to 10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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1007/1017 (Saka)

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(English version)

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, August 7, 1995 / Shrawana 16, 1917 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at four minutes past Eleven of the Clock

[Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair]

WELCOME TO PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION FROM MOROCCO

[English]

Mr. Speaker : Hon'ble Members, at the outset, I have to make an announcement.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the Hon'ble Members of the House, I have great pleasure in welcoming His Excellency Mr. Mohamad Jalal Essaid, President of the House of Representatives of Morocco and the Hon'ble Members of the Parliamentary Delegation from Morocco who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests.

The other Hon'ble Members of the Delegation are:-

1. Mr. Mohamad Dabach
2. Mr. Abedelkebir Ben Zouina
3. Mr. Arrtara Haj Amara
4. Mr. Mohamed Moussaoui
5. Mr. Mohamed El Basri
6. Mr. Idriss Lachgar
7. Mr. Mohamed Ben Zaroual
8. Mr. Ait M'barak
9. Mr. Abdeljalil Amrana

The Delegation arrived Delhi on 6 August, 1995 evening. They are now seated in the Special Box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country. Through them we convey our greetings and best wishes to His Majesty the King, the House of the Representatives, the Government and the friendly people of the Kingdom of Morocco.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Tehri Dam Project

*101. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government are continuously carrying out the construction of Tehri Dam Project;
- (b) if so, the total expenditure incurred on the construction thereof upto July, 1995;
- (c) whether the Union Government have now finalised the size and nature of this project;
- (d) if so, the total estimated cost of this project as per final decision taken regarding its construction; and
- (e) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The construction work of Tehri Dam was suspended in April, 1992 on account of agitation and after a comprehensive review of the entire matter in the light of all the objections, it was decided to resume the work from March, 1994 onwards and since then the work is continuing with some interruptions.

(b) The total expenditure incurred on the Project until July, 1995 is Rs. 932 crores (provisional).

(c) & (d) Yes, Sir. The Tehri Hydro Power Complex comprising of the following at an estimated cost of Rs. 5583 crores is envisaged:

- (i) A rockfill Dam with (4x250 MW) Hydro Power Plant.
- (ii) A concrete Koteshwar Dam downstream of Tehri with a (4x100 MW) Hydro Power Plant.
- (iii) A (4x250 MW) Pump Storage Plant at Tehri.
- (iv) Associated Transmission System.

However, the Union Government have finalised the size and nature of the Stage-I of the Project as under :-

	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Crores)
I. Tehri Dam and Hydro Power Plant Stage-I (1000 MW)	2815.00
II. Minimum essential works of:	
(i) Koteshwar Dam & BPP (400 MW)	34.36
(ii) Pump Storage Plant (1000 MW)	114.30
III. Associated Transmission System for Stage-I.	371.00
Total :	3334.66

(e) It is now estimated that if the work is not interrupted, the Stage-I of the project should be ready by the year 2000 A.D.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Tehri Dam Project was envisaged in 1950 and the Planning Commission gave its approval in 1972. Since then, its construction work is being carried out at times and suspended at others. In between, the construction work was suspended for two years. Its cost was estimated at Rs. 194 crores when the decision of its construction was finalised. Today, its cost has escalated to Rs. 5583 crores. This dam project was first envisaged to be constructed with the collaboration of Russia which later backed out. Now the Central Government is going to construct this dam with the collaboration of Hydro Project. In the recent past, Shri Sunder Lal Bahuguna went on a fast unto death in protest against construction of this project when the hon. Prime Minister gave him an assurance of reviewing it afresh. After the Prime Minister's assurance, the hon. Governor met Shri Bahuguna and told him that a total review of the dam will be carried out and a committee will be set up

for the purpose. He also listed the names of the Members to be included in the committee. But, the hon. Prime Minister subsequently stated in a meeting of the leaders of the opposition parties that no review of the dam will be carried out but the new questions raised will alone be discussed. My supplementary is that after a lapse of so much time when a review has been made three times—the hon. Prime Minister gave an assurance in 1992, he gave another assurance when Shri Bahuguna went on a fast - will the issue of environment, besides earthquakes be included in the list of issues for review when repeated reviews are being undertaken?

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : In his meeting with Shri Sunder Lal Bahuguna, the hon. Prime Minister had given him assurance saying that there was no need to reconsider the issues whose review had already been conducted because they were fully investigated and scrutinised. He said that the new issues if raised by Shri Bahuguna, will be investigated into. Shri Bahuguna has not raised new issues as yet.

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : No, the issues of quakes and environment?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : She has fully replied to your question.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Another important issue associated with it is that the whole country has been protesting against the construction of big dams. People have launched agitations against all the big dams envisaged so far in the country - be it the Sardar Sarovar Project, Narmada Sagar, Indravati or Both Ghat Project or Koel Karo Project of Bihar or Mohan Ghati Project of Kerala. Some projects have been left at the mercy of the Government of India and some are lying suspended.

In view of this large scale protest against the construction of big dams, will the Government of India reconsider its concept of big dams and instead, construct small dams which are capable generating equal power capacity?

Rehabilitation has always been a contentious issue. Under the rehabilitation policy of Sardar Sarovar Project to be constructed on river Narmada every adult has been considered as one family whereas it is not so in case of Tehri Garhwal. Will the Government consider formulating similar rehabilitation policies for both the projects?

A survey of Tehri dam was conducted in 1985. Some people, who are not adult at that time have become adult in 1995. Will such adults also be given compensation under the rehabilitation policy in the same fashion?

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : I do not visualise any need of reconsidering the policy of big dams because there are two aspects of everything. Similarly, there are both positive and negative factors of big dams. While constructing big dams, their cost benefit ratio, environment and its requirements and all other factors are kept in mind. It is not in the interest of the country to decide that big dams are not necessary. Therefore, I do not think that there is any need to reconsider this issue or formulate a policy for the

purpose.

In reply to the hon. Members' query of the rehabilitation policy, I would like to say that the rehabilitation policy with regard to each dam is formulated keeping in view of the socio-economic conditions of that particular area where the dam is proposed to be constructed and dams are constructed in different states of the country. Hence, different rehabilitation policies are formulated with regard to every dam and there are different aspects of it.

Therefore, having a uniform or a national policy in this regard is not beneficial. This is what I think.

The third thing the honourable Member has said is that there is a separate policy for the evacuated adult people. Each state has to take its own decision. Therefore, to take a similar decision for Tehri or other project as taken for Sardar Sarovar Project will create complications. The decision for Tehri has been taken keeping in view its socio-economic conditions. And I think it has been a correct decision.

SHRI RABI RAY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a very important question. While replying to Shri Patidar's question, the Finance Minister had mentioned a fact. I challenge the veracity of the facts stated by him. Mr. Speaker, Sir, in fact you are aware of this, and I want to know from the Minister, whether it is a fact that the Governor of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Motilal Vora had gone there to break Sunderlal Bahuguna's 45-46 days old fast? Is it not a fact that the breaking of his fast was a sequel to their talks? I want to know from the Minister regarding this unambiguous statement of Shri Bahuguna whether it is a fact that the Government had assured him through the Governor that work on the dam would be suspended and a thorough review would be carried out by one expert committee. In his reply the Minister has already accepted that in 1992, the work on this dam was suspended against the backdrop of Shri Bahuguna's fast. Keeping in view the controversy in this regard, I would like to know from Mr. Minister whether the Government would place on the table the tape in which the conversation between Shri Motilal Vora and Shri Bahuguna was recorded?

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : No decision was taken to stop work on the dam during the talks held between the U.P. Governor and Shri Bahuguna, during his fast. What transpired during the talks was that Shri Bahuguna's views on Tehri dams construction were not taken into consideration. This aspect would be reconsidered and reconsideration would be done on new and crucial aspects. An expert committee would be constituted to go into such aspects. Till now, Shri Bahuguna has not thrown light on any such new aspects concerning the dam. The moment he does so, the expert committee would be constituted.

As far the suspending the work on the dam, is concerned, this is not necessary. However, this being the monsoon season, the work on the dam is not taking place, only peripheral construction work is going on.

SHRI RABI RAY : I was saying that there is a controversy on both the sides about the talks. My question was, whether the tape of the talks would be placed on the table of the House?

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : The Ministry is not aware of any such tape.

SHRI RABI RAY : You get it ascertained.

[English]

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : The hon. Minister, in her oral reply, said that the Government had considered the cost-benefit ratio of the scheme. Now, I would like to know whether it is true that the original scheme which was to cost about Rs. 2 billion has now been escalated to a great extent and whether or not this has been done without adding to the power benefits and by reducing the projected irrigation schemes. So, there have been these two things. Firstly, the power benefit has not increased; secondly, the irrigation schemes have been reduced by half. And at the same time, there is escalation of cost to a great extent. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether they would order an enquiry into the possible misappropriation of funds and looting of funds by the contractors.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : The honourable member has posed a very good question. When the dam was sanctioned in June 1972, its cost was estimated at Rs. 197 crore. Price escalation is inevitable after nearly 22 years.

[English]

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : The scheme is nowhere near completion.

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : It is far from completion.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : Project's price escalation is inevitable. The paper price does increase. When we start after its implementation, and if it goes on for 10 years more, the cost would naturally escalate, we cannot freeze the cost. Regarding cost benefit, that time cost was 78 paise, it too would go up. Due to this the cost benefit ratio also changes. Therefore, it would be futile to determine the present cost benefit ratio and discuss it. I believe that Shri Bahugunaji is causing a great loss to the nation by repeatedly trying to stop the construction of the dam. Because, later, the cost benefit ratio would decrease. The House should therefore think over this.

[English]

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : Sir, my questions are not answered. I had asked about the possible misappropriation of funds and I had also asked about the reduction of irrigation projects.

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : There is no misappropriation. It is price escalation.... (interruptions) If you have any specific information, you may please pass it on to us.... (interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I think, these two things are not connected. Cost-benefit ratio and misappropriation do not go together.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE) : Sir, as a matter of fact, on receiving complaints about corruption in the execution of the project, we had constituted an expert committee. Top most people were appointed to this Committee.

Somebody had reported to us because the matter was very serious. They said that sub-standard material was being used. If sub-standard material is being used, that means it is a serious potential danger to the safety of the Dam. Sir, that Committee has reported that there is absolutely no question of corruption; standard material is being used. I am talking of the report of that Committee, Sir, It has given totally a clean chit in the matter.

[Translation]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are several aspects to be reckoned with regarding the controversy concerning the pro and anti views on the construction of Tehri dam. One is regarding the design specification. Government's stand has not been clear on this. My question to the Minister regarding design specification has three parts. First, at what peak ground escalation is the dam being constructed and what is magnitude of MQ on the Richter scale? When you talk of 1972, these values then stood at 6 and .25 respectively. But after the earthquakes etc., these values are considered to have increased. The Minister should clarify the values for which the design has been made.

Second part of the question is, whether the dynamic test, known as the 'gazelle' test has been conducted to determine these values. If so, what is the result? If the result has been favourable, why has this not been made public. What steps are you taking to allay the doubts of the people of the area that in case breach occurs in the dam, then the area upto Haridwar would be submerged under 100 feet of water.

The last part of my question relates to environment. Has the dam been environmentally cleared? If so, then whether any disaster management plan has been formulated? If not, the reasons therefor?

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : The design of the Tehri dam has been revised. Now from 6 it can withstand earthquake upto 8 on the Richter scale. The peak ground escalation has been raised upto .5 (interruptions)

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Have you raised it to .5?

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : Yes.. (interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is very technical; if you have the information, you may please give it.

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : I have got the information. It is on eight and the peak ground escalation is 0.5 G.

[Translation]

Gazelle test was carried out. It was previously 1.36 and .72 G units. We had this checked thoroughly to leave no scope for any danger. The report has been submitted. Regarding

your query on the disaster management plan, it has been formulated and it is being implemented there.

The committee which was set up in this regard has opined that the work is going on satisfactorily.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : The hon. Minister has just now told about the first report of this dam that no new issues will come up. I would like to say that in 1980, when a movement was launched for the first time on this issue, the then Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi had given orders for an enquiry into it. I would like to read out whatever she had said at that time -

[English]

"It seems that larger areas of very fertile land are being submerged without any commensurate gains. It is true that these decisions have been taken over a period of time but there is great local distress and a feeling that the contractors and other such groups will be the gainers".

[Translation]

These are the words of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, which she had written with her own hand.

At the end, she had asked the officials of the Department of Science and Technology.

[English]

"Have another look, in-depth, on this project."

[Translation]

The report of the committee was received in 1986.

The committee had advised to stop the work. Although Rs. 206 crore had already been spent on this work yet the committee advised to stop work on it. However the Government did not accept it. Moreover the report was also left unimplemented.

I would like to quote a sentence of the report of the Environmental Appraisal Committee of the Ministry of Environmental submitted in 1990 -

[English]

"Taking into consideration the geological and social impacts accompanying the Project, the cost and the benefits expected and after a careful examination of the information and data available, the Committee has come to the unanimous conclusion that the Tehri Project as proposed should not be taken up as it does not merit environmental clearance."

[Translation]

I would like to know whether the Government is ready to put forth the reports of all the enquiries conducted so far with full transparency? Otherwise the need of setting up of a committee like that set up in the case of Enron may arise to place the facts before public.

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : Keeping all these things in mind, it was decided to construct this dam as rock field type. First of all, I would like to inform you that an expert of U.N. Mr. Yokolo had visited here in 1967 and he had given his report after carrying out the study of this dam. After this, report, James Berry Cook, who is an engineer and Geologist and is considered a renowned consultant of big

dams, was consulted. He submitted his report in 1972 and later stated -

[English]

"The site, geology and topography and the available materials combined together to make 800 feet high dam is feasible."

[Translation]

After that, a high level committee was set up in 1990. This committee also reviewed it. The Director General of the Geological Survey of India, Member of the Research Institute, Head of the Earthquake Engineering Department and the eminent scientist like Shri V.K Gaur from Roorkee were in the committee. They said :-

[English]

"There is no danger to this dam. The Committee has also noted that there will be no additional threat posed to this reservoir in this seismicity to the dam and the civilian structure in the vicinity.

[Translation]

Later on, James Berry Cook was apprised of the views of Shri V.K. Gaur. Who submitted his report after two months. The high level committee examined that report again. After its study, this report was referred to Prof. Jaikrishan, who is considered the renowned seismic expert of the world. He added important thing :

[English]

"I have no hesitation to recommend that the proposed dam sanctioned for the Tehri Project is safe from the point of view of the seismicity of the region. Since the conservatism has entered almost every strata of the decision making, the overall factor of the safety of the dam is high enough to eliminate any risk from the earthquake of the future.

[Translation]

Thereafter, on the advice of Department of Mines this report was shown to an Expert Group. Then followed an independent survey by the experts of the U.S.S.R. Who gave a clear indication about the environment as under :

[English]

"The dam has been tested in a peak ground acceleration of .5g for a magnitude 8 earthquake and is found to be safe. With these studies the geometry of the core has been optimised and with the outer source the top width and the base width remain the same as proposed earlier by the engineers."

[Translation]

In the end, study in respect of Gazelle earthquake was carried out and it was stated in the report that in case any damage takes place, it will not cause any devastation.

Visit of Deputy Prime Minister of Russia

[English]

*102. **SHRI RABI RAY :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Deputy Prime Minister of Russia had visited India recently;

(b) If so, the issues that figured in his talks with Indian leaders;

(c) whether any agreements and MoUs were signed during the visit;

(d) if so, the salient features thereof, agreement-wise; and

(e) the impact of the visit of bilateral relations of the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes Sir, Mr. Yuri F. Yarov, the Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation paid an official visit to India on 5-7 July, 1995.

(b) to (e) Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(b) Russian Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Yuri F. Yarov, who is also the Co-Chairman of the Indo-Russian Joint Commission (Indo-Russian Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Co-operation) had visited India for a meeting of the two Co-Chairmen prior to the full meeting of the Commission. The External Affairs Minister is the Co-Chairman of the Commission on the Indian side.

The two Co-Chairmen reviewed the progress in the work of the Joint Commission. They also identified and prioritised the areas for discussion at the second meeting of the Commission, which is likely to be held in New Delhi in October, 1995.

(c) and (d) A Protocol was signed by the two Co-Chairmen at the end of the meeting. A text of the Protocol is attached as Annexure.

(e) The visit has been successful in providing further impetus to the development of bilateral relations between the two countries.

ANNEXURE

The Co-Chairmen of the Indian-Russian Inter-governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Co-operation, Shri Pranab Kumar Mukherjee, Minister of External Affairs of India, and Mr. Yuri F. Yarov, Deputy Chairman of the Government of the Russian Federation, held meetings during the official visit of the latter to India from July 5-6, 1995.

Mr. Yuri F. Yarov called on the Prime-Minister of India Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao and had meetings with Shri K. Karunakaran, Minister of Industry, Shrimati Urmilaben Patel, Minister of State for Power and Shri P. Chidambaram, Minister of State for Commerce.

In the course of the meetings, the two sides considered the current state of bilateral cooperation and prospects for its further development.

The two sides noted with satisfaction the understanding and similarity of their views on a broad range of issues. They recognised that the Inter-Governmental Commission has become an effective mechanism for monitoring and promoting bilateral cooperation in various fields. They reaffirmed their

intention to continue developing multifaceted cooperation in the interest of progress of both the countries, especially in the fields of trade, economy, science, technology, education and culture.

The two sides agreed to expedite the work on finalising Agreements on avoidance of Double Taxation and on air services as well as the Supplement to the Agreement of November 20, 1988 between the USSR and India on cooperation in the construction of a nuclear power plant in India. They agreed to continue their discussions with a view to reaching agreement on modernisation of projects in India, constructed with economic and technical assistance of the USSR. They also agreed to begin preparing an agreement on utilisation of debt repayment by India to Russia for investments in joint ventures. The two sides shall instruct the concerned organisations in their respective countries to make proposals on the issues of bilateral cooperation, discussed in the course of the meeting of the Co-Chairmen in order to facilitate decisions on the issues at the second session of the Intergovernmental Commission.

The two sides agreed to hold the second session of the Intergovernmental Commission in Delhi in September/October 1995 and approved of the following agenda:

1. Current State of bilateral cooperation.
2. Review of the work done by the working groups.
3. Setting-up of a sub-group on pharmaceuticals.
4. Prospects for bilateral cooperation.
5. Other issues.

Signed in New Delhi on July 6, 1995, in three originals, in Hindi, Russian and English languages, with all the texts being equally authentic.

(PRANAB MUKHERJEE)
Minister of External Affairs
of India and Co-Chairman of
The Commission

(YURI YAROV)
Deputy Prime Minister
of Russian Federation
and Co-Chairman of the
Commission

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, since giving notice of this question the hon. Minister of External Affairs has returned after having talks with the Foreign Minister and the Prime Minister of Russia. I would like the hon. Minister to allay the fears of the people about the change of perception of Russia towards India following disintegration of Soviet Union. I want to know it from the hon. Minister because he has returned only yesterday after having talks with the Foreign Minister and the Prime Minister of Russia. The hon. Minister of External Affairs has said after his return that Russia has given top priority to strategic partnership with India. Is he satisfied that the perception of Russia towards India has not all changed?

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Sir, in regard to the perception of the Russian Federation towards India, I think, hon. Members are aware that a series of high level visits have taken place between the two countries since the establishment of the Russian Federation. In January, 1993, Russian

President, Mr. Boris Yeltsin visited India; in June-July, 1994, our Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao visited Moscow; in December, 1994, the Russian Prime Minister, Mr. Chernomyrdin visited India. We have been able to establish an Inter-Governmental Commission, known as the Indo-Russian Joint Commission. It was established in the year 1994. The first meeting of the Indo-Russian Joint Commission took place in September last year. The second meeting of this Commission is likely to be held in September-October this year.

From the exchange of views at the senior level and from the exchange of a series of visits at a high level, I can assure the hon. Member that our relationship and friendship with Russia is on a firm footing. There is no change in the perception.

Even in regard to Kashmir, they have clearly stated on a number of occasions that this is a bilateral problem between India and Pakistan and has to be resolved through bilateral discussions. They have also recognised Kashmir as an integral part of India. Therefore, the question of changing the position does not arise at all.

Sir, in regard to strategic partnership, in fact while formulating the foreign policy Russian President Mr. Boris Yeltsin said that they had this special strategic relationship with India. It covers trade, commerce, economy, science and technology and culture. It is a multifaceted relationship. The volume of trade between India and Russia which at one point of time used to be 27-28 per cent and had nose-dived in the early 90s, has again started picking up. In fact, it was decided at the meeting of the two Co-Chairmen of the Indo-Russian Joint Commission that the volume of trade between India and Russia which was worth Rs. 2500 crore in 1993-94 would be doubled by the year 1995-96.

I am happy to inform the House that we had already reached the figure of Rs. 4100 crore in 1994-95 and it was possible not merely on the debt repayment rule but also on the free foreign exchange rule and it is hoped that by 1995-96 we will surpass the target which we have fixed for ourselves.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my next Supplementary Question is whether the hon. Minister also had talks with the leaders, especially the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister of Russia, with regard to India's efforts to get permanent membership of the Security Council of United Nations? If so, the outcome thereof ?

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : This matter came up during the course of discussion and as per formulation which they had made, at any point of time if there is expansion of the Security Council, India's claim should be considered first.

[Translation]

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, our country had intimate relations with the Soviet Union in regard to defence matters. An agreement was signed with the Soviet Union for transfer of cryogenic engine and related technology. Later on, Russian Republic backed out under some external

pressure. Did the hon. Minister raise this issue during his recent visit ? If so, the outcome thereof, Recently, it has been reported to the press that Russia will supply the engine only and not transfer its technology.

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : On December 10, 1993, the old agreement in the area of space, between ISRO and Glavkosmos, was replaced by a new agreement. According to that agreement the first engine would be delivered in the last quarter of 1996 and thereafter six engines will be delivered at the interval of six months. Therefore, the old problem, which we faced at the initial stages, has been overcome now.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : No, Mr. Speaker, it is about transfer of technology.

[English]

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Sir, we welcome the various bilateral agreements reached between Russia and India. In his reply, the hon. Minister has stated...

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not read it. Come to the question.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : There is an agreement on utilisation of debt repayment by India to Russia for investment in joint ventures. I would like to know the total amount of debt repayable to Russia and whether the entire repayable debt to Russia is to be utilised in the joint ventures.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Sir, the entire amount cannot be utilised in the joint ventures because one of the basic objectives of repayment is to expand our exports to Russia. That is why it was decided that instead of paying in cash we shall be paying in kind, that means in goods which are exportable as per the Export-Import Policy prevailing at that time. That was the basis. Therefore, the entire amount cannot be taken away from the loan. It was also decided that a part of it would be utilised in investment both in India and Russia. Certain areas have been identified which I have indicated in my Statement. When the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Yuri F. Yarov visited India, he identified certain areas in which investment could be made. We have also identified certain areas but the exact quantum would depend on the number of projects that we take up and the total amount involved in implementing these projects.

SHRI RAM KAPSE : Sir, as far as bilateral cooperation is concerned, it is in different areas, like trade, economy, science, technology, education and culture and it is decided that it is to be continued.

As far as trade is concerned, the Minister has already explained about trade. I would like to know about the other fields of life. What exactly are the projects where the cooperation will be continued?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Sir, these are the areas where bilateral cooperation between India and Russia will take place :

The Inter-Governmental Commission is some sort of an umbrella institution under which various Working Groups and Sub-Working Groups work. There are nine Working Groups

and under these nine Working Groups, there are eight Sub-Working Groups. Before the meeting of the Joint Commission, two Co-Chairman will review as to what has been the progress in various Working Groups and if there is any shortfall or if any particular attention is to be given in the functioning of the Working Group, they give directions. Thereafter, at the meeting of the Inter-Governmental Commission these areas are identified and reviews take place. Then, whatever necessary instructions and guidelines are to be given, they are being given.

We are having cooperation in a number of areas. Take the example of defence. It is a very important area. During the visit of Russian Prime Minister, Mr. Chernomyrdin to New Delhi last December, a five-year agreement viz., upto year 2,000, was signed and we are placing some orders for buying equipment, spares etc., from the Russians. In addition to that, we are going in for production-sharing joint ventures where all the aircraft having Russian origin would be serving not only in India but also in the Third-world countries. A Memorandum of Understanding for 400 million U.S. dollars had been signed. A joint company had been registered with a Capital of 400 million U.S. dollars. This could be multiplied. The hon. Member is aware that our relations are multi-faceted in a large number of areas. We are working out these details.

Scheme to Improve Productivity

*104. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to introduce a new scheme to motivate employees to increase steel production;

(b) if so, the main features of this scheme;

(c) the time by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken; and

(d) the time by when this scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (d) Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) signing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Government have been delegated powers to finalise wage revisions and interalia evolve their own incentive schemes. The National Joint Committee for the Steel Industry (NJCS), as a part of the wage agreement signed on 18.5.1995, has also agreed that a Company Based Performance Linked Benefit Scheme (CBPLBS) would be introduced so as to motivate the employees to put in maximum efforts for improvement of production, productivity and profitability. Accordingly, it was decided to work out a scheme based on parameters like production of saleable steel, gross margin, energy consumption, productivity etc. The details of the scheme are being worked out and it would be implemented after it is finalised by the NJCS.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to ask the hon. Minister at what level employees will be given

benefit under this scheme? Is financial benefit also included in it?

[*English*]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : As I said in my reply, there are three basic things on which it will be decided.

Regarding details I would like to mention here that I have a long list. I will just read out some salient points. The scheme shall be applicable to all regular workers of the company. The proposed scheme has three parameters viz., the MoU target of saleable steel production; the MoU target of gross margin; and the MoU target of total energy consumption. The total number of employees who will be benefited will be 1,61,295. The annual amount needed will be or and Rs. 22 crore.

There is also a slab. It will be ranging from a minimum of Rs. 75 to a maximum of Rs. 145 which they will get.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : I want to know from the hon. Minister that by what time the scheme is likely to be finalised and implemented? Whether employees and their associations have also been consulted in this regard?

[*English*]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, as per the agreement that has been signed, the outer time-limit would be within three months. But, I think, within this month it may be finalised. The detailed discussion is going on. All the employees of the Steel Plants except IISCO and Visweswaraiya Steel Plant have all represented in that. INTUC, CITU and other organisations are all party in that Committee and they have all signed this agreement. Now the details are being worked out and within one month it may be done.

Sir, I made a mistake in my previous answer. The quantum of money should be ranging from Rs. 75 to Rs. 145.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : When will you implement it?

[*English*]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Within one month it will be done. With retrospective effect it will be done.

Power Shortage

*105. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARYA:

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the new item captioned "Secret report forecasts power crisis", as reported in the Statesman dated July 12, 1995;

(b) whether the said projection has been discussed by the Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs, and if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the concrete steps Government propose to take to meet the power shortage projections in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) (a) to (c) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir. There is, however, no secret report on blackouts in Delhi or in the country.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In order to bridge the gap between demand and supply of power, various measures being taken to improve the availability of power in the country include expediting the commissioning of new generating capacity, implementation of short gestation projects, improving the performance of existing power stations, reduction of Transmission and Distribution losses, implementation of better demand management and energy conservation measures, arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit areas and promotion of private sector investment in power sector.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, my question was whether any report in regard to the power crisis the country will face at the terminal year of the Eighth Five Year Plan has been prepared by the Ministry of Power and submitted to the Prime Minister. Sir, it has been envisaged to add 29.7 MW capacity during the Eighth Five Year Plan. What will be the gap between demand and supply at the terminal year of the Eighth Five Year Plan?

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : Sir, I have the figures for the year 1994-95. We have the requirement of 3,52,260 million units and the availability is 3,27,281 million units. The deficit is 7.1 per cent. In terms of peak demand we have the requirement of 57,530 MW and the peak net is 48,066 MW. The deficit is 16.5 per cent. So, it is not a picture which is so blind as you think...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : I have asked, at the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan what will be the gap...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The statistics will be given to you later. Please do not quarrel on figures.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, she is giving the figure...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : If she has, she can give it. If she is not having it, she can sent it later.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, she should have the figures. What have you envisaged at the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan? ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE) : Sir, I submit respectfully that it is entirely outside the scope of this question.

If you broadly want the figure, I can give you that. It was estimated by the Central Electricity Authority that to be able to take care of the total shortage to meet the needs of the country, the minimum incremental generation capacity should have been 42,000 MW.

It was reduced to 30,537 because of constraint of resources. Further, it was found that in view of the limited allocation, we cannot go beyond 20,527 megawatts during the Eighth Five Year Plan. And, therefore, at the end of Eighth

Five Year Plan, the shortage both in terms of requirement and peak is going to be very much more than what it was at the beginning of the Plan.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Then, Sir, India will face power crisis at the end of Eighth Five Year Plan. If so, then, whether any report has been prepared by the Ministry of Power and submitted to the Prime Minister? May I know whether the Ministry of Power envisages in that report that the country will face a severe power crisis at the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan?

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : I have got the figures now. The deficit will be 21,272. That means, minus 28.9 and in the peak, it will be 61,200 minus 14.7.

MR. SPEAKER : What is it? For what?

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : And we have planned out. So we are aware of the situation and we are planning accordingly in the Department and due to the financial constraints, we were not able to generate as much as we wanted. So with the policy of privatisation, we will be able to meet the needs of the country.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : She has not replied to my Question.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY : Sir, the next Question is also important.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV : It is a very important Question.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, but the Supplementary should be equally important.

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE : Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I had seen the darkness at noon in this House during the last Budget Session in the month of March, 1995.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Today also, in our V.P. House, suddenly there was a blackout.

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE : The nature and state of the power crisis is known to us. I have the statement in my hand. But I do not want to go into it.

MR. SPEAKER : Please come to the Question. The time is limited.

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE : I am given to understood that the whole country is going to suffer from the domestic blackouts four hours per day. Delhi is also going to suffer. What steps are being taken by the Government to meet the new demands and challenges of the situation?

MR. SPEAKER : They are enlisted in the written reply.

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE : No, Sir. That is not given.

MR. SPEAKER : You read it please.

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE : Sir, my second part of the Question is – I do not want to enter into the Enron situation or Enron episode – that while dealing with the situation arising out of Enron episode, what are the steps being taken by the Government to protect the national interest in regard to production of power generation by private parties?

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : Now I think it does not come under the purview of this Question. If the States do not want to have the private power projects, it is the choice of the States to decide.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV : The Minister herself has given the figures that because of the constraint of resources, now the target which was fixed according to the requirement of the country by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan has been almost reduced to 50 per cent. How is the Government going to meet the requirements when on the one hand we are talking of faster development like building of new infrastructures and on the other hand the target has been reduced to almost 50 per cent? How is the Government planning to meet the requirements? What are the steps the Government is taking?

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : I gave the answer that the policy of privatisation has helped us a lot and with the private power projects, we will be able to meet the demand with less finances.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV : It cannot be, Sir. I will seek your indulgence. It cannot be just a general answer that we will invite private sector and they will, therefore, meet it. Have you got a concrete proposal from the private sector or can you assure the House and the country that you will be able to meet the requirements of the country so far as important power sector is concerned by the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan?

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : We have received 203 intentions from the private parties and out of that 123 MoUs have been signed and they are at different levels of consideration. Out of that, approximately 60 to 63 are in the pipeline and they will be finalized after due consideration.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the third question is with regard to the power scarcity. The Government of Uttar Pradesh had talked of giving licence to some Private Companies in the wake of acute power crisis. The Present Minister had also written a letter to this effect to the Ministry earlier. I want to know whether the Government has taken a decision on the scheme of power generation by Private Sector? If not, the steps taken by it to ward-off power crisis?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is too specific; not allowed.

SHRI A. CHARLES : The fact there is acute power shortage all over the country has been admitted. Kerala is one such State and from the answer to Question No. 103 also it is clear. May I know from the hon. Minister the number of projects which are pending for years together for one reason or other? There is no proper coordination. May I know from the hon. Minister whether in view of the shortage of installed capacity proposed in the Eighth Plan, the Ministry will coordinate with all the other Departments and take a final decision so that the States can depend on other areas, either thermal or diesel?

MR. SPEAKER : No. Shri Virendra Singh.

SHRI A. CHARLES : Sir. ...

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand the scope of the question and let such Supplementaries be asked which are relevant to the Question. Otherwise you are going to take the time of the House.

SHRI A. CHARLES : A number of projects are pending.

MR. SPEAKER : Disallowed. Please take your seat now.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the one hand, the Government says that the construction work of the Projects is not taking place because of paucity of funds and on the other hand, it says that demand of power is increasing day by day. Singrauli region, is the largest power complex of Asia, where Rihand, Vindhyanchal and Singrauli thermal power stations are situated. The Survey work for other power Projects has also been carried out there. Through you, I want to know from the hon. Minister as to when the construction on these project will start? Further, how will extension work on existing projects like Rihand or Vindhyanchal be carried out with minimum investment?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Disallowed. Shri Arjun Singh.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : The hon. Minister has spoken of so many MOUs that have signed and the signing of an MOU gives rise to some kind of a hope that action will be taken to see that the shortage of power is removed.

May I ask precisely what is the time normally taken between the signing of an MOU and then getting the plant set-up? Because, our experience is that an MOU is a Memorandum of Understanding. It ultimately becomes a Memorandum of Uncertainty:

Will the hon. Minister assure us that the MOUs that have been signed will be put into actual practice?

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : It is difficult to have a time-limit...

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : That means uncertainty.

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : ... because an MOU is itself just an intention to have a power project signed between the State and the concerned party. Then they have to put up the Project Report. It takes time for them to put up the Project Report. After that it has to go to different agencies for clearance. There are about 17 statutory and non-statutory agencies such as, environment, forests and it takes time to get the sanction from them. So, normally it takes four to five years to go through this process. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY : What is this?

SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : It is a normal thing today in foreign countries also to go through these procedures. In advanced countries like the European countries or America or Japan also it takes that much time. It

is not that India is adopting delaying tactics. It is a wrong impression and it should be checked. Otherwise, we will have so many criticisms from the side of the Opposition.

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : The Government of Andhra Pradesh recently invited open bids...

MR. SPEAKER : No, I am disallowing this type of questions pertaining to the State.

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : It is about open bids.

MR. SPEAKER : A good question is being wasted on such small things. If MOUs are not going to fructify in five years' time, how are you going to meet the requirement?

Interruptions

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : A lot of encouragement is being given by the State Government. (*interruptions*). One hundred and twenty five applications have come. I want to know whether the Government is going to adopt the same policy all over the country. (*Interruptions*).

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Power Generation Capacity

*103. SHRIMATI M.AHENDRA KUMARI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the requirement of power as on March 31, 1995, State-wise;

(b) the installed capacity of power projects as on March 31, 1995, Statewise;

(c) the total power being made available to each State from power plants situated in the concerned State and the power being supplied from power plants in other States, State-wise;

(d) the target set for production of power during the Eighth Plan, State-wise; and

(e) the steps being taken to meet the full requirement of each State and the time schedule fixed to achieve this target?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE) (a) During the year 1994-95, State-wise power requirement in the country is given in the enclosed Statement - I.

(b) State-wise installed capacity in the country as on 31.3.1995 is given in the enclosed Statement - II.

(c) State-wise energy generation during 1994-95 and State-wise Inter-Regional Exchange of Power during 1994-95 is given in the enclosed Statement - III.

(d) It is envisaged to add 20729.7 MW capacity in the country during 8th Plan. State-wise capacity addition details are given in the enclosed Statement - IV.

(e) In order to bridge the gap between demand and availability of power various States are taking measures which include expediting the commissioning of new generating capacity, implementation of short gestation projects, improving the performance of existing power stations, reduction of Transmission and Distribution losses, implementation of better demand management and energy conservation measures,

arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit areas and promotion of private sector investment in power sector.

The time schedule fixed to achieve the targets to meet the full requirement of power in each State is not available and the same is being obtained.

STATEMENT - I

Actual Power Requirement During 1994-95

Region/State/System	Requirement (All figures in MU net)
<i>Northern Region</i>	
Chandigarh	729
Delhi	12205
Haryana	11695
Himachal Pradesh	1842
Jammu & Kashmir	4045
Punjab	20035
Rajasthan	17000
Uttar Pradesh	37195
Total (N.R.)	104746
<i>Western Region</i>	
Gujarat	31985
Madhya Pradesh	27840
Maharashtra	49525
Goa	965
Total (W.R.)	110315
<i>Southern Region</i>	
Andhra Pradesh	31245
Karnataka	23280
Kerala	8902
Tamil Nadu	29570
Total (S.R.)	92997
<i>Eastern Region</i>	
Bihar	9410
D.V.C.	7970
Orissa	9420
West Bengal	13540
Total (E.R.)	40340
<i>N.Eastern Region</i>	
A.P.	157.5
Assam	2437.1
Manipur	337.2
Meghalaya	342.8
Mizoram	139.5
Nagaland	136.7
Tripura	311.2
Total (N.E.R.)	3862.0
All India	352260

STATEMENT - II*Generating Plant Installed Capacity as on 31.03.95 (Provisional) Abstract State-wise*

SL. NO.	REGION/ STATE/U.T.	INSTALLED CAPACITY (MW)			
		HYDRO	THERMAL	NUCLEAR	TOTAL
I.	<i>NORTHERN</i>				
1.	HARYANA	883.90	896.42	0.00	1780.32
2.	HIMACHAL	273.57	0.13	0.00	273.70
3.	J&K	180.31	181.76	0.00	362.07
4.	PUNJAB	1798.94	1710.00	0.00	3508.94
5.	RAJASTHAN	967.58	978.00	0.00	1945.58
6.	U.P.	1504.55	4570.19	0.00	6074.74
7.	CHANDIGARH	0.00	2.00	0.00	2.00
8.	DEL - I	0.00	585.60	0.00	585.60
9.	CEN. SEC. (NR)	1530.00	6862.00	895.00	9287.00
	TOTAL (NR)	7138.85	15786.10	895.00	23819.95
II.	<i>WESTERN</i>				
1.	GOA	0.05	0.11	0.00	0.16
2.	GUJARAT	427.00	4511.47	0.00	4938.47
3.	M.P.	845.86	3017.50	0.00	3863.36
4.	MAHARASHTRA	1740.22	8247.00	0.00	9987.22
5.	D. & N. HAVELI	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	DAMAN & DIU	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	CEN. SEC. (WR)	0.00	4652.00	860.00	5512.00
	TOTAL (WR)	3013.13	20428.08	860.00	24301.21
III.	<i>SOUTHERN</i>				
1.	A.P.	2655.94	2551.50	0.00	5207.44
2.	KARNATAKA	2409.55	967.92	0.00	3377.47
3.	KERALA	1491.50	0.00	0.00	1491.50
4.	TAMIL NADU	1947.70	2789.35	0.00	4737.05
5.	PONDICHERRY	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	CEN. SEC. (SR)	0.00	4170.00	470.00	4640.00
	TOTAL (SR)	8504.69	10478.77	470.00	19453.46
IV.	<i>EASTERN</i>				
1.	BIHAR	161.60	1603.50	0.00	1765.10
2.	ORISSA	1271.92	680.00	0.00	1951.92
3.	WEST BENGAL	71.51	3478.88	0.00	3550.39
4.	D.V.C.	144.00	2097.50	0.00	2241.50
5.	SIKKIM	30.89	2.70	0.00	33.59
6.	CEN. SEC. (ER)	0.00	2730.00	0.00	2730.00
	TOTAL (ER)	1679.92	10592.58	0.00	12272.50
V.	<i>NORTH EASTERN</i>				
1.	AR. PRADESH	23.55	15.81	0.00	39.36
2.	ASSAM	2.00	595.19	0.00	597.19
3.	MANIPUR	2.60	9.41	0.00	12.01
4.	MEGHALAYA	186.71	7.05	0.00	193.76
5.	MIZORAM	3.37	21.07	0.00	24.44
6.	NAGALAND	3.20	3.62	0.00	6.82
7.	TRIPURA	16.01	37.35	0.00	53.36
8.	CEN. SEC. (NER)	255.01	100.52	0.00	355.51
	TOTAL (NER)	492.45	790.00	0.00	1282.45
VI.	<i>ISLAND</i>				
1.	A&N ISLANDS	0.00	29.47	0.00	29.47
2.	LAKSHADWEEP	0.00	5.37	0.00	5.37
	TOTAL (ISLANDS)	0.00	34.84	0.00	34.84
	C. SECTOR	1929.00	20612.00	2225.00	24766.00
	S. SECTOR	18456.03	34397.79	0.00	52853.82
	P. SECTOR	444.00	3100.58	0.00	3544.58
	SS+PS	18900.03	37498.37	0.00	56398.40
	ALL INDIA	20829.04	58110.37	2225.00	81164.41
	% OF TOTAL	25.66	71.60	2.74	100.00

STATEMENT- III*State wise power target and generation and the assistance received from other States/sources.*

State	1994-95		1994-95	
	Target	Actual	Assistance From	Assistance Received (MU)
1. Delhi	7565	7034	Western Region Himachal Pradesh	44.2 257.1
2. J&K	3300	2837	Western Region	30.3
3. Himachal Pradesh	3475	4257	Haryana Punjab Uttar Pradesh Western Region	60.1 32.1 342.1 15.0
4. Haryana	3970	3425	Himachal Pradesh Western Region	121.2 26.1
5. Rajasthan	9255	8469	Himachal Pradesh Punjab Western Region Madhya Pradesh	211.8 439.3 55.4 32.0
6. Punjab	12800	11505	Western Region Himachal Pradesh	39.3 148.5
7. Uttar Pradesh	56085	54214	Western Region	104.6
8. Gujarat	30470	28849	Northern Region	3.4
9. Maharashtra	47590	47871	Northern Region	9.6
10. Madhya Pradesh	39155	39701	Rajasthan Northern Region NTPC (Auraiya) Andhra Pradesh	168.4 41.2 316.5 15.0
11. Andhra Pradesh	35525	35891	Maharashtra Madhya Pradesh Goa Orissa West Bengal D.V.C.	163.0 109.6 46.5 74.8 73.0 2.5
12. Karnataka	13870	16352		-
13. Kerala	5800	6573		-
14. Tamil Nadu	31595	33210		-
15. Bihar	5268	3286	West Bengal NTPC (Anta) NTPC (Auraiya) Assam	108.4 1.8 0.9 14.5
16. Orissa	5750	5555	West Bengal Nalco ICCL Madhya Pradesh Assam HPCL	54.5 1200.0 562.0 24.6 8.4 19.0
17. West Bengal	19887	19597	Assam	0.8
18. Sikkim	50	55		-
19. Assam	1655	1255	Meghalaya DVC West Bengal Orissa Eastern Region	82.1 15.5 193.7 22.2 92.3
20. Meghalaya	488	381	Eastern Region	10.0
21. Tripura	175	166	Eastern Region	0.4
22. Manipur	450	515	Eastern Region	14.6
23. Arunachal Pradesh	12	20	Eastern Region	1.7

STATEMENT - IV
State-wise capacity Addition During 8th Plan

Sl. No.	Region/ State/U.T.	Hydro (MW)	Thermal (MW)	Nuclear (MW)	Total (MW)
	Haryana	0.0	210.0	0.0	210.0
	Himachal	27.0	0.0	0.0	27.0
	J&K	6.8	100.0	0.0	106.8
	Punjab	0.0	630.0	0.0	630.0
	Rajasthan	0.0	498.5	0.0	498.5
	Uttar Pradesh	28.5	1110.0	0.0	1138.5
	Delhi	0.0	376.0	0.0	376.0
	Cen. Sec. (NR)	1245.0	1185.0	0.0	2430.0
	Total (NR)	1307.3	4109.5	0.0	5416.8
	Gujarat	160.0	268.0	0.0	428.0
	Madhya Pradesh	285.0	840.0	0.0	1125.0
	Maharashtra	570.5	920.0	0.0	1490.5
	Cen. Sec. (WR)	0.0	1186.0	440.0	1626.0
	Total (WR)	1015.5	3214.0	440.0	4669.5
	Andhra Pradesh	463.6	1340.0	0.0	1803.6
	Karnataka	190.0	416.0	0.0	605.0
	Kerala	271.0	100.0	0.0	371.0
	Tamil Nadu	15.5	750.0	0.0	765.5
	Pondicherry	0.0	22.5	0.0	22.5
	Cen. Sec. (SR)	0.0	420.0	440.0	860.0
	Total (SR)	940.1	3048.5	440.0	4428.6
	Bihar	56.9	420.0	0.0	476.5
	Orissa	136.0	420.0	0.0	556.0
	West Bengal	95.0	920.0	0.0	1015.0
	D.V.C.	0.0	840.0	0.0	840.0
	Sikkim	12.0	0.0	0.0	12.0
	Cen. Sec. (ER)	60.0	2630.0	0.0	2690.0
	Total (ER)	359.9	5230.0	0.0	5589.9
	Assam	0.0	60.0	0.0	60.0
	Meghalaya	60.0	0.0	0.0	60.0
	Nagaland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Tripura	0.0	16.0	0.0	16.0
	Arunachal	10.3	0.0	0.0	10.3
	Mizoram	3.6	0.0	0.0	3.6
	Cen. Sec. (NER)	100.0	375.0	0.0	475.0
	Total (NER)	173.9	451.0	0.0	624.9
	Pvt. Sector	168.0	1454.0	0.0	1622.0
	State Sector	2223.7	7963.0	0.0	10186.7
	Central Sector	1405.0	6636.0	880.0	8921.0
	All India	3796.7	16053.0	880.0	20729.7

Modernisation of IISCO

*106. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:

SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently decided to write off the financial liabilities to banks and financial institutions of the sick Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO) at Burnpur in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating inter-alia the amount proposed to be written off;

(c) the funds sanctioned by the Government for revival

and modernisation of IISCO and the details of plan chalked out for that purpose;

(d) whether the Government have any proposal to involve private parties also in the modernisation/management of the IISCO;

(e) if so, whether any private company has shown interest in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (f) No final decision has as yet been taken by the Government either on the write off of the financial liabilities of IISCO or on providing

budgetary support for its revival and modernisation. Since IISCO became a sick industrial company in terms of the sick Industrial Companies (Special Provision) Act, 1985 (as amended in February, 1994), a reference was made by the Board of Directors of IISCO to BIFR on 22nd June, 1994, as required under Section 15 of the Act for determination of measures to be adopted with respect to the company.

Any scheme to be taken up for modernisation of IISCO will, therefore, have to be in accordance with the orders of the BIFR in this regard.

Delhi - Bombay National Highway

*107. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to declare Delhi-Bombay National Highway as Expressway and propose to involve private investors and foreign agencies for its development;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the time by which the project is likely to start; and

(c) the State-wise details of the National Highways likely to be developed as Expressways in the country with the help of foreign agencies and private investors, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) Proposals have been invited from the private sector for the preparation of feasibility studies for section or group of sections of identified routes of expressways called Super National Highways which includes the Delhi-Bombay section

also. The length falling in each State would be known after the feasibility studies are conducted. It is too early to indicate the date of commencement of construction of the project.

Thermal, Gas and Diesel Based Power Plants

*108. DR. AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL:

DR. SAKSHIJI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to set up thermal, gas and diesel based power plants in the country;

(b) if so, State-wise details thereof and the investment involved in setting up of the proposed projects;

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be started for implementation of the proposal; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Various proposals, with details, received for setting up of coal, gas and diesel-based thermal power plants, techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) and those under examination with them are enclosed in statement - I and II.

(c) and (d) . Public Sector projects, after being techno-economically cleared by CEA, can be taken up for implementation by the concerned project authorities after investment approval has been conveyed by Government.

For private sector projects, implementation begins after financial closure has been achieved by the project proponents.

STATEMENT - I

State-wise details of proposals techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority.

Sl. No.	Name of the project capacity, fuel, Distt.	Investment involved (Rs. Crs.)	Date of CEA clearance	Status
	<i>Haryana</i>			
1.	Faridabad CCGT St. I 400 MW Gas Faridabad	1131.44	14.10.94	Clearance of National Airport Authority & investment approval awaited.
	<i>Uttar Pradesh</i>			
2.	Rihand STPS St. II 2x500 MW Coal Mirzapur.	1139.17	16.05.88	Water availability and investment approval awaited.
	<i>Gujarat</i>			
3.	Gandhinagar TPS Extn. Unit V 1x210 MW, Coal Gandhinagar.	658.80	14.06.94	Compliance of Sec. 29 of E (S) Act, 1948/techno- economic clearance to fresh FR required.
4.	Wanakbori TPS Extn. Unit 7 1 x 210 MW Coal Kheda.	698.00	02.05.95	Firm financial package, clearance of Central Water Commission and compliance of E (S) Act, 1948 awaited.

Sl. No.	Name of the project capacity, fuel, Distt.	Investment involved (Rs. Crs.)	Date of CEA clearance	Status
5.	Gandher (Paguthan) CCGT 655 MW Gas/Naphtha Bharuch. <i>Maharashtra</i>	2298.14	25.11.93	Firm financial package awaited.
6.	Dabhol GTCC TPS 2015 MW Distillate/LNG Ratnagiri	9051.27	14.07.94	Work is under progress.
7.	Bhadravati TPS 2 x 536 MW Coal Chandrapur <i>Andhra Pradesh</i>	5187.80	29.12.94	PPA is under negotiation.
8.	Jegurupadu GTCC TPS 216 MW Gas East Godavari	827.00	25.11.93	PPA is under finalisation.
9.	Godavari GTCC TPS 208 MW Gas East Godavari <i>Tamil Nadu</i>	748.43	03.01.94	
10.	Neyveli Zero Unit TPS 1 x 250 MW Lignite South Arcot	1325.11	19.08.94	Fuel Supply Agreement, Power Purchase Agreement; Firm financial package; Clearance of National Airport Authority and environment clearance of State authorities awaited.
11.	Neyveli TPS Extn. 2 x 210 MW Lignite South Arcot. <i>Kerala</i>	1590.58	30.05.95	Clearance of National Airport Authority, tie up of associated transmission system and investment approval awaited.
12.	Kozhikode DGPP 120 MW LSHS/Diesel Kozhikode. <i>Bihar</i>	355.00	11.10.94	Investment approval awaited.
13.	Maithon Right Bank TPS 4x210 MW Coal Dhanbad.	1490.48	19.10.88	Financial tie up and revised project report for 4x250 MW project for techno-economic clearance awaited.
14.	Muzaffarpur TPS Extn. 2x250 MW Coal Muzaffarpur. <i>Orissa</i>	1452.13	26.10.93	Investment approval awaited.
15.	Ib Valley TPS Units 3 & 4 2x210 MW Coal — Sambalpur	1993.63	19.08.94	Firm financial package awaited.

Sl. No.	Name of the project capacity, fuel, Distt.	Investment involved (Rs. Crs.)	Date of CEA clearance	Status
<i>West Bengal</i>				
16.	Balagarh TPS Units 1&2 2x250 MW — Coal Hugli.	2234.96	29.12.94	Firm financial package, PPA; Coal supply Agreement & Compliance of Sec. 29 of E (S) Act, 1948 awaited.
<i>Andaman & Nicobar Islands</i>				
17.	Diesel Gen. Power Plant at Bambooflat in Port-Blair, South Andaman. 4x5 MW - HSD/LSHS	59.55	28.12.94	Power Evacuation Scheme yet to be tied up.

STATEMENT - II*State-wise details of proposals under examination in the Central Electricity Authority.*

Sl. No.	Name of the Project, capacity, Fuel & Distt.	Investment involved (Rs. Crs.)
<i>Rajasthan</i>		
1.	Chittorgarh TPS 1x500 MW — coal Chittorgarh	1384.86
2.	Dholpur TPS 2 x 350 MW — Coal	2958.00
3.	Suratgarh St. II 2x250 MW - Coal Sri Ganganagar.	2129.20
4.	Kota St. IV 1x210 MW - Coal Kota.	779.22
<i>Uttar Pradesh</i>		
5.	Rosa TPS 2x250 MW (Ph. I) - Coal Sahajanpur.	2236.94
6.	Jawaharpur TPS 2x400 MW - Coal Etah.	3576.00
7.	Anpara 'C' TPS 2x250 MW - Coal Sonebhadra.	4203.23
<i>Maharashtra</i>		
8.	Khaperkheda TPS Units 5&6 2x210 MW - Coal Nagpur.	1353.00
9.	Bhivpuri CCGT Plant 450 MW - Natural Gas/Naphtha Project.	1506.64
<i>Gujarat</i>		
10.	Mangrol (Lignite) TPS 1x250 MW - Lignite Surat.	1082.81

Sl. No.	Name of the Project, capacity, Fuel & Distt.	Investment involved (Rs. Crs.)
11.	Ghogha (Lignite) TPS 2x120 MW - Lignite-Bhavnagar	856.22
12.	Jamnagar TPS 2x250 MW (proposed to increase 4x250 MW) Petroleum coke/LDO Jamnagar.	2017.85
13.	Power Plant (CCGT) for GIPCL 145 MW - Naphtha/Distillate/Gas Distt. Baroda.	398.64
14.	Vatva CCGT Plant 120/150 MW - Naphtha Ahmedabad.	532.15
15.	Essar CCGT TPS 510 MW - Naphtha	1712.97
16.	Kawas CCGT St. II 650 MW - Naphtha/Gas Surat. <i>Madhya Pradesh</i>	2086.00
17.	Korba (West) TPS Units 5&6 2x210 MW - Coal Bilaspur.	1600.45
18.	Bhilai TPS 2x250 MW - Coal Durg.	2135.00
19.	Bhander CCGT 330 MW - Naphtha Gwalior	1232.23
20.	Gwalior Diesel TPS 126 MW - LSHS/FO Bhind.	524.85
21.	Pench TPS 2x250 MW - Coal Chhindwara.	2710.00
22.	Daewoo Korba TPS 2x500 MW - Coal Bilaspur.	4578.80
23.	Korba East Power House 3x30 MW — Coal Bilaspur.	293.75
24.	Narsingpur DG Power Plant 125 MW <i>Tamil Nadu</i>	519.00
25.	Cuddalore TPS 2x535 MW - Coal South Arcot.	5575.00
26.	Samayanallur Diesel Engine Plant 100 MW - LDO/FO/LSHS Madurai.	384.00

S. No.	Name of the Project, capacity, Fuel & Distt.	Investment involved (Rs. Crs.)
27.	Pillaiperumalnallur CCGT 300 MW - Naphtha / Gas Thanjavur.	1235.82
28.	North Madras TPS (St. II) 2x500 MW - Coal Chingalput.	4679.00
29.	Srimushnam TPP 2x250 MW - Lignite Valladar.	2037.26
30.	Basin Bridge DG Sets TPS 220 MW Madras. <i>Kerala</i>	734.08
31.	Kasarstetgod TPS 3x500 MW - Coal Kasargod.	5997.00
32.	Kasargod DG Sets 70 MW (LSHS/FO) Kasargod	270.31
33.	Kasargod CCPP 500 MW - Naphtha Kasargod	2140.42
34.	Kasargod DGPP 60 MW - Diesel / LSHS <i>Karnataka</i>	180.88
35.	Mangalore TPS 4x250 MW - Coal • Dakshin Kannada.	4387.48
36.	Raichur TPS Units 5&6 2x210 MW - Coal Raichur.	1408.88
37.	Toranagallu TPS 2x120 MW - Corex Gas & Coal Ballary.	838.89
38.	2x500 MW Power Plant near Mangalore	
39.	Yelahanka Diesel TPS Extn. 2x23.4 MW - Diesel/LSHS <i>Andhra Pradesh</i>	148.92
40.	Vishakhapatnam TPS 2 x 500 MW - Coal Vishakhapatnam.	4797.00
41.	Wadapalli TPS 2 x 60 MW — Coal Nalgonda	441.00
42.	Ramagundam STPP St. III 1x500 MW.	1435.45
43.	Ravalseema TPS St. II 2x210 MW - Coal Cuddappa.	1473.75

S. No.	Name of the Project, capacity, Fuel & Distt.	Investment involved (Rs. Crs.)
44.	Bhupalpalli TPS 2x67.5 MW - Coal Warangal	497.92
45.	Ramagundam TBP 2 x 250 MW — Coal Bihar	2691.83
46.	Jojobera TPS 3x67.5 MW - Coal - Singhbhum	980.64
47.	Katihar TPS 2x250 MW - coal - Katihar. <i>West Bengal</i>	1783.00
48.	Gouripore TPS 2x75 MW - Coal 24 Parganas. <i>Orissa</i>	732.87
49.	Talcher STPP St.II 1x500 MW - Coal Dhenkanal <i>Assam</i>	5506.40
50.	Amguri CCPP 266 MW - Gas.	1042.80

1971 Indo-Bangladesh Treaty

*109. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:
SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 1971 Indo-Bangladesh Treaty is about to lapse;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to initiate any steps towards its renewal;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Bangladesh have expressed their views on the treaty;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the present status of Indo-Bangladesh relations and the steps being taken for strengthening further the relations between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) The Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Peace was signed between India and Bangladesh in Dhaka on 19th March, 1972. The Treaty is valid for 25 years i.e. upto 1997.

(b) to (d) Does not arise in view of (a) above. The question of whether the treaty should be renewed may be

considered by Government at the appropriate time.

(e) and (f) The Government of Bangladesh have not conveyed any official communication expressing their views on the treaty.

(g) India and Bangladesh have close ties in a number of fields. The two countries continue to cooperate bilaterally and in the SAARC framework. Bilateral trade has increased rapidly over the last few years. Discussions to resolve outstanding issues of illegal immigration, sharing of river water, transit facilities, repatriation of Chakma refugees etc. are continuing.

