

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

Thirteenth Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XXXIX contains Nos. 11 to 20)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates
(English Version)

Friday, April 28, 1995/Vaisakha 08, 1917 (Saka)

<u>Col. 1.ing</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>read</u>
Contents(1)/8(from below)	Shri M.R.Kadambur Janardhanan	Shri M.R.Kadambur Janarthanan
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145/24	RRBS	RRBs
158/16 (from below)	SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA	SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHELLA
189/10 (from below)		
175/15	SHRI ATAL BIHAR VAJPAYEE	SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE
233/9 (from below)	SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB	SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE
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319/5 (from below)	was	was not the
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LOK SABHA

Friday, April 28, 1995/ Vaisakha 8, 1917 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

Obituary Reference

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, it is my sad duty to inform the House of the passing away one of our former colleagues namely Shrimati Hansa Mehta.

Shrimati Hansa Mehta was a member of the Constituent Assembly representing Bombay during 1946-1950. She was one of the prominent women leaders who participated in our country's freedom movement. Born in 1897, she started her political career by actively associating herself with various women's organisations. She was the Secretary of National Council of Women, and later served as the Vice-President and President of All India Women's Conference during 1945-46.

Earlier, she had served as the Member of Bombay Legislative Council in 1937-1939 and again in 1946-1952. During 1937-1939, she served as a parliamentary secretary.

A multi-faceted personality, she was an educationist of repute. She served as a fellow of Senate of University of Bombay during 1931-1946 and Member of Board of Studies in Gujarati, University of Bombay in 1935. During 1949-1958 she was the Vice-Chancellor of Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda. Besides, she was actively associated with the University Grants Commission and various other educational organisations. She was awarded honorary degrees by several universities.

She represented India in the Human Rights Commission of United Nations during 1947 to 1952. She was also one of the Indian delegates to the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in 1948. She led the Indian delegation to the World Family Congress held at Paris in 1958. She was member of Indian delegation to UNESCO Conference in 1956 and 1958-1960 and participated in various social and cultural conferences at the national and international levels.

A champion of the cause of women, she strove relentlessly at various national and international fora for the education and amelioration of the women. Her exemplary achievements were duly recognised, when she was conferred upon the prestigious award of 'Padma Bhushan' in 1959.

She wrote several books in Gujarati language. She also translated 'Hamlet' and 'Merchant of Venice' into Gujarati. She also translated one Sanskrit classic into Gujarati. Apart from these, she had published a few notable works in English on the topics related to women's issues and Post-War Educational Reconstruction.

Shrimati Hansa Mehta passed away on 4th April, 1995 at Bombay at the age of 98 years.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

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

11.02 hrs

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

11.04 hrs

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Raids by I.T. Department

+
*361. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of raids conducted by the Income Tax department during the last one year, State-wise;

(b) the details of unaccounted money, documents, gold, silver and other articles seized and other undeclared property unearthed during these raids;

(c) the number of persons prosecuted/convicted in this regard; and

(d) the total number of Income Tax assesseees in each State and the amount of tax collected by the Government during the last two years, State-wise?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) :
(a) and (b). The details are given in Statement-I

(c) No prosecution has been launched in respect of cases reported in Statement-I as assessments are yet to be finalised.

(d) The details of total number of Income Tax assesseees are given in Statement-II and the details of amount of tax collected during the last two years are given in Statement-III.

STATEMENT-I

State	No. of Warrants	Value of Assets seized			Total
		Cash	Jewellery	Other Assets	
					(Rs. in lakhs)
Andhra Pradesh	385	561.28	534.76	2314.54	3410.58
Assam	12	-	-	-	-
Bihar	101	223.36	9.06	237.11	469.53
Delhi	614	785.98	1013.88	613.51	2413.37
Goa	1	6.00	-	-	6.00
Gujarat	531	606.46	747.59	2353.70	3707.75
Haryana	94	109.21	59.59	194.93	363.73
Himachal Pradesh	7	32.90	6.45	56.80	96.15
Jammu and Kashmir	-	-	-	-	-
Karnataka	197	495.50	195.81	3779.17	4470.48
Kerala	112	221.74	175.50	509.58	906.82
Madhya Pradesh	58	146.34	90.85	1342.73	1579.92
Maharashtra	1090	1775.95	1338.75	5850.11	8964.81
Orissa	10	5.31	-	17.60	22.91
Pondicherry	2	-	-	-	-
Punjab	406	406.30	504.98	1338.84	2250.12
Rajasthan	162	159.72	315.87	233.59	709.18
Tamil Nadu	315	531.50	614.38	1886.20	3032.08
Tripura	8	0.10	5.09	-	5.19
Uttar Pradesh	228	305.63	104.18	985.38	1395.19
West Bengal	497	624.23	1170.36	2544.57	4339.16
Total	4830	6997.51	6887.10	24258.36	38142.97

STATEMENT-II

Of Income Tax Assesseees During Financial Years 1993-94 and 1994-95 (Upto February, 1995)

S. No.	CCsIT and Central Charges	States/U.Ts over which CCIT's jurisdiction extends	1993-94	1994-95* (upto Feb., 1995)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Ahmedabad	Gujarat, Daman, Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli	913550	932641
2.	Bangalore	Karnataka, Goa	524684	567362
3.	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	433640	466212
4.	(a) Bombay (b) Pune	Maharashtra	2123447	2100984
5.	Calcutta	West Bengal, Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1200011	1208791
6.	Cochin	Kerala, Lakshwadeep	241255	288737
7.	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	567356	544094
8.	Jaipur	Rajasthan	411644	416741
9.	Madras	Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry	833116	868720
10.	New Delhi	Delhi	691410	679982

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Chandigarh (N.W. Region)	Punjab, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh	736146	769496
12.	(a) Kanpur (b) Lucknow]	Uttar Pradesh	763107	749416
13.	Patna	Bihar, Orissa and North Eastern States	766355	777770
Total			10205721	10370946

*Provisional

STATEMENT-III

Statement Tax Collected During Financial Yearss 1993-94 and 1994-95 - CCsIT-wise

S. No.	CCsIT and Central Charges	States/U.Ts over which CCIT's jurisdiction extends	1993-94		1994-95 (Provisional)	
			Corporation Tax	Income Tax	Corporation Tax	Income Tax
			(Rupees in Crore)		(Rupees in Crore)	
1.	Ahmedabad	Gujarat, Daman, Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli	227.66	793.77	288.97	927.35
2.	Bangalore	Karnataka, Goa	319.59	535.97	342.10	665.27
3.	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	55.09	252.35	43.94	308.91
4.	(a) Bombay (b) Pune]	Maharashtra	4389.56	2847.81	6600.98	3914.57
5.	Calcutta	West Bengal, Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1043.38	535.84	1103.71	636.78
6.	Cochin	Kerala, Lakshwadeep	142.62	243.54	101.88	296.91
7.	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	223.82	340.61	265.54	501.66
8.	Jaipur	Rajasthan	59.29	181.77	42.06	230.08
9.	Madras	Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry	554.02	732.58	536.03	1066.22
10.	New Delhi	Delhi	1308.68	1048.59	1825.41	1634.16
11.	Chandigarh (North Western Region)	Punjab, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh	216.63	437.18	227.57	578.63
12.	(a) Kanpur (b) Lucknow]	Uttar Pradesh	184.93	493.69	274.60	579.84
13.	Patna	Bihar, Orissa and North Eastern States	71.40	398.79	171.60	444.37
Total			8796.67	8842.49	11824.39	11784.75
Central TDS			1263.62	276.62	1634.11	289.32
			(Upto Feb. '95) (Upto Feb. '95)			
Grand Total			10060.29	9119.11	13458.50	12074.07

[Translation]

SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the black money is increasing in the country and one of the factors behind it is that we do not have a 100 per cent recovery of Income Tax in our country. The Hon. Minister has mentioned in his reply that black money to the tune of Rs. 38142.97 lakh has been unearthed through raids conducted at the residences of tax-evaders during the

last one year. No action has been taken against black money hoarders. What are the reasons behind it? I would like to know from the Hon. Minister that since there are several loopholes in the Income Tax Act due to these no action is taken against Income Tax evaders. Whether the Hon. Minister is going to take any concrete steps to plug these loopholes? If so, the details thereof?

[English]

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Sir, the Government has taken a lot of steps to fight black-money. We have conducted searches and seizures. I wish to point out to the Hon. Member that in the year 1992-93 we have conducted nearly 4777 searches and the value of assets seized was Rs. 384.02 crore and the amount of concealed income surrendered was Rs. 5100.05 crore. In the next year viz., 1993-94, we had conducted 5026 searches and the value of assets seized was Rs. 396.45 crore and the amount of concealed income surrendered was Rs. 448.82 crore. In the subsequent year 1994-95, we had conducted nearly 4830 searches and the value of assets seized was 381.42 crore and the amount of concealed income surrendered was Rs. 577.08 crore. The Government is taking all steps to fight the blackmoney menace.

[Translation]

SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my second question is; what was the target fixed for the recovery of Income Tax during the each of the last five years and the amount actually recovered? What is the total amount of Income Tax outstanding in the country and the names of big companies and persons against whom a large amount of Income Tax is outstanding?

[English]

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Sir, due to liberalisation and reduction in tax structure, we are earning more revenues. In 1993-94, we had earned Rs. 19,179.48 crore by way of Corporate Tax and Income Tax. In 1994-95 - it is a provisional figure - we are going to earn Rs. 25,532.57 crore. So, there is a revenue increase of nearly Rs. 6,000 crore...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Please tell us the remaining amount.

[English]

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Sir, if the Hon. Member wants to know about a particular case. I will require a separate notice for that.

MR. SPEAKER : You need not give the names and all those things. You may not have those names also. But you can give the details regarding the target fixed, the amount collected, and whether it was according to your plan.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Sir, about the target and the amount we have realised...

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Have you exceeded your target?

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : We have exceeded our target. In 1994-95, provisionally, we have earned about Rs. 6,000 crore more by way of Income Tax and Corporate Tax.

Regarding the main outstanding defaulters, there is a big list and if you permit me, I am prepared to lay it on the Table.

MR. SPEAKER : You can give it to him. It is a published document.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Although I was trying to help the Minister by suggesting that he has exceeded the target, there is a lacuna in the Statement and I draw his attention to that.

The figures for 1994-95 are provisional figures based on the revised estimates. If you go back to the last five or six years, everytime you will discover that the actuals are less than the revised estimates in terms of collection. That is so and I have mentioned it not only in my last year's Budget speech but every time. Therefore, the comparison really is not that valid.

But I am on a different point. That point is that if your tax raids are so successful then I want to know whether there is any coordination in the Department about the excise duty evaders Income Tax evaders and the bank defaulters. It is said that Rs. 90,000 crore have been defaulted in the banks. From the scam we know that some one lakh crores of rupees were earned. Is there any mechanism to coordinate and have a unified system of tax raids and other things?

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : The Department is taking all steps.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : What are those steps?

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : They are contacting the Sales Tax Commissioners of the States and they are writing to them. They are writing to the Excise Departments which come under the same Revenue Department. We have all information about them. The instructions are that any transaction beyond Rs. 20,000 is not permissible except by a cheque. We are getting all information from these sources. The Government is taking all steps to collect more information to include more assesses in this regard.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the data given in Annexure 'A' indicate that only 12 raids were conducted in Assam but nothing was recovered therefrom. Not a single raid was conducted in Jammu-Kashmir. One raid was conducted in Goa in which Rs. 6 lakh were recovered nothing was recovered in the two raids which were conducted in Pondicherry. My question is that why was proper attention not given to these four states. Are the officials working in this Department reliable or they inform the concerned person in advance about the proposed raid and the is why nothing is recovered in these raids. I would like to know the reasons behind conducting such a small number of raids there and non-recovery of money or other things in these raids.

[English]

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : The search and seizures are conducted based on the information. I will take the Hon. Member's suggestion for action.

MR. SPEAKER : But he has not made any suggestion.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not got a reply to my question. The Hon. Minister must give at least some information. Everybody is aware that the officials dare not conduct raids in Jammu-Kashmir. Assam is infested with different kinds of terrorists problems. What action is being taken by the Government to make the Government machinery stronger in such states?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I think you get the money where it is available.

[Translation]

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA : Is it a fact that the outstanding amount has been increasing for the last five years and that even 50 per cent outstanding amount is not recovered?

[English]

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Sir, once the demand is raised, the assessee will go and file an appeal. Subsequent to filing of the appeals and pending the decisions, we could not get the amount realised and the realisation becomes very difficult. And if the Hon. Member has any particular company or any ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Verma, you can repeat your question please.

[Translation]

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA : Sir, the outstanding amount has been continuously increasing for the last five years and the Government has not been able to recover 50 per cent of the total outstanding amount. What are the reasons therefor?

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Sir, it is not correct. People go to the Court and file the appeals, which is allowed under the provisions of the law. I can assure the Hon. Members that we have collected more than fifty per cent. I do not have the figures with me now. As the number of raids and searches has increased, the number of Income-Tax assessee also has increased. It is but natural that even the arrears are mounting.

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE : There are laws to recover Income Tax but several people having a lot of money and property, do not pay Income Tax and ask for later extension of dates. The Department's officials only keep on sending letters for three-four years. Though there is a provision in the law that if someone is not able to pay the Income Tax, his property can be attached. But we have seen that the outstanding Income Tax amount has been mounting against one person only for the last 5-6 years and he is not paying it. What is the number of cases where you have attached or propose to attach the property of the tax evaders.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, if you have understood it, you can reply.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Sir, I have already replied to the question put by the earlier Hon. Member that we are taking all steps to recover the amount. We are taking serious steps in this regard. We have to do it within the framework of the law.

MR. SPEAKER : He wants to know why don't you attach their property to recover the amount.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : We are doing it. That is the duty of the Tax Recovery Officers. They are on the job. They are doing it to the best of their efforts.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : The Government had launched a scheme to award those persons who gave any information regarding unaccounted, Income Tax property, gold, silver or jewellery so that more and more people would be encouraged to furnish such information. These people are capable of paying Income Tax yet they evade it. Is any such scheme still going on? The part 'b' of my question is....

MR. SPEAKER : One part of this question is enough.

[English]

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Sir, I could not understand his question. Let the Hon. Member repeat his question.

MR. SPEAKER : You were rewarding the informants. Are you continuing that scheme?

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Yes, it is continuing.

MR. SPEAKER : If you have any information, you can give.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Wherever searches are conducted, even the officers are getting rewards.

SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, only one raid has been conducted in Goa. However, I find that so many people have become very rich overnight. I understand from the papers that Yakub Memon has purchased land in Goa. I would like to know why only one raid has been conducted.

MR. SPEAKER : This question has already been replied.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : The outstanding amount of Income Tax has been mounting day-by-day. What action has so far been taken by the Government against those officials or employees who indulge in corruption? Since the Income Tax amount is not being recovered due to active collusion of the Income Tax evaders and the corrupt officials, what concrete step has been taken by the Government so far?

MR. SPEAKER : There are laws and steps are taken under them.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a large scale corruption in Income Tax Department.

MR. SPEAKER : There are laws for that, what do you want?

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI : I would like to know from the Hon. Minister as to what is the total statewide number of cases at present and how long will it take to dispose of them? Do they continue pending for the whole year or the tax-payers go to the courts? Secondly, what is the position of the disposal of these cases? You have yourself asked about the targets, Why has the recovery been so less and why it is not increasing? The Income Tax is recovered from poor people but why not from rich people? The Hon. Minister must give a categorical reply to these questions in the House.

[English]

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : I have given the details about the cases of seizures and searches. In addition to this, the assessments regarding the searches and seizures had to be finalised within two years' time. Under the new procedure proposed in the Finance Bill that we are going to discuss in the coming few days, it should be decided and the assessment should be completed within one year.

Overdraft by States

*362. **SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH :**
SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether several States are facing the problem of overdraft at present;

(b) if so, the amount of overdraft against each State;

(c) whether the Reserve Bank of India has fixed the Ways and Means Limit for each State separately;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether some States have drawn beyond the fixed limit;

(f) if so, the details in this regard and the reasons therefor;

(g) whether the Government have permitted the States to raise resources through market borrowings; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (h). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) to (f). Depending on the volume of transactions of each State, the Reserve Bank of India has fixed the Ways and Means Limit for each State separately. The States are allowed to overdraw their account upto the Ways and Means Limit fixed by the Reserve Bank of India. When the States draw beyond the Ways and Means Limit for more than 10 working days continuously, Reserve Bank of India stops the payment.

The position of cash balance and overdrawal, if any, varies from day-to-day and from State to State. Since it is a matter of relationship between the banker and the client, (between R.B.I. and a State Government) information of States which have overdrawn their account with the R.B.I. are not publicised by the Government of India. The responsibility of financial management of State lies with State Governments for which they are accountable to their respective State Legislature.

A statement indicating the Ways and Means Limits fixed by the Reserve Bank of India for each State separately is enclosed as Annexure-I.

(g) and (h). The Planning Commission while deciding the Annual Plan of States also allocates the ceilings of "Negotiated Loans", "Market Borrowings" and "Debentures and Bonds" upto which each State Government can negotiate loans and raise market borrowings to fund its Annual Plan. Market borrowings are floated by the RBI on behalf of State Governments and are linked to SLR (Statutory Liquidity Ratio). A statement showing the statewide amount of Negotiated Loans, SLR-based Market Borrowings and Bonds and Debentures for 1995-96 is enclosed as Annexure-II. This statement covers 19 States whose Plan allocations have been finalised by the Planning Commission.

The State Governments require the consent of the Central Government under Article 293 of the Constitution of India, for borrowings from the market.

ANNEXURE-I**Ways and Means Limit Fixed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for Each State**

(Rs. in crores)

Revised limits for W and M
Advances from 1.11.1993

S.No.	States	Normal	Special	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	84.00	32.00	116.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8.40	3.20	11.60
3.	Assam	33.60	12.80	46.40
4.	Bihar	58.80	22.40	81.20
5.	Goa	8.40	3.20	11.60
6.	Gujarat	58.80	22.40	81.20
7.	Haryana	25.20	9.60	34.80
8.	Himachal Pradesh	16.80	6.40	23.20
9.	J and K			*
10.	Karnataka	67.20	25.60	92.80
11.	Kerala	50.40	19.20	69.60
12.	Madhya Pradesh	67.20	25.60	92.80
13.	Maharashtra	126.00	48.00	174.00
14.	Manipur	8.40	3.20	11.60
15.	Meghalaya	8.40	3.20	11.60
16.	Mizoram	8.40	3.20	11.60
17.	Nagaland	8.40	3.20	11.60
18.	Orissa	50.40	19.20	69.60
19.	Punjab	50.40	19.20	69.60
20.	Rajasthan	50.40	19.20	69.60
21.	Sikkim			*
22.	Tamil Nadu	92.40	35.20	127.60
23.	Tripura	8.40	3.20	11.60
24.	Uttar Pradesh	142.80	54.40	197.20
25.	West Bengal	84.00	32.00	116.00
Total		1117.20	425.60	1542.80

* Do not bank with RBI.

ANNEXURE-II**Amount of Market Borrowing, Negotiated Loans and Bonds and Debentures Allocated for 1995-96**(Rs. in crores)
1995-96

States	Market Borrowing	Negotiated Loan	Bonds & Debentures	
1	2	3	4	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	481.53	289.17	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	*	*	*
3.	Assam	162.63	36.74	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Bihar	*	*	*
5.	Goa	17.50	10.07	0.00
6.	Gujarat	*	*	*
7.	Haryana	133.89	123.82	25.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	40.00	45.23	0.00
9.	J and K	66.00	40.00	0.00
10.	Karnataka	211.84	193.20	543.28
11.	Kerala	345.61	108.59	170.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	400.85	241.68	40.00
13.	Maharashtra	*	*	*
14.	Manipur	*	*	*
15.	Meghalaya	25.00	48.30	0.00
16.	Mizoram	15.00	4.02	0.00
17.	Nagaland	39.65	21.00	0.00
18.	Orissa	*	*	*
19.	Punjab	221.24	95.32	100.00
20.	Rajasthan	394.27	149.28	300.00
21.	Sikkim	15.65	1.00	0.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	404.32	281.29	475.00
23.	Tripura	17.92	21.40	0.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	937.42	607.84	0.00
25.	West Bengal	447.42	204.07	0.00
Total		4376.84	2522.02	1653.28

* Not yet finalised

SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH : I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government of India will consider increasing the limits of overdraft because most of the States are presenting deficit budgets. Also, I want to know whether the rupee value is going down after the economic liberalisation policy because that also affects the State Governments.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : The quantum of overdraft is being determined by the RBI depending on the volume of the transactions of a particular State and it is between the RBI and the State Governments to increase the limit.

SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH : The Government of India has suggested some financial discipline but some of the State Governments are not observing that financial discipline. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government of India had called a Chief Ministers' Conference to discuss the financial discipline to the observed by the respective States.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : This issue is always being discussed in the NDC and in the Conference of Ministers of Finance of the States as and when held. Also, the Finance Ministers of States will be called shortly to discuss this issue.

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the people in Maharashtra and Bihar have not benefited in any way under the facility of Market Borrowing, Negotiated Loans and Bonus and Debentures for 1995-96. Was there no proposal to convene a meeting of the planning commission to allocate market borrowings to these States? Please tell us whether all those states which were issued order for market borrowing have refunded the money to all people from whom it was borrowed? What are the names of those States?

[English]

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Normally, the Planning Commission allocates the market borrowings amongst the different States. Maharashtra and some other States had recently gone to polls. Their Plans were not finalised due to the elections. They will be discussed with the Planning Commission and finalised.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : The Hon. Member would appreciate the relationship between the State and the Reserve Bank of India. It is something which could not be divulged, otherwise the repute of a particular State will go down.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : The figures of the market borrowings, negotiated loans, bonds and debentures for 1995-96 for Maharashtra have not yet been finalised. Will the Hon. Minister give the figures of bonds and debentures for 1994-95 for the State of Maharashtra? This specification question is being asked because the Maharashtra Government had made a request to the Central Government to float irrigation bonds for completing the Krishna basin irrigation projects on a time bound basis before the year 2000 and they had requested market borrowings to the tune of Rs. 750 crore for completing the Krishna basin irrigation projects. Will the Hon. Minister inform the House whether this permission has been given, and if so, what is the status of borrowing?

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : For 1994-95, the market borrowings for Maharashtra were Rs. 385.80 crore; negotiated loans come to Rs. 144.43 crore and bonds and debentures come to Rs. 425 crore.

As far as permission to float these irrigation bonds is concerned, I do not have the information. I will collect the information and furnish it to the Hon. Member.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister has said that the market borrowings is a matter between the Reserve Bank of India and the State Government. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister, through you, that whenever the State Government is faced with inadequate means, only then the overdraft is resorted to and the need arises to seek loans. When the overdraft is heavy then the State Governments seek

assistance from the Central Government. In Himachal Pradesh market loan had earlier been fixed at Rs. 40 crore and through negotiations it was brought up to Rs. 45.23 crore. Recently, the Government of Himachal Pradesh obtained loan to the tune of more than Rs. 400 crore and paid around Rs. 50 lakh to the commercial company as service charges. It has happened for the first time in the State. Whether such irregularities are being committed and an increased rate of interest is being paid to the commercial bank? Finally, the whole responsibility will fall on the Centre as the State lack resources. Will the Government intervene in the matter and discourage the State Government from taking such indiscriminate loans?

[English]

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Sir, I have already pointed out that the transfer of resources from the Centre to the States is mainly on two channels—the Planning Commission and on the recommendation of the Finance Commission.

As far as the quantum of market borrowings and negotiated loans is concerned, it has to be discussed in the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission, keeping in view the previous size of the Plan of a particular State and the particular projection in the present Plan, will consider and decide. It is for the Planning Commission to decide the market borrowings and negotiated loans.

PROF. PREM DHUMAL : My question was about Centre's role in this.

MR. SPEAKER : I think the Minister should not just say that the Planning Commission or others are responsible. You should have your own policy and plan and explain them to the Members.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : Sir, I respectfully point out that this is for the first time that the Government has taken a position as far as overdraft is concerned that it is the relationship between the banker and the client, RBI and the State as client. Therefore, you do not want to disclose the position of overdraft.

Secondly, they have taken a new position that the financial management of the States lies with the State Governments, for which they are accountable to their respective State Legislatures. I think for the last ten years I have been finding that overdraft figures were always given to this House, as far as the States were concerned. This is a new position they have taken. I would like to know why this new position has been taken by the Government. Are they prompted by the States to take this position? The Hon. Minister has stated that when the States draw beyond the Ways and Means limit for more than ten working days continuously, the Reserve Bank stops the payment. I would like to know whether it is strictly implemented by the Reserve Bank or not.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Sir, it is true that we have discussed in both the Ho about the States which have gone overdraft and s Members have opined that it should not be discl The Government is not publicising the names of States which have gone overdraft...*(Interruptions)*

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Why?

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : Let him reply.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : I have already explained and I am prepared to give whatever information I am having about the States which have gone overdraft.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : That is what I say. Will you place that information on the Table of the House?

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : If you permit me, I shall do that, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : I am not going to give you the policy directions from here. It is for you to decide the policy. Otherwise you will say that I said and you did it.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : It is not a question of any particular State, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : If that is your policy, you stick to whatever policy you have formulated.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Okay, Sir...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Basu, you are all the time getting up without taking my permission. That is not good. You cannot take the right of the other Members. If you want to ask a Supplementary, you take the permission and ask the Supplementary.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : Sir, may I merely submit that it is the right of this House to know the figures, and they should disclose those figures to the House?

MR. SPEAKER : They will formulate a correct policy and then do it.

SHRI E. AHAMED : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the most crucial issue before the State Governments is the ever increasing revenue deficit. It is because the States are now spending money for the welfare schemes and for many other schemes formulated by the Government of India as well as by the State Governments themselves. For example, in Kerala, the Government will be spending about forty per cent of the amount on education and literacy, and also a substantial amount on free medical aid and other welfare schemes for the down-trodden and the weaker sections. This, in a way, is an investment in human resources. Moreover, every year the Government of India increases the DA for its employees which will put a responsibility on the State Governments also to pay DA to its employees on parity with the Central Government employees. In a State like Kerala, in one year, Rs. 120 crore have to be spent for this. Therefore, it is a duty on the part of the Government of India to assist the States on this account. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government

of India will be formulating any policy to assist the States for spending the amount on the welfare schemes in accordance with the policy of the Government of India and of the State Governments. On the one hand, they enunciate the policy on which the State Governments are spending and, on the other hand, they are not assisting the State Governments ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Ahamed, this is to be decided by the Planning Commission and the Finance Commission.

SHRI E. AHAMED : No, Sir, I would just like to know from the Hon. Minister how the Government of India would be reacting to this.

MR. SPEAKER : No, you are just taking him to a different area.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, some states of our country are developed states while some others are backward. When a backward state has inadequate funds it goes in for overdraft. Will the Government consider giving assistance to those states which are really backward?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Will you fix the limit of overdraft taking into account the backwardness of the State ?

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Sir, it is really not so.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Sir, I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Union Government is aware of the cases of the States which are borrowing from market without the consent of the Central Government under Article 293 and if such cases are there what steps are being taken by the Union Government.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Sir, no State has borrowed from private agencies except one ...*(Interruptions)* It is the State of Mizoram. Whenever the States want to borrow money from outside agencies, that is private agencies, they should seek the permission of the Central Government under Article 293 of the Constitution.

SHRI ANIL BASU : Sir, in his statement the Minister has admitted that previously the position regarding the overdraft of the States was given to the House. Later on the Minister withheld the information on the plea that some Members of the House wanted that such type of information should not be divulged to the House. That means this House is responsible for not getting the information. It is not a policy question. It is the wish of some Members of the House not to divulge the information. What you have told him, Sir, is that if it is not a policy question you will not insist. As per the reply of the Minister it is not a policy question ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, it is not a policy question. I have not insisted. I said I am not directing the policy...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANIL BASU : Sir, he clearly stated that some Members of this House wanted that such type of information should not be divulged.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes.

SHRI ANIL BASU : Sir, I want to say that the whole House is demanding from the Minister to divulge such information, because after the new economic policy, more transparency in the working of the Government, and specially in the Finance Ministry, is required for the future of the country.

MR. SPEAKER : Whole House? How does the House come to know that the whole House is asking ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You are asking for it; not the whole House.

SHRI ANIL BASU : I represent a section of the House.

MR. SPEAKER : You please consult your colleagues and then come up with it.

SHRI ANIL BASU : Sir, I am submitting before the Chair...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI E. AHAMED : Sir, such things have to be included in the State Budget. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANIL BASU : My submission before this House is about it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand.

SHRI ANIL BASU : I submit that the information cannot be withheld from the House.

MR. SPEAKER : You should understand that the statement by one Member is not the statement of the House. You please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, you will not say anything at all.

Now, Shri Sriballav Panigrahi may put his Supplementary.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANIL BASU : Sir, what is this?

MR. SPEAKER : You should understand that your statement is not the statement of the House.

SHRI ANIL BASU : My submission before the Chair is that he said that some Members of the House wanted it. Is this House responsible?

MR. SPEAKER : I am fighting against ignorance. You should know that if you get up and say that the entire House is asking, it is not the entire House which is asking.

SHRI ANIL BASU : I, as a Member of this House, am asking it.

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Mr. Speaker Sir, there is increasing opinion about transparency to be maintained in the matter of State finances. So, considered from that angle, even to give the figures about the overdraft of the States would be welcome. I would like to know whether there has been any request from the State Governments in this regard? How many State Governments have made requests to the Government of India to keep this overdraft figures secret?

Secondly, this overdraft issue is becoming a vexed one. At some time there was also controversy between certain States and the Government of India demanding relaxation of terms etc. But it is fixed by the Reserve Bank of India. I want to know whether this matter has ever come up in any conference of Chief Ministers or in the conference of State Finance Ministers and if so what has been the consensus arrived at in such a conference and what is the reaction of the Government on it.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Sir, so far we have not received any request from any of the State Government.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : About what?

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : About divulging the position of overdraft. But, Sir, with your permission I would like to say that this issue was discussed for more than two hours in the other House.

And many Members of the other House have opined that we should not divulge this information as to which are those States which have overdrawn as it will lead to the disrepute of those States.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : It is coming out in the newspapers.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, because a few Members expressed their views on the floor of the House, you cannot take those Members' view only because there are other Members who would like to express their views. So, it would be necessary for the Government to take the holistic view of this and then come to a correct conclusion and formulate a policy. Please do not swing from one side to the other simply because some Members said this way or that way.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Yes, Sir. We will definitely come out with a policy.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Sir, the second part of my question has not yet been answered — whether any consensus about overdraft has been arrived at any conference.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would first like to submit to you that the financial health of every State is a matter of public interest and under the Constitution it is the responsibility of the Centre to

monitor the financial management of every State because it has the power to impose financial emergency if it becomes necessary. And therefore this House should be seized of this information, whether a particular State is being run financially according to the norms. Now, Sir, the Minister does not have the information today about the extent to which the limits were crossed by different States. If he agrees to provide the information, I would also like to have the information, if it is possible, that in the case of each State, during a given financial year, for how many days in total the payment by the RBI was stopped because that would be a test of the financial health of every State. I would therefore like to know from the Hon. Minister, if he has this information, not the actual amount by which the limits were crossed, but at least the number of days for which the payment to a given State was stopped during the last financial year on account of overdraft.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Sir, I will collect this information and furnish it to the Hon. Member.

[Translation]

SHRI KESRI LAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether those states, which have received funds by way of overdrafts, have utilised the funds in those projects against which they had sought funds or whether the respective Chief Ministers have diverted those funds?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It is a very good question.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : It is very difficult for the Government to answer this question.

MR. SPEAKER : Why? If you do not collect the information and if you do not give the information to the House, how do we have the financial control over the expenditure of the Government?

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Sir, if there is any particular deviation, then I will find out and let the Hon. Member know about it.

MR. SPEAKER : You please collect the information; you also monitor and let the House also monitor.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Yes, Sir.

Import of Textiles

*363. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL :
KUMARI UMA BHARTI :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has been taken by the

Government to allow import of textiles and garments including synthetic textiles through Special Licence route during the year 1995-96;

(b) if so, whether the Government have assessed the revenue earnings and its impact on production of textiles by the handloom and powerloom sectors;

(c) if so, figures of revenue earnings from this sector during the last two years and expected shortfalls for the next two years; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of the handloom/powerloom sectors?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) : The textile and clothing items placed under the Special Import Licence (SIL) list can be imported only at the normal rate of import duty, which is still appreciable. Also the extent of access through the Special Import Licence (SIL) route is limited. Besides, a specific import duty, as an alternative to the ad valorem import duty, on a whichever is higher basis can be applied, should the need arise, to discourage the import of low priced textile products. Apart from import duty, an additional duty equivalent to the excise duty etc., paid by the domestic industry, can also be imposed on the imports. Because of these reasons, the import of textile and clothing under the Special Import Licence Scheme are not expected to adversely affect the interests of handloom and powerloom weavers.

No separate information of revenue earning from the decentralised sector is maintained.

[Translation]

SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL : Sir, the reply given by Hon. Minister reveals that our country is going to import synthetic textiles and many other types of clothes through special Import Licence. Prices of this imported cloth will likely remain low because in India the 54" imported cloth from many countries costs only Rs. 17.75, whereas 49" cloth manufactured in the country costs Rs. 22. Thus in comparison to imported cloth people have to pay more money for indigenous cloth and it will adversely affect, especially handloom and powerloom industry. It will render millions of workers jobless.

I would like to know from the Hon. Minister as to what steps he is going to take for imposing special duty on the imported cloth to bring its prices at par with the prices of indigenous cloth. What are you doing in this regard?

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon. Member's question is that imported cloth will be cheaper and indigenous cloth will be costly and its impact will be seen in our domestic market. As you know that there is a clause of special Import taxes which is very important and which was included in Uruguay Round agreement. Foreign countries tried their best to remove that clause but we did not agree to that. We included this clause to keep balance in prices of our indigenous cloth. The Government of India has kept this provision with itself to save our indigenous industries from any adverse effect. Our tariff rate is 50 per cent, and we will increase it in case of any adverse effect.

SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon. Minister has told that Special Import Licence route is meant for limited countries I would like to know from the Hon. Minister as to which are the countries included in it.

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : Tariff rate is quite low in all other countries but in our country it is 50 per cent. Apart from it we have got the power to levy move taxes. This agreement was passed during Uruguay Round with America and European Market in a bilateral agreement. We have also put this clause in that meeting also. I would like to tell this House that last year we have exported 30 per cent of total textile production which amounts to be 9.5 billion dollar...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : That matter relates to WTO, please do not go into that.

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : I assure the house that which ever agreement we have made during Uruguay Round on behalf of Textiles Ministry, is in the interest of our country...*(Interruptions)* After Uruguay Round agreement we made bilateral agreements with U.S.A. and European Market. Earlier we had quota system for exporting cloth but now handloom, handicrafts and cottage industry have been excluded from this quota system and any quantity of handloom clothes can be exported to USA and European Market. We have fixed an export target of 10.5 billion dollar for Textiles Ministry for next year. I assure the Hon. Member that we will not let the imported cloth to affect our domestic industry. If we wish, we have the right to increase tariff rate also.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : You have distorted the facts and let the person sit down, who was asking this question earlier but I would like to ask a straight question, and hope that you will give me a straight and to the point reply. I do not want any misleading reply. I would like to say that the cloth imported under the Special Import Licence Scheme will adversely affect the market and production of clothes produced by powerloom and handloom. Main reason behind it is the excise duty of Rs. 7.60 imposed on this cloth. Therefore, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister as to whether it is correct that in comparison to indigenous cloth,

imported cloth would be sold at 20-25 per cent low prices. The cloth produced by our handloom and powerloom weavers can compete with imported cloth if the excise duty imposed on this cloth will be abolished. We do not want that Indian people should not get good, cheap and durable cloth. It is their right and they should get it. But I would like to know whether you propose to abolish the excise duty of Rs. 7.60 imposed on it, so that our Indian industry could compete with foreign industries.

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, have already given reply regarding our export for example under the items of high value addition a suit costs 5000 dollar and you can imagine very well the number of persons who can buy such suits in our country. We have included 313 items under this scheme. Apart from it we have the provision of tariff rate to save our industry from any adverse effect. We have the right to increase the tariff rate and it is quite effective.

He has asked about handloom, we have signed a bilateral agreement in which there is a provision in the agreement that 7000 ton flexibility would be used in Europe.

Apart from it we have excluded handloom products from quota system to boost its export in Europe.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : It is not the reply to my question. I have not asked this question at all, to which question you are replying?

MR. SPEAKER : Whether you are going to reduce the excise duty. There is a small question in it as to whether the Government proposed to reduce the rate of excise duty?

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : Will you abolish the excise duty of Rs. 7.60. You are not replying to my question. You are going to render millions of people jobless. You are compelling crores of people to starve...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

Sir, he knows very well about that.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. It is a small question. Whether you propose to reduce excise duty?

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : Excise duty on imported cloth?

MR. SPEAKER : No, the cloth produced here.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : On the cloth produced by handloom and powerloom sector in this country.

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : Have you said that there is any excise duty imposed on the cloth prepared by handloom weavers? *(Interruptions)* As per my knowledge there is no excise duty on the cloth woven by handloom weavers and if it is there ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Kumari Uma Bharati ji, this not correct.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has in his answer stated that the Special Import Licence Route (SIL) is limited. I want to have a clarification in this regard. What do you mean by "limited?" Will it not affect the export market? Whatever may be the Uruguay Round Agreement, smuggling of the synthetic textiles will be institutionalised by your licence. Therefore, I want to know from the Government that whether in order to improve our export, the SIL will be given only to persons who are actually manufacturing the garments and exporting the garments or not. Only that category should get the Special Import Licence. Then only the export market will not be affected. What is the Government's reply to this point?

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : Sir, during the year 1994-95, the Special Import Licences worth about Rs. 1200 crores were issued.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : I do not want all these details. You have stated that the SIL Route is limited. If it is limited, will it be given only to the actual manufacturers who are exporting the garments?

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : How can I give the details regarding export production?

MR. SPEAKER : You please examine it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is a suggestion. You get it examined.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon. Minister has given a misleading reply to the question regarding issuance of licence etc. He could not give any proper reply. Apart from it free trade has been started between Burma and India through More in Manipur and today China is sending clothes on large scale in India which is unaccounted. In the same way China is also sending cloth via Nepal which is being sold in Indian market. Earlier this cloth was sold in border area only but today these readymade garments and other clothes are being sold in many metropolitan cities. Whether the Government propose to stop it? It is a problem of weavers but it will not be limited to them, and ultimately it will harm and whole textile industry. Along with it, import of clothes are being advertized openly. Suit length imported from Britain is being sold in the market at a rate of Rs. 70,000/-. It is being advertized openly. Whether the Government propose to take some measures to stop it and save the textile industry of the country.

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the context of the first question raised by the Hon. Member regarding smuggling of cloth going on between Burma

and Manipur I would like to say that it does not relate to my Ministry. It is related to Commerce and Finance Ministries. I do not know the details regarding the agreement signed between Burma and India ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, such are the Ministers in the Government of India. Textiles Ministry is also responsible for it.

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : Please give me a chance to speak...*(Interruptions)* What should I do if Hon. Members are not understanding my point. I am trying my best to make them understand. I have information that after this agreement loongi cloth is being exported but I am unaware of the fact that smuggling is going under this agreement via Nepal. I would draw the attention of Finance Minister towards it. I have written a letter to Finance Minister regarding dumping of silk. I have no machinery to prevent smuggling. Finance Ministry will take action on it.

[English]

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV : Even after exporting 9.7 billion dollar worth of cloth to foreign countries, as per the GATT agreement we have to import a minimum three per cent of the total production of cloth. That means, even after exports, we have achieved self-sufficiency in cloth. What is the Government of India going to do with the three per cent cloth that we have to import into this country as per the GATT agreement? What are the plans that the Government is having because even after exports also we are self-sufficient in the production of the cloth? When the agreement comes into effect, we have to import a minimum of three per cent of the total production of cloth. What is the Government of India going to do with that cloth? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : There is no minimum market access, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Permission for Opening Private Banks

*364. **SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :**

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the institutions given permission to establish banks in the private sector during 1994-95 alongwith the institutions to whom a proposal have been rejected with reasons for such rejections during the same period:

(b) the details of the proposals still pending with the Government for clearance and the date by which these are likely to be disposed of finally;

(c) the details of the norms to be followed by such private banks; and

(d) the criteria being followed for according permission for establishing banks in the private sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has intimated that during 1994-95 while it had given 'in principle' approval to promoters of the Bank of Punjab Ltd. The applications of the following were rejected by RBI for (a) having committed certain irregularities (b) for violation of certain guidelines/directions issued by RBI to non-banking financial companies and (c) for being a fully-owned company of the State Government :

1. Shri R.C. Suneja, former Chairman of New Bank of India
2. Ross Morarka Finance Ltd.
3. Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Ltd.
4. Sahara India Financial Corporation Ltd.
5. Padmaja Financial Services Ltd.
6. Madhya Pradesh Audyogik Vikas Nigam Ltd.

(b) RBI has reported that as on 31.3.1995, 33 applications for setting up new banks in the private sector were pending with it. The names of such applicants are given in Statement-I. These applications are at various stages of processing and it is difficult to indicate, at this stage, the date by which these applications would be finally disposed of.

(c) and (d). The guidelines issued by RBI for setting up banks in the private sector are given in Statement-II.

STATEMENT-I

1	2
1.	Exim Bank Ltd.
2.	ITC Ltd.
3.	Phoenix Overseas Ltd.
4.	Sh. H.T. Patel
5.	Sh. S.P.Y. Reddy
6.	Reliance Industries Ltd.
7.	Ispat Finance Ltd.
8.	Modern Group of Industries.
9.	SRF Ltd.
10.	Shri R.S. Mardia of Mardia Chemicals.
11.	Jain Group of Industries.
12.	CRB Capital Markets.

1	2
13.	Negolice Ltd. and Shri Jai Kishan Bhagchandka
14.	Shri R.P. Goyal.
15.	Diaden Investment and Finance Ltd.
16.	Cox and King Finance Ltd.
17.	Shri Praful Patel.
18.	Shri Jamboo Kumar Bhandari of Alpine Solvex Ltd.
19.	Indian Seamless Financial Services Ltd.
20.	Shri Ramdeo Pittie.
21.	Apple Industries Ltd.
22.	Caparo Group Ltd., London (Shri Swaraj Paul).
23.	Birla Growth Fund.
24.	Srei International Finance Ltd.
25.	DLF Universal Ltd.
26.	Shri Dattaraj Salgaonkar.
27.	Raunaq Finance Ltd.
28.	Shri Gulam Ghouse.
29.	Zaiulla Shariff.
30.	Hathway Investments (Pvt) Ltd.
31.	Ruchi Soya Industries Ltd.
32.	Som Datt Finance Corporation Ltd.
33.	Shri J.C. Luther, IRS (Retd.)

STATEMENT-II

Guidelines on Entry of New Private Sector Banks

(a) Such a bank shall be registered as a public limited company under the Companies Act 1956.

(b) The RBI may, on merits, grant a licence under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 for such a bank. The bank may also be included in the Second Schedule of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, at the appropriate time. The decision of the RBI in these matters shall be final.

(c) The bank will be governed by the provisions of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 in regard to its authorised, subscribed and paid-up capital. The minimum paid-up capital for such a bank shall be Rs. 100 crores. The promoters' contribution for such a bank shall be determined by the RBI and will also be subject to other applicable regulations.

(d) The shares of the bank should be listed on stock exchanges.

(e) To avoid concentration of the headquarters of new banks in metropolitan cities and other overbanked areas, while granting a licence preference may be given to those the headquarters of which are proposed to be located in a Centre which does not have the headquarters of any other bank.

(f) Voting rights of an individual shareholder shall be governed by the ceiling of 10 per cent of the total

voting rights as stipulated by Section 12(3) of the Banking Regulation Act. However, exemption from this ceiling may be granted under Section 53 of the said Act, to public financial institutions.

(g) The new bank shall not be allowed to have as a director any person who is a director of any other banking company, or of companies which among themselves are entitled to exercise voting rights in excess of twenty per cent of the total voting rights of all the shareholders of the banking company, as laid down in the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

(h) The bank will be governed by the provisions of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 and other relevant statutes, in regard to its management set-up, liquidity requirements and the scope of its activities. The directives, instructions, guidelines and advices given by the RBI, shall be applicable to such a bank as in the case of other banks. It would be ensured that a new bank would concentrate on core banking activities initially.

(i) Such a bank shall be subject to prudential norms in respect of banking operations accounting policies and other policies as are laid down by RBI. The bank will have to achieve capital adequacy of 8 per cent of the risk weighted assets from the very beginning. Similarly, norms for income recognition, asset classification and provisioning will also be applicable to it from the beginning. So will be the single borrower and group borrowers exposure limits that will be in force from time to time.

(j) The bank shall have to observe priority sector lending targets as applicable to other domestic banks. However, in recognition of the fact that new entrants may require some time to lend to all categories of the priority sector, some modification in the composition of the priority sector lending may be considered by the RBI for an initial period of three years.

(k) Such a bank will also have to comply with such directions of the RBI as are applicable to existing banks in the matter of all export credit. As a facilitation of this it may be issued an authorised dealers licence to deal in foreign exchange, when applied for.

(l) A new bank shall not be allowed to set up a subsidiary or mutual fund for at least three years after its establishment. The holding of such a bank in the equity of other companies shall be governed by the existing provisions applicable to other banks viz. :

- (i) 30 per cent of the bank's or the invitee company's capital funds, whichever is less, as set out under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949; and
- (ii) 1.5 per cent of the bank's incremental deposits during a year as per RBI guidelines.

The aggregate of such investments in the subsidiaries and Mutual Fund (if and when set up) and portfolio investments in other companies shall not exceed 20 per cent of the bank's own paid-up capital and reserves.

(m) In regard to branch opening, it shall be governed by the existing policy that banks are free to open branches at various centres including urban/metropolitan centres without the prior approval of the RBI once they satisfy the capital adequacy and prudential accounting norms. However, to avoid over-concentration of their branches in metropolitan areas and cities, a new bank will be required to open rural and semi-urban branches also, as may be laid down by RBI.

(n) Such a bank shall have to lay down its loan policy within the overall policy guidelines of RBI. While, doing so, it shall specifically provide prudential norms covering related party transactions.

(o) Such a bank shall make full use of modern infrastructural facilities in office equipments, computer, telecommunications etc. in order to provide good customer service. The bank should have a high powered customer grievances cell to handle customer complaints.

(p) Such other conditions as RBI may prescribe from time to time.

[Translation]

Foreign Trade (Regulation and Development) Act, 1992

*365. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any action against those firms who are not following the provisions of Foreign Trade (Regulation and Development) Act, 1992;

(b) whether the number of those firms is going down due to imposition of penalty under this Act;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to curb such activities in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d). The country's foreign trade is regulated under the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992. The Foreign Trade (Regulation) Rules, 1993 have been notified to carry out the provisions of the Act. The Export and Import Policy is formulated and announced by the Government under Section 5 of the Act. Appropriate action for any contravention of the provisions of the Act, Rules or the Policy is initiated against the defaulting firms. The number of firms against whom action has been taken in the past 3 years under the erstwhile

Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947 and the orders framed thereunder and the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992 is as under :

Year	Number of Firms debarred	Numbers of Firms on which fiscal penalty imposed	Amount of penalty imposed (Rs. in Crores)
1992-93	130	188	48.22
1993-94	40	58	11.71
1994-95	39	38	81.52

[English]

Cotton Cultivation

*366. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cotton Corporation of India has proposed to introduce new plan to increase productivity of cotton in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated production of cotton vis-a-vis the demand in the country during current year;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to have intensive cultivation of cotton in various States;

(e) if so, the details of new plans to increase the productivity in the cotton growing States; and

(f) the achievements made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (b). Yes, Sir. The Cotton Corporation of India is implementing projects for production and distribution of certified seeds in States of Karnataka, Gujarat, M.P. and Rajasthan. This programme is proposed to be extended to Punjab during 1995-96.

(c) The estimated production and demand of cotton in the country during the current cotton year, as estimated by the Cotton Advisory Board, is 125.50 lakh bales and 127 lakh bales respectively.