[Translation]

Food Processing Industries

*110. SHRI DATTA MEGHE :
SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to sanction food processing projects during 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, including the export potentials of these projects;

(c) whether some of the food processing industries were incurring loss;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the details of financial assistance to be provided to other States for setting up/expansion of F.P.I. Units; and

(f) the number of F.P.I. Unit proposals that remain pending with the Union Government and the likely date of their clearance, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) to (f) Since economic liberalisation in July, 1991, most of the food processing industries are delicensed with the exception of distillation and brewing of alcoholic drinks and those items which are reserved for the small Scale Sector. However, approvals wherever necessary for setting up Joint Venture/ Foreign Collaboration/100% Export Oriented Units etc. are accorded on the basis of the proposals received. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not set up any project directly in any State.

Since the food processing industries are both in the organised and unorganized sectors, information with regard to the number of the food processing industries incurring losses in the country, State-wise is not maintained centrally. However generally speaking the food processing industries have been doing well during the past few years.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has formulated and is operating several developmental Plan Schemes for providing assistance for the development of food processing industries during the 8th Plan. However, no State-specific scheme has been prepared. The total Plan outlay for these schemes during 1995-96 is Rs. 45 crores. The proposals for financial assistance in respect of the food processing industries received from various States are appraised and assistance extended for the viable proposals on a continuous basis.

Indian Investment in Nepal

*111. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Nepal has invited India for investment in power sector of Nepal;

(b) whether the Union Government have considered the said request;

(c) if so, the main features thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether any discussions have been held between India and Nepal so far in regard to Shisha-Pani Power Project on Gerua river of Indo-Nepal border in Bahraich district of Uttar Pradesh;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) how far India will be benefited with the setting up of this project?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE) : (a) The Government of India have not received any invitation from the Government of Nepal to invest in Power Sector. However, the Government of Nepal has a policy for private investment in the power sector which is open to all including Indian investors.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) There is no project by the name Shisha-Pani Power Project on Gerua river of Indo-Nepal border in Bahraich district of Uttar Pradesh. It is Karnali (Chisapani) Multi-purpose project on the Karnali river located in Nepal (Gerua is one of the two river channels into which the Karnali splits in the tarai area of Nepal), for which discussions have been held between India and Nepal and it is still at discussion level.

(e) and (f) India and Nepal have set up technical committees to oversee preparation of the feasibility report and discuss the technical aspects of the Karnali (Chisapani and not Shisha-Pani) multipurpose project of about 10,000 MW installed capacity. Power from this project can be used to meet the peaking requirements in India.

[English]

Expansion of Bhilai Steel Plant

*112. SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN :
SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to expand the capacity of the Bhilai Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether adequate iron ore is available for this expansion plan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps proposed by the Government to ensure adequate iron ore availability?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) Presently there is no proposal with the Government for expansion of Bhilai Steel Plant. However, Government has approved two capital schemes in 1994-95, proposed by SAIL which would lead to marginal increase in capacity of the plant. These schemes are :

(i) Installation of a new Sinter Plant-3; and

(ii) Expansion of oxygen Plant No. II.

It is expected that against the present capacity of 4.0 Million Tonnes crude steel, capacity of the plant would be 4.4 Million Tonnes by 1998-99.

(c) to (e) The iron ore requirement upto the year 1998-99 is envisaged to be met from the existing iron ore mines, namely Dalli-Rajhara mechanised and other manual mines. For further requirements, additional iron ore has been envisaged from the Rowghat iron Ore Mines.

Indian Mission in Palestine

*113. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to open an Indian Mission in Palestine;

(b) if so, the proposed location and other details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Palestine has also proposed to set up a Palestinian Mission in India; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The location of the Indian Liaison Office is under consideration.

(c) and (d) The Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO), which India has recognized as the sole representative of the Palestinian people opened its office in New Delhi in January, 1975. India accorded full diplomatic recognition to the PLO Office in New Delhi in March, 1980.

[Translation]

Villages Electrification

*114. SHRI LALL BABU RAI:
SHRI LAKSHMI NARAIN MANI TRIPATHI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages electrified in each State and the percentage thereof, respectively;

(b) the amount earmarked for each of the State for rural electrification and the funds allocated for the purpose during 1995-96, State-wise;

(c) the percentage of villages yet to be electrified in each State respectively;

(d) whether any target has been fixed for electrification of the remaining villages; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE) : (a) to (c) State-wise details of villages electrified, yet to be electrified, and the approved plan programme for the year 1995-96 are indicated in the Statement enclosed.

(d) and (e) Rural Electrification is an ongoing programme and targets for village electrification are decided on a year to year basis. Planning Commission has approved a programme for electrification of 4,325 villages during 1995-96, details of which are also given in the statement.

STATEMENT

Status of Village Electrification as on 31.3.95 and Programme for 1995-96 (Provisional)

Sl. No.	States	Status as on 31.3.95				Tentative programme for 1995-96	
		1981 census Total No. of villages	Achievements as on 31.3.95	%age elec-trified March 95 (Pro.)	%age vill-ages yet to be elec-trified (Pro.)	Financial Allocation for Rural Electrification works@@ (Rs./crores)	Tentative target for village electrification (1995-96)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	27,379	27,358	@ 100	-	30.00	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3,257	2,149	66	34	11.00	120
3.	Assam	21,995*	21,501	98	2	66.00	900
4.	Bihar	67,546	47,762	71	29	16.07	400
5.	Goa	386	377	@ 100	-	00.20	-
6.	Gujarat	18,114	17,892	@ 100	-	33.00	-
7.	Haryana	6,745	6,745	@ 100	-	30.00	-
8.	Himachal Pradesh	16,807	16,761	@ 100	-	11.00	-
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6,477*	6,231	96	4	21.12	65
10.	Karnataka	27,028	26,483	@ 100	-	56.25	-
11.	Kerala	1,219	1,219	@ 100	-	20.00	-
12.	Madhya Pradesh	71,352*	67,238	94	6	57.00	350
13.	Maharashtra	39,354	39,106	@ 100	-	116.58	-
14.	Manipur	2,035*	1,853	91	9	12.95	75
15.	Meghalaya	4,902*	2,407	49	51	05.24	60
16.	Mizoram	721	662	92	8	07.00	45
17.	Nagaland	1,112	1,099	@ 100	-	01.00	-
18.	Orissa	46,553	32,948	(a) 71	29	15.00	220
19.	Punjab	12,342	12,342	@ 100	-	26.00	-
20.	Rajasthan	34,968	29,921	86	14	104.20	750
21.	Sikkim	440	405	@ 100	-	01.50	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	15,831	15,822	@ 100	-	14.84	-
23.	Tripura	856	3,578	\$ 76	24	06.00	20
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1,12,566	85,334	\$\$ 76	24	151.46	800
25.	West Bengal	38,024	29,116	77	23	33.50	520
Total :		5,78,009	4,96,309	86	14	846.91	4,325
UTs		1,123	1,120	100	0	-	0
G.Total :		5,79,132	4,97,429	86	14	846.91	4,325

* As per 1971 census.

@ Fully electrified, rest not feasible.

\$ As per 1971 census, there were 4,727 villages and the progress in against 1971 census.

\$\$ Includes 246 unclassified villages, already declared electrified.

(a) Achievements as on February, 1995.

@ @ This includes the allocation through the State Plan. It does not include Rs. 150 crores for Systems Improvement and Rs. 155 crores for Special Project Agriculture to be financed through REC during 1995-96.

Minister's Visit to Germany

*115. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether he had visited Germany, recently;
- (b) if so, the issues on which discussions were held with the Government of Germany and the outcome of the talks;
- (c) whether Germany has supported India's proposal for permanent membership in the UN Security Council; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir. I visited Germany from 8-11 July 1995.

(b) I met the German President and Foreign Minister. My discussions with them included discussions on bilateral relations, India's relations with neighbouring countries and other international issues of mutual interest. There was also a clear acceptance of our position that Kashmir is an integral part of India, that the current problem will be resolved peacefully within the framework of the Indian Constitution and sovereignty, and the external aspect of the problem must be resolved bilaterally between India and Pakistan, without outside interference. On the expansion of the Security Council, India received German support for our candidature for a permanent seat.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Government welcomes this from an important member of the European Union and the developed world.

Fertilizer production and import

* 116. DR. SATYNARAYAN JATIA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the production of each type of fertilizer in the country as on June 30, 1995;
- (b) the quantity of fertilizers to be imported during 1995-96;
- (c) the import cost of such fertilizers per metric tonne; and
- (d) the selling price of these fertilizers in the market?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV) : (a) The production of different fertilizers in the country during the period April-June, 1995 is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) At present, only urea, which is under price, distribution and movement control is imported on government account.

The gap between indigenous availability and assessed demand of urea is met by imports. The demand and supply (including imports) of decontrolled fertilizers are governed by market forces.

(c) The weighted average C&F cost of urea imports during 1994-95 was Rs. 5662 per tonne. Price information on imports of decontrolled fertilizers is not maintained by Government.

(d) The maximum sale price of urea is fixed at Rs. 3320 per tonne. The prices of decontrolled fertilizers vary from time to time and State to State.

STATEMENT

Production of each type of fertilizers in the country as on 30.6.95

(000 MT)

Name of Product	Production (Apr. '95 —June. '95)		
	Qty.	N	P
Urea	3601.4	1656.6	0.0
Ammonium Sulphate (A/S)	142.5	29.9	0.0
Calcium Ammonium Nitrate (CAN)	96.3	24.1	0.0
Ammonium Chloride (A/C)	35.5	8.9	0.0
Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP)	706.4	127.2	324.9
20 : 20	312.3	62.5	62.5
Single Super Phosphate	624.6	0.0	99.9
15 : 15 : 15	80.5	12.1	12.1
20.7 : 20.7	56.6	11.7	11.7
17 : 17 : 17	177.8	30.2	30.2
10 : 26 : 26	19.2	1.9	5.0
12 : 32 : 16	46.3	5.6	14.8
14 : 35 : 14	7.0	1.0	2.4
19 : 19 : 19	30.3	5.8	5.8
28 : 28	66.4	18.6	18.6
16 : 20	26.9	4.3	5.4
23 : 23	22.8	5.2	5.2
Total :	6052.8	2005.5	598.6

*[English]***Dabhol Pact Controversy**

*117. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to issue guidelines to make the power and fuel purchase agreements as public documents in view of Dabhol pact controversy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE) : (a) to (c) The matter is under examination in the Ministry of Power.

*[Translation]***Accidents in Chemical Factories**

*118. DR. P.R. GANGWAR :

SHRI N.D. RATHVA :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) the number of chemicals and fertilizers plants functioning in the country, State-wise;

(b) the quantity of chemicals and fertilizers produced by these units during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the details of chemicals and fertilizers plants where gas-leakages have occurred during the last three years;

(d) the total lose of life and property suffered as a result thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check such accidents in the future?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS. (SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) Details regarding number of fertilizer units in different States in the country and their production in the last three years is indicated in statement I enclosed. The number of heavy, medium and small units in the chemical sector in the country producing a vast range of chemicals is very large and State-wise details about these units are not maintained. Time, labour and cost that may be incurred in collection of these details may not be commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

(c) and (d) To the extent information is available details of the Chemicals and Fertilizers plants where accidents involving release of hazardous gases/fumes occurred during the last three years are indicated in Statement - II enclosed.

(e) The concerned authorities as indicated in Schedule-5 of the Rules on Manufacture, Storage and Impcrt of Hazardous Chemicals, 1989 notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 are required to investigate the accidents and suggest remedial measures to avoid repetition of such accidents. The concerned authority in respect of industrial accidents and related matters is the State Inspectorate of Factories. The said rules were notified with a view to prevent accidents and minimize the effects of accidents both on man and the environment. In accordance with amendments to the Rules made in October, 1994, the concerned authority is required to submit a report to the Ministry of Environment and Forests and to inform the occupier of any lacunae that need to be rectified to avoid major accidents. A yearly inspection of the industries by the concerned authority, a mock-trial of the on-site plan every six months and the submission of a report of the trial by the occupier is also mandatory. A Public Liability insurance Act, 1991 has also been notified to provide immediate relief to the victims.

STATEMENT - I*Unit-wise and Year-wise Production of fertilizers during 1992-93, 1993-94 & 1994-95*

('000 MT)

Name of Zone/ State Unit	Name of Product	Production 1992-93			Production 1993-94			Production 1994-95		
		Qty.	N	P	Qty.	N	P	Qty.	N	P
South-Zone										
<i>Andhra Pradesh</i>										
FCI-Ramagundam	Urea	126.0	58.0	0.0	193.0	88.8	0.0	76.5	35.2	0.0
CEL-Vizag	28:28	330.4	92.5	92.5	284.2	79.6	79.6	305.7	85.6	85.6
	14:35:14	29.7	4.2	10.4	10.6	1.5	3.7	19.9	2.8	7.0
	DAP							2.9	0.5	1.3
	20:20	16.2	3.2	3.2	6.5	1.3	1.3	20.5	4.1	4.1
	Total	376.3	99.9	106.1	301.3	82.4	84.6	349.0	93.0	98.0
GFCL - Kakinada	DAP	345.3	62.2	158.8	222.8	40.1	102.5	340.2	61.2	156.5
NFCL - Kakinada	Urea	309.4	142.3	0.0	591.2	272.0	0.0	675.1	310.5	0.0
A/S Units	A/S	33.8	7.1	0.0	32.0	6.7	0.0	34.8	7.3	0.0
SSP Units	SSP	68.7	0.0	11.0	64.5	0.0	10.3	89.3	0.0	14.3
State Total		1259.5	369.4	276.0	1404.8	489.9	197.4	1564.9	507.3	268.8
<i>Kerala</i>										
FACT-Udyogmandal	A/S	156.0	32.8	0.0	180.7	37.9	0.0	197.3	41.4	0.0
	20:20	150.9	30.2	30.2	117.5	23.5	23.5	138.6	27.7	27.7
	Total	306.9	62.9	30.2	298.2	61.4	23.5	335.9	69.2	27.7

Name of Zone/ State Unit	Name of Product	Production 1992-93			Production 1993-94			Production 1994-95		
		Qty.	N	P	Qty.	N	P	Qty.	N	P
FACT-Cochin-I	Urea	146.7	67.5	0.0	242.3	111.5	0.0	244.1	112.3	0.0
FACT-Cochin-II	20:20	518.1	103.6	103.6	446.6	89.3	89.3	501.1	100.2	100.2
	DAP	21.2	3.8	9.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.2	1.8	4.7
	Total	539.3	107.4	113.4	446.6	89.3	89.3	511.3	102.1	104.9
State Total		992.9	237.9	143.6	987.1	262.2	112.8	1091.3	283.5	132.6
<i>Karnataka</i>										
MCF-Mangalore	Urea	207.7	95.5	0.0	189.4	87.1	0.0	250.6	115.3	0.0
	DAP	89.9	16.2	41.4	64.9	11.7	29.9	102.7	18.5	47.2
	20:20	2.5	0.5	0.5	6.1	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
MCF-Mangalore State Total		300.1	112.2	41.9	260.4	100.0	31.1	353.3	133.8	47.2
<i>Tamil Nadu</i>										
MFL-Madras	Urea	61.7	28.4	0.0	96.9	44.6	0.0	237.7	1.9.3	0.0
	17:17:17	690.4	117.4	117.4	483.7	54.4	82.2	650.2	110.5	110.5
	Imp. Urea (NPK)							-39.1	-18.0	0.0
	Ind. Urea (NPK)							-139.7	-64.3	0.0
	14:28:14	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	19:19:19	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Total	752.1	145.8	117.4	580.6	99.0	82.2	709.1	137.6	110.5
NLC-Neyveli	Urea	108.6	50.0	0.0	111.0	51.1	0.0	105.5	48.5	0.0
SPIC-Tuticorin	Urea	626.5	288.2	0.0	586.1	269.6	0.0	658.5	302.9	0.0
	DAP	453.3	81.6	208.5	203.8	36.7	93.7	421.0	75.8	193.7
SPIC-Tuticorin Total		1079.8	369.8	208.5	789.9	306.3	93.7	1079.5	378.7	193.7
EID Parry-Ennore	16:20	104.7	16.8	20.9	87.8	14.0	17.6	141.9	22.7	28.4
TAC-Tuticorin	A/C	67.9	17.0	0.0	68.7	17.2	0.0	76.5	19.1	0.0
A/S Units	A/S	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SSP Units	SSP	135.8	0.0	21.7	184.4	0.0	29.5	237.6	0.0	38.0
State Total		2248.9	599.2	368.6	1822.4	487.5	223.0	2350.1	606.7	370.6
South-Zone Total		4801.4	1318.7	829.9	4474.7	1339.7	564.3	5359.6	1531.2	819.2
West Zone										
<i>Goa</i>										
ZAC:Goa	Urea	389.0	178.9	0.0	381.0	175.3	0.0	349.5	160.8	0.0
	19:19:19	122.9	23.4	23.4	129.4	24.6	24.6	15.7	29.2	29.2
	28:28	12.5	3.5	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.8	5.8	5.8
	DAP	134.1	24.1	61.7	36.2	6.5	16.7	87.2	15.7	40.1
	20:20	29.4	5.9	5.9	44.5	8.9	8.9	64.4	12.9	12.9
	Total	687.9	235.8	94.4	591.1	215.3	50.1	675.6	224.4	88.0
State Total		687.9	235.8	94.4	591.1	215.3	50.1	675.6	224.4	88.0
<i>Madhya Pradesh</i>										
NFL-Vijaipur	Urea	842.1	387.4	0.0	878.3	404.0	0.0	819.7	377.1	0.0
A/S Units	A/S	46.8	9.8	0.0	43.9	9.2	0.0	44.7	9.4	0.0
SSP Units	SSP	342.0	0.0	54.7	284.4	0.0	45.5	458.0	0.0	73.3
State Total		1230.9	397.2	54.7	1206.6	413.2	45.5	1322.4	386.4	73.3
<i>Maharashtra</i>										
RCF-Trombay	Urea	62.8	28.9	0.0	83.2	38.3	0.0	68.7	31.6	0.0
	15:15:15	351.5	52.7	52.7	303.1	45.5	45.5	240.2	36.0	36.0
RCF-Trombay-IV	20:7:20:7	290.1	60.1	60.1	267.2	55.3	55.3	254.2	52.6	52.6
RCF-Trombay-V	Urea	280.3	128.9	0.0	312.3	143.7	0.0	273.8	125.9	0.0
RCF-Thal	Urea	1418.4	652.5	0.0	1341.9	617.3	0.0	1387.1	638.1	0.0
RCF-Total		2403.1	923.1	112.8	2307.7	900.0	100.8	2224.0	884.3	88.6
DFCL : Taloja	23:23	102.3	23.5	23.5	10.2	2.3	2.3	54.8	12.6	12.6
A/S Units	A/S	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SSP Units	SSP	302.4	0.0	48.4	324.6	0.0	51.9	379.0	0.0	60.6
State Total		2807.8	946.6	184.7	2642.5	902.3	155.1	2657.8	896.9	161.9

Name of Zone/ State Unit	Name of Product	Production 1992-93			Production 1993-94			Production 1994-95		
		Qty.	N	P	Qty.	N	P	Qty.	N	P
<i>Gujarat</i>										
IFFCO-Kandla	10:26:26	281.3	28.1	73.1	251.0	25.1	65.3	262.7	26.3	68.3
	12:32:16	275.1	33.0	88.0	193.2	23.2	61.8	350.5	42.1	112.2
	DAP	319.4	57.5	146.9	465.8	83.8	214.3	427.8	77.0	196.8
IFFCO-Kandla	Total	875.8	118.6	308.1	910.0	132.1	341.4	1041.0	145.3	377.3
IFFCO-Kalol	Urea	338.9	155.9	0.0	357.6	164.5	0.0	412.8	189.9	0.0
KRIBHCO-Hazira	Urea	1686.6	775.8	0.0	1515.4	697.1	0.0	1465.8	674.3	0.0
GSFC-Baroda	Urea	481.3	221.4	0.0	351.0	161.5	0.0	360.1	165.6	0.0
	A/S	252.5	53.0	0.0	297.0	62.4	0.0	236.5	49.7	0.0
	DAP	133.6	24.0	61.5	80.7	14.5	37.1	24.2	4.4	11.1
	20:20	65.1	13.0	13.0	128.7	25.7	25.7	242.4	48.5	48.5
	Total	932.5	311.5	74.5	857.4	264.1	62.9	863.2	268.1	59.6
GNFC-Bharuch	Urea	660.8	304.0	0.0	653.7	300.7	0.0	687.4	316.2	0.0
	CAN	93.8	23.4	0.0	160.5	40.1	0.0	143.7	35.9	0.0
	23:23	64.1	14.7	14.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	20:20	77.4	15.5	15.5	132.9	26.6	26.6	149.3	29.9	29.9
	Total	896.1	357.6	30.2	947.1	367.4	26.6	980.4	382.0	29.9
GSFC-Sikka	DAP	403.4	72.6	185.6	419.6	75.5	193.0	530.0	95.4	243.8
A/S Units	A/S	9.4	2.0	0.0	9.3	2.0	0.0	9.0	1.9	0.0
SSP Units	SSP	109.3	0.0	17.5	107.8	0.0	17.2	89.5	0.0	14.3
State Total		5252.0	1794.1	615.8	5124.2	1702.7	641.1	5391.7	1756.9	724.8
<i>Rajasthan</i>										
HCL-Khetri	SSP	53.9	0.0	8.6	14.2	0.0	2.3	27.5	0.0	4.4
SFC-Kota	Urea	358.4	164.9	0.0	405.8	186.7	0.0	384.1	176.7	0.0
Chambal Ferts.	Urea	0.0	0.0	0.0	124.4	57.2	0.0	752.5	346.2	0.0
A/S Units	A/S	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SSP Units	SSP	153.0	0.0	24.5	77.7	0.0	12.4	74.2	0.0	11.9
State Total		565.3	164.9	33.1	622.1	243.9	14.7	1238.3	522.8	16.3
West-Zone Total		10543.9	3538.5	982.8	10186.5	3477.4	906.5	11285.8	3787.4	1064.3
East Zone										
<i>Bihar</i>										
FCI-Sindri	A/S	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Urea	295.3	135.8	0.0	243.9	112.2	0.0	298.4	137.3	0.0
FCI-Sindri	Total	295.5	135.9	0.0	243.9	112.2	0.0	298.4	137.3	0.0
HFCI-Barauni	Urea	105.2	48.4	0.0	22.0	10.1	0.0	67.0	30.8	0.0
PPCL	SSP	177.2	0.0	28.4	128.6	0.0	20.6	171.2	0.0	27.4
A/S Units	A/S	35.0	7.3	0.0	33.1	7.0	0.0	32.2	6.8	0.0
SSP Units	SSP	0.7	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
State Total		613.6	191.6	28.5	427.6	129.3	20.6	568.8	174.8	27.4
<i>Orissa</i>										
FCI-Talcher	Urea	90.0	41.4	0.0	124.6	57.3	0.0	66.5	30.6	0.0
SAIL-Rourkela	CAN	219.0	54.8	0.0	239.5	59.9	0.0	221.4	55.4	0.0
PPL-Paradeep	DAP	522.9	94.1	240.5	384.9	69.3	177.1	702.6	126.5	323.2
	12:32:16							2.3	0.3	0.7
A/S Units	A/S	10.8	2.3	0.0	10.3	2.2	0.0	10.2	2.1	0.0
SSP Units	SSP	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
State Total		842.7	192.5	240.5	759.3	188.6	177.1	1003.0	214.8	323.9
<i>West Bengal</i>										
HFC-Durgapur	Urea	74.4	34.2	0.0	40.9	18.8	0.0	2.8	1.3	0.0
HLL-Haldia	DAP	172.3	31.0	79.3	72.0	13.0	33.1	174.5	31.4	80.3
A/S Units	A/S	16.5	3.5	0.0	15.6	3.3	0.0	17.8	3.7	0.0
SSP Units	SSP	292.7	0.0	46.8	220.8	0.0	35.3	124.4	0.0	19.9
State Total		555.9	68.7	126.1	349.3	35.0	68.4	319.5	36.4	100.2

Name of Zone/ State Unit	Name of Product	Production 1992-93			Production 1993-94			Production 1994-95		
		Qty.	N	P	Qty.	N	P	Qty.	N	P
<i>Assam</i>										
HFC-Namrup-I	A/S	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
HFC-Namrup-II	Urea	50.5	23.2	0.0	7.2	3.3	0.0	2.3	1.1	0.0
HFC-Namrup-III	Urea	246.5	113.4	0.0	182.6	84.0	0.0	157.0	72.2	0.0
A/S Units	A/S	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SSP Units	SSP	4.4	0.0	0.7	1.0	0.0	0.2	1.2	0.0	0.2
State Total		302.2	136.8	0.7	190.8	87.3	0.2	60.5	73.3	0.2
East-Zone Total		2314.4	589.7	395.8	1727.0	440.3	266.2	2051.8	499.4	451.7
North-Zone										
<i>Haryana</i>										
NFL-Panipat	Urea	434.7	200.0	0.0	516.4	237.5	0.0	455.0	209.3	0.0
A/S Units	A/S	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SSP Units	SSP	73.9	0.0	11.8	23.7	0.0	3.8	78.6	0.0	12.6
State Total		508.6	200.0	11.8	540.1	237.5	3.8	533.6	209.3	12.6
<i>Punjab</i>										
NFL-Nangal-I	CAN	232.3	58.1	0.0	266.2	66.5	0.0	206.7	51.7	0.0
NFL-Nangal-I	Urea	354.5	163.1	0.0	351.1	161.5	0.0	375.5	172.7	0.0
NFL-Bhatinda	Urea	490.2	225.5	0.0	511.6	235.3	0.0	530.3	243.9	0.0
PNF-Nangal	A/C	54.4	13.6	0.0	62.0	15.5	0.0	60.6	15.2	0.0
SSP Units	SSP	198.5	0.0	31.8	128.7	0.0	20.6	217.2	0.0	34.8
State Total		1329.9	460.2	31.8	1319.6	478.9	20.6	1390.3	483.5	34.8
<i>Uttar Pradesh</i>										
FCI-Gorakhpur	Urea	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
IFFCO-Phulpur	Urea	607.0	279.2	0.0	540.5	248.6	0.0	659.0	303.1	0.0
IFFCO-Aonla	Urea	816.9	375.8	0.0	906.4	416.9	0.0	800.7	368.3	0.0
DIL-Kanpur	Urea	621.0	285.7	0.0	601.3	276.6	0.0	718.4	330.5	0.0
IGFCC-Jagdishpur	Urea	831.5	382.5	0.0	685.3	315.2	0.0	784.3	360.8	0.0
TCL-Babrala	Urea	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	156.2	71.9	0.0
A/S Units	A/S	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SSP Units	SSP	337.9	0.0	54.1	339.6	0.0	54.3	689.2	0.0	110.3
State Total		3214.3	1323.1	54.1	3073.1	1257.4	54.3	3807.8	1434.6	110.3
North-Zone Total		5052.8	1983.3	97.6	4932.8	1973.8	78.7	5731.7	2127.3	157.6
Grand Total		22712.5	7430.3	2306.2	21321.0	7231.2	1815.7	24428.9	7945.4	2492.8

STATEMENT - II

Sl. No.	Year	Place of accident	Nature of accident	Substance involved	Number of Death & Injuries		Name of Co.
(1)	1992	Panipat	Release	Ammonia	10	NIL	National Fert. Ltd.
(2)	1993	Kalyan (Maharashtra)	Release	Sulphuric Acid fumes	9	123	Century Rayon
(3)	1993	Rasayani	Release	Hydrogen Sulphide Fumes	1	5	Hindustan Insecticides Ltd.
(4)	1994	Vadodara	Runaway Reaction	Hydrochloric Acid fumes	-	103	Gharda Chemicals

[English]

Modernisation of State Electricity Boards

*119. Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu: Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered any scheme or formula to revive and modernise all the State Electricity Boards;

(b) whether any domestic/foreign agency has been entrusted with the job of finding ways and means to make the State Electricity Boards more viable; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE) : (a) to (c) The need to revive and modernise the State Electricity Boards on commercial lines has been engaging the attention of the Government. National Development Council set up a Committee on Power to examine, inter alia, measures to make the State Electricity Boards economically viable by recasting tariff, improving efficiency and considering delinking of distribution from generation. The report of the Committee has been submitted to the Chairman of N.D.C. for consideration. The report is yet to be taken up by N.D.C.

A number of State Electricity Boards namely Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, Bihar, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh have already signed agreements with World Bank for loans under its project preparation facility for the diagnostic study by outside consultants. The organisational reform of the State power sector aims at:

(i) unbundling of Power Industry by separating generation, transmission and distribution.

(ii) Bringing in competitiveness by allowing private participation in generation and distribution.

(iii) Development of a regulatory framework.

(iv) Progressive tariff adjustment on commercial lines.

Counter Guarantee

*120. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some alternatives have been suggested by Power Ministry in lieu of counter-guarantee extended by the Union Government to power companies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The alternatives are:-

(i) Direct supply of power by Independent Power Producers (IPPs) to High Tension consumers;

(ii) Opening of an escrow account in which identified payments by consumers are credited and the payment liability to the IPP is the first charge on this account;

(iii) Linking Power generation with distribution.

(iv) Escrow arrangement with backing of central devolution account of the State Governments with Reserve Bank of India.

(v) World Bank Guarantee.

The State Governments have been advised to consider alternatives (i) to (iii). The other alternatives are under the consideration of Government of India.

Beneficiaries of Self Employment Programme

960. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state : (a) the number of beneficiaries under the 'Self Employment Programme for the Urban Poor' in the country during the last three years and State-wise target fixed for 1995-96;

(b) the total credit sanctioned and disbursed during the last year to each State, State-wise; and

(c) the total number of applications received and the number of applications rejected out of them State-wise, during 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) The details of number of beneficiaries assisted under the Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME) of Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) in the country during the last three years and also the State-wise targets fixed for 1995-96 are given in Statement.

(b) The State-wise details of total amount of subsidy sanctioned and disbursed to the beneficiaries during the last Year i.e. 1994-95 are given in Annexure. The loan amount sanctioned and disbursed is upto three times of the subsidy amount.

(c) This information is not being monitored at the Central level.

STATEMENT**NEHRU ROZGAR YOJANA**

S.No.	State/UT	No. of Beneficiaries Assisted under sume* During 1992-93 to 1994-95	Targets Fixed Under sume* for 1995-96	Amount of Subsidy Sanctioned under sume during 1994-95
Rs. In Lakhs				
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	37,441	10,958	157.33
2.	Bihar	4,738	9,283	2.00

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Gujarat	5,909	4,397	44.83
4.	Haryana	8,083	1,211	52.39
5.	Karnataka	19,670	8,664	75.84
6.	Kerala	10,842	2,987	104.61
7.	Madhya Pradesh	57,684	7,944	214.93
8.	Maharashtra	17,596	13,736	183.99
9.	Orissa	4,065	2,800	0.00
10.	Punjab	8,588	1,106	119.99
11.	Rajasthan	24,920	4,889	152.70
12.	Tamil Nadu	38,409	11,497	72.32
13.	Uttar Pradesh	1,08,351	19,328	819.40
14.	West Bengal	21,685	10,939	11.70
15.	Goa	440	111	8.36
16.	Arunachal Pradesh	40	611	0.00
17.	Assam	14,471	1,278	122.96
18.	Himachal Pradesh	50	667	0.00
19.	Jammu & Kashmir	1,228	778	0.00
20.	Manipur	4,396	444	11.67
21.	Meghalaya	351	278	0.00
22.	Mizoram	700	167	35.52
23.	Nagaland	0	389	0.00
24.	Sikkim	164	222	0.00
25.	Tripura	434	167	10.17
26.	A & N Islands	178	188	3.45
27.	Chandigarh	199	92	4.20
28.	D & N Haveli	89	92	0.70
29.	Daman & Diu	0	186	0.00
30.	Pondicherry	1,032	222	4.54
31.	Delhi	1,412	1,600	1.51
Total		3,93,165	1,17,223	2275.03

* Sume - Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises of N.R.Y.

[Translation]

Holiday Home, Shimla

961. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of rooms available in Grand Hotel (Holiday Home), Shimla;

(b) the total funds allotted for the maintenance of Grand Hotel (Holiday Home), Shimla during the last three years; and

(c) the details of the measures taken to keep all the rooms in Holiday Home will maintained?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) (a) Rooms available 109.

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

[English]

Unauthorised constructions in Delhi

962. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1975 dated December 15, 1993 and state the action taken to amend the D.D.A. Act to curb unauthorised constructions and misuse

of premises in the light of suggestions from MPs of Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : In the meeting held on 10th May, 1993 to discuss amendments to Delhi Development Act in order to curb unauthorised constructions and misuse of premises, the Members of Parliament from Delhi had agreed to forward their suggestions in due course on the quantum of penalty to be imposed. The suggestions from Delhi MPs have not yet been received.

Licences issued to Foreign Fishing Trawlers

963. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been made to determine the effect of licences issued to foreign fishing trawlers to fish in our waters for the export potential of marine produce in the country;

(b) if so, the findings thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOL) : (a) to (c) No licence has been issued to foreign fishing trawlers for operation in Indian waters. However, a number of Indian companies have been permitted to operate foreign flag vessels on charter/lease in the Indian Exclusive Economic

Zone. In view of the recent agitation by fishermen on operation of such vessels in Indian waters, Government has constituted a Committee under the chairmanship of Shri P. Murari, former Secretary to the Government of India to make recommendations for review of the New Deep Sea Fishing Policy. The Government has also decided on 15.12.1994 not to process any more applications for deep sea fishing till the whole matter is reviewed.

[Translation]

Transportation Scheme

964. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme of transportation from Calcutta to Allahabad through Ganga river has been formulated; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) Transportation of cargo through river Ganga on the Calcutta - Patna stretch is being undertaken by the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Ltd., Calcutta (CIWTC) (a Government of India Undertaking) and some private parties. The Inland Waterways Authority of India, NOIDA (IWA) has schemes to develop the above stretch further. As regards the transportation on the Patna - Allahabad stretch, it is being developed by the IWA through provision of sufficient channel depth, and other facilities; thereafter it is expected that private operators as well as the CIWTC Ltd. would provide cargo services on this stretch.

[English]

Visas to Pak Nationals

965. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of visas issued to Pak Nationals by our High Commission in Islamabad during 1994 and by our Consulate General in Karachi until its closure during 1994;

(b) the number of visas issued by the High Commission in Islamabad during the period January-June, 1995;

(c) the number of visa applications pending on 30th June, 1995;

(d) the average time taken for the issue of visas to Pakistani nationals; and

(e) the number of Pakistani nationals whose visas were exempted from the procedure prescribing report to police on arrival and departure at every point in India during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID) : (a) The total number of visas issued to Pakistani nationals by High Commission of India, Islamabad and Consulate General of India, Karachi during the year 1994 were 19,363 and 15,211 respectively.

(b) During the period January-June 1995, the High

Commission of India, Islamabad issued a total of 12,486 visas to Pakistani nationals.

(c) and (d) High Commission of India, Islamabad is following a procedure whereby visa applications are processed on the same day that the request is received. As on 30 June, 1995 no visa application was pending.

Once the application is accepted for grant of visa, the average time taken for issuance of visa is between 1 to 2 days.

(e) During the years 1992, 1993 and 1994, the number of Exemption from Police Reporting (EPR) visas issued by High Commission of India, Islamabad were 1,178, 797 and 684 respectively.

Fixation of Price of DDA Flats

966. SHRI A. INDRAKARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Supreme Court has recently directed DDA to fix the rate of flats allotted by them to registrants under various schemes on the actual of giving possession and not from the allotment date;

(b) if so, whether any penalty is imposed on DDA for delayed constructions/giving possession; and

(c) the way by which Government propose to help the registrants under various schemes of DDA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) DDA has reported that the Supreme Court, vide its judgement dated 3.2.95, has ruled that DDA is to fix the price of its flats under various schemes with reference to the date of communication of allotment and not with reference to the date of giving possession of the flats;

(b) DDA pays compensation to allottees on account of belated construction/possession.

(c) The price of DDA flats are computed on 'No Profit No Loss' basis. DDA has, however, taken following steps to contain the cost of the flats:

1. The interest on capital which was being charged for 20 months has been reduced to 15 months for flats upto double storeyed and to 18 months for flats beyond double storey.

2. One time discount has been increased for flats in far-flung/outlying areas (like Narela and Rohini Phase III) at the rate of Rs. 100/- per sqm. of the plinth area of the flats.

3. It has been decided to allocate flats at 50 per cent stage of construction, on account of which the land rate will stand frozen and the allottee will be able to arrange payment over a period of about two years. The allottee will be required to pay interest for 12 months only.

4. Optimisation of specifications.

5. Optimisation of density/FAR use.

6. Better materials and strict inventory management.

7. Interest rate being charged @ 17% per annum has

been reduced to 14.75% per annum on capital invested during construction of the flats w.e.f. 1.11.94 at par with National Housing Bank lending rate.

8. In respect of flats, EWS charges which were being levied @ 5.5% have been dispensed with and to provide relief to upper storey flats, floor equalisation charges have been introduced i.e., 4.5% for Ground Floor flats is to be added by giving discount of 1%, 1.5% and 2% for 1st, 2nd and 3rd floor respectively.

Decontrol of Classes

967. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Excise Ministers from various states have met with the Union Government regarding the requirement of molasses and alcohol in the various alcohol-based industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to bring molasses and alcohol back under control;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the price of molasses per litre in 1993-94 and 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (d) An Excise Ministers Conference was held on the 22nd June, 1995 in New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers to consider the report of the Working Group of Excise Ministers on Molasses and Alcohol. There was no consensus in the Conference and the State representatives expressed different views on the recommendations of the Working Group. These views on the recommendations of the Working Group are being examined alongwith the legal implications.

(e) After decontrol, the prices of molasses are not being monitored by the Government.

FPI in A&N Islands

968. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any scheme to set up food processing industries in Andaman and Nicobar Islands for Marine products;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) and (b) While there is no specific scheme exclusively for Andaman & Nicobar Islands, this Ministry is operating a scheme for

providing assistance for setting up of infrastructure facilities for preservation and processing of fish, under which financial assistance to the extent of 50 per cent of the capital cost is admissible as grant-in-aid. Under this scheme, a sum of Rs. 28.435 lakhs and Rs. 69.75 lakhs has been provided to M/s. Andaman & Nicobar Islands Integrated Development Corporation Limited during the years 1992-93 and 1993-94 respectively.

(c) Does not arise.

Guidelines for Allotment of Government Accommodation

969. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the new guidelines set down at present for out-of-turn allotment of Government flats particularly in case of Types IV and V and above;

(b) the mechanism envisaged to ensure their strict observance;

(c) whether his attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Two more IT officers given flats out-of-turn-Shiela Kaul steps over P.M.O. directive" appearing in the 'Indian Express', New Delhi dated July 13, 1995;

(d) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) and (b) Two committees have been constituted for considering request for out of turn allotment. The committees are headed by Secretary (UD) and Joint Secretary concerned for considering case of Type IV (Spl) and above and Types I to IV respectively. The recommendations of the committees shall be put up to Minister for Urban Affairs and Employment for approval. It has been decided to restrict the out of turn allotment to 20% (i.e. one out of five). It is, however, stated that the Supreme court, while hearing a public interest litigation, has stayed all out of turn allotments except on medical grounds such as for Government employees suffering from TB & Cancer.

(c) to (e) Two allotments to officials of Income Tax Department refer to sanctions which were issued earlier, but which have been implemented after PM's directive. However, no new sanctions have been accorded after receipts of directions.

[Translation]

IFFCO

970. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) fertilizer plant has started functioning as per its increased capacity;

(b) if so, since when and whether this plant has been utilising its full capacity; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c) The details of IFFCO's expansion projects, presently under implementation, including their expected date of commissioning, are given below:

S.No.	Location	Additional Urea Production envisaged [lakhs MTPA]	Expected date of Commissioning
1.	Aonla, UP	7.26	01.01.1997
2.	Kalol, Gujarat	1.50	01.09.1997
3.	Phulpur, UP	7.26	20.01.1998

Fish Production

971. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of fish produced within Indian Territory of the Indian Ocean and Bay of Bengal during the last three years;

(b) whether production of fish has been falling;

(c) whether any scheme has been formulated to check this fall; and

(d) if so, the main features of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) The marine fish production in the East Coast (Bay of Bengal) and West Coast (Arabian Sea) during the last three years is given below:-

	(in tonnes)		
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
East Coast (Bay of Bengal)	7,44,619	7,91,820	8,17,718
West Coast (Arabian Sea)	17,73,636	18,127,013	18,44,142

(b) No Sir.

(c) and (d) A list of the schemes being implemented to increase the fish production is given in the statement enclosed.

STATEMENT

Steps being taken to increase the Yield

1. Augmentation of deep sea fishing fleet through introduction of vessels under various schemes like import, indigenous construction, joint ventures, leasing and chartering.

2. Systematic survey of fishery resources in Indian waters.

3. Training of personnel in deep sea fishing operatives.
4. Construction of fishing harbour at major and minor ports.

5. Subsidy in the rate of interest for introduction of deep sea fishing vessels.

6. Creation of infrastructural facilities for processing, preservation and marketing of fish.

7. Reimbursement of a part of the cost of diesel consumed by deep sea fishing vessels.

8. Regulation of fishing by foreign fishing vessels in the Exclusive Zone and the Indian owned vessels in the territorial waters.

9. Scheme for Motorisation of Traditional craft.

10. Scheme for introduction of Plywood craft.

11. Scheme for introduction of off shore intermediate size pelagic fishing craft.

12. Scheme for reimbursement of Central excise duty of HSD oil for small mechanised fishing vessels below 20 ms. length.

13. Scheme for setting up of artificial reefs and Mari culture projects.

Widening of National Highway No. 12

972. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government regarding widening of the Jaipur-Jabalpur National Highway No. 12;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following sections of Jaipur-Jabalpur National Highway No. 12 are proposed to be sanctioned during 1995-96 for widening to two lanes :

	Length	Estimated cost
(i) KM 297.6 - Km 343.4 Selected stretches in Rajasthan	33 Km	Rs. 3.1 crore
(ii) Km 366.0 - 0 Km 403.4 Selected stretches in Rajasthan	29 Km	Rs. 3.7 crore
(iii) Km 48 - Km 67 of Biora-Rajasthan border section in M.P.	19 Km	Rs. 3.00 crore

(c) Does not arise.

Repair of Bridges in Madhya Pradesh

973. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of bridges over National Highways

in Madhya Pradesh which collapsed during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of bridges repaired out of them and the time by which the remaining bridges are likely to be repaired; and

(c) the total expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) During the last three years, one arch span of Machha Bridge, on National Highway No. 6 in Madhya Pradesh was washed away (in 1994 floods) and has been repaired at an estimated cost of Rs. 14.38 lakhs.

[English]

FACT Welfare Schemes

974. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cochin Division of F.A.C.T. (Fertilizer and Chemicals, Travancore) is implementing welfare and other beneficiary schemes for workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of workers, employees, staff and officers working in this division;

(d) the number of employees who have been provided accommodations by the company;

(e) the number of employees still awaiting such facility;

(f) whether schemes are envisaged for education of children, health care facilities and recreation of the employees; and

(g) if so, the details thereof

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONIC AND THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT. (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Apart from the statutory welfare schemes in operation in the Cochin Division of Fertilizer and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT), some of the other major welfare schemes in operation in the Division are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) to (e) In the Cochin Division of FACT, there are 1873 non-managerial employees and 541 managerial employees. Out of these, 291 managerial employees and 615 non-managerial employees have been provided with accommodation by the Company on the basis of seniority and exigencies of work.

(f) and (g) Yes Sir. The details are indicated in the statement enclosed.

STATEMENT

(i) Hospital facilities

A full fledged hospital is functioning in the Division with all facilities for in-patient treatment of the employees of the Division. Serious cases are referred to specialised centres

outside for which the Company provides medical reimbursement.

(ii) Educational facilities :

For free education of the children of the employees of the Cochin Division of FACT from nursery to class 10th, a high school (Ambalamedu High School) is run by the company. Very high academic standards are maintained by this school which also has other extra-curricular activities for its students.

(iii) Transport Facilities :

The Cochin Division of FACT is operating five contract carriages at present for transporting employees to and from various destinations in and around Cochin for the three shifts.

(iv) Welfare Fund :

For rendering financial assistance by way of interest free loans and ex-grata payments to the needy employees of the Division, there is a labour welfare fund in the Cochin Division.

(v) Group Insurance :

The company has extended to all its employees cover under the Group Accident Insurance Scheme with the Oriental Insurance Company Limited. In the event of accidents, or death, the employees are compensated as per the provisions of the Group Accident Insurance Scheme.

(vi) Recreation Facilities :

There are two clubs, one for managerial and the other for non-managerial employees operating in the Cochin Division Township for providing recreation facilities to the employees of the Division in sports, games and other cultural activities.

(vii) Consumer Societies :

An employees cooperative consumer store and an employees cooperative credit society are functioning in the Cochin Division Township for the benefit of the employees.

Mineral Based Unit in Orissa

975. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up some new mineral based units in Orissa;

(b) if so, the locations thereof; and

(c) the details of the proposals in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Kandla Port

976. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kandla Port can take the full load to export the rice;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the rice exporters in the country have requested the Government to provide alternative ports for

the quick exports of rice;

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

(e) whether 1.5 lakh tonnes of rice have piled up currently at the Kandla Port waiting to be shipped out; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. It is difficult for Kandla Port to handle rice beyond one million tonnes during the current year on account of various factors such as limited berthing and storage facility inside the Port, shortage of shore labour gangs, inadequate capacity for feeding the cargo at the hook point by the Stevedores, etc.

(c) and (d) Since the Kandla Port can not take the full load, the Rice Exporters have suggested to FCI to move rice to other ports. All possible steps are being taken to facilitate export of foodgrains from various ports including minor ports.

(e) and (f) A quantity of 58,750 tonnes of rice was lying in Kandla Port awaiting shipment as on 2.8.95. Continuous efforts are being made to clear the backlog of waiting and expected vessels, the Port is having constant dialogue with the port users especially Rice Exporters to remove any operational bottlenecks which are observed from day-to-day operations and corrective measures taken.

Foreign Investment in Goa

977. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether foreign investment in Goa is not coming forth as expected because of the States dependence for power on neighbouring States of Karnataka and Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to ensure adequate power generation; and

(c) the details of present consumption of power in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Gold Mining in Rajasthan

978. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the agencies engaged to survey of the gold deposit areas in Rajasthan;

(b) the details of the areas surveyed by those agencies so far;

(c) the gold deposit areas discovered in that State; and

(d) the steps taken to extract gold from these areas of Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA) : (a) to (c) Geological Survey of India (GSI) has been carrying out

surveys for the exploration of gold in :

Anandpuri-Bhukia in Banswara district.

Hinglez-Mata Dungarpur district.

Pindwara-Water a Sector, Sirohi district.

Salubar-Anjani-Bedwal area in Udaipur district in Rajasthan.

Primary gold bearing zones have been established in Pindwara Sector, Sirohi District and Anandpuri-Bhukia in Banswara district. Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) has commenced exploration for gold at Jagpura in Banswara district of Rajasthan.

(d) Exploration work is in progress in these areas. Extraction of gold will depend on the economic viability of the deposit.

Urban Development Schemes of Uttar Pradesh

979. SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Uttar Pradesh Government has submitted any new Urban Development Schemes to the Union Government during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made so far in the existing Urban Development schemes of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Small and medium Towns the Uttar Pradesh Government submitted project reports for two new towns namely, Khalilabad and Bansi during the current financial year 1995-96. These towns do not figure in the priority list of towns identified by the State Government for inclusion during the 8th Plan period under the Scheme. The State Government has been informed accordingly.

(c) Regarding the Scheme of Integrated Development of Small and medium Towns, the same is in operation in Uttar Pradesh since 1979-80. Since its inception till date, 62 towns from the State have been covered and Central assistance of Rs. 18.30 crores released to these towns. The expenditure reported by the State Government is Rs. 26.49 crores.

As far as externally-aided Urban Development Projects are concerned, the Uttar Pradesh Urban Development Project is currently under implementation in Uttar Pradesh with assistance of World Bank. The Project covers Water Supply, Earth Quake Reconstruction and Ganga Action Plan Programme and other components. The target date of completion of the project is 31.3.96. The percentage of progress made in this Project so far in terms of financial target upto June 1995 is 79%. The Schemes taken up under the project include water supply schemes at Agra, Varanasi, Jhansi and Kanpur etc. These are at various stages of completion.

Water Supply and Sanitary Projects in Tamil Nadu

980. DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government and World Bank have decided to assist Tamil Nadu for its water supply and sanitation projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the actual cost of the project and the amount already received by Tamil Nadu from World Bank for this purpose; and

(d) the mode of repayment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) to (c) The Second Madras Water Supply Project has been cleared by the Union Government and negotiated with the World Bank for loan assistance. The project envisages augmenting water supply to Madras City from Veeranam Irrigation tank, improving the distribution of water within Madras and strengthening the conservation of water. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 1638.037 crores. The World Bank has decided to provide an IBRD loan of U.S. \$ 275.8 million. Loan effectiveness will take place after the legal formalities have been completed by the State Government.

(d) The loan is repayable to the World Bank in 20 years, including 5 years of grace at standard variable interest rate.

Demolition of Unauthorised Constructions

981. SHRI HARCHAND SINGH : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state

(a) the number of demolitions in regard to the unauthorised constructions in Delhi completed during the last one year;

(b) whether a number of persons have taken stay orders from Courts to stop the demolition of the houses constructed illegally; and

(c) if so, the number of such cases and the action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) Demolition in 512, 19 and 7 cases of unauthorised constructions were carried out by Delhi Development Authority, New Delhi Municipal Council and Delhi Cantonment Board respectively during the last one year. Information from Municipal Corporation of Delhi is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Delhi Development Authority, New Delhi Municipal Council and Delhi Cantonment Board have reported that stay order from the Courts against the demolition have been received in 144, 12 and 3 cases respectively. These agencies are pursuing these cases vigorously in various Courts to get the stay vacated.

Illegal Constructions

982. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey with regard to large scale illegal constructions and conversion of residential houses into commercial premises in various localities of Delhi has been carried out;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received representations from the residents of the different localities against illegal constructions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Review of Tehri Dam Project

983. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI:

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received representations from different quarters raising objections to the construction of Tehri Dam Project;

(b) if so, the details of major objections;

(c) whether the Government have decided to review the construction of this project in the light of such objections;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) to (e) Government has received representations seeking, *inter-alia*, review of safety, economic, social, cultural and ecological aspects of Tehri Hydro-electric Project. Government has reviewed and examined at length all aspects of the project and approval for the execution of the same was accorded after careful consideration. So there is no need to review the project. Still however, Government is ready to examine any new and substantive issues that are raised in the representations.

[English]

Joint Ventures in Deep Sea Fishing

984. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE :

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of licences that have been issued for joint

ventures in deep sea fishing till June 30, 1995;

(b) the names of the companies and the respective dates of granting the licences;

(c) the number of applications pending for issue of licences;

(d) whether objections to the issuing of such licences have been raised by Indian fishermen; and

(e) the details of the agitation of fishermen and the reaction of the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) and (b) The details of the companies permitted to operate deep sea fishing vessels under Joint Venture are given in the

statement enclosed.

(c) Twenty-five.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The fishermen have expressed apprehension that operation of deep sea fishing vessels would adversely affect their catch and therefore, demanded withdrawal of permissions given for operation of such vessels. In view of this, the Government has constituted a Review Committee under the chairmanship of Shri P. Murari, former Secretary to the Government of India, to make recommendations for reviewing the Deep Sea Fishing Policy. The Government has also decided on 15.12.1994 not to process any more applications for deep sea fishing till the whole matter is reviewed.

STATEMENT

Companies permitted to operate deep sea fishing vessels under Joint Venture

S.No.	Name of the co.	No. of Vessels Involved	Date of issue of letter of Permission (L.P.)/Letter of Intent (L.I.)
1.	Fishing Falcon Ltd., Hyderabad.	2	L.P. 2.2.89
2.	Leo Su-zind Ltd., New Delhi	5	L.P. 6.12.91
3.	Indamar Fisheries (P) Ltd., New Delhi.	3	L.P. 11.6.92
4.	Oriental High Sea Fisheries Ltd., Visakhapatnam	1	L.P. 26.6.92
5.	Buoy-Dae (I) Fisheries (P) Ltd. New Delhi.	1	L.P. 4.1.93
6.	Ting Tai (India) Ltd., Visakhapatnam	2	L.P. 17.6.94
7.	Fortune Oceanic Products Ltd., New Delhi.	10	L.P. 20.10.93
8.	M/s. Ultima Assets & Investment (P) Ltd., New Delhi.	5	L.I. 9.11.93
9.	Greenwave Marine Harvest Ltd., Hyderabad.	1	L.P. 10.8.93
10.	Sarb Consulate Marine Products (P) Ltd., New Delhi.	5	L.P. 1.9.93
11.	Inchita Fisheries (P) Ltd., Madras	6	L.P. 20.10.93
12.	Swan Sea Foods (P) Ltd., New Delhi.	4	L.P. 14.9.94
13.	New Oriental Trawlers (P) Ltd., Hyderabad.	3	L.P. 2.3.93
14.	Marine Resources International, New Delhi.	2	L.P. 5.2.93
15.	INDFISH Ltd., New Delhi	62	L.P. 24.11.92
16.	Dragon Fisheries Ltd., Bombay.	10	L.I. 24.1.95 (Cleared) by Empowered Committee on 1.12.94
17.	Asian Long Liners J.V., Madras	11	L.I. 29.12.94 (Cleared by Empowered Committee on 1.12.94)

Management of Port Trusts

985. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued any specific guidelines for managements of Port Trusts to be receptive and available for dealings with the public;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the criteria adopted by the Government for monitoring the compliance of these guidelines being observed by chairman of various ports and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) In terms of instructions issued by the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DAR&PG) from time to time, all Ministries/Deptts. are required to set up Public Grievances Redressal Machinery in PSUs/Autonomous Organisations etc.. wherein a Senior Officer is designated as 'Director of Grievances' to head the Machinery. All Port Trusts are having their own Grievances Redressal Machinery dealing with the public. A gist of the guidelines issued in this regard is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The Ministry of Surface Transport monitors the functioning of the Public Grievances Redressal Machinery in all Port Trusts etc., with a view to make it more responsive to the needs of the public, by undertaking the Review Studies/Inspections of the set up of the Machinery in the Port Trusts. The implementation of the recommendations contained in the reports of various Review Studies monitor through regular correspondence. The progress of Redressal of Public Grievances in Port Trusts etc. is watched through Quarterly Reports. The status in this connection is also communicated to DAR&PG every quarter.

STATEMENT

(i) The meetingless day on every Wednesday should be observed strictly.

(ii) The receptionists, security personnel and peons should be given suitable instructions about the meetingless day so as to allow the members of the public to meet officers without prior appointment.

(iii) The name, designation, room number, telephone number, etc., of the Director of Grievances should be displayed prominently at the reception and other convenient places in the Office buildings/Ministries.

(iv) A locked complaint box should be placed at the reception.

(v) In the interest of expeditious disposal of grievances, the Director of Grievances should exercise more frequently the powers vested in him to call for papers/documents of cases pending for more than 3 months and take decisions with the approval of the Secretary of the Ministry/Department or Head of the Department/Organisation.

(vi) Each grievance petition must be acknowledged.

(vii) Ministries/Departments should analyse grievances received by them with a view to identifying the major grievance prone areas and take corrective measures to reduce recurrence of such grievances.

(viii) More publicity should be given about the grievance redressal machinery in the Ministries/Department/ Public Sector Undertakings/Autonomous Organisations.

(ix) The grievances column of the newspapers should be regularly examined by each Ministry/Department/Agency of Government for picking up cases which relate to it and quick action should be taken for their redressal on a time-bound basis.

(x) Time norms for disposal of applications/requests for services/activities which bring the public in contact with the Ministry/Department should be fixed so as to ensure improved public interface and greater accountability.

(xi) A staff Grievance Officer (SGO) should be designated in every Ministry/Department/Office to deal with grievances of the employees.

(xii) The feedback mechanism and monitoring of grievance should be strengthened.

(xiii) Reports/returns required to be sent to this Department should be sent as prescribed.

[Translation]

Deforestation due to Tehri Dam

986. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether environment is likely to be adversely affected by the massive deforestation due to the large size of Tehri Dam Project;

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

(c) the total area of existing forest land to be deforested as a result of the construction of the said Dam;

(d) whether the Government propose to direct the concerned Departments to reduce the present size of the said Dam to check the massive deforestation; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMAN BHAI PATEL) : (a) to (e) The Tehri Dam and Hydroelectric Project Stage-I (1000MW) which is currently under implementation, does not involve any massive deforestation or consequential adverse effect on environment. Various studies undertaken through specialised agencies have also shown that there would be no adverse effect on the environment due to the project. Substantial amount of critically degraded catchment areas is already being treated, which includes afforestation, at the project cost. Already, over 24,700 Ha. of degraded catchment areas has been treated by the project and an additional area of about 11,500 Ha. is scheduled to be covered by 1999-2000, pari-passu with the construction of the project. In addition, compensatory afforestation on non-forest land of 4540 Ha. is being carried out at the project cost. This is against a total of about 2583 Ha. of forest land affected by the construction of Tehri Dam and 1222.4 Ha. of forest land affected by the construction of rehabilitation resettlements and project colony.

There is no proposal to reduce the size of the Tehri Dam as it would considerably bring down the benefits from the project without any significant saving in forest area.