(d) and (e). As per the information supplied by the Ministry of Agriculture a centrally sponsored Intensive Cotton Development Programme is being implemented in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. Under this programme, financial assistance is provided to these States for the production of breeder foundation and certified seeds, distribution of certified seeds and organising demonstrations on production technology.

(f) The production of cotton in the country increased from 1.19 lakh bales in 1991-92 to 1.35 lakh bales in

1992-93. However, production in 1993-94 was 121.50 lakh bales because of post attack and cyclone in cotton producing states.

Appropriation of Funds by Banks

*367. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the nationalised banks are required to report to the Government or to the Reserve Bank of India, or to their own Directors' Boards, the details of appropriations made from their reserve funds for covering bad and doubtful debts; and

(b) if so, the amount of reserves held and appropriations made therefrom by each of the public sector banks including State Bank of India during each of the accounting years 1992, 1993 and 1994 in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). The balance of profit in the Profit and Loss accounts is arrived at after making provisions for bad and doubtful debts. These provisions are made with the approval of Board of Directors and auditors of the bank.

Under Section 17(1) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, banks are required to create a reserve fund by transfer each year a sum equivalent to not less than 20% of profit as disclosed in the Profit and Loss Accounts before any dividend is declared. In case where appropriation is to be made from this reserve the bank has to report to Reserve Bank of India explaining the circumstances for re-appropriation within the prescribed time. Reserve Bank of India has reported that during 1992 to 1994 no such report has been received from any Public Sector bank under this section.

Import of Natural Rubber

*368. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN :
SHRI P.C. THOMAS :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of natural rubber in the international market is higher than the domestic price at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the balance of stock of natural rubber was available with the Rubber Board at the time of decision taken for the import of natural rubber during the current year;

(d) whether the import of natural rubber is against the policy of the Government for filling up the gap between production and demand;

(e) if so, the reasons for such imports; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of rubber growers and to curb the import of rubber?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Yes Sir. The price RSS-4 grade rubber in Kottayam and Kuala Lumpur was as follows :

(Malaysia) as on 21.4.95
Rs./quintal

Kuala Lumpur Market	5514
Kottayam Market	5400

(c) Rubber Board does not keep any commercial stock for distribution. However, the estimated stock position of natural rubber in the country is as under :

At the end of	Quantity ('000 MTs)
January, 1995	101
February, 1995	83
March, 1995	69

(d) to (f). As per the current Exim Policy, rubber continues to be in the restricted list of items for import and is importable against Special Import Licence. Import of natural rubber has been permitted under licence from time to time keeping in view the gap between demand and supply. In accordance with this approach, import of 20,000 MTs of natural rubber at zero duty was permitted in March, 1995. Considering the demand-supply scenario and the differential between international and domestic prices, it is not expected that such import would affect the interests of rubber growers. Further, in order to minimise import requirements in future, the Rubber Board is taking steps for increase of production and productivity in the country.

Losses in IA

*369. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has constituted a Committee to make a comprehensive examination of the reasons for the losses of the Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, when the aforesaid Committee was constituted and the composition of the same; and

(c) the time by which the report is likely to be submitted by the above Committee?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Committee was constituted on 13.2.95 comprising the following members :

1. Dr. Vijay Kelkar, Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. Chairman
2. Shri Deepak Parikh, Managing Director, Housing Development Finance Corporation. Member

3. Shri P.G. Mankad, Addl. Secretary, Department of Industrial Development. Member
4. Shri Suresh Krishna, Chairman TV Sunderam Group. Member
5. Capt. D.S. Mathur, Managing Director, Air India. Member
6. Shri P.C. Sen, Managing Director, Indian Airlines. Member
7. Dr. G.K. Agarwal, Director Planning, Indian Airlines. Secretary

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. To develop and prioritise strategies, both short as well as long term to turn around Indian Airlines and to develop a plan of action including financial restructuring for implementation of the Turn-Around Strategy.
2. To recommend organisational restructuring including wage policies to meet emerging challenges.
3. To identify areas in which assistance of Government is needed.
4. Any other matter relating to the issues mentioned above.

(c) The Committee has been asked to submit its report by the end of April, 1995.

Outstanding of ITDC

*370. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that customers owe huge amount to ITDC hotels;

(b) if so, the details of such outstanding amounts and the names of ITDC hotels against which the amounts are outstanding; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to recover the outstanding amount?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). A statement showing hotel-wise details of outstandings in respect of the 26 hotels owned and operated by ITDC as on 31.3.94 is given below :

S.No.	Name of the Hotel	Total Outstanding
1	2	3
(Rs. in lakhs)		
1.	Hotel Ashok, New Delhi	641.65
2.	Hotel Janpath, New Delhi	130.34
3.	Hotel Lodhi, New Delhi	80.49
4.	Hotel Ranjit, New Delhi	64.91

1	2	3
5.	Hotel Ashok, Bangalore	98.20
6.	Hotel Hassan Ashok	16.42
7.	Hotel Jammu Ashok	55.30
8.	Hotel Aurangabad Ashok	14.48
9.	Hotel Khajuraho Ashok	17.79
10.	Hotel Kovalam Ashok Beach Resort, Kovalam	178.14
11.	Lasmi Vilas Palace Hotel, Udaipur	48.62
12.	Temple Bay Ashok Beach Resort, Mamallapuram	21.05
13.	Hotel Varanasi Ashok	94.22
14.	Hotel Qutab, New Delhi	43.20
15.	Lalitha Mahal Palace Hotel, Mysore	65.14
16.	Airport Ashok Calcutta	275.71
17.	Pataliputra Ashok, Patna	28.72
18.	Hotel Jaipur Ashok	33.25
19.	Hotel Kalinga Ashok, Bhubaneswar	29.08
20.	Hotel Madurai Ashok	23.73
21.	Hotel Samrat, New Delhi	145.61
22.	Hotel Kanishka, New Delhi	150.11
23.	Ashok Yatri Niwas, New Delhi	37.71
24.	Hotel Agra Ashok	40.44
25.	Hotel Bodhgaya Ashok	41.76
26.	Hotel Manali Ashok	2.50
Total		2328.57

(c) Realisation of outstanding amount is a continuous process which includes regular follow-up by way of reminders, personal contacts, periodic review both at the unit and corporate levels, legal action wherever necessary etc.

Export of Flowers

*371. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India's share in the world flower market is very little;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of the actual share at present; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to boost the export of flowers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). India presently has a small share in the world trade of cut flowers. Some reasons therefor are limited production

of varieties popular in the international market, small scale cultivation of flowers under green houses, unorganised domestic market and inadequate pre-cooling/cold storage facilities.

(c) The steps being taken by the Government to boost the export of flowers, *inter-alia*, include :

- (i) Providing financial assistance for development of infrastructure such as refrigerated/insulated vans and setting up of pre-cooling/cold storage units;
- (ii) Establishing five walk-in-type cold storages for export consignments awaiting clearance;
- (iii) Streamlining and simplification of plant quarantine procedures for expeditious clearance of cargo;
- (iv) Concessional customs duty on specified goods required for Green Houses;
- (v) Making available the benefits of duty free imports under the Export Oriented Units/ Export Processing Zones Schemes to units engaged in floriculture and permitting sale of 50% of their production in the Domestic Tariff Area;
- (vi) Implementation of a UNDP assisted Project on Floriculture for enhancing production and exports of cut flowers. Some of the activities to be undertaken in this project include, advising entrepreneurs on production of flowers, preparation of crop manuals, undertakings market surveys and providing market information; and
- (vii) Participation in international fairs/exhibitions.

Loss to Tourism Industry

*372. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the tourism industry has been incurring losses;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore and the losses suffered during the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(c) whether the tourism industry is likely to suffer losses in the near future also; and

(d) the steps being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Information available with the Government does not suggest any recurring losses for the tourism industry as a whole.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Given the present trends, the tourism industry is not likely to suffer losses in the near future.

(d) Does not arise.

Fleet Capacity of I.A.

*373. PROF. K.V. THOMAS :

SHRI P. KUMARASAMY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

- (a) the total fleet capacity of Indian Airlines;
- (b) whether there is any proposal to add more aircraft into Indian Airlines fleet;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the estimated amount likely to be spent thereon; and
- (e) the source from which the funds are proposed to be raised for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Indian Airlines has 58 operational aircraft as indicated below :

Airbus	300	10	Nos.
Airbus	320	30	Nos.
Boeing	737	18	Nos.

In addition to these there are 3 Dornier 228 aircraft in the fleet of Vayudoot which is operating as a separate division of Indian Airlines.

(b) to (e). Government has not received any proposal so far for addition of more aircraft in the fleet of Indian Airlines.

Unemployment

*374. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been significant change in unemployment as a result of the economic reforms particularly in rural areas;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether his Ministry has studied the International Labour Organisation Report (ILO), 1995; and

(d) if so, the strategy proposed to be adopted to generate more modern sector jobs, while upgrading the skills and living standards of the vast majority of the labour force clustered in the low-productivity rural and urban informal areas?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) to (d). As per the figures furnished by the Planning Commission the numbers of additional employment generated in the year 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 are 6.71, 5.71 and 7.20 millions. Separate estimate for rural sector is not maintained.

Ministry is also in receipt of the report "World Employment 1995" by ILO. Specific steps taken by the Government to generate employment are the following:

- (i) Making massive investments in rural employment programmes - IRDP, TRYSEM, JRY, Nehru Rozgar Yojana, Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana, Employment Assurance Scheme. Eighth Plan outlay for Rural Development is Rs. 35,997/- crores.
- (ii) Modernisation and expansion of Vocational Training infrastructure in the country by acquisition of modern equipment, introduction of employment relevant vocational training courses, revision of teaching learning materials etc. so that the employability of the job seekers is improved.
- (iii) Promotion of training and retraining of workers under NRF to impart new skills so that they could get redeployed when industries modernise by taking recourse to new technologies.
- (iv) The wide ranging industrial deregulation has a potential for direct employment for 3.4 million persons. Nearly 20% investment intentions have so far been implemented and another 20% are at various stages of implementation. These are estimated to generate direct employment to the extent of 1.4 million persons.
- (v) A High Power Committee under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister had adopted an Action Plan for vitalising and improving Khadi and Village Industries and generate additional employment for 2 million persons.

[Translation]

Child Labour

*375. SHRI LALLBABU RAI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether article 24 of the Constitution prohibit the employment of child labour in hazardous industries;

(b) if so, whether these provisions of the Constitution are being complied with;

(c) if not, the number of the cases registered against the employees for the violation of the above provision during the last three years;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up a National Commission on Child Labour to monitor the situation;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):
(a) to (c). Article 24 of the Constitution provides that no child below the age of 14 years shall be employed to work in any factory or mine or engaged in any other hazardous employment. In pursuance of this provision of the Constitution, the Government has enacted the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 which seeks to prohibit engagement of children in certain occupations and processes contained in the Schedule to the Act. Parts (A) and (B) of the Schedule Statement (Annexed) of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 contain the occupations and processes where the employment of children below the age of 14 years is prohibited. The Child Labour Technical Advisory Committee, constituted under Section 5(1) of the said Act advises the Government for the purpose of additions of occupations and processes to the Schedule. The Central and State Governments/UTs enforce various provisions of the Act in their respective spheres. The number of violations/prosecutions under the Act as reported by State Governments/UTs are as follow :

Year	No. of violations	No. of prosecutions
1991-92	683	787
1992-93	1884	1869
1993-94	1814	1308

(d) There is no proposal to set up a National Commission on Child Labour.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Government have already taken several steps to tackle the problem of child labour. A comprehensive law, the Child Labour (Prohibitions and Regulation) Act was enacted in 1986. As per the National Child Labour Policy, 1987 child labour is being tackled through (a) Legislation (b) General Development Programmes for benefit of children and (c) through implementation of National Child Labour Projects. In September, 1994, the National Authority for the Elimination of Child Labour was constituted under the Chairmanship of Union Minister of Labour. Government is presently engaged in the process of preparing a major action plan to eliminate child labour in hazardous occupations in a phased manner which is estimated at 20 lakhs. The year 2000 is the target for the elimination of child labour in hazardous occupations.

In addition, to safeguard the interests of children, there are protective provisions in various Labour Laws as well, such as the Factories Act, 1948, the Mines Act, 1952, the Motor Transport (Workers) Act, 1961 etc. The approach of the Government is to implement all the child related provisions of the laws in a harmonious fashion. Enforcement machinery at the Central and State level exist to enforce the provisions of these Acts. Employers are liable to be prosecuted for violations of the provisions of the Acts. Enforcement personnel are

being given special training for better enforcement of these laws. As such, there is no need to set-up a National Commission on Child Labour to monitor the situation.

STATEMENT

THE SCHEDULE
(See Section 3)

PART A OCCUPATIONS

Any occupation connected with :

- (1) Transport of passengers, goods or mails by railway;
- (2) Cinder picking, clearing of an ash pit or building operation in the railway premises;
- (3) Work in a catering establishment at a railway station, involving the movement of a vendor or any other employee of the establishment from one platform to another or into or out of a moving train;
- (4) Work relating to the construction of a railway station or with any other work where such work is done in close proximity to or between the railway lines;
- (5) A port authority within the limits of any port;
- * (6) Work relating to selling of crackers and fireworks in shops with temporary licenses.
- # (7) Abattoirs/ Slaughter Houses.

PART B PROCESSES

- (1) Bidi-making
- (2) Carpet-weaving.
- (3) Cement manufacture, including bagging of cement.
- (4) Cloth printing, dyeing and weaving.
- (5) Manufacture of matches, explosives and fireworks.
- (6) Mica-cutting and splitting.
- (7) Shellac manufacture
- (8) Soap manufacture
- (9) Tanning.
- (10) Wool-cleaning
- (11) Building and construction industry.
- * (12) Manufacture of Slate pencils (including packing)
- * (13) Manufacture products from agate.
- * (14) Manufacturing processes using toxic metals and substances such as lead, mercury, manganese, chromium, cadmium, benzene, pesticides and asbestos.

#(15) "Hazardous Processes" as defined in Section 2(cb) and 'dangerous operations' as notified in rules made under Section 87 of the Factories Act, 1948 (63 of 1948).

#(16) Printing as defined in Section 2 (k)(iv) of the Factories Act, 1948 (63 of 1948).

#(17) Cashew and cashewnut descaling and processing

#(18) Soldering processes in electronic industries

* Ins by Notification No. S.O. 404(E) dated the 5th June, 1989 published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary.

Ins by Notification No. S.O. 263(E) dated 29th March, 1994 published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary.

Losses to N.T.C.

*376. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the profit/losses incurred by each NTC units during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the reasons for losses, and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make them profitable?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) A statement indicating the profit/loss incurred by each NTC unit during the last three years, year-wise is attached as Statement.

(b) The National Textile Corporation (NTC) has been incurring losses due to inadequate modernisation, obsolete machinery, excess man-power, shortage of working capital, etc.

(c) The Textile Research Associations had prepared modernisation plans for modernisation of 79 NTC mills at an investment of Rs. 2005.72 crores. The modernisation plans include restructuring of 36 unviable mills into 18 viable mills. The Labour Ministry's Special Tripartite Committee on the NTC has recommended, *inter-alia*, that the NTC Mills as well as its taken over mills can be made viable by modernisation as proposed by the Textile Research Associations and that the surplus land and other assets of the NTC mills may be disposed off and the proceeds utilised for the management for modernisation, working capital, etc. A revised Turn Around Strategy on these lines is under consideration of the Government. Since the cases of 8 out of 9 subsidiaries of the NTC have been referred to the BIFR, any final scheme that may emerge would require the approval of the BIFR before implementation.

STATEMENT

Statement showing the Mills-wise Year-wise Net Profit/Loss from 1992-93 Onwards

S. No.	Mill-Name	City	AUDITED		1994-95 (April-January) (Prov.)
			1992-93	1993-94	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Dayalbagh Mills	Amritsar	-3.21	-2.78	-3.05
2.	Suraj Textile	Malout	-1.96	-0.83	-1.37
3.	Sri Bijay Mills	Bijaynagar	-2.89	-1.95	-1.81
4.	Kharar Textiles	Kharar	-1.67	-0.30	-1.54
5.	Udaipur Mills	Udaipur	-1.49	-0.64	-1.54
6.	Ajudhia Mills	Delhi	-8.92	-11.27	-9.71
7.	Mahalaxmi Mills	Beawar	-3.72	-4.20	-4.11
8.	Edward Mills	Beawar	-4.98	-4.40	-4.22
9.	Panipat Mills	Kharar	-3.46	-3.96	-3.76
10.	Hira Mills	Ujjain	-11.20	-11.72	-9.78
11.	Swadeshi Mills	Indore	-9.68	-9.29	-8.82
12.	New Bhopal Mill	Bhopal	-8.29	-6.05	-6.16
13.	Burhanpur Mills	Burhanpur	-4.40	-3.70	-4.75
14.	Bengal Nagpur	Rajnandgaon	-9.12	-9.77	-11.49
15.	Indore Malwa	Indore	-15.25	-14.93	-13.49
16.	Kalyanmal Mills	Indore	-10.30	-12.06	-10.63
17.	Sri Vikram Mill	Lucknow	-4.07	-5.37	-3.57

1	2	3	4	5	6
18.	Bijli Mills	Hathras	-3.09	-5.74	-2.83
19.	Swadeshi Mill	Mau.Bhanjan	-2.11	-1.68	-1.49
20.	Raibareli Mills	Raebareli	-2.44	-2.64	-1.70
21.	Swadeshi Mills	Naini	-7.05	-7.30	-8.31
22.	Mayur Mills	Kanpur	-14.21	-17.54	-14.52
23.	New Victoria	Kanpur	-17.81	21.36	18.27
24.	L Krishna Mills	Saharanpur	-9.30	-10.04	-9.93
25.	Swadeshi Mills	Kanpur	-18.86	-21.48	-18.58
26.	Barshi Mills	Barshi	-0.18	-0.01	-0.01
27.	Apollo Mills	Bombay	-7.66	-6.03	-7.07
28.	Bharat Textiles	Bombay	-6.11	-6.29	-7.55
29.	Digvijay Mills	Bombay	-6.43	-7.34	-10.34
30.	Jupiter Mills	Bombay	-13.34	-13.72	-12.29
31.	New Hind Mills	Bombay	-11.52	-13.48	-12.15
32.	Mumbai Mills	Bombay	-12.37	-12.42	-11.84
33.	Aurangabad	Aurangabad	-1.67	-0.94	-1.39
34.	Chalisgaon Textiles	Chalisgaon	-1.88	-0.21	-1.52
35.	Dhule Textiles	Dhule	-4.01	-3.67	-3.87
36.	Nanded Textiles	Nanded	-3.58	-3.15	-4.04
37.	Indu No. 1	Bombay	-11.16	14.29	-15.80
38.	Indu No. 2	Bombay	-8.56	-12.12	-10.45
39.	Indu No. 3 and 4	Bombay	-12.66	-15.71	15.47
40.					
41.	Indu No. 5	Bombay	-5.91	-6.66	-6.62
42.	Indu Dyes Works	Bombay	-2.94	-4.98	-5.54
43.	Model Mills	Nagpur	-9.07	-12.39	-10.22
44.	R.S.R.G. Mills	Akola	-3.82	-4.71	-4.26
45.	R.B.B.A. Mills	Hinganghat	-1.82	-3.05	-3.38
46.	Savatram Mills	Akola	-3.37	-3.65	-3.08
47.	Vidarbha Mills	Achalpur	-3.53	-5.07	-3.67
48.	Rajkot Mills	Rajkot	-2.98	-3.35	-3.09
49.	Mahalaxmi Mills	Bhavnagar	-8.45	-8.26	-8.24
50.	Petlad Mills	Petlad	-4.76	-5.33	-5.45
51.	Ahmedabad New	Ahmedabad	-10.69	-9.92	-9.74
52.	Ahmed Jupiter	Ahmedabad	-13.37	-13.51	-13.29
53.	Jahangir Mills	Ahmedabad	-9.38	-10.51	-12.04
54.	Rajanagar 1 and 2	Ahmedabad	-13.59	-12.53	-12.57
55.					
56.	Viramgam Textiles	Viramgam	-6.06	-6.66	-6.57
57.	Newmaneck Chowk	Ahmedabad	-5.65	-6.59	-7.12
58.	Himadri Mills	Ahmedabad	-3.94	-4.99	-5.84
59.	Netha	Secunderabad	-0.79	-1.27	-1.05
60.	Natraj Mills	Nirmal	-1.95	-2.31	-1.16
61.	Anantpur Mills	Tadapatri	-2.10	-1.03	-0.51
62.	Tirupathi Mills	Rfnugunta	-1.79	-0.99	-0.78
63.	Sree Yallama	Tolafunse	-2.53	-1.52	-0.92
64.	Cannanore Can.	Cannannore	-0.73	-0.56	-0.08
65.	Kerala Luxmi	Trichur	-0.33	-0.73	-0.56

1	2	3	4	5	6
66.	Vijay Mohini	Trivandrum	-0.72	-0.14	-0.57
67.	Cannanore Mahe	Mahe	-0.35	-0.88	+0.23
68.	Adoni Mills	Adoni	-1.02	-0.51	-0.41
69.	Algappa Mills	Algappangr	-0.69	-0.72	-0.44
70.	Bangalore Mills	Bangalore	-9.71	-7.75	-3.31
71.	Minrva Mills	Bangalore	-9.32	-10.85	-2.71
72.	M.K.S. Mills	Gulbarga	-6.95	-7.39	-3.30
73.	Paavarti Mills	Quilon	-4.75	-3.18	-1.69
74.	Azamjahi Mills	Warrangal	-6.70	-6.24	-1.90
75.	Omparasakthi	Coimbatore	-0.56	-1.26	+0.20
76.	Combodia Mills	Coimbatore	-0.53	-1.29	+0.22
77.	Krishnaveni Mill	Coimbatore	-0.42	-0.28	-0.64
78.	Sri Rangavilas	Coimbatore	-1.15	-0.94	-0.09
79.	Pankaja	Coimbatore	-0.06	1.61	+0.24
80.	Pioneer Mills	Kamudakadi	-0.31	-1.00	+0.06
81.	Balarama Verma	Shencottah	-0.18	0.48	-0.31
82.	Kaleswarar B	Kalyanarkoi	0.10	0.76	-0.64
83.	Coimbatore Murgan	Coimbatore	0.04	-3.04	-3.83
84.	Somasundrum Mill	Coimbatore	-1.24	-0.39	-1.55
85.	Kaleswarar A	Coimbatore	-2.53	-3.17	-3.65
86.	Coimbatore S and W	Coimbatore	-3.31	+0.27	-2.19
87.	Sri Bharti Mill	Pondicherry	-2.53	-2.54	-2.26
88.	Swadeshi Cotton	Pondicherry	-3.36	-3.29	-3.11
89.	Sri Sarda Mills	Podunur	-0.78	-0.01	-0.63
90.	Bengal Textile	Cossimbazar	-3.04	-2.66	-2.34
91.	Luxmi Narayan	Rishra	-3.19	-2.21	-2.60
92.	Arati Cotton	Howrah	-2.08	-2.10	-1.51
93.	Bengal Fine-II	Kataganj	-0.69	-1.25	-0.98
94.	Sodepur	Sodepur	-1.28	-1.22	-0.97
95.	Associated	Chandrapur	-1.94	-2.20	-1.98
96.	Bihar Co-Op	Mokamah	-1.82	-1.52	-1.63
97.	Orissa Cotton	Bhagatpur	-1.35	-1.74	-1.93
98.	Central Cotton	Belur	-4.66	-3.88	-3.45
99.	Bengal Fine-I	Konnagar	-3.63	-2.38	-2.93
100.	Bengal Luxmi	Serampore	-4.76	-3.36	-2.64
101.	Shree Mahalaxmi	Paita	-3.94	-3.65	-3.04
102.	Rampooria	Serampore	-5.21	-4.17	-3.94
103.	Bengasri	Sukhchar	-2.04	-1.78	-1.54
104.	Jyoti Wvg. Fac.	Calcutta	-1.41	-1.33	-1.14
105.	Gaya Cotton	Gaya	-2.84	-2.53	-2.26
106.	Laxmirattan	Kanpur	-20.29	-14.06	-16.25
107.	Atherton Mills	Kanpur	-15.55	-20.36	-12.38
108.	Elphistone	Bombay	-5.74	-11.81	-7.94
109.	Gold Mohur	Bombay	-6.59	-10.12	-6.53
110.	Jam Mfg.	Bombay	-11.68	-15.51	-8.31
111.	Kohinoor 1,2,3, 112 & 113.	Bombay	-11.47	-65.97	-11.01
114.	Sri Madhusudan	Bombay	-10.79	-24.46	-7.60

1	2	3	4	5	6
115.	New City	Bombay	-4.12	-2.04	-4.64
116.	Podar	Bombay	-3.73	-2.93	-5.07
117.	Podar Processor	Bombay	-1.91	-2.99	-3.18
118.	Shri Sitaram	Bombay	-7.17	-23.33	-5.86
119.	Tata	Bombay	-7.22	-12.79	-6.57
120.	Finlay	Bombay	-6.30	-15.00	-8.52

[English]

Export of Coconuts and Tender Coconuts

*377. DR. SHRIMATI K.S. SOUNDARAM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of coconut, coir products including tender coconuts exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years;

(b) the reasons for decline in exports during the above period; and

(c) the steps taken to boost the exports of these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The total quantity and value of coconut and coir products exported in the last three years are as under :

	Value in Rs. Lakhs		Qty. in Mts.	
	Coconut (Fresh, dessicated and dried)		Coir Products	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1991-92	4.00	1.62	26,579	59,81.19
1992-93	44.38	3.21	29,108	78,34.37
1993-94	28.60	4.83	35,419	1,15,50.92
1994-95 (upto Nov.)	113.70	6.21	28,051	93,51.85

(Source : DGCI and S, Calcutta)

(b) and (c). Exports are mainly in the coir products segment which has shown a positive trend during the last three years. Steps taken to enhance the production and exports of coconut and coir products, *inter-alia*, include :

(i) Stepped up outlay in the Eighth Plan for both Central sector and Centrally sponsored projects for integrated development of coconut industry;

(ii) Enhancing coconut production and productivity by making available quality

planting material, encouraging expansion of cropped area, undertaking rejuvenation, disease management, and extension activities;

(iii) Organising seminars/workshops for popularising use of coir and textiles made of various coir products;

(iv) Grant of financial assistance to establish common facility centres and construction of loom sheds for coir products; and

(v) Participation by the Coir Board in important fairs/exhibitions.

[Translation]

Export of Rice

*378. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the India's position in the world in respect of export rice;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any policy to increase the export of rice;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the varieties of rice being exported at present and the name of importing countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) India was the sixth largest exporter of rice in the world in 1993 with a 4.0% share of the international market. (source: FAO, Feb., 1995)

(b) and (c). Some measures initiated to enhance export of rice include :

(i) Removal of price and quantity restrictions.

(ii) Permitting Food Corporation of India to export/sell for export 2.0 million metric tons of fine and superfine rice from the central pool during 1995-96.

(iii) Assistance in organizing overseas campaigns in participation in trade fairs/exhibitions.

(d) Both basmati and non-basmati rice are exported from the country. Variety-wise details of exports of rice are not being maintained. Major destinations for the

export of basmati rice are Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom. Non-basmati rice is mainly being shipped to Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Iran and Nepal. (Country-wise details are available in the monthly publication of the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics Calcutta, copies of which are available in Parliament Library).

[English]

World Bank Loans

*379. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India lost over dollar 700 million in World Bank loans over the last fiscal year, due to non-fulfilment of certain stipulations and conditions laid down by the Bank;

(b) if so, what were the precise requirements of the World Bank and the reasons for failure to comply with them; and

(c) the schemes and projects affected on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) to (c). No World Bank loans were lost due to non-fulfilment of certain stipulations and conditions laid down by the Bank. However, rationalisation of Portfolio is an on-going exercise whereby the projects are subjected to detailed scrutiny in consultation with the Project Authorities and the Bank. Certain loan amount are cancelled due to emerging savings, project restructuring, closure or slow utilisation of the loan.

Import of Plastic Scrap

*380. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a ban on the import of plastic scrap except P.E.T.;

(b) if so, the extent of damage caused to Small Scale Industries (S.S.Is) as a result of the ban;

(c) whether the Government propose to permit the import of every type of plastic scrap so as to provide relief to the S.S.Is;

(d) if so, the date from which its import is likely to be permitted by the Government;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (f). Keeping in view the environmental and health hazards, the import of plastic wastes (except PET bottle waste)

has been restricted and its import is not permitted except against a specific licence. However, import of plastic (prime quality) as raw material continues to be permitted freely by SSI and other sectors.

Securities for Granting Loans

3700. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have examined the implications of the judgement dated February 24, 1986 of the Supreme Court in Mary Roy's case on the application of Travancore Cochin Christian Succession Act and Cochin Succession Act to the Christian from the former Travancore Cochin area in Kerala in the matter of accepting immovable property as security against loans and advances by public sector banks in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the losses suffered by Banks, Bank-wise consequent to the judgement;

(c) whether the aforesaid Christians are being denied loan by public sector banks;

(d) if so, the details of such denials; and

(e) the steps the Government propose to take to alleviate the deleterious effects of the judgement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

Import of Rough Diamonds

3701. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have signed any agreement with Zaire for the import of rough diamonds; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

E.P.C.G. Scheme

3702. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation for changes in Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme, special import licence scheme and setting up of an autonomous National Export Oriented Units/Export Processing Zones Authority;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. These suggestions were taken into consideration while notifying changes in the Export and Import Policy, 1992-97 on 31st March, 1995. A copy of the revised Policy is available in the Parliament Library.

Rupee Rouble Debt Repayment Agreement

3703. SHRI R. PRABHU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the details of exporters who have availed of the Rupee-Rouble Debt Repayment Agreement and exported goods worth more than Rs. 1 crore to Russia during each of the last two years with the description of the goods exported and its value?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Debt repayment track exports to Russia are monitored by the Reserve Bank of India. During the financial year 1993-94 and 1994-95, RBI has settled export claims of Rs. 458.71 crores (from 29.10.93 to 31.3.94) and Rs. 2046.31 crores, respectively, under the Banking arrangement between BFEA and RBI. However, detailed information as sought by the Hon'ble Member, is being compiled by the RBI and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Air Traffic of I.A.

3704. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the air traffic on the domestic trunk routes carried by the Indian Airlines and the various private airlines, separately from December, 1994 to February, 1995; and

(b) the extent to which Indian Airlines traffic has fallen and the extent to which such fall is due to competition with private airlines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). The air traffic on the domestic trunk routes (Category I routes) carried by scheduled airlines for the period Dec., 1994 to Feb., 1995 is given below :

Name of the Airlines	Passenger carried.		
	Dec., 94	Jan., 95	Feb., 95
Indian Airlines	243299	252174	226058
East West Airlines	36325	40583	25985
Modiluft	23113	23101	22561
Jet Airways	73553	68991	56895
Damania Airways	37980	37097	27699

None of the airlines has been able to maintain steady traffic due to competition. However Indian Airlines traffic has not fallen in this period compared to same period of previous year.

[Translation]

Foreign Aided Projects in Madhya Pradesh

3705. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names and locations of the foreign aided projects being implemented in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the amount released so far for these projects and the time by which these projects are likely to be completed; and

(c) the amount being provided for these projects by the Madhya Pradesh Government, projectwise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Delhi Bagdogra-Guwahati-Calcutta-Bagdogra Flight

3706. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether many private airlines have offered the Union Government to run the planes between Delhi-Bagdogra-Guwahati-Calcutta-Bagdogra sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the terms and conditions offered by the private airlines; and

(c) the decision taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). In accordance with the schedules approved for Private Airlines, the following three operators are operating flights shown against each :

M/s Jet Airways operates a daily flight in the sector Delhi-Bagdogra-Guwahati and back.

M/s Damania Airways operates a daily Calcutta-Guwahati-Calcutta flight.

M/s East West Airlines operates 3 flights in Calcutta-Guwahati sector daily except on Sunday. On Sunday, it operates one flight.

In addition to the provisions of the Aircraft Act, 1934 and the Aircraft Rules framed thereunder, the operators are required to meet the civil aviation requirements promulgated on 1.3.94 relating to minimum operational requirements and the guidelines issued on 1.3.94 relating to categorywise deployment of their flights.

Promotional Avenues in G.I.C.

3707. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the General Insurance Corporation, while starting the Career Oriented Insurance Education in 1987, had stipulated in their prospectus/pamphlet that candidates of two year vocational course in General Insurance will be eligible to be considered for promotion as class-I officers after a qualifying service of three years as Assistance in GIC;

(b) if so, the number of such candidates who have since become eligible for promotion as class-I officers under the above scheme in each of the four subsidiaries of GIC; and

(c) the time by which the eligible candidates are likely to get their dues in accordance with the prospectus circulated for general public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). A pamphlet prepared by the General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) and the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) which was circulated at the inauguration of the vocational course in Insurance in 1988 by the then Minister of Finance gave the highlights of this scheme. This is not a "prospectus". This pamphlet *inter-alia* mentioned that "after a qualifying service of three years as "Assistants" they will be eligible to be considered for promotion as class-I officers." However, the GIC have indicated, as per the promotion policy of the general insurance industry, Assistants including those who join from the 10+2 stream who qualify in the Fellowship Examination of the Insurance Institute of India can appear in a competitive examination for promotion to the level of Assistant Administrative Officer in the industry. The 10+2 students can qualify in the Fellowship Examination within a period of three years. There is no provision for directly promoting the 10+2 stream students as class-I officers outside the provisions of promotion policy.

Equity Capital of Public Sector Banks

3708. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the Government's share in the equity capital of public sector banks as on March 31, 1994 bank-wise;

(b) the additional subscriptions to the equity by the Government during 1994-95, bank-wise;

(c) the details of the banks, which received a fresh subscription and incurred net losses during 1993-94;

(d) whether any responsibility has been fixed for the losses incurred and any penal action taken against those found responsible; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The Government of India held 100% of the share capital of all the nationalised banks as on 31.3.94.

(b) The contributions by the Government to the share capital of nationalised banks during 1994-95 have been given in the Statement.

(c) Banks which have received contributions towards their capital from the Government during 1994-95 but have incurred losses during 1993-94 are as under :

		(Rs. in crores)
S.No.	Name of the Bank	Net Loss
1.	Allahabad Bank	367.72
2.	Andhra Bank	162.25
3.	Bank of India	1089.15
4.	Bank of Maharashtra	296.93
5.	Central Bank of India	711.93
6.	Dena Bank	69.84
7.	Indian Bank	390.65
8.	Indian Overseas Bank	351.18
9.	Punjab and Sind Bank	175.99
10.	Syndicate Bank	299.40
11.	UJCO Bank	546.45
12.	United Bank of India	618.06

(d) and (e). A major factor responsible for losses in banks is the high level of non-performing assets. With the introduction of prudential norms on income recognition and provisioning banks could not take to Income Account the interest accrued but not received on non-performing assets. The loss making banks have been prohibited from incurring any capital expenditure except under special circumstances. There is also a ban on recruitment by these banks except for recruitment on compassionate grounds and in the case of taking specialists for computerisation, investment, treasury operations and foreign exchange business.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Name of the Bank	Capital Contributed during 1994-95 (Rs. in crores)	
		Tier-I	Tier-II
1	2	3	4
1.	Allahabad Bank	356.20	101.61
2.	Andhra Bank	184.32	-
3.	Bank of India	848.38	348.22
4.	Bank of Maharashtra	334.19	-
5.	Central Bank of India	632.46	-
6.	Dena Bank	6.11	72.28

1	2	3	4
7.	Indian Bank	230.96	180.94
8.	Indian Overseas Bank	258.60	132.74
9.	Punjab and Sind Bank	116.03	-
10.	Syndicate Bank	278.59	88.79
11.	UCO Bank	515.52	-
12.	United Bank of India	538.87	-
13.	Vijaya Bank	62.31	-
Total		4362.54	924.58

Agricultural Wages

3709. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some studies undertaken in the country under Economic Survey for 1994-95 have indicated that agricultural wages have declined by 5 per cent in 1991-92;

(b) if so, the details of States and Union Territories where declining trend prevailed;

(c) whether such declining trend has improved considerably in some States and Union territories during 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(d) if so, the details of such States and Union Territories;

(e) whether the Government propose to take some steps to improve the declining status in this regard;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). Average real wages for unskilled agricultural labour declined by 5.3 per cent in 1991-92 (agricultural year-July to June) for the country as a whole. The declining trend has been observed in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.

(c) and (d). In 1992-93 and 1993-94 average real agricultural wages increased by 5.6 per cent and 3.6 per cent respectively for the country as a whole. They recorded an increase in 1992-93 in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. In 1993-94 real wages increased in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab and Tamil Nadu.

(e) to (g). The Central Plan outlay for Rural Development which encompasses the major programmes for poverty alleviation and employment is raised from Rs. 5010 crore (BE) in 1993-94 (financial year) to Rs. 7700 crore (BE) for 1995-96 showing an increase by 53.69 per cent. This is expected to increase

agricultural wages while raising employment in rural areas. The higher overall economic growth in recent years is also expected to help in improving agricultural wages.

[Translation]

Theft of R.E.P. Licences

3710. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have investigated the cases of theft of R.E.P. Licences;

(b) if so, the detailed outcome thereof;

(c) the number of persons found involved and the charge-sheets issued in such cases;

(d) the details of the persons whose licences have gone in theft and the number thereof to whom duplicate licence have been issued out of them;

(e) the details of such persons who have applied for duplicate licences but licences have not been issued to them to far; and

(f) the reasons for the delay in issuance of duplicate licences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (f). Whenever theft of licences are reported, appropriate precautionary steps are taken to check any possible misuse of stolen licences. The cases are also handed over to CBI/local police for further investigation. Details are being collected from the Regional Licensing Offices and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Prawn Feed

3711. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total requirements of the prawn feed in the country;

(b) the total quantity and value of prawn feed produced in our country and imported from abroad, separately; and

(c) the steps taken to encourage production of indigenous prawn feed in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The total annual requirement of prawn feed in the country is presently estimated to be 1,50,000 tonnes.

(b) The estimated quantity and value (at an average rate) of prawn feed produced in the country and that imported from abroad is as follows :

Quantity of prawn feed produced in the country	...	60,000 tonnes
Value of prawn feed produced in the country	...	Rs. 120 crores

Quantity of prawn feed imported from abroad	...	40,000 tonnes
Value of prawn feed imported from abroad	...	Rs. 160 crores

(c) Following steps have been taken to encourage production of prawn feed in the country :

- (i) Equity participation by MPEDA in shrimp feed projects and integrated agriculture projects having shrimp feed mills.
- (ii) Grant of full duty exemption to major raw materials such as fish meal and duty reduction on other inputs such as vitamin pre-mixes required for feed production.
- (iii) Permitting foreign/NRI investment in setting up prawn feed mills.

Sales Tax on Jute Industry

3712. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation against the multipoint sales tax being charged on jute goods;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G.VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c). Representation have been received in this regard mentioning various adverse impacts of multipoint taxation levied by the Government of West Bengal and have suggested its replacement by single point taxation. Since sales tax is a state subject, Jute Commissioner's Office has requested the Government of West Bengal for appropriate consideration of the representation.

[Translation]

Agreements to Promote Tourism

3713. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of agreements signed with foreign countries to promote tourism during the last two years alongwith the names of the countries;

(b) the names of the various tourism projects introduced in the country under these agreements;

(c) the nature and quantum of assistance received or being received under the agreements from the foreign countries for these projects; and

(d) the details regarding the progress of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) During the period 1.1.93 to 31.12.94 India signed bilateral tourism cooperation agreements with the following countries :

- Belarus
- Israel
- Uzbekistan
- Korea
- Singapore
- Bulgaria
- Romania
- Russian Federation

(b) to (d). Bilateral tourism cooperation agreements are basic statements of intention of cooperation and understanding. No tourism projects have been introduced in the country under these agreements.

[English]

Modernisation of Hyderabad Airport

3714. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the modernisation of Hyderabad airport is under completion;

(b) if so, the main modernisation plans that have been completed; and

(c) the extent to which it will be beneficial?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Installation of Instrument Landing System and Distance Measuring Equipment have been completed in April, 1994.

Installation of Primary and Secondary Radars has been completed and is stated for commissioning in June, 1995.

Construction of International Terminal Building and expansion of existing building is in progress.

On completion of the modernisation project, Hyderabad airport will be able to handle 3000 passengers at a time.

[Translation]

Chit and Finance Companies in Gujarat

3715. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of registered Chit and Finance Companies in Gujarat, particularly in tribal areas as on February 1995 under Bank guarantee; and

(b) the number of financial companies declared bankrupt or closed down during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the number of chit fund companies and non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) in the State of Gujarat on the mailing list of RBI as on 28th February, 1995 stood at 12 and 4214 respectively. As regards the geographical spread of these companies in tribal areas, no separate data is being maintained by RBI.

(b) RBI has reported that its existing data monitoring system does not generate this information.

[English]

Beedi Workers

3716. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Tobacco and Beedi workers in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the minimum wages fixed for these labourers; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for the proper implementation of the minimum wages?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):

(a) As per information available, the number of tobacco workers in Andhra Pradesh is estimated to be about 10,000. The estimated number of beedi workers in Andhra Pradesh is 6.25 lakhs.

(b) The minimum wages for beedi workers as notified is Rs. 18.65 (Zone-I) and Rs. 17.35 (Zone-II), plus VDA.

(c) The State Labour Department has inspected 2501 beedi establishments about of 6745 registered beedi establishments and launched prosecutions in 60 cases.

Instrumental Landing System at Calicut Airport

3717. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Instrumental Landing System has been set up at Calicut airport;

(b) if not, the time by which it is likely to be set up; and

(c) the estimated cost involved in the installation of the same?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). Airports Authority of India has already undertaken the work of installation of the Instrument Landing System at a cost of Rs. 2.50 crores at Calicut airport. The work is expected to be completed by August, 1995.

Shortage of Tourist Accommodation in Delhi

3718. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of tourist accommodation in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the Government have decided to select paying guest accommodation in Delhi to meet the situation; and

(c) if so, the steps taken so far and the results achieved?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes Sir, for the last two-three months Delhi is facing shortage of accommodation due to increase in travel, business conferences, international trade fairs, seminars etc.

(b) and (c). To meet the situation *inter-alia* Government has invited applications for Paying Guest accommodation units from houseowners. Forty such applications have already been approved. In addition, seven hotel projects have been approved in Delhi, comprising 917 rooms, which are in different stages of execution.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Airports in Bihar

3719. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Bihar Government for the modernisation of airports in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon;

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government on the proposal of the State Government;

(d) whether any time limit has been fixed for the completion of this work; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (e). Yes, Sir. The Government of Bihar have proposed that Gaya airport may be developed for Boeing 737/Airbus 320 type of aircraft. The feasibility study conducted by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) revealed that Gaya airport can be upgraded for Boeing 737 and Airbus 320 type of aircraft. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 24.30 crores without Radars and Rs. 54.30 crores with Radars. Due to paucity of resources, it is not possible for AAI to upgrade this airport.

Air Service for Aurangabad-Bhopal-Khajuraho

3720. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government had announced on November 1, 1992 to start air service for Aurangabad-Bhopal-Khajuraho;

(b) whether this service has not been started so far; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the action being taken to start this service?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). In January, 1992, Indian Airlines had announced their plan to introduce a thrice weekly flight on Bombay-Aurangabad-Bhopal-Khajuraho route from 1st November, 1992; the service could not however start due to shortage of operating crew. Indian Airlines at present has no plan to introduce this flight owing to commercial reasons and operational constraints.

Handloom Development Centres

3721. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up some more Handloom Development Centres and Quality Dyeing Units during the current financial year in the country;

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

(c) the effective measures taken by the Government for providing continuous employment to the weavers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement showing State-wise indicative target of Handloom Development Centres and Quality Dyeing Units for 1995-96 is annexed.

(c) The Government has been implementing a number of Schemes for providing continuous employment to the weavers in the country. These *inter-alia*, include the Scheme for Setting up of Handloom Development Centres, Project Package Scheme, Integrated Handloom Village Development Scheme, Margin Money for Destitute Weavers Scheme, National Silk Yarn Bank Scheme, National Design Collection Programme and Export Oriented Schemes and Janata Cloth Scheme. The Marketing Development Assistance Scheme also facilitates marketing of handloom goods and there by provides sustained employment.

STATEMENT

State-wise Number of Indicative Target of Handloom Development Centres and Quality Dyeing Units for 1995-96

S.No.	State/UT	Target for 1995-96	
		HDC	QDU
1.	Andhra Pradesh	126	16
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	9	3
3.	Assam	100	20
4.	Bihar	50	5
5.	Gujarat	10	2
6.	Goa	1	-
7.	Haryana	12	2
8.	Himachal Pradesh	22	4
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	25	4
10.	Karnataka	55	7
11.	Kerala	20	5
12.	Madhya Pradesh	25	3
13.	Maharashtra	50	5
14.	Manipur	50	13
15.	Meghalaya	8	2
16.	Mizoram	15	4
17.	Nagaland	25	4
18.	Orissa	75	5
19.	Punjab	6	2
20.	Rajasthan	22	4
21.	Tamil Nadu	150	30
22.	Tripura	25	5
23.	Uttar Pradesh	160	20
24.	West Bengal	140	33
25.	Delhi	6	1
26.	Pondicherry	13	1
Total		1200	200

Bank Loans to Public Sector Undertakings

3722. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PARBHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that inspite of RBI's directives nationalised banks are not providing loans to the public sector undertakings;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard to provide Government guarantee for loans granted by the nationalised banks to PSU's; and

(d) the details of other measures proposed to be taken to provide timely financial assistance to PSUs for their loan requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a), (b) and (d). The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that no specific complaints have been received by it that banks are not providing loans to public sector undertakings (PSUs). It may, however, be added that in case of PSUs other than sick PSUs, banks consider extending financial assistance for their new expansion projects based on the viability of the project and compliance of their usual norms regarding promoters contribution, debt equity ratio, current ratio, prudential exposure limits etc. In respect of sick PSUs, where a scheme for rehabilitation is sanctioned by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA), banks provide facilities in terms of sanctioned scheme. In case of other sick PSUs (where BIFR is yet to take a decision), banks allow 'holding-on' operations and extend need based support on a case to case basis.

(c) Government guarantees to nationalised banks for loans granted to public sector undertakings are considered on a case to case basis.

Tourism Pact with Turkey

3723. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Turkey have signed a Tourism pact;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely benefits that may accrue?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir. India and Turkey have signed a Bilateral Tourism Cooperation Agreement on 31.1.1995 in New Delhi.

(b) The parties will promote and expand tourism between the two countries. Both the countries will carry out joint publicity campaigns; exchange tourism promotional material and explore the possibility of joint collaboration for investments in tourism sector.

(c) The tourism agreement will help in augmenting tourist arrivals and strengthening friendly relations between the two countries.

Rupsi Airport

3724. SHRI NURUL ISLAM : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to restore air communications at Rupsi airport; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). There is no proposal from any airline operator for commencing air services to/from Rupsi.

Premium on Shares

3725. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have prescribed any criteria for charging premium on the face value of the shares when an issue is opened in the market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for giving free hand to the companies in fixing premium on face value of shares?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). No, Sir. Existing companies are free to issue shares to the public at a premium provided full disclosure of the past trading prices of their shares and other material information are disclosed in the prospectuses, so as to enable potential investors to make an informed judgement of the reasonableness of the premium. New companies are, however, not allowed to charge a premium on maiden issues unless such companies are promoted by existing companies with a consistent track record of profitability and dividend payment during the preceding three years.

Bond Issue of IFCI

3726. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Industrial Financial Corporation of India propose to float a Rs. 250 crore bond issue;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether IFCI has failed to disburse a large sum of money to its clients;

(d) the steps to be taken to divest its equity holdings to raise fresh capital;

(e) whether the IFCI has huge portfolio of equity in various companies; and

(f) if so, the reasons for not recycling such funds by IFCI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). In order to augment its working capital, the Industrial Finance Corporation of India Ltd. (IFCI) has issued bonds aggregating Rs. 203 crores in March, 1995 on private placement basis.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f). IFCI has reported that the ratio of investment to loans and advances was 0.04, : 1 as on 31.3.1994. Disinvestment is made by IFCI whenever market conditions are favourable.

Reward Money

3727. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation has instituted a case against some top Customs officials including the Principal Collector of Customs, Delhi, regarding alleged misappropriation of crores of rupees pertaining to reward money;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action has been initiated against the officials found guilty in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to prevent such misappropriation of reward money in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (e). Yes, Sir. The matter is still under investigation by CBI.

(f) The existing instructions and procedures regarding grant of rewards contain safeguards against misappropriation of reward amount. These however, will be reviewed on receipt of CBI's report.

Securities Scam

3728. SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA :
SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in views of the JPC report on Securities Scam, the Government or RBI has made any provision for detailed investigation through special officers into securities transactions of the banks involved in the scam;

(b) if so, whether investigations have since been completed and reports received; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had appointed retired IAS Officers as Special Officers in the following 8 public sector banks and subsidiaries for fixing accountability of the top management for the irregularities in securities transactions :

(1) Andhra Bank and Andhra Bank Financial Services Limited.

(2) Allahabad Bank and Allbank Finance Limited.

(3) Canara Bank and its subsidiaries viz., Canbank Mutual Fund (CBMF) and the Canbank Financial Services Limited.

(4) SBI Capital Markets Ltd.

(5) Syndicate Bank.

(6) State Bank of Saurashtra.

(7) Bank of India Finance Limited; and

(8) State Bank of Patiala.

Except in the case of State Bank of Patiala in respect of which the report has been recently submitted to RBI, the reports submitted by the Special Officers in respect of other banks were examined by RBI and action has been initiated by the banks concerned on the basis of the Special Officers Reports. The reports of the Special Officers have also been forwarded to CBI for investigation wherever considered necessary for fixing criminal culpability on the part of the individual executives.

Travel Safety Report

3729. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :
SHRI TARA SINGH :
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :
SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the International Airline Passengers Association has described in its latest travel safety report that the most dangerous flights in Asia is Indian Airlines Airbus flights;

(b) if so, whether any protest has been made by Government in this regard;

(c) whether the performances and airworthiness of the Indian Airlines is doubtful and needs greater image; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news letter issues by International Airlines Passengers Association (IAPA) is not based on facts. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation had taken up this matter with the IAPA but no response has been received from them.

(c) and (d). The aircraft of Indian Airlines meet the airworthiness standards as laid down by LGCA and the countries of manufacture of the aircraft. Also, efforts are

constantly made to upgrade the level of air safety, in the operation of all types of aircraft by upgrading the facilities at the airports, monitoring of flight recorders, safety audit of airlines, adherence to laid down procedures and weather minima, dissemination of safety information, carrying out periodic inspection of aerodromes, conducting safety seminars etc.

Study on Viability of Power Plants in Gujarat

3730. DR. K.D. JESWANI :

SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India has conducted any study on technical or financial viability of the power plants in private sector in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any proposals have been received by the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India from power plants; and

(d) if so, the details of the proposals received during 1993-94 and 1994-95 so far and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) and (b). The Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Ltd. (ICICI) has reported that it has not conducted any technical and financial feasibility study with regard to private sector power plants in Gujarat separately. However, as a part of the process of granting financial assistance, ICICI conducts technical, financial and commercial evaluation of project proposals submitted to it by private sector companies, in consortium with the Industrial Development Bank of India and/or the Industrial Finance Corporation of India Limited.

(c) and (d). ICICI has reported that it received a proposal from Gujarat Torrent Energy Corporation Limited (GTEC) during 1994-95 for setting up a 655 MW gas based combine cycle power plant. ICICI has already sanctioned financial assistance to this project.

Loan for Rural Godowns

3731. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the nationalised banks are exploring the possibility of having standard loan and credit terms for rural godowns;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any interest subsidy is likely to be extended by Government in conjunction with lending institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). Public Sector Banks grant advances to farmers for construction and running of warehouses, godowns, silos and cold storages, which are treated as direct finance to agriculture and forms part of priority sector. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) provides refinance to banks for construction of godowns, if specific proposals are received from State Warehousing Corporations, for creation of new storage capacity/augmentation of existing storage capacity. Refinance support from NABARD is, however, not available for construction of godowns by private parties.

[Translation]

Loan Against Shares by Oman International Bank, Bombay

3732 SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oman International Bank, Bombay branch, had paid an advance amount of rupees 150 crore to some of the brokers against shares in the year 1991;

(b) whether the advance payment of such a huge amount is a violation of the well established rules of the Reserve Bank of India; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

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

Loans to Cooperative Mills

3733. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the States from which requests were received for grant of long term loan for setting up cooperative mills; and

(b) the amount of loan sanctioned by the Central financial institutions therefor during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that the State Government of Maharashtra had advised it that 50 co-operative spinning mills would be set up in Maharashtra during the Eighth Plan period. Of these, 29 mills have so far approached financial institutions for assistance.

(b) IDBI has reported that no assistance has so far been sanctioned by financial institutions for setting up these mills.

Export of Pharmaceuticals

3734. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of drugs and pharmaceuticals exported and foreign exchange earned therefrom during 1993-94 and 1994-95, country-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of drugs and pharmaceuticals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Figures for total exports of drugs and pharmaceuticals including fine chemicals, during 1993-94 and 1994-95, as latest available, are as under :

	Value Rs. Crores
1993-94	1994-95 (April-January' 95)
2013.84	1978.04

Country-wise details are available in the DGCI and S publication "Foreign Trade Statistics of India" in the Parliament Library.

(b) Drugs and pharmaceuticals is identified by the Government as an 'Extreme Focus' group of items for the export promotion. The steps taken by the Government in accordance with this include. *inter-alia*, extension of Market Development Assistance, liberalisations in the policy and procedures, and promotion of measures like exchange of trade delegations, participation in trade fairs abroad, and exchange and dissemination of relevant information.

[English]

Agricultural Labour

3735. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of agricultural labourers, State-wise and union territory-wise;

(b) the minimum wages fixed for these workers, State-wise and union territory-wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide them better employment opportunities?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b). A Statement indicating the number of agricultural labourers, and the available information on minimum rates of wages as fixed by the different State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and Central Government is annexed.

(c) The Government has launched from time to time various poverty alleviation and employment generation programmes for rural areas. The Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) initiated in 1989-90, is being implemented to generate additional gainful employment for unemployed and underemployed persons including agricultural labourers in rural areas. The Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) has been intensified during 1993-94 in 120 selected backward districts of the country where there is concentration of unemployment and under-employment. The Government of India has also launched the Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) w.e.f. 2nd Oct., 1994, which aims at providing 100 days of assured employment during the lean agricultural period, to persons aged between 18 and 60 years, who need and seek employment. This scheme is in operation in 2443 backward blocks of the country which are situated in drought prone areas, desert areas and hill areas.

STATEMENT

The Number of Agricultural Workers and Minimum Rates of Wages in Different States/UTs.

S. No.	State/UTs	No. of Agricultural* workers (in Thousands)	Minimum wages for unskilled agricultural workers
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11625	Rs. 16.80 to Rs. 23.40 p.d. (According to Zones) (8.4.91)
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	20	Rs. 21.00 to Rs. 24.00 p.d. (According to Areas) (1.11.90)
3.	Assam	845	Rs. 1134.00 p.m. or Rs. 984.00 p.m. plus food, shelter and clothing (1,2,92)
4.	Bihar	9513	Rs. 21.00 p.d. (19.7.93)
5.	Goa	35	Rs. 27.50 p.d. (5.2.92)
6.	Gujarat	3231	Rs. 15.00 p.d. (1.8.90)
7.	Haryana	897	Rs. 42.60 p.d. with meals or Rs. 46.60 p.d. without meals (1.1.95)
8.	Himachal Pradesh	59	Rs. 24.00 p.d. to Rs. 26.00 p.d. (1.10.94)

1	2	3	4
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	Rs. 15.00 p.d. (24.3.89)
10.	Karnataka	5000	Rs. 12.00 to Rs. 17.65 p.d. (12.7.88)
11.	Kerala	2120	Rs. 30.00 p.d. for women Rs. 40.20 p.d. for men. (31.3.92)
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5863	Rs. 30.76 p.d. (29.1.94)
13.	Maharashtra	8313	Rs. 20.00 to Rs. 29.00 p.d. (According to Zones) (26.6.94)
14.	Manipur	47	Rs. 40.90 p.d. for Hill Areas and Rs. 37.90 p.d. for other than (23.12.88) Hill Areas
15.	Meghalaya	89	Rs. 35.00 p.d. (16.3.94)
16.	Mizoram	10	Rs. 28.00 p.d. (1.11.87)
17.	Nagaland	7	Rs. 25.00 p.d. (6.7.92)
18.	Orissa	2967	Rs. 25.00 p.d. (1.7.90)
19.	Punjab	1453	Rs. 46.17 p.d. without meals or Rs. 42.17 p.d. with meals (1.9.94)
20.	Rajasthan	1392	Rs. 22.00 p.d. (2.7.90)
21.	Sikkim	13	The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 is yet to be extended.
22.	Tamil Nadu	7899	Rs. 20.00 p.d. (6.4.93)
23.	Tripura	188	Rs. 23.65 p.d. (20.12.93)
24.	Uttar Pradesh	7833	Rs. 33.00 p.d. to Rs. 35.00 p.d. (7.1.92)
25.	West Bengal	5055	Rs. 32.72 p.d. Rs. 29.52 p.d. plus two principal meals (1.7.94)
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5	Rs. 27.00 p.d. (Andaman) Rs. 28.00 p.d. (Nicobar) (13.8.92)
27.	Chandigarh	2	Rs. 39.42 p.d. with meals or Rs. 43.25 p.d. without meals (1.3.92)
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	6	Rs. 23.00 p.d. (15.12.92)
29.	Delhi	25	Rs. 57.50 p.d. (1.8.94)
30.	Daman and Diu	1	Rs. 22.00 p.d. (19.3.93)
31.	Lakshadweep	-	Rs. 30.00 p.d. (1.1.93)
32.	Pondicherry	7	
	(i) Pondicherry Region		Rs. 14.00 p.d. (15.12.89)
	(ii) Mahe Region		Rs. 12.00 p.d. for light work Rs. 15.00 p.d. for hard work (18.2.87)
	(iii) Yanam Region		Rs. 11.00 p.d. (15.3.88)
	(iv) Karaikal		Rs. 14.00 p.d. or 7 litre paddy plus Rs. 4.90 p.d. (31.1.90)
33.	Central Sphere		Rs. 46.62 p.d. (1.4.95)

Note : *Information based on 1991 population Census.

[Translation]

Loan to Sick Central Cooperative Banks

3736. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent a proposal to the Union Government for

providing long term loan to mitigate the time-barred loans of the 16 sick central cooperative banks; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Revitalisation of Rural Cooperative Banks

3737. SHRI TARA SINGH :

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a comprehensive scheme for the revitalisation of rural cooperative banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the performance of the rural cooperative banks in the country has not been found satisfactory; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to tone up the functioning of rural cooperative banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has, at the instance of Government, taken initiatives for strengthening the cooperative banks in the country by advising them to prepare Development Action Plans (DAPs), as per guidelines issued by it. These DAPs envisage, *inter-alia*, concerted planned efforts for accelerating the recovery of overdues, reducing the transaction cost/ cost of management, undertaking review of human resources development, increasing and diversifying loan business of the banks at the ground level and improve the quality of lending. Based on the action points indicated in the DAPs, a memorandum of understanding (MOU) is being entered into by the State Cooperative Banks, State Land Development Banks and the respective State Governments with NABARD. It is expected that the successful implementation of the action points contained in the MOU would make the cooperative banks viable in a sustainable basis.

(c) and (d). The performance of many of the cooperative banks have not been satisfactory due to various reasons like recovery of loans, low level of business, high transaction costs, huge accumulated loss, imbalances in the outstanding loan, bad debts and old dues receivable from State Governments. In order to identify the specific problems that deter the performance of cooperative banks and plan for recourse to remove them, NABARD has instructed the cooperative banks to draw specific DAPs for a period of atleast 5 years.

Profession Tax

3738. SHRI JAGATVIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the relief given by the centre as a 'Profession Tax' is being misutilised, by small industrial units particularly in Kanpur (U.P);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for misutilisation of such relief; and

(d) the steps being taken to prevent such misutilisation in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be furnished.

[Translation]

Customs Duty on LPG

3739. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the LPG industry has made a demand to the Government to abolish the customs duty on import of LPG by private parties;

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

(c) whether the burden of subsidy being provided on domestic LPG will be reduced due to abolishment of customs duty on import by the private parties; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The Government has received representations from importers of LPG for parallel marketing to abolish customs duty on LPG.

(b) The customs duty has been reduced from 15% to 10% in Budget 1995-96.

(c) and (d). Reduction in customs duty on LPG will be having impact on subsidy being provided to domestic LPG.

[English]

Small Savings Collection

3740. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount realised through small savings during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether there is a decline in small savings collections during this period;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any targets have been fixed in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the reasons for not meeting the targets of small savings; and

(g) steps being taken by the Government to increase collections under small savings schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The information is indicated in the Statement attached.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f). Do not arise.

(g) Steps taken to increase collections under small savings schemes include attractive return, extension of tax concessions, publicity, etc.

STATEMENT

Statewise net Small Savings Collections in Post Offices

(in Rs. crore)

S.No.	State	1994-95 (upto 2/95)	1993-94 (provisional)	1992-93
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	695.36	569.07	206.94
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5.71	2.03	2.18
3.	Assam	594.11	117.08	108.33
4.	Bihar	342.62	247.43	148.65
5.	Goa	19.30	7.24	3.69
6.	Gujarat	729.21	466.62	396.23
7.	Haryana	325.07	201.56	137.58
8.	Himachal Pradesh	480.15	143.61	25.59
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	120.62	84.35	58.85
10.	Karnataka	1115.84	278.32	317.28
11.	Kerala	542.36	270.45	134.06
12.	Madhya Pradesh	349.79	201.08	120.25
13.	Maharashtra	1090.31	222.15	127.66
14.	Manipur	6.73	4.74	2.84
15.	Meghalaya	14.89	13.75	5.60
16.	Mizoram	6.28	2.63	3.96
17.	Nagaland	2.43	0.66	1.18
18.	Orissa	301.67	147.83	26.90
19.	Punjab	499.30	365.94	267.68
20.	Rajasthan	529.54	403.30	304.03
21.	Sumam	4.89	0.94	0.26

1	2	3	4	5
22.	Tamil Nadu	503.77	454.99	571.22
23.	Tripura	20.77	17.66	10.07
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1998.98	1122.65	795.40
25.	West Bengal	1688.84	1207.94	595.41
Total-States		11988.54	6554.02	4371.81

[Translation]

Restructuring of R.R.Bs

3741. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the regional rural banks selected during 1994-95, for detailed investigation with a view to restructuring;

(b) the quantum of losses suffered and profits earned by these banks so far, bank-wise; and

(c) the measures taken to make up the losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) A list of 49 Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) selected by Government for comprehensive restructuring during 1994-95 is at Statement-I.

(b) The losses suffered and profits earned by these 49 RRBs during the financial year 1993-94 and the amount of losses suffered by loss making RRBs as accumulated on 31st March, 1994 are given bank-wise at Statement-II.

(c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) have taken measures to strengthen the RRBs and a package of measures were announced in December, 1993. 49 RRBs out of total of 196 RRBs in the country have been identified for comprehensive restructuring during 1994-95. Experience with these 49 RRBs will guide the approach in later years to other RRBs. The objective is to transform the presently weak and ailing RRBs into financially viable and effective instruments of decentralised rural banker. Further RBI has allowed in January, 1995, RRBs to make investment of their non-SLR surplus funds in specified profitable avenues including the credit portfolio of their sponsor banks through non-risk sharing participation certificates to be issued by the latter.

An amount of Rs. 150 crores has been released as Central Governments portion towards additional capital for these 49 RRBs to strengthen the capital base and cover the losses suffered and to provide liquidity so as to enable them to improve their financial position in the coming years.

STATEMENT-I

List of 49 select RRBs for the purpose of comprehensive restructuring

S.No.	Name of the RRB	Sponsor Bank	State
1	2	3	4
1.	Sarayu Gramin Bank	Allahabad Bank	Uttar Pradesh
2.	Bhagirath Gramin Bank	Allahabad Bank	Uttar Pradesh
3.	Vindhyavasini Gramin Bank	Allahabad Bank	Uttar Pradesh
4.	Sharda Gramin Bank	Allahabad Bank	Madhya Pradesh
5.	Godavari Gramin Bank	Andhra Bank	Andhra Pradesh
6.	Surat Bharuch Gramin Bank	Bank of Baroda	Gujarat
7.	Valsad Dangs Gramin Bank	Bank of Baroda	Gujarat
8.	Bhilwara Ajmer Kshetriya Gramin Bank	Bank of Baroda	Rajasthan
9.	Avadh Gramin Bank	Bank of Inida	Uttar Pradesh
10.	Farrukhabad Kshetriya Gramin Bank	Bank of India	Uttar Pradesh
11.	Thane Gramin Bank	Bank of Maharashtra	Maharashtra
12.	Aurangabad Jalna Gramin Bank	Bank of Maharashtra	Maharashtra
13.	South Malabar Gramin Bank	Canara Bank	Kerala
14.	Tungabhadra Gramin Bank	Canara Bank	Karnataka
15.	Gopalganj Kshetriya Gramin Bank	Central Bank of India	Bihar
16.	Siwan Kshetriya Gramin Bank	Central Bank of India	Bihar
17.	Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Hoshangabad	Central Bank of India	Madhya Pradesh
18.	Durg Rajnandgaon Gramin Bank	Dena Bank	Madhya Pradesh
19.	Kenkadurga Grameena Bank	Indian Bank	Andhra Pradesh
20.	Vallalar Grama Bank	Indian Bank	Tamil Nadu
21.	Jammu Rural Bank	J and K Bank Ltd.	Jammu and Kashmir
22.	Himachal Gramin Bank	Punjab National Bank	Himachal Pradesh
23.	Magadh Gramin Bank	Punjab National Bank	Bihar
24.	Bhojpur Rohtas Gramin Bank	Punjab National Bank	Bihar
25.	Shekhawati Gramin Bank	Punjab National Bank	Rajasthan
26.	Faridkot Bathinda Gramin Bank	Punjab and Sind Bank	Punjab
27.	Sri Rama Grameena Bank	State Bank of Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
28.	Sri Sathavahana Grameena Bank	State Bank of Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
29.	Basti Gramin Bank	State Bank of India	Uttar Pradesh
30.	Gorakhpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank	State Bank of India	Uttar Pradesh
31.	Bundelkhand Kshetriya Gramin Bank	State Bank of India	Madhya Pradesh
32.	Koraput Panchabati Gramya Bank	State Bank of India	Orissa
33.	Arunachal Pradesh Rural Bank	State Bank of India	Arunachal Pradesh
34.	Ka Bank Nongkyndong Ri Khasi Jaintia Rural Bank	State Bank of India	Meghalaya
35.	Nagaland Rural Bank	State Bank of India	Nagaland
36.	Mizoram Rural Bank	State Bank of India	Mizoram
37.	Malaprabha Grameena Bank	Syndicate Bank	Karnataka
38.	Bijapur Grameena Bank	Syndicate Bank	Karnataka
39.	Gurgaon Gramin Bank	Syndicate Bank	Haryana
40.	Prathama Bank	Syndicate Bank	Uttar Pradesh
41.	Cuttack Gramya Bank	UCO Bank	Orissa
42.	Monghyr Kshetriya Gramin Bank	UCO Bank	Bihar
43.	Bardhman Gramin Bank	UCO Bank	West Bengal

1	2	3	4
44.	Howrah Gramin Bank	UCO Bank	West Bengal
45.	Jaipur Nagaur Anchalik Gramin Bank	UCO Bank	Rajasthan
46.	Rewa Sidhi Gramin Bank	Union Bank of India	Madhya Pradesh
47.	Samyut Kshetriya Gramin Bank	Union Bank of India	Utter Pradesh
48.	Pragjyotish Gaonlia Bank	United Bank of India	Assam
49.	Manipur Rural Bank	United Bank of India	Manipur

STATEMENT-II

Statement of Profit and Loss Figures of RRBs for the Financial Year Ended 31st March 1994.

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the RRB	Profit/Loss	Accum. Losses
1	2	3	4
1.	Gurgaon Gramin Bank	(-) 134.04	471.85
2.	Himachal Gramin Bank	(-) 282.56	671.34
3.	Jammu Rural Bank	(-) 410.54	810.11
4.	Faridkot Bhatinda Ksh. Gr. Bank	8.12	
5.	Shekhawati Gramin Bank	(-) 328.48	1371.83
6.	Jaipur Nagapur Anch. Gr. Bank	(-) 189.70	648.94
7.	Bhilwara-Ajmer Ksh. Gramin Bank	(-) 144.51	194.78
8.	Arunachal Pradesh Rural Bank	(-) 27.69	112.17
9.	Pragjyotish Gaonlia Bank	(-) 573.57	1105.93
10.	Manipur Rural Bank	(-) 96.96	350.79
11.	Khasi Jaintia Rural (Ka Bank)	122.31	9.95
12.	Mizoram Rural Bank	(-) 67.46	398.28
13.	Nagaland Rural Bank	(-) 28.86	99.34
14.	Siwan Kshetriya Gramin Bank	(-) 98.81	248.04
15.	Magadh Gramin Bank	(-) 197.15	184.68
16.	Gopalganj Ksh. Gramin Bank	(-) 77.97	148.67
17.	Monghyr Ksh. Gramin Bank	(-) 557.92	586.38
18.	Bhojpur Rohtas Gramin Bank	(-) 79.37	
19.	Cuttack Gramin Bank	(-) 350.23	1195.55
20.	Koradut Panchabati Gr. Bank	(-) 117.31	
21.	Bardhaman Gramin Bank	(-) 163.17	307.78
22.	Howrah Gramin Bank	(-) 47.89	155.24
23.	Durg Rajnandgaon Gr. Bank	(-) 279.09	965.79
24.	Bundelkhand Ksh. Gramin Bank	(-) 402.74	1063.59
25.	Kshetriya Gr. Bank Hoshanga Bad	(-) 234.18	695.54
26.	Sharda Gramin Bank	(-) 164.91	581.85
27.	Rewa Sidhi Gramin Bank	(-) 38.51	55.42
28.	Prathma Bank	84.28	285.71
29.	Avadh Gramin Bank	128.25	
30.	Sarayu Gramin Bank	36.71	14.75
31.	Vindhyavasini Gramin Bank	18.47	
32.	Gorakhpur Ksh. Gramin Bank	927.58	
33.	Farukha Bad Gramin Bank	39.55	

1	2	3	4
34.	Bhagirath Gramin Bank	219.53	
35.	Basti Gramin Bank	25.04	
36.	Samyut Ksh. Gramin Bank	222.80	
37.	Surat-Bharuch Gramin Bank	(-) 60.85	298.43
38.	Valsad-Dangs Gramin Bank	(-) 22.09	156.03
39.	Aurangabad-Jalna Gramin Bank	(-) 91.54	241.96
40.	Thane Gramin Bank	(-) 9.11	46.32
41.	Shri Sathavahana Gramin Bank	(-) 45.00	73.06
42.	Srirama Gramin Bank	39.20	
43.	Kankadugra Gramin Bank	5.03	
44.	Godavari Gramin Bank	21.62	
45.	Bijapur Gramin Bank	(-) 37.37	275.85
46.	Malaprabha Gramin Bank	10.87	227.20
47.	Tungabhadra Gramin Bank	64.94	
48.	South Malabar Gramin Bank	125.31	
49.	Vallalar Gramin Bank	(-) 16.01	64.61

Closure of Banks

3742. DR. P.R. GANGWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the banks closed down during 1994;

(b) the reasons for each of these closures;

(c) the manner and time by which the deposits of the Bank account-holders are likely to be paid back; and

(d) the time by which the Seth Kashinath Bank Ltd., Shahjahanpur is likely to resume business?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that no bank has been closed down during the year 1994.

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

(d) The latest proposal for take over of the Kashi Nath Seth Bank Ltd., Shahjahanpur by a Business Group has not so far materialised and as such it may not be possible to indicate the time by which the Bank will start transacting business.

[English]

Trade Relation with South-East Asian Countries

3743. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have any proposal to establish trade relations with South-East Asian countries alongwith the developed countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The Union Government has already established trade relations with South East Asian countries alongwith the developed countries. The Government is making efforts to see that the trade relations already established are further strengthened through the institutional mechanism of Joint Trade Committees, Joint Ministerial Commissions and Bilateral Trade Discussions both at official and business levels.

[Translation]

Air Link Between India and Kyrgyzstan

3744. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether any decision to introduce direct flight between India and Kyrgyzstan taken; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when direct flights are proposed to be introduced between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). Although India and Kyrgyzstan have already signed an Air Services Agreement, there is no proposal at present to start scheduled air services between the two countries due to insufficient traffic potential. Tourist charters and freighter services can, however, be operated on need basis under the existing liberal policy.

[English]

Cotton Processing Units

3745. SHRI C. SREENIVAASAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether facilities for cotton ginning especially in small scale units are in-adequate and not upto the mark; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide better ginning facilities to such units for producing good quality cotton yarn?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b). The facilities for cotton ginning needs improvement for quality ginning of cotton. Recently Government got a report prepared according to which this is mainly because of poorly trained workers and poor ginning practices and to an extent outdated machinery. These can be over come by modernisation and by adopting desired practices by this industry.

Suspension of Cabin Crew

3746. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India has suffered any losses due to the suspension of Cabin Crew members during February, 1995; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). Air India has suffered a net loss of Rs. 51.47 lakhs due to cancellation and disruption of flights in the wake of agitation by Cabin Crew.

Assistance to Agro-Based Industries

3747. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the financial assistance provided by NABARD during each of the last three years to develop Agro-based industries, State-wise;

(b) whether the NABARD propose to provide financial assistance to Sikkim for development of Agro-based industries in the State during the current year;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) The State-wise details of the financial assistance provided by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) during 1992-93 and 1993-94

to develop Agro-based industries are given in the Statement enclosed. The details for the year 1994-95 are yet to be collected.

(b) to (d). NABARD has reported that it has not made any allocation of refinance for the State of Sikkim as no proposal for financing/setting up of Agro-based industries has been received from any of the banks in the State. However, in case of any such proposal being submitted, the same would be considered by NABARD on merits keeping in view the technical feasibility and financial viability of the project.

STATEMENT

State-wise details of financial assistance provided by NABARD during 1992-93 and 1993-94 for developing of Agro-based industries.

(Rs. in lakhs)

State	1992-93	1993-94
Jammu and Kashmir	35.813	8.767
Punjab	5.334	35.262
Himachal Pradesh	-	1.691
Haryana	119.376	447.382
Rajasthan	78.785	-
Madhya Pradesh	23.474	54.518
Uttar Pradesh	77.515	399.059
Gujarat	300.431	451.211
Maharashtra	261.171	328.216
Goa	0.797	3.646
Andhra Pradesh	133.061	197.125
Karnataka	359.800	813.723
Kerala	502.623	681.381
Tamil Nadu	194.197	513.081
Pondicherry	-	12.64
Orissa	6.91	25.437
Bihar	67.856	76.889
West Bengal	325.103	311.928
Sikkim	-	0.500
Assam	1.26	18.982
Manipur	2.135	11.722
Meghalaya	-	2.121
Mizoram	-	2.75
Nagaland	2.3	1.0
Dadra Haveli	1.38	0.51
	2498.061	4399.542

Excise Duty on Coconut Oil

3748. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :
 PROF. K.V. THOMAS :
 SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY :
 SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN :
 SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN :
 SHRI P.C. THOMAS :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to impose Excise Duty on coconut oil and the products from coconut oil;

(b) whether the coconut growers of Kerala have opposed this move of the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) to (c). No, Sir. There is no such proposal. However, the issue of correct classification of coconut oil, marketed in various packing sizes, has been under examination for some time. Some letters received from various persons in this regard are being attended to.

Ganja and Opium

3749. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a comprehensive survey has been conducted by the Government regarding the demand of ganja and opium in the country;

(b) whether the consumption of ganja, opium and bhang is increasing in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and in some other States as the increase in consumption of liquor;

(c) whether these intoxicants are smuggled into the country from Nepal and other neighbouring countries on large scale to meet the demand;

(d) whether the Government contemplate to cultivate opium and ganja in Purnea, Arai districts of the North Bihar in the terai area of Nepal; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) and (b). No such comprehensive survey has been conducted regarding the demand of ganja/bhang and opium in the country. As per the data received from the Counselling and Deaddiction centres funded by the Ministry of Welfare, the number of cases of consumption of opium, ganja/bhang in the country and in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh during 1992-93 and 1993-94 is as under:

	1992-93		1993-94	
	Opium	Ganja/Bhang	Opium	Ganja/Bhang
Bihar	3567	1922	3542	2511
U.P.	5771	3110	5359	3799
India	45118	24315	41670	29527

(c) Smuggling of narcotics into the country from Nepal and other neighbouring countries does take place. India by virtue of its proximity to Golden Crescent on the Indo-Pak border and Golden Triangle on Indo-Myanmar border is vulnerable for trafficking of drugs into the country.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The licensed opium poppy cultivation is carried out under strict licensing conditions in three States - U.P., Rajasthan and M.P. to meet domestic and International demand of opioids. There is no need to extend cultivation to new States because the existing system is adequate to meet the legitimate demand for opioids.

The cultivation of cannabis (from which ganja is produced) except for medical and scientific purposes is prohibited under the NDPS Act. Power to permit and regulate cultivation of cannabis for medical and scientific purposes vests with State Governments.

Powerloom Weavers Cooperative Societies

3750. SHRI P.P. KALIAPERUMAL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government provide assistance to State Government to establish powerloom weavers cooperative societies;

(b) if so, the details of Central assistance under special component plan provided to establish powerloom weavers cooperative societies in Tamil Nadu during the last three years; and

(c) the names of such societies to whom central assistance was provided during the above period in the State?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Export of Oil Extraction by S.T.C.

3751. SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of Oil Extractions exported during 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) the total quantity of oil extraction sold in domestic market during the same period;

(c) whether the State Trading Corporation made any profit in the above transactions;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and losses incurred thereon;

(f) whether the Government have fixed any responsibility or any inquiry conducted for losses made in the said transactions;

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Total quantity of oil extractions exported by STC during 1993-94 and 1994-95 is as under :

1993-94	1,21,069	MTs
1994-95	48,174	MTs (Prov.)

(b) Total quantity of oil extractions (Cake) sold by STC in the domestic market during 1993-94 and 1994-95 is given below :

1993-94	8156	MTs
1994-95	5777	MTs (Prov.)

(c) to (e). During 1993-94, STC incurred a loss of Rs. 0.97 crore in the above transactions. The trading loss was on account of inherent volatility in prices of oilseeds, oils and oil extractions in domestic as well as international market. The results for 1994-95 are under compilation.

(f) to (h). The profit/loss is determined by market situation and hence an inquiry may not be necessary in each case. However, STC has intimated that based on the internal investigation conducted in the matter, the enquiry did not reveal any malafide on the part of the Corporation's officials. However, efforts are being made to improve the operational efficiency based on the experience gained.

Business of ITDC Hotels

3752. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the hotels run by the India Tourism Development Corporation have augmented their business during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the India Tourism Development Corporation utilised more than 90 per cent of their capacity during the year 1994-95; and

(d) the steps being taken for the development of the India Tourism Development Corporation Hotels in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The turnover of the Hotel division of the ITDC has increased by 16% from Rs. 114.45 crores in 1993-94 to Rs. 135.03 crores (provisional figure) in 1994-95. Similarly the profit

has increased by 136.2% from Rs. 8.28 crores to Rs. 19.56 crores (provisional figure) during the aforesaid period.

(c) None of the ITDC hotels achieved 90% capacity utilisation during 1994-95.

(d) ITDC's Annual Plan for 1995-96 does not envisage any specific plan scheme/provision for construction of hotels in the State of Gujarat.

[Translation]

Beedi Workers

3753. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA :
SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO :
SHRI K.G. SHIVAPPA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Beedi workers all over the country are demanding to fix the basic salary of Beedi Industry Workers at Rs. 50 per thousand beedis;

(b) whether they have also demanded Dearness Allowance of 5 paise per point over and above 1300 points (1960 base) pending appointment of an expert committee to determine the need based minimum wage; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c). The All India Bidi Cigar and Tobacco Workers Federation had submitted a memorandum demanding for fixing national minimum wages of Rs. 50/- for rolling 1000 beedis. The Federation also demanded uniformity in payment of dearness allowance at the rate of 10 paise for each point rise in index number and computation of dearness allowance should be made half yearly.

[English]

Car Insurance Premium

3754. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the car insurance premium is likely to be hiked by insurance companies;

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

(c) whether lesser insurance premium is the only reason for the losses of insurance companies; and

(d) if not, the reasons for not streamlining the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (d). The General Insurance Corporation of India

(GIC) have reported that on account of the inadequate motor premium; increasing frequency of road accidents; escalating third party claims awarded by the Courts; rising cost of spare parts and labour charges; and the recent amendments made in the Motor Vehicles Act raising the compensation payable under 'No-Fault-Liability', Hit and Run claims and introduction of a Structured Compensation Formula; etc., the general insurance industry is experiencing heavy losses in motor portfolio. The general insurance industry can increase the motor tariff only after Tariff Advisory Committee (TAC), a statutory body set up under the Insurance Act, 1938 recommends such an increase based on the adverse claims experience of the industry. The TAC is fully seized of the matter. Based on the recommendations of the TAC, the general insurance industry will take necessary measures to streamline the motor tariff at the appropriate time.

UTI Bank Ltd.

3755. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the UTI Bank Ltd. has lowered the minimum initial deposit amounts for retail accounts; and,

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Registered Unemployed Persons

3756. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :
 PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY :
 SHRI N. DENNIS :
 SHRI HARADHAN ROY :
 DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL :
 MAJOR D.D. KHANORIA :
 SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT :
 SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of unemployed persons registered with various employment exchanges in the country, State-wise, category-wise, gender-wise and qualification-wise during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of unemployed persons provided with jobs through the employment exchanges during the said period; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide employment to unemployed persons?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):

(a) Information is furnished in the Statement enclosed.

(b) The number of placements effected by the employment exchanges in the country during the years 1992, 1993 and 1994 were 238.7, 231.4 and 204.9 thousands respectively.

(c) Employment is a thrust area of the Eighth Plan. The employment strategy of the Plan envisages a high rate of growth of the economy combined with faster growth of sectors, sub-sectors and areas having high employment potential for enhancing the pace of employment generation.

STATEMENT

Number of Job-seekers on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges at the end of 1992, 1993 and 1994

(In thousands)

States/Union Territories		1992							
		Total	Men	Women	Sch. Caste	Sch. Tribe	Under Graduates	Graduates	Post Graduates
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
States									
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3330.9	2803.5	527.4	406.6	81.8	1636.5	280.9	28.4
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5.3	3.7	1.5	②	0.5	0.2	②	②
3.	Assam	1365.1	1080.5	284.7	74.9	143.5	692.5	88.0	4.3
4.	Bihar	3436.8	3259.8	227.0	381.2	203.6	1818.1	341.9	17.6
5.	Goa	108.2	74.7	33.5	1.1	②	69.7	11.4	0.7
6.	Gujarat	1027.0	891.0	136.0	174.9	91.2	602.2	66.4	8.2
7.	Haryana	653.7	549.3	104.4	107.4	②	352.0	59.6	7.8

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8.	Himachal Pradesh	472.4	364.6	107.9	84.7	13.6	275.9	32.0	13.0
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	130.7	110.3	20.4	8.0	0.3	35.0	10.6	3.3
10.	Karnataka	1501.8	1189.9	311.9	173.5	24.1	814.6	127.7	22.0
11.	Kerala	3826.1	1924.0	1902.1	325.5	18.3	2103.8	160.9	34.0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1982.5	1704.7	277.7	258.2	176.1	1184.8	179.7	53.5
13.	Maharashtra	3320.7	2788.4	532.3	518.6	109.1	1975.9	245.0	25.4
14.	Manipur	212.9	154.6	58.3	1.6	53.2	118.5	24.5	1.4
15.	Meghalaya	24.9	15.5	9.4	0.2	17.6	9.5	1.7	0.1
16.	Mizoram	36.3	27.6	8.7	-	36.3	12.7	2.1	0.2
17.	Nagaland	20.7	14.4	6.2	1.1	20.6	9.0	1.4	0.1
18.	Orissa	896.9	771.0	125.9	114.3	74.0	419.8	125.3	8.0
19.	Punjab	721.5	563.1	158.4	196.1	@	355.7	93.6	17.4
20.	Rajasthan	864.7	779.9	84.8	121.5	54.0	400.8	131.2	16.0
21.	Sikkim*								
22.	Tamil Nadu	3736.7	2613.4	1123.4	748.1	12.1	1776.2	402.1	47.3
23.	Tripura	179.7	120.2	59.5	10.8	12.3	46.9	9.5	1.6
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2534.7	2333.1	201.6	474.4	10.4	1429.6	291.6	72.5
25.	West Bengal	5091.2	4015.7	1075.5	437.2	79.2	2356.2	527.6	46.4
Union Territories									
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	17.0	11.8	5.2		0.7	6.8	1.6	0.2
27.	Chandigarh	161.9	128.9	33.1	42.3	0.1	67.6	21.2	3.4
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2.9	2.1	0.8	0.2	0.9	1.0	0.2	@
29.	Delhi	905.5	711.6	193.9	129.8	16.6	465.7	202.6	20.0
30.	Daman and Diu	2.5	1.9	0.5	0.2	0.3	1.3	0.3	0.1
31.	Lakshadweep	6.9	5.4	1.5	-	6.4	1.6	@	@
32.	Pondicherry	130.4	91.0	39.5	9.5	0.1	61.5	9.6	2.0
Total		36758.4	29105.5	7652.9	4801.9	1256.5	19101.2	3450.0	455.0

Note : 1. * No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.

2. @ Figures less than 50.

3. Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.

4. All the job-seekers on the Live Register of employment exchanges are not necessarily unemployed.

(In Thousand)

States/Union Territories		1993							
		Total	Men	Women	Sch. Caste	Sch. Tribe	Under Graduates	Graduates	Post Graduates
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
States									
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2996.6	2495.8	500.8	399.4	70.9	1672.6	320.2	30.4
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7.7	5.5	2.3	@	0.4	0.2	@	@
3.	Assam	1377.0	1089.0	288.0	75.3	140.0	705.7	88.6	3.8
4.	Bihar	3339.3	3116.3	223.0	379.7	242.8	1870.1	366.3	20.2
5.	Goa	116.3	79.4	36.9	1.4	@	73.1	11.7	0.7
6.	Gujarat	973.6	840.8	132.8	172.2	93.6	561.8	60.2	10.6

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7.	Haryana	676.3	567.6	108.8	110.3	@	364.0	58.6	9.0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	482.8	372.2	110.6	90.3	13.9	288.8	32.5	12.9
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	137.8	114.1	23.7	8.6	0.5	43.8	14.3	4.3
10.	Karnataka	1575.4	1245.0	330.5	187.5	28.3	835.8	172.5	25.6
11.	Kerala	4171.0	2075.3	2095.7	393.6	20.1	2501.9	177.6	37.2
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1939.6	1664.0	275.6	273.8	190.0	1189.66	185.2	60.8
13.	Maharashtra	3349.4	2790.0	559.3	536.6	118.9	2032.6	241.4	28.5
14.	Manipur	229.9	166.9	63.0	1.8	54.1	126.9	26.2	1.5
15.	Meghalaya	27.6	17.0	10.6	0.3	18.7	10.5	1.8	0.1
16.	Mizoram	39.9	30.0	9.9	-	38.8	14.6	2.2	0.1
17.	Nagaland	20.7	14.6	6.0	1.1	19.5	10.7	1.6	0.1
18.	Orissa	857.8	731.8	126.0	117.1	73.4	402.6	127.1	8.4
19.	Punjab	645.8	530.0	142.8	181.3	@	332.0	86.4	14.7
20.	Rajasthan	828.7	744.0	84.7	127.3	57.8	374.9	133.8	16.6
21.	Sikkim*								
22.	Tamil Nadu	3860.0	2691.9	1168.1	804.4	13.9	1923.0	384.1	60.8
23.	Tripura	189.2	125.2	64.0	12.0	13.9	44.0	9.3	1.4
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2379.6	2187.4	192.2	454.0	9.8	1333.5	272.2	65.6
25.	West Bengal	4815.1	3786.9	1028.1	456.2	86.8	2322.3	519.1	48.1
Union Territories									
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	18.8	12.6	6.1	-	0.1	6.8	1.6	0.2
27.	Chandigarh	161.6	128.5	33.2	41.9	0.1	66.4	20.9	3.4
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3.5	2.6	1.0	0.2	0.9	1.0	0.2	@
29.	Delhi	908.0	711.0	197.0	138.7	18.6	469.5	205.4	19.9
30.	Daman and Diu	3.0	2.3	0.7	0.2	0.3	0.8	0.3	@
31.	Lakshadweep	7.9	6.1	1.9	-	6.4	1.6	@	@
32.	Pondicherry	135.5	93.3	42.2	10.0	@	66.5	10.0	2.1
Total		36275.5	28410.2	7865.3	4975.2	1333.2	19647.9	3531.5	487.0

Note : 1. * No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.

2. @ Figures less than 50.

3. Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.

4. All the job-seekers on the Live Register of employment exchanges are not necessarily unemployed.

5. Figures in respect of Under-graduates, Graduates and Post-graduates for the year 1993 are provisional.

(In thousands)

States/Union Territories		1994		
1	2	Total	Men	Women
1	2	3	4	5
States				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2828.6	2348.9	479.6
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10.6	7.4	3.1
3.	Assam	1276.3	1014.9	261.4
4.	Bihar	3701.0	3452.7	248.2
5.	Goa	114.8	77.3	37.5

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Gujarat	906.3	777.2	129.1
7.	Haryana	663.2	549.4	113.8
8.	Himachal Pradesh	534.4	407.4	126.9
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	138.2	114.8	23.4
10.	Karnataka	1662.3	1311.6	350.7
11.	Kerala	4185.5	2065.1	2120.5
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2035.6	1754.6	281.0
13.	Maharashtra	3437.6	2836.8	600.8
14.	Manipur	253.9	187.0	67.0
15.	Meghalaya	27.2	16.7	10.5
16.	Mizoram	42.6	31.3	11.3
17.	Nagaland	21.3	14.2	7.0
18.	Orissa	861.4	725.3	136.0
19.	Punjab	564.6	435.7	128.9
20.	Rajasthan	806.9	725.6	81.3
21.	Sikkim*			
22.	Tamil Nadu	3667.8	2532.7	1135.1
23.	Tripura	194.6	128.8	65.8
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2356.6	2139.0	217.6
25.	West Bengal	5093.0	3987.9	1105.1
Union Territories				
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	19.8	12.9	6.9
27.	Chandigarh	157.2	125.3	31.9
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	4.0	2.9	1.1
29.	Delhi	970.1	755.9	214.2
30.	Daman and Diu	5.2	4.2	1.0
31.	Lakshadweep	8.5	6.5	2.0
32.	Pondicherry	142.6	97.1	45.5
Total		36691.5	28647.0	8044.5

Note : 1. * No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.

2. Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.

3. All the job-seekers on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges are not necessarily unemployed.

4. Latest information on Sch. Caste/Sch. Tribe and educated (under-graduates and Post-graduates) job-seekers relate to the year 1993.

Acton Plan to Develop Tourist Spots

3757. SHRI G.L. KANAUIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether India Tourism Development Corporation has prepared any action plan to develop tourist spots, attract private investments, expand modern luxury bus and taxi services under public and private sectors, open more hotel management institutes and to impart training to large number of manpower in tourism sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). Development of tourist spots is the responsibility of the State Governments. In order to attract private investment, 10% of the ITDC's shares have been recently disinvested. With a view to strengthening its transport fleet and improve the transport services, ITDC is working on a collaboration agreement with one of the reputed transport firms.

ITDC's Manpower Development Centre proposes

to impart training during next five years in tourism related activities as per details given below :

Year	No. of Manpower to be trained
1995-96	4544
1996-97	5170
1997-98	5510
1998-99	5840
1999-2000	6080

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Export of Foodgrains by STC

3758. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :
SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Trading Corporation has exported foodgrains during 1994 and 1995;

(b) if so, the total quantity of foodgrains exported with its price, country-wise;

(c) whether the Government have taken any decision for exporting foodgrains to China by Ministry of Food;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the reasons for not exporting all foodgrains through the State Trading Corporation;

(f) whether the price of wheat exported through the State Trading Corporation is less than the economic cost of wheat fixed by the Food Corporation of India in the Country; and

(g) if not, the extent to which the price is on higher side?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). While STC did not export foodgrains during 1994, country-wise quantity of foodgrains exported alongwith its price during 1995 is given below :

Item	Country	Exported Qty (MT)	Value (Rs. in crores)
Wheat	UAE	33689	16.1
Rice	Bangladesh	35468	28.3

(c) to (e). Ministry of Food have intimated that Government had not taken any decision for exporting foodgrains to China. Foodgrains are not canalised items for export through STC.

(f) Yes, Sir. It may, however, be added that STC had procured wheat from FCI at a rate quoted by them on ex-godown basis. This was exported by STC at a price that covered the procurement price of the wheat on ex-godown basis expenses and other incidental cost involved in the export and STC's service margin.

(g) Does not arise.

[English]

Barings Bank, London

3759. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) The details of the public sector banks which were dealing with Barings Bank of England;

(b) the quantum of money of our banks involved therein; and

(c) the estimated loss suffered by India due to insolvency of Barings Bank of England?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Export of Processed Pineapples

3760. SHRI PROBIN DEKA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a great potential for export of processed pineapples in the country, particularly from North-Eastern states and West Bengal;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to promote the export of processed pine-apples; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). Exports of pineapples in 1993-94 have only been of the order of 120 MTs valued at Rs. 13.00 lakhs but there is, however, scope for further increase. No specific scheme for promoting export of processed pineapples has been drawn up, but exporters of fresh and processed fruits including pineapples are eligible to take advantage of general schemes which provide assistance in purchase of specialised transport units, improved packaging, upgradation of quality, export promotion and market development.

[Translation]

Production of Cotton

3761. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :
SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the quantum of production of cotton in the country during the year 1994-95;

(b) if so, the estimated quantum of production at present to be acceptable finally;

(c) whether the Government have also estimated the total cotton requirement of the country;

(d) if so, the estimated quantum of cotton required by the country for its utilisation in mills, handlooms, powerlooms and for other purposes for the year 1995-96;

(e) whether the Government have also taken a decision regarding the quantum of cotton to be exported during the period;

(f) if so, the quantum thereof; and

(g) the estimated total stock of cotton in the country by the end of the year after its domestic consumption?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c). The Cotton Advisory Board in its meeting held on 28.1.95 estimated production and requirement of cotton during 1994-95 cotton season as under :

Production	-	125.50 lakh bales of 170 kgs each.
Requirement	-	127.00 lakh bales 170 kgs each.

(d) The projection of requirement of cotton for the year 1995-96 has not been made so far by the Cotton Advisory Board.

(e) and (f). In terms of Long Term Export Policy, Government has announced a quantity of 5 lakh bales for export for the cotton season 1994-95 but keeping in view the present situation only one lakh bales of Bengal Deshi cotton has been permitted for export so far.

(g) The end season stocks for 1994-95 season has been estimated at 26.20 lakh bales.

Cooperative Banks in Uttarakhand

3762. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to increase the number of cooperative banks in Uttarakhand area of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). Under the three tier co-operative structure, there are District Central Co-operative Banks acting as Central Financing Agency in the districts and these District Central Co-operative Banks (one District Co-operative Bank in each District) are free to open branches within their area of operation (entire district) without obtaining permission from Reserve Bank of India (RBI). RBI has reported that there are 57 District Central Co-operative Banks already functioning in all the districts of Uttar Pradesh including the Uttarakhand area which are catering to the credit requirements of people in the area of their operation.