*[English]***Foreign Deep-Sea Fishing**

987. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether fishermen in several coastal States have threatened to block major harbours in the country for granting licence to foreign deep-sea fishing vessels;

(b) whether the new deep sea fishing policy has pushed Indian fishermen to fight for survival;

(c) the details of the objections raised by National fishworkers forum-NFACAJV in this regard; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) Yes, Sir, traditional fishermen had threatened to block major harbours against the issue of such licences.

(b) The annual marine fish catch from the deep sea fishing vessels in 1993-94 was about 27,000 tonnes as against the total marine fish production of 26.88 lakh tonnes in India. In terms of percentage, the catch from the deep sea fishing vessel constitute 1 to 2% and 98% is harvested by traditional fishermen and mechanised fishing vessels owners. Therefore, the catch of deep sea fishing vessels is too negligible in comparison to the total marine production to pose a threat to the traditional fishermen.

(c) Details of the points raised by National Fishworkers' Forum-NFACAJV are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) In view of the apprehension expressed against the operation of deep sea fishing vessels by the traditional fishermen, Government has constituted a Review Committee under the Chairmanship of Sh. P. Murari, former Secretary to the Government of India, to make recommendations for the review of the Deep Sea Fishing Policy. The Government has also decided on 15.12.1994 not to process any more applications for deep sea fishing till the whole matter is reviewed.

STATEMENT

1. Deep Sea fishing vessels violate areas of operation and intrude into the coastal areas reserved for traditional fishermen.

2. Deep sea fishing vessels cause damage to the fishing gear of the traditional crafts.

3. Deep sea fishing vessels cause damage to the marine ecology.

4. The livelihood of the traditional fishermen is affected adversely by the operation of deep sea fishing vessels.

5. Since deep sea fishing is export-oriented, Indian consumers do not get any benefits.

6. No employment for Indian personnel is generated in deep sea fishing projects as fishing vessels are manned by foreigners.

Complaint against Officials of RCF

988. SHRI RAJ NARAIN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation has registered any complaints against officials of Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers for committing malpractices; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b) The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has informed that during the last 5 years, 12 cases were registered with them against various officials of Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers, Bombay for investigation. Given below is the gist of the action taken in respect of the above 12 cases of investigation:-

(i) In one case, CBI has decided to prosecute the accused officials for which sanction for prosecution has been accorded by the competent authority.

(ii) In one case, punishment of "dismissal from service" has been awarded to the delinquent official.

(iii) Two cases were dropped as the accused had already been dismissed from service in another case.

(iv) Two cases have been taken up for trial.

(v) Two cases were dropped due to lack of evidence.

(vi) In two cases, CBI has recommended regular departmental action.

(vii) Two cases are under investigation.

Plastic Processing Units

989. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA :

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of plastic processing units are on the verge of closure;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the extent of gap between indigenous demand and supply of LDPE :

(d) whether the LDPE is being exported at less than the domestic price; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) No, Sir. To the extent information is available, Plastic Processing units are not on the verge of closure for want of material.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The gap of about 16% between indigenous demand and supply of LDPE, during 1994-95 has been met through imports.

(d) and (e) Under the liberalized Industrial policy, Industry is free to take decision about exports. Small quantities of plastic raw materials including LDPE were exported during 1994-95 against substantial exports of finished plastic products. The export prices of products are generally lower than the domestic prices and the exports are made by companies keeping in view their overall marketing strategy and on commercial considerations.

Deployment of Missiles by Pakistan

[Translation]

990. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that surface to surface missiles acquired from China have been deployed by Pakistan at various places near Indo-Pak border ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID) : (a) Government are aware of Pakistan's acquisition from China of surface to surface missiles, which can be deployed at short notice near the Indo-Pak border.

(b) Government constantly monitor all developments having a bearing on national security and take necessary measures to safeguard it.

[English]

Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme

991. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI :
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to offer cent percent tax rebate to industrial contributors who contribute to

the PM's 'Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme';

(b) if so, the total amount contributed so far by the industrialists to the fund;

(c) whether any action plan is proposed to be undertaken during the current year in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the amount allocated to each State for implementation of these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGO) : (a) There is no such decision of Government for the present.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Ship Repairing Facilities

992. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the existing ship repairing facilities both in public and private sectors are inadequate;

(b) if so, the details of existing facilities in both the sectors; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of existing ship repairing facilities in both public as well as private sectors for sea-going vessels are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) Ship Repair Industry is open to the Private Sector. Concessions as available to 100% export-oriented units under import-Export Policy of the country from time to time are also applicable to the ship repair units. In order to promote ship repair facilities at various Ports, the Ports have been advised by the Government to make available land and water front area to the private entrepreneurs who may be interested in setting up ship repair facilities at respective Ports.

STATEMENT

Details of Ship Repairing facilities available in the country for commercial sea-going vessels

Sl. No.	Name of the Port/ Shipbuilding Yard	Broad Dimensions (in Meters)
(1)	(2)	(3)
	(A) Public Sector	
1.	Mazagon Dock Limited, Bombay	
	i) Ritchie Dry Dock	150.88 x 18.59 x 5.49
2.	Bombay Port Trust, Bombay	
	i) Hughes Dry Dock	304.80 x 30.08 x 9.75
	ii) Mereweather Dry Dock	132.40 x 19.06 x 6.40
3.	Cochin Shipyard Limited, Cochin	
	i) Dry Dock	270.00 x 44.8 x 11.5
	Two Quays	290 x 7.5
		208

(1)	(2)	(3)
4.	Calcutta Port Trust, Calcutta	
	i) No. 1 Kidderpore Dock	157.01 x 19.51 x 8.0
	ii) No. 2 Kidderpore Dock	143.29 x 19.51 x 8.3
	iii) No. 3 Kidderpore Dock	102.13 x 14.63 x 7.8
	iv) No. 1 Netaji Subhash Dock	172.26 x 22.87 x 10.0
	v) No. 2 Netaji Subhash Dock	176.85 x 22.87 x 10.0
5.	Hooghly Dock & Port Engineers Ltd., Calcutta	
	i) Salkia Dry Dock	92.0 x 11.0 x 7.0
6.	Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Vishakapatnam.	
	i) Dry Dock	240.0 x 38.0 x 8.10
	Basin	Can take upto 57,000 DWT but size limited to 640 ft. Two arms 225 - 167 accommodate 40,000 DWT.
7.	Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd., Calcutta	
	Wet Basin and River Side Jetty.	
	(B) Private Sector	
1.	Western India Shipyard Ltd., Goa	
	i) Floating Dry Dock	210 x 42 Capacity 20,000 T lifting capacity
	ii) One Graving Dock	For docking ship 85 x 14 M size.
	iii) One Repair Jetty	160
2.	Chokhani International Ltd., Madras	
	Two Floating Docks	i) 14,000 T lifting capacity 190 x 32 ii) 2400 T lifting capacity 108 x 19
3.	Magdalla Shipyard Ltd., Surat	
	Shiplift	125.0 x 22.5 x 5.5

Enron Power Project

993. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals of 100% export oriented foreign units cleared in June, 1995 by his Ministry;

(b) the amount of projected investments in power sector in next five years; and

(c) the status of Reliance Enron Joint Ventures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) No Sir.

(b) A tentative capacity addition of 56783 MW including 22000 MW from the private sector projects has been proposed by the Central Electricity Authority for the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002). The projected investment would be known after the Ninth Plan is finalised and the private projects achieve financial closure.

(c) The Government is not aware of any Reliance - Enron joint venture in the Power Sector.

[Translation]

Over-Bridge over River Ganga in Bihar

994. SHRI SIMON MARANDI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an over-bridge is being constructed over Ganga river in Sahibganj (Bihar) ;

(b) if so, the estimated cost thereof alongwith the details of the funds sanctioned/spent alongwith the progress made so far; and

(c) the time by which the construction work is likely to be completed and the vehicular traffic allowed to ply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) The Central Government has not sanctioned any scheme for construction of over-bridge over Ganga river in Sahibganj. Central Government is primarily responsible for development of National Highways only. The bridges on roads other than National Highways are the concern of the State Government.

*[English]***Mega City Projects in Calcutta**

995. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount released to Calcutta under the 'Centrally sponsored scheme of infrastructural development in Mega cities' for executing various projects during 1994-95; and

(b) the amount released so far during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) A sum of Rs. 16.1 crores was released to Calcutta during 1994-95 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Infrastructural Development in Mega cities for executing various projects.

(b) No amount has been released so far during the current financial year.

*[Translation]***Heart Diseases in Bhopal**

996. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether incidents of heart diseases and other fatal diseases among children of Bhopal are on the rise;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any survey of the babies born with diseases due to gas tragedy;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government are formulating any scheme with the consultation of health specialists to protect the mothers and babies, affected by Bhopal Gas Tragedy, from fatal diseases; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

*[English]***Production of Alcoholic Drinks with Imported Water**

997. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some distillers, who have tied-up with foreign companies to produce scotch whisky and alcoholic drinks propose to import water for use in the production of their alcoholic drinks;

(b) if so, the names of such companies;

(c) whether Government have approved such import of

water; and

(d) if so, the justification thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GAGOI) : (a) to (d) The approvals granted to such foreign companies for the manufacture of scotch whisky do not include any approval for the import of water. The Government has also not approved any such import of water for this purpose separately.

*[Translation]***Indians in Gulf Countries**

998. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Indian citizens are living in miserable conditions in various Gulf countries;

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID) : (a) to (c) The living conditions of Indian nationals in various Gulf countries are generally satisfactory. In cases wherein complaints about living conditions are received by our Missions, the matter is taken up with the concerned authorities at an appropriate level.

*[English]***Transfer of Enron to Orissa**

999. DR. SUDHIR RAY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Enron Power Project is being shifted to Orissa; and

(b) if so, when the proposal will be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATÉL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Prices of Cold Drinks

1000. Shri Loknath Choudhury :
SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN :
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have referred the high cost of soft drinks to the Bureau of Industrial Cost & Prices (BICP);

(b) if so, whether the BICP is expected to give its report shortly; and

(c) whether the Government propose to take immediate action after getting the Report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Petro Chemical Plant in Maharashtra

1001. SHRI VILASARAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a petrochemical plant in Maharashtra ;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which that plant is likely to be set up; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A gas based petrochemical plant of Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd., a Public Sector undertaking under this Ministry, is in operation at Nagothane in Raigad Distt. of Maharashtra. The installed capacity of plant is 3 lakh tonnes of ethylene and 83,000 tonnes of polypropylene per annum. A number of down-stream units for the manufacture of Low Density Polyethylene, High Density Polyethylene etc. has also been set up in the complex. The plant achieved capacity utilisation of 82% during 1994-95. Apart from the above, there is no proposal of setting up a petrochemical plant in Maharashtra in the public sector.

Export and Import of Medicines

1002. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state the value of export and import of medicines made by the country (till March 1995), after adopting the New Economic Policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : The information to the extent available is given below :-

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Exports	Imports
1991-92	1231.3	807.3
1992-93	1410.3	1100.0
1993-94	1781.4	1440.0

(Source :- Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals & Cosmetics Export Promotion Council)

Pilferages from Bokaro Steel Plant

1003. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn

to the news-items published in daily Telegraph dated June 8, 1995 captioned 'Steel pilfering racket at Bokaro plant busted';

(b) if so, whether steel is being stolen in large quantities in connivance with some of the employees and security officers of the said plant;

(c) if so, the dates when such types of incidents occurred earlier and the total quantity of steel seized, indicating the value thereof;

(d) the number of persons terminated from service and jailed on the charges of theft; and

(e) the total quantity of goods seized in the incident of the recent theft, indicating the value of it and the names of the persons involved in this pilferage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Production Cost of Steel

1004. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR :

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cost of production of steel (excluding tax) in our country is less than the cost in other countries like USA, Japan, Britain, Germany and South Korea;

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

(c) whether it is unprofitable to sell domestic steel in the international market ; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) In the absence of any authentic information on the cost of production of steel in other countries, it is not possible to compare the cost of production of steel in India with cost of production of steel in other countries like U.S.A., Japan, Britain, Germany and South Korea.

(c) and (d) : Viability of export depends upon the prevailing domestic prices, prevailing international prices, domestic demand and incentives available for exports.

[*English*]

Navigability of Hoogly River

1005. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken so far by the Government to improve the navigability of Hoogly river for the benefit of Calcutta and Haldia port?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : The navigability of the Hoogly river is maintained through intensive maintenance dredging efforts and execution of river training works.

Trams in Delhi

1006. DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government have given contract to any company to construct trams in Delhi;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the trams are likely to become operational in the city?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

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

Lease of Foreign Embassies/Missions

1007. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI :
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the names of the foreign embassies/missions in India whose lease in respect of land and buildings occupied by them has expired as on March 31, 1995;
- (b) the arrears of lease money, if any; and
- (c) the steps taken to renew their lease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) (a) to (c) The lease in respect of land and buildings occupied by the British High Commission in Delhi expired on 31.12.1989.

A sum of over Rs. 65.35 lakhs is due. Negotiations for execution of the fresh lease agreement and terms and conditions thereof are reportedly under consideration of the Ministry of External Affairs in consultation with British authorities.

R & D in Pharmaceuticals

1008. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM :
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to State :

- (a) whether the Government have considered the recommendations of the Inter-Ministerial Committee looking into the incentives given for Research and Development in the Pharmaceutical Industry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to encourage basic research in this sector; and
- (d) whether the price control on pharmaceuticals has reduced profits of drug companies, leading to a lower financial allocation for Research & Development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT. (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) The recommendations of the Inter-Ministerial Committee are under

the consideration of the Government.

- (d) No, Sir. Financial allocations for Research & Development by a particular unit is dependent on its overall corporate policy.

Nehru Award to Aung San Suu Kyi

1009. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :
SHRI MANJAY LAL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to honour Nobel Prize winner, Smt. Aung San Suu Kyi by awarding her Nehru Award ;
- (b) whether the Government have invited her to visit India and to receive the award; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir, The Government of India has announced the decision to award the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding for the year 1993 to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. A letter from the Vice President of India in his capacity as the Chairman of the Jury for the Jawaharlal Nehru Award has been conveyed to her. This letter invites Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to visit India to receive the Award in person.

Revival of Chemical Units

1010. SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) :
SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether some of the chemical plants in Gorakhpur, U.P. have turned sick over the last three years;
- (b) if so, whether the Government propose to revive these units;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government propose to privatise these units; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (f) No chemical manufacturing public sector unit is located in Gorakhpur, U.P. However, the Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI), a public sector undertaking, has one of its fertilizer units located at Gorakhpur, U.P. manufacturing Urea. The company was declared sick by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) in November, 1992. Recently, Government has approved, in principle, a revival package for FCI, which *inter alia* envisages giving off of the Gorakhpur unit of FCI for offering the same to entrepreneurs in

Cooperative, public & Private Sectors as it would not be economically viable to revive this unit.

GSI Survey

1011. Shri Manjay Lal :
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :
DR. K.D. JESWANI :
DR. GUNVANT RAMBHAU SARODE :
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India (GSI) has conducted any survey of mineral reserves in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, the minerals found, their locations and other details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the details of proposals received from foreign companies for exploration of minerals in the country, State-wise;

(d) the steps proposed by Government to explore these minerals during the next Five Year Plan period;

(e) whether the Government have consulted the concerned State Governments before handing over these sites to the private sector; and

(f) not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Geological Survey of India (GSI) has been conducting surveys for the appraisal of mineral resources of the country. The details of the mineral resources established during the last three years are given below:-

COAL : An additional reserve of more than 6,000 million tonnes of coal has been estimated in the coal fields of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and West Bengal.

LIGNITE : More than 170 million tonnes of lignite has been assessed in Tamil Nadu and Gujarat.

BASEMETALS :

- 23.14 million tonnes of lead-zinc ore with 4 to 7% metal content in Rajsamand district, Rajasthan.

- 6.2 million tonnes of lead-zinc ore with average grade of 12% zinc and 1.2% lead in Kayar area, Ajmer district, Rajasthan.

- 2.58 million tonnes of lead ore with average 5.54% lead in Sawar belt, Ajmer district, Rajasthan.

- 2 million tonnes of low grade ore with 0.75% average copper in Akola-Dariba area of Southern Rajasthan.

GOLD :

- Reserve of 1.7 million tonnes of gold ore with an average grade of 2.09 g/t Au. in Aijanahalli area, Tumkur district Karnataka.

- 0.13 million tonnes of gold ore with an average grade of 8.19 g/t Au. in the Hira-Budini block of Hutti-Maski Schist belt of Karnataka.

- Established reserve of 0.11 million tonnes of gold ore with an average of 2.52 g/t Au. in Kothapalli block of Andhra Pradesh.

Manganese Ore:

An additional inferred reserve of 1.16 million tonnes of manganese ore at cut-off grade of 20% Mn has been established in Kutinga-Nishikhal belt, Koraput dist., Orissa.

Platinum Group of Metals (PGM) :

A 4-5 thick potential zone of PGM mineralisation (1-3 ppm PGM) has been delineated in the Baula-Nausahi belt of Orissa.

Molybdenum Ore :

A reserve of 2.544 million tonnes of low grade molybdenum ore (0.078% MO) has been established in Harur area, Tamil Nadu.

Dolomite :

91 million tonnes of low-silica dolomite in Chattarpur and Sagar districts of Madhya Pradesh.

Phosphorite :

3.5 million tonnes of phosphorite ore with 14.49% P₂O₅ content in Udaipur district, Rajasthan.

Potash :

175.95 million tonnes of potash ore with 5.15 K₂O in Satipura area and 150.85 million tonnes of ore with 4.66% K₂O in Nagaur-Ganganagar, Rajasthan.

(c) Central Government does not keep any record of proposals / applications received by various State Governments for grant of mineral concessions.

(d) Mineral Survey and appraisal is a continuous process. The programme for Ninth Five Year Plan has not yet been finalised.

(e) Grant of mineral concessions are made by the concerned State Governments.

(f) Does not arise.

National Highway Network

1012. SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any criteria laid down by the Government regarding declaration of roads as National Highways:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have any plans in regard to extension of National Highway Network;

(d) whether the Government have fixed up any target regarding extension of National Highway Network by the year 2001; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Roads which run through length and breadth of country; roads connecting adjacent countries; roads connecting State Capitals; roads connecting major ports and

important industrial or tourist centres; roads meeting very important strategic requirements; roads carrying high density of traffic over an adequate length and roads which will enable sizeable reduction in travel distance and achievement of substantial economies thereby, are considered for declaration as National Highways, subject to availability of funds.

(c) to (e) Owing to meagre allocation of funds for National Highways during the VIII Plan, it is difficult to declare any new National Highway at present.

New Major Ports

1013. SHRI TARA SINGH :

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently taken a decision to set up some more major ports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to involve foreign participation in setting up of such ports ;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the total allocations made by the Government for the purpose; and

(e) the extent to which the container handling position at major ports is likely to be increased ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Illegal Mining of Gems

1014. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN :

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has conducted any study to map out gem mines in Koderma district in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether illegal mining of costly stones and gems is being carried out in this area;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) steps taken to stop this illegal mining?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such incident has been reported by the Bihar Government.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Does not arise.

New Passport Office at Pune

1015. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of fresh passports issued and the

number of passports renewed by Regional Passport Office, Bombay during 1994;

(b) the total number of fresh passports issued and number of passports renewed for people from Pune district during 1994;

(c) whether the Government have received any representations for opening of Regional Passport Office in Pune; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID) : (a) During the year 1994, Regional Passport Office, Bombay issued 2,08,282 fresh passports and renewed 1,42,055 passports.

(b) During the same period, 12,239 fresh passports were issued to applicants from Pune district. District-wise record of renewals is not maintained by RPO Bombay.

(c) and (d) Government have received some requests for opening a Passport Office in Pune. Government are of the view that opening of new passport offices does not necessarily lead to improvement in the quality of the services rendered to the applicants. However, Government have taken necessary steps to strengthen and streamline the Passport Office in Bombay, upgraded office facilities, reviewed systems and procedures which has enabled RPO, Bombay to effectively deal with additional workload of Pune district.

[Translation]

Food Processing Units in M.P.

1016. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have made any assessment to encourage Food Processing Industry in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the steps likely to be taken in this regard and the total amount to be invested for this purpose;

(d) the details of sick Food Processing Units running in Madhya Pradesh;

(e) whether the Government propose to revive such units; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) to (c) Assessment of potential of Food Processing Industry in a State is done generally by the State concerned and the Ministry extends financial assistance under its plan schemes for States, including identification of potentials. However, potential for Food Processing Industry exists in Madhya Pradesh. Since liberalisation, 282 industrial entrepreneurs memoranda envisaging an investment of Rs. 2652 crores approximately and employment of 43280 persons have been filed up to June 1995. Apart from these, 17 approvals of 100% EOU/joint ventures/foreign collaboration/industrial licences, etc., have also been granted for setting up of food processing

units in Madhya Pradesh. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries, does not set up any unit directly in any State. However, Government have taken various steps to promote Food Processing Industries which, *inter alia*, include declaration of Food Processing Industries as high priority, delicensing of all Food Processing Industries except distillation and brewing of alcoholic beverages and those items reserved for small scale sector, permitting foreign/NRI investment providing fiscal relief, etc. Government is also operating various plan schemes for promoting Food Processing Industries.

(d) to (f) Since Food Processing Industries are both in the organised and unorganised sector, information relating to the sick Food Processing Units in the country State-wise is not maintained by this Ministry. Units which are sick can approach Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction for revival/closing down.

[English]

Storage facilities at Ports

1017. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR
(DEEPA) :

SHRI DATTA RAYA BHANDARY:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Public Sector Companies in Petroleum Sector are losing millions in foreign exchange every month to ship owners claiming for loading and discharge delays, due to poor facilities including storage capacity at ports; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken to expedite the discharge of tankers from the ports by improving storage facilities there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Occasionally foreign flag vessels are chartered due to non-availability of India flag vessels. Demurrage, if and when incurred on such vessels, is payable in foreign exchange.

(b) During the Eighth Five Year Plan, the POL handling facilities at major ports are proposed to be modernised and augmented and scheme with estimated cost of about Rs. 770 crores have been already sanctioned. With the implementation of these schemes, POL handling capacity at major ports will increase by 26.50 million tonnes per annum. Storage facilities are normally provided by oil companies themselves.

Per Capita Generation/Consumption of Power

1018. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state the details of per capita generation and consumption of power state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) :

During the year 1993-94, State-wise per capita consumption of power is given in the enclosed statement.

STATEMENT

Statewise Annual Per Capita Consumption of Electricity during the year 1993-94

Name of State / UT	Per capita Consumption (KWH)
Haryana	487
Himachal Pradesh	217
Jammu & Kashmir	197
Punjab	703
Rajasthan	254
Uttar Pradesh	186
Chandigarh	665
Delhi	779
Total (N. Region)	288
Gujarat	590
Madhya Pradesh	310
Maharashtra	459
Goa	593
Daman & Diu	1182
D & N Haveli	1392
Total (W. Region)	437
Andhra Pradesh	344
Karnataka	323
Kerala	217
Tamil Nadu	387
Pondicherry	843
Lakshadweep	207
Total (S. Region)	335
Bihar	125
Orissa	319
West Bengal	164
D.V.C.	---
A & N Islands	168
Sikkim	116
Total (E. Region)	172
Assam	96
Manipur	111
Meghalaya	135
Nagaland	68
Tripura	60
Arunachal Pradesh	67
Mizoram	101
Total (N. E. Region)	94
Total (All India)	299

[Translation]

Promotion of Trade Relations

1019. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to utilise the services of the diplomats in our foreign missions for promoting trade relations with foreign countries in view of the changing global situations and make any structural changes in the missions;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID) : (a) All our Missions/Posts abroad are required to promote India's economic and commercial interests. This is a primary responsibility and our Missions and Posts have been made aware of the Government's expectations of them in these areas. Depending upon need, Missions/Posts are provided with suitable officers and staff to handle these important duties and their requirements, both personnel and infrastructural, are kept under constant review and changes or upgradations where needed are undertaken. However, no fundamental structural changes are required.

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

[English]

Demand of Steel

1020. SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN :
 SHRI BALRAJ PASSI :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

- (a) the projected demand of steel by the end of Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plan; and
 (b) the steps taken to meet the demand for steel indigenously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Projected domestic demand of finished steel by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan (1996-97) and Ninth Five Year Plan (2001-2002) is 20.74 million tonnes and 30.66 million tonnes respectively.

(b) In order to meet the increasing demand of steel, the Government have taken a number of steps to increase the production of steel in the country. Modernisation and expansion of Public Sector Steel Plants has been taken up. Government also have adopted various policy measures to facilitate and encourage the creation of additional steel production capacities in the Private Sector. These include :-

- (i) removal of iron and steel from the list of industries reserved for public sector;
 (ii) exemption of iron and steel industry from the provisions of compulsory licensing;
 (iii) inclusion of iron and steel in the list of high priority industries for purposes of foreign investment;
 (iv) de-regulation of pricing and distribution of iron and steel;
 (v) reduction of duty on import of capital goods; and
 (vi) liberalisation of import and export policy.

[Translation]

Copper Mining

1021. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the production of copper is constantly

declining in the country;

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to increase its production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The production of refined copper by Hindustan Copper Limited, the sole producer of primary copper in the country, during the last 4 years is given below :

1991-92	45495 MT
1992-93	45275 MT
1993-94	39002 MT
1994-95	46134 MT

There was a planned shut down of Khetri Smelter for 2 1/2 months for maintenance and over-hauling during 1993-94 because of which HCL could produce 39002 MT of refined copper against a target of 40,000 MT fixed for the year.

(c) To increase the production of copper, steps have been taken for expansion of the Smelter & Refinery at Khetri Copper Complex of Hindustan Copper Limited from the existing capacity of 31,000 tonnes per annum to 1,00,000 tonnes per annum.

Expressway Between Indore and Bhopal

1022. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is any proposal to construct Expressway between Indore and Bhopal; and
 (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the assistance provided/being provided by the Union Government to the Government of Madhya Pradesh in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir.

- (b) The question does not arise.

Plantation along National Highways

1023. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH :
 SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
 DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any scheme of plant trees on both sides of National Highways is under consideration of the Government;
 (b) if so, the details thereof;
 (c) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon; and
 (d) the time by which the above work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (d) Plantation of trees along National Highways is an accepted policy of the Government for the last several years and is a

continuing activity depending upon the availability of land within the right-of-way where plantation can be done, adequacy of funds, etc. A large length of National Highways has already been covered. In most States, Plantation of trees is being done through the State Forest/Horticulture Department, or in consultation with them.

[English]

Entry of Private Sector in Power

1024. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank had detailed many shortcomings in the administrative proceedings of the entry by the private sector in power sector;

(b) if so, the shortcomings detailed by the World Bank; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to rectify those shortcomings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) to (c) The World Bank in its document titled "India Country Economic Memorandum" has *inter alia* made certain observations on the existing structure of the power sector, which are under examination by the Government of India.

Privatisation of Projects in Uttar Pradesh

1025. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to allot three Power Projects (Uttar Kashi, Chamoli) of U.P. to Private Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of these Projects; and

(d) the details of the companies to whom the Projects have been allotted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) to (d) Government of Uttar Pradesh have entrusted execution of Vishnuprayag HEP (4x100 MW) in Chamoli district of Uttar Pradesh in private sector to M/s Jai Prakash Industries Limited. The Detailed Project Report (DPR) for this project has been submitted by the promoters to the Central Electricity Authority and the project would be accorded techno-economic clearance as soon as it has obtained all necessary statutory and non-statutory clearances.

Government of Uttar Pradesh have invited offers from private parties for the following projects in Chamoli and Uttarkashi districts and these will be awarded after completion of evaluation of the bids received.

Name of the Project and Capacity	District
1. Palamaneri (416 MW)	Uttarkashi
2. Maneribhali (304 MW)	-do-
3. Lohari Nagpal (320 MW)	-do-
4. Tapovan Vishnugad (300 MW)	Chamoli
5. Bowia Nandprayag (132 MW)	-do-

Compensation to Kuwait Returnees

1026. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of compensation due to Kuwait returnees and the total number of payment made to India;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to claim the compensation and disburse the same to the remaining claimants; and

(c) the reasons for the delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID) : (a) Although 1,45,759 Indian claims for an asserted value of US\$ 3.5 billion, have been filed with the United Nations Compensation Commission (UNCC), the actual amount of compensation will be determined by the UNCC. No payment of any Indian claim has been received from the UNCC.

(b) Apart from having filed all Indian claims, including incomplete or deficient ones, Government of India's representatives have been actively participating at the UNCC meetings pleading for early disbursement of compensation payment.

(c) Due to the large number of claims filed, the UNCC is currently engaged in scrutinising claims in smaller categories, which will thereafter be followed by the scrutiny of claims for larger amounts, corporate claims etc. This is being done not with respect to India alone but on a global basis. Furthermore, actual payments for approved claims have not been made because of lack of resources in the Compensation Fund established for this purpose.

Throwing of Burning Indian Flag into Premises of Indian High Commission, Islamabad

1027. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the JKLF activists threw a burning Indian flag into the premises of Indian High Commission in Islamabad (Pakistan) on 22nd May, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government to this incident?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID) : (a) and (b) On May 22, 1995, a group of JKLF activists while staging a demonstration in front of the Indian High Commission, Islamabad, burnt the Indian Flag and threw it into the High Commission's premises.

(c) A strong protest was lodged through diplomatic channel and our deep regret on the matter conveyed to the Government of Pakistan.

Housing Loan by HUDCO.

1028. SHRI RATILAL VARMA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications received by HUDCO for housing loans during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise; and

(b) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K.

THUNGON) : (a) and (b) A total number of 2079 applications for housing schemes were received in HUDCO during the period 1.4.92 to 31.3.95. The number of applications cleared, including the backlog of earlier years, was 2217. State-wise and year-wise figures of applications received are given in

the enclosed statement.

Appraisal and sanction of schemes by HUDCO is a continuous process and depends upon fulfilment of loan formalities by borrowing agencies as required under HUDCO guidelines and availability of funds.

Statement

Number of Applications Received for Housing Schemes During The Last Three Year By HUDCO

S. No.	State/U.T.	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1.	Andhra Pradesh	119	124	44
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	1	0
3.	Assam	7	7	18
4.	Bihar	12	37	18
5.	Gujarat	55	-	52
6.	Himachal Pradesh	3	1	4
7.	Haryana	26	10	17
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	10	5
9.	Kerala	39	23	46
10.	Karnataka	68	67	105
11.	Meghalaya	1	1	5
12.	Maharashtra	70	41	58
13.	Manipur	4	2	2
14.	Madhya Pradesh	63	26	32
15.	Mizoram	2	3	0
16.	Nagaland	1	2	0
17.	Orissa	12	26	39
18.	Punjab	19	18	26
19.	Rajasthan	50	19	34
20.	Sikkim	4	3	5
21.	Tamil Nadu	83	124	115
22.	Uttar Pradesh	49	37	42
23.	West Bengal	22	13	35
24.	Tripura	3	1	1
25.	A & N Islands	0	0	0
26.	Chandigarh	10	0	0
27.	Pondicherry	0	0	0
Total		723	653	703

Vessels owned by A&N Islands

1029. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of vessels owned by Andaman and Nicobar Islands Administration as on date, category-wise;

(b) the number of vessels registered and unregistered out of them separately; and

(c) the category-wise number of vessels operating and out of order, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Maintenance of National Highways

1030. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent on the maintenance of National

Highways by the Government during the last two years;

(b) the amount earmarked for the purpose during 1995-96; and

(c) the concrete steps taken/proposed to be taken to maintain the National Highways properly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) The amount allocated on maintenance of National Highways by the Government during the last two years is as follows

Year	Total funds allocated (Rs. in lakhs)
1993-94	21650.00
1994-95	24690.00

(b) An amount of Rs. 226.50 crores is earmarked for maintenance of National Highways during 1995-96.

(c) Maintenance of National Highways is a continuous activity undertaken on year to year basis. National Highways are kept in traffic worthy condition subject to availability of

funds. Steps have been taken to introduce modern methods to assess maintenance needs and mechanised maintenance techniques.

[English]

Finished Steel Production

1031. SHRI P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the finished Steel production in the company has increased over the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total output of finished steel during the 1995-96; and

(d) the names of the Steel Projects which got financial assistance from the Union Government during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The production of finished steel during the last three years was as under :

	(in million tonnes)	
	1992-93	1993-94
	15.20	17.22

(c) The expected production of finished steel in 1995-96 is 20.79 million tonnes.

(d) The following steel projects have been given financial assistance during the last three years as loan and equity:-

1. Visakhapatnam Steel Project.
2. Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited.
3. Vijayanager Ispat Nigam Limited.

In addition to the above, an amount of R. 10.0 crores was provided as Grant-in-aid to Indian Iron and Steel

Company (IISCO) during 1994-95 for implementation of Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

Widening of NH-47

1032. DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to widen National Highway No. 47 into four lane;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the financial allocation made therefor;

(c) the time by which the work is likely to start; and

(d) the time schedule fixed for completion of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal under consideration for widening of NH-47 into 4 lanes. However, there is a provision in the Annual Plan 1995-96 for acquisition of land for the purpose.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Steel Plant in Orissa

1033. DR. KARTIKESWAR BATRA . Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the likely time by which the new steel plants to be set up in Orissa, will start functioning; and

(b) the installed and employment generation capacity of these plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) The State Government of Orissa have intimated that they have received 13 proposals for setting up of iron and steel projects in their State. The installed capacity, employment generation, and likely date of commissioning of these projects as state by the State Government are given below:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Unit	Capacity (million tpa)	Employment (numbers)	Likely date of commissioning
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Mideast Integrated Steel Limited	0.50 (pig iron) Phase-I 0.50 (steel) Phase-II	1200 2500	December, 1995 1998
2.	Bhushan Steel & Strips Limited	1.20 (steel) Phase-I 3.0 (steel) Phase-II	1200 Not furnished	1998 2000
3.	Brahmani Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.	0.50 (steel) Phase-I 1.0 (steel) Phase II	700 Not furnished	1999 2000
4.	Orind Steels Ltd.	0.50 (CR steel)	500	1998
5.	Mesco Kalinga Steel Limited.	2.25 (steel) Phase-I 4.50 (steel) Phase-II	2500 Not furnished	1997 2000
6.	Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited.	1.00 (steel) Phase-I	2500	1997

1	2	3	4	5
		2.50 (steel) Phase-II	Not furnished	2000
7.	Indian Seamless Steels & Alloys Limited.	1.25 (steel) Phase-I	Not furnished	1998
		5.00 (steel) Phase-II	-do-	2005
8.	Asian Alloys Ltd.	0.50 (steel) Phase-I	-do-	1998
		1.00 (steel) Phase-II	-do-	2000
9.	Tata Iron & Steel Co. Limited.	2.50 (steel) Phase-I&II	-do-	Not indicated
10.	Larsen & Toubro Limited	2.60 (steel)	-do-	-do-
11.	Ganapati Exports Limited	5.00 (steel)	-do-	-do-
12.	National Steel Industries Ltd.	0.50 (steel)	-do-	-do-
13.	Jindal Strips Limited	0.40 to 0.50 (Steel)	-do-	-do-

Fishing by Foreign Vessels

1034. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING Industries be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have permitted the foreign vessels to operate close to the shore and fish in Indian waters;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the name of countries to which these vessels belong;

(c) whether it is a fact that these vessels have been fishing in Indian waters close to the shore destroying nets of the Indian fishermen;

(d) whether any assessment has been made regarding collection of fish by foreign vessels per month;

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the number of trips taken per month;

(f) the impact of the operation of foreign vessels on the marine wealth/produce, export and foreign exchange earning; and

(g) the steps taken to stop this exploitation of marine wealth by foreign vessels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIALS (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) No, Sir. Foreign flag vessels are allowed to operate beyond 12 nautical miles on the East Coast and beyond 24 nautical miles on the West Coast.

(b) Foreign flag vessels permitted to operate under lease/charter, belong to countries like Taiwan, Thailand, Russia, U.S.A., Spain, Korea etc.

(c) Traditional fishermen have represented that these vessels destroy their nets and sometimes fish in coastal waters. However, no such report indicating the port or vessel has been received. Keeping these and other facts in view, the Government has constituted a Review Committee under the chairmanship of Shri P. Murari, former Secretary to the Government of India and make recommendations for review of the Deep Sea Fishing Policy.

(d) and (e) Deep sea fishing vessels being operated under charter/lease, submit their voyage reports to the designated authorities. On an average, each vessel make 2 to 4 voyages in a year.

(f) and (g) The annual average catch from the chartered/leased vessels is about 9400 MTs valued at about Rs. 6 crores (1994) as against the marine fish production of 26.88 lakh tonnes (1993-94) and export of marine products valued at about Rs. 2500 crores (1993-94). The proportion of catch from these vessels is, therefore, very small.

Rural Electrification in Gujarat

1035. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the amount sought by the Rural Electrification Corporation from National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for various projects in Gujarat during each of last three years, year-wise and till date; and

(b) the details of such projects in the State and the amount allocated and released for each of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) and (b) Rural Electrification Corporation and Commercial Banks jointly finance energisation of pumpsets in the country with a refinance from NABARD on a 1:1:1 ratio under the Special Project Agriculture (SPA) Programme. The details of the pumpset energisation targets and achievements under the various SPA projects, and disbursement made by REC, commercial Banks and NABARD during the last three years is given below :

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Pumpset energisation Target	Pumpsets energised	Disbursed (REC)	Amount disbursed by Commercial Banks	Amount refinanced by NABARD to Banks.
1992-93	12,000	9,869	8.21	16.22	5.31
1993-94	11,500	11,520	12.32	17.18	7.32
1994-95	14,000	16,595	13.86	10.83	4.38
1995-96	26,500	-	-	0.80	5.86
				(Upto 31.7.95)	(Upto 28.7.95)

Pardip Port

1036. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to improve the functioning of Paradip Port in Orissa during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : Some of the important steps taken to improve the functioning of Paradip Port are :-

- (i) Creation of mechanised coal handling facilities.
- (ii) Last wage settlements has been linked to improve the productivity at the rate of 7% per annum.
- (iii) Additional bulk storage facilities to the extent of about 30,000 square meter of Stack Yard created.

M.R.T.S. in Delhi

1037. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the government have taken a final decision to construct Mass Rapid Transit System in Delhi;

(b) if so, what kind of MRTS is proposed to be taken up and the steps taken so far in this regard; and

(c) the total expenditure expected and time to be taken for completion of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) to (c) Based on a Feasibility Study conducted by M/s Rail India Technical & Economic Services Ltd. (RITES). The Govt. had given 'in principle' approval, in July-1994, for implementation of Phase-I of the proposed Rail Based Mass Rapid Transit System for Delhi. This Phase-I consisted of two underground rail corridors, a dedicated busway and a surface/elevated corridor with a total length of 67.5 kms. The estimated cost of this Phase-I, at 1992-93 prices was Rs. 3401 crores.

Subsequently, based on discussions held between the Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment and the Govt. of NCT of Delhi the route alignment of Phase-I was modified keeping in view the costs involved and also the corridors proposed by the Ministry of Surface Transport for High Speed Tram Systems. The route of the modified Phase-I as thus arrived at has total length of 55.3 Kms, comprising of 11 kms of Underground Metro from Delhi University to Central Secretariat and two atgrade/elevated corridors of 44.3 Kms from Shahdara to Nangloi and from Subzi Mandi to Holambi Kalan.

The detailed Project Report (DPR) has been prepared for the Modified Phase-I. A Joint Stock Company, namely, the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (DMRC) has been incorporated in May, 1995 for implementing this project. The project has also been posed for loan financing to the OECF, Japan.

The estimated cost of the Modified Phase-I is Rs. 4182 crores at April-1995 prices. The Modified Phase-I is expected to take 10 years for completion from the date of commencement of construction.

Food Processing Industries

1038. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether representations have been received to streamline regulations in food processing industries in line with rules prevailing in other countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Four Laning of National Highways

1039. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of National Highway in various States, proposed to be widened into four lanes during 1994-95 and 1995-96, State-wise;

(b) the total amount earmarked for the purpose, State-wise; and

(c) the policy/criteria laid down for selection of National Highways to be widened into four lanes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) During 1994-95 a length of about 7 km. costing Rs. 6.31 Crores in Gujarat and a length of about 6 km. costing Rs 2.39 Crores in Punjab was sanctioned for widening to four lanes. A statement showing details of length provided for in Annual Plan 1995-96 is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) As per the existing policy four-laning of any two lane Section of National Highway is considered when the traffic exceeds 15000 PCUs/day.

Statement

S.No.	State	1995-96	
		Length	Estd. cost
1.	Andhra Pradesh	168	465.00
2.	Assam	5	5.00
3.	Bihar	43	128.00
4.	Gujarat	18	21.00
5.	Haryana	71	178.00
6.	Maharashtra	5	6.00
7.	Orissa	39	133.30
8.	Rajasthan	55	121.00
9.	Uttar Pradesh	37	104.80
10.	West Bengal	47	163.00
Total		488	1325.10

[English]

World Bank Assistance for Tubewells in M.P.

1040. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of assistance received from World Bank to install public tube-wells in Madhya Pradesh during the last two years; and

(b) the places where these tube-wells were installed with the assistance of the World Bank in the State during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) No assistance has been received from the World Bank to install public tubewells in Madhya Pradesh, during the last two years.

(b) Does not arise.

Cogentrix Power Project in Karnataka

1041. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received a proposal from the State Government of Karnataka requesting counter guarantee of the Union Government for cogentrix power project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) No, Sir

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

Power Project at IB Valley

1042. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that power project at IB Valley in Orissa is being scrapped; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

National Waterways

1043. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to declare the waterways of Godavari and Krishna rivers as National Waterways; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to implement the above proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) There is a proposal to declare the Cherla -Rajamundhry stretch (208 kms) of Godavari river alongwith its delta canals, as a National Waterway. At present the proposal is in the preliminary stage of examination. There is, however, no such

proposal for Krishna river.

[Translation]

Maintenance and Construction of National Highways in Gujarat

1044. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to invite private entrepreneurs and non-resident Indians for expansion, maintenance and construction of National Highways in Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any proposal in this regard;

(c) whether the Union Government have held any discussions with State Government in this regard;

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

(e) whether the Government propose to hand over the construction work of National Highways on Bhavnagar-Tarapur-Bombay coastal route to the private entrepreneurs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Proposals for feasibility studies for construction of identified Super National Highways in India have been invited from private entrepreneurs, including non-resident Indians. One of the routes of the Super National Highways, namely, Delhi-Bombay passes through Gujarat and it also has the link to Kandla Port.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The question does not arise.

(e) Bhavnagar-Tarapur-Bombay Coastal route is not covered in the list of identified Super National Highways.

Bridges on National Highways in Rajasthan

1045. SHRI KUNJEE LAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of bridges proposed to be constructed on National Highways in Rajasthan during 1994-95;

(b) the names of such bridges in Rajasthan which are still under repair; and

(c) the expenditure incurred on repair of these bridges during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) : During 1994-95, 15 bridges were under construction in the State of Rajasthan.

(b) and (c) Nil.

Agreement between NBCC and HUDCO.

1046. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Building Construction Corporation and Hudco have entered into any agreement in the field of Housing and Urban plan development;

(b) if so, the main features of the agreement; and

(c) the details of the projects to be undertaken by both of these institutions in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) to (c) Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO) and National Building Construction Corporation (NBCC) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding which envisages collaboration between HUDCO and NBCC in the following projects :-

(i) development of 100 acres of land at Rajarhat, Calcutta and development of new towns;

(ii) development of Shankarpur as model tourist villages in West Bengal ;

(iii) development of office complex at G.S. Road Guwahati;

(iv) development of trade centre at Fancy Bazar, Guwahati.

As per the M.O.U., HUDCO will :-

(i) finance the projects and charge interest as applicable to commercial schemes from time to time; and

(ii) provide architectural design inputs and charge fees as per mutually agreed rates.

NBCC will :-

(i) undertake development and construction of various projects at pre-determined, all-inclusive cost; and

(ii) handle maintenance of the built-up space as per mutually agreed terms and expenditure on such maintenance cost will also be charged to the project.

Feasibility study of the projects will be jointly sponsored by HUDCO and NBCC on cost-sharing basis in the ratio of 50:50.

[English]

Guidelines to Steel Producers

1047. SHRI SHIVSHARAN VERMA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued some guidelines to the steel producers to produce steel according to standard specifications; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Introduction of ISI Certification Marks Scheme for certain grades of steel was notified by the Government of India as per public notice issued on 4.1.1965 which has been further extended to cover more specifications from 26.3.71.

(b) Details of the scheme are as follows :-

(i) All the main producers and registered Re-rollers/ Secondary producers of Alloy and Special Steel, concast producing units can get ISI Certification marking.

(ii) Materials manufactured to the specifications as per this scheme will be considered as tested only when certified

by the Indian Standards Institution (now Bureau of Indian Standards).

(iii) Failing to meet the required specifications such materials produced shall be declared as off grade steel and will not qualify for price of tested steel.

(iv) Any special cost like Lloyd's testing etc. would be outside the scope of this scheme.

[Translation]

Mineral Exploitation in Gujarat

1048. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to constitute a public sector undertaking to exploit the mineral resources in Gujarat, especially in tribal areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) With the announcement of the New Mineral Policy, 1993, the private sector is being encouraged to undertake exploration and exploitation of minerals.

Assistance by HUDCO to States

1049. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total Financial assistance by HUDCO to States and their housing and development agencies for land development and construction of housing upto March 31, 1995, State-wise;

(b) the reason for the very low level of assistance to Bihar which has the second largest population in the country; and

(c) the estimated number of housing units which were to be constructed with HUDCO's assistance State-wise, upto 31st March, 1995?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI. P.K. THUNGON) : (a) As on 31.3.95; HUDCO has sanctioned a total number of 11041 housing, land development and related infrastructure schemes with loan assistance of Rs. 10116.47 crores. State-wise details are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) In the beginning of every financial year, HUDCO makes loan allocation to each State/UT based on its area and population, and intimates the same to each State Government. The reason for very low level of assistance to Bihar are (i) non-receipt of sufficient finalised schemes as per HUDCO guidelines from the agencies in Bihar and (ii) non-completion of loan formalities by them.

(c) The Schemes sanctioned by HUDCO will enable construction of 57,38,881 dwelling units and 4,04,793 residential plots. State-wise details are in the enclosed statement.

STATEMENT

Statewise details of loans and Dwellings/Plots Sanctioned by HUDCO as on 31.3.1995

S.No.	State/UT	Loan Amt. (Rs. in crores)	Total No. of Dwell- ing units	Total No. of plots
1.	Andhra Pradesh	785.82	893560	4056
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.61	410	0
3.	Assam	153.21	36312	735
4.	Bihar	181.19	171348	6500
5.	Goa	17.75	3196	1526
6.	Gujarat	667.56	497731	7742
7.	Himachal Pradesh	46.60	9225	1013
8.	Haryana	197.87	86698	95
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	60.70	14217	10674
10.	Kerala	884.30	703662	485
11.	Karnataka	962.44	671277	4312
12.	Meghalaya	37.24	12292	0
13.	Maharashtra	973.53	397717	19021
14.	Manipur	34.20	7786	0
15.	Madhya Pradesh	451.77	166996	136947
16.	Mizoram	14.83	4038	0
17.	Nagaland	33.51	10901	0
18.	Orissa	369.30	148732	3936
19.	Punjab	357.88	116490	4679
20.	Rajasthan	620.53	208375	18373
21.	Sikkim	39.09	12689	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	1221.37	744625	130272
23.	Tripura	12.86	4667	0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1506.07	618711	45103
25.	West Bengal	349.74	148118	974
Union Territories				
26.	A & N Islands	3.72	719	0
27.	Chandigarh	78.28	26511	8350
28.	Delhi	39.02	16250	0
29.	D & N Haveli	0.25	87	0
30.	Pondicherry	13.26	5541	0
Total		10116.47	573881	404793

Unauthorised Occupation of Government Accomodation by VIPs

1050. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Government residences (including Bungalows and Flats) unauthorisedly occupied by Ex-Governors, Ex-Ministers, Ex-M.Ps, and other VIPs as on July 1, 1995 and the penalty rent outstanding against each one of them;

(b) the concrete steps taken to recover the huge outstanding rent or alternatively to evict them; and

(c) the precautionary measures that have been taken to forestall such a contingency in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGNON) : (a) The details are given in the enclosed *statement*.

(b) and (c) As per rules, the allotments have been cancelled and eviction proceedings have been initiated under Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971 to get the houses vacated from the unauthorised occupants. As per the directions of the Supreme Court, a list of the unauthorised occupants has been published in the daily newspapers and show cause notices to all individual unauthorised occupants have been issued as to why they should not be ejected from the houses unauthorisedly occupied by them. Demand bills are being issued regularly to recover the outstanding dues and recovery proceedings have also been initiated against defaulters.

STATEMENT

List of Unauthorised Occupants of Govt. Accommodation as on 30.6.95

Sl. No.	Name of the occupant	Particulars of accomodation	Dues (Rs.)	Unauthorised since the date indicated below
1	2	3	4	5
S/Shri				
1.	Pt Ravi Shankar, Ex MP (Rs)	95, Lodhi Estate	4,28,843/-	11.6.92
2.	Family of late Sh. Surendra Nath, EX-Governor (Punjab)	68, Lodhi Estate	20,117/-	9.8.94
3.	Zahir Saifullah, Ex-Cabinet Secy.	100, Lodhi Estate	6,321/-	30.11.94

1	2	3	4	5
4.	G.Ram Reddy (Since expired) Ex-Chairman UGC	CI/10, Pandara Park	55,573/-	4.1.95
5.	H.N. Sharma, Former PS to Ex-PM.	CII/151, Chanakya Puri	4,49,699/-	28.4.90
6.	Late Sh. C.B. Gautam, Former Secy. to Ex-PM.	CII/29, Moti Bagh	4,03,460/-	5.8.91
7.	Rabinder Nayak, Ex-Member, SC/ST Comm.	6/31 (MS), Shah-jahan Road.	2,89,735/-	12.4.92
8.	S.K.N.Nair Ex-Adviser Man of Power	CII-72, Bapa Nagar	1,62,246/-	1.8.93
9.	D.N. Sadanshiv, Ex-Member, Law Comm.	CII-38, Bapa Gagar	44,842/-	1.10.94
10.	B. Sammaiah, Ex-Member, SC/ST Comm.	CII/20, Bapa Nagar	59,936/-	5.12.94
11.	R.C. Kohli, Ex-Addl. Comm. of Police, Delhi	CII/73, Bapa Nagar	55,421/-	10.1.95
12.	A.P. Singh, Home Secy, U.P.	CII/105, Moti Bagh	48,937/-	6.2.95
13.	M.M. Ali Khan, Ex-MP	103-105, North Avenue	4,17,129/-	19.4.92
14.	Kamal Mararka, Ex-MP	12, Teen Murti Lane	54,579/-	2.5.94
15.	Family of late Sh. Darbara Singh	9, K.M. Marg	20,27,631/-	11.5.90
16.	Smt. Indrani Devi w/o Late Sh. Jagjivan Ram	6, K.M. Marg	17,18,742/-	2.11.91
17.	Devi Lal. Ex-Dy. PM	16, Tughlak Road.	7,69,537/-	31.10.92
18.	M. Padmanabhan, Ex-MP	7, Raisina Road	3,52,347/-	2.5.92
19.	K.C. Pant Ex-Chairman, 10th Fin. Comm.	7, Thyagaraja - Marg	Nil	1.1.95
20.	Family of Late Sh. Om Mehta, Adviser Lok Sabha Sectt.	30, Prithviraj Road	1,32,960/-	12.3.95
21.	D.N. Dwivedi, Addl. Solicitor General	I-B, Maulana Azad Road.	85,109/-	3.3.95

*[Translation]***Haj Pilgrims**

1051. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Haj Pilgrims who had visited Makkah and Madina during 1994-95 and 1995-96, and the number of pilgrims out of them, whose travelling expenses were borne by the Union Government;

(b) the number of Haj Pilgrims who had travelled by ship or air separately;

(c) whether State Governments also spent some money out of their funds on Haj Pilgrims; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID) : (a) and (b) While records are not maintained on the total number of Haj Pilgrims visiting Makkah and Madina, it is estimated that around 50,000 Indians do so every year during Haj. Out of these, the number of pilgrims who performed the Haj pilgrimage under arrangements made by Central Haj Committee, which include concessional fares, are as follows:

Year	No. of Pilgrims		
	By Sea	By Air	Total
1994	4650	21035	25685
1995		30504	30504

(c) and (d) According to the information available from the State Haj Committees, some State Governments make budgetary allocations ranging from Rs. 10,000/- to Rs. 6,06,000/- which is however spent on maintaining the Haj establishment in the States. West Bengal State Haj Committee indicated that it has spent Rs. 150/- during Haj 1995 on each Haji going from West Bengal for inoculation purposes. 1100 Hajis went from West Bengal for Haj in 1995.

Subsidy to Madhya Pradesh

1052. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of subsidy provided to the fertilizer units in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the amount of subsidy proposed to be provided during 1995-96; and

(c) the total production of fertilizers by these units in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise and unit-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Details of the amount paid as subsidy on controlled fertilizers to the manufacturing units located in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years are as under :-

Year	Amount paid (Rs. in crores)
1992-93	271.98
1993-94	197.07
1994-95	167.02

Under the scheme of special concession on sale of decontrolled fertilizers, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation released an amount of Rs. 18.25 crores and Rs. 31.92 crores to the State of Madhya Pradesh during 1992-93 and 1993-94, respectively for payment to suppliers of these fertilizers. During 1994-95, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation made payments to the tune of Rs. 26.42 crores directly to the suppliers of decontrolled fertilizers.

(b) No State-wise allocation of subsidy is made. Subsidy is paid to the units depending on their level of production and quantities despatched.

(c) Details of production by the fertilizer units in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years are as under :-

(In thousand tonnes)

Name of the Unit	Name of the Product	Quantity Produced		
		1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
National Fertilizers Ltd., Vijaipur	Urea	842.1	878.3	819.7
Bhillai Steel Plant	Ammonium Sulphate	46.8	43.9	44.7
SSP Units	SSP	342.0	284.4	458.0

[English]

Rural Electrification in A.P.

1053. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the funds released to Andhra, Pradesh during the last three years under Rural Electrification Programme;

(b) the progress made so far in this regard; and

(c) the amount allocated during 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) The amount disbursed by the Rural Electrification Corporation to Andhra Pradesh for rural electrification works during the last three years is as under :-

Year	Amount (Rs. in Crores)
1992-93	48.15
1993-94	104.93
1994-95	132.21 (provisional)

In addition, Rs. 2.26 crores was released as grant to A.P.S.E.B. during the last three years for the Kutiriyoti Programme.

(b) Andhra Pradesh has already achieved 100 per cent village electrification. Details of targets and achievement in respect of pumpset energisation under the REC schemes in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years are as under :-

Pumpsets Energisation

Year	Target	Achievement
1992-93	48,000	1,02,978
1993-94	53,000	91,485
1994-95	53,000	1,00,768 (provisional)

(c) An amount of Rs. 87.50 crores has been provisionally allocated to A.P. S.E.B. by the Planning Commission during 1995-96 for rural electrification works.

Mineral in A.P.

1054. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the main minerals being mined/produced in Andhra Pradesh as on date;

(b) the production figures of different minerals along with their locations during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the details of amount of minerals used for domestic consumption and for export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Breakdown of SCI Ferry Service at Port Blair

1055. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of passengers were stranded

at Port Blair in Andaman and Nicobar Islands due to failure and breakdown of Shipping Corporation of India's ferry service during the second week of July, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of stranded passengers, the reasons for breakdown/failure of ferry service and the period for which the passengers were stranded;

(c) the arrangements, made for the rescue and transportation of the stranded passengers to the places of their destination;

(d) whether the Shipping Corporation of India had to bear any extra/additional expenditure on sustaining the stranded passengers, their transportation and payment of compensation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Visakhapatnam Port.

1056. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to reduce berthing charges at Visakhapatnam Port for ships carrying cargo other than oil and coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to enhance utilisations of Visakhapatnam Port in 1995-96; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) : No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Visakhapatnam Port's designed capacity to handle cargo is 23.35 million tonnes per annum. The target fixed by the Government for the year 1995-96 is about 30 million tonnes, which is much above the installed capacity.

Visit of Union Power Minister to USA

1057. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Minister of Power had visited Washington in the month of June 1995;

(b) if so, the main points discussed with US Government and also US Energy firms;

(c) whether all doubts that were in the minds of US officials have been removed;

(d) the total number of power projects that US Government and its firms are setting up in India; and

(e) whether any concrete agreement in this regard was reached?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) Although the Minister of Power did visit the US in June, 1995, a visit to Washington was not on his agenda.

(b) and (c) The Secretary (Energy), USA, in a meeting with the Minister of Power, in New York, expressed concern at the developments over the Enron Power Project. The Minister assured the US Energy Secretary that Government of India would ensure that whatever action was taken by Government of Maharashtra on the project was within the parameters of law, rules, regulations and agreement.

In addresses given at conferences and meetings with prospective foreign investors, the Minister sought to encourage greater foreign investment in the Indian private power sector.

(d) Expressions of interest have so far been shown by US firms in respect of 36 power projects in India including joint venture projects. No power project is being set up by the US Government.

(e) No, Sir.

Visits to Jammu and Kashmir

1058. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign countries have welcomed the Government's gesture of allowing International Committee of Red Cross to function in the State of Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have allowed all the countries to visit J&K State and meet the people and also study the situation themselves;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether this decision has also been welcomed by all countries; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID) : (a) and (b) In keeping with our policy of transparency and openness, Government of India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the ICRC granting access to detained persons in connection with the prevailing situation in J&K. This has been welcomed by the international community.

(c) to (f) In the recent years, more than 12,000 foreigners have visited J&K including foreign journalists, parliamentarians and tourists. Delhi-based envoys from the European Union, developing countries, etc. have also visited J&K several times. This has also been welcomed by all countries.

Chemical and Fertilizer Plants in A.P.

1059. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of fertilizer plants in Andhra Pradesh as on date, indicating whether they are State-owned or centrally owned;

(b) the main fertilizers being produced in the State as on

date; and

(c) the details of new fertilizer plants to be set up in Andhra Pradesh with Central assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE

IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT. (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b) The details of fertilizer plants in Andhra Pradesh, as on date, are given below:

Name of the Plant	Name of the product	Ownership
Fertilizer Corpn. of India, Ramagundam	Urea	Central Public Sector
Coromandel Fert. Ltd., Vizag	28:28 14:35:14 Di-ammonium Phosphate	Private Sector
Godavari Fert. and Chem. Ltd, Kakinada	20:20 DAP	Joint Sector with equity participation of 26% by A.P. Govt. & 25% by IFFCO.
Nagarjuna Fert. & Chem. Ltd., Kakinada	Urea	Private Sector
Rashtriya Ispat Nigam, Vishakhapatnam	Ammonium Sulphate (By-product)	Central Public Sector
Andhra Sugars, Tanuku	Single Super-Phosphate	Private Sector
Krishna Industrial Corpn. Nidadavola	SSP	Private Sector
Pragati Fertilizers., Vizag	SSP	Private Sector

(c) No new fertilizer plants are being set up in Andhra Pradesh with central assistance at present.

Drug Policy

1060. SHRI SHANKER SINGH VAGHELA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'National drug policy demanded' as reported in the 'Tribune' dated April 15, 1995;

(b) if so, the steps proposed by Government to evolve a comprehensive national policy;

(c) whether certain drugs banned abroad are being sold in the country;

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

(e) the steps the Government propose to take to regulate the sale of drugs in the domestic market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b)

Yes, Sir. From the time the first comprehensive Drug Policy was announced in 1978, the attempt has been to continuously improve on it, keeping in view the changing needs and requirements. The 'Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986' announced in September, 1994 *inter-alia* provide for the setting up of a National Drug Authority for taking care of quality control and rational use of drugs.

(c) and (d) Decisions regarding continuation or banning of drugs, withdrawn in countries abroad, are taken after scientific scrutiny in consultation with experts and the Drugs Technical Advisory Board. Of the 44 drugs withdrawn from market abroad, 26 were never approved for marketing in India. 11 drugs have been banned and 7 drugs were allowed for continued marketing with label caution in some cases and restricted use in other cases.

(e) Marketing of drugs in the country is regulated under the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act and the Rules made thereunder.

[Translation]

Aromatic Complex in Madhya Pradesh

1061. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of aromatic complexes being set up in

the country during the current financial year, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have given its acceptance for setting up of these complexes;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which these are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND THE MINISTER OF

STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (d) Eight letters of intent have being issued since January 1994 for setting up aromatic complexes in the country. Details are given in the statement enclosed.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Date of letter of intent	Item and capacity (TPA)*	Location
1.	JK Petrochemicals	3-6-94	P-xylene- 1.4 lakh O-xylene- 30,000 Benzene- 30,000	Bharuch, Gujarat
2.	Grassim	9-11-94	P-xylene- 2.5 lakh O-xylene- 65,000 Benzene- 75,000 Toluene - 65,000	Mangalore Karnataka
3.	Modern Denim	4-1-95	P-ylene - 2 lakh O-ylene - 50,000 Benzene- 60,000	Bharuch Gujarat
4.	Reliance Industries	15-3-95	P-xylene- 8 lakh Benzene- 32,000	Jamnagar Gujarat
5.	Indo Rama Synthetics	31-3-95	P-xylene- 2.5 lakh O-xylene- 35,000 Benzene- 70,000	Bharuch Gujarat
6.	ATV Petrochem	18-4-95	P-xylene- 1 lakh Benzene- 20,000 O-xylene- 30,000 Toluene - 20,000	Mathura U.P.
7.	Mardia Chemicals	19-5-95	Benzene- 81,200 Ortho & Mixed Xylenes- 78,000	Bharuch Gujarat
8.	SPIC Petrochemicals	6-6-95	P-xylene- 2 lakh O-xylene- 50,000 Benzene- 30,000	Chengai- MGR Tamilnadu.

* Tonnes per annum.

[English]

Conference of Indian Ocean Rim Countries

1062. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of Indian Ocean Rim countries was held at Perth, Australia; and

(b) if so, the role played by India in it and the main decisions taken in the conference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Business representatives, academics and officials in their personal capacity participated from India in the non-governmental, Indian Ocean Rim (IFIOR) held at Perth, Australia. The main decisions of the conference were to establish a Consultative Business Network of businessmen and a voluntary Indian Ocean Research Network of academics. The meetings of the Consultative Business

Network and the Indian Ocean Research Network are likely to be held in New Delhi in December, 1995.

Membership of APEC

1063. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have held discussions with the member countries of Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) including Australia during 1995, so as to solicit their support for India's membership in APEC; and

(b) if so, the details and outcome thereof, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID) : (a) India has formally conveyed to members of APEC its interest in associating with APEC and participating in its activities.

(b) The APEC Ministerial Meeting held in Seattle in November, 1993 took a decision to impose a moratorium for three years on admission of additional members in APEC. In view of this decision, the question of admission of India and other new members will be considered only in 1997.

Entry Tax

1064. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the long-awaited legislation on Entry Tax has been cleared by the Union Government;

(b) whether the All India Tax Advocated Forum has raised objections regarding proposed implementation of the Entry Tax Act in the metropolis; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No such legislative proposal has been received or is under consideration of this Ministry.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Stock filling of Product in Steel Plants

1065. SHRI RABI RAY :
DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there had been stockpiling of finished products in steel plants;

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

(c) the loss suffered by the Government as a consequence of the above; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to rectify the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Total inventory of finished steel with integrated steel plants as on 01.07.95 was 8.07 lakh tonnes, as against 9.05 lakh tonnes on the

same day last year. The inventory on 1.4.95 was 6.28 lakh tonnes, as against 7.56 lakh tonnes on the same day last year. There has, therefore, been no stockpiling of finished steel in the integrated steel plants.

(b) to (d) : Do not arise in view (a) above.

[Translation]

Land to Freedom Fighters

1066. MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allotted land to the freedom fighters in Neb-Sarai, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the number of freedom fighters to whom land has been allotted in Neb-Sarai, so far;

(c) whether other civilians have also been allotted land in the said area; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the criterion adopted for allotment of land to civilians, the area of land allotted to each of them at what cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise ;

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Investment for Power Grid Corporation

1067. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Power Grid Corporation has obtained investment approval for implementing a system co-ordination and control scheme in the northern and southern regions;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposed scheme;

(c) to what extent it will be helpful for the generation and distribution of power; and

(d) the places where this system is proposed to be installed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government have approved the implementation of Unified Load Despatch and Communication Schemes for Northern and Southern Regions at an estimated cost of Rs. 479.51 crores and Rs. 621.57 crores respectively. The schemes involve setting up of Regional System Coordination and control Centres at New Delhi (for the Northern Region) and at Bangalore (for the Southern Region). The State Load Despatch Centres (SLDCs) and Remote Terminal Units (RTUs) would also be established at various places in the regions to provide real time information on system conditions and equipment status for efficient and effective monitoring/controlling the system. The schemes would also help in optimum utilisation of the existing generating resources, improved and reliable grid operations.

New National Highways in Gujarat

1068. DR. AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposals from the Government of Gujarat for declaring new National Highways in the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government of Gujarat has forwarded ten proposals aggregating to a length of about 2510 Kms. for declaration as new National Highways during the Eighth Five Year Plan. However, owing to meagre allocation of funds for National Highways during the 8th Plan, it is difficult to declare any new National Highway at this stage.

Relations with Central Asian Countries

1069. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a trade and transit agreement has been signed with Turkistan recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to strengthen the bilateral relations with other Central Asian Countries, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID) : (a) A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Foreign Ministers of India, Iran and Turkmenistan on 18.4.1995, in New Delhi on trade and transit to Central Asian Countries.

(b) The MOU is aimed at facilitating the transit of goods between India and Central Asian countries through the territories of Iran and Turkmenistan by providing for speedier movement of goods in transit. There is provision of setting up of a Mixed Commission consisting of the representatives of the signatory countries to look into the difficulties in the implementation of this MOU.

(c) The Government is taking all possible steps to strengthen relations with other Central Asian countries. With Kazakhstan, a Joint Commission session took place on 24 May, 1995, with a view to intensifying our bilateral trade and cooperation; during the session, an agreement was signed to extend a second US\$ 10 million credit. The Government of India are encouraging closer economic and commercial interaction with Kazakhstan in diversified sectors. With Kyrgyzstan, an agreement has already been concluded to extend US\$ 5 million credit and the first session of the Indo-Kyrgyz Joint Commission is expected to take place in the near future. With Tajikistan, a credit agreement for US\$ 5 million has already been signed and projects are under way for its utilisation; the Government are also extending humanitarian relief of medicines to the Tajik Government. With Uzbekistan, an agreement has already been signed to extend

the second credit of US \$ 10 million as the first credit line of US\$ 10 million has been tied up. With Turkmenistan, the credit agreement for US\$ 5 million has been concluded and projects to be covered under this agreement are being discussed with the Government of Turkmenistan. A decision has been taken to set up a Joint commission with Turkmenistan. The Government are also engaged in negotiations with Turkmenistan, along with Iran, to facilitate greater use of the territories of these two countries for trade and transit between India and the other Central Asian Republics.

[Translation]

Power Shortage

1070. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA :

SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the total requirement of the capital for electric power at present;

(b) the estimated requirement of power by the year 2000;

(c) how the above requirement is proposed to be met from the Northern Grid and from other sources;

(d) the projects recommended for power generation for the capital;

(e) the details of such projects cleared by the Government; and

(f) Union Government's stand on the proposal of the Delhi Government for construction of Delhi Electricity Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) :

(a) During June 1995, the energy requirement and peak demand in the Capital was 1215 MU and 2085 MW, respectively.

(b) As per the Fourteenth Electric Power Survey Report, the estimated requirement of power in the Capital during the period 1999-2000, is assessed, as per details given below :

(i) Energy requirement	18104 MU
(ii) Peak demand	3179 MW

(c) In order to meet the aforesaid power requirements of the Capital, as per Central Electricity Authority's assessment, it is envisaged to add 376 MW during 8th Plan and 126 MW during 9th Plan. In addition to above, the Capital will also get its due share from the Central Sector power generating stations, which are being set up in the Northern Region. It will also get assistance from the neighbouring States/Systems, etc.

(d) and (e) Two recommended projects, namely, 3x34 MW Waste Heat Recovery Units at the existing Gas Turbine Units of DESU and 450 MW Combined Cycle Gas Based Power Plant at Bawana, have been cleared by the Government for the Capital.

Parbati Hydro Electric Power Project in Himachal Pradesh, in which DESU has 15% share of power, is yet to be cleared.

(f) The Government is taking steps to form an Electricity Board of Delhi.

Wayside Amenities along National Highways

1071. SHRI LALL BABU RAI :

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government had formulated any scheme to provide wayside amenities including rest houses along National Highways during the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have discussed this matter with the Transport Ministers of the respective States;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the details of such amenities provided so far along National Highways, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No such scheme has been formulated recently. The only scheme that is in existence dates back to 1986.

(b) to (e) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

[English]

Development of Iron Ore Mines at Raoghat

1072. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) propose to develop the iron ore mines at Raoghat in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the investment involved and other details thereof;

(c) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited propose to develop some more iron ore mines in the country; and

(d) if so, their locations and other details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) : Yes, Sir. As per Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) budgetary estimates, an expenditure of Rs. 750 crores is envisaged. The exact amount will be known only after the Detailed Project Report is finalised. The expenditure includes mining and processing complex, attached township, water and power supply and allied facilities.

(c) and (d) SAIL propose to develop a mechanised mine at Chiria in Bihar to produce 6.5 million tonnes of iron ore lump and fines. The proposed mine will meet the requirement of steel plants at Bokaro, Durgapur, Rourkela and Burnpur.

Koel Karo Hydel Project

1073. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) what ails the Koel Karo Hydro Project against which there is mass agitation by All Jharkhand Students Union;

(b) whether genuine rehabilitation package has been announced to compensate tribals for their land acquisition;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether only tribals will be employed in the construction project to fulfil the demand of tribals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) :

(a) The Koel Karo Hydroelectric Project has been faced with the problem of paucity of funds to commence work as well as resistance from local groups and parties including All Jharkhand Students Union.

(b) and (c) The rehabilitation package, finalised in consultation with the Tribal Research Institute, Ranchi, envisages fair compensation for the displaced persons, including tribals, by providing cash compensation for the land acquired, land for homestead, employment in Class IV or clerical jobs depending upon availability and suitability to one member from every family, transport grant, necessary civic amenities, facilities for cultural and religious activities, and training for tribals.

(d) Deployment of personnel for the construction of the project will be done taking into account their qualifications and experience as per the specific requirements of the project. Employment of tribals would be considered as per the provisions made in the rehabilitation package.

Incentives to Private Power Sector

1074. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any representation from the private power sector and other forums regarding inadequate incentives being provided to them;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Closure of Coin Blanking Plant of Salem Steel

1075. SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE :

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Coin blanking plant of Salem Steel on verge of closure" appearing in the Economic Times dated July 1, 1995;

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

(c) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The installed capacity of blanking line of Salem Steel Plant (SSP), Salem, is 3,000 tonnes per annum. SSP has recently received a letter of intent from Indian Government Mint, NOIDA, for procurement of 3,347.5 MT of Stainless Steel Coin Blanks in 1995-96

[Translation]

Transmission and Distribution Losses

1076. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR :

SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the daily 'Financial Express' dated May 28, 1995 under caption "Power T and D losses unlikely to come down in VIII plan";

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether any target was fixed by the Government to reduce the said loss by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, whether any success has been achieved in

regard to the possible realisation of the said target; and

(e) the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) :

(a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The T&D losses in power system in the country in 1993-94 was 21.46%. The target of 5% reduction in T&D losses was set up for the 8th Plan with a minimum of 1% T&D loss reduction each year. Concerted efforts made by the power utilities in the country has resulted in achieving 1.03% T&D loss reduction during the year 1992-93 and 0.34% during the year 1993-94. The total capacitor requirement during the year 1994-95 including a backlog for the country was of the order of 11027 MVAR and as against a targetted programme of 8674 MVAR for the year 1994-95, only 2248 MVAR could be installed during the year 1994-95.

Power being concurrent subject, it is for the State Governments to implement their system improvement schemes. However, Central Government has given a grant of Rs. 245.6 lakhs out of a total cost of Rs. 456 lakhs for the pilot projects for installation of capacitors of the various States. In addition amount of Rs. 175.76 lakhs to West Bengal and Rs. 114.62 lakhs to Kerala State Electricity Board have been granted for carrying out Energy Audit in their distribution systems. A statement indicating the T&D losses in various States for the year from 1991-92 to 1993-94 is enclosed.

STATEMENT

Percentage transformation, Transmission & Distribution losses (Including commercial losses such as pilferage etc.) in SEBs / EDs

Region	State Elec. Board/ Elec. Deptt.	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94 (\$)
Northern Region	1. Haryana	26.79	26.78	24.53
	2. Himachal Pradesh	20.37	19.51	17.31
	3. Jammu & Kashmir	49.21	48.28	47.73
	4. Punjab	21.52	19.24	18.46
	5. Rajasthan	23.11	22.74	25.19
	6. Uttar Pradesh	26.06	24.43	23.20
	7. Chandigarh	29.64	26.21	16.40
	8. D.E.S.U.	24.35	23.56	30.32
Western Region	1. Gujarat	23.56	22.03	20.00
	2. Madhya Pradesh	25.08	21.35	20.13
	3. Maharashtra	18.40	17.83	15.83
	4. D & N Haveli	19.66	17.98	11.52
	5. Goa	23.78	21.85	27.55
	6. Daman & Diu	15.90	15.67	14.53
Southern Region	1. Andhra Pradesh	19.70	19.86	19.05
	2. Karnataka	19.88	19.55	18.60
	3. Kerala	21.67	21.95	20.98
	4. Lakshadweep Isls.	17.43	18.72	17.52
	5. Pondicherry	18.00	15.31	15.75
	6. Tamil Nadu	18.63	17.50	17.25
Eastern Region	1. Bihar	23.19	22.00	19.00
	2. Orissa	24.65	25.25	23.50
	3. Sikkim	25.88	22.55	22.10
	4. West Bengal	22.26	24.87	22.02
	5. A & N Isls.	21.66	23.62	23.71

Region	State Elec. Board/ Elec. Deptt.	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94 (\$)
North	1. Assam	21.76	21.41	20.82
Eastern	2. Manipur	24.43	22.35	22.50
Region	3. Meghalaya	11.49	11.70	10.67
	4. Nagaland	23.14	27.26	23.08
	5. Tripura	31.96	30.64	29.50
	6. Arunachal Pradesh	28.20	32.32	31.63
	7. Mizoram	34.95	29.04	28.00
All India (Utilities)		22.83	21.80	21.46

Note : 1 \$ Provisional

2 The lower T&D loss figures in respect of Meghalaya are due to bulk sale of energy to the neighbouring States.

Power Grid Corporation

1077. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR :

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of profit earned by Power Grid Corporation of India during 1994-95;

(b) the total capital invested in the Corporation during the last three years till the end of March, 1995;

(c) the total amount of capital that was given to the Corporation in the form of loan;

(d) whether the main purpose of the Corporation is to bring down the transmission loss;

(e) if so, the action taken by the Corporation in this direction so far and the total expenditure incurred by the Corporation in this regard during 1994;

(f) whether transmission losses have been brought down in the country during the last few years; and

(g) if so, the percentage of this loss as against the total power generation in the country during the years 1990-91 and 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) :

(a) The profit earned by Power Grid Corporation of India during the year 1994-95 is Rs. 207.60 crores.

(b) The total capital invested in POWERGRID as on 31st March, 1993, 1994 and 1995 was Rs. 4769.80 crores, Rs. 6060.12 crores and Rs. 6972.94 crores respectively.

(c) The total amount of loan out of capital investment in POWERGRID as on 31st March, 1995 is Rs. 3118.87 crores, which includes Government of India loan of Rs. 557.04 crores.

(d) and (e) The main objective of setting up POWERGRID is for developing the national Power Grid including construction, operation and maintenance of all Extra High Voltage Transmission Systems in the Central Sector, and establishment of inter-regional transmission links. The transmission losses at Extra High Voltage System accounts for only 3-4%, which conforms to acceptable international standards. The transmission network is planned and executed by POWERGRID to minimise the transmission loss and therefore no separate expenditure on this account can be specified.

(f) and (g) Yes, Sir. The Transmission & Distribution Losses have been reduced by about 1.43% in 1993-94 as compared to the figures for 1990-91. The total T&D losses for the year 1990-91 and 1993-94 are 22.89% and 21.46% respectively. The figures for 1994-95 have not yet been compiled.

The major losses are on account of the sub-transmission and distribution systems, which are manned by the State Electricity Boards.

Tehri Dam Project

1078. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'White Paper on Tehri Dam Sought' appearing in 'The Tribune' on June 5, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some experts have appealed to the Government to issue a White-Paper on the controversy prevailing in regard to the Project;

(d) whether the Government have agreed to the appeal; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) :

(a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Newspaper report mentions that several concerned senior citizens have demanded a "White Paper" on all aspects of Tehri Dam. Government have separately received several representations regarding various aspects of the Tehri Dam Project.

The Government have examined at length all aspects of Tehri Dam and approval for the execution of the project was accorded after careful consideration.

The Government therefore does not propose to bring out a "White Paper" in this regard. However, the Government is ready to examine any new and substantive issues that may be raised.

Land to East India Hotels.

1079. DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI :

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND

EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have allotted 2.7 acres of valuable land to East India Hotels in Delhi;
- (b) if so, the cost at which the land has been allotted; and
- (c) the criteria adopted in allotment of such land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) to (c) A 2.7 acre plot of land in New Delhi was allotted to DTTDC in 1983 on licence fee for construction of an economy hotel. On grounds of non-payment of dues and violation of terms and conditions of allotment, this was cancelled in 1993.

2. It came to the Govt.'s notice that in the meantime DTTDC had entered into a licence agreement with M/s East India Hotels in 1992 on the basis of global bids. In view of the commercial terms of the agreement, an option was therefore given to DTTDC to offer revised payment terms. As no response was forthcoming from DTTDC in spite of continuous follow-up, considering the legal, administrative and financial factors, the arrangement made earlier by DTTDC with the hotelier was taken over by the Government.

3. The licence fee ranges from Rs. 2.5 crores per annum to Rs. 38 crores per annum, amounting to accrual of Rs. 720 crores over a period of 33 year.

[English]

Fertilizer Units in U.P.

1080. DR. SAKSHIJI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of fertilizer units set-up in Uttar Pradesh during the last two years;
- (b) the number of units out of them that have started functioning; and
- (c) the number of such units in which production is likely to start during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT. (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c) A gas-based urea plant, owned by M/s. Tata Chemicals Ltd., with a capacity to produce 7.4 lakh tonnes of urea per annum, started commercial production at Babrala, Uttar Pradesh in December, 1994.

Another gas-based urea plant, owned by M/s. Bindal Agro, with a capacity to produce 7.26 lakh tonnes of urea per annum, located at Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh, is expected to commence production during the current year.

[Translation]

Widening of National Highways in Uttar Pradesh

1081. SHRI RAM PAL SINGH :

SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is any plan for widening of the National Highways in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the amount earmarked for this purpose during the last three years, year-wise; and
- (d) the time by which the said work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) Two Projects for widening of the two-lane carriageway to 4-lanes between Delhi and Mathura, and Mathura and Agra, on NH-2 have been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 167.21 crores. In addition widening of NH-4 between Ghaziabad and Hapur and Allahabad urban link on NH-2 are proposed in the VIII Plan which will be considered for sanction depending upon availability of funds.

(c) Funds to the States are allocated State-wise and not work-wise. Allocations for the State during the last three years were as follows :

Year	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Allocation	49.95	45.79	84.55

(Rs. crores)

(d) The sanctioned works are likely to be completed by 1999.

Counter Magnet Cities

1082. SHRI SONTOSH KUMAR GANGAR : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the amount provided for the cities proposed to be developed as counter magnet cities during 1994-95;
- (b) the amount proposed to be provided during 1995-96; and
- (c) the share provided to Bareilly out of this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) As far as Small and Medium growth centres/ counter-magnets under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of IDSMT are concerned an amount of Rs. 24.41 crores was provided as Central assistance during 1994-95.

(b) The amount proposed for expenditure under IDSMT during 1995-96 is Rs. 35 crores.

(c) For the 8th Plan (1992-97) there is a lumpsum provision of Rs. 100 crores for 5 counter magnet towns of the National Capital. No yearwise allocation has been done Bareilly has not drawn any amount. Bareilly town can be provided a maximum of Rs. 10 crores during the 8th Plan subject to matching contribution by the Uttar Pradesh Government.

*[English]***Mining Accidents**

1083. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Avaidh Pattedar Ki Betahasha khudai se hui Pali ki khan durghatna' appearing in Jansatta, dated July 2, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to provide compensation or relief to the families of the deceased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Indian Council for World Affairs

1084. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the governing body of the Indian Council for World Affairs (ICWA) has made a formal request to the Government to form a High Powered Committee to look into the functioning of the ICWA;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government thereon; and

(c) if not, the other steps taken/being taken to revamp ICWA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government is awaiting the response from the President of the ICWA regarding resolution to be passed by the governing body of the Council for the constitution of a high-powered committee to look into the functioning of the ICWA.

*[Translation]***Allocation of DDA Flats**

1085. SHRI LAKSHMI NARAYAN MANI TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications under VIP category lying pending for allotment of DDA Flats on priority basis;

(b) the time by which flats are likely to be provided to them;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide houses to Members of Parliament also; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) and (b) DDA has reported that there is no separate category of VIPs for allotment of DDA flats on priority basis. Allotment on priority/out of turn basis is made as per the prescribed guidelines. There is no provision for allotment

of flats to MPs on preferential basis.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to float a scheme exclusively for Members of Parliament. However as members of Public, the Members of Parliament are also eligible to get themselves registered for allotment of flats under the Schemes floated by DDA from time to time subject to their fulfilling eligibility conditions.

*[English]***Inland Waterway Projects in Andhra Pradesh**

1086. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of all Inland waterway projects in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether any funds have been earmarked for the development of inland waterways in Andhra Pradesh during 1995-96; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) The Central Government is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Waterways. As for the inland waterways other than National Waterways, it is the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to develop them. The Central Government has a proposal to declare Cherala Rajahmundry stretch of Godavari river and its navigable canals in Andhra Pradesh as a National Waterway, which is presently at the preliminary stage of examination. A provision of Rs. 1.00 lakh exists for the proposed National Waterway in Andhra Pradesh in the Annual Plan of IWT Sector during 1995-96.

*[Translation]***Power House for Major Ports**

1087. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVI SINGH PATIL : SHRI GOVINDRAO NIGAM :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any scheme for setting up of separate Power House for each of the major ports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the name of ports on which these Power houses would be constructed;

(d) the estimated cost of such Power Houses; and

(e) the time by which these Power houses are likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) An in principle decision has been taken to allow all the Major Ports to instal their own Captive Power Plants. The matter is at a preliminary stage and no detailed schemes have been formulated so far.

(d) and (e) As detailed schemes have not yet been formulated, the estimated cost and the time of completion of these Power Plants cannot be indicated at this stage.

Kashmir Issue

1088. SHRI SIMON MARANDI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the countries which are pressuring India in regard to Kashmir issue;

(b) the names of the countries with whom the Government have taken initiative to seek their cooperation to solve the Kashmir issue and to get Pak Occupied Kashmir freed;

(c) whether the Government have raised this issue with the US; and

(d) if so, their reaction and initiatives thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID) : (a) to (d) Government are committed to resolving differences between India and Pakistan, including aspects related to the Jammu and Kashmir issue, peacefully and through bilateral negotiations in accordance with the Simla Agreement. No country is pressuring India on the Kashmir issue. Government are of the firm view that there can be no role of any sort for any third party.

Government have apprised the international community, including the USA, of the situation regarding J&K in its correct perspective, especially the role of Pakistan in aiding, abetting and supporting terrorism and its illegal occupation of a part of the territory of the Indian State of J&K.

There is widespread support to the resolution of the issue through bilateral dialogue. The US Government maintains that the best means to resolve the issue is through negotiations between India and Pakistan as envisaged under the Simla Agreement, taking into account the views of the people of J&K.

Civic Amenities in Slums

1089. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to ameliorate the socio-economic and living conditions of people residing in slums in the country;

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

(c) whether any of the State Governments has submitted a proposal in this regard to the Union Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) and (b) As per statement attached.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

The Central Government accords high priority to substantial expansion of the existing urban poverty alleviation programmes serving the urban poor with emphasis on basis

services and facilities with particular attention to the needs of women and children. An integrated view is taken for alleviation of urban poverty by developing a package of programmes like Nehru Rozgar Yojana, Urban Basic Services for the Poor and environmental improvement of Urban Slums.

1. Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) : The Nehru Rozgar Yojana seeks to provide employment to persons living below the poverty line in urban areas. It consists of 3 schemes, namely, i) scheme for setting up micro enterprises and providing training and infrastructure support for urban poor beneficiaries in all urban areas; ii) scheme of wage employment for creation of useful public assets in the jurisdiction of urban local bodies with a population less than 1 lakh; and iii) scheme of employment through housing and shelter upgradation in low income neighbourhoods mainly for the urban poor and economically weaker sections and training and infrastructure support and promotion of construction skills among beneficiaries in urban local bodies having a population between 1 lakh and 20 lakhs. The expenditure on the scheme is to be shared between the Central Government and the State Governments/UTs on 60:40 basis. During the first 3 years of the Eighth Five Year Plan, a sum of Rs. 216 crores has been released under the scheme as Central share.

2. Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSF) : The objectives of the Urban Basic Services for the Poor scheme are to foster neighbourhood development committees in slums for ensuring the effective participation of slums dwellers in developmental activities and to provide social services and physical amenities through convergence of various schemes of specialist departments. A sum of Rs. 100 crores has been provided for the scheme for the Eighth Plan Period.

3. Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums (EIUS) : This State sector scheme of Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums (EIUS) envisages provision of water supply including drinking water taps, open sewer drains, storm water drains, community baths and community latrines, widening and paying of existing lanes and street lighting in urban slums. The funds for the scheme are provided in the Annual Plans of the States/UTs.

[English]

Ship Building Company

1090. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the three Public Sector Undertakings, Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited, Steel Authority of India Limited and Kudremukh Iron Ore Limited propose to start a ship building company;

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

(c) the steps proposed for supplying indigenously produced coking coal to such ship building company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c) There is no proposal to start a ship building company by Steel Authority of India Limited, Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited and Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited. However, the three

organisations propose to promote a joint venture shipping company. As the proposed company would primarily handle captive cargoes of bulk materials being imported and exported overseas, the supply of indigenously produced coal to this company is not under consideration.

Civic Amenities in Colonies in Delhi

1091. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of colonies in Delhi, which have so far been handed over to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) by the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) for maintenance of water supply, construction of road and its maintenance, sewage and other such activities;

(b) the amount paid by the DDA or MCD for the above civic services in these colonies;

(c) the names of colonies in Delhi which are likely to be handed over to the MCD by the DDA for carrying out civic services during the year 1995 upto December;

(d) whether certain Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the DDA and MCD in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

National Highways

1092. SHRI KEHLAN RAM JANGDE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the highways in the country have been recognised as National Highways;

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

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred on the widening and repair of the roads alongwith the construction of by-pass roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) A total length of 34,058 km of roads has so far been declared as National Highways. A *statement* indicating length of National Highways State-wise is enclosed.

(c) During 1995-96, there are budget provisions of Rs. 737.89 crores for development which includes widening and bypasses and Rs. 226.50 crores for maintenance of National Highways.

STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of States	Length (Km)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2888
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	330
3.	Assam	2296
4.	Bihar	2117
5.	Chandigarh	24

1	2	3
6.	Delhi	72
7.	Goa	229
8.	Gujarat	1631
9.	Haryana	698
10.	Himachal Pradesh	854
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	648
12.	Karnataka	1996
13.	Kerala	940
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2946
15.	Maharashtra	2918
16.	Manipur	431
17.	Meghalaya	472
18.	Mizoram	551
19.	Nagaland	113
20.	Orissa	1649
21.	Punjab	892
22.	Rajasthan	2931
23.	Sikkim	62
24.	Tamil Nadu	1896
25.	Tripura	200
26.	Uttar Pradesh	2613
27.	West Bengal	1638
28.	Pondicherry	23
Total		34058 Km.

[English]

M.V. Akbar Passenger-cum-cargo vessel

1093. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M.V. Akbar Passenger-cum-Cargo Vessel operating between Mainland and A&N Islands had been specially repaired at Hindustan Shipyard, Visakhapatnam in the recent past;

(b) if so, the total expenditure incurred thereon and the time taken in such repair;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the ship's engine failed during the maiden voyage after repair, while plying for Madras with passengers;

(d) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(e) if so, the findings thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken against the persons found responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per Repair Contract, the expenditure incurred for repairs so far is Rs. 32,37,78,000. The time taken for completion of repairs and re-delivery has been 20 months & 3 days from the date of contract.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. The ship's Controllable Pitch Propulsion (CPP) System failed during its voyage from Port Blair to Madras. An enquiry into the matter was conducted which revealed that the failure of CPP System was due to mechanical failure and not due to human error.

[Translation]

Use of Neem as Insecticides

1094. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL :
SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of varieties of insecticides being produced in the country at present;

(b) whether the Government propose to use neem for the manufacture of insecticides; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND THE MINISTRY STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT. (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) More than 60 different technical grade pesticides are currently being produced in the country.

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

[English]

Housing Scheme for Handloom weavers & Beedi Workers

1095. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have introduced any housing scheme for handloom weavers and beedi workers by providing subsidy and HUDCO loan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of beneficiaries under this scheme in various States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details of schemes for providing Central subsidy/HUDCO loan for housing facility to handloom weavers and beedi workers are given below :-

(i) WORKSHED-CUM-HOUSING SCHEME FOR HANDLOOM WEAVERS.

As per the revised scheme viz. 'Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme for Handloom weavers' administered by the Ministry of Textiles, Central subsidy and HUDCO loan are available for construction of workshed/house-cum-workshed by handloom weavers, in the following funding pattern for the VIII Five Year plan period.

Name of the Scheme	No. of units	Cost of unit	Maximum central subsidy	Loan	Weaver contribution	Maximum subsidy as %age
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1. Workshed	75000	5000	4000	-	1000	80
2. Rural Housing cum workshed	28000	20000	14000	5000	1000	70
3. Urban Housing cum workshed	14000	30000	14000	14000	2000	70

(i) The actual cost of construction is more than the unit cost indicated above, the implementing agency can raise a loan from HUDCO/Financial institution. The State Government would also be free to make additional budget provisions to cover higher cost of construction.

The scheme shall ordinarily, be implemented by Apex Handloom Coop. Society or State Handloom Development Corporation or Primary Societies or any other agency specially set up by the Government for the purpose.

The State-wise details of units sanctioned under the scheme during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1994-95 are given in the enclosed statement-I on 30.601995, HUDCO sanctioned 132 projects to handloom weavers, with Loan commitment of Rs. 33.04 crores for construction of 31682 residential units.

(ii) HOUSING SCHEMES FOR BEEDI WORKERS :

There are two housing scheme for beedi workers administered by the Central Government (Ministry of Labour), the details of which are given below :-

(a) HOUSING SCHEME FOR ECONOMICALLY WEAKER SECTION OF WORKERS ENGAGED IN BEEDI INDUSTRY.

Under this scheme, any beedi worker, whether an employee of an establishment or a Ghar Khata worker who has been engaged in the beedi industry for more than one year would be entitled to the grant of subsidy on the recommendations of the State Government. The Scheme envisages grant of subsidy to be paid by the Central Government to the State Government at the rate of 50% of the actual cost of construction per tenement subject to a maximum of Rs. 9000/- inclusive of development charges. The State Government, a local authority/owner of the beedi establishment may also give a subsidy in addition to the subsidy given out of the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund. The remaining Finances could be raised either by loans/contributions from the State Government or any other agency nominated by the State Government like HUDCO.

(b) BUILD YOUR OWN HOUSE SCHEME FOR BEEDI WORKERS.

Under this scheme, any beedi worker, whether any employee of an establishment or a Ghar Khata worker, who has been engaged in the beedi industry for atleast three years is entitled for the grant of Central subsidy. The scheme envisages grant of subsidy-cum-loan from the Beedi workers Welfare fund for the construction/repair/expansion/modification of houses on sites owned by the workers.

An interest free loan of upto Rs. 10,000/- repayable in monthly instalments spread over a period not exceeding nine years shall be paid to the workers. A subsidy of Rs. 3000/- will be payable to the worker towards the cost of the material. An additional Rs. 1700/- shall be paid to those workers who adopt small family norms. The State-wise details of houses constructed/number of beneficiaries under the housing scheme for economically weaker section of beedi worker and Build Your Own House Schemes are given in the enclosed statement-II HUDCO, since inception and as on 30.601995, has sanctioned 30 projects with loan commitment of Rs. 20.48 crores for construction of 10,350 dwelling units for beedi workers.

STATEMENT - I

Statement showing State-wise units of Workshed cum Houses/Workshed Sanctioned under Govt. of India Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme for Handloom weavers during 1991-92, 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95

S. No.	State	1991-92		1992-93		1993-94		1994-95	
		Workshed Cum Houses	Work Shed	Workshed Cum Houses	Work Shed	Workshed Cum Houses	Work Shed	Workshed Cum Houses	Work Shed
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	1725	0	0	1010	1217	400	2744
2.	Assam	0	1145	0	1000	0	222	2000	78
3.	Bihar	0	0	0	1633	0	1300	0	2000
4.	Himachal Pradesh	0	500	0	280	0	700	0	750
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0	333	0	94	0	218
6.	Karnataka	0	1968	431	0	0	824	0	2000
7.	Kerala	0	0	452	105	107	480	518	619
8.	Madhya Pradesh	0	433	0	1260	0	1000	0	456
9.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	750	0	1140
10.	Mizoram	0	70	0	0	0	100	0	250
11.	Orissa	0	1600	0	1500	0	1000	0	2500
12.	Rajasthan	0	576	0	0	0	1004	0	150
13.	Tripura	0	0	0	400	0	200	0	1000
14.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	2100	0	600	0	400	0
15.	Uttar Pradesh	0	1917	0	3287	2600	0	2000	1050
16.	West Bengal	0	800	0	0	0	0	0	1200
17.	Maharashtra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	550
18.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30
Total		0	10734	2983	9807	4317	8891	5318	16691

STATEMENT-II

State-wise number of houses constructed / number of Beneficiaries under the housing scheme for Economically Weaker section of workers and under BYOHS

S.No.	Name of State	EWS	BYOHS
1.	Madhya Pradesh	1353	74
2.	West Bengal	0	966
3.	Assam	0	379
4.	Uttar Pradesh	0	120
5.	Maharashtra	5354	96
6.	Andhra Pradesh	13550	135
7.	Tamil Nadu	0	72
8.	Karnataka	1706	6
9.	Kerala	0	1224
10.	Orissa	100	973
11.	Bhilwara Region (Includes Rajasthan, Gujarat and Haryana States)	445	10

Potash Requirement

1096. DR. SHRIMATI K.S. SOUNDARAM : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the total potash requirement in the country during the last two years, State-wise;

(b) the projected requirement of Potash in 1995-96;

(c) the quantity of Potash imported by the country during

the last two years;

(d) the landing price of imported Potash for those years; and

(e) the total import bill of Potash for the current year and projected import bill for the next year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b) With the decontrol of potassic fertilisers on 25.8.92, their demand and supply are governed by the market forces. The estimated statewide consumption of potash during the last two years is given in the enclosed *statement*.

(c) The quasi-totality of the nutrient potash is supplied by imports of Muriate of Potash (MOP). Estimates of imports of MOP during the last 2 years are as follows:-

(figures in lakh tonnes)

Year	Muriate of Potash
1993-94	14.67
1994-95	18.48

(d) and (e) Price information on imports of decontrolled fertilisers is not maintained by Government. The import of potassic fertilisers have also been decanalised.

Statement

(Figures in 000 MTs)
(Provisional)

S.No.	States	1993-94 Potash (K)	1994-95 Potash (K)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	88.09	109.95
2.	Karnataka	116.40	119.46
3.	Kerala	66.11	75.23
4.	Tamil Nadu	205.69	278.12
5.	Gujarat	39.18	50.16
6.	Madhya Pradesh	16.83	29.85
7.	Maharashtra	130.85	187.00
8.	Rajasthan	2.63	7.94
9.	Goa	1.09	1.43
10.	Haryana	0.36	2.12
11.	Himachal Pradesh	1.62	2.26
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.60	1.45
13.	Punjab	7.47	16.44
14.	Uttar Pradesh	38.75	73.19
15.	Bihar	15.01	34.03
16.	Orissa	18.95	23.58
17.	West Bengal	136.57	136.08
18.	Assam	7.70	9.79
19.	Manipur	0.05	0.32
20.	Meghalaya	0.27	0.19
21.	Sikkim	0.09	0.06
22.	Nagaland	0.14	0.11
23.	Tripura	0.89	1.36
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.08	0.11
25.	Mizoram	0.15	0.22
26.	Others	12.83	20.95
Total		908.40	1181.40

Paradeep Phosphates Limited

1097. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Paradeep Phosphates Limited (PPL) has been incurring losses over the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, yearwise;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to make it a profit earning public sector undertaking?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b) The details of profit/loss of Paradeep Phosphates Limited (PPL) for the last three years are given below :

(Rs crores)

Year	Profit (+)/Loss (-)
1992-93	(-) 80.94
1993-94	(+) 47.35
1994-95	(+) 27.33

(c) The main reasons for the losses were low capacity utilisation of Di-Ammonium Phosphate Plant (DAPP), Sulphuric Acid Plant (SAP) and Phosphoric Acid Plant (PAP) apart from high interest burden due to imbalances in the Debt/Equity Ratio.

(d) With a view to improving the financial performance of the company, the following steps have been taken/proposed to be taken :

(i) Government has restructured the capital base of the company with effect from 31.3.1994 so as to remove the imbalance in the Debt/Equity Ratio and reduce the interest burden.

(ii) The company has taken steps to improve the capacity utilisation of DAPP, SAP and PAP during 1995-96.

(iii) The company has diversified into the production and sale of NPK complex in the current year.

(iv) The company has extended the conveyor system as also constructed a new silo for better utilisation of its captive berth and unloading facilities at Paradeep Port.

Controversial Mining Lease

1098. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-items captioned 'wheels within wheels in a mining deal' appearing in the *Hindustan Times* dated July 13, 1995;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA) : (a) to (c) The matter relates of renewal of TISCO's mining lease for Chromite in Jaipur District of Orissa. M/s. TISCO had filed Writ Petitions O.J.C. No. 7729 of 1993 and 4701 of 1994 against orders of the Central Government conveying approval of second renewal of Mining Lease for Chromite in Sukinda Valley. A series of other writ petitions (Nos. 3825, 5422 & 7054 of 1994) were also filed before Orissa High Court by others. The High

Court of Orissa disposed of the writ petitions filed by M/s. TISCO and others vide its Judgement dated 4th April, 1995, remanding the matter back to the Central Government with specific guidelines for fresh consideration of the entire matter after duly giving an opportunity of hearing to TISCO and other parties in the writ petitions. In pursuance of this direction the Ministry of Mines has constituted a committee for hearing TISCO and other parties in the writ petitions in accordance with the guidelines given by the High Court of Orissa. TISCO has also filed SLPs in the Supreme Court against the above said judgement dated 4th April, 1995.

Foreign Investment in Power Sector

1099. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of foreign investment approved in

Sl. No.	Name of the project/ State	Promoter	Cap. (MW)	Prov. Cost (Rs. Crs)
1.	Godavari GBPP/AP	Spectrum Tech, USA	208	748.43
2.	Jegurupadu GBPP/AP	GVK, USA	216	827.00
3.	Dabhol TPS/MAH.	Enron/Bechtel/ GE, USA	2015 (695 - Ph-I)	9052.00 (2912 - Ph-I)
4.	Zer Unit NLC/TN	ST Power/CMS Gen., U.S.A.	250	1325.11
5.	Ib Valley /ORISSA	AES Transpower, USA	420	1993.63
6.	Mangalore TPS/KAR.	Cogentrix	1000	5088.00
7.	Visakhapatnam TPS/AP	Ashok Leyla- nd/ National Power, UK	1000	4797.00
8.	Paguthan GBPP/GUJ.	GTEC/Siemens, Germany	655	2298.14
9.	Bhadravati TPS/MAH.	Ispat Alloys/ ECGD, UK/ EDF, France	1072	5187.00
10.	JTPC Co. TPS/KAR	Jindal Tractbel/ Tractbel SA of Belgium	240	838.90
11.	Sagardighi TPS/W. Bengal	CMS Generation, U.S.A.	1000	4960.00
12.	Bakreshwar TPS/W. Bengal	CMS Generation,	420	1860.00
13.	Pillaiperumanallur/T.N.	J.Makowski, USA/ Dyna Vision of Reddy Group	320	1120.00
14.	Gauripore/W.Bengal	Thermo Energy Systems/Birla Technical Services	150	750.00
15.	Roza TP Ph-I/UP	Indo-Gulf Ferti- lisers & Chemicals Corporation/Power Gen, UK	500	2587.47
16.	Ballagarh TPS/WB	Ballagarh Power	500	2235.00
Total :			9966	45667.68

The amount of foreign investment in these projects will be known only after the financial closure of all these projects.

Mining By MNCs

1100. SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state the details of minerals proposed to be mined by multinational companies as joint ventures with domestic companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA) : Minerals in which foreign companies have evinced interest are primarily Gold, Diamonds, Iron Ore and Base metals.

power sector so far;

(b) the State-wise and project-wise details thereof; and

(c) the names of foreign companies who had invested in power sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) :

(a) As on date 16 private power projects costing approximately Rs. 45668 crores have been cleared from foreign investment angle.

(b) and (c) The details are given in the enclosed statement.

STATEMENT

List of CCFI Cleared Private Power Projects

[Translation]

Role of Rural Electrification Corporation

1101. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the role of Rural Electrification Corporation in electrification of new areas;

(b) whether there has been laxity in the efforts to ensure proper supply of electricity in rural areas; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps proposed for effective utilisation of Rural Electrification Corporation in making supply of electricity to new areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) :

(a) Rural Electrification Corporation extends financial assistance to State Governments/State Electricity Boards/Rural Electric Cooperatives for development of electrical infrastructure and extension of electricity to the unelectrified areas.

(b) No. Sir. Special emphasis is being laid on the strengthening of power supply systems in rural areas by providing financial assistance to the States for System Improvement Schemes to bring about reduction in Transmission & Distribution Losses.

(c) State Governments/SEBs are being persuaded through the REC, to accord higher priority to the electrification of new areas. They have also been requested to prepare Action Plans for completing electrification of the remaining villages

Bhopal Gas Victims

1102. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI :

SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERM .

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh have submitted any action plan in regard to Bhopal gas tragedy, to the Union Government during 1994-95;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total expenditure involved therein;

(c) the decision taken in regard to sharing the expenditure to be incurred on the said action plan, between the Union Govt. and the State Government;

(d) the expenditure borne so far on medical treatment and other items by the Union Govt. and the State Govt. separately, during the period 1985 to 1994-95;

(e) the total amount that was targetted to be incurred on the action plan; and

(f) the time schedule for the implementation of the action plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of Madhya Pradesh has submitted a proposal for a new Action Plan envisaging a total cost of Rs. 158.05 crores. Meanwhile, the period of the existing Action Plan envisaging expenditure of Rs. 163.10 crores has been extended upto 31.3.1996. The Central Government bears 75% of the expenditure on the present Action Plan.

(d) According to the information available from the Government of Madhya Pradesh, the expenditure incurred

on medical treatment and other items is given below :-

	(Rs. lakhs)
Medical Rehabilitation	9662.79
Others	19551.15
Total	29213.94

The Central Government's contribution in the above expenditure upto 31.3.1995 was about Rs. 192 crores.

(e) & (f) The targetted amount of the current Action Plan was fixed at Rs. 163.10 crores and the time schedule of its implementation was upto 31.3.1995. It has now been extended upto 31.3.1996.

[English]

Passport Racket

1103. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 133 on June 13, 1994 and state.

(a) whether the Government have received the requisite information:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that such passport rackets do not occur in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID) : (a) and (b) Investigations conducted have not revealed involvement of any of the accused persons connected with the Bombay bomb blast case with a major passport racket.

(c) Does not arise.

Indo-US Relations

1104. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps during last one year to strengthen further the Indo-US relations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the US has also called for strengthening further the relations between the two countries; and

(d) if so, the steps taken thereafter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID) : (a) to (d) During Prime Minister's visit to the US in May 1994, Prime Minister and President Clinton called for a new partnership between India and the US. It was decided to expand the pace and scope of high-level Indo-US exchanges on the full range of political, economic, commercial, scientific, technological and social issues.

During the last year, four Cabinet-level US officials, the US Secretaries of Energy, Defence, Commerce and Treasury have visited India. The Principal US Under Secretaries in the Departments of International Trade, Defence and the State Department also visited India for discussions and consultations on subjects of mutual interest. A number of Indian Ministers have visited the US. EAM's visit to the US in

May 1995 was part of the process of high-level consultations on international issues to sustain the momentum in Indo-US relations.

A number of steps have been taken to promote Indo-US trade and investment. The Indo-US Commercial Alliance, providing for an institutionalized mechanism for high-level interaction between business leaders in the two countries, was launched during the visit of the Minister of State for Commerce to the US. The Indo-US Subcommission on Economy and Commerce has been revived and is to focus during the first year on infrastructure development in India.

An Agreed Minute was signed during US Defence Secretary Perry's visit to India in January 1995 to enhance Indo-US defence cooperation as an important part of the overall bilateral relationship. A number of exchanges and joint military exercises have taken place as part of this process.

The steps taken by both Governments during the last year have thus resulted in the expansion and strengthening of Indo-US relations over a broad front. It is expected that this progress will be maintained.

Illegal Possession of Government Accommodation.

1105. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the persons who are in illegal possession, or had been in illegal possession of the Government accommodation and against whom arrears of rent are still outstanding;

(b) the amount of arrears outstanding against such persons and since when the arrears are due;

(c) the reasons for not recovering the dues so far; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to recover the dues without further delay, including the rate of interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Allotment of Bungalows from Central Pool

1106. SHRI LALLBABU RAI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of those Members of Parliament who have been allotted bungalows/flats from central pool but have not been given possession thereof because these are still under unauthorised occupation;

(b) the details of such bungalows/flats;

(c) the dates on which the said accommodation was allotted to the concerned MPs; and

(d) the time by which these unauthorisedly occupied Bungalows/flats are likely to be evacuated therefrom and thereafter handed over to the real allottees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) Shri Jagannath Mishra, Minister of Rural

Development and Shri Arvind Netam, Minister of State for Agriculture & Cooperation.

(b) and (c) Bungalow No. 12, Teen Murti Lane was allotted to Shri Jagmohan Mishra on 22.12.94 and bungalow No. 5, B.R. Mehta Lane was allotted to Shri Arvind Netam on 5.4.95 (both on vacation basis).

(d) Out of the above two cases, Bungalow No. 5, B.R. Mehta Lane has since been vacated by Shri K.C. Lenka. As regards Bungalow No. 12, Teen Murti Lane in occupation of Shri Kamal Morarka, eviction order has already been passed by the Estate Officer. His name figures in the list of unauthorised occupants published in News Paper on 27th to 29th July, 1995 and matter is pending before Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Gas Tragedy Claims

1107. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of compensation given by claim courts in cases filed under the provisions of Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster (Processing of Claims) Act;

(b) the criteria on the basis of which the claims are being decided;

(c) whether the State Government has filed any claim in courts in respect of the financial burden borne by the State Government due to this Gas Tragedy; and

(d) if so, the present position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) According to the information furnished by the Office of the Welfare Commissioner, the total amount of awards passed as 15.7.95 amounted to Rs. 616.88 crores.

(b) The office of the Welfare Commissioner has informed that according to the criteria adopted for determining the personal injury claims cases, each claim case is evaluated on the basis of medical documentation and the category under which it falls as per the Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster (Registration and Processing of Claims) Scheme, 1985 framed under the Act. The amount of the compensation payable to each category mentioned in the scheme is determined, based on the guidelines issued by the Government.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Power Generation Target

1108. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of power generation targets achieved in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years; and

(b) the target fixed for the power generation programme in Andhra Pradesh during 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) :

(a) Energy generation target vis-a-vis actual generation for the last three years in Andhra Pradesh is as per details given below :-

(Figure in MU)

Year	Target	Actual	(%)
1992-93	30335	31036	102.3
1993-94	30630	34809	113.6
1994-95	35525	35891	101.0

(b) During the year 1995-96, the energy generation target of 39010 MU has been fixed for Andhra Pradesh.

[Translation]

Repair of Roads in Gujarat

1109. SHRI N.J. RATHVA:

SHRI HARIN PATHAK:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to submit the list of roads to the World Bank which are likely to be repaired in Gujarat with its assistance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken in regard to this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) A proposal for improvement, upgradation and strengthening of about 1490 kms of roads including detailed engineering and supervision at a total cost of Rs. 415.00 crores, received from Gujarat State, has been posed to World Bank.

[English]

HUDCO Loan

1110. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of loans sanctioned by HUDCO to individuals as well as Housing Co-operatives in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years; and

(b) the amount of loan provided to individuals, category-wise for constructing LIG, MIG and HIG house, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) HUDCO does not sanction housing loan to individuals directly. As far as schemes of housing cooperatives in Andhra Pradesh, are concerned, during the last three years, one scheme was sanctioned to Laxmi Raghuramiah Cooperative Housing Society for a loan amount of Rs. 37.33 lacs for construction of 100 dwelling units in four villages of Guntur District in the year 1993-94.

(b) Does not arise.

Indo-French Agreement for Dulhasti

1111. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether during the visit of Prime Minister to France, India has cleared all the misgivings relating to the Dulhasti Hydel Project in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of agreement signed between India and France; and

(d) the location of the power projects to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) to (d) Dulhasti Hydro-electric Project 390 MW (3x130) is located in Doda District of Jammu & Kashmir and not in Uttar Pradesh. The project had been entrusted by the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) in October 1989 to a French Consortium of firms for execution on turn-key basis. The Consortium suspended work in August '92 contending that the security environment was not conducive to performance of its contractual obligations. After prolonged negotiations, an Understanding was reached between NHPC and the Consortium in June, 1994 envisaging withdrawal of the civil works partner of the Consortium and resumption of work by the remaining four partners. The Understanding was subsequently endorsed by the respective Governments. These developments were noted with satisfaction during the visit of Prime Minister to France in June 1995. The rescission agreement with the civil works partner of the French Consortium and consequential amendments to the original contracts/agreements with the remaining four members of the Consortium as per the Understanding of June 1994 were formally signed by NHPC in Paris on 27th June 1995.

Minister's Visit Abroad

1112. SHRI RABI RAY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he visited many countries during the last two and half months;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outcome of the visits, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJE) : (a) The External Affairs Minister visited United States of America, Germany, Austria and Portugal during the last two and a half months.

(b) and (c) U.S.A.

External Affairs Minister's visit to United States from May 21-27, 1995 was intended to carry the Indo-US dialogue forward and consolidate the growing relationship. The official programme included lunch with Secretary of State preceded by a private meeting, meetings with National Security Advisor and Deputy Secretary of State. There was also an unscheduled brief meeting with President Clinton, who expressed warm appreciation for all that had been done for

Mrs. Hillary Clinton during her visit to India in March this year. External Affairs Minister also met several Senators and Congressmen, particularly those who are Members of Committees of relevance to India.

Interaction with media included meetings with the editorial boards of the Wall Street Journal Washington Times, Chicago Tribune, and representatives of the ethnic press. EAM also gave interviews on the National Public Radio and to the Los Angeles Times. In Washington, he addressed the Heritage Foundation. He also delivered addresses at the Councils for Foreign Relations at Chicago and New York. In New York, he also met with representatives of the Jewish Community Relations Council. EAM's programme also included interactions with a wide section of Indo-American community at functions arranged at Washington, Chicago and New York.

Discussions at the official level underlined commitment of both countries to further efforts for the expansion of relations over a broad front, containing areas of disagreement and not allowing these to overshadow bilateral relations. Discussions were also held on non-proliferation, NPT, situation in Jammu & Kashmir, proposed modification of the Pressler Amendment and the question of supply of F-16s by USA to Pakistan and UN Security Council expansion. Meetings with US Congressmen and Senators also focussed on various aspects of Indo-US relations, including India's economic reform programme, developments regarding Enron project, situation in Kashmir, continuing support from Pakistan to terrorism in India, Pressler Amendment, US-Pak relations, India-Pakistan relations.

On non-proliferation issues, US officials did not press any specific course of action. EAM emphasized that all sections of political opinion in India had endorsed the principled stand of the Government of India regarding the NPT.

On Kashmir, Secretary of State Warren Christopher did not mention either Pakistan or the wishes of the Kashmiri people in his statement at the photo opportunity. Responding to questions, he said that Kashmir was a "bilateral issue" between India and Pakistan and "the best way to resolve the problem" would be for "them to meet together to resolve it".

On the proposed change in the Pressler Amendment, the US Administration conveyed that they were working with congress to modify it in a way that did not start an arms race in South Asia. The implications of arms transfers by the US to Pakistan were underscored by EAM to his US interlocutors.

GERMANY

EAM visited Germany from July 8-11, 1995 and met the German President and held discussions with German Foreign Minister and signed Bilateral Investment Protection Agreement between India and Germany. He also visited the state of Baden-Wuerttemberg and had discussions with the Minister-President of the State. Visit to Germany will further strengthen economic and political relations between the two countries. The business delegation accompanying the EAM had productive meetings with representatives of the German companies. The Bilateral Investment Protection Agreement signed during the visit will give further boost to investment from Germany and broaden and deepen the economic

relations between both countries.

AUSTRIA

During his visit to Austria on July 12-13, 1995 he called on the President and Chancellor of Austria. He had bilateral discussions with Austrian Foreign Minister. He had fruitful discussions with the leaders. The visit will broaden and deepen economic relations and will strengthen close political relations between the two countries.

PORTUGAL

EAM visited Portugal on July 13-15, 1995 and called on the President and Prime Minister of Portugal. He held bilateral discussions with the Portuguese Foreign Minister. The visit gave an opportunity for exchange of views on bilateral and regional issues. The business delegation accompanying the EAM signed different agreements with their counterparts in Portugal for cooperation in the economic field. The visit will broaden economic relations and strengthen political ties between the two countries.

NALCO Expansion

1113. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to make a reassessment of the cost estimates involved in the expansion of the bauxite mines and alumina refinery of National Aluminium Company (NALCO);

(b) if so, the projected expenditure to be incurred in this regard; and

(c) the present stage of expansion of these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA) : (a) to (c) National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) had proposed the simultaneous expansion of Bauxite Mines from 2.4 MTPY to 4.8 MTPY, Alumina Refinery from 0.8 MTPY to 1.35 MTPY and Aluminium smelter from 2.18 lakh TPY to 3.45 lakh TPY and Captive Power Plant from 6x120 MW to 8x120 MW. The proposal was considered by the Public Investment Board (PIB) and it was decided that the project be considered in two phases. For the first phase of expansion of capacity of Bauxite Mines and Alumina Refinery, NALCO had submitted the proposal at a cost of Rs. 1207.10 crores at April, 1995 prices to be financed from the internal resources etc with no budgetary support. Comments, from different appraisal agencies have been invited on the proposal.