Fraud Cases in Banks

3763. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN :
SHRI KHALAN RAM JANGDE

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cases of fraud and forgery in nationalised, public sector and foreign banks are increasing rapidly;

(b) the number of such cases reported during the last twelve months, the amount involved and the extent of increase or decline in such cases as compared to the position of the past corresponding period, bank-wise;

(c) the modus operandi of the persons involved and the steps taken to check the recurrence of such incidents; and

(d) the number of bank employees who connived and provoked such cases and the details of the action taken against them, bank-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). A Statement giving bank-wise position of number of frauds and the amount involved during the years 1993 and 1994 as reported to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) by public sector banks and foreign banks is given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(c) and (d). The RBI has reported that the frauds perpetrated on the banks can be classified as under :

- (i) Misappropriation of cash tendered by the banks constituents and misappropriation of cash in remittances.
- (ii) Withdrawals from deposit accounts through forged instruments.
- (iii) Fraudulent encashment of negotiable instruments by opening an account in fake/fictitious names.
- (iv) Misappropriation through manipulation of books of accounts.
- (v) Perpetration of frauds through clearing transactions.
- (vi) Misutilisation of delegated powers.
- (vii) Opening/issue of letters of credit, Bank guarantees, instrument without proper authority.
- (viii) Frauds in Foreign Exchange Transactions.

The public sector banks at the instance of Government and RBI have taken several steps from time to time for checking corruption and prevention of frauds. These steps include issue of comprehensive guidelines by RBI in strengthening the control

mechanism in banks, review of fraud cases on a continual basis by RBI, setting up of a Special Investigation Cell in RBI, proper training of operational personnel, etc.

The bank-wise information relating to action taken against delinquent employees for frauds by the public sector banks during the years 1993 and 1994 is given in the Statement-II enclosed.

STATEMENT-I

(DATA PROVISIONAL)

Statement Showing Bank-wise Number of Frauds Detected in Public Sector Banks and Foreign Banks and the Amount Involved therein During the Years 1993 and 1994

PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS

(Rupees in lakhs)

S. No.	Public Sector Banks	No. of frauds		Amount involved	
		1993	1994	1993	1994
1.	State Bank of India	597 *02	616	773.44 25.08	2,010.97
2.	State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur	36	21	536.63	11.06
3.	State Bank of Hyderabad	28	23	97.11	63.55
4.	State Bank of Indore	20	26	161.63	1,169.39
5.	State Bank of Mysore	28	37	7.51	252.95
6.	State Bank of Patiala	26	30	222.61	100.05
7.	State Bank of Saurashtra	07	12	16.17	17.98
8.	State Bank of Travancore	20	25	32.49	70.22
9.	Allahabad Bank	33	39	45.14	2,343.58
10.	Andhra Bank	66	25	2,130.92	131.00
11.	Bank of Baroda	139 *12	159 15	568.46 35.54	2,905.71 528.63
					+U.Sh. 9844000
12.	Bank of India	168 *16	215 11	725.19 4,249.29	728.62 988.51
13.	Bank of Maharashtra	22	50	404.65	465.11
14.	Canara Bank	259	217	801.13	1,402.21
15.	Central Bank of India	85	130	3,234.72	347.46
16.	Corporation Bank	31	38	42.24	38.28
17.	Dena Bank	20	22	159.65	1,049.62
18.	Indian Bank	41	60	638.24	286.26
19.	Indian Overseas Bank	75	71	143.54	356.97
20.	New Bank of India	29	—	69.72	—
21.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	22	14	102.97	230.88
22.	Punjab National Bank	88	118	3,224.29	2,003.36
23.	Punjab and Sind Bank	21	17	654.21	163.26
24.	Syndicate Bank	139	103	174.10	1,371.80
25.	Union Bank of India	61	39	756.54	336.54
26.	United Bank of India	50	43	11,459.66	171.09
27.	UCO Bank	35 *04	58	183.46 165.27	416.89
28.	Vijaya Bank	33	32	190.83	45.93
	Total	2213	2266	32,032.43	20,007.88
					+U.Sh. 9844000

*outside India

U.Sh = Uganda Shilling

FOREIGN BANKS

S.No. Foreign Banks	No. of frauds		Amount involved	
	1993	1994	1993	1994
1. Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank	—	—	—	—
2. ABN - Amro Bank	—	—	—	—
3. American Express Bank	01	01	2.99	2.40
4. ANZ Grindlays Bank	62	65	357.44	62.48
5. Bank of America	01	02	0.56	0.32
6. Bank of Baharin and Kuwait	01	—	1.00	—
7. Bank of Tokyo	—	01	—	19.33
8. Banque Indosuez	—	—	—	—
9. Banque Nationale de Paris	—	02	—	0.55
10. British Bank of the Middle East	01	01	0.09	0.26
11. Barclays Bank	—	01	—	8.54
12. Citibank N.A.	84	55	306.35	16.06
13. Standard Chartered Bank	10	03	43.47	51.12
14. Credit Lyonnais	—	—	—	—
15. Deutsche Bank	03	—	173.30	—
16. Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	04	04	19.98	20.40
17. Mashreqe Bank P.S.C.	—	01	—	32.39
18. Oman International Bank	—	01	—	4.49
19. Societe Generale	—	—	—	—
20. Sakura Bank	—	—	—	—
21. Scotia Bank	—	—	—	—
22. Sonali Bank	—	—	—	—
Total	167	137	905.18	218.34

STATEMENT-II

Action Taken Against the Delinquent Employees for Frauds During the Years 1993 and 1994.

Name of the Bank	Convicted		Awarded major/ minor penalties		Out of 3 dismissed/ discharged/removed	
	1993	1994*	1993	1994*	1993	1994*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
State Bank of India	24	24	164	180	58	53
State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur	—	—	20	14	05	01
State Bank of Hyderabad	15	04	33	17	09	02
State Bank of Indore	—	—	—	10	—	01
State Bank of Mysore	—	—	16	11	05	04
State Bank of Patiala	—	—	09	10	03	05
State Bank of Saurashtra	—	—	01	03	01	02
State Bank of Travancore	—	—	06	29	01	05
Allahabad Bank	—	—	29	23	06	06
Andhra Bank	02	05	20	18	03	04
Bank of Baroda	—	—	13	13	06	01

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Bank of India	—	—	11	17	07	12
Bank of Maharashtra	—	—	13	10	08	07
Canara Bank	05	—	88	61	26	22
Central Bank of India	—	01	67	67	42	34
Corporation Bank	05	—	05	04	04	04
Dena Bank	—	—	27	19	07	04
Indian Bank	01	—	64	82	08	04
Indian Overseas Bank	03	02	47	46	13	18
Oriental Bank of Commerce	—	—	01	06	03	03
Punjab National Bank	01	02	91	170	22	45
Punjab and Sind Bank	—	—	10	27	05	05
Syndicate Bank	—	—	55	20	42	12
Union Bank of India	—	—	26	26	14	07
United Bank of India	—	—	—	12	—	02
UCO Bank	01	—	30	—	11	—
Vijaya Bank	—	02	28	07	03	02
Total	57	40	874	902	312	265

* Information available only upto September, 1994.

Bilateral Air Service Agreements

3764. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK :
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to enter into bilateral air service agreement with other countries;

(b) whether any action plan has been prepared in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the plan is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (d). India has already signed/initialled bilateral air services agreements with 75 countries. No definite action plan has been drawn up for signing air services agreements with more countries since this would depend on the response of the respective States, availability of reciprocal benefits, requirements of international travel, tourism and trade etc.

Bad Debts of Banks

3765. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of bad/doubtful debts for which the nationalised banks have made provisions in their balance

sheets during 1992-93 and 1993-94, as per the new norms prescribed by the Reserve Bank of India, bank-wise;

(b) the break-up of the above provisions of bad debt in terms of amount due from (i) industrial sector (ii) agricultural sector (iii) trade and business sector and (vi) minor loans sector;

(c) the recoveries made, if any, in respect of the bad/doubtful debt of 1992-93 and 1993-94 during the financial year 1994-95; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to recover the outstanding debt?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) The provisions made by public Sector Banks for Non-performing Assets for the year 1992-93 (latest available with RBI) are given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) and (c). RBI's data reporting system does not generate information in the manner asked for.

(d) Government and RBI have been impressing upon the banks the need for strengthening their machinery for credit appraisal and for exercising effective supervision and control so as to ensure proper end use of the funds advanced, to create recovery cells in the Head Offices and to improve productivity levels. Government has also established Debts Recovery Tribunals to speed up the recovery of banks' dues.

STATEMENT

(As on 31.3.93)

S. No.	Name of the Bank	Provisioning for NPAs (Rs. in crore)
1.	Allahabad Bank	215.27
2.	Andhra Bank	151.21
3.	Bank of Baroda	784.04
4.	Bank of India	1042.36
5.	Bank of Maharashtra	264.35
6.	Canara Bank	794.20
7.	Central Bank	850.43
8.	Corporation Bank	8.33
9.	Dena Bank	126.34
10.	Indian Bank	372.43
11.	Indian Overseas Bank	860.14
12.	New Bank of India (Erst)	115.10
13.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	92.34
14.	Punjab National Bank	263.19
15.	Punjab and Sind Bank	219.90
16.	Syndicate Bank	380.69
17.	Union Bank of India	254.07
18.	United Bank of India	232.12
19.	UCO Bank	667.51
20.	Vijaya Bank	163.01
21.	State Bank of India	8845.01
22.	State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur	215.59
23.	State Bank of Hyderabad	289.59
24.	State Bank of Indore	80.72
25.	State Bank of Mysore	97.45
26.	State Bank of Patiala	259.90
27.	State Bank of Saurashtra	111.09
28.	State Bank of Travancore	83.53

[Translation]

Construction of Yatri Niwases in U.P.

3766. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for construction of Yatri Niwases in the State for middle class tourists; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Government and financial assistance proposed to be given, if any, for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). The Department of Tourism has sanctioned the following Yatri Niwases in Uttar Pradesh based on the proposals received from the State Government. :

Name of the Project	Date of Sanction	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
(a) Yatri Niwas Allahabad	31.03.1987	28.00
(b) Yatri Niwas Ayodhya	30.03.1992	10.00
(c) Yatri Niwas Maldipur	12.03.1991	20.00
(d) Yatri Niwas Chitrakoot	30.03.1992	30.00

[English]

Bank Loans to SSIs in Gujarat

3767. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of loan applications received from small scale industries by the public sector banks in Gujarat during the last three years and the number out of them which have been provided - with the loan together with the amount sanctioned to them during that period;

(b) whether the above banks have provided loans to the small scale industries in time to avoid sickness in the industry;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The data reporting system of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) does not generate information in the manner asked for. However, according to the latest available data furnished by RBI, loans disbursed by scheduled commercial banks to small scale industrial (SSI) units in the State of Gujarat as at the end of June 1991, June 1992 and June 1993 were as under :

Year ending	No. of Accounts	Amount Disbursed
June 1991	36466	248.15
June 1992	39697	241.34
June 1993	15230	233.16

(b) to (d). RBI has issued instructions to all scheduled commercial banks that applications upto a credit limit of Rs. 25,000/- should be disposed of within a fortnight and those for over Rs. 25,000/- within 8-9 weeks from the date of receipt of applications. Banks have also been advised that requests for increase in credit limits should be considered expeditiously and decision taken promptly and in any case within six weeks.

[Translation]

Air Service for Religious and Historical Places

3768. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are going to introduce air-services to religious and historical places so as to boost tourism; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). Most of the religious and historical places are already connected by air. At present Indian Airlines and Vayudoot have no proposal to operate to any more stations. Private operators are free to operate to any station open for scheduled operations.

Debt Relief Scheme in Haryana

3769. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of farmers and rural artisans benefited by Debt Relief Scheme in Haryana;

(b) the total amount released therefor so far;

(c) the time by which the outstanding amount is likely to be released;

(d) whether the ARDR Scheme has adversely affected recoveries of the Co-operative Credit Structure and vitiated the general recovery climate; and

(e) if so, the action taken for improvement of recovery system of the co-operative institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) In the State of Haryana 5,97,894 beneficiaries, which includes farmers, landless labourers, rural artisans and weavers have been provided debt relief involving an amount of Rs. 232.17 crores under the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990 through various

implementing agencies viz. public sector banks, cooperative banks and Regional Rural Banks. The Scheme came to a close on 31.3.1991.

(b) and (c). The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that full and final settlement of ARDR claims of the banks in Haryana (except Gurgaon Gramin Bank) has since been made. The Cooperative Banks in the State have been reimbursed an amount of Rs. 126.08 crores by way of grant and loan under the ARDR Scheme. An amount of Rs. 17.09 crores has been paid to the Regional Rural Banks for the same purpose.

(d) and (e). So far as the State of Haryana is concerned, the recovery for the year 1989-90 was affected. The overall recovery performance of the cooperative credit institutions has now improved. Whereas the short-term structure in the State with 88.3% recovery in the year 1993-94, ranked first in the country for the second year in succession, the long-term structure with recovery rate of 86.3% in 1993-94 secured the second position in the country.

Air Strips

3770. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of privately owned and operated air-strips in the country alongwith Government air-strips;

(b) the number of such air-strips in each State indicating the locations thereof;

(c) whether all the above air-strips are under the jurisdiction of the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (d). The details of airstrips/airports belonging to various agencies is given in the Statement annexed.

STATEMENT

S.No.	State	No. of Airports owned by					Total
		Airports Authority of India	Directorate General of Civil Aviation	Defence	State Government	No. of Private	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6	1	5	4	3	19
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	-	6	2	-	9
3.	Assam	6	-	12	-	10	28
4.	Bihar	7	-	7	26	4	44
5.	Goa	-	-	1	-	-	1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6.	Gujarat	8	-	5	12	1	26
7.	Haryana	-	-	3	5	-	8
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3	-	-	-	-	3
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	-	17	1	1	19
10.	Karnataka	5	-	3	3	6	17
11.	Kerala	2	-	1	1	1	5
12.	Madhya Pradesh	9	-	8	21	8	46
13.	Maharashtra	7	1	6	10	3	27
14.	Manipur	1	-	2	-	-	3
15.	Meghalaya	1	-	-	1	-	2
16.	Mizoram	1	-	-	-	-	1
17.	Nagaland	-	-	1	-	-	1
18.	Orissa	2	-	2	19	3	26
19.	Punjab	2	-	9	3	4	18
20.	Rajasthan	3	-	9	23	2	37
21.	Tamil Nadu	8	-	6	2	1	17
22.	Tripura	4	-	-	-	-	4
23.	Uttar Pradesh	7	-	15	6	5	33
24.	West Bengal	5	-	18	3	12	38
25.	Delhi	2	-	-	-	-	2
Union Territory							
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	-	-	2	-	-	2
2.	Chandigarh	-	-	1	-	-	1
3.	Daman and Diu	-	-	1	1	-	2
4.	Lakshadweep	1	-	-	-	-	1
5.	Pondicherry	1	-	-	-	-	1
Total		92	2	140	143	64	441

Export Items

3771. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the use of imported components has registered a fall in respect of items exported from the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the export items in which the imported material is used in larger proportion; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to curb the use of imported components in the export items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). In relation to export through Advance Licenses, during the last 3 Licensing period i.e. 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 (Upto December, 1994), the import intensity of all imported inputs including components is 42.53%, 41.2% and 42.82% respectively. No separate data of import intensity particularly for the use of imported components in the export products is maintained.

(c) and (d). As an export promotion measure and to be competitive in the international market, the import of all essential inputs of raw materials, including components, consumables, parts, accessories, mandatory spares (upto 5%) and packing materials is permitted to the extent considered essential for export product with adequate value addition. No separate criteria for the use of imported components for export products has been prescribed and consequently, no separate data of the export products in which the imported material is used in larger proportion is maintained.

[English]

Supply of Yarn

3772. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Spinning Mills, handloom, powerloom and the hosiery sectors are facing hardship due to frequent crisis in yarn supply;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up a Committee to regulate the proper distribution of yarn;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which this Committee is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b). There have been no reports of any crisis in the supply or availability of yarn to the spinning mills, handloom, powerloom and the hosiery sectors. However, handloom weavers have been facing problems in the recent months on account of rise in prices of hank yarn.

(c) to (e). There is no proposal before the Government to set up any Committee to regulate proper distribution of yarn. However, in order to provide hank yarn to the handloom weavers at reasonable rates the Government has taken various steps such as continuation of the Mill Gate Price System, strict implementation of the Hank Yarn Obligation Scheme, introduction of Hank Yarn Price Subsidy Scheme, etc.

[*Translation*]

Employment Abroad

3773. SHRI MANJAY LAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to explore employment potential abroad for the citizens to alleviate the miseries of unemployment;

(b) whether the Government propose to press in services of delegations visiting abroad and embassies and High Commissions situated abroad for the purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure that this does not result in brain drain?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) to (d). Employment of labour and professionals to deliver various services is at present governed by Immigration Rules of different countries. However, India has been seeking enhanced market access for its citizens to provide specific services in foreign countries through negotiations in the WTO under the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) which provides a framework for the negotiation of market access commitments in various services sectors and for the temporary relocation of skilled personnel as a part of service contract or in the categories of intra-corporate transferees and business visitors. India is seeking market access in its major trading partners for its skilled personnel in different services sectors. Concerned professional organisations like the NASCOM which represents the computer software professionals, have

taken sectoral delegations to target countries. The matter has also been taken up during bilateral talks with concerned Governments at different levels.

[*English*]

Unemployed Youths

3774. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of unemployed educated youths in Orissa as on March 31, 1995;

(b) whether the Government have any scheme to provide employment to these unemployed educated youths;

(c) if so, the time by which they can be provided with employment; and

(d) the plan drawn up in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) :

(a) The number of educated (Matric and above) job-seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, who were on the live register of employment exchanges in Orissa, as on 31.12.1993 (latest available) was 538.1 thousands (provisional).

(b) to (d). The Eighth Five Year Plan envisages a strategy for achieving the goal of near full employment situation in the country as a whole by the year 2002. This goal is sought to be achieved by accelerating growth of productive employment opportunities on the basis of faster growth of employment-intensive sectors, sub-sectors and activities. The Plan also emphasises the need for revamping education and training system to introduce flexibility and responsiveness to labour market. In addition to this overall strategy resulting in employment opportunities for both the educated and uneducated unemployed through the normal growth processes, the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana launched on 2nd October, 1993 aims at creating self-employment opportunities specially for the educated unemployed youth in various States including Orissa.

Dues Against NTC

3775. SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the outstanding dues from National Textile Corporation to the Government of Gujarat as on March 31, 1995;

(b) the reasons for non-payment of the dues; and

(c) the time by which the dues are expected to be paid to the Government of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) NTC owes an amount of Rs. 19.67 crores covering cotton dues and dues pertaining to ESI, electricity, municipal taxes and other taxes.

(b) and (c). NTC has been facing an acute working capital shortage. NTC is expected to clear the outstanding dues depending upon the availability of working capital.

Interim Relief to Journalists

3776. SHRI RABI RAY :

SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether a delegation of National Federation of Newspaper Employees and Indian Federation of Journalists met him on the first week of April, 1995;

(b) if so, the details of the demands raised by them;

(c) whether the Government propose to refer the issue of granting Interim Relief to the journalists and newspaper employees to the wage boards soon;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken on the other demands raised by these employees?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):

(a) to (e). Yes Sir. National Federation of Newspaper Employees and National Union of Journalist (India) have, *inter-alia*, raised the issue of Interim Relief to the newspaper employees. The issue of interim relief along with the representations have been referred to the Wage Boards for Working Journalists and Non-Journalists Newspaper Employees and News-Agency Employees.

Beedi Workers

3777. DR. R. MALLU : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up training institute for new employment skills for beedi workers of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether funds are available from the National Renewal Fund for such purpose;

(c) whether preliminary discussions have been held with the State Government in this regard; and

(d) the extent of unemployment that would be caused by anti-beedi legislation under way?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):

(a) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

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

(d) The legislation proposed by the Ministry of Health does not envisage a ban on the use or sale of tobacco except in the vicinity of educational institutions and hospitals. Therefore, it is felt that the employment situation in the beedi industry may not be significantly affected for the present.

Public Provident Fund Claims

3778. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) State-wise details of the cases of final payments of the Public Provident Fund claims pending with the Government, with period of pendency;

(b) the reasons for the pendency; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government for immediate payment and the action being taken against the officials responsible for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) The cases of final payments of the Public Provident Fund claims are settled by the bank/post office directly where the account stands, as per provisions of Public Provident Fund Scheme, 1968. Hence no claims are pending with the Government.

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

Foreign Aided Projects in Meghalaya

3779. SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the name of the foreign aided projects being implemented in Meghalaya and the location thereof;

(b) the quantum of amount released so far and the time by which these are likely to be completed; and

(c) the amount being provided by the Government of Meghalaya for those projects, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) There are no ongoing foreign aided State or Multilate projects in Meghalaya.

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

[Translation]

External Financial Assistance to States

3780. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the norms followed by the Union Government to pass on the financial assistance provided by the international agencies to States;

(b) whether the Union Government have taken a decision to pass on such assistance to States on the same conditions on which the international financial institutions have provided; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) External assistance received on account of projects being implemented by State Governments is passed on entirely to the concerned States in the form of Additional Central Assistance (ACA). The terms of ACA are the same as compared to normal central assistance for State Plans.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Plan to Develop Bhubaneswar Airport

3781. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to develop Bhubaneswar Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any land has been acquired for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). Airports Authority of India is undertaking following works relating to construction of new Terminal Building, Installation of Instrument Landing System and Distance Measuring Equipment. Besides, there is a proposal to extend the present runway length to 9000 feet.

(c) and (d). The State Government has acquired approximately 70 acres of land and handed it over to Airports Authority of India.

Sick Tea Gardens of Assam

3782. SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are several sick and weak tea gardens in Assam, particularly in Southern Assam of which some have already been abandoned;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the tea-labourers of such sick and weak gardens are at present in miserable plight; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to revitalise such tea gardens?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). As per the survey conducted by the Tea Board in 1989, following is the finding with regard to sick and weak tea gardens in Assam :

Tea Area	No. of weak Tea Gardens	No. of closed Tea Gardens
Jorhat	9	2
Tezpur	5	1
Barrack Valley	29	1
Guwahati	4	1
Total	47	5

(c) and (d). The problems faced by sick and weak tea gardens have been quite complex ranging from managerial/financial mismanagement to protracted litigation. Tea Board has already undertaken an exercise to identify such weak and sick tea gardens to find out reasons for their sickness. Discussions have been held by the Tea Board with representatives of commercial banks and the concerned tea gardens to find out ways and means for revival of these gardens by evolving a comprehensive rehabilitation package. Tea Research Association has also been requested to admit the weak gardens under its membership at subsidised subscription rate and to provide technical knowhow for their betterment.

Women's Sewa Bank

3783. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether women's 'Sewa Bank' has been playing a catalytic role in organising cooperatives for poor women workers in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details of the performance of this Bank in the State during the last one year;

(c) whether the Government propose to open such more banks in other States particularly in Uttar Pradesh;

(d) if so, the time-frame fixed in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (e). Information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

Modernisation of Airports

3784. SHRI RAM PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether any foreign country has sent proposals for collaboration with India in modernising and constructing of airport projects in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). No specific proposal has been received by the Government from any foreign country.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Textile Industry

3785. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI :
DR. SUDHIR GIRI :
DR. K.D. JESWANI :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the production of textiles in the country during the last three years, sector-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to improve the quality and quantity of the textiles to make it more competitive in the international market?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) The production of textile cloth in the country during the last three years, sector-wise is as under :

(in million square meters)

Sector	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95 (Provisional)
Mill	2000	1990	1875
Powerloom	17826	19631	5750
Handloom	5219	5851	20100
	<u>25045</u>	<u>27472</u>	<u>27725</u>
Khadi, wool and silk	430	430	430
Total	25475	27902	28155

(b) The Government keeps a close watch on the development of textile industry. Various steps are taken from time to time to improve the quality and quantity of the textile products and to make it competitive in the international market such as liberalised licensing policy, thrust on Research and Development through various Textile Research Associations, setting up of a computer aided design centres, closely monitoring the availability of raw materials, providing training facilities through institutes like National Institute of Fashion Technology etc.

[English]

Repeal of Tea (Marketing) Control Order, 1975

3786. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUÉ : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the tea producers associations have been advocating repeal of the Tea (Marketing) Control Order of 1975;

(b) whether this move is opposed by the tea traders;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. Representatives of the tea producers have been advocating repeal of the provisions of the Tea (Marketing) Control Order, 1984 which provide for compulsory sale of 75% of the produce through auction.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. Tea traders have contended that this order needs to be continued as the auction system is the most transparent mechanism for disposal of tea and the prices at auctions are determined on the basis of demand and supply as well as quality factors. According to Traders Association, the order has the necessary flexibility for allowing legitimate exemptions in respect of certain categories of producers in order to boost exports and brand promotion.

(d) Government has initiated discussion with the representatives of both groups in this regard.

[Translation]

Opening of New Branches of Banks

3787. DR. GUNVANT RAMBHAU SARODE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rules pertaining to opening of new branches of public sector banks have been amended recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of branches opened by various banks during the last two years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The State-wise number of branches opened by various banks during the year 1993 and 1994 is given in the Statement attached.

STATEMENT

No. of Branches Opened by Public Sector Banks
During 1993 and 1994 State-wise

State		1993	1994
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	69	32
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-
3.	Assam	4	2
4.	Bihar	23	9

1	2	3	4
5.	Goa	5	3
6.	Gujarat	41	19
7.	Haryana	30	12
8.	Himachal Pradesh	13	3
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	2
10.	Karnataka	31	15
11.	Kerala	54	17
12.	Madhya Pradesh	33	8
13.	Maharashtra	60	27
14.	Manipur	-	1
15.	Meghalaya	6	-
16.	Mizoram	1	-
17.	Nagaland	1	-
18.	Orissa	24	3
19.	Punjab	45	16
20.	Rajasthan	46	12
21.	Sikkim	7	2
22.	Tamil Nadu	47	23
23.	Tripura	2	-
24.	Uttar Pradesh	61	16
25.	West Bengal	28	8
26.	Andaman and Nicobar	4	-
27.	Chandigarh	5	2
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	-
29.	Daman and Diu	-	-
30.	Delhi	13	11
31.	Lakshadweep	-	-
32.	Pondicherry	1	-
Total		654	243

[English]

Sericulture Training Institutes

3788. SHRI HARIBHAI PATEL :
DR. K.D. JESWANI :
SHRI N.J. RATHVA :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of silk produced in Gujarat during 1994-95;

(b) the names and locations of Sericulture Training Institutes of C.S.B. functioning in the State;

(c) whether the Government have reviewed the working of those institutes;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the details of the work being done/proposed to be undertaken in the State under National Sericulture Project?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) The quantity of raw silk produced in Gujarat during 1994-95 was 250 kgs. (prov.).

(b) One Sericulture Training School of CSB is presently functioning in the State at Surat.

(c) and (d). The performance of the CSB is periodically reviewed by the Government. The CSB also reviews the performance of its individual units including said Training School in Gujarat, for their proper functioning.

(e) The Notional Sericulture Project is being implemented by the Central Silk Board in Surat and Valsad districts of Gujarat at a total cost of Rs. 401.73 lakhs.

The achievements under NSP from 1989-90 to 1994-95 as also the Action Plan for 1995-96 are as follows :

S. No.	Component	Achievement (1989-90) to 1994-95)	Target for 1995-96
1.	Cumulative Mulberry Plantation (Acres)	1087.65	350.00
2.	Beneficiaries Covered (Nos.)	997	300
3.	Mulberry Saplings Distributed (Lakh Nos.)	95.20	17.50
4.	Farmers Trained (Persons)	483	175
5.	Cocoons Produced (M.T.)	19.97	1.20
6.	Technical Service Centre Established (Nos.)	5	—
7.	Demonstration-cum-Training Centre Established (Nos.)	1	—
8.	Cocoon Drying Chamber (No.)	1	—
9.	Sericulture Training School (No.)	1	—
10.	Total Expenditure (Rs. Lakh)	152.64	22.50
		(Upto Dec. 94)	

Private Airlines

3789. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of private airlines operating in the country both for passengers and cargo; and

(b) the broad details of the terms and conditions of contract with these companies?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) At present six private scheduled airlines are operating in the country. They are free to carry passengers as well as cargo.

(b) In addition to the provisions of the Aircraft Act, 1934 and the Aircraft Rules framed thereunder, the scheduled domestic operators are required to meet the

civil aviation requirements promulgated on 1.3.94 relating to minimum operational requirements and the guidelines issued on 1.3.94 relating to category-wise deployment of their flights.

Push Button Tourism Kiosk

3790. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in the "Times of India" dated January 22, 1995 under caption 'Push button tourism Kiosk';

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Maharashtra is the first State to instal such a facility with innovative information system;

(d) whether the Union Government propose to start such systems in the National Capital, State Capitals as well as major cities and towns of the country of tourism interest;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). The Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation has installed a multi-media information terminal in the domestic airport at Bombay giving detailed information and graphics about Bombay city for the benefit of the tourists.

(c) to (f). Sixteen out of twenty one Government of India Tourist Offices located in different parts of the country are equipped with computerised tourist information systems since 1989. Information about tourist places and tourist facilities available throughout India are available through these computers in a textual form. Some of the States like Rajasthan have also started introducing such facilities.

Manufacture of Aircraft

3791. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have permitted to manufacture aircraft in private sector;

(b) if so, the modalities laid down therefor and the details of the organisations approved to manufacture aircraft; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure the quality control of aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The firms are approved for manufacture of aircraft by the Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) after

ensuring compliance with requirements of design and manufacturing processes. The companies manufacturing aircraft have to ensure necessary standards by following the requirements laid down in the Aircraft Rules and Civil Aviation Requirements. The following companies in the private sector are manufacturing civil aircraft : (i) M/s. Taneja Aerospace and Aviation (P) Ltd., Hosur (ii) M/s. Raj Hamse (P) Ltd., Mysore and (iii) M/s. Pinaki (P) Ltd., Hyderabad.

(c) Continuous monitoring of these firms is carried out by the representatives of DGCA.

Interim Relief to Government Employees

3792. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision about second instalment of interim relief to the Central Government employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). The Government have referred the matter to the Fifth Central Pay Commission. The Report of the Commission is awaited.

Terminal Building at Calcutta Airport

3793. SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for which space to private airlines have been provided more than Indian Airlines at new terminal building of Calcutta airport;

(b) the reasons for which the space in reserve lounge at arrival and departure area as well as police station is less as compared to earlier one;

(c) the reasons for which private transport is not allowed to move through airport area like other airports such as Delhi airport; and

(d) the steps the Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (d). Private airlines have not been provided more space than Indian Airlines in the new Domestic Terminal Building at Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport, Calcutta.

The space in Reserved Lounges and Police Station is not less as compared to earlier ones.

Private city buses are not allowed in the Airport area as these would disturb the passengers. The buses are operating from the Jessore Road. The area for Bus

Stand on Jessore Road has been provided by Airports Authority of India in consultation with the city transport Authority.

[Translation]

List of Bank Defaulters

3794. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have since published any list of the defaulters against whom an amount of more than Rs. one crore is due and a list of law suits filed against them whose bank accounts of more than rupees one crore and being operated in the scheduled banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) to (c). Government has not published any such list. However, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has prepared a scheme to collect and disseminate information on defaulters of suit-filed accounts. As per the scheme, the banks and financial institutions are required to submit to RBI by the 15th April and October every year, the details of the borrowal accounts which have been classified as doubtful, loss making and suit-filed with outstanding (both funded and non-funded) aggregating Rupees One crore and above. The information collected by RBI in the first stage has been forwarded to banks and financial institutions for making use of the same while considering, on merit, the request for new or additional credit limits by the defaulting borrowers and also by proprietors/partners/directors etc. named in the list, either in their own names or in the names of other units with which they are associated.

[English]

Export Oriented Units/Free Trade Zones

3795. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have evaluated the performance of 100 per cent Export Oriented Units and Free Trade Zones during the last three years for assessing the total exports and profits earned, the targets achieved, zone-wise;

(b) if so, the quantity and value of items exported from these zones during each of the last three years and the operational/administrative drawbacks of the schemes; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). Growth of exports from Export Processing Zones (EPZs) and Export Oriented Units (EOUs) has generally maintained a positive trend. Export targets for EPZs as well as actual exports effected by the Zones and EOUs for the last three years are given below. No targets are fixed in the case of EOUs.

(Rs. in crore)

Year	EPZ Units		
	Export target	Export	Export by EOUs
1992-93	1330	1376.31	2170.14
1993-94	2050	1959.91	3086.05
1994-95	2500	2628.00 (P)	4200.00 (P)

Data regarding production and profits earned by the units are not being maintained by the Zones. There have been representations about the relatively inflexible operating environment imposed by the requirements of custom bonding and the liberalisation process having to some extent eroded the comparative advantage enjoyed by EOU/EPZ units. A Committee was set up to review the Policy and Procedures applicable to EOU/EPZ units and on the basis of its recommendations several steps have been taken to improve the performance of EOU/EPZ units. These include simplification of customs procedures, higher access to the local market, flexible value addition norms and broadening the area of activity to include trading, re-export after re-packing/ labelling, repairs, re-conditioning and re-engineering.

Employment to Ex-Servicemen in Banks

3796. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of military personnel who are not drawing pension and are employed in nationalised banks;

(b) whether the military service is considered for pension purpose to such employees; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and to the extent available, will be laid on the Table of the House.

Import of Blank Coins

3797. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have entered into an agreement with Italian Government Printing Office and Mint for the supply of stainless steel coin blank to India;

- (b) if so, the details of the agreement; and
 (c) the reasons for import of blank coins from Italy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). Government have placed an order on M/s. Institute Polygraphics Verres, Italy for supply of 3277.5 M.T. of Stainless Steel Coin Blanks for India Government Mints as per details given below :

Denomination	Quantity in M.T.
Re. 1	2085.5
50 paise	758
25 paise	2212
10 paise	222

(c) The requirement of coin blanks is met by the Government through various sources, which include their own production of coin blanks by India Government Mints as well as procurement from external sources like supplies by Salem Steel Plant, import from foreign suppliers.

Black Money

3798. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of black money recovery during the year 1994-95; and
 (b) the steps being taken by the Government to unearth such money in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Recovery of black money during the year 1994-95 cannot be quantified since such details are not maintained. However, unaccounted assets in the form of cash, jewellery and others are seized during the search and seizure operations carried out by the Department. During the year 1994-95, total value of assets seized amounted to Rs. 381.43 crores.

(b) Combating tax evasion and unearthing black money are continuous processes inherent in any economy. The Government has been taking necessary legislative, fiscal and administrative measures, as deemed appropriate, from time to time to unearth black money. Rate of taxation has been progressively reduced and slabs of income have been progressively rationalised. At the same time the Income Tax Act, 1961 contains a number of provisions aimed at unearthing black money. These include, *inter-alia*, provisions regarding compulsory maintenance and audit of accounts in appropriate cases u/s 44AA and 44AB, restrictions on cash transactions u/s 40A (3), 269SS and 269(T), pre-emptive purchase of properties under chapter XXC and provisions regarding penalties and prosecutions for punishing tax defaulters. The Act also contains

provisions regarding summons, surveys, searches and other investigations to unearth black money. These provisions are resorted to in appropriate cases. Recently, amendments have been proposed in the Income Tax Act by the Finance Bill, 1995 to further strengthen the machinery for unearthing black money.

Decline in Coffee Demand

3799. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are aware that the consumption of coffee in Southern parts of the country is declining;
 (b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor;
 (c) whether the Government have received any representation from the United Planters Association for mixing of the chicory with coffee;
 (d) if so, the details thereof; and
 (e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir. There is no information to indicate that the consumption of coffee in Southern parts of the country is declining.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d). United Planters Association have requested the Ministry to evolve ways and means to curb/regulate the mixing of Chicory with coffee so as to promote consumption of pure Coffee.

(e) Mixing of Chicory in Coffee is regulated as per the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, which permits upto 49% of Chicory in blended Coffee. However, the Coffee Board promotes the consumption of pure Coffee only.

[Translation]

Free Traveling Facility in IA and AI

3800. SHRI KUNJEE LAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government provide free travelling facility in Indian Airlines/Air India;
 (b) if so, the criteria adopted in this regard; and
 (c) the number of such free travel passes provided during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). Free passages for medical treatment abroad, on the recommendations of the Director General of Health Services are issued by the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism under his discretionary powers, in deserving cases. Free passages are also issued by M(CA and T),

in other deserving cases under his discretionary powers. Further, the Department of Tourism operates a quota of free passages for tourism promotion purposes, which are also issued under the orders of M(CA and T).

(c) The number of free passages, issued under the above mentioned criteria are indicated below :

Year	Free passess issued by M(CA&T) including those for treatment abroad	Free passes placed* at the disposal of Department of Tourism
1991-92	124 (on Air India)	* 850 (on Air India) * 675 (on Indian Airlines)
1992-93	173 (on Air India)	* 970 (on Air India) * 675 (on Indian Airlines)
1994-95	250 (on Air India)	* 1000 (on Air India) * 800 (on Indian Airlines)

* actual utilisation figures are not available.

Action Plan to Promote Tourism in U.P.

3801. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of action plans included in the Eighth Five Year Plan to promote the tourism in Uttar Pradesh and fund allocated in this regard; and

(b) the details of the facilities likely to be provided at the places selected for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) On the basis of complete proposals received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh the Central Department of Tourism sanctioned 29 projects/schemes at a cost of Rs. 398.00 lakhs during the first three years of Eighth Five Year Plan.

(b) Tourist facilities provided and proposed to be provided at places indentified by the State Government include construction of Yatri Niwases Tourist Lodges, Tourist Complexes, Wayside Amenities, Tentd Colonies, Moditation Centre, Reception Centres and Public Conveniences.

[English]

Payment of Wages

3802. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that mine workers employed in the

sandstone and marble mines of Rajasthan are paid wages according to the caste to which they belong by the private owners of these mines;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any steps to put an end to this practice; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, there is no provision for Payment of Wages on caste basis. The Central Government as the appropriate Government in respect of the scheduled employments in Stone mines and Marble mines has not received any information regarding payment of wages on caste basis in the Stone and Marble mines in Rajasthan and no such complaint has come to Government's notice in the course of inspections.

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

Illegal Imports

3803. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to lack of coordination between the Customs officials and Directorate of Revenue Intelligence the illegal imports have increased; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to prevent illegal imports in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). Close coordination is being maintained amongst all agencies of the Government including Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and field Customs formations to prevent and detect smuggling of goods into the country. Field formations and intelligence agencies are alert to detect and prevent illegal imports into the country.

R.R.B.s in Gujarat

3804. SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the locations of Regional Rural Banks in Gujarat;

(b) the extent upto which these banks have achieved the target during the last two years, year-wise;

(c) whether some of the banks are facing acute financial crisis;

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

(e) the measures taken for improving the efficiency of these banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) There are nine Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) operating in the State of Gujarat with their headquarters

located at Bhuj, Jamnagar, Patan, Godhra, Surendranagar, Valsad, Bharuch, Himatnagar and Junagarh.

(b) The achievements made by RRBs in Gujarat under the Annual Credit Plan during the years 1992-93 and 1993-94 are given in Statement enclosed.

(c) and (d). As all the RRBs of the State are incurring losses, their financial position is not satisfactory. The reasons for incurring losses by RRBs are attributable to several factors like restriction on the choice of clientele, limited area of operation, low interest margins, mounting establishment costs particularly after implementation of the award of the National Industrial Tribunal etc.

(e) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) have

taken measures to strengthen the RRBs and a package of measures were announced in December, 1993. 49 RRBs out of total of 196 RRBs in the country have been identified for comprehensive restructuring during 1994-95. Experience with these 49 RRBs will guide the approach in later years to other RRBs. The objective is to transform the presently weak and ailing RRBs into financially viable and effective instruments of decentralised rural banker. Further RBI has allowed in January, 1995, RRBs to make investment of their non-SLR surplus funds in specified profitable avenues including the credit portfolio of their sponsor banks through non-risk sharing participation certificates to be issued by the latter.

The 49 RRBs taken up for comprehensive restructuring in the country include two RRBs from Gujarat.

STATEMENT

Targets and Achievements made by RRBs in Gujarat During the Years 1992-93 and 1993-94 under their Annual Credit Plan

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of Regional Rural Bank	1992-93			1993-94		
		Target	Achievement	Extent of Achievement	Target	Achievement	Extent of Achievement
1.	Kutch Gramin Bank	225.00	228.00	101.3	288.00	260.00	90.3
2.	Jamnagar Gramin Bank	654.75	727.22	111.1	978.00	932.00	95.3
3.	Banaskantha Mehsana Gramin Bank	528.15	449.61	85.1	492.17	502.09	102.0
4.	Panchmahal Vadodra Gramin Bank	482.65	430.67	89.2	483.47	815.22	168.6
5.	Surendranagar Bhavnagar Gramin Bank	241.43	206.36	85.5	282.00	342.00	121.3
6.	Valsad Dangs Gramin Bank	314.19	304.11	96.8	N.A.	N.A.	—
7.	Surat Bharuch Gramin Bank	351.93	310.17	88.1	N.A.	N.A.	—
8.	Sabrkantha Gandhinagar Gramin Bank	165.66	165.59	99.9	160.46	229.79	143.2
9.	Junagarh Amreli Gramin Bank	314.38	280.70	89.3	319.07	378.29	118.6

[Translation]

I.T.D.C. Hotels

3805. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the details of hotels of India Tourism Development Corporation running into losses during each of the last three years hotel-wise;

(b) the reasons for losses; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation and bring the loss running hotels into profit making units?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The requisite information is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) The loss incurring situation of certain hotels is attributed mainly to natural calamities and certain adverse tourism scenario affecting the hotels in the tourist circuits.

(c) The steps taken/being taken by ITDC to improve the performance of hotels include; aggressive marketing efforts, introduction of special tariff/packages, upgradation/improvement/restructuring of hotel properties, monitoring and control of operating costs, development of human resource by imparting suitable training etc.

STATEMENT*Name of the Hotels Which Have Incurred Losses During the Years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 (Provisional)*

S.No.	Name of the Unit	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95 (Provisional)
				(Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Airport Ashok, Calcutta	16.18	61.38	45.42
2.	Hotel Jammu Ashok, Jammu	23.24	13.16	22.23
3.	Kalinga Ashok, Bhubaneswar	42.59	37.76	31.41
4.	Pataliputra Ashok, Patna	32.65	8.94	25.00
5.	Ranjit Hotel, New Delhi	115.95	72.07	66.34
6.	Hotel Manali Ashok, Manali	24.30	4.00	-
7.	Hotel Samrat, New Delhi	98.80	21.92	-
8.	Temple Bay Ashok Beach Resort, Mamallapuram	12.89	10.84	-
9.	Khajuraho Ashok, Khajuraho	-	3.53	23.10
10.	Madurai Ashok, Madurai	-	2.68	-
11.	Varanasi Ashok, Varanasi	14.81	14.80	42.09
12.	Ashok Hotel, New Delhi	11.33	-	-
13.	Janpath Hotel, New Delhi	31.92	-	-
14.	Qutab Hotel, New Delhi	2.65	-	-
15.	Lodhi Hotel, New Delhi	21.33	-	-
16.	Hotel Ashok, Bangalore	-	0.46	-
17.	Hotel Agra Ashok, Agra	6.58	-	39.46
18.	Ashok Yatri Niwas, New Delhi	60.87	87.40	-
19.	Aurangabad Ashok, Aurangabad	-	12.06	17.87
20.	Hotel Jaipur Ashok	-	-	7.09
	Total	516.09	351.00	320.11
	No. of units in loss	15	14	10

Loan Distribution by Nationalised Banks

3806. DR. SAKSHIJI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed for loan distribution to priority sector by nationalised banks in Uttar Pradesh during 1993-94, 1994-95, separately;

(b) whether the above target has been achieved;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):
(a) As per the guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, the overall stipulation of priority sector lending is 40 per cent of net bank credit.

(b) to (d). State Bank of India, the convener bank for U.P. has reported that the above stipulation was achieved by all nationalised banks in Uttar Pradesh in 1993-94. The details of priority lending in U.P. by nationalised banks are indicated below :

	(Rs. in crores)	
	As on 31.3.94	As on 31.12.94 (latest available)
Total lending by Nationalised Banks	10494.25	10333.41
Total priority sector advances	5668.24	5916.70
Percentage of priority sector advances to total advances	54.0	57.26

[English]

Tariff Reduction and Export Growth

3807. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of tariffs reduced in the year 1994-95 on the imports to facilitate the accumulation of capital goods;

(b) the volume of export growth in terms of Indian currency in the same year;

(c) the total volume of export credits sanctioned by the financial institutions in 1994-95; and

(d) the total volume of market development assistance given to the business units in the same year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Prior to budget presented on 15th March, 1995 most capital goods attracted 25% customs duty. In this budget, the customs duty on certain other capital goods including generating sets and weighing machinery was reduced to 25%. Similarly, for machine tools, the rate of customs duty was reduced from 35%/45% to 25%. Also the customs duty on testing, quality control, other instruments and their parts was reduced from 60/40% to 25%. The duty on components of capital goods which contain electronic parts and components interchangeable with motor vehicle parts, has also been reduced to 25%.

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

(d) Rs. 659 crores.

[Translation]

Telegraphic Transfer and Demand Drafts of Nationalised Banks

3808. SHRI RATILAL VARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of charges for telegraphic transfer and demand drafts at various nationalised banks in the country, bank-wise; and

(b) the extent of increase made therein by nationalised banks recently and the reasons for different charges by different banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). Indian Banks' Association (IBA) had circulated to all its member banks on 16th September, 1994, Benchmark schedule of service charges, based on which the individual banks have revised their own service charges for various services including Telegraphic transfer and Demand Drafts. Bank-wise details of service charges for Demand Drafts are given in the Statement enclosed. In so far as Telegraphic transfer is concerned, apart from remittance charges actual postages/telegrams/telegraphic charges are recovered.

By and large the service charges fixed by Nationalised banks are in conformity with the benchmark schedule of service charges prescribed by IBA.

STATEMENT*Bank-wise Details of Service Charges for Demand Drafts*

1	2	3
1.	UNITED BANK OF INDIA	
	Amount of the Instrument	Charges
	Upto Rs. 500/-	Rs. 5/-
	Above Rs. 500/- upto Rs. 1000/-	Rs. 10/-
	Above Rs. 1000/- upto Rs. 5000/-	Rs. 15/-
	Above Rs. 5000/- upto Rs. 10000/-	Rs. 20/-
	Above Rs. 10000/- upto Rs. 1,00,000/-	Rs. 2/- per thousand or part there of minimum Rs. 20/-
	Above Rs. 1,00,000/- upto Rs. 10,00,000/-	Rs. 1.50 per thousand or part thereof minimum Rs. 200/-
	Above Rs. 10,00,000/-	Rs. 1.00 per thousand or part thereof minimum Rs. 1500/-
	Telegraphic transfer - Same + Telegraph charges	
2.	CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA	
	Amount of the Instrument	Charges
	Upto Rs. 500/-	Rs. 5/-
	Above Rs. 500/- upto Rs. 1000/-	Rs. 10/-

1	2	3
	Above Rs. 1000/- upto Rs. 5000/-	Rs. 15/-
	Above Rs 5000/- upto Rs. 10000/-	Rs. 20/-
	Above Rs. 10000/- upto Rs. 1 Lakh	Rs. 2/- per Rs. 1000/- or part thereof
	Above Rs. 1 Lakh upto Rs. 10 Lakhs	Rs. 1.50 per Rs. 1000 or part thereof with minimum Rs. 200.
	Above Rs. 10 Lakhs	Rs. 1 per Rs. 1000 or part thereof with minimum Rs. 1500 and maximum Rs. 5000
3.	CORPORATION BANK	
	Amount of the Instrument	Charges
	Upto Rs. 500/-	Rs. 5/-
	Above Rs. 500/- upto Rs. 1000/-	Rs. 10/-
	Above Rs. 1000/- upto Rs. 5000/-	Rs. 15/-
	Above Rs 5000/- upto Rs. 10000/-	Rs. 20/-
	Above Rs. 10000/- upto Rs. 1 Lakh	Rs. 2/- per 1000/- or part thereof
	Above Rs. 1 Lakh upto Rs. 10 Lakhs	Rs. 1.50 per Rs. 1000 or part thereof (Min. Rs. 200)
	Above Rs. 10 Lakhs	Rs. 1500 plus 25% of the charges levied under the slab of Rs. 1 lakh to Rs.10 lakhs (i.e. 25% of Rs. 1.50 per Rs 1000 or part thereof) subject to a maximum charge applicable to Rs. 50 lakhs i.e. Rs.3000/-)
4.	INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK	
	Amount of the Instrument	Charges
	Upto and inclusive of Rs. 500/-	Rs. 5/-
	Above Rs. 500/- upto Rs. 1000/-	Rs. 10/-
	Above Rs. 1000/- upto Rs. 5000/-	Rs. 15/-
	Above Rs 5000/- upto Rs. 10000/-	Rs. 20/-
	Above Rs. 10000/- upto Rs. 1 Lakh	Rs. 2/- per Rs. 1000/- and part thereof
	Above Rs. 1 Lakh upto Rs. 10 Lakhs	Rs. 1.50 per Rs. 1000 (Min. Rs. 200)
	Above Rs. 10 Lakhs	Flat Rs. 2500/-
5.	UNION BANK OF INDIA	
	Amount of the Instrument	Charges
	Upto Rs. 500/-	Rs. 5/-
	Above Rs. 500/- upto Rs. 1000/-	Rs. 10/-
	Above Rs. 1000/- upto Rs. 5000/-	Rs. 15/-
	Above Rs 5000/- upto Rs. 10000/-	Rs. 20/-
	Above Rs. 10000/- upto Rs. 1 Lakh	Rs. 2/- per thousand and/or part thereof
	Above Rs. 1 Lakh	Rs. 1.50 per Rs. 1000 or part thereof maximum Rs. 200/-
6.	BANK OF INDIA	
	Amount of the Instrument	Charges
	Upto Rs. 500/-	Rs. 5/-
	Above Rs. 500/- upto Rs. 1000/-	Rs. 10/-
	Above Rs. 1000/- upto Rs. 5000/-	Rs. 15/-
	Above Rs 5000/- upto Rs. 10000/-	Rs. 20/-
	Above Rs. 10000/- upto Rs. 1 Lakh	Rs. 2/- per 1000
	Above Rs. 1 Lakh upto Rs 10 Lakhs	Rs. 1.50 per Rs. 1000 (Min. Rs. 200)
	Above Rs. 10 Lakhs	Rs. 1 per Rs. 1000 Min. Rs. 1500 Max. Rs. 10000

1	2	3
7.	DENA BANK Amount of the Instrument Upto Rs. 500/- Above Rs. 500/- upto Rs. 1000/- Above Rs. 1000/- upto Rs. 5000/- Above Rs. 5000/- upto Rs. 10000/- Above Rs. 10000/- upto Rs. 1 Lakh Above Rs. 1 Lakh upto Rs. 10 Lakhs Above Rs. 10 Lakhs	Charges Rs. 5/- Rs. 10/- Rs. 15/- Rs. 20/- Rs. 2/- per Rs. 1000/- or part thereof Rs. 1.50 per Rs. 1000 (Min. Rs. 200) Rs. 1.25 per Rs.1000 Min. Rs. 1500
8.	PUNJAB AND SIND BANK Amount of the Instrument Upto Rs. 500/- Above Rs. 500/- upto Rs. 1000/- Above Rs. 1000/- upto Rs. 5000/- Above Rs. 5000/- upto Rs. 10000/- Above Rs. 10000/- upto Rs. 1 Lakh Above Rs. 1 Lakh	Charges Rs. 5/- Rs. 10/- Rs. 15/- Rs. 20/- Rs. 2/- per Rs. 1000/- or part thereof Rs. 1.50 per Rs. 1000 or part thereof with a minimum of Rs. 200 and a maximum of Rs. 3000
9.	PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK Amount of the Instrument Upto Rs. 500/- Above Rs. 500/- upto Rs. 1000/- Above Rs. 1000/- upto Rs. 5000/- Above Rs. 5000/- upto Rs. 10000/- Above Rs. 10000/- upto Rs. 1 Lakh Above Rs. 1 Lakh upto Rs. 10 Lakhs Above Rs. 10 Lakhs	Charges Rs. 5/- Rs. 10/- Rs. 15/- Rs. 20/- Rs. 2/- per Rs. 1000/- Rs. 1.50 per Rs. 1000 Min. Rs. 200 Rs. 1500/- Rs. 0.75 per thousand or part thereof above Rs. 10 lakhs
10.	SYNDICATE BANK Amount of the Instrument Upto Rs. 500/- Above Rs. 500/- upto Rs. 1000/- Above Rs. 1000/- upto Rs. 5000/- Above Rs. 5000/- upto Rs. 10000/- Above Rs. 10000/- upto Rs. 1 Lakh Above Rs. 1 Lakh	Charges Rs. 5/- Rs. 10/- Rs. 15/- Rs. 20/- Rs. 2/- per Rs. 1000/- or part thereof Rs. 1.50 per Rs. 1000/- or part thereof min. Rs. 200-Max. Rs. 3000/-
11.	ANDHRA BANK Amount of the Instrument Upto Rs. 500/- Above Rs. 500/- upto Rs. 1000/- Above Rs. 1000/- upto Rs. 5000/- Above Rs. 5000/- upto Rs. 10000/- Above Rs. 10000/- upto Rs. 1 Lakh Above Rs. 1 Lakh upto Rs. 10 Lakhs	Charges Rs. 5/- Rs. 10/- Rs. 15/- Rs. 20/- Rs. 2/- per 1000/- or part thereof Rs. 1.50 per Rs. 1000/- or part thereof Min. Rs. 200

1	2	3
12.	CANARA BANK	
	Amount of the Instrument	Charges
	Upto Rs. 500/-	Rs. 5/-
	Above Rs. 500/- upto Rs. 1000/-	Rs. 10/-
	Above Rs. 1000/- upto Rs. 5000/-	Rs. 15/-
	Above Rs. 5000/- upto Rs. 10000/-	Rs. 20/-
	Above Rs. 10000/- upto Rs. 1,00,000/-	Rs. 2/- per thousand or part thereof
	Above Rs. 1 lakh upto Rs. 10 Lakhs	Rs. 1.50 per Rs. 1000 or part thereof with a min. of Rs. 200/-
	Above Rs. 10 Lakhs	Flat of Rs. 1500/-
13.	VIJAYA BANK	
	Amount of the Instrument	Charges
	Upto Rs. 500/-	Rs. 5/-
	Above Rs. 500/- upto Rs. 1000/-	Rs. 10/-
	Above Rs. 1000/- upto Rs. 5000/-	Rs. 15/-
	Above Rs. 5000/- upto Rs. 10000/-	Rs. 20/-
	Above Rs. 10000/- upto Rs. 1 Lakh	Rs. 2/- per thousand or part thereof
	Above Rs. 1 lakh upto Rs. 10 Lakhs	Rs. 1.50 per Rs. 1000/- or part thereof with a min. Rs. 200/-
	Above Rs. 10 lakhs	Rs. 1500/- plus Rs. 1/- per Rs. 1000/- or part thereof for amount above Rs. 10 lakhs
14.	BANK OF MAHARASHTRA	
	Amount of the Instrument	Charges
	Upto Rs. 5000/-	1% amount of draft with a min. of Rs. 5/- and max. Rs. 15/- per remittance.
	Over Rs. 5000/- upto Rs. 10000/-	Rs. 20/- per remittance
	Over Rs. 10000/- upto Rs. 1 Lakh	Rs. 2 per Rs. 1000/- or part thereof
	Over Rs. 1 lakh upto Rs. 10 Lakhs	Rs. 1.50 per Rs. 1000/- or part thereof Min. Rs. 200/-
15.	UCO BANK	
	Amount of the Instrument	Charges
	Upto Rs. 500/-	Rs. 5/-
	Above Rs. 500/- upto Rs. 1000/-	Rs. 10/-
	Above Rs. 1000/- upto Rs. 5000/-	Rs. 15/-
	Above Rs. 5000/- upto Rs. 10000/-	Rs. 20/-
	Above Rs. 10000/- upto Rs. 1 Lakh	Rs. 2/- per Rs. 1000 or part thereof
	Above Rs. 1 lakh upto Rs. 10 Lakhs	Rs. 1.50 per Rs. 1000 or part thereof (Min. Rs. 200/-)
	Above Rs. 10 Lakhs	Rs. 1.25 per Rs. 1000 or part thereof (Min. Rs. 1500/-)
16.	ALLAHABAD BANK	
	Amount of the Instrument	Charges
	Upto Rs. 500/-	Rs. 5/-
	Above Rs. 500/- upto Rs. 1000/-	Rs. 10/-
	Above Rs. 1000/- upto Rs. 5000/-	Rs. 15/-
	Above Rs. 5000/- upto Rs. 10000/-	Rs. 20/-
	Above Rs. 10000/- upto Rs. 1 Lakh	Rs. 2/- per Rs. 1000/-

1	2	3
	Above Rs. 1 Lakh upto Rs. 10 lakhs	Rs. 1.50 per Rs. 1000/- min. Rs. 200/-
	Above Rs. 10 Lakhs	Rs. 1.50 per Rs. 1000/- min. Rs. 2000/-
17.	ORIENTAL BANK OF COMMERCE	
	Amount of the Instrument	Charges
	Upto Rs. 500/-	Rs. 5/-
	Above Rs. 500/- upto Rs. 1000/-	Rs. 10/-
	Above Rs. 1000/- upto Rs. 5000/-	Rs. 15/-
	Above Rs 5000/- upto Rs. 10000/-	Rs. 20/-
	Above Rs. 10000/- upto Rs. 1 lakh	Rs. 2/- per Rs. 1000/-
	Above Rs. 1 lakh upto Rs. 10 lakhs	Rs. 1.50 per Rs. 1000/- min. Rs. 200/-
	Above Rs. 10 lakhs	Rs. 1500/-
18.	INDIAN BANK	
	Amount of the Instrument	Charges
	Upto Rs. 500/-	Rs. 5/-
	Above Rs. 500/- upto Rs. 1000/-	Rs. 10/-
	Above Rs. 1000/- upto Rs. 5000/-	Rs. 15/-
	Above Rs 5000/- upto Rs. 10000/-	Rs. 20/-
	Above Rs. 10000/- upto Rs. 1 lakh	Rs. 2/- per Rs. 1000/- or part thereof
	Above Rs. 1 lakh upto Rs. 10 lakhs	Rs. 1.50 per Rs. 1000/- or part thereof With a min. Rs. 200/-
19.	BANK OF BARODA	
	Amount of the Instrument	Charges
	Upto Rs. 500/-	Rs. 5/-
	Above Rs. 500/- upto Rs. 1000/-	Rs. 10/-
	Above Rs. 1000/- upto Rs. 5000/-	Rs. 15/-
	Above Rs 5000/- upto Rs. 10000/-	Rs. 20/-
	Above Rs. 10000/- upto Rs. 1 lakh	Rs. 2/- per Rs. 1000/- or part thereof
	Above Rs. 1 lakh upto Rs. 10 lakhs	Rs. 1.50 per Rs. 1000/- or part thereof subject to a min. of Rs. 200/-
	Above Rs. 10 lakhs	Rs. 1.50 per Rs. 1000/- or part thereof subject to a max. Rs. 3000/-

Note : For customer in Rural branches the service charges are 20% below the normal rates.

[English]

Foreign Exchanges Reserves

3809. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the trends of India's Foreign exchange reserve during the last three months;

(b) whether the build up in reserves has occurred alongwith a marked improvement in the quality of these reserves;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the manner in which the Government have utilised these reserves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):
(a) Foreign exchange reserves (including gold and SDRs) during the last three months showed an increasing trend and are given below :

India's foreign exchange reserves
(US \$ million)

As at the end of	
January, 1995	23,790
February, 1995	23,951
March, 1995	25,186

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The build up in reserves has occurred alongwith the progressive liquidation of short-term and costlier debt, and greater emphasis on the

non-debt creating foreign exchange inflows such as Direct Foreign Investment and Portfolio Investment.

(d) The foreign exchange reserves have been deployed in various currencies/instruments abroad consistent with the norms of prudent reserves management.

[*Translation*]

Indore Airport

3810. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for declaring Indore airport as an international airport;

(b) if so, whether the decision has been taken in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No. Sir.

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

[*English*]

Credit Facility to Cooperative Banks and RRBS by NABARD

3811. SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether NABARD have chalked out a plan to provide credit to cooperative banks and Regional Rural Banks for meeting credit needs of Scheduled Tribes in 100 predominantly tribal districts in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. In order to give sharper focus to the problem of credit flow to tribals in 114 districts spread over 12 States, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has decided to sanction a separate short term credit limit for financing seasonal agricultural operations to District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs) and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) from the current year, 1995-96. It has earmarked Rs. 400 crores for the purpose.

Duty Concession to Pharmaceutical Products

3812. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the pharmaceutical industry and pharmaceutical preparations, which are directly

concerned with the health of the people of the country have been left over from concessions and rationalisation of duty especially excise duty;

(b) if so, the reasons and justification thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received representation in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). The customs and excise duty structure and rate on drugs and formulations has been prescribed taking into account all relevant considerations.

General effective rate of excise duty on bulk drugs and formulations continue to be at 10% and 15% respectively, Specified bulk drugs and formulations used in National Health Programme, drugs sold under generic name and certain specified drugs are fully exempted from excise duty. Concessional rate of excise duty of 10% is also available for certain specified drugs. As regards customs duty, specified life saving drugs and raw materials used for the manufacture of such drugs are fully exempted from customs duty. Concessional rate of duty for certain specified drugs and raw materials for such drugs are also available.

(c) and (d). The Government have received representations from the Drug industry which *inter-alia* seek to,

(i) raise the excise duty on bulk drugs from 10% to 15% to avoid overflow of motivate credit;

(ii) prescribe a nominal excise duty on drugs which are fully exempted from excise duty;

(iii) prescribe concessional rate of customs duty on specified raw materials and drug intermediates.

(e) All these requests were considered as part of the prebudget review. No change was made in the general structure of excise duty. Scheme of concessional rate of customs duty on raw materials for manufacture of drugs also continues with certain changes.

3813. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have formulated any uniform scheme for promotion of tourism in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether places in Gujarat have also been brought under the purview of such scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department of Tourism, Government of India has schemes for assisting all States and Union Territories in the development of tourism infrastructure, development of adventure sports, promotion and publicity efforts and development of manpower resources. On receipt of specific and complete proposals from the State Governments, depending on the merits of each case and funds available, projects are sanctioned by the Department of Tourism, Government of India.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). The amounts sanctioned for Gujarat for various schemes like development of tourism infrastructure, marketing and publicity, development of adventure sports etc. are placed below :

Year	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1991-92	141.58
1992-93	20.90
1993-94	65.76
1994-95	21.19

U.S. Special 301 Against India

3814. SHRI RAMCHANDRA MAROTRAO GHANGARE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Business Software Alliance (BSA) has urged the Clinton Administration to invoke punitive provision of the U.S. trade law provision Special 301 against India for an annual loss of \$ 44 million to American Intellectual Property;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). The International Intellectual property Alliance (IIPA), which consists of eight copyright industry associations in the US including the Business Software Alliance, has in its Special 301 petition for 1995 to the United States Trade Representative (USTR), recommended continuance of India in the priority Watch List. The priority Watch List is not a classification created by US law, but an administrative practice. No legally compelling consequences for the US administration flow from the Watch List.

Government has conveyed to the U.S. Administration that there should not be any unilateral judgement or action on trade matters within the purview of the WTO

and that such matters should be resolved multilaterally because unilateral trade measures would be inconsistent with the obligations of the U.S. under the Uruguay Round Agreement.

Diverted Aircraft

3815. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the facilities like accommodation, food, transport and communication are provided to the passengers at diverted airport in case of diversion of aircraft to another airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of times such diversion took place from December, 1994 to February, 1995 and the details of facilities provided to the passengers of diverted aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). Air India and Indian Airlines provide facilities like accommodation, food, transport and telephone etc. to their passengers in case of diversion of flights, depending upon the facilities available at the diverted airport and extent of ground halt.

During the period from December, 1994 to February, 1995, 19 flights of IA and 4 flights of AI were diverted and the passengers of these diverted flights were extended all possible facilities like meals, layover at the Airlines cost and reimbursement of transport charges.

Use of Bagdogra Airport

3816. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has to pay some amount to the Ministry of Defence for using Bagdogra Airport; and

(b) if so, the amount being paid every year and the terms and conditions of the same?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Government Austerity at A.I.'s Cost

3817. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Government austerity at A.I.'s Cost" appearing in The Sunday Times dated the March 26, 1995;

(b) whether the points raised in the news-item has since been investigated; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to stop practice of upgrading the VIPs holding business J class tickets while travelling on Air India flights, particularly in the busy sectors like Delhi-London/Delhi-New York and host of others?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). 'Upgradation' is a common airline practice; the facility is provided to commercial contacts/VIPs/airline and Government officials. By upgrading, the airlines is also able to ensure optimal utilisation of available capacity by offering vacated seats to waitlisted passengers. A general ban on upgrading is therefore, not desirable.

Value of Rupee

3818. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1792 on March 24, 1995 and state :

(a) the value of the Indian rupee in terms of major European currencies during March 1993, 1994 and 1995; and

(b) whether the rupee is fully convertible on trade account against all these currencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The monthly average value of the Indian Rupee in terms of the major European currencies during March 1993, 1994 and 1995 is given in the Table below :

*Rupee Per Unit of Foreign Currencies
(Monthly Average Rates)*

Currency	March 1993	March 1994	March 1995
Pound Sterling	45.9520	46.7971	50.6595
Deutsche Mark	19.1156	18.5319	22.4961
Netherlands Guilder	17.0428	16.5047	20.0928
Swiss Franc	20.7457	21.9351	27.0426
French Franc	5.6395	5.4419	6.3623
Swedish Kroner	4.0712	3.9687	4.3587

(b) Yes, Sir.

Mulberry Cultivation

3819. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kerala have requested the Union Government for providing financial assistance for large scale mulberry cultivation in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) No. Sir.

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

Income Tax Scheme for Shopkeepers and Traders

3820. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of progress made under the "Estimated lump-sum Income Tax Scheme" for the small shopkeepers and traders;

(b) the State-wise targets fixed by the Government in this regard and the actual collection made under this scheme;

(c) the total number of people who have shown their interest in this scheme so far;

(d) whether the Government propose to reconsider this scheme;

(e) if not, the steps being taken by the Government to make this scheme more attractive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). The desired information is given below :

(i) Number of cases under Presumptive Tax Scheme during 1994-95 - 324584

(ii) Collection under Presumptive Tax Scheme during 1994-95 - 45.67 Crores
(These figures are Provisional)

Since the collections under this Scheme are part of the total collection under Income Tax, no separate target has been fixed under this Scheme.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Publicity campaign has been launched through the electronic and print media all over the country giving publicity to the Presumptive Tax Scheme under section 115K of the Income Tax Act to make people more aware of this Scheme and to explain to them how this scheme will benefit small businessmen.

[Translation]

Seizure of Poppy Powder

3821. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the places in Gujarat from where Narcotics Department has seized poppy powder as per the position of March, 1995 and the value thereof;

(b) whether the Government propose to give licence for the trading of poppy powder to 'NAFED'; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). In terms of Section 10 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic substances Act, 1985, the State Government have the power to make rules to permit and regulate the possession, transport, import inter-state, export inter-State, warehousing, sale, purchase, consumption and use of poppy straw (commonly known as poppy husk/powder). No statistics regarding seizure of poppy powder is maintained in this Ministry. The Central Government has no control over issuing of licences for trading of poppy powder.

Pending Tourism Projects

3822. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tourism projects submitted by the Government of Gujarat during the last three years are still pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to accord early clearance to the pending projects?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). All the tourism project proposals, received from the State Government of Gujarat during the last three years, which were found complete in all respects, have been sanctioned.

[English]

W.T.O. Treaty

3823. SHRI DATTARAYA BANDARU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the details of those countries which have not signed the WTO Treaty and with whom India is having trade ties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Eighty four countries have signed the WTO Agreement so far and accession proceedings in respect of another 25 are in progress. As per information available there are 119 countries which have not yet signed the WTO Agreement. India's trade with some of these countries is significant but with most of the countries (many of whom are small), India does not have any significant volume of trade. The 119 countries are :

Canary Islands, Cape Verde Islands, Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, Liberia, Reunion, Sao Thomo and Principe, Seychelles, Somalia, St. Helena of Ascension, Libya, Sudan, Greenland, St. Pierrea and Miquelon, Bahamas, Montserrat, American

Samoa, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Panama Canal Zone, Puerto Rico, Turks and Caicos Islands, Virgin Islands of U.S., Afghanistan, Bhutan, Christmas Island, Cook Islands, Iran, Kiribati Republic, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Republic of Nauru, Nepal, Papua and New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vietnam, Western Samoa, Iraq, Lebanon, Oman, Syria, Yemen Arab Republic, Yamen People's Democratic Republic, Cocos Islands, French Guiana, French Polynesia, Guam, New Caledonea, New Hebrides, Niua Island, Norfolk Island, Pacific Islands, Pitcairn Islands, Portuguese Timor, Tokelau Islands, Wallis and Futuna Islands, Republic of Vanuatu, Faeroe Island, Andorra, Channel Islands and Gibraltar. Angola, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burudni, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Cyprus, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Guatemala, Guinea Bissau, Haiti, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Niger, Poland, Slovenia, Togo, Zaire, Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Belarus, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Croatia, Ecuador, Estonia, Jordan, Latvia, Lithuania, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macodonia, Moldova, Panama, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Chinese Taipei, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

Merger of Private Banks

3824. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to merge any of the private banks with any of the nationalised banks this year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) At present there is no proposal to merge any private bank with any of the nationalised banks.

(b) Does not arise.

Development of Civil Aviation in Maharashtra

3825. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have fixed any targets for development of infrastructural facilities for civil aviation in Maharashtra during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amounts earmarked for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). The Airports Authority of India have earmarked an amount of Rs. 420.15 crores in Eighth Five Year Plan for upgradation of Aurangabad, Nagpur, Pune and Bombay airports.

Export of Silk

3826. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Silk Export Promotion Council has submitted a memorandum to the Government urging *inter alia* for a long term plan to boost silk export;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto; and

(d) the other steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to boost the export of silk?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b). The main suggestions made by the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council (ISEPC) in February, 1995 for increasing exports of silk products by the end of this century, are as under :

(i) Need to undertake generic promotion advertisements abroad for Indian silk products.

(ii) Promoting use of eco-friendly dyes.

(iii) To increase All India Rate for Duty Drawback for silk garments.

(iv) Need to modernise industry by getting the latest machinery for manufacture/processing of silk fabrics.

(v) Need for undertaking an indepth study of the domestic markets for silk, growth potentials, market segments and the external markets.

(c) The Government have taken note of the suggestions made by the ISEPC. Under the EXIM Policy, facilities are available for import of machineries required for modernisation of units engaged in manufacture of exportable silk products. Further steps have already been initiated for promotion of eco-friendly dyes in the textile sector. Besides, the Central Silk Board has taken steps to constitute four regional advisory committees of exporters to finalise recommendations and terms of reference for undertaking indepth study of silk industry. In respect of other suggestions, concrete proposals are required to be submitted by the Council.

(d) Besides various facilities allowed under the EXIM Policy for import of raw material/capital goods for export production, the Government is providing assistance to the ISEPC for undertaking various export promotion activities such as participation in the Fairs abroad, sponsoring of Sales-cum-Study Tours and Buyer-Seller Meets, publicity in foreign trade magazines, dissemination of overseas trade information among the exporters, etc.

Guidelines for Primary Dealers

3827. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has decided to lay down stringent guidelines for primary dealers in secondary market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the objectives to be achieved thereby, and

(d) the time by which the aforesaid guidelines are likely to be implemented and made effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The main objectives of the Primary Dealers System (PDS) in Government Securities are to:

(i) strengthen the infrastructure in order to encourage voluntary holding of Government securities amongst a wide investor base;

(ii) to develop underwriting and market making capabilities for issue of Government securities outside the Reserve Bank of India so that the latter could gradually shed these functions; and

(iii) to make the Primary Dealers System an effective conduit for conducting open market operations.

Subsidiaries of banks or financial institutions and companies predominantly doing business in Government Securities market and having net owned funds of minimum of Rs. 50 crore are eligible to apply for Primary Dealership.

(d) The Reserve Bank of India has already announced the guidelines on 29th March, 1995.

Involvement of Foreign Banks in Securities Scam

3828. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of action taken and proposed to be taken against foreign banks identified to have been involved in the securities scam;

(b) whether any penalty has been imposed on these banks; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it had issued show cause notices to 9 foreign banks for violation of RBI instructions on Portfolio Management

Scheme and/or on Ready Forward Transactions. The names of these banks and the amount of penalty imposed and paid by them are given below :

Name of the Bank	Amount of penalty Paid on (in rupees)	
1. Citi Bank	50,52,01,365	30.9.94
2. Standard Chartered Bank	36,16,55,199	26.10.94
3. Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	17,92,43,008	19.10.94
4. Bank of America	8,18,19,661	6.10.94
5. American Express Bank	3,34,18,379	3.10.94
6. ANZ Grindlays Bank	3,22,79,435	26.09.94
7. Banque Indosuez	2,15,33,425	30.09.94
8. Deutsche Bank	1,95,72,389	12.10.94 17.4.95
9. British Bank of the Middle East	2,18,627	17.09.94
123,49,41,488		

In addition to the imposition of penalty following action have also been taken :

- (1) RBI had withdrawn the exemption of 12 foreign banks, including the nine foreign banks mentioned above, from maintenance of 10 per cent incremental Cash Reserve Ratio with effect from the fortnight beginning 6th August, 1994. However, after review, exemption withdrawn has since been restored in the case of 3 foreign banks.
- (2) RBI has taken up with the respective home country supervisory authorities in respect of 11 foreign banks with a view to ascertain whether the irregular security transactions/practices in treasury/fiduciary operations conducted by the concerned banks in their Indian operations *per se* are permissible or otherwise under the relevant/comparable home country securities legislation/regulation.
- (3) RBI did not consider/kept in abeyance the application of the following foreign banks for the issue of licences for additional branches on account of their involvement in irregular securities transactions :
 1. ANZ Grindlays Bank
 2. Bank of America
 3. Citibank
 4. Standard Chartered Bank
 5. Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation
 6. British Bank of Middle East

(4) The following banks have not been permitted to remit their profits from 1992 onwards :

1. American Express Bank
2. Citibank
3. ANZ Grindlays Bank
4. Bank of America
5. ABN Amro Bank NV
6. Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation

Action has been taken by 8 foreign banks against 65 of their officials who were found accountable for irregularities in securities transactions.

International Convention Centre, Bangalore

3829. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is any proposal to construct an International Convention Centre in Bangalore City;
- (b) if so, whether global tender have been invited for this purpose;
- (c) the estimated cost of the proposed centre;
- (d) whether the land has been identified and acquired;
- (e) whether the State Government has agreed to bear the cost of the land and other expenditure;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) the time by which the construction work is likely to start; and
- (h) the capacity of the proposed Convention Centre?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Singapore based company, viz., Chesterfield International Pvt. Ltd. has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the State Government of Karnataka for the purpose.

(c) Rs. 400 crores.

(d) The above said company has identified some land in Bangalore South Taluk and sought the assistance of the Government of Karnataka in the procurement of this land.

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) After procurement of the land.

(h) The Convention Centre Complex will consist of a 5000 seat Convention Hall with modern convention facilities, a Five Star Deluxe Hotel, a 2,00,000 sq. ft. exhibition hall, an indoor entertainment complex, a showroom and shopping complex, offices and service apartments.

[Translation]

Closure of Mica Mines

3830. SHRI LALL BABU RAI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to take steps to rehabilitate labourers rendered unemployed as a result of the closure of mica mines in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):

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

[English]

Export of wheat to China

3831. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to export wheat to China due to alarming situations of food shortage in that country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the export price of wheat is less against the prevailing price in the international market as well as in the domestic markets;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the total quantity of wheat to be supplied to China during 1995?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The Government have released up to 2.5 million tonnes of non-duram wheat for export during 1995-96. No specific permission, or a decision on the part of the Government, is required for export within the ceiling to any destination including China.

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

Export of Tobacco

3832. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce measures to increase the productivity and improve the quality of tobacco;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that tobacco has great potential for increasing exports as well as for revenue and employment generation;

(d) whether the Government propose to boost the export of value-added tobacco products such as

cigarettes and other items which earn four to five times the value of leaf tobacco;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Measures taken to improve the quality and yield of Virginia tobacco, *inter-alia*, include;

(i) Subsidized supply of inputs such as coal, fertilizers, pesticides and suckercides;

(ii) Providing financial assistance for purchase of sprinkler irrigation sets;

(iii) Supply of improved varieties of seeds and seedlings;

(iv) Collection and analysis of samples in association with Central Tobacco Research Institute (CTRI) to monitor and control pesticide residues.

(v) Encouraging research through CTRI to evolve low tar and low nicotine varieties;

(vi) Discouraging tobacco cultivation in saline/low lying lands;

(vii) Identification of light soil areas suitable for FCV tobacco in Orissa and Andhra Pradesh.

(c) to (f). Having regard to the export potential and revenues/employment generated by this sector, some steps taken to boost the export of value-added tobacco products are promoting establishment of export oriented units for cigarettes and cut tobacco, encouraging foreign investment in the cigarette industry, involvement of Indian Institute of Packaging in developing improved packaging for products like bidis, hookah and tobacco paste, and conducting market surveys for promoting the export of Indian tobacco products.

Projects with Foreign Assistance

3833. SHRI HARIN PATHAK :
SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of projects which have been launched with foreign assistance in Gujarat;

(b) the nature of assistance being provided for these projects; and

(c) the progress of each of these projects and the time by which they are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (c). The details of projects are given in Statement.

(b) The entire external assistance is passed on to States as Additional Central Assistance (ACA). The terms of ACA are the same as those for Central Assistance for State Plans.

STATEMENT*Details of Foreign Assisted Projects in Gujarat*

S.No.	Name of the Project	Donor	Progress and Completion date of the project
1.	Gujarat Rural Road Project (Cr. No. 1757-IN)	World Bank	The Financial progress is 80%. The Physical progress is 76%. The completion date of the project is December, 1995
2.	Gujarat Technical Education Project (Cr. No. 2130-IN)	World Bank	The expenditure of Rs. 1763 lakhs have been incurred against total allocation of Rs. 8500 lakhs. Thus the financial progress is 56%. The completion date of the project is December 1997.
	Integrated Watershed Development Project (Cr. No. 2131-IN)	World Bank	The expenditure of Rs. 17.21 crores have been incurred up to March, 1995 against total allocation of Rs. 49 crores. The land of 29000 Hactares have been covered up to March, 1995. The completion date of the project is September, 1997.
4	Training Women in Agriculture	Netherland assisted	The financial progress is 50.01%. The Physical progress is 80%. The completion date of the project is March, 1996.

Seizures of Antiques

3834. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Border Security Force has seized antiques worth more than rupees four crore in January and February, 1995 on the Indo-Bangladesh border in South and North Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the details of persons arrested in this connection and the actions taken against them; and

(c) the steps taken to strengthen the border outposts in these areas to effectively check antique smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) and (b). Border Security Force has seized 4 idols stated to be antique in January-February, 1995 on Indo-Bangladesh border in South and North West Bengal. The value of these antiques is estimated to be Rs. 3.17 crores. One Bangladeshi National has been arrested in this regard.

(c) Measures taken to prevent smuggling on border areas of Indo-Bangladesh border include strengthening of Border Security Force and Customs field formations,

strengthening of Intelligence network and equipping field formations with better means to combat smuggling.

[Translation]

Smuggling of Drugs

3835. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA :
DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY :
SHRI N.J. RATHVA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons arrested while smuggling the drugs in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of the smuggling cases thereof; and

(c) the action taken against those persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):
(a) and (b). The number of persons arrested and details of cases State-wise during the last 3 years is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) All the arrested persons are liable for stringent penalties under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.

STATEMENT

S. No.	States	1992		1993		1994	
		No. of Cases	Persons Arrested	No. of Cases	Persons Arrested	No. of Cases	Persons Arrested
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8	20	215	218	383	404
2.	A and N Island	3	3	1	1	3	3
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	13	4	12	12	47	50
4.	Assam	96	127	198	201	116	122
5.	Bihar	373	110	124	126	189	198
6.	Chandigarh	41	35	8	9	12	13
7.	D.N. Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-
8.	Daman and Diu	-	-	-	-	-	-
9.	Delhi	620	612	588	597	644	679
10.	Goa	20	32	35	36	35	37
11.	Gujarat	19	32	209	212	279	294
12.	Haryana	132	135	151	154	136	143
13.	Himachal Pradesh	63	46	71	72	88	93
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	41	44	36	37	41	43
15.	Karnataka	62	53	213	217	130	137
16.	Kerala	161	159	20	22	144	152
17.	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-
18.	Madhya Pradesh	96	112	741	752	1052	1110
19.	Maharashtra	860	1022	1388	1404	659	694
20.	Manipur	372	290	323	328	894	941
21.	Meghalaya	34	14	39	40	87	92
22.	Mizoram	162	203	120	122	99	104
23.	Nagaland	94	159	114	116	75	79
24.	Orissa	15	16	91	92	206	217
25.	Pondicherry	6	-	4	4	1	1
26.	Punjab	103	211	319	324	300	316
27.	Rajasthan	113	113	197	203	403	424
28.	Sikkim	1	-	-	-	-	-
29.	Tamil Nadu	3080	2929	2468	2503	2700	2850
30.	Tripura	1	1	15	16	30	32
31.	Uttar Pradesh	6071	6284	5646	5732	5662	5969
32.	West Bengal	91	77	172	173	242	255
Total		12751	12850	13518	13723	14657	15452

[English]

Bonded Child Labour

3836. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of bonded child labour freed from

bondage in different industries, particularly, hazardous industries during each of the last three years; and

(b) the details of schemes implemented in this regard indicating the stages, phases and targets contemplated thereunder?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):

(a) The number of bonded child labour identified and rehabilitated in different States as reported by the respective State Governments is as follows :

Name of the State	No. of bonded child labourers identified and rehabilitated
1. Andhra Pradesh	118
2. Bihar	388
3. Uttar Pradesh	341
4. Karnataka	75
5. Madhya Pradesh	545
6. Maharashtra	5
7. Haryana	45
8. Delhi	7

The names of industries in which these children were working under the conditions of bondage is not available for every State. However, the bonded children reported from the State of Uttar Pradesh were employed in Carpet industry and in Delhi they were found to have been working as construction workers.

(b) The Central Government have a Centrally Sponsored Scheme under which assistance is provided to the State Governments on 50:50 basis for rehabilitation of identified bonded labourers, which also includes child bonded labourers. In addition, the State Governments have been advised to suitably dovetail the assistance available under the Centrally sponsored scheme with the funds available under the various anti-poverty programmes in order to pool the resources for effective rehabilitation of identified bonded labour. Some States like Andhra Pradesh give preference to bonded child labourers in admitting them in Ashram Schools/ Residential Schools etc. where they are provided with facilities to study.

Money Credit Scheme for Manufacture of Toilet Soaps

3837. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the toilet soap industry is allowed liberal Money Credit towards excise duty for using minor oils in the manufacture of toilet soaps;

(b) if so, whether the Government machinery is reliable enough to check whether minor oils are actually used in the manufacture of toilet soaps at all;

(c) the number of Khadi and Village Industries or small-scale units which are engaged in the manufacture of toilet soaps and which enjoy benefits of Money Credit Scheme;

(d) whether the benefit of the Money Credit Scheme for using minor oils in the manufacture of toilet soaps is enjoyed exclusively by the multinational companies, and also have the capacity for refining minor oils;

(e) if so, whether the Government consider discontinuance of this Money Credit Scheme; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: (a) and (b). Notification No. 46/89-CE(NT) dated 11.10.89, as amended, provides for credit of specified amount of duty on minor oils if the same have been used for the manufacture of soap. The field units are required to carry out in this regard regular PBC checks, to check statutory records prescribed to be maintained by manufacturers at various stages of production, to verify monthly returns required to be submitted to the Department and also to undertake periodical/surprise checks and special audit, etc.

(c) to (f). Nine SSI units are at present availing the benefit of Money Credit facility. The benefit under this Scheme is available to all toilet soaps manufacturers, whether they are SSI units or not and whether they carry out hydrogenation/hydrolysis inside the factory or they get it done from outside on jobwork. This scheme is intended to encourage maximum extraction of minor oils, especially of edible grade, and to induce their use in the manufacture of toilet soaps as well as the vegetable oils. As it enables small scale units also to avail of the benefits, there is, at present, no intention to withdraw this scheme.

Complaints from Foreign Buyers

3838. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a number of complaints from the foreign buyers regarding the supply of inferior quality of materials during 1994-95;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) These complaints mainly relate to non compliance of agreed product specifications, defective packing, wrong deliveries of items, deterioration or contamination in respect of edible/perishable items etc.

(c) Regional Standing Committees on Quality Complaints have been set up at Ahmedabad, Bombay, Bangalore, Calcutta, Cochin, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kanpur, Ludhiana and Madras for looking into such complaints. These Committees have dealt with 66 such complaints in 1994-95. Action against 7 erring exporters have been initiated under Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992.

Assistance to Tea Plantations

3839. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide financial assistance through NABARD for development of tea plantations in private sector in Sikkim; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) and (b). Short-term advances to farmers owning up to 20 acre for tea plantations are treated as priority sector advances. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) provides refinance assistance under normal lending programme to banks for development of tea plantations including those in private sector.

New Airport for Mumbai

3840. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3638 on August 19, 1994 regarding airport at Mumbai and state :

(a) whether the Task Force has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof including recommendations made therein and decision taken by the Government thereon; and

(c) if not, the time by which the Task Force is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The draft report is being circulated to the members of the Task Force shortly. The report will be finalised after receiving comments of the members.

Value of Rupee Against Foreign Currency

3841. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the exchange value of the Rupee against the dollar, pound sterling, deutsche mark and yen has depreciated drastically with effect from March, 1995;

(b) the extent of the fluctuation in case of each major currency to which the Rupee is pegged; and

(c) the effect of depreciation on India's foreign trade earnings and the prospects of achieving full convertibility of the Rupee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). Since March, 1995, the value of the Rupee has appreciated against the US Dollar but has depreciated against the Pound Sterling, Deutsche Mark and Yen. Movements in the value of the Rupee vis-a-vis these major currencies are given in the table below :

TABLE

Rupee Per Unit of Foreign Currency
(Based on FEDAI Indicative Rates)

Currency	March 31, 1995	April 19, 1995	% Appreciation/ depreciation (-)
US Dollar	31.4950	31.3900	0.33
Pound Sterling	50.5650	50.6863	-0.24
Deutsche Mark	22.3600	23.2250	-3.72
Japanese Yen	0.3529	0.3911	-9.77

(c) Other things being equal, a real depreciation of the Rupee helps to draw resources into the production of exports and import substitutes and there by helps increase foreign trade earnings. India is following a measured approach towards convertibility of the Rupee.

Darjeeling Tea

3842. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :
SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of tea produced in Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri and Assam during each of the last three years, separately;

(b) the total quantity of Darjeeling Tea exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years, country-wise;

(c) the details of countries from where the consignment was returned back to India along with the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to prevent such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Tea production in Darjeeling, Dooars and the State of Assam during last three years is as under :

Tea Area	(Figures in M. Kgs.)		
	1992	1993*	1994*
Darjeeling (West Bengal)	9.87	10.85	10.75
Dooars (West Bengal)	118.94	129.90	120.30
Assam	387.81	402.95	399.33

* Estimated

(b) It is not possible to accurately quantify share of tea produced in Darjeeling in overall exports of tea as in most cases tea is exported in blended form. However, according to trade information, nearly 80% of production of Darjeeling teas are exported each year, mainly to U.K., Germany, Japan and CIS countries, particularly Russian Federation.

(c) No such information has been received by the Tea Board.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Smuggling of Garlic

3843. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :
SHRI RAM KAPSE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of incidents of smuggling of huge quantities of Chinese garlic into India via Nepal; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to prevent garlic smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):
(a) Some incidents of smuggling of Chinese garlic into India via Nepal have been noticed.

(b) Matter has been taken up with Nepalese authorities for preventing smuggling of Chinese garlic into India through Nepal. Field formations are alert to prevent and detect smuggling including smuggling of Chinese garlic.

Promotion of Tourism in M.P.

3844. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI : will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of financial assistance provided to the State of Madhya Pradesh to organise fairs/festivals for the promotion of tourism and art during each of the last two years; and

(b) the results achieved from such fairs/festivals organised during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The State Government of Madhya Pradesh was sanctioned financial assistance of Rs. 6.05 lakhs for organising fairs and festivals during the year 1994-95. For the year 1993-94, no financial assistance was sanctioned on this account.

(b) Fairs and Festivals are organised by the State Governments with a view to popularising the cultural heritage of India and promoting tourism. Such fairs and festivals also help in bringing together people from different parts of the country thereby promote national integration.

100 Seater Aircraft

3845. PROF. K.V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the total seating capacity of aircraft of Indian Airlines and other private airlines, airlines-wise;

(b) the percentage of seating capacity utilisation by Indian Airlines;

(c) whether there is any request from existing private airlines as well as other private groups to give licence for 100 seater aircraft and aircraft with more capacity, and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) As per the present seat configuration the number of seats available with Indian Airlines (operational fleet) and the private airlines is as under :

S.No.	Name of the airlines	No. of seats
1.	M/s Indian Airlines	9,444
2.	M/s East West Airlines	1,010
3.	M/s Jet Airways Pvt. Ltd.	768
4.	M/s Damania Airways Ltd.	476
5.	M/s Modiluft Ltd.	428
6.	M/s NEPC Airlines	253
7.	M/s Archana Airways	81

(b) Indian Airlines is estimated to have achieved average seat factor of 69.8% during 1994-95.

(c) and (d). Permissions to import four 100+ seater aircraft have been granted to Private Airlines in 1995. No other request for expansion of existing capacity is pending with the Government.

Non-Canalised Export by S.T.C.

3846. SHRI PRAMOTESH MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of non-canalised export turnover of State Trading Corporation (other than counter trade) during each of the last three years;

(b) the quantum of above turnover that has been booked with less than 1% service charges prescribed by STC;

(c) the quantum of associate turnover STC propose to book in 1994-95 with less than 1% service charges to make up short fall of non-canalised export target; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government or STC authorities to stop the practice of booking assisted turnover with less than 1% service charges to make up short fall in non-canalised export target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Non-canalised export turnover of State Trading Corporation (other than counter trade) during each of the last three years is as under :

Year	Rs. crores
1992-93	284
1993-94	363
1994-95	425 (Prov.)

(b) Statistics for non-canalised export turnover booked with less than 1% service charges are not separately available.

(c) Turnover of associates booked as assisted turnover has generally been with less than 1% service charge. In 1994-95, the quantum of assisted turnover booked is Rs. 60 crores (Provisional).

(d) Service margin charged by STC depends upon the market conditions. However, efforts are being made by STC to gradually phase out such exports.

Welfare Schemes for Workers

3847. DR. AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL :
DR. SAKSHIJI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of workers engaged in organised sector, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have agreed to provide funds for the welfare measures undertaken by the State Governments for those workers during 1994-95;

(c) if so, the details of those schemes which have been implemented alongwith the assistance provided therefor, State-wise; and

(d) the schemes which are awaiting Central assistance?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) :
(a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Excise Duty on Tobacco

3848. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA :
SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO :
SHRI K.G. SHIVAPPA

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether representations have been received for retaining the specific excise duty structure on tobacco industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereon;

(c) whether the Government propose to bring the unorganised tobacco sector under taxation;

(d) whether the Government also propose to withdraw the provisions of AED for disbursement to states which levy further taxes on tobacco; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) :
(a) and (b). The Government have received representations from the manufacturers for retaining the specific rate of excise duty based on length of the cigarettes and also to change the excise duty structure from specific to specific-cum-advalem or ad valorem rates. The duty structure on cigarettes has been examined. Taking into account all relevant considerations, it is felt that it may be desirable to continue the present duty structure on cigarettes.

(c) At present, there is no proposal under the consideration of the Government to bring the unorganised tobacco sector undertaxation.

(d) At present, there is no proposal under the consideration of the Government to withdraw the provisions of AED for disbursement to States which levy further taxes on tobacco.

(e) In view of (d) above, does not arise.

Small and Tiny Entrepreneurs of SCs/STs/OBCs

3849. DR. G.L. KANAUJIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Financial assistance on terms are provided by the Government to small and tiny enterprises of SCs/STs and other Backward Classes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including relaxation in margin money and subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) :
(a) and (b). A number of steps have been taken with a view to increase the flow of credit to borrowers including SC/ST and Backward class. The important ones are :

(i) Banks have been instructed that all applications upto credit limit of Rs. 25,000/- are to be disposed off within a fortnight and those over Rs. 25,000/- within 8-9 weeks.

(ii) To facilitate speedy disposal of applications, the application forms are made available in regional languages. Terms and conditions regarding margin/security should be printed on the reverse of the application form itself.

(iii) The interest on loans up to Rs. 25,000/- is kept low at 12.0% per annum.

(iv) Term loans are provided at concessional rates.

- (v) No third-party guarantee or collateral security is to be insisted upon for loans up to Rs. 10,000/-.
- (vi) There should be no compounding of interest on current dues.
- (vii) Appropriate sanctioning powers have been delegated to the rural branch managers so that majority of loan applications are sanctioned at branch level itself.
- (viii) While effecting disbursement of loans, banks are required to make payment as far as possible directly to the suppliers of assets/inputs by means of crossed cheques/demand drafts.
- (ix) Conversion/reschedulement of loans for agriculture and allied activities are allowed to borrowers on account of the failure of crops/damage to the units due to drought, flood and other natural calamities in order to ensure smooth flow of credit to the beneficiaries.
- (x) With the recent permission to sanction non-target groups up to 60% of fresh loans (w.e.f 1 January, 1994) RRBs will be in a better position to cater to all types of agriculturists (i.e. small, medium and big farmers) in their area of operation.

Floriculture Park in Andhra Pradesh

3850. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to establish a Floriculture Park at Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to identify an overseas consultant for working out detailed project report in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

National Handloom Development Corporation

3851. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR :
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of non-official Directors on the Board of National Handloom Development Corporation and the criterion fixed for their appointment;

(b) the number of Directors belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who are actually representing the handloom sector;

(c) whether non-official Directors have some commercial dealings with National Handloom Development Corporation;

(d) if so, the quantum thereof during the last three years; and

(e) the details of the facilities being provided to the Chairman and Directors, particularly non-official Directors of the NHDC?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) Presently, Six Non-Official Directors are on the Board of National Handloom Development Corporation Limited (NHDC).

Criteria for Appointment

The criteria for appointment of Non-Official Directors has been outlined in the Government of India, Ministry of Industry, Department of Public Enterprises O.M. No. 18(6)/91-GM dated 16th March, 1992. As per the criteria, Non-Official Directors on the Board of PSEs has been considered essential by various Committees and Commissions in order to make the Boards more professional. The Non-Official Directors of NHDC are appointed as per the policy and are drawn from public men, technocrats, management experts and consultants and professional managers in the industry and trade with a high degree of proven ability. The number of such Directors are 1/3rd of its total strength of Directors in PSE. The panel of suitable persons who could be considered for appointment as Non-Official part-time Directors on the Board of PSEs is prepared in consultation with Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) and the Secretary of the concerned Administrative Ministry.

(b) One - SC

(c) and (d). None of the Non-Official Directors of NHDC has declared any business connection with NHDC except Shri O.P. Matta. As per his declaration Shri O.P. Matta is the Partner of M/s Matta Spinning Mills, Panipat.

Shri Matta joined NHDC as Non-Official Director on 23.06.94. Before joining as Director of NHDC he was having dealings with the Corporation. Even at present he is having business dealing with the Corporation as per norms. The business transactions as reported by various Regional Offices of NHDC with M/s Matta Spinning Mills, Panipat are as under :

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1991-92	12.83
1992-93	110.25
1993-94	99.00
1994-95	NIL (up to 22.06.94)
With effect from 22.06.1994	8.44

This does not included supply of fabrics for Rs. 19.57 lakhs, Rs. 5.85 lakhs and Rs. 0.40 lakhs made during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 (up to 22.06.94) respectively through Handloom Societies in which Shri Matta is associated.