Free DTC Bus Passes

1114. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide free DTC bus passes to all the students of Colleges/Universities in Delhi;

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

(c) its likely impact on the financial condition of DTC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the Government

of National Capital Territory of Delhi.

Increase in Price of Steel

1115. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the per tonne average increase registered in the prices of each type of steel (in rupees), during the last three years;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to control steel prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Increase in prices of representative items of steel produced by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), the largest steel producer in the country, during each of the last 3 years is given in the enclosed *statement*.

(b) The major reasons for increase in prices are escalation in input costs and increase in excise duty.

(c) After deregulation of pricing and distribution of steel with effect from 16.1.92, main steel producers are themselves fixing the prices of their various products, keeping in view their input costs, changes in excise duty and the prevailing market conditions. Secondary steel producers were free to fix their own prices even prior to this date.

However, Government have taken various measures which will help in ensuring that steel products are made available to the consumers at competitive prices. Some of these measures are :

(i) Modernisation and expansion of public sector steel plants have been taken up and creation of additional steel production capacities in the private sector is being encouraged and facilitated. Higher availability of steel from a larger number of steel producers is expected to have a moderating influence on steel prices;

(ii) Reduction of customs duty on import of raw materials for the steel industry and also on import of capital goods which will help in reducing the production cost of steel manufacturers; and

(iii) Import of steel is freely allowed, Reduction of customs duties on import of steel products has reduced the landed cost of such imports.

STATEMENT

Increase in SAIL's Ex-works prices for representative items of steel (including excise duty plus other statutory levies like SDF, EGCAF, JPC Cess but exclusive of Railway Freight and Stockyard distribution charges).*

(In Rupees per tonne)

Category	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3	4
Billets 80-100 mm (IS 2830)	2530	1006	788
Tor Steel 8 mm (IS - 1786)	2380	887	1574
Wire Rods 8 mm (IS - 2062 GR. A)	2480	823	458

1	2	3	4
Angles 65x65x6 (IS - 2062 GR. A)	1810	802	819
Channels 100x50 (IS - 2062 GR. A)	1780	893	198
Plate AB 5 to 7 (IS - 2062 GR. A)	2205	767	462
HR Coils 3.15 mm (IS - 10748 GR 'I')	2447	849	1324
CR Coils 0.63 mm (IS - 513 GR. 'O' SK)	3163	656	1302
GP Sheets 0.63 mm (IS - 277 CLASS VI)	2511	1955	1141

* Abolished w.e.f. 21.04.94.

Statue of Mahatma Gandhi.

1116. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a site for installing the statue of Mahatma Gandhi has been finally selected near India Gate;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGNON) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Power Projects in Maharashtra

1117. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether implementation of some power projects has been delayed in Maharashtra due to non-availability of adequate resources, required equipments/machinery and infrastructure during the last three years;

(b) if so, the names of such power projects and the details and reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) and (b) The details of delayed projects are given below :-

S. No.	Name of the Projects/ Capacity (MW)	Reasons for delay
1	2	3
Thermal		
1.	Uran Waste Heat Recovery Unit 1 & 2 (120 MW)	(a) Delay in completion of Civil Works. (b) Delay in shipment of turbine material. (c) Delay in supply of cabling material and A/C Plants.

1	2	3
		(d) Delay in readiness of GT-5&6 for running unit-1 & GT-7&8 for running unit-2.
2.	Uran Water Heat Recovery Unit 3 (120)	The project has been deferred due to non-availability of Gas.
3.	Trombay CCGT ST (60)	Delay in supply of equipment.
4.	Khaperkheda Extn. Stage-II Unit 3&4 (2x210)	Due to paucity of funds, the project has been posed to private sector.
Hydro		
1.	Koyna Hydro Electric Project (4x250)	Delay in Pre-qualifications of bidders & clearance of the bid documents.
2.	Ghatghar Hydro Electric Project (2x125)	Delay in effectiveness of loan due to late sanction of project & delay in creation of infrastructure facilities.

(c) In order to ensure the timely commissioning of power projects which are under execution, Central Electricity Authority is closely monitoring the progress of these projects and rendering timely assistance to the project by taking up the matter with the concerned authorities.

Illegal Constructions

1118. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether illegal construction in Delhi is still taking place speedily;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to take any special step to check it; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) to (c) Encroachment/unauthorised construction on public land is a continuing problem and removal of encroachment is an ongoing process. The following instructions have been issued to the land owning agencies to protect Government land.

(i) Watch and ward should be strengthened and surveillance of vacant land tightened. The system of accountability should be devised to prevent instances of laxity/collusion/non-reporting immediately.

(ii) For each sector there should be one person responsible so that such thing may not occur and responsibility could be pin pointed.

(iii) Vacant land around the existing Jhuggi Clusters should be protected either by wire fencing or by construction of boundary walls to check extension of such jhuggi clusters on the adjoining vacant land, and

(iv) Prompt action should be taken to nip in the bud the unauthorised construction, particularly in the form of unauthorised colonies.

To check the encroachment on public land immediately, Special Vigilance Teams have been constituted by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi. Each Team

is headed by an Additional District Magistrate and the Police, DDA, NDMC and MCD are represented therein. As and when any encroachment is noticed/reported action is taken under the provisions of relevant laws by the local agencies with the help of the police, wherever necessary.

[English]

Diamond Mining Contract

1119. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN :
MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA
KHANDURI :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a multinational company has recently been awarded a contract for the prospecting of diamond mines in Raipur district of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the terms and conditions thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Road Accidents

1120. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL :
DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI :
SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA :
SHRI RAM KAPSE :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of road accidents are increasing constantly in the metropolitan cities of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the number of accidents in Delhi and other cities during each of the last six months vis-a-vis the corresponding period during 1994;

(c) the details of loss suffered in financial terms and the number of people killed/injured in these accidents separately; and

(d) the specific steps taken/proposed to be taken to curb the increasing number of road accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Sale by Visakhapatnam Steel Plant

1121. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant has achieved 28% increase in its sales during the first quarter of the current financial year, compared to last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the performance of other steel plants in public sector, during this quarter; and

(d) the steps being taken to further improve the performance of these steel plants both in terms of turn-over

and profit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir. Visakhapatnam Steel Plant registered a growth in sales of 29% in terms of value during the first quarter of 1995-96 over the corresponding period of last year.

(b) The details are as under :-

(Rs. in crores)

<u>Total Sales</u>			
	1st qtr. 1995-96	1st qtr. 1994-95	Growth over previous year
V.S.P.	581	452	29%

(c) The performance of Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) having four integrated steel plants and two special steel plants and its subsidiaries viz. Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO) and Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Limited (VISL) for the first quarter of 1995-96 is given below :-

(Rs. in crores)

<u>Total Sales</u>			
	1st Qtr. 1995-96	1st Qtr. 1994-95	Growth over previous year
SAIL	3101	2901	7%
IISCO	264	179	47.5%
VISL	48	49	-2%
Total	3413	3129	9%

(d) Following steps have been taken by the Steel Plants to ensure further improvement in the turnover and profit:

V.S.P.

(i) Increase the production of saleable steel from 1.56 million tonnes in 1994-95 to 2.247 million tonnes in 1995-96.

(ii) Better cash management to reduce interest burden

(iii) Further improvement of techno-economic parameters and cost reduction measures in the plant.

SAIL

(i) Increase capacity utilisation.

(ii) Improving productivity and yields.

(iii) Improving product-mix, producing value added items and meeting customers requirements.

(iv) Improving quality of goods and services.

(v) Reduction in the consumption of inputs viz. coke, energy, stores and spares etc. by improvement in techno-economic parameters.

(vi) Improving availability of equipment through effective maintenance.

(vii) Introducing energy conservation measures.

Industrial Thefts from Jamshedpur

1122. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-items appearing in the "Telegraph" dated June 18, 1995, captioned 'Industrial thefts plague Steel city';

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Power Supply on concessional Rates

1123. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR :

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any possibility to negotiate with foreign power companies, the issue of supplying power to farmers at concessional rates;

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) to (c) There is no bar on supply of power directly to any consumers by the private power companies at mutually agreed rates and terms subject to consent of the concerned State Government.

Oil Fired Power Project in Madras

1124. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for setting up of first oil fired power project in private power sector near Ennore at Madras;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total expenditure involved and the projected generation capacity of the project;

(d) whether any foreign company is assisting in setting up this power project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) to (d) Government of Tamil Nadu (GOTN) has intimated that they approved the proposal of M/s HMZ Power Ltd., Bangalore for relocation of 6x120 MW and 4x200 MW power stations of M/s China Light and Power (international) Ltd., Hong Kong as a joint sector project. The Tamil Nadu Electricity Board has signed an MOU with M/s HMZ Power Ltd. who are Indian promoter of the project. The units proposed to be relocated are of oil fired which are at present functioning in Hong Kong. The Company have requested for allocation of

land adjoining the present Ennore thermal power station. The State Government has so far not decided on the request of the company. The cost of the project would be known after location is finalised and project report is prepared.

(e) The completion schedule of the project would be known after the project has obtained all necessary statutory and non-statutory clearances and achieved financial closure.

Funds to Gujarat under NRY

1125. SHRI SHANKERSINGH VAGHELA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allocated/released to the Gujarat State during the last two years and the current year under the 'Nehru Rozgar Yojana';

(b) whether the State Government has utilised the funds allocated/released; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) Central funds allocated/released to the Gujarat State during the last two years and allocation for the current year are as under :-

(Rs. in lakhs)		
Year	Allocation	Released
1993-94	269.45	212.52
1994-95	246.40	194.45
1995-96	254.00	—

(b) and (c) The State Government has utilised Rs. 485.89 lakhs during the last two years. This amount includes the carried over unutilised funds from the previous years as also the State share.

Power Generation Capacity

1126. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the total installed power generation capacity in the country as on March 31, 1994 and March 31, 1995;

(b) the increase or decrease in percentage terms over the corresponding figure for March 31, 1991;

(c) the capacity utilisation during 1990-91 and 1994-95;

(d) the break-up of the installed capacity between the public and the private sector on 1.4.1991 and 1.4.1995;

(e) the estimated addition of power generation capacity during 1995-96; and

(f) the extent of foreign investment in the additional capacity under installation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) and (b) The installed capacity in the country as on 31.3.1991, 31-3-1994 and 31-3-1995 and percentage increase over 31.3.1991 is as per details given below :

Year	Installed Capacity (MW)	% increase over 31.3.1991
31.3.1991	66055	-
31.3.1994	76718	16.14
31.3.1995	81164	22.87

(c) The capacity utilisation (Plant Load Factor -%) of Thermal Power Stations in the country during 1990-91 and 1994-95 was 53.8% and 62.0% respectively.

(d) Sector-wise break up of installed capacity as on 1.4.1991 and 1.4.1995 are as per details given below :
(Figures in MW)

Sector	As on 1.4.1991	As on 1.4.1995
Central	16771.51	24766.00
Private	2673.50	3544.58
State	46610.00	52853.82
Total	66055.01	81164.40

(e) A capacity addition target of 2161.55 MW has been fixed for 1995-96.

(f) As per the information received from the various State Governments/SEBs and other organisations expression of interest has been shown by foreign investors (including NRI and Joint Venture proposals) for setting up of 52 power projects for a capacity addition of 38597 MW costing approximately Rs. 1,50,673 crores. The extent of foreign investment in all the private power projects cannot be assured at this stage, but will only be known after financial closure of all the projects.

Limestone Mining in Dehradun & Mussourie

1127. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether mining of limestone has been banned or restricted in Dehradun and Mussourie area;

(b) if so, the time since when restrictions were imposed and other details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have collected scientific data on the impact of mining on the Environment and the unemployment resulting from the stoppage of mining;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether mining is still continuing in these areas;

(f) if so, by whom and under what terms and conditions;

(g) whether these agencies have been carrying out Environmental regeneration and whether it has been found satisfactory;

(h) if so, whether the Government have considered permitting more mining in the area, on similar conditions; and

(i) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA) : (a) to (i) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Power Supply to States from Central Pool

1128. DR. SAKSHIJI;
SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA :
DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of the policy adopted by the Union Government for supply of power to States from Central pool;
(b) the quantum of power supplied from Central Pool during the year, 1994-95, State-wise;
(c) whether the power supply to States was not in accordance with the demand of the States; and
(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) :
(a) The formula for allocation of power from Central Sector Stations to each state is given in the enclosed *statement - I*.

(b) State-wise entitlement vis-a-vis actual drawal of power from Central Sector Stations during 1994-95 is given in the enclosed *statement-II*.

(c) During the year 1994-95, State-wise power supply position is given in the enclosed *statement-III*.

(d) In spite of significant growth in power generation towards the years the shortage remains. The present shortage is mainly on account of growth in demand for power outstripping the growth in supply.

STATEMENT - I

Policy Adopted by the Union Government for the Supply of Power to the States from the Central Pool (Central Generating Stations)

A. Criteria for Allocation of power to the States from Central Sector Thermal/Atomic Power Stations :

(i) 15% power is kept as unallocated at the disposal of the Centre to meet the emergency requirements of individual States from time to time;

(ii) 10% power is allocated to the State in which the power station is located; and

(iii) the remaining 75% power is allocated amongst the States of the region (including the 'Home State') in accordance with the energy consumed by, and the Central Plan assistance to the States during the last five years. The needs of the Union Territories are also met through appropriate allocations.

B. Present Criteria for Allocation of Power to the States from Central Sector Hydel Stations :

(i) 15% of the generation capacity will be kept as 'Unallocated' at the disposal of the Central Government to the distributed within the Region or outside depending upon overall requirements;

(ii) 12% of power energy generated by the power station would be supplied free of cost to those states of the Region (including the State where the hydro-electric project is located) where distress is caused by setting up the project at the specific site, like submergence, dislocation of population; the allocation being made in proportion to the extent of such distress. The 'energy generated' figures for the purpose would be calculated at the bus bar level, i.e. after discounting auxiliary consumption but without taking into account the transmission line losses. The extent of distress caused would be assessed for the purposes of allocation of 12% free power by the Central Electricity Authority in consultation with the concerned States; and

(iii) The remaining power (73%) would be distributed between the States of the Region on the basis of the energy consumed by, and the Central Plan Assistance given to various States in the Region during the last five years, the two factors being given equal weightage.

STATEMENT - II***Entitlement vis-a-vis actual drawal of Energy from Central Stations***

1994-95 (All figures in MU)

Region/ State/ System	Entitlement	Drawal
	2	3
NORTHERN REGION		
SINGRAULI STPS		
Chandigarh	9.5	9.4
Delhi	1348.2	1360.5
Haryana	1634.1	1636.8
H.P.	34.3	27.1
J&K	250.7	267.8
Punjab	1421.7	1383.8
Rajasthan	2878.9	2990.6
U.P.	5607.7	5618.1
Total	13194.1	13194.1

1	2	3
RIHAND STPS		
Chandigarh	63.5	63.6
Delhi	756.7	779.1
Haryana	525.0	524.6
H.P.	222.3	218.3
J&K	531.8	541.3
Punjab	696.7	516.0
Rajasthan	950.9	962.7
U.P.	2153.7	2195.0
Total	5900.6	5900.6
ANTA CCGT		
Chandigarh	25.5	19.2
Delhi	266.4	231.8
Haryana	157.3	141.1
H.P.	72.7	19.2
J&K	175.3	152.3
Punjab	250.9	186.0
Rajasthan	833.1	1080.7
U.P.	502.4	463.3
Total	2283.6	2283.6
AURAIYA CCGT		
Chandigarh	29.9	25.8
Delhi	414.1	477.4
Haryana	255.3	299.4
H.P.	113.0	46.7
J&K	269.9	274.8
Punjab	733.4	576.0
Rajasthan	500.1	533.1
U.P.	1106.4	1188.9
Total	3422.1	3422.1
UNCHAHAR TPS		
Chandigarh	1.9	3.8
Delhi	26.9	136.5
Haryana	15.3	79.9
H.P.	7.5	17.6
J&K	17.9	61.2
Punjab	36.8	47.2
Rajasthan	30.0	141.9
U.P.	1629.8	1278.0
Total	1766.1	1766.1
DADRI G.T.		
Chandigarh	15.1	14.3
Delhi	309.3	421.8
Haryana	163.8	212.8
H.P.	74.8	21.5
J&K	194.1	166.6
Punjab	374.0	143.8
Rajasthan	362.5	458.0
U.P.	739.0	794.5
Total	2232.6	2232.6

1	2	3
N.C.R. TPP		
Chandigarh	0.0	0.0
Delhi	2077.7	1264.8
Haryana	99.1	263.9
H.P.	0.0	7.8
J&K	0.0	69.5
Punjab	0.0	9.4
Rajasthan	0.0	423.6
U.P.	131.9	271.0
Total	2308.7	2308.7
SALAL HEPS (ST I + ST II)		
Chandigarh	2.6	2.43
Delhi	240.8	238.7
Haryana	354.0	353.1
H.P.	7.5	7.1
J&K	688.9	698.9
Punjab	587.8	585.9
Rajasthan	20.8	19.6
U.P.	57.2	53.9
Total	1959.6	1959.6
CHAMERA HEPS		
Chandigarh	17.8	4.6
Delhi	293.5	389.1
Haryana	570.5	566.4
H.P.	330.2	302.8
J&K	163.4	26.0
Punjab	325.6	111.9
Rajasthan	161.8	338.2
U.P.	422.3	546.1
Total	2285.1	2285.1
TANAKPUR HEPS		
Chandigarh	4.2	1.6
Delhi	71.7	108.7
Haryana	37.6	50.1
H.P.	16.5	3.2
J&K	42.2	29.6
Punjab	77.6	33.3
Rajasthan	39.2	31.7
U.P.	155.3	186.1
Nepal	17.3	17.3
Total	461.6	461.6
BAIRA SUILHEPS		
Chandigarh	0.0	0.0
Delhi	85.8	85.7
Haryana	240.9	240.6
H.P.	92.8	93.7
J&K	0.0	0.0
Punjab	366.1	365.6
Rajasthan	0.0	0.0
U.P.	0.0	0.0
Total	785.6	785.6

1	2	3
NARORA APS		
Chandigarh	10.3	4.6
Delhi	132.9	168.9
Haryana	83.1	145.7
H.P.	35.8	5.0
J&K	92.8	42.1
Punjab	110.0	46.9
Rajasthan	80.6	198.8
U.P.	295.0	228.5
Total	840.5	840.5
CENTRAL STATIONS IN NORTHERN REGION		
Chandigarh	180.3	150.0
Delhi	6024.0	5663.0
Haryana	4136.0	4513.7
H.P.	1007.4	770.0
J&K	2436.0	2330.1
Punjab	4980.6	4105.8
Rajasthan	5857.9	7076.9
U.P.	12800.7	12813.4
Nepal	17.3	17.3
Total	37440.2	37440.2
WESTERN REGION		
KORBA STPS		
Gujarat	2832.9	3550.5
M.P.	4852.7	5597.9
Maharashtra	3953.8	3185.0
Goa	1030.3	336.3
Total	12669.7	12669.7
VINDHYACHAL STPS		
Gujarat	2091.9	2192.7
M.P.	2880.5	3471.2
Maharashtra	2682.9	1962.9
Goa	179.9	208.4
Total	7835.2	7835.2
KAWAS GBS		
Gujarat	749.7	587.8
M.P.	554.0	911.7
Maharashtra	664.4	537.8
Goa	69.2	0.0
Total	2037.3	2037.3
GANDHAR GBS		
Gujarat	162.1	116.9
M.P.	96.0	170.7
Maharashtra	119.2	98.5
Goa	9.0	0.2
Total	386.3	386.3
TARAPUR APS		
Gujarat	682.6	682.6

	2	3
Maharashtra	682.6	682.6
Total	1365.2	1365.2
KAKARPAR APS		
Gujarat	92.7	77.7
M.P.	68.3	116.1
Maharashtra	82.0	57.8
Goa	8.6	0.0
Total	251.6	251.6
CENTRAL STATIONS IN WESTERN REGION		
Gujarat	6611.9	7208.2
M.P.	8451.5	10267.6
Maharashtra	8184.9	6524.6
Goa	1297.0	544.9
Total	24545.3	24545.3
SOUTHERN REGION		
RAMAGUNDAM STPS		
A.P.	4564.0	5041.3
Karnataka	2677.9	2036.0
Kerala	1944.5	1400.7
T.N.	3757.7	4515.7
Goa	515.5	465.9
Total	13459.6	13459.6
MADRAS APS		
A.P.	207.8	813.6
Karnataka	164.4	331.4
Kerala	121.1	223.1
T.N.	1603.8	734.0
Total	2102.1	2102.1
NEYVELI-II TPS		
A.P.	1767.2	2595.3
Karnataka	1217.7	1027.8
Kerala	939.7	728.1
T.N.	2804.5	2377.9
Total	6729.1	6729.1
CENTRAL STATIONS IN SOUTHERN REGION		
A.P.	6539.0	8450.2
Karnataka	4060.0	3395.2
Kerala	3010.3	2351.9
T.N.	8166.0	7627.6
Goa	515.5	465.9
Total	22290.8	22290.8
EASTERN REGION		
FARAKKA STPS		

1	2	3
Bihar	1341.8	2791.3
D.V.C.	719.1	698.3
Orissa	1112.4	1.66.0
W.B.	1586.4	249.3
Sikkim	62.7	17.5
Total	4822.4	4822.4
KAHALGAON STPS		
Bihar	178.6	266.6
D.V.C.	61.9	73.0
Orissa	107.4	99.8
W.B.	97.5	11.9
Sikkim	8.3	2.4
Total	453.7	453.7
CHUKHA HEPS		
Bihar	394.9	654.9
D.V.C.	333.9	349.4
Orissa	220.8	233.7
W.B.	395.3	121.0
Sikkim	22.7	8.6
Total	1367.6	1367.6
CENTRAL STATIONS IN EASTERN REGION		
Bihar	1915.3	3712.8
D.V.C.	1114.9	1120.7
Orissa	1440.6	1399.5
W.B.	2079.2	382.2
Sikkim	93.7	28.5
Total	6643.7	6643.7
NORTH-EASTERN REGION		
LOKTAK (NHPC) KHANDONG & KOPILI (NEEPCO)		
Arunachal	78.8	45.1
Assam	563.9	706.9
Manipur	234.5	266.9
Meghalaya	142.2	41.7
Mizoram	103.1	96.0
Nagaland	121.5	103.7
Tripura	125.0	108.7
Total	1369.0	1369.0

STATEMENT -III
ACTUAL POWER SUPPLY POSITION

(All figures in MU net)

Region/ State/ System	April '94 - March '95	
	Requirement	Availability
1	2	3
NORTHERN REGION		
Chandigarh	729	724
Delhi	12205	12076
Haryana	11695	11139
Himachal Pradesh	1842	1842
Jammu & Kashmir	4045	3296

1	2	3
Punjab	20035	19259
Rajasthan	17000	16080
Uttar Pradesh	37195	32652
Total (N.R.)	104746	97068
WESTERN REGION		
Gujarat	31985	30678
Madhya Pradesh	27840	25805
Maharashtra	49525	48558
Goa	965	965
Total (W.R.)	110315	106006
SOUTHERN REGION		
Andhra Pradesh	31245	28757
Karnataka	23280	19280
Kerala	8902	8831
Tamil Nadu	29570	28730
Total (S.R.)	92997	85598
EASTERN REGION		
Bihar	9410	6295
D.V.C.	7970	7392
Orissa	9420	8723
West Bengal	13540	12708
Total (E.R.)	40340	35118
N.EASTERN REGION		
A.P.	157.5	118.4
Assam	2437.1	2231.3
Manipur	337.2	287.0
Meghalaya	342.8	342.8
Mizoram	139.5	122.9
Nagaland	136.7	116.7
Tripura	311.2	271.9
Total (N.E.R.)	3862.0	3491.0
All India	352260	327281

Drug Prices

1129. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR :
SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Drugs (Prices Control) Order 1995, has been fully implemented by the Government;

(b) whether essential drugs are in short supply in the domestic market;

(c) if so, the steps being taken to improve the supply position;

(d) whether the prices of almost every drug have been steeply raised by the drug companies;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Government monitors the impact of customs duty concessions of prices of drugs; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Implementation of the provisions of the DPCO'95 is a continuous exercise.

(b) and (c) No general shortage of essential drugs, except localised shortages of some particular branded formulations, have been reported. Even in such instances of temporary shortage, therapeutic equivalents of medicines are normally available.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. Barring isolated cases, no general steep increase in medicine prices has been noticed.

(f) and (g) The impact of customs duty concession has been considered in case of price controlled drugs, and formulations, and prices have been refixed in whichever cases the concessions have contributed towards reduction in the total cost.

Financial Assistance for Housing from Abroad

1130. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are receiving any financial help from Britain or any other foreign country in the field of housing for the poor;

(b) if so, the names of such countries as well as the quantum of money received so far during the last three years; and

(c) the details of houses constructed for the poor, State-wise, during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) and (b) The Government of UK through Overseas Development Administration (ODA) do not provide funds for housing. However, the Government of Germany, through Kreditanstalt fur Wiederaufbau (KfW) provides financial assistance for various housing programmes through HUDCO & HDFC, taken up for the poor and the underprivileged. Loans of Rs. 4156.32 lakhs under the KfW-HUDCO-II and Rs. 3762.85 lakhs under the HDFC-I have been sanctioned till December, 1994.

(c) The number of dwelling units sanctioned till December, 1994 for the above schemes are as under :

KfW - HUDCO - II :

Tamil Nadu (urban)	-	958
Kerala (urban)	-	27600
Uttar Pradesh (rural)	-	50000

HDFC-I

Kerala	-	18474
Tamil Nadu	-	12218
Uttar Pradesh	-	1450
Gujarat	-	66
Andhra Pradesh	-	1107
Tamil Nadu/Kerala	-	850
Maharashtra	-	148
Karnataka	-	72
Society having members from various States	-	733

Monitoring of Foreign Power Projects

1131. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to monitor all foreign power projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken any measures to coordinate power generation in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An Investment Promotion Cell (IP Cell) has been created in 1991 in the Ministry of Power to periodically monitor the progress of all the private power projects including those involving foreign investment.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Every power project costing more than Rs. 100 crores has to obtain the techno-economic clearance of the Central Electricity Authority (CEA). While according techno-economic clearance, CEA ensures that the project is in accordance with the national power policy.

Temperature Sensitive Paints for Drugs

1132. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Use of temperature sensitive paints, labels suggested vaccines & life-saving drugs' as reported in the 'Business Standard' (New Delhi), dated May 26, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts as ascertained from the Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC);

(c) whether the Government have undertaken any clinical or pharmacological tests on the use of temperature -sensitive paints in vaccines and life-saving drugs;

(d) if so, the results achieved; and

(e) if not, whether any such test will be undertaken in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (e) The information will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Drinking Water Schemes in U.P. and Maharashtra

1133. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of schemes cleared during the last three years for providing potable water in urban areas in Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the amount allocated for implementation of each such schemes; and

(c) the time by which these schemes are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) Under the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) for towns having population less than 20,000 (1991 census) for the State of Maharashtra, 5 water supply schemes costing Rs. 370.01 lacs have been approved. Besides, 4 projects costing Rs. 1469.55 crores have been approved under the State's own plan programme under the World Bank assisted programme.

In Uttar Pradesh, under AUWSP, 42 water supply schemes have been approved whose total project cost is 2947.84 lacs.

(b) Under AUWSP scheme-wise funding has not been done. However, a total sum of Rs. 177.86 lacs has been released as part of Central share to the State of Maharashtra. Similarly, as part of Central share a sum of Rs. 914.05 lacs has been released to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh.

(c) Schemes under AUWSP are expected to be completed by the State implementing agencies within a period of 2-3 years.

[English]

'Investment by Columbia-Canadian Hydro Co.'

1134. SHRI JAGATVIR SINGH DRONA;

SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Columbia-Canadian Hydro Company has proposed to invest in Hydro Electric Power Projects in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) to (c) As per the information received so far from various State Governments/State Electricity Boards, M/s Columbia-Canadian Hydro Co. have not been entrusted any hydro-electric project for execution in the private sector. However, Government of U.P. has intimated that M/s Columbia-Canadian Hydro Co. appears to have some collaboration with M/s Dalmia Brothers for some of the hydro-electric projects advertised by the State Government for execution in the private sector. The private power policy allows foreign investments/collaboration.

Construction of Yamuna Sports Complex.

1135. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY:

SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made so far in the construction of Yamuna Sports Complex in Delhi;

(b) when the construction work on Yamuna Sports Complex project was started and what was its estimated cost at that time;

(c) the extent to which the construction cost of this project

has escalated;

(d) the reasons for delay in completing the construction work; and

(e) by when the construction of this Sports Complex is likely to be completed and commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) The Delhi Development Authority has reported 25% progress made so far in the construction of Yamuna Sports Complex in Delhi.

(b) The construction work on Yamuna Sports Complex project was started in June, 1989. Detailed cost could not be worked out in 1989 pending approvals from DUAC and other agencies. After obtaining the requisite approvals in 1992-93, the total cost of the project was assessed at Rs. 50 crores.

(c) The construction cost of the project has escalated to the extent of 20 percent over the original cost.

(d) As per the original planning, Out door Stadium and Swimming Pool were to be financed by Delhi Govt. and funds were to be released in phases. As required funds were not released, the project has been delayed.

(e) DDA has reported that they have now decided to complete the project out of its own funds and the Sports Complex is likely to be operational by end of the year 1998-99.

World Bank in Private Power Sector

1136. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether World Bank has shown keen interest in providing alternative guarantee structure to the private sector power projects in India and also extending initially a line of credit of US\$ 800 million to ICICI for financing private sector investment;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry has considered the matter;

(c) if so, whether this will help in meeting the guarantee that is being forced by the private investors in the power projects; and

(d) to what extent Government have agreed to the World Bank's suggestions, and by what time the decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Dumping of Steel Products

1137. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether dumping of various steel products particularly hot rolled coils, tinplates and electrical steel sheets has been increasing in country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) Dumping is said to exist when a particular product is exported to India at a price which is less than the price at which it is sold in the domestic market of the exporting country. If dumping occurs as per the above definition, then provisions exist in the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 and the rules made thereunder to investigate and levy an additional customs duty to counter such dumping, if it causes material injury to the domestic industry.

No complaint regarding dumping of steel of any category has been recently filed with the Designated Authority under the provisions of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975.

[Translation]

Expansion of Roads and Bridges

1138. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for expansion of some of the roads and bridges in certain States with Central assistance and also with external assistance during Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the roads and bridges identified for the purpose, State-wise;

(c) the estimated cost of each of the projects separately; and

(d) the details of fund provision made for them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (d) Central Government is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of roads declared as National Highways. Roads other than National Highways are essentially the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. However, the Central Government provides assistance to the State Governments for roads of inter-state and economic importance. A statement showing details of works under this assistance during the 8th Plan is enclosed as statement - I. An amount of Rs. 60 crores has been provided in the 8th Plan for roads of inter-state and economic importance.

Another statement showing the proposals of various States for improvement of roads and bridges, which have been forwarded to the World Bank for consideration of loan assistance during the 8th plan, is enclosed as statement - II. It is too early to indicate the fund provision for the same.

STATEMENT-I

S.No.	Name of the State	Name of work	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lakhs)	Central Share
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Rajasthan	(i) Improvements to Kotputli-Sikar Road.	500.00	500.00
		(ii) Construction of submersible bridge over Sanwar river on Bandikui-Badiyal Road.	142.00	71.00
		(iii) Construction of submersible bridge over Sanwar river on Kundal Gudha-Bandikui Road.	106.10	53.05
2.	Jammu & Kashmir	Development of Dorel-Katra Road.	425.00	212.50
3.	Maharashtra	Bypass road between veer Tol Bridge and Khad.	400.00	200.00
4.	Orissa	Construction of Bridge over Mahanadi near Boudh-Kaikata-Rairakhole road.	1500.32	750.16
5.	Madhya Pradesh	Construction of Bridge over river Dhasan on Jhansi Khajuraho Road.	1000.00	1000.00
6.	Andhra Pradesh	Widening/providing C.C. Payment	985.00	492.50

1	2	3	4	5
		including drainage footpaths etc. from Km. 165/0 to 174/6 of Madras-Calcutta Road in Nellore Town limits.		
7.	Tamil Nadu	1st phase of Development of roads of Thippur Town	1500.00	750.00 +250.00 (in CRF)

STATEMENT - II

Statement showing the proposals of various States for Improvement of Roads and bridges which have been forwarded to World Bank for consideration of loan assistance during 8th Plan.

Sl. No.	State	Approx. Amount (Rs. Crores)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1315
2.	Delhi, National Capital Region Planning Board	225
3.	Gujarat	415
4.	Haryana	465
5.	Himachal Pradesh	1000
6.	Madhya Pradesh	975
7.	Maharashtra	300
8.	Nagaland	164
9.	Orissa	353
10.	Pondicherry	111
11.	Rajasthan	740
12.	Tamil Nadu	2322
13.	Tripura	215
14.	West Bengal	911

[English]

Construction of Roads

1139. SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to allot the work of construction of roads to the private sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of such projects to be taken up by private companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) It has been decided to invite private sector participation in the development and maintenance of whole or any part of National Highway. Certain bypasses, bridges, rail-over-bridges and Super National Highways are proposed to be taken up with private investment and have been identified. It is too early to indicate which of the projects will be taken up by private companies.

Tenders for Import of Urea

1140. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether global tenders have been invited by National Fertilizers Limited and Pyrites, Phosphates & Chemicals Ltd. for import of urea;

(b) if so, the details thereof during 1994 and the current year, so far;

(c) whether the lowest bidders, fulfilling all the prescribed conditions have been awarded the contracts during the above period;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to bring to book the officers responsible for such irregularities and to watch the interest of lowest bidders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The desired information is enclosed as statement.

(c) to (e) The orders were placed on the lowest bidders fulfilling the prescribed conditions.

(f) The companies concerned have followed duly approved procedures in finalising the award of contracts and as such, no irregularities seem to have been committed.

STATEMENT

Name of the Company	Date of issue of global tender	Orders placed (Numbers)	Quantity imported (Metric Tonnes)
National Fertilizers Limited.	28th Oct., 94	5	Nil
	30th Jan., 95	8	25,000 (expected in Aug.-Sept., 95)
	5th May, 95	7	75,000 (expected in Aug.-Sept., 95)
	10th June, 95	10	3,70,000 (expected in Aug.-Oct., 95)
Pyrites, Phosphates & Chemicals Ltd.	19th Oct., 94	30	Nil
	23rd Jan., 95	20	Nil
	1st May, 95	10	35,481 arrived in July, 1995. 1,35,000 expected in August-Oct., 95.

Training in Geology

1141. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are extending training facilities to personnel from Vietnam, Bhutan, Myanmar, Ethiopia, Namibia, Phillipines and Afghanistan and other countries in the field of geology and minerals development;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the expenditure incurred in this regard during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Geological Survey of India (GSI) Training Institute is extending training facilities in the field of Geology and Mineral Exploration to personnel from ESCAP Countries only. However, no personnel from ESCAP countries underwent training during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95.

(c) Does not arise.

Cargo Handling by Major Ports

1142. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a shortfall in the target fixed for 1994-95 with respect to cargo handled by major ports in the country; and

(b) if so, the reasons for shortfall and the remedial steps to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. During the last financial year 1994-95, all Major Ports handled 197.18 million tonnes of cargo as against the target of 181.00 million tonnes and 179.26 million tonnes handled during the financial year 1993-94, recording a positive growth of 8.9% and 10% respectively.

Power Projects

1143. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is slow progress in setting up of power projects in the States;

(b) whether the Planning Commission has suggested review of the memorandum of understanding between private companies and States to set up power plants;

(c) if so, the details of the guidelines issued by the Planning Commission to the State Governments in this regard; and

(d) the reaction of the State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Wage Settlement by Port Authorities

1144. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether five federations of port and dock workers

have represented to the Government to review the situation arising out of the non-implementation of several terms of wage settlement by port authorities;

(b) if so, the details of their demands;

(c) whether the Government have accepted their demands;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) The five federations representing port and dock workers had written a letter on 26th May, 1995 on the issue of liberalisation of pension and abolition of eligibility ceiling on Productivity Linked Bonus.

(c) to (e) Approval of Central Government to the liberalisation of pensionary benefits of Port and Dock pensioners has already been issued of 30th June, 1995. As regards the abolition of eligibility ceiling for bonus, it was decided that Chairman, Indian Ports Association would hold discussions with the representatives of the five labour federations and evolve a scheme and submit it to the Ministry of Surface Transport by 31 July, 1995.

[Translation]

New Steel Plants

1145. SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

SHRI K.G. SHIVAPPA :

SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDWAR :

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA :

SHRI N.J. RATHVA :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of new steel plants to be set up in the country during the current financial year, State-wise;

(b) the time by which these plants are likely to be completed;

(c) whether any proposals for setting up of steel plants are lying pending with the Government;

(d) the details of proposals approved for creation of additional capacity in existing steel plants during the period;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the total amount of investment, both domestic and foreign, involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) Under the New Industrial Policy announced in July, 1991, the iron and steel industry has been removed from the list of industries reserved for public sector and has also been exempted from the purview of compulsory licensing, except for certain locational restrictions, for which Government approval is required.

As per the available information, 4 steel plants are reported to be set up in the country during the current financial

year, details of which are given below :-

Name of the Unit and Location	Capacity (lac TPA)	Investment (Rs. Crs.)	Likely date of commissioning
Nova Steels (India) Ltd. Bilaspur, M.P.	2.00	140.00	October, 1995
Romi Metals (Gujarat) Ltd. Bharuch, Gujarat.	1.00	220.00	June, 1995
Jindal Strips Ltd. Raigarh, M.P.	5.00	421.00	December, 1995
Rajinder Steels Ltd. Raipur, M.P.	1.75	175.50	October, 1995

(c) No proposal is pending with the Government for grant of Industrial Licence during the current financial year.

(d) to (f) No proposal for grant of Industrial Licence has been approved for creation of additional capacity in existing steel plants during the current financial year.

[English]

World Bank Report in Power Sector

1146. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of India have agreed to lend its direct support to private investments in power sector to an initial batch of power projects by counter-guaranteeing the payment to the delegations of the purchasing State Electricity Boards, as reported in the World Bank documents presented during the meeting of India Development Forum (IDF) in Paris in June, 1995; and

(b) if so, the details of the batch of projects, the counter-guarantees offered, and the response of the World Bank and the IDF thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) and (b) The Government of India has decided to give counter guarantee to the State guarantee for the payment liabilities of the SEB's to the Independent Power Producers (IPPs) for the following private power projects :

- (i) Dabhol CCGT-695 MW (Phase-I)
- (ii) Jegurupadu GBPP-216 MW
- (iii) Godavari GBPP-208 MW
- (iv) Visakhapatnam TPS-1000 MW
- (v) Mangalore TPS-1000 MW
- (vi) Ib Valley TPS-420 MW
- (vii) Zero Unit of NLC-250 MW
- (viii) Bhadravati TPS-1072 MW

The World Bank in its report "India-Country Economic Memorandum" brought out recently, have made certain observations on the existing structure of the Indian power sector including the private power programme.

Approval for export-oriented consumer food industries

1147. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have accorded approval for setting up of Cent percent export-oriented consumer food processing industries during 1994 and 1995;

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

(c) whether applications for approval for any more such units are pending with the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following two units have been accorded approval for setting up of 100% export oriented consumer food industries during 1994 and 1995 :-

S. No.	Name of Company.	Item of manufacture.	Location
1.	M/s. Allied Beverages Co. Pvt. Limited.	Aerated Water.	Haryana.
2.	M/s. Satnam Haegens Ltd.	Mineral Water.	Haryana.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Closure of Fertilizers Units

1148. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the closure of the major fertilizer units in the country has lead to a steep increase in fertilizer prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for the closure of these units;

(d) whether the Government propose to withdraw fertilizer subsidies;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the production of indigenous chemical fertilizers has decreased during the last three years;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the likely time by which the sick public sector units will resume functioning normally?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c) The Gorakhpur Unit of FCI and the Ammonium Sulphate Plant of Namrup Unit of HFC are closed since June 1990 and July 1992, respectively. Besides, the Haldia Fertilizer Project of HFC which was mechanically completed in November 1979, could not be made commercially operational due to repeated equipment breakdowns during its commissioning. The commissioning activities of the project had to be finally

suspended in October, 1986.

The closure of these Units has had no impact on the prices of fertilizers.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) and (g) The production of chemical fertilizers (in nutrient terms) during the last three years has been as under :-

Year	'N'	'P'
1992-93	74.30	23.06
1993-94	72.31	18.16
1994-95	79.45	24.93

(h) Revival packages for HFC and FCI, which envisage the revamp of Barauni, Durgapur and Namrup units of HFC and Talcher Ramagundam and Sindri units of FCI, have recently been approved in principle. Since funding arrangements for the revival packages, including funding through participation of financial institutions, are yet to be finalized, it is not possible at this stage to indicate any time frame for resumption of normal functioning of these units. However, with a view to sustaining production of the operating units of the HFC and FCI, necessary budgetary support has been provided to meet the working capital requirement of these companies.

Expansion of UN Security Council

1149. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have seen various reports relating to the reorganisation of the UN system which have been published on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the UN;

(b) if so, the recommendations of these reports regarding the expansion of the Security Council;

(c) whether these reports have recommended a permanent seat for some more member-States, including India, in the Security Council; and

(d) the names of the member-States which have explicitly supported our case for a permanent seat in the Security Council?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID) : (a) to (d) The Government has seen the various reports on the reorganisation of the UN system which have been published to coincide with the 50th anniversary year of the UN, including (i) the report of the Commission on Global Governance, and (ii) the report of the Independent Working Group on the Future of the United Nations. These reports have made a range of recommendations which include proposals to expand the Security Council. Specifically, the report of the Commission on Global Governance calls for the creation of a new class of five standing members till 2005, including two from industrialised countries and one each from Africa, Asia and Latin America, and also an increase in the non-permanent membership of the Security Council, from 10 to 13. The report of the Independent Working Group has recommended an

increase in the strength of the Security Council from 15 to 23 of whom not more than 5 should be new permanent members. The specific candidature of individual countries has not been mentioned and is not under discussion at this stage.

[Translation]

Housing Schemes with Foreign Assurances

1150. SHRI RAM PAL SINGH :
SHRI BRIJ BUSHAN SHARAN SINGH :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of those States in which housing schemes with foreign assistance have been introduced;

(b) the present position thereof and the time by which the above schemes are likely to be completed; and

(c) the manner in which the foreign assistance is being utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) to (c) With the assistance of KfW of Germany, following economically weaker section housing projects have been implemented/are being implemented in various States :-

Name of Project	Name of States	Present Status
KfW-HUDCO-I	Kerala, Tamil Nadu, UP, Tripura, Rajasthan	Implemented.
KfW-HUDCO-II	Tamil Nadu, Kerala, U.P.	Implemented.
KfW-HUDCO-IV	Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Orissa, Haryana, Rajasthan, U.P., Punjab, Karnataka, Maharashtra	Under implementation.
KfW-HDFC-I	Kerala, U.P., Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Kamataka	Under implementation.

In addition, Maharashtra Emergency Rehabilitation Programme is being implemented with World Bank Credit of US \$ 246 million for rehabilitation of earthquake victims of Maharashtra.

[English]

Development/Modernisation of Major Ports

1151. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to involve any private entrepreneurs in the development and modernisation of major ports in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the role of private entrepreneurs involved therein and the areas/ports selected for development/modernisation under the plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Certain areas of Port infrastructure and facilities such as Container Terminal, Cargo handling terminals, dredging, Port crafts & equipment, pilotage and cranaage services, warehousing & storage facilities etc. have been opened up for private investment under various arrangements such as lease, licence, B.O.T. (Build, Operate and Transfer) etc. for development and modernisation of Port infrastructure and facilities.

Foreign Investment in Power Sector

1152. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether he led an Indian Delegation recently to the U.S., U.K. and Hong Kong to attract foreign capital for investment in power sector;

(b) if so, the outcome of the visit; and

(c) how far he had succeeded in attracting the foreign investments from these countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Minister of Power led an Indian delegation to UK, US and Hong Kong from 12th - 25th June, 1995 to *inter alia* encourage foreign investment in the Indian Private Power Sector.

(b) and (c) The visit was successful as it served the purpose of generating interest among foreign investors in the feasibility and profitability of investments in the Indian private power sector. It also served to allay the apprehensions among these investors regarding the Indian Private Power Programme.

[Translation]

Concrete Roads on National Highways in Gujarat

1153. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large portion of National Highways in Gujarat has no concrete roads;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been made in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir. All the National Highways in the State of Gujarat have Bituminous paved surface.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

New Housing Scheme by HUDCO

1154. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have announced in the recent past the introduction of a new housing scheme by HUDCO from April, 1995;

(b) if so, whether the Scheme has since been introduced and the progress made so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Molybdenum Exploration in Tamil Nadu

1155. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether molybdenum ore exploration is being carried out in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the total quantity of molybdenum ore (in tonnes) explored from Tamil Nadu during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the total amount of royalty given by the Union Government to Tamil Nadu during the above period for this exploration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Geological Survey of India (GSI) is carrying out exploration for molybdenum in Harur-Alangayam area of Dharampuri and North Arcot districts in Tamil Nadu. A total reserve of 2,544 million tonnes of molybdenum ore with average grade of 0.078% Mo has been estimated.

(b) No molybdenum ore has been mined/exploited so far.

(c) Does not arise.

Expansion Plan of National Power Grid

1156. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Power Grid Corporation has been maintaining progress in its performance during recent years;

(b) if so, the details of network of circuit kilometres of transmission lines maintained and added to the five regional grids, the power generated by each grid and their financial performance during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 and as on June 30, 1995;

(c) whether presently there is any proposal under the active consideration of the Government to further expand the transmission network;

(d) if so, the grid-wise details of the expansion plan, the expenditure involved and the mode of financing; and

(e) the time by which the expansion plan of the National Power Grid is likely to take off?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Power Grid Corporation of India (POWERGRID) is maintaining more than 26,000 CKms of Extra High Voltage (EHV) transmission lines, alongwith 50 Sub-stations of total transformation capacity of 21,173 MVA with 97-98% availability factor. It has commissioned about 2200 CKms of transmission lines and strung 1335 CKms of transmission lines in various regional grids during the year

1994-95. The profit earned by POWERGRID during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 is Rs. 236.61 crores, Rs. 187.88 crores and Rs. 207.80 crores respectively.

The Grids are meant for transmission/exchange of power. However, the generation of power in various regions in the country during the last three years was as follows :-

Region	1992-93 (GWH)	1993-94 (GWH)	1994-95 (GWH)
Northern	94077	96793	104060
Western	97978	107776	116407
Southern	77215	83211	91961
Eastern	28647	32387	35393
North Eastern	3072	3156	3199
Total	300989	323323	351020

(c) to (e) POWERGRID proposes to add around 10,000 CKMs in the transmission network in the next five years. The particulars of major on-going and proposed projects with estimated cost and completion schedule are given in the enclosed statement I and II respectively. Formation of a National Grid involving inter-connection of regional grids is already in progress.

Necessary provisions for implementation of projects are made in the Five Year Plans/Annual Plans and funds are mobilised by POWERGRID through internal resources, equity/loans from Government of India, raising of bonds, multilateral/bilateral external borrowings, suppliers credit etc.

STATEMENT - I

Details of Ongoing Projects

Generation Linked Transmission Schemes	Project Cost (Rs. in crores)	Commissioning schedule
1. Vindhychal Additional	424	1997-98
2. Kishanpur-Moga	524	1997-98
3. Gandhar Gas - I	230	1995-96
4. Kathalguri	678	1995-96
5. Nathpa-Jhakri	1687	1997-98
6. Tehri	550	1997-98

System Co-ordination & Control Schemes

1. Southern Regional Load Despatch & communication schemes	622	1999-2000
2. Northern Regional Load Despatch & communication schemes.	470	1999-2000

Inter-Regional Links

1. Chandrapur HVDC Back to Back	900	1997-98
2. Jeyapore-Gazuwaka HDVC Back to Back	651	1998-99

STATEMENT - II

Details of Proposed New Projects

	Project Cost (Rs. in crores)	Commissioning Schedule
1	2	3
Generation linked		
1. Vindhychal II	598	1998-99

	1	2	3
System Co-ordination & Communication Schemes			
1. North Eastern Regional Load Despatch & Communication Schemes	146		1999-2000
2. Eastern Regional Load Despatch & Communication Schemes	400		2002-03
3. Western Regional Load Despatch & Communication Schemes	400		2002-03
Inter-regional Links			
1. Mau-Biharsariff HDVC Back to Back	550		1999-2000

Projects at the Advanced Stages of Approval

S.No.	Name of the Project	Cost (Rs. in Crores)
1.	Rajasthan Atomic Power Project 3 & 4, 220 KV Transmission Line	97.80
2.	Kayamkulam 220 KV Transmission Line.	83.00
3.	Faridabad Transmission System 400 KV & 200 KV.	179.90
4.	Uncharhar Transmission System	143.30

[Translation]

Prices of Flats in DDA

1157. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the prices of flats being offered to the applicants presently by the Delhi Development Authority, category-wise;

(b) whether these prices have gone beyond the reach of the lower and middle income groups;

(c) the number of instalments in which these prices would be recovered;

(d) whether the Government of Delhi has asked the Delhi Development Authority to formulate such schemes so as to cater to the needs of lower income group; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) DDA has reported that the present approximate cost of different types of flats offered to the registrants is as under :-

Janta	Rs. 1.55 lacs
LIG (Multistoreyed)	Rs. 3.00 to 3.50 lacs
MIG (Multistoreyed)	Rs. 5.50 to 6.00 lacs

Expendable Houses cost in the range of :

Type A - Rs. 1.90 lacs to 3.76 lacs

Type B - Rs. 4.32 lacs to 5.21 lacs.

(b) No such study/survey has been conducted by DDA. However the cost of DDA flats is computed on the principles of 'No profit No Lose'. Besides DDA has taken following measures while working out the cost of flats so as

to make them affordable. (i) Liability on account of land component of Janta and Lower Income Group Flats is brought down through cross subsidisation. (ii) Overheads charges are computed at a lower rate for Janta flats.

(c) Allotments of MIG & LIG registrants are made both on cash down and on Hire purchase basis. Under the Hire purchase mode, an allottee is required to deposit initially the cost of land plus 30% of the cost of construction. The balance amount is recovered as under :-

Janta : 180 monthly equated instalments
LIG : 144 monthly equated instalments
MIG : 120 monthly equated instalments

Under Expandable Housing Scheme, 1995 facility of payment in six quarterly instalments has been provided.

(d) and (e) Considering the present backlog of 25782 registrants under the LIG category, no new scheme is proposed to be launched at present.

[English]

Steel Production

1158. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

- the total steel production in 1994-95;
- the name of the largest producer of steel in the country; and
- the target fixed for the export of steel during the year 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The total production of finished steel during 1994-95 was 17.22 million tonnes (provisional).

- Steel Authority of India Limited is the largest producer of steel in the country.
- The projected export of steel during 1995-96 is 15.40 lakh tonnes.

Afghan Refugees

1159. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- whether India has urged Afghanistan to take back all the refugees, who had left Afghanistan during the conflict and are still staying in India;
- if so, the details thereof;
- the number of them who have already returned back to Afghanistan; and
- the number of those who are still staying in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID) : (a) to (d) A large number of Afghans have come to India, but they have not been recognised as refugees by Government of India.

Government expects these Afghan nationals to return as soon as the situation in Afghanistan permits and are in touch with the Government of Afghanistan and the United

Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) on the matter.

As per figures of UNHCR, there are approximately 21,168 Afghans registered as refugees on 30.6.1995 with that office.

In view of the situation in Afghanistan, Afghan refugees have not returned to their country and UNHCR is trying to find settlement for them in third countries.

[Translation]

New Passport Offices in Maharashtra

1160. SHRI DUTTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- whether the Government proposed to open new passport offices in Maharashtra in 1995-96;
- if so, the details and location thereof; and
- the details of passport offices functioning in the State, location wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID) : (a) No, Sir.

- Does not arise.
- Two passport offices at Bombay and Nagpur are functioning the State of Maharashtra.

[English]

Hydel Power Projects in J&K

1161. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL :
MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI :
SHRI ATAL BIHAR VAJPAYEE :
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

- the details of assessed hydel power potential in Jammu and Kashmir;
- the quantum of hydel power being produced annually in the State at present;
- whether the Government have formulated any plan to augment hydel power production in the State;
- if so, the details thereof;
- whether there has been considerable delay in the execution of the projects, resulting in huge financial loss;
- if so, the reasons thereof; and
- the steps being taken by the Government to ensure efficient and speedy execution of the power projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) and (b) The Central Electricity Authority has assessed the hydro power potential in Jammu & Kashmir at 7487 MW at 60% load factor. Out of this, 308.33 MW, at 60% load factor, has been exploited till 31.5.1995. The corresponding installed capacity in the State is 868 MW; 178 MW in the State sector and 690 MW in the Central sector. The generation from hydel power stations in Jammu & Kashmir during 1994-95 was 2744 million Units.

(c) and (d) The following hydro-electric projects are currently under execution in Jammu and Kashmir :-

Name of Project	Capacity	Commissioning Schedule
1. Upper Sindh Hydroelectric Project-II	70 MW (2x35)	8th Plan
2. Upper Sindh Extension	35 MW (1x35)	8th Plan
3. Kargil	3.75 MW (3 x 1.25)	8th Plan
4. Pahalgam	3 MW (2 x 1.5)	8th Plan
5. Uri Stage-I	480 MW (4 x 120)	8th - 9th Plan
6. Dulhasti	390 MW	9th Plan

(e) and (f) The projects in Jammu & Kashmir are progressing slowly due to disturbed conditions in the State. Because of this, there have been time over-runs which have in turn resulted in cost over-runs also.

(g) The Central Electricity Authority closely monitors the progress of various activities of the projects under execution in the country for timely commissioning. Meetings are held regularly with project authorities, major manufacturers for timely completion of works. A close watch is kept on all factors affecting project implementation and corrective actions are initiated.

PFC and Power Grid Corporation

1162. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are reviewing the role and future of organisations like Power Finance Corporation and the Power Grid Corporation;

(b) if so, the outcome of the review; and

(c) how Government propose to involve these bodies in the liberalised economic policies concerning power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) :

(a) to (c) . The role and objective of the Power Finance Corporation is comes under continous review, keeping in view the developments in the power sector, including the sector being opened for private participation. A Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri V.B. Eswaran has also looked at the functioning of PFC and many of its recommendations are considered for implementation by the Government.

Government is not reviewing the role of Power Grid Corporation, however developments such as Powergrid taking over the operation of the Grid has a hearing on the changing role of the Powergrid in the power sector.

Request to US to combat Terrorism in India

1163. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has urged the US to help India in combating terrorism;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the US thereto;

(c) whether the Government have also requested the US to take-up with Pakistan the issue of Pak's abetment to terrorism in India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) . Government have repeatedly emphasized to the US Government that there is incontrovertible evidence that Pakistan's active sponsorship of terrorism in India continues, with the supply of arms, equipment, training and infiltration. This evidence has been shared with US Government authorities. The Government of India would certainly welcome the use by the US Government of its influence with Pakistan to end the latter's support to terrorists in India.

Export Oriented Fruits/Vegetables Units

1164. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of fully export Oriented Fruits and Vegetable processing units established in each State/union territory;

(b) whether applications for approval to set up more such units are pending;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the percentage of the total fruits/vegetable processed during 1993-94 and 1994-95; and

(e) the effect of increased processing of fruits and vegetables on the price and availability of fresh fruits and vegetables in the domestic market ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) Statewise details of 100% Export Oriented Fruits and Vegetable processing units set up is given in the enclosed *statement*.

(b) and (c) . As per available information no application is pending for setting up of 100% Export Oriented, Fruits & Vegetable processing units.

(d) The percentage of total fruits and vegetables commercially processed for manufacture of fruits & vegetable products other than fried and sun-dried products during 93-94 and 94-95 was about 1% and 1.3% respectively.

(e) No specific study has been conducted to evaluate the effect of increased processing of fruits & vegetable products on availability and consumer price of fresh fruits and vegetables in the domestic market. Due to increased production of fruits & vegetables and a small percentage of them being processed, availability has not decreased. But farmers in some areas are getting better returns due to increased processing of fruits & vegetables.

STATEMENT*Statewise Details of 100% Export Oriented Units Implemented*

Sl. No.	State	No. of Units
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4
2.	Assam	1
3.	Gujarat	10
4.	Haryana	1
5.	Himachal Pradesh	1
6.	Karnataka	8
7.	Kerala	4
8.	Maharashtra	5
9.	Madhya Pradesh	1
10.	Punjab	2
11.	Tamil Nadu	5
12.	Uttar Pradesh	1
13.	West Bengal	1
Grand Total - 44		

Bailadila Mines

1165. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN :

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned CPI to resist takeover of Bailadila mines, appearing in the *Indian Express* dated July 9, 1995;

(b) if so, whether the mine is being leased out to the private sector for a very low sum;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether a final decision has been taken regarding the development of the high grade iron ore mine of 11/B deposit in Bailadila complex as a joint venture project;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the likely time by when this will be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f). Steel consumption is one of the major indices of industrial and economic growth of a country. The total demand for steel in India, including estimated exports, is projected to grow to 37 million tonnes by 2001-02, by which time production for the existing integrated steel plants and units in secondary sector is expected to reach about 24 million tonnes. The projected gap of 13 million tonnes will have to be met only by private sector investment as establishment of new greenfields plants in public sector is not contemplated. The private sector will, therefore, have to be encouraged if the projected gap between demand and availability is to be met.

2. Indigenous availability of metal scrap is low and large quantities have to be imported in order to meet indigenous demand. Sponge iron contains a large percentage of metallic iron and is a very good substitute for steel melting scrap. Production of sponge iron is, therefore, being encouraged by the Government in order to conserve foreign exchange. There are 18 sponge iron units in the country at present with total capacity of 5.4 million tonnes. These units produced 3.4 million

tonnes in 1994-95 and the production is expected to cross the 4 million tonnes mark this year, with exports expected to touch the one million mark. More sponge iron units with a capacity of 7.39 lakh tonnes per annum are in different stages of execution presently.

There are only 3 gas-based plants in India, namely Essar Gujarat Ltd., Vikram Ispat Ltd. and Nippon Denro Ispat Ltd. and they require calibrated iron ore with recontent of 65% and above.

3. Though NMDC had been considering development of deposit 11-B as a joint venture project since 1991, the proposal could not fructify as the three major iron ore consuming companies, identified as potential joint venture partners were agreeable to join in the joint venture only if they were the sole co-promoters with NMDC and the management rights vested in them.

4. The Steel Ministry examined the issues involved in May, 1994 and advised NMDC that the project may be developed as a joint venture with participation of one of the private companies operating or setting up a gas-based sponge iron plant in the country, who have already an assurance from NMDC to meet a substantial part of the plant's requirement for iron ore. The Government also suggested specific criteria to NMDC for selection of a joint venture partner.

5. The Board of Directors of NMDC constituted a sub-committee to select a joint venture partner on the basis of the criteria suggested by Ministry of Steel. The recommendations of the sub-committee, accepted by NMDC Board, are as follows :

(i) To enter into joint venture with one of the following partners in the given order of preference:

(a) M/s. Nippon Denro Ispat Limited.

(b) M/s. Essar Gujarat Limited.

(ii) To transfer a part of the lease of deposit 11-B held by NMDC (i.e. the area comprised in deposit 11-B to the joint venture company after following the prescribed procedures.

(iii) To seek decision of Government regarding the consideration to be charged for transfer of the mining lease.

6. The Steel Ministry made an in-depth analysis of the recommendations received from NMDC and submitted a note to the Cabinet for consideration. As regards consideration to be charged for transfer of mining lease, it was felt that it would not be appropriate to treat it as a normal commercial transaction and realise the maximum consideration because this would render the final product costly and uncompetitive. Moreover, the transfer was proposed to a joint venture company in which NMDC itself is a partner. At the same time, the Steel Ministry felt that NMDC should not be put to any pecuniary loss and should be compensated for the actual expenditure that it had incurred on exploration, feasibility and other preliminary works. The Steel Ministry, hence, proposed that the actual expenditure incurred as above, updated to current costs through an appropriate method to be determined by a recognised professional organisation such as the Institute of Cost & Works Accountants of India (ICWAI), should be recovered from the joint venture partner.

7. The Cabinet, in their meeting on 30.5.95, accorded approval to development of Bailadila 11-B deposit as a joint venture. Based on this, approval was accorded to NMDC on 13.6.95 to form the joint venture company and take other consequential actions. The interests of the local people and trade unions have been safeguarded by advising NMDC to stipulate in the joint venture agreement that the joint venture company will recruit all skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workers through the Local Employment Exchange except to the extent that such workers are not available with the Local Employment Exchange. The joint venture agreement has since been signed on 10.7.1995.

Revival of Fertilizer Units

1166. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) & Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) have not agreed to provide the necessary funds for the revival of Fertilizer Corporation of India (FCI) and Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation (HFC);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken for the revival of fertilizer units in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c) : FCI and HFC are the two fertilizer producing companies in the public sector which have been declared sick by BIFR. Recently Government has approved, in principle, revival packages for these companies which envisage revival of Sindri, Ramagundam and Talcher Units of FCI and Durgapur, Barauni and Namrup Units of HFC with revamp envisaging fresh funds requirement of Rs. 2201.13 crores. No final outcome of funding of the revival packages for FCI and HFC through participation of Financial Institutions like ICICI, IDBI, etc. has emerged so far.

Food Processing Potential in Goa

1167. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE :
Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the potential for food processing in Goa and the extent of utilisation so far; and

(b) the details of the steps proposed to be taken during the current year and next three years for harnessing the Food Processing potential in Goa and exports anticipated ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) and (b) The potential for food processing is there in Goa; since liberalisation eight Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda envisaging an investment of Rs. 61 crores approximately and

employment of 1211 persons have been filed upto June, 1995. Apart from these 17 proposals of 100% EOU/Joint Venture/ Foreign Collaboration/Industrial License etc. have also been approved. Food Processing Industries are both in the organised and in the unorganised sectors and information relating to all the units is not maintained by this Ministry. However, as per available information following food processing units are there in Goa :

Rice Mills.	-	720
Roller Flour Mills.	-	2
Fruit and Vegetable processed products	-	48
Sweetened Aerated Water	-	92
Fish Processing	-	6
Beer	-	3
Meat Processing	-	18

Government has been taking various steps to promote food processing industries which *inter alia* include declaration of most food processing industries as high priority, delicensing of food processing industries except brewing and distillation of alcoholic beverages and those items reserved for small scale sectors promoting domestic/foreign/NRI investments, providing fiscal reliefs etc. Government is also operating various Plan Schemes for promoting food processing industries.

[Translation]

Wastage of Fruits/Vegetables

1168. Shri Sukdev Paswan : Will the Minister of Food Processing Industries be pleased to state :

(a) the average total quantum of fruits and vegetables getting spoiled each year due to non-availability of storage, transport and marketing facility;

(b) whether the Government are contemplating any action plan to promote fruits and vegetables Processing Industry as a cottage Industry to remove the agricultural unemployment and to save the fruits and vegetables from getting spoiled; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) While no survey has been conducted to assess the wastage of fruits and vegetables, according to a report of a group on perishable agricultural commodities (1981), it was estimated that 25-40% of certain fruits and vegetables deteriorates in quality and lose in value due to inadequacy of appropriate post-harvest infrastructure and perishability of the product.

(b) and (c) With a view to reduce post-harvest losses of fruits and vegetables and increase its utilisation, the Government have taken several measures which *inter alia* include assisting establishment of post-harvest infrastructure like pre-cooling, ultra high humidity storages, packing, grading, proper transportation and processing. The Ministry also operate a Plan Scheme for assisting establishment of Food Processing Training Centres with a view to train rural entrepreneurs to encourage self-employment through processing of locally available agricultural raw-materials including fruits and vegetables.

Power Generation

1169. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed for power generation in the country during 1993-94 and 1994-95 and the target achieved in this regard;

(b) whether power generation is not as per the requirement; and

(c) if so, the concrete steps being taken by the Government to solve the said problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) Energy generation target vis-a-vis actual generation during 1993-94 and 1994-95 is as per details given below :-

Category	1993-94		1994-95	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
Thermal	243200	247757	274700	262868
Nuclear	6000	5399	8300	5646
Hydro	67500	70375	69000	82511
Total	316700	323531	352000	351025

(b) During the year 1993-94 and 1994-95, the energy requirement in the country was 323252 MU and 352260 MU against which the availability was 299494 MU and 327281 MU respectively.

(c) In order to bridge the gap between demand and availability of power various measures being taken to improve the availability of power in the country include expediting the commissioning of new generating capacity, implementation of short gestation projects, improving the performance of existing power stations, reduction of Transmission and Distribution losses, implementation of better demand management and energy conservation measures, arranging

transfer of energy from surplus to deficit areas and promotion of private sector investment in power sector.

[English]

SEBs Owe to National Power Corporations

1170. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that various State Electricity Boards owe large sums to National Power Corporations;

(b) if so, the total amount to be realised from various State Electricity Boards as on March 31, 1995;

(c) the details of last three years, State-wise/year-wise; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to recover the amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total amount to be realised from State Electricity Boards (SEBs) in respect of Central Power Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) under the Ministry of Power as on 31st March, 1995 was Rs. 4484.19 crores.

(c) A *statement* indicating the details of outstanding dues of CPSUs to be realised from SEBs as on 31.3.1993, 31.3.1994 and 31.3.1995 is enclosed.

(d) The steps being taken to encourage the SEBs to make prompt payment include deduction from Central Plan Allocation to the States; advice from the Ministry at various levels to the defaulting SEBs/State Governments to clear their outstanding dues; meetings with representatives of concerned State Governments and SEBs; vigorous revenue collection drives; issuance of notice for shut off/restrict/reallocate power in case of default by SEBs wherever physically and technically feasible and persuading SEBs to open Letters of Credit of appropriate amount.

STATEMENT

The Details of Outstanding Dues of Central Power Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Power to be realised from SEBs as on 31.3.93, 31.3.94 and 31.3.95.

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the SEBs	Year Ending 31st March	REC	NTPC	NEEPCO	DVC	NHPC	PFC	PGC
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1993	2.20	73.80					15.88
		1994	0.25	80.78					22.21
		1995		90.81					44.53
2.	Assam	1993	19.18		2.19		20.26		8.39
		1994	44.25		16.68		33.94		0.80
		1995	48.02		25.96		35.21		1.20
3.	Bihar	1993	117.22	395.29		116.94	22.76		
		1994	159.72	360.66		82.87	11.20		
		1995	201.97	323.02		50.44	5.97	0.02	
4.	Gujarat	1993	0.24	106.48				0.07	7.49
		1994	0.32	80.44					
		1995		60.53					

Sl. No.	Name of the SEBs	Year Ending 31st March	REC	NTPC	NEEPCO	DVC	NHPC	PFC	PGC
5.	Haryana	1993	0.01	225.87			64.67		23.77
		1994	0.12	372.21			93.94		1.08
		1995	-	304.15			167.17		23.55
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1993	0.10	17.78			16.74		3.21
		1994	0.25	22.44			18.70		6.76
		1995	-	11.28			17.55		6.00
7.	Karnataka	1993	1.27	46.13					9.33
		1994	0.05	41.71					7.66
		1995	-	38.06					10.14
8.	Kerala	1993	0.20	33.89					2.53
		1994	0.22	35.78				2.41	12.19
		1995		27.53					4.89
9.	Madhya Pradesh	1993	33.68	213.77					7.64
		1994	66.27	174.61					
		1995	78.39	194.36					
10.	Maharashtra	1993	0.49	150.03					10.14
		1994		119.02					
		1995		88.26					
11.	Meghalaya	1993	0.60						0.25
		1994	6.90						
		1995	15.35		0.99		0.69		0.11
12.	Orissa	1993	46.49	42.97			6.39	0.01	7.19
		1994	62.36	47.31			3.23	-	-0.88
		1995	79.78	66.09			1.59		-1.23
13.	Punjab	1993	-	32.29			16.37	0.14	18.71
		1994	0.29	46.08			25.77	0.24	0.74
		1995	-	22.26			36.96	0.33	2.60
14.	Rajasthan	1993	1.49	180.18			0.30		34.69
		1994	0.33	211.06			4.06		11.89
		1995	-	152.72			25.83		37.73
15.	Tamil Nadu	1993	0.71	99.38					16.67
		1994	0.36	100.14					17.04
		1995	-	72.90					13.41
16.	Uttar Pradesh	1993	173.12	503.63			1.23	40.21	84.18
		1994	219.36	641.78			6.14	17.41	23.21
		1995	285.56	821.26			128.18	68.85	106.54
17.	West Bengal	1993	42.41	84.62		24.97	11.75	-	10.43
		1994	82.52	60.50		30.48	8.24	0.13	0.08
		1995	134.77	54.02		36.95	5.15	-	7.36

Fruit Processing Units in Bihar

1171. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are fruit processing industries in cooperative sector at Madhubani, Dharbhanga and Oini in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these industries are lying sick for the last

several years;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government of Bihar has been or is being asked to rehabilitate these units or to hand them over to private sector entrepreneurs on lease;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) whether these three units is going to be thoroughly examined on central initiative to exactly evaluate rehabilitation implications ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) to (d) . Sanction for the establishment of 3 food processing units in Cooperative sector in the districts of Madhubani, Darbhanga and Oini was issued by NCDC in the year 1966-67 and the work was completed by the end of 1969. Because of disputes between the contractor and the societies concerned, the units could not take up commercial production.

By the time the arbitration for resolving the dispute was completed in 1975, the society lost interest in it and the units lay defunct. Subsequently, on the recommendations of the State Government, the National Cooperative Development Corporation sanctioned assistance of Rs. 4.80 lakhs for the Darbhanga unit in 1976, Rs. 4.20 lakhs for the Oini unit and Rs. 4.12 lakhs for the Madhubani unit in 1982. Since further action was not taken by the State Government and the Societies sanctions were cancelled.

(e) to (g) . No proposal has been received in the Ministry from the concerned societies or the State Government seeking assistance for revival of the units.

Enhancement of Subsidy

1172. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have proposed to enhance the subsidies on fertilizer from 1995-96; and

(b) if so, the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b) . During 1995-96, there has been no change in the policy regarding subsidy on fertilizers.

SEBs Owe to Nuclear Power Corporation

1173. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether several State Electricity Boards owe to Nuclear Power Corporation;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to recover the dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A *statement* indicating State-wise and Union Territories-wise dues to Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) is enclosed.

(c) A proposal is before the Government for recovery of dues amounting to Rs. 650 crores from State Electricity Boards to Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited as on March

31, 1995 through deduction from the Central Plan Assistance in equal quarterly instalments spread over three years (in all 12 instalments) commencing from the year 1995-96.

STATEMENT

Statement of Outstandings from States/Union Territories as on 31st March, 1995

(Rs. in lakhs)

Beneficiary States/ Union Territories	Amount Outstanding		
	Energy	Delayed Payment Charges	Total
1. Maharashtra	1137	300	1437
2. Gujarat	4592	1030	5622
3. Madhya Pradesh	73	349	422
4. Rajasthan	9795	10415	20210
5. Uttar Pradesh	11742	7202	18944
6. Punjab	219	168	387
7. Himachal Pradesh	57	9	66
8. Jammu & Kashmir	543	514	1057
9. Haryana	6234	2789	9023
10. Tamil Nadu	383	128	509
11. Kerala	373	716	1089
12. Karnataka	1471	79	1550
13. Andhra Pradesh	2171	222	2393
14. Chandigarh	20	5	25
15. Delhi	1689	687	2376
16. Pondicherry	-50	0	-50
Total	40449	24611	65060

High Technology Regional Food Processing Industries

1174. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to establish a hightech regional food Processing technology centre in Hyderabad;

(b) if so, whether it is fact that there is a great potential for development of food processing units in Andhra Pradesh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) Ministry of Food Processing Industries has no such proposal.

(b) and (c) . Yes. Sir. Potential exists for further development of food processing industries in Andhra Pradesh. As per available information, 205 Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda, envisaging an investment of Rs. 1539 crores approximately and employment of 41974 persons have been filed, since liberalisation, upto June, 1995, for setting up food processing industries in Andhra Pradesh. Besides, 126 approvals for setting up 100% Export Oriented Units, Joint Ventures, Foreign Collaborations, etc. have been issued in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Foreign Power Companies

1175. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plan to hold prior discussions with the concerned State Government before inviting and finalising agreements with foreign power companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the objections of Government to in having such discussions in a tripartite manner ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Awarding projects to the private developers within the ambit of the prevailing policy is within the competence of the concerned State Government. Whatever assistance is required by the State Government/promoters for finalising the proposals is extended by the Government of India from time to time.

Power Policy

1176. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Governments have expressed their opposition to the present power policy of the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government propose to include such changes in its power policy in view of the above;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

National Highway Projects

1177. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposals from various State Governments for setting up National Highway projects;

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

(c) the details of the National Highways projects likely to be taken up during Eighth Plan, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) . Development and maintenance of National Highways is the responsibility of the Central Government and State Govts. work as its agents for executing the work. All such proposals

are therefore initiated by the Central Govt.

(c) A *statement* giving State-wise sanctions issued during the first three years of 8th Plan is annexed. Further sanctions will depend upon availability of funds.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in crores)

S.No.	State	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1.	Andhra Pradesh	74.04	10.87	36.59
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	0.24	-
3.	Assam	14.54	4.47	8.01
4.	Bihar	12.03	14.85	13.57
5.	Chandigarh	-	0.23	-
6.	Delhi	0.66	0.37	2.38
7.	Goa	0.49	1.96	8.82
8.	Gujarat	16.82	79.11	18.50
9.	Haryana	7.69	1.81	0.64
10.	Himachal Pradesh	6.38	5.56	28.60
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	1.83	-	0.21
12.	Karnataka	5.35	17.25	28.37
13.	Kerala	92.58	23.17	1.53
14.	Madhya Pradesh	117.00	1.89	38.37
15.	Maharashtra	16.64	130.08	16.56
16.	Manipur	0.66	1.85	4.66
17.	Meghalaya	12.49	4.70	4.39
18.	Nagaland	0.48	-	-
19.	Orissa	6.28	141.51	21.70
20.	Pondicherry	0.03	0.23	0.30
21.	Punjab	9.02	86.10	4.61
22.	Rajasthan	22.54	0.79	23.57
23.	Tamil Nadu	8.94	4.79	23.07
24.	Uttar Pradesh	124.23	131.44	43.19
25.	West Bengal	20.00	100.42	3.90
Total :-		504.22	763.69	331.54

National Building Centres in Tamil Nadu and Kerala

1178. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any National Building Centres for imparting training to artisans in low cost construction skills for production of materials and components are functioning in Tamil Nadu and Kerala;

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

(c) the amount of Central grant given to these centres during each of the last two years;

(d) whether any national level committee has been set up by the Union Government to monitor the functioning of these centres; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of functional Building Centres in the States of Tamil Nadu and Kerala is 28 and 24 respectively. Location-wise details are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) During the last two years i.e. 1993-94 and 1994-95, the amount of Central grant released is as follows :-

Year	Tamil Nadu	Kerala
1993-94	10 lakhs	Nil
1994-95	7.5 lakhs	2 lakhs

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) A National Committee has been set up by Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment under the Chairmanship of Secretary to Government to provide policy guidelines for effective implementation of the programme.

STATEMENT

Location-wise Details of Functional Building Centres in Tamil Nadu & Kerala

S. No.	Site of the Centre	Nodal Agency
Tamil Nadu		
1.	Maduravoyal	Distt. Admn.
2.	Auroville	Auroville Foundation
3.	Coimbatore	Distt. Admn.
4.	Erode	-do-
5.	Madurai	-do-
6.	Salem	-do-
7.	Trichy	-do-
8.	Tirunelveli	-do-
9.	Tiruppur	-do-
10.	Tuticorin	-do-
11.	Vellore	-do-
12.	Muttukadu	Madras Craft Foundation
13.	Gandhi Gram	Gandhi Gram Rural Instt.
14.	Ramnad	Distt. Admn.
15.	Nagapattinam	-do-
16.	Kodungaiyur	Construction Worker Union
17.	Madras	G.V.G. Shelter Trust
18.	Virudhnagar	Distt. Admn.
19.	Sivaganga	-do-
20.	Thanjavur	-do-
21.	Pudukkottai	-do-
22.	Cuddalore	-do-
23.	Dharmapuri	-do-
24.	Tiruvannamalai	-do-
25.	Nagercoil	-do-
26.	Velacherry	Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board
27.	Adayar	Anna University
28.	Dindigul	Distt. Admn.

S. No.	Site of the Centre	Nodal Agency
Kerala		
1.	Quilon	Distt. Admn.
2.	Trivandrum	-do-
3.	Trichur	-do-
4.	Calicut	-do-
5.	Cannanore	-do-
6.	Ernakulam	-do-
7.	Idukki	-do-
8.	Kasargod	-do-
9.	Kottayan	-do-
10.	Malapuram	-do-
11.	Palghat	-do-
12.	Pathanamthitta	-do-
13.	Waynad	-do-
14.	Alleppey	-do-
15.	Trivandrum	Kerala State Nirmithi Kendra (KSNK)
16.	Chathanur	Kerala Edu. Dev. Society
17.	Trivandrum	K.S.N.K.
18.	Kottayan	-do-
19.	Ernakulam	-do-
20.	Calicut	-do-
21.	Waynad	-do-
22.	Pathanamthitta	-do-
23.	Idukki	-do-
24.	Palakkad	-do-

Review of Joint Ventures in Steel and Memoranda of Understanding

1179. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently given instructions to the State Controlled Steel Companies to have a fresh look in the joint venture agreements and Memoranda of Understanding signed in recent months;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to lay down new norms/parameters for private participation by providing compulsory competitive bidding, especially in diversification projects and ensuring more transparency in decision-making;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the particulars of the joint venture projects etc., that are likely to be affected by the new direction given by his Ministry;

(f) whether the new directions are likely to affect private/foreign participation in investment in steel projects; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) There is no such proposal. However, transparency in decision-making is always ensured.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e) to (g) . Do not arise in view of (a) above.

12.00 hrs.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow Members one by one.

(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow Shri Ram Vilas Paswan. I think for a long time you could not get up. Let there be an interval like this between your two statements.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am raising an important issue in the House today and hope that all hon. Members and leaders of Political parties will extend their support to it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, untouchability is still in vogue in many parts of the country, specially in rural areas. However, the most loathsome scene was witnessed in an incident which took place recently in Tamilnadu. Katochanpatti is a village in Mettur region of Salem District. In the schools of this village, utensils for Dalit Children are kept separate from the utensils for the children of general castes.

[English]

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN (Tirunneveli) : The collector is investigating the matter.

(Interruptions).

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Investigation of the matter is a separate thing. (Interruptions).

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : You are not saying correctly.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I have ascertained the facts. I have met you, Sir, in your Chamber. You told me that I will get the first opportunity to speak. Let him say whether that incident is correct or wrong. (Interruptions) Shri Janarthanan has got every right to speak. Let me complete my speech.

MR. SPEAKER : An important issue is being raised. Why should we be touchy about this thing?

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : This is not a question of the Government or Party or anything.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes. Let us understand it.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : This is a social problem.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : You go to

that village, if it is true you can say here. (Interruptions).

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : This incident took place two weeks ago. Dhannam, a five year old Dalit girl had gone to drink water. The system prevalent there is that a child belonging to upper caste pours water into the mouth of a Dalit child. Since the girl was thirsty and unfortunately, no child of upper caste was available there to give water to her, she herself took water from the pot. Meanwhile, her class teacher, who was watching her doing so, rushed towards her and after beating the girl, put his finger into her eye. The result was that the girl lost her one eye. She has been admitted to Madurai hospital. It is reported that the collector has ordered an enquiry into this incident.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the problem is not of the enquiry ordered by the Collector, but occurrence of such incidents in the country even after 48 years of independence and that too in a school where separate utensils for Dalits and separate utensils for other castes are used. If a five year old thirsty girl of elementary school takes water from the pot, she is rendered blind. There cannot be any more shameful incident than this in the country. We talk of human rights in the House, but this incident exposed the flaws in the social system of our country. Mr. Speaker, Sir, no action taken against the erring teacher, so far ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Shri Janarthanan can speak later on. (Interruptions).

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : Sir, it is not correct. I can challenge it. (Interruptions).

Sir, I can challenge it. It is not correct. ... (Interruptions) The news came only in "The Statesman". It did not come in "The Hindu" or the "Indian Express". He is speaking on the basis of newspaper report. I can challenge that nothing of that kind happened. ... (Interruptions).

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I have ascertained the facts. ... (Interruptions).

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : What does he know about Tamil Nadu? He is misleading the House. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

Shri Ram Vilas Paswan : Stop for a minute please. Sir, 10 years ago 11 Members belonging to A.I.A.D.M.K., D.M.K., C.P.I., C.P.M., and B.J.P. had gone to Meenakshipuram where an incident of conversion had taken place. There, we enquired of a teavendor as to why he did not provide tea to a Dalit. He replied that if he provided tea to a Dalit his shop might be set on fire. The boy, who after conversion had become a Muslim, asked me why I enquired about his religion when 11 M.Ps. together could not provide him tea. Therefore, the matter is not that of any Government.

[English]

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : You are making the statement only on the basis of report in "The Statesman".

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Therefore, I once again say that such incidents should be condemned outrightly.

[English]

It is neither a question of the AIADMK or the DMK or the Janata Dal or the Congress (I). It is a question of social system.(Interruptions).

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : You go to Tamil Nadu and you can see as to how many statues of Dr. Ambedkar are installed throughout the State.(Interruptions). We have more statues of Dr. Ambedkar in Tamil Nadu than anywhere else in the country.(Interruptions).

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Why are you changing the subject?

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : You are twisting the matter. You are creating a communal issue. It is not correct.(Interruptions).

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam) : Sir, it is not true. Please allow us to clarify.(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Sir, through you, I urge upon the House to condemn such incidents. Will the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs enquire into this incident and let us know about the action taken? The members of the family, of the persons who lodged the F.I.R. are being threatened but no action has been taken against the erring teacher. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to make a statement in the House. It is a serious incident. Such an incident, after 48 years of independence, can not be tolerated.

[English]

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : That is not correct. I can challenge it. Sir, he is misleading the House.(Interruptions)

DR. R. MALLU : Sir, this is a very serious matter. This type of discrimination on the basis of caste is a very serious issue. This is must be taken up seriously by Parliament. This is not a matter relating to one State or the local Government.(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow one of the Members of the AIADMK also to speak. Please, let us understand that this is not an allegation against any Government. This is a social problem.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : Sir, truth must be told in the House.

SHRI A. ASOKARAJ (Perambalur) : Sir, Hon. Chief Minister has sanctioned Rs. 25,000 for the medical expenses of the girl.(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Janardanan, it is not your cap. Do not wear it. Let Shri Vajpayeeji speak.(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question is neither related to any particular State nor any particular Government. The untouchability is still in vogue

in the entire country and specially in rural areas. Drinking water is kept separate for the untouchables.

It is correct that this evil is slowly losing ground and there is improvement in the situation. However, the incidents like the one that has happened in Salem have been taking place in the country. Since this incident has come to light now, it is drawing attention of the entire country. If I am not wrong, it has been mentioned in the report of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe's Commission that utensils used by the people of these categories are kept separate in the secretariates of several States, Panchayats and tea-stalls. They are discriminated and categorised on the basis of the utensils. A shopkeeper says that if he did not do so, other customers belonging to higher castes will not come to his shop. I request the hon. Members belonging to Tamilnadu not to be annoyed as this is a stigma on the whole country. A little girl student was beaten up mercilessly merely on touching the water pot. My hon. friend has stated that an inquiry into the matter by the District Magistrate is being conducted. Enquiry should certainly be conducted and this House should be apprised of the findings. Such incidents spoil the environment of the society.

For this incident, any single party cannot be criticised. If we feel pain any part of our body, our attention goes to that particular part and we try to take treatment immediately to give relief to our body. Now, this is the time to think over such incidents. I am thankful to Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, for he has raised an important issue. I would like to tell the members belonging to Tamilnadu that they should not blame any Single Party for this incident. Such incidents should not be allowed to recur. If all the members in this House raise their voice unanimsously, it will have some impact.

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious matter and the whole House condemns it in unequivocal terms. What is necessary is that the Government must get the report about this particular incident and place it on the Table of the House. Secondly, Shri Vajpayee has said that this kind of practice is prevailing all over the country, that in the Secretariat Buildings and Panchayat Offices separate utensils are kept for the people to take water and all that. So, I want that a Task Force should be set up to find out in which places such things are practised and that practice should be abolished immediately. My third point is that if this is proved to be factually correct, then exemplary punishment should be awarded to the guilty teacher who has really inflicted that kind of injury to the small girl in that school.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI (Saidpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue raised by Shri Paswan is very unfortunate. This is not for the first time when such incident has taken place in Tamilnadu. Such incidents have taken place many times during the last 4-5 years. Incidents of Husur and Tasandur also occurred there and these were also discussed in this House for a long time. In spite of pressure from all sides, this incident did not come to light for quite a long time. This is very unfortunate for our country. It is a curse on your society

and an open violation of law. No incident can be more serious than this incident in which a five year old girl was not allowed to take water from the water pot and she was left thirst. Moreover, her class-teacher injured one of her eyes and as a result of which she lost her eye. This incident should be enquired into into. Members belonging to Tamilnadu are repeatedly saying that no such incident has taken place and an inquiry is going on. I would like to ask them as to what is being enquired into if no such incident has occurred and why the collector has ordered an inquiry into matter? The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs who is sitting here, either he or the Home Minister should collect the details of this incident and a statement should be given within one or two days as the matter involves Harijans and untouchables. Moreover, it is an open violation of the Constitution.

[English]

SHRI A. ASOKARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very sorry that only by seeing the Press reports we are making all these statements here. I am not defending our Government.

MR. SPEAKER : Who has alleged anything against your Government?

SHRI A. ASOKARAJ : Anyhow, Sir, the thing is, Mr. Paswan was telling...

MR. SPEAKER : Who has alleged anything against your Government?

SHRI A. ASOKARAJ : Whatever it may be, we are very sorry for it. After understanding that the girl was inflicted an injury like that, our Chief Minister had immediately sent the Collector to the hospital itself. She had immediately disbursed an amount Rs. 25,000/- for her medical treatment also. She was immediately taken to Madras for medical treatment. (Interruptions) We are all seeing only the Press reports and making statements here. Nobody has seen it personally. We are reading everything through Press reports only.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, In Tamil Nadu they want to create a communal clash between the Scheduled Castes and other caste people. This is one of the game plans of the Opposition parties and they are making this attempt there. I want to humbly tell the hon. Members here that my constituency is a reserved constituency. They can come to my constituency and see for themselves. If they can show a single tea shop with a separate tumbler, I am ready to resign my post.

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is indeed a very reprehensible incident which has taken place and I would like to condemn this with all the force at my command. We would certainly get in touch with the Government of Tamil Nadu and find out the facts. We would also collect the facts from such Members who would like to give any information about this incident.

Shri Vajpayee is quite right that such things happen in many parts of the country. Somewhere it may be more and somewhere it may be less. So, a strong action must be taken against those persons who are involved in such reprehensible

incidents by various Governments and a united and strong public opinion against such incidents is absolutely necessary. I am glad that such an incident has been boiled in this House and it has found unanimous support of all the sections of the House.

Therefore, I would like to appeal to the hon. Members not to get agitated but to cooperate with the Scheduled Castes and Schedules Tribes Commission and other bodies which are engaged in their efforts to eradicate such social evils. But as far as this particular incident is concerned, we will certainly get in touch with the State Government and will try to see that such things do not happen again.

[Translation]

SHRI VISHWANATH SHARMA (Hamirpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I belong to Jhansi and everybody knows that Maharani Lakshmi Bai also belonged to Jhansi and she had led the first freedom struggle.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, old name of Jhansi was Balwant Nagar and it was build during the 15th century. There are Gosain monastries, temples and big buildings which are the heritage of the nation. My submission is that if Government wants to set up any memorial of first Independence struggle, it should be established in Jhansi only. It is a matter of regret that during the last May and June, small as well as big monastries and buildings were demolished in Gosainpura locality. Some people have demolished a school there to build a commercial building. It is a matter of pity that all this happened in the presence of the representatives of the then Government and the police. People of that locality also submitted a representation to collector. It has been published in the newspapers. I request the Minister of Human Resource Development that he should direct the Archaeological Survey of India to conduct an inquiry into the matter and those sites should be protected and they should be declared as national monuments.

MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to put up a very important issue before the Government.

In the chain of election reforms, the Election Commission recently declared that all people in the country will be issued photo identity cards so that rigging may be stopped. However, rigging is also being reported in issuing photo identity cards on a large scale. Can one think of rigging in the matter of photo Identity Cards? As per the statement given by the Government officers, 4 per cent photo identity cards have been wrongly prepared. Immediately after this statement, Shri Gill stated that in Delhi 20 percent photo identity cards have been wrongly prepared and he himself was a victim of it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have four photo identity cards which I would like to place before the House. I would like to show you that I am myself not able to identify my photo affixed on my photo identity card.

Not only this, when my wife saw the identity card.....

MR. SPEAKER : It may be your young age photo.

MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have become old now. When my wife saw her photo on the

identity card, she was surprised and asked me that where has this new wife come from? Sir, the matter has now reached the stage of divorce.

Kiran Bedi lives in my neighbourhood and her photographs and articles on her keep on publishing in newspapers and magazines. Even the identity card issued to her bears an awkward photograph of some other person. She was surprised to see the photograph on her identity card and first thought as to whether she really has become so awkward looking but later felt assured that she is much better than the published photograph. It is not a case of issuing wrong identity cards but it is a matter which is going to affect the forthcoming elections in the country. I would like to say that according to Shri Gill, 20 per cent identity cards have been prepared wrongly. I do not know whether it is the ruling party or identity cards issuing authority, with whom the Election Commission, is conspiring. It will affect the forthcoming elections. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had not gone for getting myself photographed for identity card and I received my identity card. I would like to say that it is a conspiracy to win the forthcoming elections in Delhi and throughout the country by means of fake identity cards. I would like to say that a commission should be constituted to inquire into the matter and a White Paper should be presented in the House on it. In the view of Election Commission's statement 'No identity cards, no election', I would like to ask as to what type of Parliament and the Government we will have if the elections are held on the basis of these wrong identity cards. I would also like to say that I received a letter from Election Commission in reply to my complaint to this effect.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I am not going to allow these things. Please conclude now.

[Translation]

MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : It is a crucial matter. They have written in their letter that my name will be removed from voters list if I have not got my photo identity card. It is really surprising as to how my name will be removed from voters' list when I have not applied for it. A commission should be set up on it. This matter relates to the whole country. The next elections can be held even earlier also because of Shri Arjun Singh's efforts. Therefore, the matter should be inquired into at the earliest and its report should be presented to the House. It is crucial issue.

SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR (Hingoli) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw attention of this House towards a crucial issue. In 1972 the Central Government had enacted a law to provide reservation in government services to SC/ST and Backward classes. Some States have enforced this law for appointments in judicial services but rest of the States are not implementing it, for example, Maharashtra has not so far implemented this law for appointments in judicial services.

Even after 23 years this has not been implemented and injustice is being done against them and they are deprived of their legitimate right. Therefore, I urge upon the Law and Justice Minister to make arrangement for implementation of this law in such States as have not enforced it so far.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the biggest refinery of Indian Oil Corporation is located at Koili near Baroda. On Friday, at 3.30 A.M., an accident took place there. A tank with a capacity of 50 lakh litres caught fire and within few seconds another nearby tank with a capacity of 50 lakh litres also caught fire and suddenly this fire spread. A loss of about Rs. 100 crore was incurred due to it. How this fire broke out? It has been published in newspapers that a CISF inspector visited it at 3.30 A.M. and while starting the jeep the tank caught fire by sparking. But it cannot be accepted. It was fortunate for Gujarat and the whole country that direction of wind was not towards IPCL plant which is located at the back of this refinery. It would have been a far ghastly accident than Bhopal tragedy if the direction of wind had been towards East-West instead of South-West because toxic chemicals are used there. For the last two-three days we have been reading about this in the newspapers but through you, I would like to know the actual reason behind it. I have a doubt on it. It may have happened due to sabotage or malafide and revengeful intention.

I therefore, demand that a judicial inquiry should be conducted into it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards another issue Jawaharnagar industrial estate is just adjacent to it. The Chemicals and Petro-Chemicals Department has concluded a survey and has reported that 55 big units are using toxic gases and chemicals. This emittance of poisonous gases and chemicals will pose a great danger if the Government does not take appropriate preventive measures in this regard. I would also like to say that an inquiry should be conducted and report should be submitted to this House regarding the 50-55 such industrial units mentioned in this survey.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Is the Government interested in responding in any fashion to this?

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : A major incident has taken place in this country.

[English]

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : We will find out the facts.

MR. SPEAKER : You will bring the facts to the notice of the House.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : Yes.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore) : This matter which I wish to raise had been conveyed to you earlier also. I am sorry that such a matter has to be raised in this way during zero hour. I think it would have been more appropriate if the Government itself and you had chosen to bring this to the notice of the House again. Yesterday the 6th August was the 50th anniversary.

MR. SPEAKER : We are discussing this matter.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Where? When?

MR. SPEAKER : We are discussing this matter in the Leaders meeting today.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : That was over yesterday. Yesterday was the 50th anniversary of the dropping of the atom bomb on Hiroshima.

MR. SPEAKER : It should be done in a proper manner.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I wanted some mention to be made. The Government of India has lost its voice long ago. It is never heard on these matters nowadays. I do not know why.

MR. SPEAKER : You are very right and you did explain to me yesterday. But today we are going to discuss it. And may be on 9th because 9th is the day on which it was also done.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : On 9th the second bomb was dropped on Nagasaki.

MR. SPEAKER : We can do it on 6th or 9th. That is why we are thinking. 6th was a holiday. If you wish to raise it in this fashion, I have no objection. But we can do it in a proper fashion also.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I take it as an assurance?

MR. SPEAKER : You should not ask for if and I will not give it. But you should understand the implications of what I am saying.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I do not understand the implications, if as representatives of the people of this country, we cannot ask for it.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not for the Members to ask for the assurance from the Chair. I have said that this is an important matter. You have said it and rightly also you consider and we will respect your feelings.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Well, I will wait. I will see what you will decide.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN : Indian fishermen are often attacked by Sri Lankan Navy. Last week, five fishermen who went for fishing into the sea were brutally killed by Sri Lankan Army by aerial bombing near Kodaikkarai. This attack had caused shock and panic among the people in Tamil Nadu.

Again another case of opening of fire on mechanised fishing boats is also reported.

This is not the first time. Time and again, our fishermen are killed by Sri Lankan Army. This issue of fishermen is not taken seriously at all by the Government of India. Our Chief Minister has written so many letters to the Prime Minister about it. But the Government has failed in its duty to protect the fishermen. So, some immediate measures are needed to take up the matter with the Government of Sri Lanka to stop killing of our fishermen.

It is the duty of the Government to protect the fishermen. But the fishing rights are lost now. Further, the Government of India has abruptly stopped payment of compensation to the affected fishermen. Till one year back, the Government of India paid compensation to the affected fishermen. Now it is

stopped. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to restore the payment of compensation immediately to the affected fishermen...*(Interruptions)*. It is a very serious matter. It is happening very often. Hundreds of fishermen are killed. The Government is not taking action. This is a very serious matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will ask the Government to look into it in a proper manner.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN : This is not an ordinary matter.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : Daily, killing is going on. The whole House should support the issue. I want a response from the Government. I would request the whole House to come to the rescue of our poor Tamil Nadu fishermen who are dying daily because of the Sri Lankan military attack.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue raised here is a very serious one.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : That is why I ask the Government to look into it.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR (Faridkot) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the people belonging to minority community in this country are being treated badly. With your permission I would like to say something on it. It is really important. You know that soldiers from Army, BSF and CRPF are appointed in Special Protection Group and National Security Guards. They are appointed for security of VIPs, 'Z' type security is provided to dignitaries of national level. Around 7400 persons have been selected for it and it is really unfortunate that not a single person has been taken from minority community. I have with me a confirmed report on it. I have discussed this matter with the Home Minister.*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Why did you not ask a Question about this so that the Government could have replied to all your questions and supplementaries? You are taking the Government by surprise. You are quoting and reading something. It will go unrebutted.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : No, Sir, I met the Home Minister. I brought it to his notice.

MR. SPEAKER : You put a Question. This is not an urgent matter. This is a matter which has been there for a long time.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : It is an urgent matter because just one point I would like to make.

MR. SPEAKER : It has been continuing.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : Out of the 7400 people employed, not even a single man of any minority is there. Neither there is a Muslim nor a Sikh nor a Jain is there. There is nobody. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please hear me also. You are giving the statistics. You are reading from some reports.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : I have confirmed it.

MR. SPEAKER : This is not the occasion. You have not given notice to the Government. Such an important matter, you are raising on the floor of the House. What are its implications outside?

[Translation]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : This is violation of Constitution and according to Article 16 (2) of the Constitution ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : That is why you should have put a Question also. Please be brief. Please do not quote all these things.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : You have stated that it was not raised but I met hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs and (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is not the way. You have to give a notice in writing.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : This is under his control. I asked him and he said 'yes'.

MR. SPEAKER : You have to give it in writing. You cannot have an oral talk with them and say that you have contacted them. There are rules laid down. Such a question can also be asked. You can give a notice asking now many people are there and things like that and get the reply. If you want to conduct the Business of the House according to the sweet will of each Member, it is very difficult.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : Whatever you say, I agree with the Chair. Thank you very much.

MR. SPEAKER : You are on your legs. Please be brief and sit down. Do not quote all those things.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : I will not quote anything. I just say that 52 percent of the jawans are taken from the Army and other Para-military Forces. I will not name the Director. But when he was asked by some Reporter of the The Economic Times specifically saying that there is no persons from the minority communities in the 7400 people employed and what was his answer, his answer was... All right, Sir, I will not quote. ... (Interruptions).

[Translation]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : I would like to state that minorities have made many sacrifices for the country. According to the provisions of the Constitution of India, no discrimination shall be made against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them. Therefore, it should be thoroughly enquired and persons belonging to minority community should be given opportunity to join it since it is a very important organisation.

[English]

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : Sir, it is a very wrong way of raising such a sensitive matter. Security matters are not decided on the basis of religion or minorities or majority. It

is absolutely a wrong allegation and such allegation and insinuation should not be made by a Member in the House. I strongly repudiate the suggestions that are contained in that Report. I would suggest that in the interest of amity and goodwill... (Interruptions)

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : He wants to minimise it. He wants to dilute it. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You made your point.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : Why should I make an allegation against the Government? Why is he worried that I am making all allegation on the Government? He says that I am making an allegation on the Government. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : This is not conducive to the good relations. This is carrying a wrong message altogether. The facts are not known either to the hon. Member; we will have to check the facts. What he is saying could be absolutely wrong. We will have to check up before we make a statement. Such a sensitive statement should not be made like this. I would request you to expunge this matter from the proceedings so that ... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : This is also clear to the House that out of 74,00 persons, none is from the minority community... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I think, this is a very sensitive matter. Let us handle it in a delicate manner. Now if it has been brought to the notice of the House that this is the situation, let it be carefully examined. And if there is any scope for improvement, it should be done.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : He has suggested that it should be expunged.

MR. SPEAKER : I will not expunge it... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have dealt with in a proper manner. If every member wants to have his say, it is not correct.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the policy adopted by Government to privatise public undertakings, has become a matter of debate in and out of Parliament.

I would like to raise another important issue. It appears that Government has prepared a new policy to privatise co-operative institutions also. Development Co-operative Bank in Bombay, is a very big one. The Bank has deposits worth Rs. 1000 crore. There are 50,000 share-holders of the Bank and it has 32 branches. There is no law to convert any Co-operative institution into a private company. Even then, Government has registered the Development Co-operative Bank as Development Credit Bank. Besides, the same old licence has been given to that Bank by the Reserve Bank of India.

I am raising this issue in the House, today because once a Co-operative Bank is privatised in this manner then all the other urban Banks will also be privatised. The Co-operative Sugar factories and Co-operative Milk Associations will also meet the same fate. The Government should consider the seriousness of the issue and come out with a statement about the actions being contemplated in this regard. Fortunately, hon. Minister of Finance is present here and it would be in

the fitness of the things if he says something on the issue.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member Shri Ram Nayak has brought up the case of a particular bank. The way he has presented the facts, I respectfully submit that they do not bring out the correct state of affairs. There was a Development Cooperative Bank and it was being run with the blessings of His Highness Mr. Aga Khan. Mr. Aga Khan came here two years ago. And they said that they want to convert this Bank into a scheduled bank so that they can serve the Indian people and, as part of its policy, the minorities on a larger scale. So with their consent and at their instance, we have allowed that Bank to be converted from a cooperative bank to a scheduled bank. So, from that to say that we are privatising cooperative banks, is totally wrong.

SHRI RAM NAIK : A scheduled bank is a different matter. A cooperative bank can be a scheduled bank. But it has been made a joint stock company. That is my submission. Kindly examine it.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : All that has been done at the instance of the promoters of the bank.

SHRI RAM NAYAK : There are 45,000 share-holders. What happens to them?

MR. SPEAKER : I think, we have devoted forty minutes to this. Let us go to the other item, Papers to be Laid on the Table.

12.40 hrs.

[English]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notification under the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : I beg to lay on the Table :

A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 124 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963:—

(1) G.S.R. 417 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd May, 1995 approving the Visakhapatnam Port Trust (Licensing of Stevedores and Allied Matters) (First Amendment) Regulations, 1994.

(2) G.S.R. 420 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th May, 1995 approving the Visakhapatnam Port Trust Dock (Amendment) Regulations, 1994.

(3) G.S.R. 522 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th June, 1995 approving the Kandla Port Trust (Licensing of Stevedores) (Amendment) Regulations, 1994.

(4) G.S.R. 545 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th July, 1995 approving the Bombay Port Trust (Forms and Manner in which contract shall be made) (Amendment) Regulations, 1995.

[Placed in the library, See No. L.T. 7979/95]

12.40½ hrs.

[English]

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

Tenth Report

MR. SPEAKER : The Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House in their Tenth Report presented to the House on 4th August, 1995 have recommended that leave of absence from the sittings of the House be granted to the following Members for the period mentioned against each :-

1. Shri Probin Deka	24.4.95 to 03.06.95
2. Shri Rajaram S. Mane	31.7.95 to 17.08.95
3. Shri R. Jeevarathinam	31.7.95 to 14.08.95
4. Shri Shyam Lal Kamal	31.7.95 to 25.08.95
5. Kumari Uma Bharti	31.7.95 to 25.08.95

Is it the pleasure of the House that leave as recommended by the Committee be granted?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : The leave is granted. The Members will be informed accordingly.

12.41 hrs.

[English]

COMMITTEE ON HOME AFFAIRS

Twenty-first Report

SHRI KIRIP CHALIHA (Guwahati) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy (Hindi and English versions) of the Twenty-first Report of the Committee on Home Affairs on the Hire-Purchase (Amendment) Bill, 1989.

12.41½ hrs

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL), 1995-96

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH) : I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (General) for 1995-96.

[Placed in the Library. See No. L.T. 7979/A/95.]

12.42 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to Clear the Hydel Power Projects of Himachal Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI (Shimla) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Himachal Pradesh has a capacity of producing 20 thousand megawatt of hydel power. State Government of Himachal Pradesh, as per its new policy, has submitted some plans for the approval of the Government of India to encourage private entrepreneurs, but the State Government has not got

approval so far. Due to the delay in giving approval to these projects there will be cost escalation and the educated unemployed youths will lose the opportunity to get the jobs in these projects to improve their financial position. If the projects are given approval, these will boost the industrialisation there and the rural areas will get more electricity. I would like to request the Government of India to immediately grant approval to all the proposals for power projects, submitted by the Himachal Pradesh State Government so that the persons to set up projects in this area, may not face any difficulty and the construction of Hydel Power Projects may also be completed in the stipulated time.

(ii) Need for Early Completion of Road between Darbhanga and Forbesganj in border district of Saharsa, Bihar

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Sahasra) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Saharsa in North Bihar is a border district. Its border touches the borders of neighbouring country Nepal. At the time of Chinese aggression in 1962, Indian Army had experienced difficulty in reaching in time due to non-availability of road on the border and the then Prime Minister Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, realising this short-coming, had taken a decision to construct a border road from Kashmir to Assam. As a result of that decision, a road from Kashmir to Darbhanga and from Forbesganj to Assam was constructed. But, as a bridge could not be constructed on Kosi river at that time, a small stretch of the road from Darbhanga to Forbesganj is still incomplete even after 30 years.

Since, that stretch of the road from Darbhanga to Forbesganj is still incomplete, the army has to take a long route wasting much of time and money. The construction of road will benefit the people of the area suffering due to non-availability of transport alongwith strengthening the security in the border area.

I, therefore, would like to urge upon the Government of India to construct the remaining part of the road from Darbhanga to Forbesganj on priority basis and without further delay so that a safe and secure road from Kashmir to Assam is constructed. At the same time, the people of bordering districts of Darbhanga and Forbesganj will also be benefited with the transport facility. Therefore, this important road should immediately be constructed.

(iii) Need to find a permanent solution to the problem of potable water in Hilly areas of U.P. especially in Pauri and Chamoli Districts

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the crisis of potable water in hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh, specially in Pauri and Chamoli, has constantly been deepening. Almost three fourth of the villages of these districts are experiencing serious problem of drinking water. Although, as per official data, drinking water has been made available to many of these villages but actually, the drinking water is not available there. In most of the villages, drinking water schemes have failed and are not functioning after the earthquake of 1991 and they have not been made operative so far.

People have to cover four to five kilometre distance in hilly terrain to reach the valleys to fetch the potable water. Even in this season of heavy downpour they are deprived of

the drinking water. In my native districts Pauri and Chamoli, the main reason for the crisis is that water level is too low. Rivers like Ganga and Yamuna are of no use and importance in these districts from the point of view of drinking water. For the construction of any drinking water scheme, pumping set has to be installed which involves heavy amount of money.

The crisis of drinking water in these districts, deepens during summer, when even natural source of water also dries up. People have to sacrifice whole day to fetch a bucket of water. I have already raised this issue several times but the Government has not taken any concrete step so far.

Therefore, I urge upon the Central Government to constitute a special Central Committee to find the solution of the problem of Pauri Garhwal and Chamoli districts hit by drinking water crisis and chalk out a concrete and perspective drinking water plan for these districts. Besides, it should immediately conduct a survey of the villages hit by drinking water crisis and annual target should also be fixed for making drinking water available in these villages. I request that this work should be done on a warfooting.

(iv) Need to stop acquisition of villages of Palamu, Chatra and Gaya Districts of Bihar for the use of the Army

SHRI UPENDRANATH VERMA (Chatra) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is learnt that the Government is going to acquire hundreds of villages of Manatu, Pratap Pur, Kunda, Lava Laung, Huterganj, Dumariya, Imamganj blocks of Palamu, Chatra and Gaya, the most backward districts of the country in Bihar, for military purposes. At first, some villages of Ranchi and Palamu districts were proposed to be evacuated for military exercise but perhaps due to protest made by local populace, the location is being changed and now most part of my constituency Chatra, is being acquired affecting hundreds of villages and millions of people. People of the affected villages are agitated after learning about it through newspapers.

Therefore, Central Government is requested to clear the position and stop the move.

(v) Need to ensure availability of Natural Gas to Rajasthan on priority basis for setting up Gas Based Power Houses

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Rajasthan is a backward-desert State. Since no river flows through the State, it is cursed to depend on electricity, supplied by other states on higher rates.

It is a fact that State Government is toiling hard to develop and exploit the ample reserves of oil estimated about 100 million tonnes, found in Bikaner-Nagaur basin. It is being ensured that the exploitation and refining of petroleum, found in the State may be done there itself as soon as possible. There are big reserves of oil and natural gas beneath the sea (Bombay High) on the Western Coast of the country, which are the great source of natural gas alongwith oil. But the Government could not make proper arrangements for proper utilisation of natural gas. Therefore, gas is flared on the water level itself.

Gas reserves, found beneath the sea are national property. This natural gift should be properly utilised for the

development of the whole nation. As per the national policy, gas should be supplied to Rajasthan, on priority basis since there is no source of energy in Rajasthan so that the State may become self dependent in the field of electricity by setting up gas based power plants.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is also a provision under rule 377 that concerned departments should reply the issues raised under this rule but unfortunately barring one issue out of many issues raised by me since I became a Member of Parliament, under this rule, no reply has been received by me from any Ministry. Please look into the matter.

[English]

(vi) Need to provide STD facility at Mynaguri Block Headquarter in Jalpaiguri District

SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaiguri) : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that although Mynaguri is a block headquarter in Jalpaiguri district, yet it lacks STD facilities. It is a big business centre having a good number of educational institutions, Government offices, hospitals, etc. The electronic exchange is already there. The people of the area are very much agitated out of the issue.

I urge upon the Central Government to take immediate necessary steps in this regard so that the people of Mynaguri may enjoy the STD facility.

MATERNITY BENEFIT (AMENDMENT) BILL
(AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA)

12.51 hrs.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the House will take up further discussion on Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill. Shrimati Saroj Dubey to continue.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY (Allahabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say further that this Bill has been brought with a very limited aim. But it has been presented very skilfully. Under this Bill, it has been proposed that in case of Medical Termination of Pregnancy, leave with salary for 6 weeks should be granted and in case of Tubectomy operation, two weeks leave with salary has been proposed. This is not sufficient. During pregnancy and delivery and thereafter a woman has to suffer a lot. During this period only, she needs care and full rest. When a woman finds a baby in her lap after delivery, she forgets all her sufferings. But after MTP she is not only physically depressed but mentally also. In such a condition, she needs time to recover. In case of Tubectomy operation, she is granted only two weeks leave which is also insufficient. Doctors also suggest rest at least for 45 days after this operation. The Government has not considered this seriously. I, therefore, said in the beginning that had the Government consulted a Gynaecologist, this drawback would not have been there in the Bill.

Joining of duty does not mean that she will wake up and

reach the place of work to join her duty. It means that first of all she will complete her household chores, then set out from her house, walk a distance then travel by a scooter or bus to reach the office, climb stairs there and work for eight hours. Then after office hours, she will go through the process and reach her home. Perhaps the Government has not considered that in such a condition, she needs full rest because she gets a new life after undergoing MTP. She needs new energy. You should, therefore, not think so heartlessly about the woman who is totally broken physically as well as mentally. For concealing your heartlessness, you have said that if the women are granted Maternity Leave more than this period nobody would be ready to give employment to them. If the Government wants to put the responsibility of controlling the population solely on women then it should provide 30 percent reservation to them in Government jobs and public and private institutions. As a result, there will be no dearth of jobs for women and they will also be able to take rest according to their body's requirement.

The Government's intention of population control in the name of Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill is being presented here in a new way. But it seems that the intention of the Government is not honest in this regard. All of us know that a woman does not determine the size of her family. She is compelled by her family again and again to undergo MTP for want of a son. These days scientific inventions have been made in which sex of a foetus is detected and if it is a female child, it is killed in womb itself. In these conditions, the Government wants to hold women responsible for two children norm or it wants to encourage killing of female child in the womb? Is it not a cruel attack on motherhood? The Government has conspired against women by bringing Medical Benefit (Amendment) Bill, 1995.

I would like to submit that the men should also be made responsible in this connection. You have not even touched the men. If the Government wants to keep the families limited and give benefit to women by providing facility of Medical Termination of Pregnancy then the men should also be made responsible for limiting the family. As I have just stated that woman does not determine the size of the family. She is compelled to undergo MTP again and again for want of a male child. If the man is also made responsible for adhering to two children family norm, only then we can control the situation. This is also being done in other socialist and Scandanavian countries like Norway, Sweden etc. as Paternity Benefit Act is in force there. If men are covered under this Bill, women would certainly get some relief. Today, joint family system is not in existence. Whenever a woman goes to hospital for delivery, his husband has to look after her at home after delivery. Therefore, he should also be granted leave. And if a woman gives birth to third baby she gets a shock due to 'Two Children Norm'. If men are also brought under the purview of this Bill, they will come to know that on violation of 'Two children norm', adverse entry would be made in their service records and their promotion and increment would be stopped. Then only Government would be able to achieve its goal. But if Government wants to victimise women only by bringing them under this Bill, women organisations and women Members of Parliament will not bear this beyond a

limit. Though the Government has got drafted this Amendment Bill in a very good manner, yet it reflects the malafide intention of the Government towards women. The Government has warned the women that it will not provide them maternity benefit on the birth of third child. This is grave injustice to women. It would be a cruel attack on a woman if restriction is imposed on her for which she is not free to decide. It will encourage killing of female foetus because Government is fully aware of the atrocities committed on women for want of a son and social balance..(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Something is given and you are asking for something more. That is all.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY : I, therefore, have said that the Government is doing injustice to women by bringing this amendment Bill which will hurt them physically and mentally. Government enacted Maternity Benefit Act in 1961 but it is being amended after a very long time. This Act is only for organised sector, while merely eight or eight and a half per cent women are working in organised sector. I would like to tell this House that women who are working in unorganised sector i.e. in road construction, fields, construction of buildings and are below the poverty line, have not been provided any Maternity benefit. When they feel labour pain they have no alternative but to give birth to a child behind a bush or on the roadstone itself and then make it sleep by wrapping it into shreds after cutting its naval-string with sickle or Khurpi. Taking rest for 3-4 hours, they start work again because if they do not start work immediately the contractor would remove them from job. It would have been better if women working in Bidi industry and fields had been covered under this Act, because in Independent India, if a woman gives birth to a child it becomes an asset of the nation and it is the responsibility of the Government to protect national asset. Therefore, my submission is that this Act should also be applied to those women, who are working in unorganised sector because the Government will have to keep in its mind that all the children, whether they are born in a prestigious. Nursing Home or in an air-conditioned room or on the side of a brook or on a pile of roadstones to a poor woman, all of them are citizens of our nation. A nation will be healthy if its children are healthy. I, therefore, request the Government that efforts should also be made to cover women working in unorganised sector under Maternity Benefit Act so that dignity of motherhood may not be divided.

13.00 hrs.

Every mother may feel proud that the Government is looking after those children whom she has given birth.