All Business transactions ensure providing normal service charges for the Corporation ranging from 3% to 5% as charged in all other cases considering the prevailing market prices and after observing purchase procedures as approved by the Board of Directors.

(e) All Directors are being reimbursed actual TA expenses on submission of bills for attending the Board and other Meetings including visit in connection with Corporations work. Sitting fee is paid to Non-Official Directors for the Board Meeting. Development Commissioner for Handloom being the Ex-Officio Chairman of NHDC is provided with car. The Corporation also bears the expenditure incurred by Directors in connection with various Meetings. 50% of the telephone bills installed at DCH/Chairman Office is being reimbursed to the Government by National Handloom Development Corporation Limited.

[English]

Facilities of IGIA

3852. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide more facilities to passengers, private, Government and foreign airlines and also to improve the existing facilities at Indira Gandhi International Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time schedule fixed, if any, for the same?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). The information is given in the Statement enclosed.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Scope of work	Project Cost (Rs. in crores)	Schedule date of completion
1	2	3	4
1.	Construction of Hangar Annexe and Apron for Air Taxi Operators etc.	6.98	December, 1995
2.	Construction of Public amenities block at Cargo Complex	1.44	May, 1995
3.	Construction of additional Cargo bays at IGIA	3.66	Tenders under scrutiny Projected Date of Completion (PDC) Dec., 1996

1	2	3	4
4.	Construction of additional 4 nos. remote parking bays	6.75	Technical bid under scrutiny. PDC April, 1997
5.	Construction of International Terminal Complex Phase-II at IGI Airport	500.00	Feasibility Report under preparation
6.	Construction of Multi level Car Park	2.00	Scheme under preparation

Facilitation Equipments

1. Introduction of Command Post-Equipment for use during aircraft emergencies - March, 1996.
2. Introduction of high capacity water tender (16,000 litre cap.) March, 1996.
3. Augmentation of Free passenger baggage trollies with new design - March, 1996.
4. Introduction of Battery operated cleaning equipments for use in terminal building - March, 1996.
5. Provision of coloured X-ray baggage inspection system as a measure of replacement-addition of new equipment - March, 1996.
6. Additional split flap display boards of flight information for visitor's at Terminal-II, Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) - April, 1995.
7. Surveillance Close Circuit Television for Terminal-I, IGIA-April, 1995.
8. Creation of 6-7 additional parking stands by realignment of existing parking stand - May, 1995.
9. Modification of Terminal-1B to facilitate operations of Air Taxi Operations and improve passenger facilitation. Plans are being finalised.

[Translation]

Herbal Medicines

3853. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the herbal medicines for the treatment of chronic diseases are being exported from the country;

(b) whether the export of such medicines is in the interest of the country;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to impose a ban on the export of such medicines;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) In general, herbal products are being exported from the country as herbal health care products rather than as herbal medicines. Some of these may be used in treatment of chronic ailments.

(b) Export of herbal products is allowed only within the prescribed framework of environment protection, and serves the interest of the country by adding to the export earnings.

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

[English]

Chief Commissioner for NRIs

3854. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE :
SHRI ATAL BIHAR VAJPAYEE :
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have appointed the Chief Commissioner for Non-Resident Indians as announced in the Budget speech for the year 1991-92;

(b) if so, the details of the duties and functions assigned to him;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The Government is examining the role and rationale for the post of Chief Commissioner for Non-Resident Indians in the present context of the liberalised environment for foreign and Non-Resident Indian Investments.

Export/Import of Cotton and Cotton Yarn

3855. DR. SHRIMATI K.S. SOUNDARAM :
SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of cotton and cotton yarn exported during the last three years and value thereof;

(b) the quantum of cotton and cotton yarn imported during the above period and value thereof; and

(c) the action being taken to ensure the strict implementation of ceiling limits of cotton yarn for export?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b). A Statement is attached.

(c) In order to ensure strict implementation of the ceiling limits, the cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council (TEXPROCIL) is giving certification on shipping bills, prior to exports of cotton yarn, under the overall supervision and control of Textile Commissioner.

STATEMENT

(a) to (b). The quantum of cotton and cotton yarn exported/imported during the last three years and value thereof are as under :

Cotton (Qty. in lakh bales of 170 kg.)
(Value in Rs. crores)

Year	Export		Import	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1991-92	0.77	39.00	3.00	194.00
1992-93	13.766	725.00	1.15	90.00
1993-94	3.90	223.24	3.00	280.00

Cotton Yarn (Qty. in Million Kg.)
(Value in Rs. crores)

Year	Exports	
	Qty.	Value
1992	122.08	1104.40
1993	165.94	1461.20
1994	215.97	2285.10

Year (April-March)	Imports	
	Quantity (M. Tons)	Value (Rs. in lakhs)
1991-92	59.9	31.66
1992-93	171.1	65.75
1993-94	375.1	450.37

ITDC Hotels

3856. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI :
SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether India Tourism Development Corporation propose to expand its hotels;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India Tourism Development Corporation propose to set up some new hotels by the end of current century; and

(d) if so, the places identified for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). ITDC's Annual Plan for 1995-96 does not envisage any plan scheme/provision for expansion of its existing hotels.

(c) Presently there is not proposal to construct any new hotel by ITDC in the country.

(d) Does not arise.

Coffee Plantation in N.E. Region

3857. SHRI PROBIN DEKA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the soil of North-Eastern States is very rich in coffee plantation; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government for developing coffee plantation in the N.E. region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). A total area of 43,501 ha. has been found suitable for coffee cultivation in the North-Eastern region. For the development of coffee plantation in this region, the Coffee Board had approached all the State Governments with a model development scheme. The Board also envisaged coffee extension targets statewide under the Five Year Plans. Subsequently, the Board has developed research, extension and other back-up support facilities in the North-Eastern region and has been providing necessary support to the coffee programmes undertaken by the State Governments. In these states, the coffee development programmes are being implemented by Corporations/State Government Departments. So far a total area of 10,063 ha. has come under coffee in the North-Eastern States.

Nayak Committee

3858. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the action taken on each of the recommendations made by the Nayak Committee on development of the village and tiny industries; and

(b) the total amount released as loan by public sector banks to tiny and village industries in the country during the financial year 1993-94 and 1994-95 and the extent to which this amount is in excess to that of the year 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that almost all the major recommendations of the Nayak Committee have been accepted by RBI and necessary instructions issued to banks. The details of instructions

issued by RBI to scheduled commercial banks, *inter-alia*, include :

- (i) to grant working capital credit limits to SSI units computed on the basis of a minimum of 20% of their projected annual turnover to the SSIs whose credit limit in individual cases is less than Rs. one crore.
- (ii) to give preference to village industries, tiny industries and other small scale units in that order while meeting the credit requirements of the sector.
- (iii) to prepare annual budget on the 'bottom-up' basis to ensure that the legitimate requirements of SSI sector are met in full during the VIII Five Year Plan Period.
- (iv) to extend the 'Single Window Scheme' of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to all districts.
- (v) to ensure that there should not be any delay in sanctioning and disbursal of credit to SSI sector.
- (vi) banks should not insist on compulsory deposits as a 'quid pro quo' for sanctioning the credit limits.
- (vii) to open specialised SSI branches or convert those branches which have a fairly large number of SSI borrowal accounts into specialised branches.
- (viii) the viable sick units should be identified and urgent action should be taken to put them on the nursing programme.
- (ix) the standardised loan application forms to be used by SSI units for applying for loans have been further simplified.

(b) The data reporting system of RBI does not generate information in the manner asked for. However, RBI has reported that the outstanding loans of public sector banks against the cottage, Khadi and village artisans and tiny industries as at the end of 1993-94 amounted to Rs. 5868.96 crores.

[English]

Closed NTC Mills

3859. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI :
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL :
DR. K.D. JESWANI :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of NTC textile mills which are lying closed at present, state-wise, particularly in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the loss suffered and the number of employees rendered jobless as a result of closure of these mills;

(c) whether the Government propose to hand over such mills to private sector or workers' cooperatives;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other steps taken/proposed to be taken to revive these mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) No NTC mills is lying 'closed' under the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act. However, in February, 1995 there was cessation of production activities in 28 mills including 7 in U.P. and partial cessation of activities in 51 mills including 2 in U.P. resulting in payment of idle wages to about 52,000 workers in NTC mills.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No proposal is under consideration of the Government to hand over mills to the private sector or to workers' cooperatives.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) A Turn Around Strategy for modernisation of the NTC mills is under consideration of the Government; This strategy after finalisation will be placed before the BIFR for their approval before implementation.

National Action Plan for Tourism

3860. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than one place have been earmarked in some States for development of tourism under the National Action Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some States have been left out in the National Action Plan; and

(d) if so, the criteria for selection of places under the said plan?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (d). The National Action Plan for Tourism stipulates a set of targets and strategies for the development of tourism in the country. It is therefore, not confined to any particular place or State but covers all the tourist centres in the country. However, one of the strategies listed in the action plan relates to the development of certain selected circuits and destinations for integrated growth. A list of such centres to be taken up in the first instance has also been given in the action plan. These circuits and destinations have been identified on the basis of their potential, diversification needs and natural and cultural appeal. The list of the identified circuits/destinations is annexed as Statement.

STATEMENT

Circuits-Cum-Destinations Identified for Intensive Development under National Action Plan

Travel Circuits

1. Kulu-Manali-Leh
2. Gwalior-Shivpuri-Orcha-Khajuraho
3. Bagdogra-Sikkim-Darjeeling-Kalimpong
4. Bhubaneswar-Puri-Konark
5. Hyderabad-Nagarjunasagar-Tirupati
6. Madras-Mahabalipuram-Pondicherry
7. Rishikesh-Narender Nagar-Gangotri-Badrinath
8. Indore-Ujjain-Maheshwar-Omkareshwar-Mandu
9. Jaisalmer-Jodhpur-Bikaner-Barmer
10. Raigad Fort-Janjira Fort-Kuda Caves-Sirivardhan-Harihareshwar-Sindhudurg.
11. Bangalore-Mysore-Hassan

Destinations

1. Lakshadweep Islands
2. Andaman Islands
3. Manali (Solang-Nalah)
4. Muttukadu Beach
5. Bekal Beach
6. Kangra (Pong Dam)

[Translation]

Construction of Airports in Maharashtra

3861. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to construct new airports in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the locations thereof; and

(c) the time by which construction thereof is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

Bangalore International Airport

3862. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has been permitted to build Bangalore International Airport on the basis of build-own-operate terms;

(b) if so, whether the Government have invited tenders for building Hassan, Mysore and Hospet airstrips with foreign capital; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The Government of India has given its no objection to the State Government of Karnataka for the construction of a new airport of international standards at Devanhalli in Bangalore, with the help of private parties.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Tax Evasion Cases

3863. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
SHRI RAM PAL SINGH :
SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether several cases relating to evasion of income tax worth crores of rupees by certain companies and entrepreneurs by showing income on agricultural land have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to put a check on such cases of tax evasion in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Garment Export Quota

3864. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the reply given on March 4, 1994 to Unstarred Question No. 1586 and state :

(a) whether the CBI has since completed its preliminary inquiry in the matter ;

(b) if so, the details of the outcome thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which CBI is likely to complete its inquiry?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c). The CBI had completed its preliminary inquiry in 1994 and had found that no anti-corruption angle was involved. However, the CBI had advised that the Ministry might get a verification

conducted to ascertain the factual details and, if, during such preliminary verification, the use of forged documents by the party came to light, a formal complaint might be lodged with the CBI to take up the investigation.

Accordingly a detailed enquiry in the case was carried out. On the basis of the enquiry report, Government have lodged a complaint in August 1994 with the CBI against the party, for their having committed an act of forgery. The case is pending investigation by the CBI.

[English]

Variable DA

3865. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have revised the Variable Dearness Allowances (VDA) in 40 scheduled employments in the Central sphere;

(b) if so, the names of those scheduled employments; and

(c) the details of the Variable Dearness Allowances announced for these 40 scheduled employment sectors?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Central Government is responsible for fixation and revision of minimum rates of wages in 40 scheduled employments, which broadly relate to Construction, Agriculture, Railways and Mining Sectors. A Statement indicating the 40 scheduled employment falling in the Central sphere is annexed (Statement-I). A component of Variable Dearness Allowance also known as special allowance, linked to consumer price indices, has been provided as a part of Minimum Wages. The Variable Dearness Allowance is revised every six months, based on the movement in consumer price indices. The last revision of Variable Dearness Allowance was made with effect from 1st April, 1995. A Statement indicating the revised special allowance and revised minimum wages for the scheduled employments in the Central sphere is annexed (Statement-II).

STATEMENT-I

List of 40 Scheduled employments for which Central Government has Fixed Minimum Wages Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948

1	2
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1. Employment in Agriculture.
2. Employment in the construction or maintenance of roads or in building operations.
3. Employment in stone breaking or stone crushing.

1	2	1	2
4. Employment in the maintenance of buildings.		22. Employment in Quartz mines.	
5. Employment in construction and maintenance of runways.		23. Employment in Silica mines.	
6. Employment in Gypsum mines.		24. Employment in Mica mines.	
7. Employment in barytes mines.		25. Employment in Magnesite mines.	
8. Employment in Bauxite mines.		26. Employment in Graphite mines.	
9. Employment in Manganese mines.		27. Employment in Felspar mines.	
10. Employment in China Clay mines.		28. Employment in Redoxide mines.	
11. Employment in Kyanite mines.		29. Employment in Laterite mines.	
12. Employment in Copper mines.		30. Employment in Dolomite mines.	
13. Employment in Clay mines.		31. Employment in Iron Ore mine.	
14. Employment in Stone mines.		32. Employment in Granite mines.	
15. Employment in White Clay mines.		33. Employment in Wolfarm mines.	
16. Employment in Ochre mines.		34. Employment in Magnetite mines.	
17. Employment in Fire Clay mines.		35. Employment in Rockphosphate mines.	
18. Employment in Steatite (Including Soapstone and Talc) mines.		36. Employment in Hematite mines.	
19. Employment in Asbestos mines.		37. Employment in loading, unloading in Railways' goods sheds.	
20. Employment in Chromite mines.		38. Employment in Ash Pit Cleaning on Railways.	
21. Employment in Quartzite mines.		39. Employment in Marble and Calcite mines.	
		40. Employment in Uranium mines.	

STATEMENT-II

Minimum Rates of Wages and Special Allowances Revised with Effect from 1.4.95.

Category of Worker	Basic Wage (in Rs.)	Revised spl. All (in Rs.)	Total Wages (in Rs.)	Basic Wages (in Rs.)	Revised spl. All (in Rs.)	Total Wages (in Rs.)	Basic Wage (in Rs.)	Revised spl. All (in Rs.)	Total Wages (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
I. CONSTRUCTION									
	Area "A"			Area "B"			Area "C"		
Unskilled	36.00	3.68	39.68	34.00	3.68	37.68	28.00	3.02	31.02
Semi-skilled/Unskilled									
Supervisory	43.00	4.35	47.35	41.00	4.35	45.35	34.00	3.68	37.68
Skilled	57.00	5.35	62.35	51.00	5.35	56.35	43.00	4.68	47.68
Highly Skilled	65.00	6.70	71.70	63.00	6.70	69.70	51.00	5.35	56.35
Clerical	57.00	5.35	62.35	51.00	5.35	56.35	43.00	4.68	47.68
II. AGRICULTURE									
	Area "A"			Area "B"			Area "C"		
Category of workers									
Unskilled	33.00	20.62	53.62	28.00	20.62	48.62	26.00	20.62	46.62
Semi-skilled/Unskilled Supervisory	41.00	20.62	61.62	35.00	20.62	62.29	29.00	20.62	49.62
Skilled/Clerical	48.00	20.62	68.62	41.00	20.62	61.62	34.00	20.62	54.62
Highly skilled	58.00	20.62	78.62	50.00	20.62	70.62	41.00	20.62	61.62

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
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III. RAILWAYS

	Area "A"			Area "B"			Area "C"		
Unskilled	42.00	1.42	46.42	33.00	3.48	36.48	29.00	3.08	32.08

IV. MINING

Category of Worker	Above Ground			Below Ground		
Unskilled	28.00	3.02	31.02	34.00	3.68	37.68
Semi-skilled/Unskilled Supervisory	34.00	3.68	37.68	41.00	4.35	45.35
Skilled	41.00	4.35	45.35	50.00	5.35	55.35
Clerical	41.00	4.35	42.35			
Highly Skilled	50.00	5.35	55.35	60.00	6.36	66.36

Note : Areas A includes : 4 Metropolitan Cities and Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Nagpur, Lucknow and Kanpur.
 B includes : 54 cities mainly with a population of 1 lakh
 C includes : All other areas

[Translation]

Loans to Farmers in Gujarat

3866. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of small and marginal farmers in Gujarat provided with loans for installing/boring tubewells by cooperative banks, commercial banks and regional rural banks in the State, separately, during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government have received complaints against certain banks regarding irregularities committed in granting financial assistance during the above period; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the efforts made by the Government to put a check on such irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The details of loans provided to small and marginal farmers in Gujarat by the cooperative, commercial and regional rural banks separately for the installing/boring tubewells during the last three years are not available. However, information regarding the financial assistance provided to farmers in Gujarat for digging of wells under various Government programmes during the last three years is given below :

Year	Number of farmers assisted
1991-92	11429
1992-93	8194
1993-94	7495

(b) and (c). Complaints against banks regarding irregularities in the grant of financial assistance, as and

when received, are taken up with the concerned banks for remedial measures.

[English]

Monitoring of Financial Institutions

3867. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :
 DR. R. MALLU :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the latest guidelines and role models to be followed by financial institutions in the country;

(b) whether the Government propose to advise financial institutions to shift their priorities in the matter of investments;

(c) if so, the facts thereof and the stage at which the proposal stands at present; and

(d) the steps being taken to strengthen the monitoring system of these institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The basic role of All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs) as to support industrial development in the country by providing medium and long term credit to the industry. In order to enable AIFIs to play their role more effectively in the changing economic and industrial scenario, large FIs such as Industrial Finance Corporation of India Ltd. (IFCI) and Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) have been provided greater functional autonomy and operational flexibility. They have also been enabled to access the capital market through issue of equity share capital and enlarge their shareholders base. This is also in line with the recommendations of the Narasimham Committee on the Financial System.

(b) There is no such proposal at present.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Board of Directors of AIFIs are responsible for monitoring the activities of the institution. The Government monitors the position of overall sanctions and disbursements made by the AIFIs and appoints its nominee directors on the Board of AIFIs. Besides, the matters of general policy nature and of common interest to AIFIs are discussed with the Chief Executives of AIFIs in meetings held from time to time.

Also, a Financial Institution Cell exists in the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to, *inter-alia*, broadly monitor and oversee the operations of AIFIs as an adjunct to monetary and credit policy, to bring about greater co-ordination amongst AIFIs and banks and to arrange for a periodic interaction between AIFIs and RBI for discussing broad policy areas where improvements/changes are called for.

[Translation]

Losses by Public Sector Banks

3868. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV :
DR. ASIM BALA :
DR. VISWANATHAM KANITHI :
SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMCHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the banks working in the country at present under the category of - (i) Public Sector Banks, (ii) Scheduled Commercial Banks, (iii) Nationalised Banks, (iv) Private Sector Banks, and (v) other scheduled banks;

(b) the details of the profits earned and losses incurred by these banks during 1993-94 and 1994-95, bank-wise, separately;

(c) the factors found responsible for losses in these banks; and

(d) the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken to check the losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent possible.

[English]

Plan to Attract Tourists

3869. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have drawn a programme to attract 5 million tourists during the next five years;

(b) whether the programme includes development of infrastructural facilities also; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The Department of Tourism has prepared a working paper called "Tourism Synergy Programme" enlisting the entire matrix of sectoral activities to be undertaken for attracting 5 million tourists and the notional estimates of investments required.

(b) and (c). The programme includes development of infrastructural facilities like air seat capacity, airports, railway network, roads, hotels, restaurants, convention and shopping facilities and upgradation of tourist centres.

Changes in GATT Agreement

3870. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is one of such countries who have announced their intention to make some changes in the GATT Agreement;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir. The Uruguay Round of Negotiations concluded in December 1993 and the WTO Agreement entered into force on 1 January 1995.

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

[Translation]

Economic Reforms

3871. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether IMF/World Bank have made suggestions to bring certain reforms in the Indian economy;

(b) if so, the details of the suggestions made by them; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). The Government launched its programme of macro-economic stabilisation and structural reforms in 1991. Wide ranging measures have been taken in many areas including industrial policy, external trade, exchange rate regime, taxation, financial sector and capital markets. The details are contained in a Discussion Paper titled "Economic Reforms : Two Years

After and the Tasks Ahead" which was published by the Ministry of Finance in July 1993 and the Economic Surveys of 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95. The IMF and World-Bank have also suggested some of these reform measures in their reports. As stated in the Budget Speech for 1995-96, the Government aims to continue with the reform process.

Jute Woven Cloths

3872. SHRI MANJAY LAL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether jute woven clothes/garments have gained popularity in abroad;

(b) if so, whether any action plan has been prepared to give impetus to the popularity of jute woven clothes/garments in foreign countries and boost the export of such clothes;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to increase production of jute and to develop jute based industries?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Jute as another textile material for use as apparel/garments appears to be receiving good response from abroad.

(b) to (d). Various Jute/Textiles organisations and Textile Research Institution and Mills are concentrating on the development and production of jute textile materials for use in garments. Some of the measures taken to popularise in export market and to increase the production are listed below :

- (i) Appropriate blending of jute with other fibres.
- (ii) Improvement of physical performances of jute fabric.
- (iii) Inviting international designers and participating in exhibitions abroad.

[English]

Privatisation of AI and IA

3873. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN :
SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to privatise Air India and Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have permitted private airlines to operate on international flights; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). No, Sir. The objective of restructuring of Air India and Indian Airlines into Public Limited Companies is to enable the airline companies to tap the capital market for mobilizing resources for meeting their growth requirements.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Stake of UTI in I.T.C. Ltd.

3874. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the stake of Unit Trust of India (UTI) in India Tobacco Company (ITC) Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on March 31, 1995;

(c) whether any specific directions have been given to the nominee Director of UTI on ITC Board with regard to increased foreign investment in ITC Limited; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). In accordance with the practices and usages customary amongst banks and in conformity with provisions of statutes governing public sector banks and financial institutions as also the provisions of Public Financial Institution (Obligation as to Fidelity and Secrecy) Act, 1983, the information relating to individual constituents cannot be divulged. However, nominee directors on the Boards of assisted companies of financial institutions (FIs) like Unit Trust of India are appointed by the FIs concerned and the question of Government giving any directions to nominee directors of FIs does not arise.

[Translation]

Upgradation of Jaipur Airport

3875. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Airports Authority (NAA) had accorded approval for converting the airstrips from 6000 foot at present to 12000 foot with a view to upgrade the Jaipur airport to International standard;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the progress made in this regard so far.

(c) whether National Airports Authority has now taken a decision to limit the said airstrip only to 9000 foot;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether it is obligatory to accord international status to Jaipur airport for landing of big aircraft and chartered aeroplanes there;

(f) whether the Singapore Government has sent a proposal to construct International Aerodrome in Jaipur; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (d). No, Sir. However, the Airports Authority of India had accorded approval for extension of runway to 9000 ft. This length is sufficient for AB-300 type of aircraft operated by the Domestic airlines and limited International Chartered flights. State Government has been requested to acquire the land and hand it over to AAI so that the runway can be extended to 12000 ft., when so required.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) and (g). A proposal has been submitted by M/s Tata Consultancy to State Government of Rajasthan for the construction of International Airport at Jaipur in collaboration with the Government of Singapore or the private sector.

Public Sector Banks in M.P.

3876. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branches of public sector banks in Madhya Pradesh, bank-wise;

(b) the bank-wise amount deposited in these banks and the amount of loans sanctioned by these banks to the farmers in Madhya Pradesh and the amount actually disbursed to them during the last three years;

(c) whether the nationalised banks in the state have achieved the targets fixed for sanctioning such loans;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to achieve the targets in this regard; and

(e) the amount recovered from farmers during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). The details of branches of public sector banks, deposits, targets of loans to farmers and disbursements of these banks are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d). As reported by the Central Bank of India, the Convenor Bank, the achievement as against target is 82.1% in 1991-92, 89.3% in 1992-93 and 82.4% in 1993-94.

The performance of banks in this regard is continuously monitored at the Block, District and State Levels.

(e) The amounts recovered from farmers are Rs. 200.75 crores, Rs. 336.92 crores and Rs. 323.67 crores for the years 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 respectively, being 45.7%, 52.6%, and 55.2% of the demand.

STATEMENT

Bank Wise Number of Branches of Public Sector Banks, Deposits, Targets of Loans to Farmers and Disbursement of these Banks in Madhya Pradesh During the Last Three Years.

(Amount in Rs. Crores)

S. No.	Name of Banks	No. of Branches	Deposits			Loans to Farmers					
			1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1991-92		1992-93		1993-94	
						Target	Disbur- sed	Target	Disbur- sed	Target	Disbur- sed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Allahabad Bank	162	415.40	456.72	497.91	18.05	16.78	17.51	10.34	16.29	0.54
2.	Andhra Bank	7	34.67	39.14	39.14	-	-	0.01	0.01	-	-
3.	Bank of Baroda	81	356.33	401.55	393.48	2.77	0.42	6.35	20.36	9.60	7.64
4.	Bank of India	244	621.85	700.54	305.36	21.21	18.14	30.71	12.63	17.04	16.46
5.	Bank of Maharashtra	144	146.11	161.07	184.13	5.29	1.91	6.49	3.35	6.54	6.07
6.	Canara Bank	25	168.83	172.56	186.35	1.27	1.46	1.26	1.49	2.09	0.57
7.	Central Bank	432	920.94	988.46	1113.05	28.99	15.66	23.28	78.08	32.35	42.28
8.	Corporation Bank	6	32.56	42.05	55.01	0.12	0.01	0.17	-	0.04	-
9.	Dena Bank	98	161.52	210.77	257.63	7.70	4.51	7.87	5.03	6.92	6.11

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10.	Indian Bank	11	51.51	43.44	49.91	1.51	0.52	0.89	0.21	0.35	0.10
11.	Indian Overseas Bank	8	33.70	40.19	42.32	-	-	0.08	0.06	-	-
12.	S.B. of Mysore.	1	-	-	1.17	-	-	-	-	-	-
13.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	27	146.46	177.15	196.23	1.32	0.38	1.20	0.33	1.42	1.50
14.	Punjab National Bank	210	504.98	714.50	756.65	15.01	31.84	15.23	14.09	16.62	21.94
15.	Punjab and Sind Bank	28	75.39	90.18	106.86	1.46	0.37	1.26	2.44	3.18	0.35
16.	State Bank of India	694	2337.11	2697.31	3183.03	94.55	91.25	94.95	57.66	68.82	50.56
17.	State Bank of Indore	293	1016.42	1155.22	1396.35	8.95	5.02	10.05	5.92	12.40	8.29
18.	State Bank of Bikaner	11	14.37	14.35	14.35	-	-	-	-	-	-
19.	Syndicate Bank	22	90.01	98.43	108.5	1.57	0.40	1.12	0.07	0.85	0.31
20.	United Bank of India	6	8.21	7.38	7.38	-	-	-	-	-	-
21.	UCO Bank	122	421.14	429.13	424.06	8.72	1.68	5.50	10.85	6.89	1.47
22.	Union Bank of India	181	409.43	473.62	629.82	26.90	11.33	56.02	27.62	15.01	14.49
23.	Vijaya Bank	6	35.86	42.13	42.13	0.02	0.01	-	0.01	-	-
24.	State Bank of Patiala	3	2.23	4.24	4.24	-	-	-	-	-	-
25.	State Bank of Travancore	2	22.36	2.36	3.14	-	-	-	-	-	-
26.	State Bank of Hyderabad	2	2.17	2.17	2.17	-	-	-	-	-	-
27.	State Bank of Saurashtra	3	-	13.05	4.97	-	-	-	-	-	-
28.	New Bank of India	-	10.69	-	-	0.94	0.31	0.84	0.44	-	-

[English]

Credit Facilities to Exporters

3877. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to allow exporters to have package credit facility in foreign currency at concessional rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the exporters would enjoy bank credit facilities under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The scheme of allowing exporters to avail pre-shipment Credit in Foreign Currency at internationally competitive interest rate has been introduced by Reserve Bank of India in November 1993 as an additional window along with existing scheme of rupee packing credit.

(b) Under the scheme, banks allow packing credit in any convertible currency at interest rates linked to LIBOR. The facility is available both for domestic as well as imported inputs of the exported goods. Like in rupee credit, exporters can avail of packing credit under the scheme for 180 days initially.

(c) The options has been given to the exporters to avail of packing either in Rupees or in foreign exchange. The extent of utilisation to the credit would depend on the comparative cost of credit under the two schemes and also the availability of foreign exchange with the banks.

Currency Notes

3878. SHRI P. KUMARASAMY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to phase

out currency notes up to Rs. 5 denomination as reported in the Economic Times dated January 23, 1995;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). While the average life of rupee one note is six months, that of rupees two and five is about one year. As against this, the life span of coins is about 15-20 years. In view of the final cost consideration, a decision has been taken to coinise these denominations in a phased manner so as to utilise the capacity so released for printing of higher denomination notes. Production of fresh notes of rupee one, rupees two and rupees five has accordingly been reduced.

Child Labour

3879. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have any scheme to educate the young innocent victims of child labour;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of children educated after liberation from the bonded labour trap during the last three years;
- (d) whether the Government propose to prepare any intensive programme to educate or to impart some training in skills to the victims of child servitude;
- (e) if so, whether the Government also propose to provide some attractive incentive or give the responsibility to non-governmental organisations;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A major activity under the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) is the establishment of special schools to provide basic needs like non-formal education, vocational training, supplementary nutrition etc., to children withdrawn from employment. Currently, 12 such projects are under implementation in 8 States covering approximately 14,000 children. For the year 1995-96, an allocation of Rs. 33 crores has been made under NCLP.

(c) Since the inception of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, a total of 1479 bonded children have been released and restored to their parents. There is a practice prevailing in some States like Andhra Pradesh to admit released bonded labourers in residential schools. The details of such beneficiaries are not maintained.

(d) to (g). The Central Government is currently implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme under which assistance is provided to the State Government on a 50:50 basis for rehabilitation of identified bonded

labourers which also include bonded child labourers. In addition, the State Governments have been advised to suitably dovetail the assistance available under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme with funds available under the various anti-poverty programmes in order to pool the resources for effective rehabilitation of identified bonded labourers. The Central Government have not formulated any separate scheme to educate or to impart training skills to the bonded child labourers.

[Translation]

Export of Engineering Products

3880. SHRI RAM PAL SINGH :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

- (a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for the export of engineering products;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which this scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). Export Promotion of engineering products has been the constant endeavour of the Government. Measures taken to boost exports of engineering products include various incentives under the Export-Import Policy including Duty Exemption Scheme, Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme, Special Import Licences etc. Duty Drawback, exemption of in one derived from export from levy of Income Tax and assistance from Market Development Fund.

Recently, a new Scheme called Engineering Products Export (Replenishment of Iron and Steel Intermediates) Scheme has been notified on 1.3.1995. Under this Scheme, the engineering goods exporters can domestically source their iron and steel requirements at prices comparable to international prices from the steel producers, who are entitled to duty free import of their inputs.

Investment Made by I.T.D.C. in Maharashtra

3881. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

- (a) the investment made by the India Tourism Development Corporation in its units in Maharashtra during the last two years, year-wise;
- (b) the locations of such units;
- (c) whether the India Tourism Development Corporation has formulated any new scheme for the development of its units in the State; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). During the last two years, ITDC has incurred plan expenditure of the order of Rs. 157.76 lacs on its existing units in Maharashtra as per details given below :

Name of the Unit	Plan Expenditure		Total (Provisional)
	1993-94	1994-95	
	(Rs. in lacs)		
Hotel Aurangabad	11.45	24.98	36.43
Duty Free Shops	100.91	20.42	121.33
			157.76

(c) and (d). ITDC's Annual Plan 1995-96 makes a provision of Rs. 44.00 lakhs on renovation of guest rooms, corridor, conference hall, kitchen etc. of Hotel Aurangabad Ashok.

[English]

Coverage of Prawn Culture under Insurance

3882. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Insurance Companies do not provide insurance cover to brackish water prawn culture from destruction caused by cyclones, tidal waves and diseases;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government contemplate positive measures in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (d). In Prawn Culture business, the general insurance industry has recently introduced comprehensive insurance covers against damages caused by accidents, cyclones and diseases in 'disease free' zones. Such insurance cover is limited to accidental damage only in the disease and natural calamity prone zones to avoid excessive exposure and to control the underwriting results. The scope of the insurance cover is reviewed by the insurance industry from time to time based on claims experience and other relevant factors.

Ayurvedic Medicines

3883. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a great demand of Indian ayurvedic medicines and natural herbs in Europe;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total quantity of the above items exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years, country-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to boost the export of these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) There is a significant demand for Indian Ayurvedic medicines and natural herbs in Europe.

(b) Figures for total export of Ayurvedic and Unani medicines and Ayurvedic and Unani herbs for the last three years are as under :

1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
		(April-Nov., 1994)
32.59	29.13	30.03

Country-wise details are available in the DGCI and S publication "Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India" available in the Parliament Library.

(c) Drugs and Pharmaceuticals including Ayurvedic medicines and herbs, are identified by the Government as 'Extreme Focus' group of items for the export promotion. The steps taken by the Government in accordance with this include, *inter-alia*, extension of Market Development Assistance, liberalisations in the policy and procedures, and promotion of measures like exchange of trade delegations, participation in trade fairs abroad, and exchange and dissemination of relevant information.

Public Issues

3884. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether recently a number of companies which have low paid up capital, have been approaching SEBI for floating public issues of huge amounts, as reported in the Times of India dated January 21, 1995;

(b) if so, the number of such cases detected so far by SEBI and action taken thereon; and

(c) the way in which the Government propose to contain this upsurge in capital market caused mainly by low equity-based companies even at the starting point?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Beedi Workers

3885. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of workers engaged in plucking of tendu leaf, procuring and making Beedi in Orissa and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the details of welfare schemes introduced for them;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the non-implementation of these schemes; and

(d) if so, the details of steps taken to protect the interest of those Beedi workers in Orissa and Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):

(a) The number of beedi workers in Orissa and Madhya Pradesh is estimated to be 1.52 lakhs and 6.60 lakhs respectively. Information on number of workers engaged in plucking and procuring of tendu leaf is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) A list of welfare schemes for beedi workers being implemented in all States, including Orissa and Madhya Pradesh, is annexed as Statement.

(c) and (d). The beedi workers all over the country are being provided with various welfare facilities. Several steps have been taken up to step up the tempo of welfare activities and to streamline the working of various welfare schemes for beedi workers. Highest priority is being given to schemes relating to housing, educational and health facilities for beedi workers. The quantum of financial assistance has been increased under different schemes and there is a substantial increase in the number of beneficiaries covered.

STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of the Scheme
1	2

Health

1. Static-cum-Mobile/Static Allopathic and Static Ayurvedic dispensaries for Beedi Workers.
2. Scheme for Reservation of Beds in T.B. Hospitals for Beedi Workers.
3. Scheme for Domiciliary Treatment of Beedi Workers.
4. Scheme for Treatment of Beedi Workers suffering from Cancer.
5. Scheme for Treatment of Beedi Workers suffering from Mental Diseases.
6. Scheme for treatment of Beedi Workers (including Gharkhata Workers) suffering from Leprosy.
7. Grant of Financial Assistance to Beedi Workers for purchase of Spectacles.
8. Maternity Benefit Scheme for Female Beedi Workers.
9. Scheme for Payment of Monetary Compensation for Sterilisation to Beedi Workers.
10. Re-imbursment of expenditure as financial assistance to Beedi Workers in respect of Heart Diseases.
11. Re-imbursment of expenditure as financial assistance to Beedi Workers in respect of Kidney Transplantation.

Social Security Scheme

1. Group Insurance Scheme for Beedi Workers.

Housing

1. Build Your Own House Scheme for Beedi Workers.
2. Housing Scheme for Economically Weaker Section of Beedi Workers.
3. Grant of subsidy to Co-operative Societies of Beedi Industry for construction of worksheds and godowns.

1	2
4. Group Housing Scheme for Beedi Workers.	

Education

1. Award of scholarship to the children of Beedi Workers (including Gharkhata Beedi Workers).
2. Composite Scheme for Financial Assistance to the School going children of Beedi Workers for supply of one set of dress and slates, note books, text-books.

Recreation

1. Establishment of Audio Visual Sets/Cinema Vans/Exhibition of films.
2. Organising Sports, games, social and cultural activities for Beedi Workers.
3. Holiday Home Scheme for Beedi Workers.
4. Supply of T.V. sets to the Beedi Workers industrial Co-operative Societies.
5. Establishment of Community Hall in beedi workers housing colony with colour T.V. set.

[Translation]

Export Growth under GATT Agreement

3886. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of increase registered in the country's exports following the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Discussion;

(b) whether India has not achieved desired success in the field of export;

(c) if so, the scheme formulated by the Government to promote exports during 1995-96; and

(d) the foreign exchange likely to be earned thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Consequent upon the successful completion of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Discussions, the World Trade Organisation came into being with effect from 1st January, 1995. It is too early to say whether Indian exports have gained momentum or increased since then.

(b) India's exports registered a growth of 20% in US \$ terms during 1993-94. Exports during April-February, 1994-95, the latest period for which aggregate trade data are available, indicate 17.3% increase, in dollar terms over the high base of 20.6% growth recorded during April-February 1993-94.

(c) and (d). Export promotion is a continuous process and steps are taken to boost exports in consultation with trade, industry and other relevant interests. Government has taken a number of steps to make the environment of policies and procedures more export friendly. The Eighth Plan (1992-97) envisages an export growth of 13.6% per annum in volume terms (at 1991-92 period) during the Plan period. The Eighth

Plan has projected the value of exports to be Rs 83 869 crores; at 1991-92 prices (US \$ 33,548 million) by the end of the terminal year of the Plan i.e., 1996-97.

[English]

Trade Deficit

3887. SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE :
SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any export and import target has been fixed for 1994-95;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the imports are growing at a faster rate than exports;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the size of trade deficit during each of the last three years; and

(e) the change in the composition of both exports and imports in the 90s as compared to 80s?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). No formal export target had been set for 1994-95. However, trade and industry had been exhorted to achieved export growth of 25% during 1994-95. No target is set for imports, and these are made as per requirements of the economy.

(c) and (d). Export growth during April-February 1994-95 the latest period for which aggregate trade statistics are available registered an increase of 17.3% as compared to imports which registered an increase of 23.3% over the corresponding periods during 1993-94. The Export-Import Policy (1992-97) *inter-alia* aims to encourage efficient and internationally competitive import substitution within the liberalised framework of foreign trade. Imports are made as per the requirements of the economy and the major share of imports is constituted by raw materials, intermediate inputs and capital goods. Non-oil imports during 1993-94 and 1994-95 (April-February) registered increases due to significant growth of industrial production and export-linked imports. The trade deficit during the last three years is given below, in US \$ million :

1992-93	-	3345
1993-94	-	1068
1994-95 (April-February)*	-	1814

* Provisional Figures rounded.

(e) During the nineties, the share of value added manufacture items in exports has registered an increase compared to the eighties. As for imports, raw materials, intermediate inputs and capital goods continue to be the major items during the nineties.

[Translation]

Investment in New Enterprises by I.T.D.C.

3888. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the investment made by the India Tourism Development Corporation in its new enterprises set up in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) whether the India Tourism Development Corporation has identified some more units in the State for the development; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) During the last three years ITDC has not invested in any new project in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) and (c). ITDC's Annual Plan 1995-96 does not include any specific plan scheme/outlay for setting up new project in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

Free Trade Ports

3889. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA :

SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal for setting up of Free Trade Ports from various State Governments and private sectors;

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

(c) whether the ports are being set up by the State Governments/Private/Foreign collaboration/joint-venture sectors;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the cost and the investment available to each of these ports separately, State-wise and sector-wise;

(e) whether the Government have cleared any proposal in the country particularly in the States of Goa, Maharashtra and Gujarat to take advantage of liberalisation and globalisation process on the economic front;

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

(g) the time by which these ports are likely to be set up and the benefits are likely to be accrued as a result of the implementation of these projects; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (h). The setting up of a Free Port in India was considered by the Raunaq Singh Committee. No specific proposal for establishing a Free Port has been received from any quarter. However, the Government of Tamil Nadu, Goa and Andaman and Nicobar Islands have recommended the location of a Free Port in their States/Territory which has also been supported by some local Industry Associations and trade bodies.

The establishment of a Free Port is under examination in the context of the on going process of economic liberalisation. No time frame can be indicated by which a decision would be taken in this regard.

Leather Garment Industry

3890. DR. K.D. JESWANI :

SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of the leather and leather garments produced and exported during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Indian garment industry find it difficult to compete with the products of other countries;

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

(d) whether Pakistan, China and South Korea purchase raw material from India and sell the end-products at very high prices and pocket the huge profits;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to assist the leather garment manufacturers in the country to enable them to compete successfully in the international market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). Exports of Leather Garments during the last three years were as follows:

(Value in Million Rs.)

1991-92	7368.71
1992-93	9429.45
1993-94	11066.32

(Source: Council for Leather Exports)

The total leather garment export figures can be taken as approximate production figures, as the domestic sales of Leather Garments is negligible. Our exports of leather garments are mainly to Europe and USA and have shown consistent growth during the last three years.

(d) and (e). Pakistan is not importing finished leather from India. Our exports of Finished Leather to China and Korea is about 5% of the total exports.

(f) For integrated development of leather industry in India, a comprehensive scheme titled 'National Development Programme' has been drawn by the Government and is being implemented with the assistance received from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). One of the major objectives of the Programme is 'Enhancing the Export Capabilities'. The Council for Leather Exports which is one of the participating institutions in the National Leather Development Programme and is implementing various sub-projects which aim at promotion of export of leather products including leather garments.

Visit of Labour Minister to China

3891. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Minister of State for Labour visited the People's Republic of China recently;

(b) whether any decision was taken during the visit; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):

(a) The Union Minister of Labour visited the People's Republic of China between the 4th and 10th of September, 1994.

(b) and (c). The discussion between the Labour Ministers of India and China centered mainly on the new labour laws, the role of Unions and Government in dealing with surplus labour and industrial sickness, social security for workers, labour productivity, social dimensions of globalisation of the economy etc. There was no formal decision as the discussions were in the nature of exchange of information and ideas based on the experience of the respective countries. It was agreed that both countries would actively work to build on the present foundation of friendship and further reinforce contacts in all areas including labour.

Imposition of Quota on Indian Garments

3892. SHRI TARA SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the move of the World Trade Organisation regarding its right to impose quota for garments and textile clothings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the move has caused hardship to Indian exporters;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.

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

(e) The WTO has no right to impose quotas. Under the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing member countries can in certain cases impose quotas.

[*Translation*]

D.A. to Government Employees

3893. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the position of consumer price-index from time to time for the purpose of calculating Dearness Allowance during the last three years;

(b) the number of times when the Dearness Allowance of Central Government employees was increased during the same period;

(c) the level of price index at present;

(d) the date on which Dearness Allowance of Government employees has been increased recently and the rates thereof;

(e) the impact of recently increased Dearness Allowance of Central Government employees; and

(f) the time by which the declared slab of Dearness Allowance will be paid to all the Government employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (f). In accordance with the formula recommended by the Fourth Central Pay Commission and as accepted by the Government, Dearness Allowance to Central Government employees is revised twice a year from 1st January and 1st July, which normally becomes payable with the salary for the months of March and September, respectively. Each such instalment is calculated on the basis of percentage increase in 12 monthly average of All India Consumer Price Index for Industrial workers (General) (1960-100) over the base index of 608, to which the existing scales of pay effective from 1.1.1986, are related. During the last three years, six additional instalments of D.A. have been sanctioned to the Central Government employees.

The 12 monthly average of Consumer Price Index as on 31.12.1994 worked out to 1370.16, which constituted an increase of 125% over the base index of 608 (which was obtaining on 1.1.1986). On the basis of this increase, one additional instalment of Dearness Allowance has already been sanctioned to the Central Government employees w.e.f 1.1.1995, as follows :

Pay Range	Rates of DA
Upto Rs. 3500/-	125% of pay
Above Rs. 3500/- and upto Rs. 6000/-	94% of pay subject to a minimum of Rs. 4375/-
Above Rs. 6000/-	81% of pay subject to a minimum of Rs. 5640/-.

The financial implications on account of both Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief to pensioners, would be in the order of Rs. 1233 crores per annum.

[*English*]

UNDP Schemes

3894. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the United Nations Development Programme is planning to conduct an evaluation of its ongoing programmes and schemes in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) UNDP is not planning to conduct any overall evaluation of its assistance programme in India. As a part of its operational procedures, however, UNDP conducts joint reviews together with the Government of its assistance programme, periodically.

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

Bonus Shares of PSUs.

3895. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received information about a number of companies in public sector evading norms by issuing bonus shares;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against such companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) and (b). No, Sir. The Government have not laid down any norms for issue of Bonus Shares by Public Sector Companies.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Closed Industrial Units

3896. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the industrial units lying closed or are on the verge of closure in Uttar Pradesh, location-wise;

(b) the time by which these units are lying closed or are on the verge of closure and the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by the Government for the revival of these industrial units;

(d) the number of employees and workers rendered jobless due to the closure of these units; and

(e) the details of the financial assistance provided to the workers of these units by the State Government/ Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):
(a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Heritage Hotels

3897. DR. SAKSHIJI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to open Heritage Hotels in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Government has a scheme of approving hotels at project planning stage in different categories, and hotels' classification, which includes Heritage Hotels, all over the country. Proposals in this regard are submitted by promoters.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

SC/ST Employees in Foreign Branches of Nationalised Banks

3898. SHRI RATILAL VARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of scheduled caste and scheduled tribe employees working in the foreign branches of public sector banks;

(b) whether reservation policy is being followed while making appointments in foreign branches of the banks; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):
(a) Six of the 8 Public Sector Banks having their branches in foreign countries, have reported that Twenty of their officer employees posted in foreign branches belong to SC/ST communities.

(b) and (c). In so far as foreign branches of Public Sector Banks are concerned, the recruitment to the posts in clerical and other lower cadres are made locally from amongst the citizens of the respective countries. The question of following the reservation policy as prescribed for recruitment in that country to the locally recruited staff does not arise. Some senior posts, mainly in officers' grades, are filled by deputation of bank's own officers from India. As per extant guidelines there is no reservation applicable to such deputation of officers. Banks, however, consider the eligible SC/ST officers on the basis of merit for foreign postings alongwith other officers.

[English]

Settlement of Claims by G.I.C.

3899. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question Number 605 on December 9, 1994 regarding Payment of claims by Subsidiaries of GIC and state :

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):
(a) to (c). The assurance given to the House in response to Unstarred Question No. 605 on 9.12.1994 has been fulfilled on 8.3.1995. A copy of the Implementation Report which contains full details is enclosed as Statement.