As far as the question of looking after children is concerned, if you want to make women work, the Government should provide creche facility near all the factories. Apart from this, women should be allowed to feed their children twice a day. To give birth to a baby is not the ultimate object, their proper nourishment and care is more important. Women goes to do work, leaving behind their children crying for feeding. That situation is very painful to women. Therefore, my submission is that the facilities of creche and feeding their

children twice a day should also be included in this Bill. If the Government wants to provide them all facilities at the time of delivery and give them relief, it will have to consider this Bill in detail. I would also like to say that the Child Nourishment Act, 1992 has not been taken into consideration while bringing this Amendment Bill and it has also been violating that Act.

Mother's milk is nutritive and the best diet for a child. Therefore, the Government should pay attention to this fact. Apart from this, the Government would have to enforce paternity benefit facility and to cover unorganised sector under this Act.

Then only Government would be able to do justice to the women of this country. Further, I would like to say that men are not covered under this Act due to which the Government will not be able to do justice to the women of this country. It will be an atrocity on women if they are allured to undergo MTP and tubectomy operation in the name of some facilities and short time leave which they will not bear. I therefore, would like to tell the Government that this Amendment Bill brought by it is certainly a welcoming step but its shortcomings are required to be removed. Further, I want to say that women give birth to the citizens of a nation. Therefore, Government should think over their facilities, full treatment and nutritive diet. Merely rejoicing by bringing this Amendment Bill will not benefit the women in any way.

Third amendment has also been mentioned in this Bill. If there are some complications during MTP or tubectomy, she will be granted one month's more leave with salary but in case she remains sick for more than one month, will she be called to work during ailment?

In my opinion, it would have been better if a clause had been included in it that leave may be extended on the basis of medical certificate issued by a doctor. She should also be given full nutritive diet alongwith leave. With these words, inspite of not being agree with the provisions of this Bill. I am thankful to the Government taking this step. And I request the Government to consider this Bill in detail. I think that dignity of motherhood and their rights have been attacked in this Bill and organised and unorganised sectors have been divided. These drawbacks should be removed. We should protect women from atrocities being committed on them. Then only amendment to this Bill would be useful and we could achieve our goal.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to reassemble at 2 P.M.

13.04 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

14.10 hrs.

(At 14.00 hours quorum bell was rung. No quorum was made. At 14.03 hours quorum bell was rung again and no quorum was made. At 14.06 hours once again quorum bell was rung and no quorum was made. Thereafter, the Secretary-General made the following announcement.)

14.11 hours

Announcement re : Postponement of the sitting of the House upto 14.25 hrs for want of quorum.

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : There is no quorum. So, the House, cannot meet; and we cannot start the House till there is a quorum. The Deputy-Speaker has directed that the House will meet at twenty-five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.11½ hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till twenty-five minutes past fourteen of the clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Twenty-eight minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

14.28 hrs.**MATERNITY BENEFIT (AMENDMENT) BILL —**

As passed by Rajya Sabha — Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now I call Dr. Vasant Miwrotti Pawar to speak.

The time allotted to this Bill was one hour. Many hon. Members have already discussed this Bill in detail. Mostly the hon. lady Members have contributed to a very great extent. So, if there are any relevant points, you kindly make them.

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR (Nasik) : Sir, I will take only ten minutes and not more than that.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at the outset I thank you for giving me this opportunity to take part in the debate on the Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill.

I am on my legs to support this Bill. This Bill has been brought to regulate the employment of women. The principal Act, this is, the Maternity Act 1961 and the MTP Act 1971 have to be taken into account. The principal Act provides six weeks duty leave to a case of abortion—now it is to be extended for MTP—two weeks duty leave for the Tubectomy patients and four weeks duty leave if there is any illness following abortion or Tubectomy or MTP, which has been extended to MTP.

In the principal Act as it has been said, there is no break in duty for breast feeding. But in the amending Bill two breaks have been allowed during the service for breast feeding, for the mother to go to the creche and breast feed the child till the child becomes 15 months old. This is the provision made in the amending Bill.

The other most important provision is that if there is a death following any abortion or miscarriage or MTP or tubectomy a working woman is given the benefit till the day of her death. The total benefit has been given. In some establishments the medical bonus up to Rs. 250 has also been included which should also be increased. But that is also a proviso. There is a restriction on the employer. If somebody is on maternity leave the employer cannot dismiss

that woman from service. The benefit should be given within 48 hours after the demand. Otherwise, the employer is liable to a punishment from three months to one year including a fine from Rs. 2,000 to 5,000. These are the provisions in the Principal Act of 1961.

The amendment we are discussing here is for adding medical termination of pregnancy. The object of this Amendment is two-fold: First is to promote the family welfare or the women's welfare and the child welfare, at the same time to think of population control because the MTP is definitely being increasingly used in the recent past to have a proper planning of children to keep a proper gap so that the children get good nourishment, good health. If there are continuous deliveries the previous child is always deprived of breast feeding and that is why the chances of casual care are there. That is why this Bill has been brought. Actually this provision must have been brought by the Government quite early. It is now too late. But, anyway, they are thinking in terms of welfare of the women. I congratulate the Government. (Interruptions)

SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI (Amreli) : On a point of order. There is no quorum in the House.

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR : Please, there is no point of order. Let us not take him seriously.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No. Whenever any hon. Member were to raise the question of quorum it is the duty of the Chair to consider it. That is the precedent. Our friend has raised the question of quorum.

The bell is being rung

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now there is a quorum. Dr. Vasant Pawar may continue his speech.

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR : Thank you Sir. I was talking on the point of population control and family welfare. Our Government has rightly set up the targets to be achieved by the year 2001 AD. These are : (i) to bring down the birth rate to 21 per thousand; (ii) to bring down the infant mortality rate, which is the most important thing, to 60 per thousand; (iii) to bring down the death rate to 9 per thousand; and (iv) to have the national reproductive rate at one per cent. For this purpose this amendment will be quite beneficial. We are expecting a population of 100 crore by the year 2011 AD and we are now having 16 per cent of the world's population on 2.14 per cent of the world's land area. We have to think in terms of population control. The objective of this Bill is to give health for woman and child. This benefit was given to women in the Mines Maternity Benefit Act, 1941 and the Bombay Maternity Benefit Act, 1929. Both these Acts have been repealed because the benefit given was only on the ground that the working women have to do acrobatic work and there will be physical exertion and there are chances of abortion. That is why this has been withdrawn and now the Maternity Benefit Act of 1961 is giving the benefit to all the women.

This Act is only for the working women who do service in many organisations. The main purposes of this are to give antepartum or anti-natal care to avoid complications and to facilitate normal delivery and to have a healthy child and to maintain nutrition and to reduce the infant mortality rate. That

is the basic purpose. That is why, rest is necessary before delivery and a period of six weeks' rest has been given. After the delivery also for the baby care and to have breast-feeding rest is necessary. Rest is also necessary in cases of MTP also to come out of the mental and physical shock and also to have proper nutrition. That is why this amendment is being proposed.

This is applicable only to the organised sector and my sincere request is that it should be made applicable to the unorganised sector also. In the rural areas the mother is the generator of all work for years. According to our culture we are giving the highest respect to the women. We respect women she is the creator of Universe. I am glad that the Government is thinking in terms of giving 30 per cent quota to women and all other benefits. The reservation is still to be given for the employment of women which should be there in all the service sectors and even in the Armed Forces also.

I would like to suggest a few things about this Bill. This Bill is only applicable to those factories or establishments where 30 workers are there. Because of this women working in so many small factories will be deprived of this benefit. It should be made applicable to such factories and establishments where the minimum number of workers is only ten. This facility must be given.

My second request is that the benefits should be given to the rural women, to farm labourers, to agricultural workers and to those in the unorganised sector.

My third request is that for the rural women, the Government is paying Rs. 200 to those who undergo tubectomy operation. We should know why this money is being given. It is to compensate their wages if they are working on daily wage basis. If there is any IUD case, an amount of only Rs. 3 is given. This Act is not applicable to rural women. My request to the Government of India is that the amount given in case of tubectomy should be increased from Rs. 200 to at least Rs. 840 and it should be extended even in cases of MTP also.

This benefit must be given to all the women who have undergone Medical Termination of Pregnancy, Tubectomy and Miscarriage. Then, the Creches should be provided near the working places of women.

My next request is that the Central Government should request all the State Governments to make this Act applicable to all the industrial establishments, commercial undertakings and even to agricultural sector. My next request is that if M.T.P. is done for female foeticide no benefit should be given to the women and in fact, punishment should be given as per the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act.

Sir, we are having about 100 Medical Colleges and about 550 District Hospitals. Our budget provisions for M.T.P. is only Rs. 150 lakhs. So, we will not be able to control or popularise the M.T.P. procedure. That is why, I request that the Central Government must think of this and provide a separate unit of M.T.P. in each and every hospital to take care of these patients so that the M.T.P. becomes more popular.

So, with these words, I fully support the Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill and I once again request that this must be

made applicable to the unorganised sector, mainly to the rural women working in the farm sector.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Bill and I would just make two brief points. The first is that the women in our society are being subjected to discrimination, to social degradation, to economic exploitation at every stage of their lives and sometimes, the oppression of women begins within the foetus. The hon. Member has just spoken about the incidence of foeticide in the country which is assuming very alarming proportions in some parts of the country and I am sure the latest Census will bring about the particular groups and the particular regions where foeticide is being practised in a very organised manner. When they are infants they are being killed mercilessly and that there is the phenomenon of infanticide. There are Press reports in which there are confessions of doctors, of midwives and even of families. There are reports that infant girls were killed when they were a few days or a few weeks or a few months old. The phenomenon of infanticide, for example, has been reported from Bihar. It is not only in Bihar, but it is rampant in many parts of the country.

Sir, to be born a girl is a sin in our society. A little later, the girl suffers from deliberate malnutrition. Almost in every family, boys are given a preferential treatment. If the resources of the family are small, the mother herself discriminates in favour of the son rather than the daughters and if the family cannot afford education for everybody, then the boy goes to school and the girl does not go to school. Relatively speaking, the incidence of illiteracy among the females is much higher. When they grow a little older, the boys are never forced into marriage, but the girls are. And the husbands do not face divorce and desertion but the wives do. When we come to the phenomenon of re-marriage of widows, the widower finds it very easy to get re-married, but the widows of our race have to spend the rest of their lives in seclusion, in isolation uncared for.

Similar is the case with the divorce. Not only is it that men find it easier to divorce their women or to desert them but the divorced women find it a social stigma that they have to bear all their life and they cannot get re-married. But the divorced man who finds a bride immediately available for him and sometimes even the sister is given to him. The women are dis-inherited by their families. Even under reformed laws women are not getting due share in inheriting the property of fathers and husbands and sons.

So, where shall we begin to bring about equality for our women; to bring about a fair treatment, a just treatment and an equal treatment for our women? Where shall we put our finger? So, we are thankful to the Government for what little has been done by them. I am very happy not only to support the Bill but also to support the suggestion that this be extended, within the resources available, to the unorganised sector.

As far as the organised sector is concerned, I would suggest that the entire spectrum should be covered. Even if there are less than 10 people working in a factory or in an establishment or in a licensed establishment, the women folk among them should receive the benefit that is envisaged by

law. There should be no numerical limit - whether it is 30 or whether it is 10.

In the unorganised sector if the Government is paying a certain amount as financial allowances that should be related to the minimum wages that our revised from time to time. So, the number of days of paid leave that is envisaged in this Bill, those number of days multiplied by the minimum wages should be the quantum of the allowance available for the women in the circumstances in which this Bill applies.

With these two specific suggestions, I fully support this Bill on behalf of my Party.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I welcome this Bill, though it has been brought forward for a limited purpose. I am also glad that the Government was forced by the protests of women's organisations to withdraw the idea that the maternity benefits should be denied to women employees and workers if they have more than two children. Thank God, they have understood that it would have been all wrong and they are going to withdraw it.

Sir, I do agree with the suggestions given by my colleague, Dr. Pawar, who spoke before me excepting one where he said that where the amniocentesis or the female foetus was destroyed, in that case punishment should be given and not the benefit. I cannot agree with that. Sir, we gave a suggestion in the Amniocentesis Bill which was not accepted by the Government. We suggested that these tests must be conducted only in the Government institutions. That suggestion should again be thought about and that a Bill should be brought here again instead of making any provision for punishment here in this Bill.

Naturally, like everyone else, I also want that the maternity benefits should be extended to women working in other sectors as well. Otherwise, it will benefit only eight per cent of the total employees. I want to know why the women who are covered by Employees State Insurance Act will not be covered by the Maternity Benefits Act. What was the reason for taking this decision? Now, I consider and I believe everybody else should consider that it is the social responsibility of the society as a whole and the Governments at different levels to share the burden of bringing up the children.

When the November Socialist Revolution succeeded in Russia, Lenin said that women must be helped to free themselves from the double burden of rearing the children and being employed all by themselves. While he wanted every woman to be employed if she liked to do so, he made the provision for creches, kindergartens to keep the children as well as canteens at work places. This network which was established by the State made it possible for all willing women to be employed. But how many institutions here have established creches? Even the Government, at different levels, did not provide creches, let alone the private owners. There is a provision that they should have creches. Why can you not enforce that? It is a very important provision as far as this maternity benefit question is concerned. This being the case, as I said, the Government must find some way to see to it

that all have creches.

The question of unorganised sector has been raised by all and naturally this benefit has to be given there also because they are the biggest employed sector and, unfortunately, in this unorganised sector there is no provision for maternity benefits nor does anybody care to do anything for the women over there. At the moment, they are outside the scope of the Maternity Benefit Act. I know, you will say that this expansion of scope is to be done by the State Governments. But when the Central laws and the State laws are not uniform, which Act would rule? I believe, it should be the Central laws. Then, how is it that you cannot extend the scope of this benefit to the unorganised sector? If you do that, then they will have to be abided by the States as well. So, this should be clearly stated that you are going to do it; if not immediately in this Bill — there is no time — at least you have to come out with such an amending Bill as soon as possible.

There are so many discrepancies in the States Acts. Why should it be there? For example, in Maharashtra, the maternity benefit is to be given for 8 weeks at the rate of only Rs. 3.50 a week; in U.P., it is for 8 weeks, at the rate of Rs. 3.50 a week; in Punjab, it is for 12 weeks, at the rate of Rs. 3.50 a week; in West Bengal, it is for 12 weeks, at the rate of Rs. 7 per week. I do not think that this is enough. I fully agree that it should be on the basis of minimum wages in other sectors and these discrepancies in the laws should be immediately gone into. I understand that the Minister has said that he was going to meet the State Governments; I do not know whether you have met or not. If not, please immediately call a meeting of the State Governments on this subject and let us know what emerged out of it so that uniform laws can be there.

Now, Sir, on the question of paternity benefit raised by several Members, well I think that this should be considered seriously because after all in small families, it is true that it is always not possible for women to look after the children and earlier also I raised the question of sharing the social responsibility of relieving the women of the double burden. This paternity benefit question should also be considered. I understand that it cannot be done immediately, but I hope that this will also be considered.

It is also a matter of gender equality from the other side.

With these points, I do support the Bill.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN (Tirunelveli) : Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Amendment that has been proposed in the Bill to benefit the women folk of the country is not fully satisfying but still I welcome certain changes that are sought to be effected now. Though we could not support it whole heartedly we extend our support atleast to some extent on behalf of All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam. We have been evolving strategies and formulating plans for the future of the country from 2000 A.D. The bright future of the country much depends on healthy babies and healthy children who will be the future of the country. So we must provide facilities to our mothers to beget healthy children. Healthy children are most important for the future of the country. If you want to have healthy children, we must ensure

that our mothers are healthy. I think we bring about such Maternity Act only with the notion that we must have healthy children and healthy mothers.

Our Hon. colleague Mrs. Malini Bhattacharya in her speech said that scanning tests are conducted during pregnancy of women. Such tests should be conducted to check whether the foetus is healthy and the baby is in right position. But, to the contrary such tests are conducted only to identify whether the child-to-be is male or female. If the mother comes to know that the child will be a girl child, she is not satisfied. Women are confused because of various social problems involved in bringing up a girl child and they even go far aborting or terminating the pregnancy thereby misusing the advanced technology available to them today.

Mrs. Geeta Mukherjee pointed out that West Bengal Government gives 12 weeks Maternity Leave. In Tamil Nadu also, our State Government gives 12 weeks Maternity Leave. But it is all the more important that we create a sort of awareness in women to bring about a change of heart to beget girl babies. It is a true that girl babies are not welcome. This kind of attitude should go. We read from the history of Shivaji, the Great that he became a brave warrior because of the stories about brave warriors his mother had told him. There are many folk tales and legends that celebrate the great heroes and brave warriors of the bygone era. Such stories should be heard by women when they are pregnant. Such stories should again and again be narrated to the children by their mothers. How effective this could be has been amply proved in our Hindu mythology. We have several such instances like Abhimanyu. We had in our midst Mrs. Indira Gandhi, daughter of Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru. A proud daughter to a proud father who made the country proud. Nehruji's child was a girl child, but she ruled this great country. This would emphasise the need to instill in women the needed courage to beget girl children. They should be encouraged to do so by way of infusing confidence in them. Women should have change of heart and it is the bounden duty of the Government to bring about such a change. We have electronic media. The Government can make use of it. We should select certain tales from our great legends and the folk lores and make the women listen to them through the media especially during their pregnancy. Women would then be able to hear the history of our country and the values of life. This is all the more important because most of our women are illiterate. Dr. Vasant Pawar in his speech pointed out the problems pertaining to women from the unorganised sector.

Most of the women from the unorganised sector are illiterate. They cannot read papers or books and hence we must make use of the electronic media to carry right message to them. I think this could be a benefitting scheme if it is implemented in right earnest. I would like to point out more Laws and Acts may not bring about the desired change. It is only the change of heart that can bring about a transformation and reformation.

Bearing this in mind and also to put an end to the female

infanticide, our Tamil Nadu Government has introduced a scheme to protect the unwanted girl babies. They introduced a scheme, 'cradle baby scheme'. A second child or a third child if it is born a girl, is not wanted in certain families, it leads to female infanticide as it is found rampant in certain parts of Salem and Usilampatti of Tamil Nadu. Such unwanted babies instead of being left abandoned are welcome to the Cradles kept in the Primary Health Centres or Government Hospitals in rural areas.

The Tamil Nadu Government has taken upon itself the responsibility to bring up the children so left in its care. Such practices are there only in two three parts of Tamil Nadu and so far about 150 children have been adopted by the Government of Tamil Nadu. Our Chief Minister has introduced this scheme in such a way that the children so adopted will be provided with higher education. I am mentioning this here not because it is a scheme introduced by the Government of Tamil Nadu but because it has been accepted and approved by the Government of India. We have already successfully implemented the Mid Day Meals Scheme at a time when Government of India is about to introduce the Noon Day Meals Scheme throughout the country. It may also consider implementing the Cradle Baby Scheme throughout the country. This can be introduced in every State and this is my suggestion. I hope the Union Government would give due consideration to this suggestion.

I will be supporting the Union Government in introducing this scheme. Now, we find the scanning facilities available to doctors are misused to identify whether the foetus is male or female. Scanning process should not be administered for such purposes. I wish this august House gives greater consideration to this aspect to protect the children from being done away with even before they are born. Illiterate women are generally afraid of begetting female children. 36 to 40% of women are illiterate and they are afraid of begetting girl babies. This fear psychosis in them should go. They lose confidence with the very thought of bringing up girl children. Our Laws should not discriminate men and women. Our endeavour should be to instill confidence and encourage women to face the reality of life boldly. While welcoming the major aspects of this bill, I would like to lay stress on the point that is not comprehensive. Say for instance if we say tubectomy in the remote areas in Tamil Nadu or Bihar or West Bengal, it may not be understood by women immediately. So, it is imperative that we carry messages to rural women touching them talking their language. We must explain these measures and schemes to those women in their respective languages. We are going about with several family welfare schemes and there is also a possibility of their being misused. Legal protection given to abortions should not be misused.

I wish the Government takes effective measures to control the possibility of their being misused. We must prepare our mothers to face the challenges of the world by way of pointing out to them the success stories of our great Indian women like Indiraji and Rani of Jhansi. Carrying such messages to the people especially the mothers of India is the duty of the State.

Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

I wish the Government takes upon itself the solemn duty of informing the women especially the mothers to give rise to healthy babies to usher in a brighter future for our country. With this I conclude.

15.00 hrs.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Amendment Bill brought forward in this House is no doubt a welcome measure but the amendments incorporated therein however reflect malafide intention of the Government. In fact, the original act explicitly envisages that Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 was enacted with a view to provide social security and ensure social welfare. Now from these three amendments, it appears as if the objectives and the spirit of the original act have been totally ignored. Healthy mother and healthy child are the prerequisites for building a strong nation but this concept has not been incorporated in these amendments. That is why I say that if you really intend to ensure social security, social welfare and protection to mother and child, then you ought to focus your attention on these major issues.

For instance, in this bill you have provided for inspectors who would monitor compliance of the rules provided in this and see as to whether prescribed facilities are being provided to women or not in the offices and areas entrusted to them. These facilities are not confined to granting leaves only. This act lays down certain type of works which should not be assigned to a pregnant woman employee, which otherwise can tell upon her health. The original bill was enacted in 1961 and then amended in 1976 and now, i.e. after a lapse of twenty years you have come with amendments which is indicative of your ulterior motive behind them, and that is that somehow you want to check the increasing trend in population which can be achieved through women folk only. This ulterior motive can be understood while going through this bill. So, in spite of public resistance expunge all that is for the betterment. The main point is she can avail leaves for getting nursing facility. She can avail leaves for two times from bringing up child. The point raised about creche arrangements is very right. What are we doing for it? What we are doing to ensure proper compliance of the act? There is no creche in any of the Government offices. In a metropolis like Mumbai, she has to perform a three or four hours journey every day for this purpose. How can she go there. There is no such facility. We don't discuss this point. The sole objective is to somehow check the swelling population and therefore medical termination has been suggested and period of leave had been extended. Apart from this, it provides for punishment in the event of female foeticide. By this we reflect the mentality of this male dominated society. As regards the female foeticide, I shall say, well, let it be if it can be resorted to but whether woman alone is to be blamed for it? No mother would ever like to commit foeticide. Social circumstances are responsible for it.

We talk of punishment though the question of afflicting punishment does not arise when abortion is resorted to be medical termination which is equally hazardous as normal delivery. The point which I want to make is that it tells more

upon one's psychological health. While enacting any law we must be aware of the fact that it is not meant for a machine or an animal but it concerns human beings, that for a mother who has a heart, pulsating with sentiments. A mother with a strong psychosomatics is a prerequisite for a strong nation. I want you to keep in mind the spirit of the original Act as well. One thing more has been laid down in it. I will put forth only two or three suggestions and conclude thereafter. I could not understand the concept of medical bonus which has been envisaged in the original Act. We can consider making amendments to it as well. We have not touched upon it. I am saying so because this amendment has been brought with a malafide intention. It is good to make provision in it for granting leave to the men as well. When a woman comes to her place of work after 6 weeks, with whom should she leave her infant? If there is no arrangement for this purpose, then granting of 6 weeks' leave to her husband can be considered because mother and father both are equally responsible for upbringing of their child.

Sir, the number of women working in the unorganised sector is quite large and we have ceased to think about them. Two percent working women are in the Government service, six percent work in some factories and the rest more than 90 percent are working in the unorganised sector and they are subject to more pains and predicaments. We do not propose to effect any amendments aimed at solving their problems and providing them facilities. We do not even talk of implementing properly the facilities, if any, granted in the original act to them. This point also be debated. I also support what Gitaji said right now that there are different rules in different States. To my mind, a woman is a woman no matter she might be residing in any part of the country. The pains and problem of delivery are not different in different States. Therefore, the Act for this purpose should be equally applicable in all the States.

Sir, my last submission is that it is witnessed that any discussion involving a woman is always fraught with a malafide intention. Shahabuddinji very rightly said just now, though it is not related to the point of discussion here, that we have a different view point of looking at a man and a woman. I only want to say that we should not have malafide intentions while formulating a law. Making a provision for the facility of tubectomy operation is a welcome step but under it, the malice present in our hearts should be washed away and this attitude should not be there that in order to control population women should either be granted more facilities or they should be suppressed and oppressed as if they are solely responsible for it. In fact, a Bill should be brought forward in this country with a view to extend facilities to the mother and the child. We will fully support all the amendments and Bills brought forward with one thing in mind that the country's future depends on them. We also support this Bill. But I would repeatedly submit that we should change our attitude of looking at the mothers of this country.

15.11 hrs.

[SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE in the Chair]

[English]

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur) :

Madam, I rise to support the Bill which proposes to amend the Maternity Benefit Act. The object of the Bill is for providing further benefits to the women under maternity. Although I have certain reservations, objections and differences with certain letters of the Bill, I have to support the Bill in spirit.

At the outset I would like to point out that it was thoroughly discussed in the Parliamentary Standing Committee for Welfare, but I am surprised to find that the recommendations made by the Standing Committee are not entertained in the amending Bill. If the recommendations of the Standing Committee are not taken seriously by the Government, then what is the necessity of the Standing Committee and what is the necessity of referring Bills to the Committee for discussion? If the recommendations are not taken seriously by the Government, they only remain an exercise in futility.

Madam, we all agree that it is the woman who bears with them the bright posterity of mankind. We know that mothers produce children. We all accept that it is the mother who creates good society. So, much women are entitled to the facilities that are given in the amending Bill. The women must have this privilege as a matter of right. It is not a mercy or any kindness shown to them.

They have their rights established because they are mothers. In this perspective, we all have to agree to the proposal for extending these benefits to woman under the head 'maternity benefits'.

As regards the extent and scope of the Central Act, I am of the opinion that it should be extended throughout the country; even in the State legislatures also even though there are parallel Acts, the Central Act must prevail in all the States so that we can have a uniform Act. There are certain areas particularly in the North-Eastern States where such benefits are not extended. These benefits are not available to the unorganised or private establishments or even to State institutions. In the case of Institutions, there are private institutions where the women alone work and these facilities are not made available to them. So, the women who work there, suffer. I would like to urge the Central Government to make this Act - when it becomes an Act - prevail in the States also so that those women who are working in private unorganised establishments will get these facilities throughout the country. That is my submission.

I would like to come to particular Clauses which are proposed for amendment. As regards the amendment which proposes giving maternity benefit for a period of six weeks, the Standing Committee proposed for increasing this to about two months, that is, sixty days. As regards another proposal for giving maternity benefit for a period of up to two weeks immediately following the day of the tubectomy operation, in this also, I think, the Standing Committee proposed that it must be at least three weeks; and it must not be less than three weeks because it will be beneficial for women if it is increased. Here, I am not satisfied and not happy because these proposals are not entertained and are not incorporated here. So I would like to tell the hon. Minister in charge of the Bill that he may think over it and also try to amend it from two weeks to three weeks and from six weeks to sixty days. That

will give more benefit to the women referred to here.

Lastly, I would like to appeal once again for making this Central Act applicable throughout the country. With these few words, I support the Bill and conclude.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI (Maharaj Ganj) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it was being said not for many months but for years that an amendment bill was being brought forward for the protection of motherhood. We are given the hope that it is the motherhood where there lies the fountain of the supreme position, security and dignity of a woman. The time of delivery is the culmination of processes through which a woman has to pass in order to achieve motherhood and in it she has to undergo and endure many hardships in order to attain this blissful dignity. There are certain shortcomings somewhere in the society which led to holding of an international seminar in 1919. India could not participate in it. Subsequently, in 1929 deliberations were once held on it in this House. During the ensuing years, all the States enacted this law. Madras initiated the move and enacted a law at the very outset in 1934. Bengal followed in 1938. Punjab enacted it in 1939 followed by Assam in 1943 and Bihar in 1944. The Central Government first enacted this law in 1941 only for the women working in mines and it was only in 1961 when a law was enacted on the basis of maternity benefits. An amendment was affected in 1978.

Many women's organisations repeatedly pointed their fingers at the lacunae present in it. With the bringing forward of the maternity bill here, we hoped that without looking at motherhood in piecemeals, an all encompassing point of view will be formed and an integrated law formulated in this regard. No expectation from this amendment bill has been fulfilled.

It has already been enumerated in its object that the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has made certain recommendations for amending this Act with a view to inspire the women employees to adopt family planning measures. This amendment has not been recommended with the dignity of women in view but a mother or a woman is viewed as a commodity rather than a human being and it is supposed that women alone are responsible for population increase. Whether it is medical termination of foetus or tubectomy, we should encourage them with a check or an incentive. We are not able to check population increase despite all family planning measures due to these lacunae only. Their sole aim seems to give them incentives. The purpose is limited because we do not further glorify the dignity of maternity and motherhood. We are on the horns of a dilemma as to how far we should or should not co-operate with them in this regard. All the aspects of how to attain the deliverance in the context of social and health factors, give economic assistance etc. to the women who enter the motherhood stage with their pains and predicaments and further undergo strains and stresses in bringing up their children and after bearing all the delivery pains attain motherhood. The only view point prevalent is that women are the reason behind population inflation which should be checked by giving them incentives. We will be able to check population inflation, the day we cease to think like that. Given this objective, we are already obsessed with a

confined viewpoint. As per the provisions of the law of 1961, all the working women having rendered 80 mandays come under the purview of this law but here the purview of the law is quite confined. There are not even 10 percent working women in the organised sector but there are more than 80 percent women working in the unorganised sector. Motherhood has been denied to them here as to how, where and when should they give birth to a child. In pursuit of the voice raised by women's organisations in this connection, a programme of Safe Motherhood was launched but that turned out to be a mockery. In the name of Safe Motherhood, we give away some money or grant and rest assure that we have made motherhood totally safe but in India the motherhood of mothers is unsafe. The infant cries for breast-feed but there is no milk in the breast of a hungry mother who is empty stomach when she gives birth to a child. No attention has been paid to these aspects. We passed a Bill here in 1992 with regard to the canned child nutrition and printed on every tin that it is harmful for health. In 1961, we made a law that mothers will be given 15 minutes' time twice a day for breast feeding their children. It was a quite alluring provision but what if the child becomes restive to feed at that time? Truly, 15 minutes time is very less but how to utilize this duration? There is no provision for this even in the Government offices what to talk of the unorganised sector. There is provision for a smoking room for the men and the cigarette smoking women but there is no place for the working women where they can breast-feed their children. Nowhere is the mother's interest safeguarded. The Government may prove with the help of figures that so much assistance was provided to the women on national and international levels. Motherhood does not need assistance but dignity. The child and the mother can be healthy on the basis of this motherhood and we can have a healthy nation if we have healthy children. Therefore, this law concerns not only the mother and the child but the whole nation. Hence, I submit that motherhood should not be seen in piecemeal but with an all encompassing view point, be it in the shape of women working in the fields, factories or tea gardens. Through it, we can give equal assistance to all.

Madam, while associating with what my predecessors said, I would like to add that there is a serious lacuna in the law of 1961. While granting six or two weeks leave, it provides under section 5, clause 3 that in the event of the death of the baby, the leave shall be deemed to have expired with effect from the date of death of the infant. I would like to say that the mother besides being physically unhealthy also becomes mentally distressed at that time and to my mind, she should avail the whole leave period to regain her mental composure.

Madam, there is still time before amendments find a place in the law for working women but the demand for creches is being made with one voice from every quarter. This demand for creche facilities should be included in the amendments and the Government should make arrangements for ferrying working women who have to breast feed their children to and fro their homes and work place until creches are made available to them. I had once asked the Department of Health about it. The hon. Prime Minister had replied that the role of both men and women in women's welfare and population

planning should be democrated. This amendment once again seems to put the onus of population inflation on the women. Husband and wife are equally responsible for conception and population increase.

Nowhere, husband's responsibility has been fixed through this amendment. The assurance of the Hon. Prime Minister in this House that he would determine the extent of responsibility of men, has also been ignored. We must take this aspect into consideration before passing this bill.

Madam, the responsibility of men increases sooner after the delivery. When the man is sanctioned leave for post-delivery period and he is awakened to his responsibility only then the objective of bill can be achieved. It appears from the Bill that woman will not get any benefit under maternity benefits. They will instead be treated as an object and forced by the society to go in for MTP or Tubectomy. As has been apprehended by my honourable friends, I too fear that MTP might pose a danger to female foetus. However, I support this bill with a heavy heart and hope that you will pass the Bill after accepting the amendments and by giving motherhood a dignified place once again.

[English]

SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI (Sikkim) : Madam Chairperson, on the face of it, I would like to support the Bill wholeheartedly. If we go to the intention of the Bill, my hon. colleagues Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan, Shrimati Girija Devi, Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya and yourself, have expressed reservations. So, in the guise of doing welfare to the women, the Government wants to achieve the target of population control.

Here I wonder whether the Government is opting on their own or under the pressure of the World Bank and other organisations, who want us to control our population.

Madam, I would not like to go in depth because mostly all the points are covered by other hon. Members. Here I would like to emphasise only two points. It should be extended to all the States uniformly. It should also be extended to the unorganised sector because the Bill covers only eight per cent of the women population of the country. If we look into it, the women who are targetted are already educated women and who are working and by the demand of time on them, they are forced to have the small family and they are exposed to so many things. Most of them are already following the small family norm. Even if the Government's intention is to achieve the target of the population control, their target is misplaced. Here I would urge upon the Government that they should extend this benefit to the unorganised sector also.

There are illiterate women. The children born to the people who are covered under this Bill are well taken care of and they can educate their children about the small family norm. But the population growth is going unbridled among the illiterate mass. That is the main cause for our population growth and the Government should divert their attention to that.

As Shrimati Giriraji and Shrimati Sumitraji have rightly pointed out, making women only the object for producing children and they are the cause for the population growth is

not correct. Even the Government here are showing the disparity. If we go by the statistics, we see that 96 per cent of the sterilisation is being carried out on women only and not on men. Why do they not induce men also to go in for sterilisation? Madam, as you have yourself suggested paternity benefit to men, why do they not induce men also to go in for such things and give them paternity benefit.

Madam, I would not like to go on and on the points which have already been covered by other Members.

I once again extend my support to this Bill and conclude my speech.

[Translation]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): Madam, Chairman, this Bill is very good. Some reliefs have been given in it but the way the Bill has received criticism is also worth considering.

Family Planning has got a significant role in the country and this Bill can contribute to it. We have a complete system of Ayurveda in the country in which Eight organs of human body have been described. The delivery system and virginity related subjects have been described elaborately. If one does not want to go in for child, this system provides various options of medicines which do not cause any pain to mother. Abortion was initially considered a crime, but now the Government has given it is constitutional sanctity. This Bill aims at giving maximum relief to the pregnant women.

I want to know from the hon. Health Minister whether the maternity hospitals constructed for women all over India, are being utilized properly? A survey should be got conducted whether iron tablets provided for pregnant women in rural hospitals are being utilized.

It is good that we have given some facilities to women but the women in unorganised sector have not been included in its provision.

All lady members have criticized the male-dominant system. A Bill of the standing committee is pending with the Government for the last two years. It was provided in that Bill that a person having more than two children will be declared disqualified to contest the election. Now, it appears that the Government would not bring that Bill. The Committee has already cleared that Bill but an hon. Member of this House had given a note of dissent stating that the Bill was against Shariat. That was a commendable Bill. It is the general feeling among people that the Members of Parliament or the Legislative Assemblies pass the Bill, concerning them, quickly. But here, the Government has with held a Bill which put restrictions on them. If the Bill had come here, the lady members of this House would not have levelled this charge. Please get the Bill approved in this session itself so that apprehensions of women about non-acceptance of the Bill are allayed. This bill is a very good one. However, it needs to be made more comprehensive so that mothers could get more and more benefits. I support this Bill.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Madam, Chairman I want to express my views on the amendments suggested by me in regard to this bill. My submission is that not only women but men should also get punishment. This point has been referred by Shri Dau Dayal Joshi as well. The

Government of Rajasthan has passed a Bill, which provides that a person, be he a member of Legislative Assembly or Panchayat or a Sarpanch/Pramukh or a member of a municipality, after becoming a member..(Interruptions) It is not related to present but future . Shri Ayub Khan has eight children but he would not fall within this ambit...(Interruptions)

SHRI AYUB KHAN (Jhunjhunu) : I have not..(Interruptions)

Please ask him, how many children does he have.... (Interruptions) Please ask everybody sitting in this row as to how many children do they have..(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : At 4'o clock we have to take up the discussion on Agricultural policy. I appeal to all of you. Let the main debate to be continued.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Madam, my submission is that as per the provision of that Bill if the wife of a man or the lady herself conceives after winning election and becoming a member and the third child takes birth in this family, his/her election to Legislative Assembly or Panchayat or municipality will become invalid. One more scheme, 'Griha Laxmi Yojna' has been introduced by the Government of Rajasthan. Under this scheme, when a girl is born, in a family, one thousand rupees are deposited in the beginning in her name. Later on Rs. 18,000/- are deposited. When this money matures, it is given to the girl. If two girls are born in a family, at first, the parents aspire for a male child, who will perform their funeral rites. A boy is must for performing funeral rites. Anyway, today a girl is as important as a boy. Now, you must be noticing that women have been representing Panchayat and Nagar-Palika bodies. Now, there is no longer a difference between male and female. My submission is that there is a need for bringing a similar Bill in Lok Sabha for its Members as well. If such provisions are made applicable to the Members of Lok Sabha, it would prove useful in the long run and put a check on men also.

So far as the Question of medical expenditure is concerned, genuine medical expenditure must be reimbursed to her. In this connection I have already given a notice of amendment. My next amendment is related to six weeks maternity leave. The period of medical care may vary from case to case. Wherever required, more time should be given on medical ground. In case the child dies after delivery, the woman should be given more time alongwith adequate compensation.

Although, I am supporting this Bill, yet I would like to ask as to who will be the competent doctor. An hon. lady member was speaking that it has been provided in the charter of International Labour Organisation that in case of abortion. the neighbour will not render their Service to the women. Instead, her husband will look after her. When the bride and the groom take rounds of Agni (Fire), they swear to share the happiness and sorrows of each other. So, the responsibility of the husband becomes all the more important.

I think that husbands should also be sanctioned leave to look after their wives. In this way, he will be able to maintain

the custom of 7 rounds of fire.

Sir, finally, I would like to request that there are less women in the organised sector than unorganised sector. Women work in agricultural fields, in brick-kilns and bidi factories. Women working in unorganised sector should be brought within the purview of this Bill as well and both, husband and wife must be given equal days of leave. I, also want to say that as women are encouraged to undergo tubectomy, after birth of two children men should also be given encouragement to go in for vasectomy. Further men should get equal punishment since he is also responsible for committing the wrong. So, this law should be implemented in the entire country. Once it is done, many persons will fall within the purview of this law. Many new persons will get elected to Lok Sabha, because so far, many Members have got elected several times. I think the hon. Minister will consider it.

Sir, I thank you for giving me time to speak. I am hopeful that the hon. Minister will accept my suggestions.

[English]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : Madam Chairperson, while introducing this Bill I have already stated that there is only a limited purpose for this Bill. There are two Acts in our country which look after the maternity benefits of the working women. One is the Employees State Insurance Scheme Act under which they provide maternity benefits and the other is the Maternity Benefit Act.

Madam, I am grateful to all the hon. Members who have participated in the discussion. They have expressed their views about the conditions of mothers and children of our country and many hon. Members have gone beyond the scope of this Act. While taking part in the debate they might have been thinking that this Bill is coming from the Health Ministry, but it is not from the Health Ministry. I am piloting this Bill on behalf of the Labour Minister who is otherwise busy in the other House and this Bill has been introduced to serve a limited purpose.

Madam, it is not that we are going to change the whole Maternity Benefit Act. It is the demand of the representatives of the workers and other organisations. The Labour Ministry had taken up a discussion and after that they have drafted this bill. This Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 2.5.1995 and the Rajya Sabha had sent this Bill to the Standing Committee on 9.5.1995. The Standing Committee had deliberated upon the Bill and they had unanimously accepted the provisions of this Bill and the Rajya Sabha had passed this Bill on 1.6.1995. So, we have introduced this Bill here, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

While taking part in the discussion, many Members referred to the Medical Termination of Pregnancy, many Members referred to the clauses of the Pre-Natal Diagnostics Act and many Members have referred to the Constitution (Amendment) Bill of the Health Ministry, pending in the other House. I think these are related to those Bills. But in this case, these benefits are not new. It is new for the working women who are not covered by the Employees State Insurance Scheme. We are going to cover them also and give the benefit

to them.

Madam, it is not true that the Government of India is encouraging Medical Termination of Pregnancy as one of the methods of family planning.

It is clearly stated in the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act of 1971 that when and how a women can go for MTP and in what conditions and who can perform that. That is there. So, there is no question of encouraging MTP as a measure of family planning by the Government of India. Madam, so I want to clear that also.

Many hon. Members have mentioned about the facility of the creche for the children of the working women. It is true that in the Plantation Labour Act and the Factory Act, there are provisions for the creche. But as hon. Chairperson has expressed her concern about, it is true that these Acts are not properly implemented. I think, the hon. Labour Minister has also assured that he is going to call a meeting of the State Governments and they will discuss specially about this provision of the Act. They will also discuss how and where the creche should be provided for the children of the working women. I think most of the hon. Members have welcomed this inclusion and as we always refer about the Standing Committee, the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare has unanimously approved the Government amendment. So, I will request the House to pass this Bill as amended and passed by the Rajya Sabha.

As far as the other questions are concerned, most of them are related to the Family Welfare Department. I think the hon. Members will get the opportunity to highlight their views on those matters because this amendment Bill has a very limited purpose. So, I request the hon. Members to support and pass this Bill.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur) : Madam, I would like to have a clarification.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, I have to seek the permission of the House to finish this Bill before the next item which is to be taken at 4 o' clock. I think all of you agree.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes, Madam.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : Madam, may I please seek a quick clarification? I think it is entirely unprecedented that one Minister answers on behalf of a Minister belonging to a completely different Ministry. I think that is why certain suspicions are there in our minds that what is in fact a measure for labour welfare is being translated into a measure for family welfare. The Minister, of course, has very kindly explained that the Government has no intention of using MTP, Medical Termination of Pregnancy, as a regular family planning method. I raised this question during my intervention and the Minister has answered it. But I want to ask him that if this is so then what is the meaning of this sentence in the Objects and Reasons?

"In order to motivate the women employees to undertake family planning measures all these have been brought."

Why do you have this sentence then in Objects and Reasons if you are not using it as a family planning method? I think, it would be very bad if MTP is used as a family planning method or if there is any suspicion of doing this.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : Madam, the family planning includes the health of the women because there are thousands and thousands of women of our country who are going for MTP. I have not got the exact figures with me but it will run into thousands.

16.00 hrs.

Thousands and thousands of women are going in for MTP and they are not getting any benefit after this medical termination of the pregnancy. This benefit is very much required for the health of the women and for that reason we are extending this benefit to our working women who are not covered by the ESI scheme. That is the purpose of this Bill.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : That is fine, but the suspicion remains.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The questions is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That Clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

Clause 4 - Substitution of new section for section - 9

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri R. Naidu Ramaswamy, are you moving your amendments?

SHRI R. NAIDU RAMASAMY (Periyakulam) : I beg to move :

Page 2, line 5, —

after "benefit" insert —

"and allowances commensurate to the actual medical expenses incurred." (1)

Page 2, line 5, —

after "six weeks" insert —

"or for the period actually spent in medical care, whichever is longer". (2)

Madam, there should be a provision in the Bill for claiming actual medical expenses and also availing wages for the entire period of the medical care. If it is not given, many of the women will be put to hardship. This Bill must take into account the reality in practical life rather than suggesting a uniform period for all women. I want the hon. Minister to accept my amendments. If they are not accepted, then I press for these amendments.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava had already spoken on his amendments. Are you moving your amendments?

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : No.

[Translation]

Hon. Minister has not accepted my plea, I withdraw it.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri S.P. Yadav is not present; Shrimati Saroj Dubey is not here. So, I believe, she is not moving her amendments.

Now, I shall put amendment Nos. 1 and 2 moved by Shri R. Naidu Ramaswamy to the vote of the House.

Amendment Nos. 1 and 2 were put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That Clause 4 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

Clause 5 - Insertion of new section 9 A

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri R. Naidu Ramaswamy, are you moving your amendments?

SHRI R. NAIDU RAMASAMY (Periyakulam) : I am moving these amendments and I request the Government to kindly consider the same.

I beg to move :

Page 2, line 10, —

after "tubectomy operation" insert —

"or a surgery for removal of the ovary". (3)

Page 2, line 12, —

after "benefit" insert —

"and allowances commensurate to the actual medical expenses incurred." (4)

Page 2, line 12, —

after "two weeks" insert —

"or for the period actually spent in medical care, whichever is longer." (5)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think Mr. Bhargava is not moving his amendments.

[Translation]

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava : I would be happy if the hon. Minister accepts it. Otherwise, I shall not be able to sleep well in the night.

Mr. Chairman : You should take sleeping pills.

[English]

Does the hon. Member want to press the amendments?

SHRI R. NAIDU RAMASAMY : Madam, I seek leave of the House to withdraw my amendments.

Amendment Nos. 3, 4 and 5 were, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava to move his amendment.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : I am not moving my amendment.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Dr. S.P. Yadav - Absent.

Shrimati Saroj Dubey - Absent.

The question is :

"That Clause 5 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 5 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That Clause 6 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 6 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long Title stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

16.07 hrs.

MOTION RE : CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT AGRICULTURE POLICY RESOLUTION (AS MODIFIED) —
Contd.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now the hon. Minister Shri Balram Jakhar may move the motion regarding Draft Agriculture Policy Resolution (as modified).

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : I beg to move :

"That this House do consider the 'Draft Agriculture Policy Resolution (as modified)', laid on the Table of the House on 14 May, 1993."

[Translation]

Madam, Chairman, I am thinking if I should lay it on the Table or not. It is now 2 years and eight months since I had laid it before the House. We could not get time for it despite our repeated requests. It is related to seventy five percents. When I look around the House, my conscience does not allow me to present it. I cannot tolerate insult of 75 percent people. I don't know what to do and to whom to speak?

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (Mirzapur) : You should also look at your back also.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : I am casting my eyes all around.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : I support him. Every political party should support his views.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Today, this item should be postponed because nothing could be more shameful than this for our country. We talk of farmers and

shed tears for them. An important resolution is being moved by the Agriculture Minister. I have no hesitation in saying this.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think the concern of the Minister and the Members of the House, who have expressed, is definitely a question of serious concern to the whole House and to the whole nation. Now, the question is : given the situation as it is, do we proceed with the discussion or we stop it?

Some Hon. Members : We should proceed with...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let us start then. The feeling is that though the situation is terrible, even then those of us who are here are for a discussion. Shri Balram Jakhar, what is your opinion? Will you kindly continue?

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla) : Madam Chairperson, it is unfortunate that the economic policy of the country was determined 30-40 years back. I fully support the hon. Agriculture Minister when he says that some people pose to be the messiahs of the farmers and they shed tears for them but when we look all around, we find that those very people are missing from the House..*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SUDARSHAN RAYCHAUDHURI (Serampore) : Maybe, the Members are not satisfied with the Draft Agriculture Policy. That is why they expressed their views like that ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think the discussion was agreed upon. I have already expressed about the feeling of the Minister as well as our views..*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Madam, I am aghast at the observations of the hon. Members. If it is bad, even then it is to be discussed...*(Interruptions)* it is absolutely absurd.

[Translation]

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : It may be the last session of this Government and the new policy of agriculture will be formed by the new Government, whenever it comes.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is about everything. The question is : whether we should proceed with it or not.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada) : First take up the discussion on the Draft Agriculture Policy.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : This discussion should not be postponed today. This issue has been taken up after 2½ years. If it is postponed, God knows when it will be taken up. My submission is that the condition of the farmers is miserable. The hon. Minister should start...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Minister was on his legs. He may proceed.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : During each Session it was on the Agenda but it was not taken up.

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : I am very sad. I listen to everyone, talk about everyone and today two years and nine months have lapsed. The industrial policy, the economic policy and the education policy of the country have already been formed.

[English]

Every type of Policy has come up. When we tried to do it, nobody listened to it. Nobody even tried to discuss it and they said that it was so bad that they did not want to listen to it. What sort of an absurd utterance you make. This is what it is.

Madam, it has a long history. It started in 1990. About the formulation of this Policy, Shri Sharad Joshi was entrusted with the task. He gave some suggestions. Again, the Bhanupratap Singh Committee came. Then again it was shelved. Nothing happened. It collapsed completely. Then the Draft Agriculture Policy was considered by the Cabinet as put up by the Agriculture Ministry on 18.6.1992 and it was referred to the Group of Ministers. The meeting of the Group of Ministers was held on 17.8.1992 under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister.

And this Draft was again discussed by the Cabinet on 11.11.92. Then on 5.3.93, a Chief Ministers' Conference was called to discuss this Policy in which all the Chief Ministers were called. They discussed it. They gave some recommendations. They made some alterations. And it was completely agreed that this should be the Draft Policy and then we drafted it later.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : It will be good if you speak in Hindi.

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra) : You should, at least, speak about the farmers in Hindi. They are being neglected. The farmer does not know English and everything related to him is being said here in English..(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is the Member's choice to speak in whichever language he so chooses.

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Allow me please, I will speak in Punjabi, Urdu, Gujarati and Sanskrit, whichever language you like.

I was saying that on 5.3.94 the draft was discussed in the meeting of the Chief Ministers. All the Chief Ministers analysed it fully. Later on, some amendments were done in it. They gave some suggestions, which were included in it. Then it was laid in the House on 16.5.94. All this was aimed at upliftment of the farmers, which could not be done till date in the agricultural sector. 75 per cent of our population live in villages. In whatever way they may be associated with agriculture but they make their subsistence from agricultural

land only. Whether they do labour or whether they do farming in partnership, all are dependent on agriculture. Our aim of bringing the agricultural policy was to improve the condition of the villages and their inhabitants.

The first thing in this policy is, how to increase the agricultural production. How should we explain to the farmers to increase the production? How to increase the fertility of the land? Through this policy, the feelings of uncertainty among them can be removed. The way the land is becoming alkaline and the way water is being misused in areas where there is no water, these things will be taken care of by this policy. It would also look into, how water can be utilised and how the fertility of the land can be maintained. We have pondered over preserving the genetic, biotic and natural things. In the beginning, we resorted to land ceiling and thereafter divided it into small holdings. However, our population increased from 32 crore to 92 crore. With this increase the division of the land started. In this regard, we have pondered over how to teach them work on co-operative basis and how to encourage them achieve maximum production. We have tried to make them understand to spare some people from this work and engage them in other work. We want one brother to do one work and another, to do some other work so that they can make their livelihood properly, earn through other means and thus, help remove unemployment. When the production is more, the income will increase. With the increase in earning, they will be able to get more means of livelihood and thus, will not face any deficiency of food. For this purpose we have promoted horticulture, fisheries, dairies, animal husbandry, poultry and sericulture. It is only a micro capsule. There will be a macro programme separately.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Do not say sugar coated. It is thoroughly sugar and not coated. The sugar production has been 145 lakh tonnes. I hope that all of us will try to increase it. I have the recommendations of the standing committee with me. I am also pondering over them and these will be included in the policy.

A detailed discussion was held in Rajya Sabha also. My submission is that it is neither my policy nor the policy of a particular party. It is the policy of the farmers. We want to do whatever is good for them. We would like to prepare the draft with your co-operation and opinion. There should not be any controversy on it since we all want to do it collectively.

Now I come to the issue of value addition agriculture. 25 to 30 percent of the vegetables and fruits in our country get perished. There is a need to preserve them. It is said that the production in China has increased. The production there is not higher than our production. They count potato and other vegetables in their foodgrains. In foreign countries, 40 to 60 percent of the products are canned or are preserved in some other way. They have the facility of storage but we do not have these facilities. We will have to work in the field of grading, packaging, canning, marketing, transportation, storage and processing. For it, knowledge is also required. All these things have been taken care of in it so that even a marginal farmer can be benefited.

I had been to the Rajpura village in West Bengal. I have seen there that earlier the production of tomato was 5 tonnes but now an individual farmer is growing 50-60 tonnes of tomatoes. But what will remain with him if he gets 25 paise per kilogram after producing 60 tonnes. The juice and sauce can be prepared from tomato, but we do not have the facility. Therefore, there should be storage facility and agro-processing industries for it.

Nothing can be done without money. If the farmer does not have money, he will not be able to buy insecticide, fertilizers and even good quality of seeds. Our credit system had nearly collapsed due to the loan-waiver scheme. It was restructured again. This year, we have given loans upto 21 thousand crore rupees and we hope that next year it will be 25 thousand crore rupees. We have made arrangements with the Reserve Bank of India that the farmers should get loans upto 25 thousand crore rupees directly. Now it is to be seen how the States give the loan to the farmers. We want that they should get the loan upto Rupees 2 lakh at 13 percent interest, while the other industries get it at 18 percent interest.

We would like to develop such an agricultural research system in which the work will be got done economically, logically and as per bio-fertilizer, bio-chemistry and natural technique. You all might be knowing that our biggest assets are our scientists. There are 28 agriculture universities, throughout the country. Besides there are 45 research stations and Krishi Vigyan Kendras. We would also like to streamline their working. It is also to be seen that the knowledge is made accessible to the people since acquiring knowledge is also important.

Today I met Ramji, who hails from Bihar. In a meeting with him, he told that he was doing something there, which has resulted in rich production. I said that I was hopefully looking to him. If Bihar also followed Punjab and Haryana then there would be no scarcity of foodgrains in the country. I had also said such words in West Bengal. That State has become self-reliant. Likewise, Bihar says that this time their production of foodgrain has increased by 15 lakh tonnes. We produce 70 per cent of the total production of Lichi. I want to do something in this direction also. The Governor there is taking very much interest in it. I told Ramji that the grant given for fertilizers by the Centre was not being spent and the department did not utilize it. They deposit it in the treasury and invest it here or there. They do not give it to the farmer.

Likewise, it is also to be seen as to how much we can produce in the rainfed area. We still depend on rain. If there is rainfall, the foodgrains will be produced. We wait for the rain but the rain did not fall and it result in drought. Now it has rained, the fields will be lush green. We want to launch watershed programme as well as water recharging programme in the drought prone areas.

I had been to Rajasthan yesterday. Rains have surpassed 15 years old record there. I had not seen so much water in the ponds there earlier. Now, the water level has raised by 10 feet and if it continues to rain, there will be more water available.

We want to go in for Irrigated Areas and Strengthening

Institutional Framework for Farmers' Education and Training. Instead of 400 crore rupees, 1300 crore rupees have been given for this purpose but I am not satisfied as yet. I would like to seek your co-operation in this regard so that the farmers can be benefited and demonstration plants can be set up. We want to collect scientific information and disseminate it under a programme of harnessing of scientific research. First of all, we developed a hybrid of Cotton. Later, a hybrid of paddy was developed. If the hybrid of paddy is sown once in two or three years interest in one million hectare land, then 15 million tonnes of paddy will be produced more and he will have immense returns. We would like to do something about inputs also. We want to extend some benefits to the women living in tribal areas under women welfare programmes.

There was no university in Eastern States and the first Agricultural University has been set up in Manipur. In the same way, we will set up one college in each State. We are also setting up an Institute of Fisheries and a Centre for Agricultural Sciences. There is a need to encourage the setting up of more such institutes but it takes time. The system of Accelerated Development of rainfed irrigation of Horticulture is also there, through which plum and some other things can be produced with less quantity of water. Production can be increased in rainfed areas. We should think that how it could be encouraged. We also have to look into the method of plantation. Aromatic plants are used in preparing medicines. The food processing method and marketing of fruits is also to be reviewed. In the same way, the use of less fertile marginal land is also to be encouraged. We intend to transform this whole system through biomass production, so that the production capacity could be increased.

In regard to water, we have to pay attention towards the maximum utilisation of water. We have enough water and the irrigated land we have is only 30 percent which is not sufficient. Our present efforts are not much useful. Therefore, we should find out a method of proper utilisation of water resources. Some people quarrel on the issue of water and the people do not have any knowledge that how much quantity of water is required for irrigating the soil. They put much more water than required and ruin fertility of soil. This will be disastrous for the coming generation. There is a new technique for this, which can transform this system. I seek your help for it. In each and every State, irrespective of party affiliation, all the Chief Ministers are my friends. I have said to all the Chief Ministers that we all should be concerned about the progress of our country and it is our duty to protect and guide the farmers so that the present scenario could be changed. We should try to provide them better facilities. In the same way, we have made arrangements to provide 50 to 75 percent grants to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and all other persons including women for introducing Drip Irrigation and Sprinkle irrigation system. All the women who have land in their own name and engaged in farming will be benefited by it. Madam, this has been done on your request. Narmada Canal passes through Gujarat. I had made a request to Prime Minister and have told Keshu Bhal that if field irrigation is done there. The land will get ruined. In this context the outcome of your efforts will be contrary to your objectives. Therefore, please make proper

use of water. If you introduce these new systems, you can irrigate three acres of land instead of one with the same quantity of water and the coming generation will praise your efforts. It will change the present scenario of the country. I have taken approval of the hon. Prime Minister. He has agreed to provide 50 percent funds. This project is worth Rs. 22 crore and 12 crore will be given. Now the main task is of starting this process and it can be done through continuous efforts. I have also talked to Shri Deve Goudaji for silting and collecting water in ponds for recharging. In this way water will be supplied from this collected water. It will improve our irrigation facilities. If this could be done, it will bring a revolution and create history. This will transform the whole system and people will think about the utility of this system.

[English]

SHRI ANIL BASU : You are just speaking about de-silting, but what about DVC which was constructed in 1958 and other old reservoirs, and their storage capacity ?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : I am talking about all things. (Interruptions)

SHRI ANIL BASU : You are talking about de-silting of ponds, but what about the reservoirs constructed before?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not disturb.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Please do not interrupt me, listen to me first. (Interruptions)

Why are you disturbing me again and again. Please listen to me first; I am telling a sad story. I am not talking about farmers but about the soul of India which is to be raised. You listen to me peacefully. We have to make use of the increasing irrigation potential. Day before yesterday, this question was raised. At that time also, I had said that you can adopt this system on the land you have as per the ceiling laws. I will pay for it.

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : At present, there is no such provision.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : That provision is there. (Interruptions) I would like to tell you that this system is for everyone, irrespective of the area of holdings. It may be 10 or 20 acre as per the provision under the law. I had gone to Mysore 10 or 12 months back. There, one person told me that he has adopted this new system of irrigation. Earlier he used to grow sugarcane on 4 acres only out of the total land of 12 acres. He had 2 wells and used to extract water all the 24 hours. (Interruptions) Now he has changed that system of irrigation and irrigated the field by collecting water and now he has to run the tubewells for fifteen hours only and could grow sugarcane in 12 acres of land. (Interruptions) I would like to say that we are giving this grant and farmers have taken up this task and are trying to help the country. You give Rs. 100 for canal or for dam; now for changing the irrigation system, we are providing Rs. 50. It is a new option and we all should publicise the utility of this new system.

The second thing is about providing improved variety of seeds. Selling of improved variety of seeds is a good thing. It will change the fortune of farmers and make them prosperous. Therefore, I would like to educate the farmers. (Interruptions) We are trying to find out proper method of providing improved seeds. We can develop improved quality of seeds and export those. One of my colleague used to say that it is really disturbing that we do not have the seeds developed by us. I told him that there is no such situation now. We will never tolerate that freedom of farmers be snatched. Now our farmers can grow seeds, change it and sell it in the market. Now it is up to the buyer, he can buy inferior or improved seeds. Now in case the inferior quality of seeds are sold by authorised dealer, the dealer will be punished. (Interruptions) Now you do not worry about the multinational companies. They can come here only under the provisions of law. They will not be permitted to rule here. The interests of the farmers will be protected at every cost. (Interruptions)

Now, I would like to say something about Local Institution Farming. We are trying to include farmers in our march towards progress. We also intend to correct our terms of trade and remove the imbalances in commercial trade. We invest less money in agriculture, especially public spending has declined. Perhaps industrial sector provides more money and thus people are going there. There should be some policy for it. We cannot succeed in any field until the farmer has enough grain in storage. No policy can be successful without this. What happened in 1990-91, you had to import 31 lakh tonnes of wheat and foreign exchange worth Rs. 1500 crore was spent on it and gold was mortgaged for it.

Today we need 14 million tonnes of grain for storage and we have 3 crore 60 lakh tonnes of foodgrain for storage. You can do whatever you like to do but the farmers have produced it for you. (Interruptions)

Please listen to me. You can see these figures. I am giving the correct figures. We are trying to encourage farmers by boosting their will power and production capacity. (Interruptions)

We will also make arrangements for storage because it is very essential. Funds will be allocated for it separately. You might be remembering that when farmers were encouraged, they changed the scenario of foodgrain production in the country. Presently we have a huge stock of foodgrains whereas earlier we had to import from other countries. I can provide you all the figures by which you can study about the minimum support prices. You can point out the lacunae in it, and that will be removed. Support prices will be fixed after adding all the expenditure incurred and profit of the farmers. Minimum support price is fixed for protecting farmer and he can sell it at higher rates also if it is available anywhere. The support price for cotton was fixed Rs. 1200 to Rs. 1300 whereas it was sold at a rate of Rs. 2400 per quintal. This year wheat would have been sold at a rate of Rs. 250 per quintal if its support price was not fixed. We will also fix the support price for Jute. Last time Rs. 20 crore were allocated for it and this time also we are going to do that and ask the procurement authorities that why jute is not purchased. It is

biodegradable, it is not harmful and in later stage mixes in the soil. We have to discuss this matter with our friends in textiles industry and ask them to use jute in making bags for fertilizer, cement and other goods.

16.42 hrs.

[SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG in the Chair]

Alongwith it, I would like to say something about milk production. We have to protect the species of our cattle, which is special and not available anywhere. So it should not be wasted. We have to select and improve these species through hybridization. We have to do much in this field. Instead of Rs. 4.00 crore at present Rs. 1300 crores have been allocated for it. As a result of our efforts instead of 17 million tonnes, 63 million tonnes of milk was produced this year and will increase upto 72 million tonnes in the coming three years which will be the highest in the world. But we are not going to stop here only, we have to make much more progress in this field because it is the best way of removing poverty. Employment can be generated through it with less investment. We would like to make all these arrangements. Your suggestions in this regard will be considered. (Interruptions). Rajveer Singh ji has interest in this field, he can give suggestions on it, we will consider them. Public Investment is also to be encouraged. I would like to say that in the field of setting up factories Rs. 35,000 crores were to be invested in the Agriculture sector. An agreement was made to set up about 2800 plants in the field of food processing which will be set up for floriculture, production of mushrooms, live stock and fisheries. In context of saying that we are not paying attention towards production and protection of foodgrains. I would like to say that it is not so. The income of farmers can be increased by boosting production of foodgrains. We can export the foodgrains when we will have it in our homes. How we can export foodgrains when we have it shortage in our own country. We will try our best that shortage of foodgrains never occurs. You can see that instead of 50 million tonnes, 190 million tonnes of foodgrains has been produced this year and its credit goes to the farmers, scientists and all of you. In place of 12 million tonnes of oil seeds, 22.3 million tonnes of oilseeds have been produced. There is a shortage of pulses, a technical mission has been set up for this and all the concerned institutions have been told to make research for new and improved varieties of seeds for pulses because present varieties of seeds give less production.

The plants of these seeds are prone to disease and provide less income to grower and thus farmers avoid growing pulses. Therefore, I would like to make it a profitable crop because no one wants to bear losses. How we can hope it from farmers that they will grow a crop which do not give them profit. Farmer is not slave to anybody. He is independent and will choose a profitable job. I would like to say that he should be given profit for growing foodgrains; horticulture, pulses and oilseeds. From 10 millions, our production have reached to 14 1/2 million and we will achieve our target of 15.5 million this year. We will have improved seeds also.

I have already told about credit. We wanted to raise it and law is being brought to this affect. This Bill is lying pending with the Law Ministry. I would like to provide much more rights

to cooperatives so that they may be able to bear responsibility. There should also be a provision for elections but some hurdles are in it and I want to remove them. We have introduced open market system. Now you can take your procedure anywhere in the country. Farmers can take their produce from Punjab to Madras or to any other state of the country. They are free to do so. I would also like to say something about crop insurance. We have a law in this regard. We have discussed this issue in cabinet committee. Earlier there was a proposal of Rs. 10,000 but I would like to raise it. I am concerned about it. There are many hurdles in it and I seek your help for it. While formulating the agriculture policy, we invited all the agricultural institutions, scientists, Members of ruling and opposition parties and Chief Ministers so that no one could say that it is my policy. Your opinion and suggestion regarding it will be considered. We have more number of persons in our country and this manpower should be utilised. We have raised the wages. It has been raised by 20 per cent but it is not enough. In Rajasthan the wages are Rs. 60 per day and during the pre-cure season of work it increases upto Rs. 100 per day. I would like to provide the due share to the farmers and labourers. If you will not give labourers their due share, you cannot work.

Iqbal had put down: "Us khet Ke Har Khosh-e-Gandum Ko Jala Do, Jis Khet Se Dahkan Ko Mayassar Na Ho Roti". We are talking of putting a ceiling on land holdings. It should be implemented where it has not been done so far. This is what we want.

[English]

SHIR ANIL BASU : You are talking here about the land reforms and the Land Ceiling Act. But the Punjab Government has very recently withdrawn the Land Ceiling Act..(Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : I have ascertained it. There is nothing like that.

[Translation]

We will see to it, don't worry. In the Agricultural Policy we have provided that the farmers cannot have more land than what is fixed in the Land Ceiling Act. But the farmers would be extended all benefits available to the industry. Agriculture has not been accorded the status of an industry. But all facilities and benefits have been provided to the farmers. They are exempted from Income Tax, Capital Gains Tax and Estate Duty. A farmer toils in his farm throughout the day. He would hold you responsible for his plight. You are businessmen and lawyers. The farmers should be given assistance to enable them at least to earn their livelihood. They should get a chance to improve their lot.

We want to improve the condition of the small and medium farmers. Their plight has remained unchanged over the years. For this, I am seeking financial assistance from World Bank, Industries and Reserve Bank. The Agricultural Ministry is also providing financial assistance from its own resources. We are organising them into cooperatives. By packaging his produce, the farmers can make more profits, through value addition. Perishable items should be preserved. We want to improve the condition of each and every one.

They have high expectations from us. If their expectations are not fulfilled now, it would take another 50 years. From environmental point of view we are taking certain remedial steps for water recharging and to prevent desilting. If you have any suggestions in this regard, I am ready to listen to you. With this, I conclude and thank you for listening to my views attentively.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : I want an assurance from the Minister. Would you incorporate our constructive suggestions, given during discussion, by rising above party politics?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : We are discussing agricultural policy not politics..(Interruptions).

Day before yesterday, while speaking in the Rajya Sabha, one of our colleagues made certain remarks which pinched me immensely. Some gentleman made certain remarks here also. I told him that I want to change the condition of the farmers. Why do you abuse me? I want to provide all facilities to the farmers. Like all of us, the farmers also have been born as human beings. We want to give the farmers their due. What if you have come into money. This does not make you a king. Though vanquished, you are still full of airs. They have made a mockery. Am I a football to be kicked hither and thither? ... (Interruptions) With this I conclude

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Report is laid on the Table of the House.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANIL BASU : I want to seek one clarification. From the 6th March, 1992 to 8th March, 1995 what steps has the Government taken to implement the points mentioned in the Draft Policy? (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not reply.

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Shall I spell out the achievements without listening to you?

SHRI ANIL BASU : I am asking this because all the reports of the Planning Commission are publicly opposed to the hon. Minister. (Interruptions)

Shri Amarpal Singh. (Interruptions)

Please address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Our achievements are as tall as Qutab Minar ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : Sir, how much time is allotted for this discussion?

MR. CHAIRMAN : The time allotted is four hours. Shri Amar Pal Singh to speak now.

[Translation]

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH (Meerut) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, ours is a predominantly agricultural country and agriculture is the backbone of our country. I congratulate Shri Balam Jakhar for placing before the House the agricultural policy. In

this regard I would like to make certain suggestions.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have three categories of foodgrain seeds in the country : Breeder, Foundation and Certified. The cost of preparation of Breeder and Foundation seeds is high. But for Certified seeds it is low. The farmers have yet to be accustomed with use of Certified seeds for three reasons : Seeds are adulterated, is more costly and its availability is not regular. If the Government makes Certified seed available at cheaper rates like the ordinary seed, then there would be no adulteration, nor would the farmers have any hesitation in sowing them. And within these limited resources, the foodgrains production would rise by 15 percent.

The agricultural policy mentions of giving an impetus to agro-industrial units. But, the agricultural policy does not envisage and concrete plans to achieve this. Without establishing a network of agro based industries it would not be possible to provide remunerative prices to the farmer so far their produce. On the one hand, we take of liberalised economic policy, but on the other hand, agrobased industrial units are in the fetters of licence system, like the Sugar industry. It is a great irony that sugar can be imported under OGL, but the sugar industry has not been delicensed. And the small scale sulphur khandsari units have not been given permission for installing vacuum peny. The sugar industry in the country can utilise only 33 percent of the sugarcane produced by the farmers. I would like to make a suggestion to the Minister that, he should take the initiative in having all agro-based industries freed from the purview of licence system. Also, to encourage agro based industries, interest rates should be further reduced and comprehensive tax concession should be given. The important point I would like to make in the House, is that, in the small khandsari units, the recovery percent is only 6.5. If permission is given for vacuum peny the recovery would increase to 9 per cent. This would not only save national loss by three per cent, but employment avenues would increase in the rural areas. Energy would not be needed. These units would produce their own energy as per their need. After their permission the sugar production would be to the tune of two crore tonnes and we would be in a position to export sugar.

There is large scale production and consumption of potato in our country. But whenever there is a bumper potato crop, the farmers do not get remunerative prices. My suggestion is that like foodgrains, the Government should announce support prices for the purchase of potato also.

The Agricultural Policy includes land reforms. But even today, there are large tracts of waste lands in every part of the country. No concrete efforts have been made to make it cultivable. If the Government is unable to make these lands cultivable, then it should allot these to the progressive farmers so that they would make these lands cultivable on their own. I would like to give an example. Te progressive farmers from Punjab and Haryana, have not only made the waste lands in Terai, Uttar Pradesh, fit for agriculture, but today Terai is in the fore front of agricultural production in Uttar Pradesh.

17.00 hrs.

There is a great scope for large scale production of good quality Basmati rice in our country. And there is scope for

large scale export also. To enable the farmers to sell this type of rice at good prices, my suggestion is that the Minister should ensure that Basmati rice is made levy-free and rice thrashers upto 10 H.P., for the farmers should be delicensed. In this way, the production of Basmati rice would go up, exports would rise and the farmers would earn more.

In our country, states quarrel over drinking water, whereas for want of inadequate utilisation of river water, water of the rivers of Punjab flow down to Pakistan. The excess water is not utilised. To achieve this more canals could be constructed in Punjab and in other parts of the country. This would ensure better irrigation in Punjab and other parts of the country. In the Agricultural Policy, a time bound programme should be made to arrange for irrigation throughout the entire country. And a mandatory provision should be made in the agricultural policy for supplying 12 hours of uninterrupted power to the tube-wells. If, even after the interference by the Centre the State Government is not in a position to provide uninterrupted power supply for 12 hours daily to the farmers, it should be ensured that the farmers be given the right to seek compensation for the loss suffered due to the fault of the State Governments, through the Consumer Forum.

In the Agricultural Policy, the Minister has made a provision to insure the crops against loss due to floods and draught. This is a commendable step. To guard against floods and draught and to safeguard the loss to farmers through these calamities, my suggestion is that, all the rivers of the country should be linked together. As mentioned in the Garland Canal Project, placed before the Government for its consideration. During his tenure the then Irrigation Minister, Shri K.L. Rao too had mentioned this project. There should be no hindrance in the free movement of agricultural produce and agro based products through out the contry, as mentioned by the Minister. If a State Government restricts the free movement of agricultural produce, then provision should be made to withhold the entire Central assistance to such state.

By acquiring agricultural land, the farmers are rendered unemployed. By not paying adequate compensation timely, greater injustice is done to them. And, income tax is applicable on the amount paid as compensation. I would suggest to the Agriculture Minister that the unemployed farmer should not be subjected to income tax. Income tax is meant, for the employed, not for the unemployed persons. The Minister has referred to this in Para 11 of his agricultural policy, which is not clear. I demand that this should be made crystal clear and such farmers should not be brought under the income tax net.

Emphasis has been laid in the Agricultural Policy on horticulture, floriculture, sericulture and on plantation of medicinal herbs and plants. These are specialised agricultural products which would benefit not only the nation but would bring more profits to the farmers. There is an immense scope for the export of these products in the nation. But this is not being exploited fully. In his agriculture policy, the Minister has outlined a plan to train the farmers. My suggestion is that, the farmers should be trained at the block level and imparted knowledge pertaining to entire export procedure and on the exportable items. So that the farmers get right prices for their

exports. At present, the middlemen corner a major portion of the farmers' earnings.

In 1952, the per capita daily consumption of lentil was 75 gms. But it declined to 35 gms in 1995. About 23 million hectares are under lentil cultivation. Per hectare lentil production is 550 kg. Hitherto, lentil cultivation is mostly in low irrigated and unirrigated lands. To increase the product of lentil, its cultivation should be done in irrigated land also. If the Minister wants to increase the lentil production by bringing irrigated land under its cultivation, then the support prices should be hiked adequately. In the past weeks, the Minister has hiked the support prices of lentil by Rs. 40 per quintal. This is made quote. Due to shortage of lentil, the consumer has to buy it at Rs. 30-35 per Kg. If the Minister hikes the support price of lentil to Rs. 1200 per quintal and if the availability of Certified seeds is increased, then the nation would become self-sufficient in the production of lentil within two years. And lentil would be available to the consumers at Rs. 15 - Rs. 20 per kg.

I would like to make one more suggestion. A provision should be made to give all the State and Central farms on contract to the progressive farmers for the cultivation of lentils only.

By increasing the cultivation of groundnut, mustard, and sunflower, the country can become self-sufficient in oil seeds production. Till 1950, our country used to import large quantities of oil seeds. Our present production is only to the tune of 54 lakh tonnes. The remaining 11 lakh tonnes is imported. I would like to make a suggestion to the Minister that along with the cultivation of groundnut, mustard, sunflower and soyabean, cultivation of palm oil should be increased in Kerala, Andaman and in Tamil Nadu — like Malaysia and Indonesia — and palm based oil mills should be set up.

The hon. Minister has made a large provision for grants for irrigation through sprinkler system.

But as it involves sizeable labour cost, small and marginal farmers cannot use it, while due to availability of better photo synthesis and nitrogen from atmosphere, there is great potentiality of high yield per acre. Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Agriculture Minister to enhance the land ceiling, in the interest of the country, from 12.5 acre to 20 acre. It will save water, energy as well as increase per hectare yield.

To make rural life more attractive and normal, the provision of educational and medical facility at rural level itself, has been mentioned in para 14, of Agriculture Policy. My suggestion for the purpose is that concrete plans should be chalked out and I think that for rural development, the expansion of solar energy is very necessary. Therefore, for the development of solar energy in rural areas, a separate cell should be constituted in the Ministry of Agriculture.

There should be atleast two farmers as members of committee on Support Prices and while estimating the cost of crop, the expenditure and investment made by the farmer on seed, fertiliser, labour, transportation, cost of the land and interest rate on bank loans for this investment till the harvesting of the crop should be taken into account and then the support price should be determined.

I would like to thank the hon. Minister for his idea of giving agriculture, the status of Industry. I have one more suggestion to make and that is that farmers should have a Pass Book and they should have facility of availing bank loans on reasonable interest rate without mortgaging their crops. With these suggestions I fully support the Agriculture Policy.

17.08 hours

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri P.M. Sayeed to lay a copy of the statement on crime situation in the country.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Crime Situation in the Country

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : Sir, I beg to lay a copy of the statement on the crime situation in the country on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

During the course of proceedings in the Lok Sabha on 31-7-1995, the Hon'ble Speaker had directed that a report should be laid on the Table of the House on the crime and law and order situation in the country. The Hon'ble Speaker had also directed that the report should *inter alia* cover the number of crimes, convictions, crime-prone areas, crime against women, agriculturists, labourers, industrialists, business people, politicians and others.

The Hon'ble Members are aware that 'Police' and 'Public order' are included in the State list (List - II) of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and, as such, the matter of registration, investigation and detection of crime is entirely the concern and responsibility of the respective State Governments. The Central Government does, however, monitor the trends and developments in the law and order situation, crime, matters relating to communal harmony, atrocities against weaker sections of the society and internal security of the country. The statistics relating to crime are collected from all the States and Union Territories, aggregated at the national level and analysed against figures in the past to ascertain the trends prevailing in the country.

An analysis done by Government of the trends of crime committed under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and the Local Acts and Special Laws (L&SL) reveals that :

(i) The incidence of total cognizable crimes (IPC and L&SL) increased by 27.2 per cent in 1993 over 1983, with a compound growth rate of 2.5 per cent per annum. As many as 54,33,574 cognizable crimes were reported in the country during 1993.

(ii) Incidence of IPC crimes recorded a decrease by 3.5 percent in 1993 compared to the previous year. Correspondingly, incidence of L&SL crimes recorded an increase by 6.9 percent compared to the previous year. The consistent trend of increase by varying degrees in IPC as well as L&SL crimes of the previous years recorded a change in 1993 towards decrease.

(iii) In all 16,04,895 IPC crimes were reported in the country during 1994 against 16,29,936 in 1993, thus establishing a welcome decline of 1.5 per cent, compared to 3.5 per cent decline in the previous year.

(iv) A total of 32,63,347 L&SL crimes were reported in the country during 1994 against 38,03,638 in 1993 providing a substantial decline of 14.2% in such cases. The rate of these crimes also declined from 430.4 per lakh of population in 1993 to 362.6 per lakh of population in 1994.

(v) During 1994, Uttar Pradesh recorded the highest number of cases of 'Murder and its attempt', 'Culpable Homicide not amounting to Murder', 'Kidnapping & Abduction', 'Robbery', 'Theft', 'Criminal Breach of Trust', and 'Cheating', while the maximum number of cases of 'Rape', and 'Burglary' were in Madhya Pradesh. The highest incidence of 'Dacoity' and 'Counterfeiting' was in Bihar and Maharashtra, respectively.

In so far as the law and order situation and the internal security scenario are concerned, during 1994-95, major security and law and order challenges emanated due to the externally-guided insurgency in J&K, the subversive activities of the militant groups of the North-East, extremist violence, particularly Bihar and Andhra Pradesh; communal, ethnic and political tensions and organised agitations of diverse groups. The conditions in Punjab continued to improve and in Assam, the ULFA menace was largely contained. The communal situation, though volatile, remained under control. The volume and level of extremist violence continued to decline for the third successive year.

(i) The quantitative decline in communal violence since March 1993 continued during 1994-95. However, the communal atmosphere remained vulnerable, mainly because of increasing fundamentalist activities. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, West Bengal, Karnataka and Maharashtra were the main contributors of violent communal incidents. Communal violence was far less in the urban areas. On the other hand, during 1994-95, almost 51% of the communal incidents occurred in rural areas.

(ii) The volume of violence arising out of caste tensions remained at about the same level in 1994 as in the preceding year. Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu continued to be among the most affected states. In UP, the State Ordinance (July 15, 1994) providing for 27% reservation in educational institutions for OBC students, in addition to 23% reservation for SC and ST students, led to a number of protest actions by other communities in the plains. The agitation over the issue in the hill districts of the state gave a fillip to the movement for the creation of 'Uttarkhand'. Orissa registered an increase in the number of caste-related violent incidents due to conflicts between Kondhs and Panas (SC) in Phulbani district, which claimed 18 lives in 64 incidents. In Bihar, caste remained a vital factor in every sphere of life. The recent Assembly elections (March/April, 1995) in the State, brought caste tensions to the fore, which were reflected in several intercaste clashes.

There were 766 caste-related violent incidents, claiming 216 lives and resulting in injuries to 1,506 during 1994, as against 726 incidents with 191 casualties and injuries to 1,427,

reported during 1993. In the current year 303 caste related incidents were reported till May, 1995 resulting in 86 casualties and injuries to 721 persons.

(iii) No serious law and order problems were reported on the agrarian front. However, there were agitations over issues like restoration of subsidies on fertilizers, remunerative prices for agricultural produce, reduction in power tariff and prevention of entry of MNCs into the agricultural sector.

There were 115 incidents of lawlessness on this front, resulting in 20 casualties and injuries to 369 in 1994, as against 445 incidents with 27 casualties and injuries to 185 reported in 1993. The current year has witnessed 37 incidents resulting in 6 deaths and injuries to 104 upto May, 1995.

(iv) The labour and services front also did not experience any serious incidents of law and order during 1994. The Central Government employees, including those in P&T and Railways, as well as civilians in the banking, financial and Defence sectors agitated over the alleged anti-working class and anti-people policies of the Government with particular reference to the new economic and industrial policies and signing of GATT.

The issue of crime against women and other weaker sections of the society had been engaging the attention of the Parliament and has indeed been one of the major areas of the attention of the Govt. as well. In fact, on a Private Member's Resolution, on prevention of atrocities against women and improving the status of women, moved in the Rajya Sabha during the last session, the Govt. supported the Resolution and the Resolution, as passed, was communicated to the State Governments for follow-up action. Members are also aware that the Deptt. of Women & Child Development has taken a large number of legislative and welfare measures in conjunction with the States to make women more self-confident and self-reliant. The schemes for empowerment of women announced by the Prime Minister last year reflects the concern of the Govt. on this issue.

Atrocities against women have to be seen in the total context of general trend of increase in crimes in the country on account of increase in population. For example, in the decade 1983-93, overall incidents of crime has increased by 27.2 per cent although a declining trend is discernible in the last 2/3 years. The magnitude of increase in crime against women has overall shown a declining trend. The total number of crimes against women registered in the country was nearly 97,000 in 1994 as against 83,954 in 1993 (the figure for 1994 includes 8,098 cases registered under 'Importing of Girls', 'Sati Prevention Act', 'Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act', which were not included in 1993). While the percentage of crimes against women out of total cognizable crimes was 0.77 % in 1985, it is now approximately 2 per cent as far as total cognizable (IPC and L&SL) crimes are concerned and approximately 6% as far as IPC crimes are concerned. The increased intervention by the State/Central Government through various programmes, by NGOs and the media has resulted in increased awareness amongst women, leading to increased reporting of such crime to the police, thereby

showing an increase in absolute numbers. Therefore, we should not look at the increase in crime in the traditional way but treat it as a reflection of the steps that have been initiated to focus on crime against women.

The Govt. has also decided to make gender sensitisation inputs an integral part of the curriculum of all training programmes, cutting across all categories of training in the apex police training institution, the National Police Academy and in the Regional and State Police Training Institutions. The Govt. has also set up the National Commission for women as part of the on-going efforts towards overhauling societal attitudes and expectations and also to focus on positive action to improve the lot of women. Such Commissions are also being set up at the State level too and are working in close co-ordination with voluntary organisations, non-Governmental Organisations and social activists groups. All these efforts for safeguarding women's rights will assist in bringing half of the population into the mainstream of nation building and, thereby, make the goal of a humane social order more easily accessible. As a signatory to the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), our country is deeply committed to ushering in peace, harmony and dignity in the lives of women. Efforts of the Government would be to continue and strengthen the strategies which seek to change societal attitudes for women, make further use of existing institutions and legal framework and, most importantly, foster the economic empowerment of women.

While the overall incidence of crime in 1994 against SCs was not very significant compared to the total volume of crimes in India, crime against SCs was confined to a very few States. Almost 72% of crime against SCs was committed in just the three States of Uttar Pradesh (35.50%), Madhya Pradesh (20.23%) and Rajasthan (16.36%) in 1993. Most of this crime was either murder or rape. According to the provisional figures available for 1994, major contributing states to crime against SCs were Uttar Pradesh (47.9%), Rajasthan (14.2%) and Madhya Pradesh (11.1%). Similarly crimes against Scheduled Tribes were more prevalent in the States of Madhya Pradesh (35.5%) and Rajasthan (27.9%). Further the incidence of crime, both against SCs and STs, was concentrated in few districts of these States. Data supplied by the Ministry of Welfare indicate that these areas were in 20 districts in Uttar Pradesh, some villages in 10 districts of Madhya Pradesh and some villages in Rajasthan.

The Govt. understands that formidable barriers have been created by powerful vested interests to block off the routes to development for these disadvantaged groups. These barriers include mal-distribution of assets including land and social norms which are intended to keep the disadvantaged groups forever down-trodden, economically and socially. Attempts by the excluded groups to assert themselves and to break through these barriers have often resulted in violence against them. Indeed, atrocities against Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and women are but symptoms of the deeper malaise of exclusion of these groups from full participation in the human development process.

The subject of atrocities against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been discussed in Parliament, various Conferences of Chief Ministers, other fora where many useful recommendations have been made for police action to check such atrocities. Apart from the implementation of these suggestions, it is necessary also that the central issue of exclusion is addressed effectively, otherwise the continuance of atrocities against the disadvantaged groups cannot be ruled out.

A trend analysis of crime in India from 1951 to 1991, made by the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D), has observed that most incidents of violence against SCs and STs resulted from unresolved land disputes, faulty distribution of surplus land, non-payment or under-payment of minimum wages and resentment against the weaker sections' awareness about their rights and entitlements. The need for education, both of the victims and of the police, therefore, becomes paramount in any effort to overcome these problems.

In so far as position of convictions in trials is concerned, according to available information, around 99,000 persons including those whose trial could not be completed in the previous year, were scheduled for trial during 1993. Cases involving 81 per cent of such persons remained pending at the end of the year. The Government is seriously concerned about this swelling pendency. The highest percentage of persons whose trial remained pending noticed was for the crime-head 'Dacoity' (87) closely followed by 'Cheating' (85.8). The overall conviction rate *i.e.*, the percentage of persons convicted to the total number of persons where trials had been completed was 37.1. The percentage of conviction was the highest for 'Culpable Homicide not amounting to Murder' (43.1) followed by 'Theft' (41.9). Of the specified IPC crimes, the highest number (77,948) of cases which were compounded or withdrawn during 1993 related to 'Riots' followed by 'Theft' (11,968).

In so far as disposal of cases charged under IPC by Courts during the year 1993 is concerned, out of 80,10,381 persons whose trial could not be completed by the end of that year, nearly one-sixth 13,67,401 (17.1%) belonged to Maharashtra alone. This was closely followed by Madhya Pradesh (11,36,907) constituting 14.2 per cent and Bihar (10,73,993), representing 13.4 per cent.

The Government is aware that the high pendency of cases in Courts is due to various complex factors. Some of them identified, by the Malimath Committee, are population explosion, litigation explosion, inadequacy of judge strength, delays in filling up vacancies, lack of infrastructural facilities, long arguments and prolix judgments, lawyers' strike and indiscriminate resort to Writ jurisdiction, etc. The Government is making all possible efforts to ensure that vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts are filled up as expeditiously as possible. In order to consider the problem of arrears of cases in Courts and find out ways and means to deal with it as expeditiously as possible, a meeting of the Chief Ministers and Chief Justices was held on the 4th December, 1993 under the Chairmanship of the Prime

Minister. The Conference recommended several steps in a resolution which it adopted for speedy disposal of cases in Courts/Tribunals. These have been accepted by the Government and commended to all the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations and High Courts/Tribunals for necessary follow up action. Three Working Groups thereafter met to consider the recommendations contained in the above resolution with regard to rural litigation, arrears of cases in administrative tribunals and alternative dispute resolution. The implementation of the December, 1993 resolution and recommendations made by the Working Groups were reviewed by the State Law Ministers at their plenary meeting held in Calcutta in November, 1994. The resolutions adopted in this meeting have been commended to all the concerned authorities for necessary follow-up action. The Administration of Justice has been made an item of plan expenditure with a view to removing infrastructural bottlenecks coming in the way of expeditious disposal of cases.

Even as an attempt has been made through this statement to give a glimpse of the crime scenario prevalent in the country, the Central Government is fully conscious of the fact the economic development measures, the prime objective of this Government, can only be undertaken or sustained if there is an atmosphere of peace, tranquillity and security prevailing. While the media normally concentrates on what is sensational from the crime or the political point of view, the positive aspects of the functioning of the Government normally take a back seat. In this context, it must be mentioned that the Central Government provides short-term assistance to the States by way of availability of Central forces for quelling or preventing law and order breakdown in the State or for elections. As a long-term measure the States are regularly provided information and intelligence on the internal security situation in the country as well as the crime trends so that the Central - State co-ordination to tackle various situations is made possible by the State Governments.

Among other long-term measures, funds under the Modernisation of Police Force Scheme, for creation of India Reserve battalions and for Modernisation of jail Administration are provided to encourage the States to modernise their administrative infrastructure in keeping with the changing requirements. In addition, the State Governments are provided with professional assistance in modernising the police forces or in making them more efficient and effective through the attached offices of the Home Ministry, such as the Bureau of Police Research and Development, the National Crime Records Bureau, the National Institute of Criminology and Forensic Sciences, the Directorate General of Civil Defence and others. High level and specialised training to senior officers of the States is provided at the national and international levels through the Union Government. In addition the Govt. in letters and meetings has been continuously laying stress on sensitising the lower echelons of the police to the problems of the weaker sections and of violation of human rights. The Crime and Criminal Information System, costing about Rs. 25 crores and providing for computerised databases on crimes / criminals or properties through establishment of a computer in each of the districts of the country networked

to the State and Central levels as well as the police telecommunication project, costing about Rs. 152 crores and covering entire country through a satellite, are other examples of Central Intervention in improving policing in the country. Besides, the insistence of the Central Government with the Finance Commission paid off, in that the Commission has recommended an amount of Rs. 735.22 crores to the States for police training, modernisation of police forces, repairs and renovation of jail buildings, medical facilities in jails, etc. in the States.

On the question of attention to weaker sections and minorities, it was at the initiative of the Ministry of Home Affairs that the National Human Rights Commission had been set up in 1993. The monitoring of the crime trend in the country and the Home Ministry's interaction with the concerned Ministries such as the Ministry of Welfare, the Department of Women & Child Development and the Planning Commission facilitates their directing their funding and schemes to such areas which are more prone to crimes against the weaker sections.

Let me take this opportunity to assure the members of this august House that the Government is fully committed to provide security of life and property to the citizens of this country and I earnestly appeal to the members, non-governmental organisations, the media and other responsible elements to join hands, as in the past, with the Government in its efforts to improve the lot of the people in this country.

17.08½ hrs.

**MOTION RE : CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT
AGRICULTURE POLICY RESOLUTION**

AS MODIFIED — Contd.

[Translation]

*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palakkad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Agricultural Policy Resolution.

Indian National Congress, before independence, adopted two important economic policy resolutions, namely, Agricultural Policy and Industrial Development Policy Resolutions. At Lucknow Session of AICC, a resolution on Agrarian programme was adopted in 1936. In immediately after independence, the Parliament adopted officially a policy resolution on industries. It was in 1956 that Parliament adopted the industrial policy resolution and this industrial policy was amended from time to time and announced the same in Parliament on a periodical basis. But, unfortunately, only now, after almost half a century since independence, that a policy resolution on agriculture development is coming up for consideration before the Parliament. All I can say is that it is better late than never. I congratulate Dr. Balam Jakhari, the Architect of the Agriculture Development Policy for taking the initiative to place the document on agricultural development policy before the Parliament now.

India is an agrarian economy. More than 70 per cent of the total population subsist on agriculture. Agriculture provides 30 per cent of our Gross National Income. But it is difficult to say whether or not due importance is being given to

agriculture.

Agriculture is a State subject. The architects of our Constitution wisely considered agriculture as a State subject as factors like Geographical conditions, climate and nature of soil vary from State to State. What is good for Nagaland may not be good for Kerala. What is good for Kerala may not be good for Bihar. So, it is impossible to have uniform programmes and projects for all States. My humble suggestion to the Hon. Agriculture Minister is that while giving final shape to the programmes and projects in the field of agriculture, the distinct characteristics of each State marked by the soil condition, climatic variations, availability or rainfall, proximity of the sea etc. have taken into account.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is true that the Agricultural Policy that is being discussed embraces all aspects of agriculture. But a clear picture of the programmes and projects that are to be implemented in various fields is not available. I also have a feeling that the present resolution consist mainly of those schemes which are already in existence.

As far as agriculture is concerned, investment is of utmost importance. But, one could observe that during the last decade the Government's share in the investment in the field of agriculture has been showing a falling tendency. The figures tell that the Governmental investment was Rs. 1796 crores in 1980-81 whereas it was only 1043 crores rupees in 1990-91. Taking into account the fall in the value of rupee in the interim period, one could see that this is too small an amount. It is to be borne in mind that no progress will be forthcoming in the fields of irrigation and agricultural research without adequate investment. It is everyone's knowledge that these sectors are of crucial importance to agricultural development. Therefore, I request the Hon. Minister to think in the line of formulating a long term plan for ten years for the overall development of these sectors.

On several occasions, I have had the privilege of bringing to the notice of this august House the plight of many irrigation projects which are not completed. Once again I feel it is my duty to request the Government to come forward with dynamism to complete the works of those irrigation projects. It is worth remembering that we have reached no where near the goal of irrigating the total agricultural land in the country. So far we have been able to irrigate only one third of the total agricultural land.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me make use of this opportunity to congratulate the Hon. Minister for his assurances that proper encouragement will be given to the field of export of agricultural products. Horticulture is a field which has got great potential for development. I am given to understand that in this field one hectare of land could yield an income of R. 5000 and more.

Another important field is that of agricultural research. ICAR is conducting a lot of research work in the field. The 'Green Revolution' launched by venerable Indiraji which triggered a revolution the field of foodgrain in our country was in fact the fruit of the researches conducted by Indian Scientists. We have eminent scientists like Swaminathan. But the amount spent by the Government for research is too small. I would say it is even less than one per cent. This is too small

an amount in comparison with the amount spend by other developing countries on research. We have the capacity and know-how to advance a lot in fields like Genetic Engineering. Other possible fields where good results would be made are invention of high yielding seeds and seeds that the immune from pests, preservation of the fertility of the soil etc.

Another important point I would like to mention is the prices of agricultural products. Prices are not being fixed realistically. The farmers' real cost of production is never taken into account. There should be a new approach to this matter. Prices should be fixed on the basis of a scientific estimation of the cost of production. One of the main reasons for the low investment in agriculture is the fall in the prices of agricultural products. So long as the farmers are not getting adequate returns the field of agriculture will continue to move from crisis to crisis. It goes without saying that the poor farmer who does not have any savings cannot make investment on land. So the moot point is that a lot of improvements are imperative in the present system of price fixation.

Sir, it is being observed that the foodgrain production in my State Kerala is showing a decreasing tendency. Paddy growers are always suffering losses. As a result the farmers are giving up Paddy and turning to other crops. A Paddy Board has to be set up with a view to examining the problems of Paddy Growers realistically. Every year, a lot of paddy growers give up the loss incurring paddy and try their luck with other crops. The Hon. Minister said right now that the farmers have the right to grow the crops of their choice. I welcome the declaration. But the actual situation shows the other side of the fact. The poor paddy growers who are compelled by the poverty inflicted on them by successive years of inordinate losses to take up other crops are being prosecuted. I am constrained to say the Land Looters' Act hangs above the heads of the farmers like the Sword of Democlese. Prosecution is resorted to without discretion even in the cases of small farmers who turn to the crop of their choice in a mood of disappointment as a result of a series of set backs in the paddy sector. Therefore, I demand that the Hon. Minister's words should be put to use and the farmers should be allowed to select their crops. The existing laws that turn a cruel face on the farmers fundamental instinct for survival should be reviewed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to brings to the notice of the Hon. Minister an important disparity in the subsidies given to farmers on fertilizers. As per the existing laws the subsidy is given only to those fertilizers that contain potassium and phosphorus. Mixture fertilizers are denied this benefit. In Kerala the major portion of agricultural land are small farms. These farmers are mainly using mixture fertilizers. It is learnt that the Government has decided not to supply Urea at subsidised rates to those companies that produce mixture fertilizers. The subsidy given to the fertilizers containing Potassium and Phosphorus is not given to these companies. This disparity affect the farmers of Kerala adversely as they do not get any benefit from the subsidy system. This is because 30 per cent of the total NPK fertilizers used in Kerala are mixture fertilizers. This policy has to be relooked. The State Government has brought this matter to

the attention of the Central Government. I request the Hon. Minister to consider this favourably and make the facility of subsidy available to all farmers in the State.

The prices of fertilizers and pesticides should be brought down gradually. Curtailing subsidy may be a good idea but in an economy like that of India subsidies are essential. What is important is to identify the areas where subsidies should be given and to decide on the volume of subsidies. Priorities should be fixed and subsidies should be given to crops on the basis of priority.

The condition of coconut is deplorable. The fall in the prices of coconut has become a regular feature. The prices have fallen to a low from where no further fall is possible. Though minimum support price has been fixed for coconut, the growers have not begun receiving its benefits. The minimum support price is inadequate. I demand that the minimum support price should be increased and the problems of coconut growers should be viewed realistically.

I welcome the decision to set up an Agro-Business Consortium which would create more income and more employment opportunities in the rural sector. But while welcoming this decision which would cause multifaced development in the rural sector, I would like to point out an important lacunae in the framework of the consortium. The Minister of Agriculture will be the Chairman of the 15 member governing body. The activities of the Consortium includes exchange of technologies, co-ordination of various agencies etc. I have serious doubts as to whether Ministers who have a lot of other responsibilities can function effectively as the heads of institutions like this. What is preferable is to find out an expert and entrust him with the responsibility of heading the Consortium. The same model may be followed at regional levels also. While implementing this plan in Kerala a provision should be made for availing loans from Banks. There are already complaints that many of the small scale and medium scale projects are not getting Bank loan facilities. This should not be the fate accompli of the new schemes.

Coconut was declared an oil seed long back but the benefits are yet to reach the farmers. The coconut growers are not getting the benefits given to other oil seeds. Mere declaration will not be sufficient. Follow up action should be taken to see that the due benefits reach the coconut growers.

Another important matter with regard to coconut is the need for a proper action to save the coconut trees in Kerala from the fatal disease that has spread in some areas. At present the Central Government is giving Rs. 200 per tree to fell 1,25,000 disease affected trees in a year. This 'Operation Felling Down' has started in two districts only namely Thiruvananthpuram and Thrissur. I request the Minister to expand the operation are of this project and the number of trees to be felled a year be increased to atleast 3 lakhs. This dreadful disease which does not leave the slightest chance for the survival of the tree is fast spreading to other districts. This is something that demands immediate attention and proper action.

Many of the Irrigation Projects proposed by the State are yet to get the sanction of the Central Government. One such project that deserves a special mention is the Kuriarkuty-

Karappara Irrigation project. So far the Ministry of Environment and Forests has not given permission to this Project. Another project that has met the same fate is Attappady Valley Irrigation Project in palakkad district. This project is on the verge of being given up in spite of the huge amount of money spent on it, as the Central Government has turned a Nelson's eye on it. This project is completed would have effected a face lift for the Attappady region which is mainly a tribal region. I request the Central Government to take a favourable attitude to this Project and facilitate its completion.

Sir, I would like to make another point regarding the loans given by the bank to farmers. There is a Reserve Bank regulation that no compound interest should be charged on loans given to farmers. But some of the banks in Kerala overlook this regulation and impose compound interest on agricultural loans. They say that they are doing so as per the instructions given by NABARD. Whatever may be the pretext, under which they are charging compound interest from the poor farmers, I feel that, it is high time this cruel measure be dropped. I request the Central Government's intervention to put a stop to this injustice.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have another point to submit to the consideration of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture regarding the formation of Agriculture Policy in general. In the formation of the Policy provisions should be made as to ensure the increased participation of farmers in the policy making process in future years. Gradually, the Government role in the form of Departments and Corporations should be minimised and farmers and their organisations should be given an important role. More participation by farmers and their organisations has to be the goal.

We would be in a state of delusion if we think that by formulating the Agriculture Policy the development of Indian agriculture is ensured. Mere declaration will not serve the purpose. There should be a long term plan about the various schemes and projects to be implemented. Proper care has to be taken to ensure that the benefits of the governmental schemes actually reach the deserved. There are so many middlemen and agencies in operation who pocket and benefits of various schemes. There is a long distance between a government scheme and the farmers who are envisaged in them as there beneficiaries. There are so many cases where the real farmer who is at the fag end of the chain is cheated of their rights by the middleman. So I feel that it is the responsibility of the policy makers to see that the fruits of their policies do reach the sons of the soil, the real farmers, Those who snatch away what is due to the farmers should be treated with a stern hand. A monitoring cell should be set up for this purpose. The cell may monitor the whole process of subsidies and review the schemes in order to make them more useful to the farmers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I have made a few points for the consideration of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture. I once again congratulate him for bringing the Agricultural Policy Resolution in this House. I support the resolution. Thank you.

SHRI B.N. REDDY (Miryalguda) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the new Agriculture Policy, as tabled by our hon. Minister, is supposed to be for the all-round development of the country

and the peasantry. But I am sorry to mention that actually it is not true. First and foremost, I must make it clear that our hon. Minister is confusing the landlords with the majority of the peasantry of our country who are poor. I must also mention that the policies are part of the liberalisation measure and they come from the structural adjustment under the diktat of the IMF and the World Bank. That is why, I say that the policy is not aimed at keeping the interest of the majority of the peasantry but keeping the interest of foreign and multinational corporations. So, I must very clearly say that some of the policies are meant for the removal of trade restriction on agricultural commodities, making the domestic prices subservient to foreign prices. Therefore, our agricultural prices will depend upon the foreign diktats. There is a drastic curtailment of food subsidy. Now, the Public Distribution System is confined only to some of the deserving poor. Even replacing the overtime system with Employment Guarantee Scheme has limited scope.

One element in the Policy is to bring a change in the cropping pattern by giving priority to foodgrains production. It has entirely derailed our agriculture. In the name of export orientation, the production will be subservient to the interests of big landlords and also of foreign imperialists and of the IMF's interest. This will result in the derailment of our agriculture. By this, the policy of self-reliance which was started by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, followed by Indiraji and Shri Rajiv Gandhi, will be derailed. It will depend on other factors and particularly on the foreign multinationals.

In this Policy, there is a mention of removal of input of subsidy on fertilizers. Nowhere in the Minister's speech, it is said that the priority is being given or will be given to irrigation in the planning of all these things. In name of technology, many major projects are incomplete. Some five hundred projects are incompleting in our country. And still we depend on rain-fed agriculture. Seventy per cent of our agriculture depends on rain because seventy per cent of our cultivable land has no stable means of irrigation. Our major production is coming from the places where our land is irrigated. Therefore, the position about irrigation is not at all clear to us.

Now I may mention about the land reforms. First and foremost, the importance must be given for land reforms. What happened in Bengal? It clearly showed that where the productive forces got land, the production improved. If the land is distributed to the tiller of the land, the productive forces will be released and production will increase. Our hon. Minister has mentioned many a time about production. Our production is not growing rapidly in our country. How is it that in other countries particularly in China and Japan, production is going up rapidly? How is it that our production is still stagnant? The central reason for this is that the land is not in the hands of those who till the land. I must clearly mention that as a result of this Policy, it will accentuate the pauperism among the peasantry and will increase rural unemployment. Our main focus is to depend on imported foods and to compel the agricultural sector to play a subservient role in the interests of multinationals and imperialist forces.

We should clearly reject that. When hon. Minister goes around the country many times he boasts that he expresses

the sentiments of *kisans*. But I am sorry to say the he expresses the landlord's sentiments and not those of the *kisans* who are tilling the land. What about the majority of the peasantry? They are still poor. So, poverty must be removed among the peasants.

About the price policy he says that restrictions have been removed. When the restrictions have been removed the price will be under the influence of big landlords or multinational corporations. Then the common people or the common peasantry will not get any benefit. About the supporting prices I would like to ask whether anyone in the Government has implemented the supporting price policy in true spirit? With this supporting price policy, only big landlords and big peasantry will get all the benefits. At the time of harvesting, peasants should be able to get the benefit under the supporting price system. Mostly the common and the poor peasantry depends upon the local traders. They are forced to sell their land at the lowest rate. The peasantry is unable to get remunerative price. At least a majority of the peasantry is unable to get it. As a result of these policies, pauperism among the peasantry will increase and many peasants will be thrown out of their land. Therefore unemployment will increase. The very agricultural activity which must stand on self-reliance will be derailed by the changing crop pattern. Some alternative agricultural policy must be there. The question of land reforms should be given the foremost priority. The land should be disturbed to the tiller who has no land. There are lakhs and crores of such people. Then only the productive forces will increase and production will increase. That is why priority should be given to eradicate big land holdings. Give land to the tiller and water for their crop.

Is the hon. Minister prepared to say that a major part of the cultivable land has got stable irrigation, stable water means? 70 per cent of the cultivable land depends upon the rain. The *kisan* always looks to the sky. There are about 500 incomplete irrigation projects on Ganga, Cauvery, Godavari and Krishna rivers. I must say here that one hundred million hectares of land in our country is either drought prone or flood prone. This is the bitter truth we are facing. We should harness water from our major rivers which were the pride of our country. We have got sufficient water.

But it is not harnessed. So, it is a failure of our Government up till now. Water must be given to feed the crops of peasantry and the distribution of wastelands should be made among the poor and not among big businessmen. We are surprised to find that the land is being allotted to big businessmen and to big landlords around Hyderabad or Bombay. Now, this is going on. In the name of production and in the name of technology, big landlords have been allowed to get the land. According to the Central Minister's comments, in vast majority of the country land reforms are not going on satisfactorily and major land is under tribunal. With determination, land distribution has been done in West Bengal and we have to claim credit for it. It is progressing very well there. What is your answer for this? There is no mention about this in the entire policy. I must clearly say this. Are remunerative

prices being given to the peasantry? No. Is the hon. Minister prepared to say that remunerative prices are being given to the poor peasantry? Majority of the peasantry are not able to get remunerative prices. What does the hon. Minister say? Only landlords are able to get support price. *Kisans* are not able to wait till that time and they are forced to sell their lands at the lowest rate; and this is going on.

What about the public distribution scheme? No mention is made about this in the hon. Minister's speech. Public distribution of grains must cover not only the labour, not only the poor peasant, but also the middle group peasant so that they get at least food. After the harvest, the poor peasantry saves their grains only for two or three months; and after that they will have to depend on purchasing the grain and food. So, the public distribution scheme should be extended to cover the poorest peasantry also. Is the hon. Minister prepared to give answers to these questions? I want to know this.

Priority should be given to self-sufficiency of foodgrains and increased foodgrains production. When the cropping system is there and when the cropping is changed, we cannot have self-sufficiency in food. Food is the central point for our country. As a result of this Resolution, we will have to depend on food import. The present rural employment generation scheme should be linked to the development, progress and increased production. Administrative and executive powers should be decentralised. More powers should be given to the Panchayati Raj Institutions. Sufficient powers should be given to the Panchayati Raj Institutions and they should help the poor people; they should implement the land reforms with initiative.

I must finally say that the Dunkel Draft which influenced the making of the present policy and the IMF diktak's should be rejected in toto. That is what I want to say.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Thank you very much, Shri Reddy. Now, I want to say one thing. The time allotted for discussion on this subject is four hours. Each political party has been allotted timings as I read out now :

Congress Party -	1 hour 48 minutes.
BJP -	45 minutes
CPI (M) -	15 minutes
Janta Dal -	10 minutes
CPI -	10 minutes
Samta Party -	6 minutes
AIADMK -	5 minutes
Telegu Desam -	3 minutes.

SHRI M. R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN (Tirunelveli) : Sir, there are 11 members from the AIADMK Party in this House. Why only five minutes have been allotted to this Party?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The purpose is, sometimes if the Chair does not disclose the timings as to how much time has been allotted; how much time should one Member speak for and how much time has each political party been allotted, then there is no control over time. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Rao, I would hear your

* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Malayalam.

views afterwards. The previous day, one hour was allotted for a Bill but it consumed six hours thereby the entire schedule got upset. There was dislocation. Though the matter has been discussed threadbare, it was not implemented. Therefore, my request to the hon. Member is, kindly bear all these things in mind. Names should come through the Whips of the respective parties only. Individual slips would not be entertained. The Whips could give the names as to how many Members would speak and accordingly allot the timings within the allotted time for this Bill so that there is proper order in the House.

SHRI ANIL BASU : Sir, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that for the first time since Independence, this House is discussing about the agriculture policy. Please consider all the aspects.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : My request is, you note down the relevant points about which you want to impress upon the Minister. If there are some salient features you could note down that also. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANIL BASU : Sir, do not restrict it to the Whips.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shall we strict to 10 minutes for each individual speaker? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Why I am insisting on this is, the previous Bill took six hours.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Sir, I would like to submit one thing. Most probably you are referring to the Workmen's Compensation Bill. Most probably you are having that in mind. My submission is, in this House so many times, the problems relating to the organised sector, the trade unions, labour are being discussed. But it is for the first time that the agriculture policy which has been drafted has come for a discussion in this House. The subject is very vast and the hon. Minister of Agriculture has also envisaged concrete suggestions in it. Kindly allow some more time.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : So, let us strict to timings.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : Sir, when six hours discussion were allowed for discussion on the Workmen's Compensation Bill, why not for the agricultural policy?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, I shall call the name of Shri Ashok. A. Deshmukh. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What I said is, four hours is being allotted for discussion on this subject. Each individual speaker will have ten minutes. Each political party is being allotted the timings and the names would have to come through the Whips of the respective Parties and they should give only such names who could be accommodated within the stipulated time. That is the point which I wanted to impress upon the hon. Members.

Now, Shri Bhupinder Singh Hooda — not present

Shri Rajnath Sonkar Shastri — not present

Shri Umrao Singh.

[Translation]

SHRI UMRAO SINGH (Jalandhar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very glad that you have given me an opportunity to

speak on the issue. I have patiently listened to the speeches delivered by hon. Minister as well as by other Members. Since you have allowed 10 minutes time, therefore not going into the details, I would like to attract hon. Minister's attention towards certain essential points.

Our country has made remarkable progress in the field of agriculture. In spite of that, in comparison to other countries, per acre production of our country is very less. The crops are not only dependent on rains but these are irrigated by tube-wells which involves much expenditure. I am not talking of other states, but in Punjab, the water level has receded so much that every farmer is bound to install tube well which involves expenditure worth Rs. 70-80 thousand. The prices of tractor, fertilisers and electricity are soaring which and causing great difficulties to farmers. I have been listening to the hon. Minister alongwith others for quite a long time. I have also written to Planning Commission but no concrete proposal has been received so far. Farming is not possible without water. It is true that we have made remarkable progress in agriculture sector and many noteworthy achievement have been made but we have still to register our progress in developing seeds. We had been discussing the per acre yield but if the farmer is provided with good quality of seed, he can increase the per acre yield.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it was discussed in recently held WTO Conference that farmers will get certified standard and hybrid seeds at higher rates. I represent the farmers of Punjab and therefore, I can say that the good crop can be harvested with the help of good quality seed even at the higher rate. A farmer can afford it as he can produce the crop worth Rs. 2-5 thousand with this seed. Farmers in Punjab are earning Rs. 30-40 thousand with the help of tomato seeds developed by Pepsi people. I would like to request hon. Minister for Agriculture to encourage research work for quality seeds like Sunflower hybrid. If farmers are provided with such good quality of seeds, they can earn good money. Likewise, farmers have limited resources of water. One of my friends was just mentioning that water is being drained out to Pakistan. I would like to request the hon. Agriculture Minister to provide funds for Shahpur Water project in Punjab as hon. Prime Minister too holds the same opinion. It will help in stopping the Water being drained out to Pakistan. This water will be made available to the farmers of Punjab and they will be able to produce better crop.

I would also like to say something on marketing aspect. Farmers have to come across a lot of difficulties in marketing, specially those of perishable food items. Government should make a policy for apples of Jammu and Kashmir, potatoes of Punjab and other fruits. There are two organisations engaged in marketing, one of them is FCI, which purchases wheat and rice, but that is suffering from the problem of corruption which needs to be rectified. The benefits of the farmers depend on the efficient functioning of the Corporation. The worst comes when farmers reach market with their hard produced crops; they have to suffer the fury of inspectors. If FCI functions properly, the farmers will get rid of the inspectors, to whom they have to bribe, and the commission agents, who exploit them. Another marketing organisation is NAFED which is enjoying lot of facilities provided by the Government. It has

been supported with support price and enjoys market intervention right. It also avoids to deal in the perishable goods. Very few organisations trade in perishable goods. Therefore, Government should pay attention towards perishable food products in its marketing policy. Hon. Minister has just talked about promoting the horticulture and its products but unfortunately the fruits and vegetables last only for three days after reaching the market. Perhaps hon. Minister must be remembering the time when the price of potato fell down to a throw away price. It was then that a farmer was guarding his pile. Someone asked him as to why he was guarding his potato crop when it was very cheap in the market? He replied that he was not guarding his crop but that of neighbouring farmers crop, lest he should throw his potatoes in his field. It may happen with wheat in future. Hon. Ministers sympathy with farmers is praiseworthy but sweet words butter no parnips.

Now, I would like to say something on credit. In this regard my suggestion is that the farmers should be provided with pass books. Pass book system was launched in Punjab and hon. Minister was at that time with us. We had become darling of farmers but the successor Government discontinued the system. The pass book held by farmer will bear the information regarding his land and its ceiling. He can deposit his money in and take loans from the bank functioning in his area by showing his passbook. He can get rid of many problems specially faced by him at the time of taking loan, when he has to take proof of his land records from Patwari. This is a very troublesome process. Many a time Patwaries and bank officials demand a certificate from Tehsildar and sometimes two or three witnesses besides guarantors. It is troublesome for a farmer. A money lender can avail of loan but a farmer cannot. Therefore, the facility of loan should be made available to farmers.

Farmer keeps his produce in the Government owned godowns, while other industries have their own godowns and they store their products in them and avail loans by mortgaging their stock. Banks as well as the traders put their separate

locks to the godown. This facility should be made available to farmers also. It will equally benefit the farmers as well as the Government. A facility for providing loan on crop was started sometime back and was to be launched in some districts of India but today its whereabouts are not known. I do not know as to whether it was successful or not but I would like to request to restart this scheme after removing its shortcomings.

At the end, I would like to mention about co-operatives. In this context, sugar mills have been mentioned in particular. Most of the mills in the co-operative sector are sugar mills and out of them, many are viable and many are running into losses. Mills are owned by the persons who are investors but as the elections are not held from time to time, the same board continues for four years. As a result, the mills are actually run by bureaucracy which converts the mills into loss making units but the actual loss is suffered by the farmers. Therefore, co-operative policy must contain the provision to this effect that board should function properly and that elections should be held regularly. Co-operative institutions should be run of the pattern on other elected institutions and all the possible steps should be taken to streamline the co-operatives.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now it is a six 'o' clock. Can we sit for another half-an-hour because there are a number of hon. Members to speak?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : We will continue tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : From tomorrow onwards let us make up our minds to sit late so that more hon. Members can participate.

18.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, August 8, 1995/Sravana 17, 1917 (Saka)

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