STATEMENT

*XIth Session, 1994 of Tenth Lok Sabha
Ministry of Finance
Department of Economic Affairs*

Date of fulfilment 8.3.1995

Q.No., Date and Name of Member	Subject	Promise made	When and how fulfilled	Reasons for delay
1	2	3	4	5
USQ.605 Dated 9.12.1994 by	PAYMENT OF CLAIMS BY SUBSIDIARIES OF GIC	(a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid	(a) and (b). The GIC have reported that from 1987 onwards the four subsidiary companies were instructed by them to comply with the provisions	

1	2	3	4	5															
Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar	<p>Asking for:</p> <p>(a) whether the General Insurance Corporation have issued directives to its subsidiary companies to follow the guidelines for compliance of Section 64VB of the Insurance Act;</p> <p>(b) if so, whether the provisions of Section 64VB are strictly complied with while making payments of claims; and</p> <p>(c) the number of claims repudiated during the current financial year and the number and details of claims paid in violation of the provisions of Section 64VB of Insurance Act by the New India Assurance Company and other companies at Delhi?</p>	on the Table of the House.	of Section 64VB of Insurance Act, 1938. It was represented that these provisions would not cover all situations in commercial practice. Hence, fresh guidelines were issued by the GIC during the years 1989 and 1990 laying down procedure for settling cases involving violations of Section 64VB occurring prior to 31st December, 1989. Further, in terms of these instructions, all Claim Notes are now required to indicate particulars of collection of premium and the Certificate of Compliance of Section 64VB without which the claims cannot be settled.																
			(c) The position as reported by GIC is as under:																
			<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name of Insurance Company</th> <th>Number of claims repudiated for violation of Section 64VB</th> <th>Number and Details of claims settled in violation of Section 64VB</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>National</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>Nil</td> </tr> <tr> <td>New India</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Oriental</td> <td>1</td> <td>Nil</td> </tr> <tr> <td>United India</td> <td>1</td> <td>Nil</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Name of Insurance Company	Number of claims repudiated for violation of Section 64VB	Number and Details of claims settled in violation of Section 64VB	National	Nil	Nil	New India	Nil	1	Oriental	1	Nil	United India	1	Nil	
Name of Insurance Company	Number of claims repudiated for violation of Section 64VB	Number and Details of claims settled in violation of Section 64VB																	
National	Nil	Nil																	
New India	Nil	1																	
Oriental	1	Nil																	
United India	1	Nil																	

[Translation]

Indore-Calcutta Air Service

3900. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

- (a) whether air-service between Indore and Calcutta has been suspended for the last few days;
- (b) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to resume this air-service;
- (c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be resumed; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Due to shortage of pilots, Indian Airlines stopped its twice weekly B-737 services on the Indore-Calcutta sector w.e.f December, 1992.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Indian Airlines is facing acute shortage of operating crew and as such it is not possible to restore the Indore-Calcutta service.

[English]

Recruitment Agents

3901. SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to scrap the system of licencing of Recruitment Agents;
- (b) if so, by when; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The registration of Recruiting Agents is necessary to save the intending emigrants from exploitation by unscrupulous Recruiting Agents.

Trade Route

3902. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to make an arrangement for operating a cheaper trade route through Bandar Abbas, a sea port, in Iran as a short cut to trade with Central Asian Republics;

(b) if so, the stage at which the matter stands at present;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to develop an alternative airport at Novorossisk in CIS for ensuring the penetration of Indian goods to the Central Asian Republics; and

(d) if so, the progress made in this regard so far and the capital outlay involved thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government is in the process of finalising arrangements for opening a cheaper transit trade route to the Central Asian Republics through Bandar Abbas.

To examine the feasibility of a transit route, two study teams from the Ministry of Commerce visited Iran and Central Asian Republics in July 1993 and November 1994 respectively. The teams studied the existing infrastructure including quality and adequacy of rail, road and port facilities, transport linkages with neighbouring countries, customs and other regulatory procedures and warehousing facilities, and the possibility of fully operationalising the transit route in an efficient and cost-effective manner. The teams concluded that the trade route through Iran is viable, economical and faster. Subsequently, at the initiative of the Government, an MOU has been signed between the Government of India, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Turkmenistan on 18.4.1995 to facilitate smooth flow of trade between India and the Central Asian Republics through Iran.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. However, the Government is planning to facilitate the development of the sea port at

Novorossisk in Russia. The issue is being discussed with the Government of Russia on a continuous basis and it is hoped that the development of appropriate infrastructure at the port would facilitate trade with Russia and Central Asia.

[Translation]

Pending Labour Cases

3903. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the details of industrial disputes and labour related cases pending in various forums for the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to constitute more courts/tribunals for speedy disposal of these cases;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these would be constituted;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the efforts made/being made by the Government for speedy disposal of those cases?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):

(a) A Statement is attached.

(b) to (d). The Central Government propose to set up more Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts (CGITs) during the VIIIth Five Year Plan, where considered necessary.

(e) The steps in hand for speedy disposal of pending disputes, *inter-alia*, are as follows :

- (i) Improving and strengthening of Conciliation Machinery so that a large number of cases are settled at the conciliation stage;
- (ii) Expeditious filling up of vacancies of Presiding Officers of the Labour Courts and Industrial Tribunals;
- (iii) Setting up of additional Labour Courts and Industrial Tribunals, where necessary;
- (iv) Holding of Lok Adalats, wherever possible.

STATEMENT*I. Labour Courts/Industrial Tribunals under State Govts./U.T. Admsns.*

S.No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	No. of Industrial disputes pending as on			No. of Applications pending as on		
		31.12. 1991	31.12. 1992	31.12 1993	31.12. 1991	31.12. 1992	31.12. 1993
		1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	15	15	24	15	15	15
2.	Andhra Pradesh	6867	7073	8081	3662	4745	2969
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Assam	279	263	260	100	102	76

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	Bihar	755	730	706	791	961	941
6.	Chandigarh	689	754	739	216	198	0
7.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.	D and N Haveli	1	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Delhi	20947	22209	21889	21328	22724	22623
10.	Goa	213	223	224	120	96	100
11.	Gujarat	40437	N.A.	45798	684	N.A.	699
12.	Himachal Pradesh	232	229	311	171	136	243
13.	Haryana	4566	4838	4713	2568	3037	3110
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	N.A.	N.A.	88	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
15.	Kerala	1331	1544	1690	998	1134	1230
16.	Karnataka(P)	9123	10146	7320	3343	3327	2383
17.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
18.	Manipur	4	4	4	0	0	0
19.	Meghalaya	1	7	2	0	0	0
20.	Maharashtra	11646	12342	13302	25164	23696	25236
21.	Madhya Pradesh	2310	2459	2522	1064	1274	1395
22.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
23.	Nagaland	0	0	1	0	0	0
24.	Orissa	1056	1191	1251	1255	1607	1757
25.	Punjab	9250	6647	7184	10115	7336	5422
26.	Pondicherry	26	48	88	15	19	11
27.	Rajasthan	7801	8201	8404	5696	4942	5680
28.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0
29.	Tamil Nadu	7821	9553	9734	7271	9336	11084
30.	Tripura	5	2	2	5	2	2
31.	Uttar Pradesh	13043	15241	17795	5536	5142	6091
32.	West Bengal	2210	2260	2211	170	175	1244
Total		140628	105979	154343	90287	90004	92311

(P) Provisional more N.A. Not Available

II. Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts

S.No.	Name of CGIT	No. of Industrial disputes pending as on			No. of Applications pending as on		
		31.12.	31.12.	31.12.	31.12.	31.12.	31.12.
		1992	1993	1994	1992	1993	1994
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Asansol	47	60	79	9	15	22
2.	Bangalore	312	386	374	15	27	24
3.	No. 1 Bombay	276	298	233	774	796	831
4.	No. 2 Bombay	198	256	257	2066	642	695
5.	Calcutta	279	298	343	231	242	251
6.	Chandigarh	709	744	777	2018	1845	1892
7.	No. 1 Dhanbad	546	635	789	125	164	183
8.	No. 2 Dhanbad	447	557	539	36	37	36
9.	Jabalpur	936	1188	1375	2094	2224	1469
10.	Kanpur	759	822	927	1150	1188	1279
11.	New Delhi	577	605	676	1299	1220	1422
Total		5086	5799	6369	9817	8400	8104

Rubber Technology Institute

3904. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rubber Board propose to set up Rubber Technology Institute in Gujarat, particularly in tribal areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such proposal has been received by the Rubber Board.

[English]

Unemployed Graduates

3905. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of unemployed graduates registered with the various Employment Exchanges in Andhra Pradesh as on date; and

(b) the number of persons provided employment through the Employment Exchanges during each of the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) The number of Graduates (including Post-graduates) job-seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, who were on the live register of employment exchanges in Andhra Pradesh as on 31.12.1993 (latest available) was 350.6 thousands (Provisional).

(b) The number of placements effected by the Employment Exchanges in Andhra Pradesh in respect of Graduates (including Post-graduates) during the year 1992 and 1993 was 2.3 and 1.1. thousands respectively.

Qualified Pilots

3906. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of qualified pilots in the country as on March 31, 1994 vis-a-vis their demand for domestic and international flights as at present and likely to increase during the Eighth Plan; and

(b) the steps taken to meet the requirement?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) As on March 31, 1994 the total number of qualified licenced pilots was 5944 which is adequate to meet the requirements of scheduled airlines and airtaxi operators in the country. However, issuing of licence is not linked with the demand for employment of pilots.

(b) Flying training facilities for obtaining Private Pilot's Licence and Commercial Pilot's Licence are adequately available. These are carried out in 36 Flying Clubs/Institutions, including Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi and four privately managed institutions.

Customer Service at Nationalised Banks

3907. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints about the poor customer service at various nationalised banks in the country; and

(b) whether the Government are aware that certain officers/employees of nationalised banks are continuing to work at their place of domicile thereby developing local interest which is against the larger interest of banks and customer service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) As per the provisions contained in the Officers Service Regulations/Settlement/Awards governing the service conditions of the Bank Officers/Employees, an officer can be transferred anywhere in India. However, in the case of workmen not belonging to sub-staff, as far as possible there should be no transfer outside the State or the language area in which an employee has been serving. In order to avoid any vested interests growing out of long stay of officers/clerks in a particular Branch, Banks have been advised by the Government to rotate their officers and clerical staff after every 3/5 years.

Export of Wheat and Rice

3908. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have given permission for the export of wheat and rice during 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the rate and total quantity of these items fixed for exports, country-wise;

(c) whether the price of these items is less than the prevailing price in the international as well as domestic markets;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (e). Exports of rice (basmati and non-basmati) are freely permitted without any quantity and price restrictions. The Government have also released a quantitative ceiling of 2.5 million tonnes for export of non-durum

wheat from the open market in 1995-96 without any minimum export price. The Food Corporation of India has also been authorised to export/sell for the purposes of export non-durum wheat and rice from public stocks in 1995-96. Such exports/sale of wheat would be within the overall ceiling of 2.5 million tonnes, while the quantitative limit in case of fine and superfine varieties of rice would be 2 million tonnes. The sale/export price of wheat and rice from the public stocks will be determined from time to time by a Committee constituted for this purpose. It is not possible to accurately compare the prices prevailing in the international and domestic markets on account of different varieties traded, variations in quality, and additional expenditure incurred in grading and packaging for exports.

Silk Industry of J and K

3909. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the silk industry in the Jammu and Kashmir State has suffered a setback during the recent years and that the Kashmir Silk is no longer exported to foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Silk Board (CSB) has recently decided to extend financial and other assistance for revival and modernisation of silk industry in the State; and

(d) if so, the details of the plan formulated by the CSB in this regard, indicating the amount of financial assistance, the number of units to be revived and make operational, measure for improving quality of seeds, cocoons, yarns and designs?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b). Production of silk cocoons in J and K, which was 820 tonnes in 1991-92 remained somewhat steady during 1992-93 (813 tonnes) but declined to 651 tonnes in 1993-94. The data for 1994-95 is however not available.

In so far as exports of Kashmir silk are concerned, it may be stated that since silk textile products are not necessarily exported from the State in which raw silk is produced, maintaining of State-wise export data is not feasible. However, the CSB's Certification Centre at Srinagar continues to function and the value of silk goods certified by this Centre during 1994-95 (April 94-Feb., 95) was Rs. 277.56 lakhs as against Rs. 186.51 lakhs certified for export during 1993-94.

(c) and (d). The State of J and K is one of the five traditional Sericulture States covered under the World Bank/Swiss Development Cooperation Assisted National Sericulture Project which is under implementation since 1989-90. The project envisages an allocation of Rs. 17.5 crores for Sericulture Department of the State for undertaking various developmental activities under the project, including activities for improving quality of seeds cocoons, yarn, expansion of area under mulberry etc. Besides, the project envisages strengthening of Central

Silk Board's R and D units in the State and establishment of 2 Basic Seed Farms, 1 Silkworm Seed Production Centre, 1 Silk Conditioning and Testing House and 8 Technical Service Centres by the Board.

As against the allocation of Rs. 17.5 crores envisaged for development of mulberry sericulture State under the project, the expenditure incurred by the State since inception of the project and till 31.12.94 is reported to be Rs. 10.73 crores. During this period, the expenditure incurred by the CSB on its units is reported to be Rs. 4.37 crores.

Trivandrum International Airport

3910. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide modern radar facilities at Trivandrum International Airport;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up and the expenditure likely to be involved; and

(c) the facilities/benefits likely to be achieved after the installation of the said radar?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). State-of-the-Art Primary and Secondary Radars have been installed at a cost of Rs. 29.29 crores at Trivandrum Airport and are scheduled to be commissioned by the end of April, 1995.

(b) The radars will improve safety factor and air traffic management.

Export of Machinery

3911. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any suggestions from the exporters of machinery to make changes in the existing export-import policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard and boost the export of machinery?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). Several suggestions were received from exporters of machinery for making changes in the Export-Import Policy, including that of making available iron and steel intermediates at near international prices. All these suggestions were considered while revising the Export/Import Policy. A special Scheme known as the "Engineering Products Export (Replenishment of Iron and Steel Intermediates) Scheme" has also been notified on 1st March, 1995 which will enable the indigenous steel producers to supply iron and steel intermediates, at near international prices.

Flying Allowance

3912. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether some of the allowances paid to the employees of the Central Government and Public Sector Undertaking employees are exempted from Income Tax;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the flying allowance being paid to Indian Airlines employees is also exempted from Income Tax;
- (d) whether the Government propose to withdraw exemption to flying allowance; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). No, Sir. No specific exemption is available under the Income Tax Act, 1961 to the employees of the Central Government and Public Sector Undertakings. However, under the provisions of Section 10(14) of the Income Tax Act, 1961, certain allowances (a) granted to meet expenses wholly, necessarily and exclusively incurred in the performance of the duties of an office; (b) granted to meet the personal expenses at the place of duties or residence or to compensate him for the increased cost of living, subject to the notification in the Official Gazette are exempt. This exemption is available to employees serving in Government, Public Sector or Private Sector.

(c) Yes, Sir. Any allowance, including flying allowance, granted to an employee working in any transport system to meet his personal expenditure during his duty performed in the course of running such transport from one place to another, is exempt up to 70% of the allowance up to a maximum of Rs.3,000/- per month (w.e.f 1.7.1992). However, this exemption is not available if such employee is in the receipt of daily allowance in respect of said duty performed by him.

(d) No such proposal is presently under consideration.

(e) Not applicable.

Unintended Firing from Gun of Guard of P.N.B.

3913. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a clerk in the Connaught Place, New Delhi branch of the Punjab National Bank was killed and several other injured when the gun of the guard of the bank went off on March 30, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the compensation given by the bank to the kins of the bank employee killed and to those injured;

(d) whether the Government have issued any guidelines to the banks regarding the security system; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). Punjab National Bank (PNB) have reported that on 30th March, 1995, the gun of the guard at the ECE House Branch of the Bank went off resulting in death of one Terminal Operator (Clerk) and injury to another Terminal Operator. The Bank has paid a sum of Rs. 1,20,500/- as compensation and ex-gratia payments to the dependent of deceased bank clerk.

(d) and (e). The public sector banks have been advised of several measures for strengthening their security arrangements. These include classification of branches into specified categories depending on various factors, setting up of Central Security Cell in Reserve Bank of India for looking into all aspects of security and to provide guidelines to banks relating to security arrangements, constitution of State level security committees, etc.

[Translation]

Beautification of Sea Coasts of Gujarat

3914. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat for the beautification of sea coasts to attract tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount spent in Gujarat and other coastal States, State-wise, for this purpose during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). The Department of Tourism does not have any scheme for assisting State Governments for the beautification of Sea Coasts.

However, the Department of Tourism, Government of India has sanctioned the following projects for the development of tourism infrastructure on the coastal areas of Gujarat :

Name of the Scheme	Year	(Rs. in lakhs)
		Amount Sanctioned
1. Tourist Complex at Bhuj	1991-92	13.08
2. Preservation of beach resort at Chorwad.	1991-92	10.00
3. Cateteria at Porbandar	1993-94	14.60
4. Floodlighting at Somnath Temple	1993-94	17.46

(c) The amount spent in Gujarat and other coastal States State-wise for the development of tourism infrastructure since 1991-92 is given in the attached Statement.

STATEMENT

Statement showing the Projects sanctioned for Development of Sea-beaches

(Rs. in lakhs)			
S.No.	Name of the Project	Year of Senction	Amount Sanctioned
1	2	3	4
ANDHRA PRADESH			
1.	Beach Resort at Tupplipalem, Nallore	1991-92	7.00
GOA			
1.	Toilet facilities at Colva, Miramar and Dona Paula	1992-93	11.95
2.	Public Conveniences at Calangute Beach	1993-94	13.34
GUJARAT			
1.	Tourist Complex at Bhuj	1991-92	13.08
2.	Preservation of Beach Resort at Chorwad	-do-	10.00
3.	Cafeteria at Porbandar	1993-94	14.60
4.	Flood Lighting of Som Nath Temple	-do-	17.46
KARNATAKA			
1.	Public Conveniences at Gokarna	1993-94	3.21
KERALA			
1.	Integrated Development of Bekal	1991-92	190.00
2.	Beach Resort at Paravoor	1993-94	26.13
3.	Beach Resort at Chethala	-do-	24.69
MAHARASHTRA			
1.	Tourist Complex at Ganapatipule	1993-94	26.57
2.	Beach Cottages at Harihareshwar	-do-	24.88
3.	Tourist Complex at Kunkushwar	-do-	24.30
ORISSA			
1.	Yatri Niwas at Puri	1992-93	44.35
2.	Tourist Complex at Gopalpur	1993-94	38.23
3.	Tourist Complex at Paradip	-do-	32.58
TAMIL NADU			
1.	Flood Lighting of Mamallapuram	1991-92	9.98
2.	Beautification of Beach-Kanyakumari	-do-	6.00

1	2	3	4
3.	Yatri Niwas at Rameshwaram	1992-93	44.73
WEST BENGAL			
1.	Beach Resort at Shankarpur	1991-92	40.13
UNION TERRITORIES			
ANDMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS			
1.	Tourist Complex at Diglipur	1993-94	26.62
2.	Tourist Complex at Rangat	-do-	26.35
LAKSHADWEEP			
1.	Accommodation at Kodmat Island	1991-92	23.00
DADRA, NAGAR, DAMAN AND DIU			
1.	Visitors Centres at Daman	1991-92	10.74
2.	Illumination of St. Paul Church at Diu	1993-94	4.03
PONDICHERRY			
1.	Tourist Lodge at Karaikal	1991-92	21.95

[English]

GATT Agreement

3915. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Uruguay Round offers limited, conditional benefits' appearing in the Indian Express dated November 6, 1994;

(b) if so, whether the Government have examined the report; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) There are different assessments of the benefits of the Uruguay Round which vary depending upon the methodology used in the studies. In Government's assessment, the improved rules governing international trade and the market access opportunities created by the Uruguay Round in the areas of goods and services would, on the whole be advantageous to us in increasing our exports.

Chinese official sources at Geneva have denied any knowledge about the remark attributed to a Chinese official in the news item.

Committee on Badla System

3916. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :
SHRI RAM NAIK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have examined the recommendations of the three member committee on badla system set up by the Securities and Exchange Board of India;

(b) if so, the main features of the recommendations made by this committee;

(c) the Government's reaction thereto; and

(d) the reforms in the existing system for forward trades including badla system and normal delivery and jobbing transactions that are likely to be introduced by the SEBI in view of the observations made by the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) The Committee was constituted by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and the Committee's recommendations are currently being examined by SEBI.

(b) The Committee has recommended a new system of carry-forward of transactions in shares with several features. The main features of the proposed system are given in attached Statement.

(c) and (d). As the recommendations of the Committee are under examination by SEBI, it would be premature to indicate the likely reforms to be introduced by SEBI.

STATEMENT

1. The basic criteria for including shares under the new system should be that the shares should be of dividend-paying and growth-oriented companies with a large capital base and wide-spread shareholding by the public.
2. Adequate safeguards should be built into the system for ensuring proper checks and balances in regard to monitoring the transactions at the micro-level.
3. Every carry-forward transaction should preferably be liquidated within 90 days.
4. The resumption of forward trading in shares should, as far as possible, be preceded by the facility of screen-based trading for ensuring greater transparency.
5. While transactions earmarked for jobbing and carry-forward can be squared up at any time within the period of 90 days, the transactions earmarked for delivery must result in delivery within the settlement period itself.

6. The Stock Exchanges should collect daily margin money on gross basis at a minimum rate of 15% for carry-forward transactions and 7.5% for transactions for actual delivery.

Sick Units of NTC

3917. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have achieved tangible results in reviving of six sick units of the National Textile Corporation Limited in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to modernise the other NTC units in the State?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c). The Textile Research Associations have prepared modernisation plan for NTC mills including those in Andhra Pradesh. The Labour Ministry's Special Tripartite Committee on the NTC has recommended, *inter-alia*, that the NTC mills as well as its taken over mills can be made viable by modernisation as proposed by the Textile Research Associations. A Revised Turn Around Strategy on the basis of the modernisation plan prepared by the Textile Research Associations is under consideration of the Government. Since the cases of 8 out of 9 subsidiaries of the NTC have been referred to the BIFR, any final scheme that may emerge would require the approval of the BIFR before implementation.

Irregularities by Private Airlines

3918. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of private airlines operating in the country;

(b) whether the Government are aware that irregularities have been committed by some of the private airlines;

(c) if so, whether an inquiry in this regard has been conducted; and

(d) the steps the Government propose to take to check irregularities being committed by private airlines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) 6 out of 19 private operators have been issued permits for operating scheduled Air Transport Services.

(b) and (c). Generally private airlines have been observing the laid down rules. However, whenever any violation of rules comes to notice action is taken by the statutory authority against the erring personnel and operators as the case may be after conducting appropriate enquiry.

(d) The following steps are taken as a part of accident prevention programme and to enhance airworthiness and operational control :

- (i) carrying out safety audit of operators;
- (ii) flight surveillance;
- (iii) implementation of safety recommendations;
- (iv) monitoring of flight recorders;
- (v) dissemination of safety information;
- (vi) organising safety seminars to identify the areas of weaknesses in management of operations so as to give them an opportunity to improve their systems and functioning to ensure safety.
- (vii) monitoring of the inflight procedures being followed by flight crew.

Vocational Course in G.I.C.

3919. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the General Insurance Corporation (GIC) had started job-oriented vocational courses during 1987 in various schools of Delhi/New Delhi at 10 plus 2 level for appointment of these students in GIC as Assistants;

(b) if so, the number of batches passed out and the number of candidates given jobs so far, year-wise;

(c) the number of candidates still waiting for their jobs in GIC, and

(d) the time by which these students are likely to be absorbed as Assistants in General Insurance Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) The General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) have reported that the vocational course in GIC was started in 1988 on pilot project basis in a few selected schools which included a few schools in Delhi. The students who passed 12th Standard examination of the vocational course with requisite percentage of marks are given one year apprenticeship training. After satisfactory completion of apprenticeship and medical examination, they are considered for absorption in the regular scale of Assistant in the General Insurance industry.

(b) Four batches have passed out. A total of 175, 148 and 163 candidates from the First, Second and the Third batches respectively, who passed out from Delhi have been given jobs.

(c) and (d). The Fourth batch from Delhi consisting of 187 candidates who passes out are being placed as Apprentice Assistants. After successful completion of apprenticeship these candidates would be considered for absorption as Assistants in the General Insurance Industry.

Gold Bank

3920. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of gold inflow during 1994;

(b) the amount collected on inflow of gold through customs ever since the gold import policy announced;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up gold bank; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) A quantity of approximately 178 tonnes of gold was legally imported into the country during 1994 under the Gold Import Scheme (through passenger baggage) and under Special Import Licences. This figure does not include gold imported under Replenishment Schemes for export of jewellery.

(b) From March, 1992 to March, 1995 Customs duty in convertible foreign currency equivalent to rupees one thousand seven crores approximately has been collected on the gold imported into the country.

(c) and (d). There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

Air Collision

3921. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the possibilities of mid air collision has been increased on account of increase in air traffic;

(b) if so, whether to obviate such situation the Government have issued directions to all private airtaxi operators to stagger their private schedule;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure the implementation of the directions of Government?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Expansion of Airports

3922. PROF. K.V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to modernise and expand airports; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). Modernisation and expansion of airports and other infrastructural facilities is a continuing process and is taken up in a phased manner depending upon projected requirements and availability of resources.

Major projects of upgradation and construction of new airports envisaged during 8th Five Year Plan by the Airports Authority of India are as follows :

- (i) Modernisation of air traffic control services at Bombay and Delhi Airports.
- (ii) Procurement of Airport Surveillance Radars and Monopulse Secondary Surveillance Radars.
- (iii) Procurement of Instrument Landing Systems.
- (iv) Development of Model airports.
- (v) Construction of International Passenger Terminal Complex (Phase-III) at Bombay airport.
- (vi) Construction of Domestic Terminal Complex (Phase-II) at Bombay airport.

[Translation]

Tourists Visited Kashmir

3923. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of tourists, foreign and domestic, visited Kashmir between January 1, 1994 and January 31, 1995; and

(b) the income earned from the visit of tourists during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) According to the information available from the State Government, the total number of tourists who visited Kashmir Valley during 1st January, 1994 to 31st January, 1995 were 10110 which include 500 domestic tourists.

(b) Statistics of income earned by the industry from tourists are not maintained.

Sale of Concessional Tickets

3924. SHRI LALL BABU RAI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that foreign airlines functioning in India at present are selling tickets at concessional rates without obtaining prior approval from the Union Government;

(b) if so, the number of such cases noticed by the Government during the last six months;

(c) the impact on the Indian air companies as a result thereof; and

(d) the details of the steps the Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). As per the existing guidelines 3rd/4th freedom carriers can file

special fares with the Director General of Civil Aviation, who will approve such fares within 48 hours of filing. Other carriers would be entitled to match such fares after notifying DGCA, in writing. No specific case of violation of guidelines has come to the notice of the Director General of Civil Aviation.

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

Import of Silver

3925. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR :

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have given relaxation in regard to the restrictions imposed on import of silver;

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

(c) whether under the above relaxation certain categories of persons have been permitted to bring silver into the country;

(d) if so, the categories of such persons and the quantum of silver permitted to bring in the country by each person;

(e) the extent of customs duty likely to be paid thereon;

(f) whether the prices of silver has come down in the local markets due to the said relaxation; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the impact thereof on the smuggling of silver?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) :

(a) to (e). The restrictions on import of silver were relaxed on 8.2.1993 when Non-Resident Indians were permitted to import silver in their baggage, not exceeding 100 kg. per passenger, subject to the condition that such a passenger is coming to India after stay abroad for a period of not less than six months and the duty at the rate of five hundred rupees per kilogram is paid in convertible foreign currency.

Subsequently, with effect from 27.04.94, the import of silver has also been permitted against Special Import Licences. The rate of duty payable on silver imported under this category is five hundred rupees per kg which is required to be paid out of the Exchange Earning Foreign Currency Account of the Importer.

These relaxations were made to make smuggling of silver less attractive.

(f) and (g). The prices of silver prevailing in the local Bullion market came down substantially after relaxation were announced and have remained more

or less stable in spite of rise in prices in the international market. Prices of silver prevailing in the Bombay Bullion

Market before and after the relaxations viz 8.2.93 are as follows :

S. No.	Date	London Price US \$ Tr. Oz.	%Rise/fall in London price as compared to price prevailing on 01.02.1993	Bombay price Rs/Kg.	%Rise/fall in Bombay price as compared to price prevailing on 01.02.1993
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	01.02.93	3.70	-	6700	-
2.	05.02.93	3.70	Nil	6800	(+) 1.49%
3.	10.02.93	3.69	(-) 0.27%	6000	(-) 10.45%
4.	01.01.94	5.12	(+) 38.38%	6725	(+) 0.37%
5.	02.01.95	4.86	(+) 31.35%	6375	(-) 4.85%
6.	18.04.95	5.60	(+) 51.35%	6900	(+) 2.99%

From the above figures, it is evident that the prices of silver in Bombay Bullion Market have generally remained stable despite international price variation; rise in London prices vis-a-vis the prices prevailing in February, 1993 (before the relaxations) is about 50%. The stable prices of silver in Bombay coupled with the massive legal import of silver (five thousand two hundred and seven tons from 8.2.93 to 31.12.94) have contributed to the reduced smuggling of silver since 1993.

[English]

Currency Notes

3926. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is an acute shortage of the one rupee and five rupee currency notes;

(b) whether the Government is also aware that two rupee and five rupee coins are not popular; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to increase the supply of one rupee, two rupee and five rupee notes adequately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). While the average life of rupee one note is six months, that of rupees two and five is about one year. As against this, the life span of coins is about 15-20 years. In view of the final cost consideration, a decision has been taken to coinise these denominations in a phased manner so as to utilise the capacity so

released for printing of higher denomination notes. Production of fresh notes of rupee one, rupees two and rupees five has accordingly been reduced.

RRBs in Uttar Pradesh

3927. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :
SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV :
DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL :
SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Regional Rural Banks in Uttar Pradesh and the total deposits and working capital of each of these banks, separately;

(b) the number of rural beneficiaries by these banks and the amount of loans disbursed and recovered separately during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government have received complaints of irregularities committed by these banks during the aforesaid period;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether some of these banks are facing financial crisis; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps proposed to be taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) There are 40 Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in the State of Uttar Pradesh. Bank-wise position of deposits and working capital of these RRBs as at the end of March, 1994 is given in Statement-I.

(b) The total number of rural beneficiaries, loans disbursed and recoveries made by these banks during the years 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 are as follows:

(Amount in lakhs of Rupees)

Year (April- March)	No. of Rural beneficiaries	Loans dis- bursed	Loans recovered
1991-92	364979	19470.74	11204.57 (As on June, 1991)
1992-93	284926	16665.06	17067.84 (As on June, 1992)
1993-94	330753	24213.99	20116.16 (As on June, 1993)

(c) and (d). The reporting system in Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) as well as Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) does not generate information on the number of complaints about the functioning of RRBs in general or their branches in the country. The RRBs are to function under the general supervision and guidance of their Board of Directors, and in line with the guidelines issued by NABARD/RBI as well as Government. The complaints as and when received at various levels including Government are looked into by the management of the RRBs concerned or by the sponsor banks or NABARD as per the requirement of the situation. The remedial measures are taken by the competent authority after such inquiries are completed.

(e) and (f). 32 out of 40 RRBs in Uttar Pradesh had accumulated losses as at the end of March, 1994. A list of these 32 RRBs and the amount of accumulated losses as on 31st March, 1994 of these banks is at Statement-II.

RBI and NABARD have taken measures to strengthen the RRBs and a package of measures were announced in December, 1993. 49 RRBs out of total of 196 RRBs in the country have been identified for comprehensive restructuring during 1994-95. Experience with these 49 RRBs will guide the approach in later years to other RRBs. The objective is to transform the presently weak and ailing RRBs into financially viable and effective instruments of decentralised rural banker. Government of India have released additional capital of Rs. 150 crores for 49 RRBs in the country including nine from Uttar Pradesh. Further RBI has allowed in January, 1995, RRBs to make investment of their non-SLR surplus funds in specified profitable avenues including the credit portfolio of their sponsor banks through non-risk sharing participation certificates to be issued by the latter.

STATEMENT-I

Deposits and Working Funds of Regional Rural Banks of Uttar Pradesh for the Period Ended 31 March, 1994.

		(Rs. Lakhs)	
S.No.	Name of the RRB	Total Deposits	Total Working Funds
1.	2.	3.	4.
1.	Prathama Bank	16578.05	21966.57
2.	Gorakhpur Ksh. Gramin Bank	27089.55	35357.16
3.	Samyut Ksh. Gramin Bank	22481.17	25003.93
4.	Bara Bankl Gramin Bank	8058.52	9194.90
5.	Raebareli Ksh. Gramin Bank	6446.88	7497.29
6.	Farrukhabad Gramin Bank	7897.66	9194.64
7.	Bhagirath Gramin Bank	12069.36	13809.59
8.	Ballia Ksh. Gramin Bank	7860.57	9144.62
9.	Sultanpur Ksh. Gramin Bank	10299.24	11807.01
10.	Avadh Gramin Bank	12442.35	14140.51
11.	Kanpur Ksh. Gramin Bank	8107.85	9601.64
12.	Sravasti Gramin Bank	5498.88	6806.32
13.	Etawah Ksh. Gramin Bank	3247.89	4185.36
14.	Kisan Gramin Bank	2108.91	2682.62
15.	Kshetriya Kisan Gramin Bank	2460.07	3247.56
16.	Kashi Gramin Bank	6605.80	7458.59
17.	Basti Gramin Bank	7862.93	9545.44
18.	Allahabad Ksh. Gramin Bank	7306.07	8251.74
19.	Pratapgarh Ksh. Gramin Bank	5553.60	6134.77
20.	Faizabad Ksh. Gramin Bank	5532.02	6152.14
21.	Fatehpur Ksh. Gramin Bank	2851.09	3567.94
22.	Bareilly Ksh. Gramin Bank	4298.64	5023.58
23.	Devi Patan Ksh. Gramin Bank	4014.18	4775.43
24.	Aligarh Ksh. Gramin Bank	5997.33	7436.42
25.	Tulsi Gramin Bank	3960.98	4663.27
26.	Etah Gramin Bank	2838.80	3583.80
27.	Gomti Gramin Bank	7609.63	8771.34
28.	Chha Trasal Gramin Bank	4397.93	5245.85
29.	Rani Laxmi Bai Ksh. Gr. Bank	1963.63	2674.66
30.	Vidur Gramin Bank	2400.81	3003.34
31.	Shahjahanpur Ksh. Gramin Bank	1581.35	2093.98
32.	Nainital Almora Ksh. Gramin Bank	2327.96	2947.16
33.	Vindhyavasini Gramin Bank	3430.67	4273.77
34.	Sarayu Gramin Bank	3712.59	4435.77
35.	Jamuna Gramin Bank	2087.75	2931.09
36.	Muzafarnagar Ksh. Gramin Bank	1464.29	1967.91
37.	Pithoragarh Ksh. Gramin Bank	1269.08	1605.18
38.	Ganga Yamuna Gramin Bank	1777.46	2120.48
39.	Alaknanda Gramin Bank	1658.89	2085.65
40.	Hindon Gramin Bank	1125.06	1337.13
Total for Uttar Pradesh		246276.33	295666.15

STATEMENT-II

The Details of Accumulated Losses as on 31.03.94
of the RRBs Functioning in U.P.

(Rs. in lakhs)		
S.No.	Name of the RRB	Accumulated losses
1.	Prathama Bank	285.71
2.	Barabanki Gramin Bank	123.50
3.	Rae Bareli Kshetriya Gramin Bank	746.41
4.	Ballia Kshetriya Gramin Bank	32.10
5.	Sultanpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank	1468.62
6.	Kanpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank	1258.97
7.	Sravasti Gramin Bank	759.96
8.	Etawah Kshetriya Gramin Bank	429.39
9.	Kisan Kshetriya Gramin Bank	742.18
10.	Kshetriya Kisan Gramin Bank	830.91
11.	Kashi Gramin Bank	947.31
12.	Allahabad Kshetriya Gramin Bank	1537.39
13.	Pratapgarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank	1060.20
14.	Faizabad Kshetriya Gramin Bank	863.71
15.	Fatehpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank	925.21
16.	Bareilly Kshetriya Gramin Bank	1265.73
17.	Aligarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank	1231.33
18.	Tulsi Gramin Bank	7045.08
19.	Etah Gramin Bank	745.47
20.	Gomti Gramin Bank	485.34
21.	Chhatrasal Gramin Bank	681.81
22.	Rani Lakshmi Bai Ksh. Gramin Bank	844.47
23.	Vidur Gramin Bank	534.84
24.	Shahjahanpur Ksh. Gramin Bank	416.27
25.	Nainital Almora Ksh. Gramin Bank	702.53
26.	Sarayu Gramin Bank	14.73
27.	Jamuna Gramin Bank	365.03
28.	Muzaffarnagar Kshetriya Gramin Bank	137.87
29.	Pithoragarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank	168.93
30.	Ganga Yamuna Gramin Bank	304.24
31.	Alaknanda Gramin Bank	224.14
32.	Hindon Gramin Bank	147.33

Indian Investment Centre

3928. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB T. ...
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have propose to close down the Indian Investment Centre, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether employees of the Centre would be absorbed in any other department or given compulsory retirement; and

(d) the total number of employees to be categorised as re-employed and given compulsory retirement, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (d). The Government has taken up a review of the role and relevance of the Indian Investment Centre in the present context of a liberalised business and economic environment for foreign and non-resident Indian investments.

Supply of Food by AI and IA

3929. DR. SHRIMATI K.S. SOUNDARAM : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the food served on flights of Air India and Indian Airlines is supplied by India Tourism Development Corporation or by any private supplier;

(b) the criteria adopted in regard to quality of food supplied on flights; and

(c) the percentage of amount included for food in air fare per passenger?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Indian Airlines uplifts supplies for inflight catering from India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) at Bhubaneswar/ Calcutta and Bangalore. Air India uplifts food from ITDC at Calcutta only. At other stations food is uplifted from other reputed caterers including private caterers.

(b) High quality food, to meet the demands of the domestic/international passengers is obtained through strict adherence to specifications and quality is monitored at various stages. Standard recipes are followed for various dishes and samples of food are picked up periodically for monitoring the quality, quantity and presentation.

(c) No percentages have been specified in the fare structure towards inflight meals. However, Indian Airlines have reported that the average food cost per passenger is around 2.5% of the fare.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to make a submission... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Today, Shri Shuklaji wants to start this 'Hour'.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : Sir, due to the very unfortunate and untimely death of one of our colleagues, the House had to be adjourned yesterday; and the time allotted for the discussion of Motion of Thanks on the President's Address could not be completed. Yesterday, in the Business Advisory Committee, we discussed this matter; and I would like to propose for your consideration and for the consideration of the House that today, we utilise the time available to us to discuss the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address immediately after the formal business like laying of Papers is over; and spend about three to three-and-a-half hours on this. At 3.30 p.m., Hon. Prime Minister could reply to the debate and by that time all other parties and Hon. Members who did not have the opportunity of participating in this business could participate in that.

There was a general agreement on this point by the Hon. Members of the Business Advisory Committee; and I do hope that you will allow my submission. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum) : Sir, there are two problems. The leaders may have agreed without giving a deeper thought. That could be the reason. *(Interruptions)* The problem seems to be that suppose the Private Members' Bills ...*(Interruptions)* Just a minute, please. I am addressing the Speaker. Can you convince me that I am not addressing the Speaker? *(Interruptions)* Sir, it should be the duty of the Minister to immediately announce the day on which the Private Members' Business will be taken up whether it will be taken up on Tuesday or not. This is one problem.

The second is this and perhaps this is a request to you. The Computer Training Course is going on. Today is the last day; and we, the students, have arranged with those people that tomorrow's Course will be shifted for today. So, will the Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training which is under the Lok Sabha Secretariat...

MR. SPEAKER : This is accepted.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : We should be able to shift it again.

MR. SPEAKER : The difficulty is this; that is, from the 2nd to 5th of next month, the SAARC Conference is going to take place and I think, the Hon. Prime Minister and the Hon. Foreign Minister would be required to attend that Conference; and we do not have any other time. That is why, we are requesting the Hon. Members to accept the proposal which has come from the Parliamentary Affairs Minister.

So far as the fixing of date is concerned, we will certainly announce it on Monday and fix it.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, Monday is a holiday.

MR. SPEAKER : Okay, on any other working day; maybe on next working day. Maybe on Tuesday, the

2nd of May, we will announce it and we will let the Hon. Members know the day on which the Private Members' Business which is postponed today will be taken up. I hope this meets with the agreement of all the Hon. Members and I thank them for their cooperation.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : What happened to the Computer Training Course?

MR. SPEAKER : It will also be done.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the Zero Hour being curtailed for today only?

MR. SPEAKER : It will also be compensated rate.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Papers to be laid on the Table.

12.03 hrs.

[English]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Review on the Working of and Annual Report of India Tourism Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi for 1993-94

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : I beg to lay on the Table: a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :

- (1) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the India Tourism Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94.
- (2) Annual Report of the India Tourism Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Pleased in Library. See No. LT-7446/95]

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules, 1995. etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) On behalf of Shri Sitaram Kesri,

- (1) A copy of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules, 1995 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 316(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 1995. under sub-section (2) of Section 23 of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7436/95]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7437/95]

Annual Report, Annual Accounts and Review on the Working of Central Silk Board for 1993-94 etc.

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Silk Board, Bangalore, for the year 1993-94.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Silk Board, Bangalore, for the year 1993-94, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Silk Board, Bangalore, for the year 1993-94.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7447/95]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Jute Manufactures Development Council, Calcutta, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Jute Manufactures Development Council, Calcutta, for the year 1993-94.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7448/95]

- (5) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7449/95]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7450/95]

- (c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation Limited, Shillong, for the year 1993-94.

- (ii) Annual Report of the North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation Limited, Shillong, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7451/95]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Wool and Woollens Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Wool and Woollens Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94.

- (7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7452/95]

Financial Estimates and Performance Budget for 1995-96 of Employees' State Insurance Corporation

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): I beg to lay on the Table : a copy of the Financial Estimates and Performance Budget for the year 1995-96 (Hindi and English versions) of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation under Section 36 of the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7453/95]

Memorandum of Understanding Between the Telecommunications Consultants India Ltd. and the Department of Telecommunications for 1994-95.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : I beg to lay on the Table : a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Telecommunications Consultants India Limited and the Department of Telecommunications for the year 1994-95.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7438/95]

Annual Report and Review on the Working of Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council, Calcutta for 1993-94 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council, Calcutta, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council, Calcutta, for the year 1993-94.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7454/95]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tea Board, Calcutta, for the year 1993-94.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Tea Board, Calcutta, for the year 1993-94, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Tea Board, for the year 1993-94.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7455/95]

- (4) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the India Tea and Restaurants Limited, Bombay for the year 1993-94.

- (ii) Annual Report of the India Tea and Restaurants Limited, Bombay, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7456/95]

- (6) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sports Goods Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Sports Goods Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94.

- (7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7457/95]

Notification under Customs Act, 1962 and Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy each of the following Notification (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 :

- (i) G.S.R. 880(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd December, 1994 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 203/92-Cus., dated the 19th May, 1992 so as to permit duty-free import of inputs specified in input-output norms in the Exim Policy.

- (ii) S.O. 74(E) published in Gazette of India, dated the 4th January, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 208/77-Cus., dated the 1st October, 1977 so as to provide duty drawback facility on exports of goods to Bhutan and Myanmar through Land Customs Stations

of Jaigaon and Moreh subject to the payment for such goods being received in freely convertible currency.

- (iii) G.S.R. 117(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th March, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to inputs required for manufacture of Iron and steel intermediates when imported into India, from the whole of the basic and additional duties of customs leviable thereon, subject to certain conditions.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7458/95]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notification (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944 :

- (i) G.S.R. 83(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd February, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 32/94-CE, dated the 4th July, 1994.
- (ii) G.S.R. 126(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th March, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 32/94-CE, dated the 4th July, 1994 so as to prescribe it necessary for the importers desiring to issue modvatable invoices to be registered with the Central Excise Department.
- (iii) The Central Excise (First Amendment) Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 127(E) in Gazette of India dated the 10th March, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7459/95]

- (3) A copy of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Rules, 1995 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 82 in Gazette of India dated the 14th February, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum, under section 77 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7460/95]

- (4) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) under article 151(1) of the Constitution :

- (i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India—Union Government (No. 6 of 1995) for the year ended the 31st March, 1994 (Scientific Departments).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7439/95]

- (ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India—Union Government (No. 7 of 1995) for the year ended the 31st March, 1994 (Posts and Telecommunications).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7440/95]

- (5) A copy of the Union Government, Appropriation Accounts (Postal Services) for the year 1993-94 (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7441/95]

- (6) A copy of the Union Government, Appropriation Accounts (Telecommunication Services) for the year 1993-94 (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7442/95]

Review on the working of and Annual Report of Rashtriya Pariyojna Nirman Nigam Limited, New Delhi for 1993-94 and Statement showing reasons for delay in laying these Papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : On behalf of Shri P.V. Rangayya Naidu, I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :
- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Rashtriya Pariyojna Nirman Nigam Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Rashtriya Pariyojna Nirman Nigam Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7443/95]

Notification under Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : On behalf of Shri P.M. Sayeed, I beg to lay on the Table : a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 481A of the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957 :

- (1) The Delhi Municipal Corporation (Determination of Rateable Value) Bye-laws, 1994 published in

Notification No. F. 22(11)/UD/94/11422 in Delhi Gazette dated the 24th October, 1994.

- (2) The Delhi Municipal Corporation (Property Tax Return) Byelaws, 1994 published in Notification No. F. 22(11)/UD/94/11423 in Delhi Gazette dated the 24th October, 1994.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7444/95]

12.05 hrs.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Forty-ninth, Fifty-second, Fifty-third Reports and Minutes

[English]

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI (Sambalpur) : Sir, I beg to present the following Reports and Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the Estimates Committee :

- (1) Forty-ninth Report on the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) - Customs Clearance at International Airports and Minutes of the sittings relating thereto.
- (2) Fifty-second Report on the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs-Banking Division) - Credit Facilities to the Weaker Sections of the Society and Minutes of the sittings relating thereto.
- (3) Fifty-third Report on the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism—Development Tourism and Civil Aviation in Remote and Hilly Areas and Minutes of the sittings relating thereto.

12.05½ hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Ninety-fourth, Ninety-seventh, Hundredth, Hundred-first, Hundred-second and Hundred-third Reports.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra) : Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Public Accounts Committee :

- (1) Ninety-fourth Report on Action Taken on Seventy-fifth report of Public Accounts Committee (10th Lok Sabha) relating to Disinvestment of Government Shareholding in selected PSEs during 1991-92.
- (2) Ninety-seventh Report of Public Accounts Committee (10th Lok Sabha) on System Appraisal Functioning of Investigation Circles.
- (3) Hundredth Report of Public Accounts Committee (10th Lok Sabha) on Revision in the format of

Union Government Appropriation Accounts (Civil).

- (4) Hundred and First Report of Public Accounts Committee (10th Lok Sabha) on Avoidable or Wasteful Imports.
- (5) Hundred and Second Report of Public Accounts Committee (10th Lok Sabha) on Assessment of Religious and Charitable Trusts.
- (6) Hundred and Third Report on Action Taken on Sixty-fifth Report of Public Accounts Committee (10th Lok Sabha) relating to Central Pollution Control Board-Audit Review.

12.06 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

Fortieth Report, Forty-second Report

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) : Sir, I beg to present the following Reports and Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Public Undertakings :

- (1) Fortieth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Thirty-fifth Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on Educational Consultants India Limited.
- (2) Forty-second Report on Indian Oil Corporation Limited and Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating thereto.

12.06½ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

Minutes

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the settings of the Committee on Public Undertakings relating to Procedural and Miscellaneous Matters.

12.07 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

(i) Forty-eighth, Forty-ninth, Fiftieth and Fifty-first Reports and Minutes

[English]

DR. (SHRIMATI) PADMA (Nagapattinam) : Sir, I beg to present a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes including

Minutes (both Hindi and English versions) of the Sitzings of the Committee relating thereto :

- (1) Forty-eighth Report on Ministry of Industry - Reservation for and Employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited.
- (2) Forty-ninth Report on Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas - Reservation for and Employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Indian Oil Corporation Limited including Reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in grants of Gas/Petrol Agencies.
- (3) Fiftieth Report on Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) - Reservation for and Employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Central Board of Direct Taxes and Central Board of Excise and Customs.
- (4) Fifty-first Report on Ministry of Welfare - Working of Integrated Tribal Development Projects in Maharashtra.

(ii) Reports on Study Tours

DR (SHRIMATI) PADMA (Nagapattinam) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each (Hindi and English versions) of the following Reports :

- (1) Report on Study Tour of Study Group-I of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on its visit to Calcutta, Port Blair, Madras and Pondicherry during January-February, 1995.
- (2) Report on Study Tour of Study Group-II of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on its visit to Nagpur, Ahmedabad, Bombay and Goa during January-February, 1995.

12.08½ hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Forty-ninth Report

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) : Sir, I beg to present the Forty-ninth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

12.09 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

Thirteenth Report

[English]

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : Sir, I beg to present the Thirteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Energy on Action Taken by

Government on the recommendations contained in their Third Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on Energy for 90's and beyond : Prospects, Reality and Challenges.

12.09½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Fifth and Sixth Reports and Minutes

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on External Affairs:

- (1) Fifth Report on Action Taken on Recommendations contained in the 2nd Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants of Ministry of External Affairs for 1994-95.
- (2) Sixth Report on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of External Affairs for 1995-96.

12.10 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS

Fourteenth, Fifteenth and Sixteenth Reports

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (English and Hindi versions) of the Standing Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals :

- (1) Fourteenth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Fifth Report of the Committee on 'Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas - Demands for Grants, (1994-94)'.
- (2) Sixteenth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventh Report of the Committee on 'Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals - Demands for Grants, (1994-95)'.
- (3) Sixteenth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventh Report of the Committee on 'Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers - Demands for Grants, (1994-95)'.

12.10½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Twenty-second Report

[English]

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each (Hindi and English versions) of

the Twenty-second Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development on the Demands for Grants for 1995-96, of the Department of Education.

12.11 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

Nineteenth Report

[English]

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK (Mathurapur) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy (Hindi and English versions) of the Nineteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests on the Demands for Grants (1995-96) of the Department of Ocean Development.

12.11½ hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) : With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing 2nd May, 1995 will consist of :

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
2. Further General Discussion on General Budget for 1995-96.
3. Discussion and Voting on the Demands for Grants (General) for 1995-96 under the control of Ministries of :
 - (a) Defence
 - (b) External Affairs

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur) : I request that the following may be included in the next week's agenda :

1. Regarding delay in removing the anomalies in the implementation of one time increase in pension for the ex-servicemen and take immediate steps for granting these benefits to those ex-servicemen who have been deprived of them.
2. Regarding immediate channelisation of the Swan river and its seventh-three tributaries in the Una District of Himachal Pradesh.

[Translation]

SHRI JANARDAN MISRA (Sitapur) : Sir, I request that the following may be included in the next week's list of business :

1. Regarding considering measures for effectively enforcing the Public Distribution System in the whole country particularly in Uttar Pradesh.
2. Regarding reconsidering the National Rural Electrification Policy for extending the benefits of electricity to the rural areas.

[English]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur) : Sir, I request that the following may be included in the next week's agenda :

1. Regarding review of the Tehri Dam Project against the backdrop of the continuing reports that there is bound to be major seismic activity in the region.
2. Regarding the decision of the Government to sell the 50 per cent equity held by it in Maruti Limited to Japan's Suzuki Company.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat) : Sir, I request that the following may be included in the next week's agenda :

1. Regarding early allocation of gas to Gujarat from Bombay High and other offshore fields.

SHRI B.N. REDDY (Miryalguda) : Sir, I request that the following may be included in the next week's agenda :

Regarding early reopening of the FCI Modern Rice Mill at Miryalguda in Nalgonda District of Andhra Pradesh.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur) : Sir, I request that the following may be included in the next week's list of business :

1. Regarding the need of formulating an effective legislation in view of checking the air and water pollution by the factories using chemical fluids in different states so as to curb the rising problem of pollution in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan alongwith other States.
2. Regarding the need of formulating a definite policy to mitigate the discontentment among the lakhs of opium growers about their problems so that the farmer can get remunerative prices alongwith the fixed average.

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN (Vidisha) : Sir, I request that the following may be included in the next week's list of business :

Regarding need to reconduct a survey of the tribals whose names were not included in the survey list of the (possession of forest land prior to 1980). Sarullaganj tehsil of district Sihore because of the lapse of the administration.

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY (Ranchi) : Sir, I request that the following may be included in the next week's list of business :

Regarding construction of a bypass road immediately in Ranchi city which has not been constructed so far.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Sir, I request that the following may be included in the next week's agenda :

1. Re. constitutional aspects of the resolution passed by the Tamil Nadu Assembly on re-calling the Governor.
2. Re. evamping of sick fertiliser units in public sector including Talcher Fertilizer plant.

12.13 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

Tobacco Board

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (4) (b) of section 4 of the Tobacco Board Act, 1975, read with rules 3 and 4 of the Tobacco Board Rules, 1976, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Tobacco Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That in pursuance of sub-section (4) (b) of section 4 of the Tobacco Board Act, 1975, read with rules 3 and 4 of the Tobacco Board Rules, 1976, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Tobacco Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barrackpore) : Sir, some order has been imposed on the Jute Corporation of India for cutting down the strength of the workers to the extent of 25 per cent.

MR. SPEAKER : The entire House has decided one way. You can take it up later on.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : Sir, they are on a hunger strike. I have written about it to the Minister, also.

MR. SPEAKER : But the entire House has decided one way. You are going against it and I am going to allow it later on when the appropriate time comes.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, will it be after the reply of the Prime Minister?

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, Thank you. There is one more thing. Today, we may dispense with the lunch hour also. The Hon. Prime Minister has to go to Rajya Sabha to reply to the debate at 5 P.M. The difficulty which is faced by this House is also faced by the other House. So, may I request the Hon. Members to make their statements very brief and help the presiding officers to see that their statements are over by 3 O'clock or 3.15 P.M. at the most so that immediately after that, the reply can be given so that you would have the facility of getting the response from the Government on the important points which you have raised? May I also request the leaders of the Parties to see that if any Members have to be given opportunity to speak, their names should be given to us so that we can accommodate them. This is just to facilitate the leaders and the Whips of different Parties.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central) : Sir, supposing the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address and everything is over before six O'clock, are you going to take up the discussion on the Railway Budget or will you put it next week?

MR. SPEAKER : We will take it up next week. If one or two statements the Members want to make, we will allow them to make their statements because they are very keen on those and, rightly so. We will allow them to make their statements.

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) : Sir, We have no objection to the continuance of the House without a lunch break. But the only thing is, today being Friday some Members would like to go to the mosque.

MR. SPEAKER : Sure.

[Translation]

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): Mr, Speaker, Sir. I have to go. I wish you gave me an opportunity out of turn.

MR. SPEAKER : You may go and can deliver your speech after you are back.

12.20 hrs.

**MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S
ADDRESS - CONTD.**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up further discussion on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. Shri Janarthanan may continue his speech.

*SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN (Tirunelveli) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, let me continue from the place where I stopped my speech day before yesterday as my contribution to the discussion on the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address. I humbly submit to this House, the comparison made in the media between Indira Ji Government of 1966-1970 and the Government of 1991-94 headed by Hon. Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao.

12.21 hrs.

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

We find that there was famine, drought and shortage of foodgrains. Earlier, we have also obtained wheat from the United States under the PL-480 programme. With great difficulty we have managed such situations then. We believed in Self-sufficiency, and we strove hard following the path of Gandhiji. But now we find a mention of 'self-assurance' in the Presidential Address. It is a total departure from the Gandhian ideals. I would like to add that this trend is quite disturbing. Our country is an agricultural country, full of farmers and I have to point out the problems created by this Government to the farming community

This Government has miserably failed in protecting the interest of farmers. Subsidies have been withdrawn. There is no proper planning to encourage effective agricultural policies. In the years to come, these imperial forces with whom the Congress Government is shaking hands would see that our industrial and agricultural production are checkmated. The Congress Government has, perhaps, taken a vow to lead the country to the Mexican situation. I think, I am not wrong in saying so.

The Government claims that because of the new economic policy it has created 1,480 million mandays of work and employment opportunities. How many new beneficiaries have come above the poverty line has not been stated in this President's Address. Therefore, I had to hint at this also.

Further, while moving the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address, Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar raised a question as to when the Tamil Nadu Government would be holding Panchayat elections in Tamil Nadu. He said that we should give a reply. Since he wanted to know as to whether Panchayat elections would be held at all,

I would like to make it clear in this august House that Panchayat elections would be held in Tamil Nadu.

I would like to emphatically put on record that All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam folded by late *puratchi thalaivar* M.G. Ramachandran and presently led by our General Secretary *puratchi thalaivi* will never shy away from elections. We, the AIADMK people were never afraid of elections at any time in history and we are not going to be afraid of elections, whether it is Panchayat elections, or Parliamentary elections(Interruptions)

SHRI R. ANBARASU (Madras Central) : The election pledge was that soon after the general election, Panchayat elections would be conducted. But so far, no election to corporations is conducted. I am representing Madras.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You will have a chance to speak.

SHRI R. ANBARASU : Let them conduct elections.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Anbarasu, wait, you will have a chance to speak.

*SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : Who is afraid of elections? Whether it is AIADMK or Congress-I will be clear when we hold elections in Pudukkottai Lok Sabha constituency. We are prepared to face any election. It is also our...(Interruptions)

SHRI R. ANBARASU : Reply to my question. Why election to corporations is being postponed for the last four years? Can you reply?

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam) : Sir, he is intervening unnecessarily.

*SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : Since Panchayat elections were hinted at by Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar I was referring to it. I am very proud to tell this House that the Congress was using Mahatma Gandhi's photo, Nehru's photo, and Indira Ji's photo and using our leader MGR's photo for elections and for their political combinations.

Therefore, I thank the Congress that they have surrendered to our Leader, *Puratchi Thalaivar* MGR and without his photograph, they cannot see the people of Tamil Nadu.

Therefore, we are prepared to go in for a Panchayat election or a Parliamentary election or an Assembly election.

Coming to the Constitution, I want to tell the House what Nehruji had said about the nomination for Governorship. He said and I quote :

"The Governor 'must be' acceptable to the Government of the Province."(Interruptions)

* Translation of the Speech originally delivered in Tamil.

* Translation of the Speech originally delivered in Tamil.

SHRI R. ANBARASU : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Office of the Governor cannot be discussed on the floor of the House.

*SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, he is unnecessarily interfering. He is spoiling the decorum of the House.

SHRI R. ANBARASU : Sir, he is misleading the House. This should not be allowed here. The Office of the Governor should not be discussed on the floor of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

*SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : I quoted Nehruji as to what were his principles for appointing Governors.

SHRI R. ANBARASU : He has quoted the Office of the Governor.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : I have not quoted the Office of the Governor. I have just quoted what Nehruji had said about appointment of Governors....(Interruptions)* Are you opposing Nehruji?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Anbarasu, kindly take your seat.

*SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : I am just telling you the history of the Congress as to how Constitutionally they were obliged to appoint the Governors. Under the Constitution, the Governor is a formal Constitutional Head of a State who, in the discharge of his functions, except in a few matters in which he can on his own individual discretion, is required to act on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers with the Chief Minister as the Head. This is not the function. This is the guideline upon which the Governor is to function. Prof. B.G. Kher has said the following and I quote :

"I do not agree with a comment that he is a mere figurehead. A Governor can do a great deal of good if he is a good Governor. Similarly he can do a great deal of mischief."

These are not my words. These are the words of Prof. B.G. Kher. Now, I will quote what Nehruji has said. He said and I quote :

"My ideal is to have eminent people, sometimes people who were not taken too great a part in politics."

These are the words of Nehruji. But what is happening in Tamil Nadu and Tripura? It is altogether a different thing. The Sarkaria Commission's Report is being kept in the cold storage till now...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum) : Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What is your point of order?

SHRI A. CHARLES : My point of order is this.

Translation of the Speech originally delivered in Tamil.

Yesterday, the judgement of the Division Bench of the Madras High Court has come on this subject. Is it in order to discuss the functioning of the Governor here?

*SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : I am not discussing the functioning of the Governor.

SHRI A. CHARLES : No, Sir. The propriety demands that it should not be discussed here. I feel it is not proper.

SHRI R. ANBARASU : The functioning of the Governor cannot be discussed on the floor of the House. If they have any grievance, let them go and represent before the Hon. President of India or meet the Prime Minister. The floor cannot be used to discuss the functioning of the Governor. The matter is also *subjudice*. Therefore, Sir, I humbly submit to the Hon. Deputy-Speaker, that it should not be allowed like this. Whatever he has said about the functioning of the Governor should be expunged from the record. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI A. CHARLES : Only the interim judgement has come. The main application is still pending. So, I feel that it is not proper to discuss this.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Okay. I shall just reserve my ruling so far as this aspect is concerned.

*SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have quoted Prof. B.G. Kher. I have quoted Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. Now, I am going to quote Alladiji. Is it prohibited in this Parliament? I am quoting the leading elders.

SHRI A. CHARLES : You are quoting about the functioning of the Governor.

*SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : I am not quoting Mr. Chenna Reddy.

SHRI A. CHARLES : Sir, he has specifically mentioned about the Tamil Nadu Governor. In this regard an application is pending before the Madras High Court.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He has stated how the Governor should function. He has quoted some eminent personalities.

SHRI A. CHARLES : He has quoted them in the context of the functioning of Tamil Nadu Governor.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : Sir, Governors will come and go but Alladi and Nehruji will remain in this country for ever...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please continue. The time is very short.

(Interruptions)

*SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : Sir, I am quoting Alladi :

"The Governor should be a person of undoubted ability an position in public life who at the same

* Translation of the Speech originally delivered in Tamil.

time has not been mixed up in provincial party struggles and factions."

These are not my words. These are the words of Alladi. This is a quotation of Alladi about Governors and not about a particular Governor. So I want to tell Parliament that even the report of the Sarkaria Commission is being kept in cold storage and the painful fact is that in many cases Governors are hoisted to destabilize the State. This is the state of affairs.

I want to submit through the Motion of Thanks on President's Address and would request the Government not to keep Sarkaria Commission Report in cold storage for the integrity and unity of the country.

Today, I came to know from the media - I am speaking on Motion of Thanks on President's Address so I am quoting from the media the views expressed by the President - that President Shanker Dayal Sharma is understood to have impressed upon the Centre to intervene in Tamil Nadu and avoid a Constitutional impasse there in the wake of the State Assembly adopting an unprecedented resolution regarding recall of the Governor. The people of Tamil Nadu are very much agitated.

SHRI R. ANBARASU : For what?

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : For your action...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. ANBARASU : Sir, an unprecedented resolution was passed which is illegal. If this is allowed, every State will pass such a resolution...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You speak when you get a chance.

*SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : I am speaking on the Motion of Thanks on President's Address and I am reading the view of Rashtrapatiji which has appeared in the media and nothing more than that... *(Interruptions)* Of course, it is an unprecedented resolution but we are forced to do so. This is because the people of Tamil Nadu and the elected Government are being harassed in day-to-day administration. So I request the Congress people to follow the path of Pt. Nehru...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. ANBARASU : You want to follow the path of your Chief Minister. There is an unprecedented *(Interruptions)* * ... in the State. There is no democracy in Tamil Nadu and no political party is allowed to speak. Do you want them to tolerate such type of a situation? Members of Legislative Assembly from the Congress Party are not allowed to speak in the Assembly. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This word will not go on record.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There are so many Members to speak. Please do not intervene. Mr. Janarthanan kindly conclude.

(Interruptions)

*SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : Therefore, I request the Government not to keep the Sarkaria Commission report in cold storage. Please implement it.

The Government in the Centre is a minority Government and I warn that if you go on doing like this ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. ANBARASU : The Central Government is a majority Government, You correct it. ...*(Interruptions)*

*SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : How? By getting 8 Janata Dal Members, it has survived. Shri Subramanian Swami helped you. You know, everybody knows... *(Interruptions)*

The AIADMK Party will be forced to take the stand on the basic principle of Arinjar Anna, which he had given up. The Congress Party will be squarely responsible if we are forced to take such a stand.

I oppose the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address because there is no mention about the Southern Grid gas connection; there is no mention about the Cauvery dispute and there is no mention of completely unit-gauging the railway lines in Tamil Nadu within 1995-96 in the President's Address. So, I oppose the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address.

[Translation]

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI : (Hyderabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity of speaking on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address because I have to go to offer the Friday prayers. We express our feelings here whenever Motion of Thanks is taken up for discussion but no results are forthcoming and it has become a sort of annual pilgrimage that we should come here and speak our mind without any action being taken on that.

I would like to say that we are faced with great many problems which need our almost attention. It is deplorable that even after facing electoral debacle in six states on the basis of withdrawal of support by the muslim community, the Congress has not woken up nor has it solved their problems. Muslims did not support Congress because the Prime Minister of India was responsible for the demolition of Babri Masjid. Even the muslims owing their allegiance to the Congress did not exercise their franchise. I understand that Congress will be wiped out from the political scene of the country after a year from now because no attention is paid to the problems even today. The minorities are living under the shadow of death in this country. Those who offer

* Translation of speech originally delivered in Tamil.

** No recorded.

* Translation of the Speech originally delivered in Tamil.

prayers on roads in Hyderabad are arrested under TADA. Will any Hon. Member of the Congress contradict it here?

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai) : I say it is totally wrong.

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI : You will say like that.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Now admit, I am a Congress Member and I say that it is totally wrong.

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI : Such cases are sub-judice there and you are saying that it is totally wrong.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : I am saying that it is wrong to arrest anyone under TADA for offering prayers on roads.

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI : You are saying that it is wrong but people are being prosecuted there. We have many times raised our voice against these atrocities here but no attention is being paid. On the other hand what treatment was meted out to an Assembly Member in Hyderabad for engineering defections? According to a local police statement published in a newspaper, a person was apprehended in Calcutta for playing with Pakistan in connivance with the son of an M.L.A. of Hyderabad and a revolver was found in his possession. At first, the son of the M.L.A. is arrested but as soon as he leaves the party he belonged to, the court case against his son is withdrawn. On the other hand, a film star is arrested under TADA and he is still languishing in jail.

You have made an announcement of making a grant of Rs. 500 crore available to the minorities. We have been hearing for many years now that a Minorities Financial Corporation was going to be set up. But we are not aware what happened to that, who is pocketing the whole money and who is being benefited? My point is that announcements are made on papers alone but practically no action was taken so far.

The result is, as you see, that the Minorities Commission has been constituted, a person made its Chairman but no powers are vested in him. No action is taken on his report. The problem of minorities is not going to be solved unless their problems are solved. At the time of independence, there were 30 per cent muslims in Government offices but there are zero muslim employes today. When Pandits migrate from Kashmir, camps are set up for them in Delhi and elsewhere and other facilities are also given but a Kashmiri muslim migrant can not even beg for his livelihood. When Kashmiri Muslims were begging from door to door in Hyderabad, the police arrested them for this crime. There is ban on their begging here. Does not it reflect your dual policy? You say that there is the IAS or IPS cadre in Maharashtra, in Andhra Pradesh today but where does the Kashmir cadre exist? You say that Kashmir is

the head of India and what are you doing for the people of Kashmir? The Kashmiris who were begging in Hyderabad during the month of 'Ramzan' were arrested and put behind the bars. We got them released from there. Those poor people are not allowed to beg. Is not this injustice? Thousands of muslims are arrested under TADA today. There will be no remedy to the situation unless TADA is repealed. You should remember that the same TADA will prove to be counter productive for you and you will see its results after one year.

You took no action on the issue of implementing Urdu. Likewise there was this problem in U.P. Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav appointed Urdu translators, Urdu teachers in Uttar Pradesh. Then, there were riots in Hashimabad and Maliyana in Meerut and the people filed a suit there but nothing was done for us. We are watching what is happening in the Congress ruled states. It is only perpetrating atrocities and excesses on us. We are lagging behind in education. I would like to draw the attention of Mani Shankar Aiyar ji to the fact that despite getting no financial assistance from you we are ourselves running and maintaining our educational institutions. You issue the orders to the effect of granting 50 per cent seats to the non-minorities in the minority institutions. Is it not injustice?

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : We hand over to them the Supreme Court orders and quite astonishingly they are saying that we are doing injustice to them.

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI : Let me complete my sentence first. You listened to the word injustice but did not listen to the latter part of the sentence as to how was this case filed in the Court? The Supreme Court said that they have given no verdict with regard to the minorities but your state, which is ruled by Congress denied to accept it. When they went to the Supreme Court, they said that it will stay here till a decision is taken. I requested your Ministers to present themselves in the Supreme Court but they did not do so.

See, the atrocities, we give education to our children on payment of fee whereas the children of the minorities get education free of cost. If it is not an atrocity, then what is this atrocity is worse than those committed by Britishers you are committing *more worse* atrocities than those committed in South Africa during pre-Mandela regime. The institutions are ours, the funds are ours, yet our children have to pay fee for education whereas the children of minority community get it free of cost. What has the Government done in this respect. It sat idle. I wrote several letters in this regard, but neither you nor the Prime Minister nor the Education Minister did anything in this regard. A lot of letters were written and telegrams were sent to you, but you kept mum. Today you say whatever I want I may speak as if we are taking part in Urs where we visit once in a year, offer flowers and go home thereafter. Whatever you like you do and whatever we like we will do. But remember that if our problems are not resolved democratically, we will be

compelled to resort to other measures. How long will we continue to suffer? For how long we have to suffer? We have sacrificed everything. We have set up our madarsas, Medical Colleges, Engineering Colleges, I.T.s. The Government did not contribute even a single penny, but today, when those institutions are running smoothly, the Government orders 50 per cent reservation and tells us to import free education. Should we pay fees for the education of our children otherwise the Government will announce that it is going to move the Supreme Court against atrocity?

There is Article 31 (a). The Government should pay attention to it. Had it followed it earlier, all these issues might not have been raised today? But the Government did not do anything. During the time of elections they call us their brethren, apples of their eyes. How long should we continue to be befooled? Today we have awoken..(Interruptions)

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Be it the Hindu or the Muslim, the tendency of a community is the same. We have complete evidences thereof. There is no difference between the duo...(Interruptions)

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : This is wrong..(Interruptions)

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : You talk about secularism. I am being oppressed. The death Knells are ringing again and again. I am against oppression. You are oppressing therefore, a secular. I am speaking against oppression, therefore a communal. Is it not strange?... (Interruptions) Still you have not learnt a lesson. Only we will take you bearing on our shoulders. Then you will know the reality. You, please say whatever you want to say by your actions not only by saying. As we are being oppressed so we are raising our voice. But you are denying it and saying us communal. It is as peculiar type of secularism and you are its claimant..(Interruptions) I am not understanding for whom these are ringing, for congress or any other else. With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR (Faridkot) : Sir, I want to make a humble request to you. My Party has sent the names of certain Members to you who will be speaking on the President's Address. I had requested my party that I would also like to speak on the President's Address. We are twelve Members from Pubjab but nobody has spoken on this. I would like to point out that some senior Members of the House, like Shri Indrajit Gupta and Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, have said that we are not taking this President's Address seriously. Members are not present in large numbers during the debate. If on this President's Address, which may be the last President's Address for this Lok Sabha, we are not allowed to speak, then I want the protection of the Chair, whatever time you give to me, I would like to speak on this Address.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Your party's Whip has not sent your name, but anyhow, you have sent one letter and it is here.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : That is what I have requested in the letter, Sir. Will I be given a chance?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Yes, at the end will get a chance.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : Thank you, Sir.

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks moved by my friend Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar.

While making some observations, I would like to say that the President has depicted in his Address, a correct and true picture of what India today is. But I may say that the President has not mentioned the course of action that his Government has to take in the years to come.

The present political scenario is fast changing in this country. Now there is one-party rule but I do not think after the next elections in 1996, any single political party in the country will be able to command majority. The trend in the country is to have a coalition set up. First in Kerala and then in many other States, we find coalition Governments. This shows how the people of India have taken the present-day politics and what they are going to decide in the years to come. In such a scenario, the ruling party has an onerous responsibility to respond to the needs of the people of this country.

Quite unfortunately, on many sensitive issues, the Government has taken a lethargic attitude. Even while supporting the Motion of Thanks moved by my friend, I have to point out many of the most serious issues that the Government has not addressed to. For example, there is a very sizeable section of a minority community in this country, which, I would say, is perhaps the largest among the minorities in the world. Fifteen crore people belonging to that community are not to be neglected. Their views, their aspirations and their feelings are not to be brushed aside. The first and the most important thing which the members of the minority communities in this country want is a sense of security. Whichever party gives the sense of security to the minorities, they will support that party. The minorities have their experience in a State like Uttar Pradesh. They know what was the treatment meted out to them under different regimes there and what is the treatment they are now getting from the present State Government. Therefore, the minorities, by and large, support the present Government. Whoever opposes that Government, the minorities, by and large, oppose those elements, whether it is the Congress Party or any other political party. What happened in Maharashtra, everybody knows. There was a Chief Minister - of course, my friend - who was very nice in talking but was doing nothing. Everybody knows the humiliations meted out to the minorities in that State. I myself had taken a

delegation of the members of the minority community and my party leaders to the then Chief Minister of Maharashtra.

And he has promised everything about action to be taken. But even after 9-10 months I say that he did not do anything. I went to the Hon. Prime Minister. But I am sorry to say that, though the Prime Minister had very favourably disposed of to our request, unfortunately he was not able to do anything because all the promises were thrown to the wind by the then Chief Minister. Now everybody says : 'Oh! Muslims, what is happening to them?' Of course, I am the one facing the present political set up in Maharashtra. While one party has been humiliating a section of the people, naturally they will go to reverse the political process and when the results come you say : "we do not agree, what happened to Muslims." What is happening now in Maharashtra? Who are the People who are opposing it? Who are responsible for it? When the ruling party and the Government are opposing and humiliating a section of the people, how could you just expect those people to go to the seashores in Maharashtra and say that B.J.P. - Shiv Sena should not come? This is the reality. This, unfortunately, the Congress is losing sight of. That is what I say, it was indiscriminate treatment to the minorities which results to this situation.

Of course, we are opposing the present Maharashtra set up. In Maharashtra we have problems. What happened there? There is a leader, of course the leader of a section of the people, against whom I have absolutely nothing personal. But when he said that the minorities of India will have to be treated like the Jews of Nazi Germany, what was the Government doing? Did you take any action on it? When he said that he was supporting the demolition of the Babri Masjid and encouraging his *Sainiks*, what did the State Government do? What he said that he will wipe out a community, what are you here doing? But we do not find any sincerity in those people who supported him at that time and opposing him this time. We have been taking note of it.

Therefore, under these circumstances, what I would like to ask the Government is that : Is this stand of the ruling party? Take some very positive steps to bring all secular and democratic forces together. Why should it be? Is it because fascism is growing like anything. It is growing like a monster and who will have to check it up? Is it not the party of Jawaharlal Nehru to do that? Is it not the party of Shrimati Indira Gandhi to do that? Is it not the party of Rajiv Gandhi to do that? The fascism is growing like anything and directly or indirectly you are also supporting it. What is going to happen to this country? That is what I am asking.

Therefore, so far as the minorities are concerned, they have taken a positive stand — whoever supports them, whoever advocates their cause or whoever is their natural ally — they will definitely be their ally. They have not mortgaged their support to any political party of this country.

My party, the Indian Union Muslim League endorses fully the stand taken by the Government under Shri Narasimha Rao in the matter of Indo-Pak, relationship. The normalisation of relationship between these two countries is essential for the subcontinent. And also a good neighbourly relationship will only help the millions of the people living on both the sides. I take this opportunity to say that the Government of Pakistan will favourably respond to the stand taken by our Government to normalise the situation between the two countries.

In respect of Kashmir, the Government of India is committed to the comity of nations that elections will be conducted there. And everybody supported that political process. But there is one thing to be taken care of. When an election is to be conducted, we have to bring the masses of Kashmiri people to participate in the election process. All the party leaders — I know my friends in other parties also who attended the Geneva conference and other conferences supported India's stand— support it and nobody is opposing to what the Government is taking up there. But there should only be some transparency in the matters affecting Kashmir.

Secondly, I want to talk about autonomy. Even our Prime Minister has assured to the people of Kashmir about autonomy within the framework of the Constitution. The autonomy should be given. Some amount of autonomy should be given to them. Then only the masses will come to participate in the election which will be a success, because Pakistan will do every nefarious thing to upstage the process of election because it will be a great blow to Pakistan in the international sphere.

Therefore, the Government should take very serious steps to assure the people of Kashmir with respect to the amount of autonomy that will be given to them.

13.00 hrs.

Sir, I would like to mention one point about TADA. What is happening in this country? The Congress is a mighty organisation. Does the Congress think that they cannot rule this country without the help of a draconian law like TADA? How many innocent people have been put to difficulties and hardships in this country? The rulers are sitting here and in the States and under their very nose the innocent people have been languishing in the jails for no fault of theirs under TADA. Is it not the duty of the Government to apply their mind to this question? I shall say that TADA, as such, has become synonymous with the repression of a particular community in this country. You cannot deny that fact. The Government will have to look into this matter to find out who are responsible for this. Therefore, I would say that you have to scrap this TADA immediately. That is one thing.

Another point, Sir, is that there are a number of issues relating to the community. In Kerala, we have taken a stand, the people of Kerala, the Government of

Kerala and all Parties in Kerala have taken the stand to treat the Muslim minorities as Backward Class and they have been given representation in the Government in proportion to their population. Here, in the Government of India, what is the representation given to the largest minority community of this country? It is only 4.4 per cent in the lowest strata of the Central Government service, whereas this community, this section of the people have more than 15 per cent representation. So, why the Government did not take any such step? Let there be proportionate representation in the services, in the quasi-Government undertakings and also in the nationalised banks. Only after Dr. Manmohan Singh has taken the charge. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack) : Proportionate representation should be given in the Cabinet also.

SHRI E. AHAMED : It is up to you to say so. If you have some Ministers in the Cabinet, it will not satisfy the people. You have to do something for the masses. Why is it Mr. Jena that you are not responding favourably to my idea of having representation proportionately to the population of minorities in the Government Service?

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : I am one of the advocates of that idea.

SHRI E. AHAMED : You may say that at least in the judiciary they should be given. But you did not make any such demand so far.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : That is our Party's stand all along.

SHRI E. AHAMED : Your Party has a different policy in respect of each State, though I do not want to say that. Your policy in Orissa will not be your policy in Karnataka and your policy in Karnataka will not be your policy in Bihar.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Mr. Ahamed, you got it wrong. They have two policies in Orissa. One is the policy of Biju Patnaik and the other is the policy of Srikanta Jena.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : It is absolutely wrong. Our policy is one and we are implementing that policy everywhere in a uniform way.

SHRI E. AHAMED : Therefore, Sir, I would like to submit before this House that the minorities should be given representation in the Government service in proportion to their population. And the most important thing is the people of India as a whole, particularly the minorities would request the Government to take stringent action against those leaders who are creating hatred among the people of this country. The people of this country want to live in peace and happiness. But there are people, self-styled leaders who have been advocating a certain philosophy which is creating hatred among the people of this country. I would say that there shall be no difference of opinion if all political parties join together and also put their heads together to see as to how these people are to be kept under check,

whether it is in Maharashtra or U.P. or Andhra Pradesh or anywhere else. These are the people who are creating hatred among the people. The people of this country want to live in peace and happiness as Indian citizens of this country. And therefore, Sir, the Government should take some positive steps in this direction.

The Government should not only take, they should do something.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : All right. Some confusion is thrown.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Some imbalance was there because both had to board the plane.

[English]

I will give you a chance. Some confusion is thrown by Shri E. Ahmed.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the President's address gives an account of works of the Government for the whole year and the achievements of the Government are also mentioned it. After going through the President's Address we feel that the Government always turns a blind eye to the challenges before the country. Today so many challenges are before the country and we are surrounded by so many evil designs but the President's Address gives an account of both the previous and the current year. I think it is a very important document.

Sir, there are so many problems and miseries before the country but the Government is quiet indifferent to them. It has become obvious from the President's Address that the Hon. Members of this august House are the citizens of this country. They have not come here from any fairy land. Therefore they know it very well that no any concrete result will come out from this debate. Moreover, whenever any good result is expected, hectic activities are witnessed here. But today those hectic activities, unrest etc. are being seen outside the august House but not inside the house because people feel that the present Government will not bring about any change in its style of functioning. Even if the people of the country reject its policies the Government will hardly awake.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the position is that the interest which should have been taken by the Hon. Members of this house in President's Address is nowhere. Everyone is guilty for that. The public life in the country is defamed in this Address. The cases of multi-crore rupees in Bank scam are taking place for the last three years. As per the JPC Report, diversion of funds allocated for power, water and development into speculation market was made. This august House has

to discuss only. Bank scams, and security scams during all these years. Only heated exchanges were seen between both the Congress and the opposition but the Government remained least concerned about it. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today the entire nation and the public realise it that there is plundering everywhere in the country. The persons who have been given authority are not serving the people. The corruption has become so rampant that people are reluctant to have confidence even in good and honest persons so. One may lead an upright and honest life for one's self-satisfaction but respect has been lowered, among people and political persons have lost their credibility, Nobody can guess that the facilities of Gas Connection and telephones which are given to MPS to serve the people of their constituencies, people are getting these facilities on payment. Thus it has become a business. This august House has been tackling the issue of corruption for last three years but no one is concerned with this and nothing has been expressed therefor in the President's Address. Who has pocketed this national wealth, who is involved in such embezzlements and who are prosecuted therefor? Has it yielded any results? The people of the country have confidence in elections democracy. But when the Parliament an apex body becomes helpless, useless and gives no result, how long do we tolerate such democracy? It is a serious matter. The Government does not say anything on it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government always talks about new economic policy and globalisation. It claims that the country has huge foreign exchange reserve. But everybody knows how the country has earned huge foreign exchange reserve. It is claimed that the country has made industrial progress and its economic condition has become sound as it was never before. Shri Manmohan Singh, and the Government machinery, radio and television are claiming everyday that prices and whole sale price-index have come down. But the people of the country are not prepared to accept or believe their claims. Had it borne even an iota of truth or reality, the people of the country might not have felt any trouble to accept it.

The Government claims that the country is progressing, the prices are coming down, there are huge reserves of foodgrains, and development works are being carried out in full swing. After the Independence, Mahatma Gandhi had stated that he was not a great economist but he had experience much more than great economists as to what was the problem of the country, what were its reasons and what were their solutions.

Do not go into the bookish details and don't get trapped into the jugglery of words. If the Government of Delhi, Lucknow and Ahmedabad say that they have done this or that and have brought socialism then do not listen to them. There are people in our country called Banihar who depend on their daily wages. Such people can be found everywhere. They make their bread

by doing labour and if you do not find any change in their life then take it for certain that the Governments of Delhi, Lucknow, and Ahmedabad are making false assertions. From that very day put your life at stake to change that rule and bring the truth on this land. The major part of the population is comprised of such people in our country. He lives everywhere and can be found everywhere.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Have they given liberty to the Government of Patna also.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : You are speaking right. Mani Shankar ji, the country is poor. The country has the highest number of helpless, and unemployed people. The number of lepers is the highest in this country. We are among those who have faced maximum defeats in the History. The Britishers ruled Orissa, Bengal, Bihar and the Eastern Uttar Pradesh for the longest period. We have been in power for the last 5 years. You have ruled there for 40 years. If we have committed the crime, we are ready to face the punishment but please tell how much your punishment will be? You have made eight five year plans and have implemented them. The freedom fighters of this country had foreseen the path of prosperity of this country through these Five Year Plans. Is it not sad that if the Prime Minister of our country belonging to any party goes to America, he is not given two lines coverage by the media or in the front page of newspapers there? If a small minister of China pays a visit there, the whole of USA gets stirred up. This is the condition. Therefore the number of the poor, and the helpless people in the country is very much. You have painted the picture of the nation in a tactful way and have said such things through this House which the people are unable to understand. I have been the Minister, I know many more things. If you ask any economist, he will not speak the truth but an illiterate person of the country will tell you the right thing and the factual position. Our country mainly depends on agriculture and handicrafts. Both of these areas are in vulnerable condition and ridden with problems. Our agriculture is a gamble in the hands of weather and water. Our folk songs are full of clouds, water and weather. Wherever you have made water available in the fields, the life style of the people has changed. Go to Jagdalpur, Orissa, and Bihar, the labourer earns five rupees there and where water is available in the fields, the labourer earns 60.70 rupees. Where water has reached to the field, the employment opportunities and life style have changed. The face of the people gleams there. It is written in it that the other occupation is of handicraft but Mahatamaji did not used to weave Khadi. There had been a weaver in our country, who was not attached to a particular religion caste. His name was Kabir. He was neither Muslim nor Hindu. Everyone tried to know about his religion but in vain. He wrote songs while working as a weaver.

Pathar pooje hari milen to me poojoon pahar

Ta se to chhaki bhali, pis khaye sansar.

Kabir ji has written much on hard labour. Craftsmanship was second popular occupation in our country and when our craftsmen were having a hold on the world market, the British came to our country from abroad. With the advent of machine age our country was enslaved. We were paying tributes to Morarji by saying that he was a Gandhian. We were acting like hypocrites since Gandhi was not a God or a Bhajan. We have set up his statue in front of the Parliament House. This sort of hypocrisy will ruin our country and this country has been ruined continuously. Pratap Singh Kairon belonging to the Congress Party, was the Chief Minister he took all the money of the Five Year Plan for irrigation and that is why there is gleam on the faces of the people of Haryana and Punjab. They have become affluent. Only those people have become prosperous, in whose villages roads have been constructed and electricity and water supplied to their fields. You have done nothing for the fields. The Government claim that they have rich store of foodgrains. It is very unfortunate that schemes are announced to provide rice at rupees two per kilogram to the poor but we are trapped in such a world set up and the set up in our country has taken such a turn that the land has given us foodgrain to live on but we are unable to eat it and it becomes unfit for human consumption.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when our Prime Minister pays a visit to the USA, he is not given even two lines of coverage on the front page. If our country is weak, our Prime Minister whether he is from Congress or opposition will not be honoured. If Gorbochev comes to our country, he speaks his mother-tongue but our people speak English. We make a reference of Gandhiji and Morarji in connection with language but I would like to say that not even a single thought comes out of creative translation, it is created by education and experience. The one who works in the field or grows vegetables, has his own skill. This type of knowledge is not called knowledge. I have said that a famous poet of this country belonged to our area and his poetry is much more scientific than any other science in the country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that we have never thought about our fields, the poor, the agriculturists and the daily wagers. We are saying that our foodgrain store is full. Even then the people are sleeping unfed. It means that something is wrong somewhere. We have made such a trap in the world that the coming new economic policy is employment generating. There is not need at all to tell you about the miserable state of unemployment in our country. Everyone, be it the labourer, the farmer or the one who works with pen are unemployed. The Government claims that everything will be alright with the proper law and order position.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the condition of our foreign policy is that after the disintegration of the USSR we are in problem. We get jittery the movement the USA costs an admonishing glance. It proves how weak we

are. On the other hand have a glance at Iran. The Hon. President of that country paid a visit here, I think that after a long time a reputed person has been to our country. Iran is a powerful and brave country and a person, who speaks bold paid a visit here. He said that he was proud of secularism and the traditions of our country. He said that there should be confederation of Pakistan, India and Bangladesh. Late Dr. Lohiya used to say that the partition will not let us live peacefully. Today if you inquire into the reasons of poverty and unemployment in these three countries, you will come to know how much is spent on the security and safety in these countries. After the disintegration of USSR, we were not able to find out a way. Arabs of rupees of this country has been spent for 45 years for the non-alignment movement. Many meetings were conducted throughout the world. Today, God knows where is the non-alignment movement. Our foreign policy is fully useless. Even after so many years of independence we have not thought anything about the labourers. There is no mention of remedy of communalism in this address. Nothing has been said about the caste system in this country. When the elections were conducted in Bihar, such an atmosphere was created by the elites of the country as those who live in Bihar are not human beings. Electoral reforms are talked about. There is no mention of the Electoral Reforms Bill for the whole of the country. All the parties have given their reports about the electoral reforms and the Goswami Committee report is lying unimplemented. If the polling booths are set up in the areas of the poor then a lot of electoral reforms can be possible in a democracy, but we are not ready to do so. All the problems have cropped up from the caste system. We are not even ready to discuss about it. Everyone says that the caste systems is not good but even then everybody is entrapped in it and I do not blame them. This caste system has been in vogue through ages. Its merits and demerits should be discussed honestly but we are playing the role of a hypocrite by saying that there should not be any caste system but still we are perpetuating it. Some way out should be found for the social policy but we are unable to decide about it. The social policy was due to the pact between Baba Sahib and Gandhiji and the reservation policy was made to unite all the castes of our country but the caste system has not been discussed in this House. None is ready to think that the Muslims settled in this country have decided to settle down here at their sweet will.

Why are they so less in number in all jobs? We have never seriously considered it as to what is the contribution of those 90 per cent people, who are involved in production, work hard and create wealth in running the country? We have opened separate schools and made new travel-routes for us. Thus, we have created a small world for ourselves which is living the 20th century. It is for such a handful of people, the international markets have been opened up and these people have taken hold of the whole world by using all

their cunningness. If we happen to meet the Hon. Colonel, he would try hard, to convince us that there is no problem at all. However, I understand his compulsion. He is the Minister of such a country which has become so handicapped with poverty, unemployment and hunger that now nothing works here. I do not mean to say that when we shall come to power, these will be removed. However, we will have to stand up with a strong resolution to run the country honestly.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issues of caste system and social policy have never been properly discussed in this House. The merit is frequently discussed on the question of reservation. This is the prevailing trend in the World as to what is property right. The developed nations have made rapid progress in the field of Science, technology, creativity, etc. Now they want to patent all the products.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was saying that the weak and the backward classes should be uplifted in society but when we talk of uplifting these poor people an atmosphere of abuse and hatred is created against them in country. Wherever they go stones are pelted on them and their limbs are broken. We also see that the speeches made in the House appear in the newspapers on casteiest lines. It will be known once a proper discussion is held on that. I believe in caste. There is nothing wrong on it. When caste has played a vital role for thousands of years in matters of marrying off daughters, earning a livelihood and at the time of birth and death then how can we say that people will cease to have caste sentiments. If we are not able to solve this problem then it will be difficult to solve other problems too. When nothing is being done towards evolving a social policy, and there is no resolution then how will this problem be removed? I feel that had we provided jobs be it the job of a peon, sepoy, Collector or a captain to those people who went in for inter-caste marriages during the last 50 years. This problem could have been solved to some extent. Had the Government given a guarantee of security to the people suffering from the onslaught of caste then the question of caste-system would not have arisen.

I do not want to go into the issue of caste and community, but when there are 6 Chief Ministers belonging to higher castes, nobody bothers but if a poor person rises to a higher post, people find it hard to digest because we have not drifted away from thousands of years old society. The views change but the deep-rooted cultural ethos do not. That is why, I want to say that the Address does nowhere mention casteism or a social policy.

We raised a great hue and cry about TADA. Today so many people in our country are being harassed under TADA. I feel, people belonging to minorities have been more victims of it. They feel very insecure terrified. The TADA has been hanging over them like a democle's sword. It has been argued that the situation at some places is so grim that it may lead to disintergration of the country. Hence, such a law is

deperately needed there. When the Government had brought this legislation, it had agreed with the view that this law would be implemented only at places which were very sensitive and where the security and unity and integrity of our nation was threatened. Now when there is no more danger to the unity and integrity of our country, the political workers are being rounded up in a large number. Among them includes mostly the people belonging to minorities or, our muslim brethren. Will we not alleviate their pains and pangs? The number of people who lost their lives in riots and personal feuds is ironically about 20 times more than those who gave their lives in the freedom struggle. This country is going through a very strange phase. We are ready to fight among ourselves but in the event of a danger to our nation. We are not ready to fight the separatist forces. Our TADA Act is also faced with the same fate. The implementation of TADA is also partial. Shri Bal Thakre speaks out that he stays beyond the purview of any Indian law but when an ordinary citizen does something wrong..(Interruptions) Yes, if Shri Mohan Rawale will say something he will be arrested.

I want to say that unless the implementation of laws is impartial it will not help build our nation but it will break the heart of the people instead. The law of the nation is effective while arresting Sanjay Dutt but it is rendered ineffective in case of Shri Bal Tahkrey. That is why I want to say that TADA should be scrapped. There are several states where TADA was not used at all. Further, nobody was booked under TADA, the law and order situation of these states is going on smoothly. However, there are certain states which are not in favour repeal of TADA. Several cabinet Ministers and several Hon. members of their party agree that whatever is happening in the name of TADA should be stopped but some people support it. I, myself had been incarcerated under MISA for four and a half years and I fully understand the pain and trauma one undergoes. Moreover, nobody cares to listen one's grievance the board for hearing the grievances is also constituted by the enslaved Government. I have studied in an Engineering college. I am an Engineer and have always been a topper and never slided to number two rank. Even then, I had to suffer for a period of four and a half years under MISA. Therefore, I can feel the pain. I am also aware that some people spent two years in jail during emergency and then sought pardon. Now they are trying to show themselves to be very brave before us. I am of the view that the country cannot become stronger in this manner. The Address has not mentioned it also.

We celebrate Diwali and Holi. On the occasion of Diwali, we pay obeisance to goddess Laxmi. Though goddess Laxmi has never visited the poor's house, yet the housewives raise the winning basket and remove poverty, welcome Laxmi (wealth) and the same basket continues to be in rogue even today. This Government is also functioning in the same way. Poor mothers sisters

and daughters in the country have been suffering under poverty for thousands of years but despite that they would offer the prayers and would continue to say, 'welcome Laxmi (wealth), remove poverty'. However, the poverty refuses to be abolished. Every house is attacked by poverty. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the end, I would like to submit that this is the first Address in respect of which I have spoken. I agree that I could not fully utilize the time limit but I am distressed to say that we also could not make this discussion lively. This House has been torn apart. While speaking on the President's Address I would also like to say that despite several flaws, this House is the best House in the country but the liveliness of the discussion has died down and the members have become indifferent. When this House is in session, it adds lusture to its functioning and the members take keen interest in it. But when the House is adjourned, we go to our constituencies and get entangled in several problems. Nobody takes the standing committees seriously. When nobody is ready to implement the recommendations of JPC then who will be ready to take these standing committees seriously? It is difficult to commit any irregularity in this House as all the proceedings are being matched and every word is being noted down. No other place is more powerful than this. There was no mala-fide intention behind weakening this powerful place. It was done with bona-fide intention. This House gives a dejected look as if people are sitting in a morgue. A divided House does not augur well for the nation. I agree with Swamyji that this is a very powerful place. This House has its own dignified place but it has lost its vivaciousness. Its main reason had been the delegation of responsibilities of this House to various committees. Earlier, we also used to seriously attend the standing committees but now we have got it right that a committee meeting only entails giving speeches and partaking break-fast.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say to the Government, through you, that they can blow their own trumpet through the President's Address that they have really made our country better but the country continues to be infested with poverty, hunger, unemployment, deteriorating law and order situation and several other new problems and diseases. The problems are agguanating with an increase in the post-independence age. I am constrained to congratulate on the President's Address because it is a mouthpiece of the Government. I strongly oppose it. I consider this Address a mere customary formality. The new economic policy is destroying our country. As a result of this policy, 10 lakh people have been retrenched from the domestic industries.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my conscous does not allow me to thank on the Address. That is why, on behalf of myself and my party I strongly oppose it. I thank you for allowing me time to speak.

[English]

SHRI K. PRADHANI (Nowrangpur) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Motion moved by Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar on 25th April, 1995 on the President's Address to both the House of Parliament assembled together on 13.2.1995. The New Economic Policy and other policies of our Government have produced good results. Our country is going to be counted as one of the rapidly growing economies of the world.

The law and order situation in our country is under control. The recent elections have proved that the elections were conducted peacefully. There were a few incidents only in Bihar and that the Government is vigilant over secessionist and communal forces that pose a threat our unity and integrity. They are taking sufficient action against them.

Sir, the GDP has risen to 5.3 per cent from 4.3 per cent in the previous year. Our industrial production has increased by 8 per cent. The foreign exchange reserve rose to 19 billion dollars from 15.1 billion dollars. The imports went up by 23.9 per cent and the exports by 16.9 per cent in dollar terms.

Sir, in agriculture, the production of foodgrains has risen from 182 million tonnes in the previous year to 185 million tonnes this year. Irrigation facility has been provided to 2.77 million hectares. So, the total goes up to 87.82 million hectares.

Now, Sir, I will come to the Ministry of Rural Development, which looks after the people living in the rural areas. Our country is a country where more than 80 per cent of the people live in the rural areas and crores of people suffer from under-employment and starvation. This Ministry provides food and clothing to those people who suffer from starvation and other difficulties to maintain their families. You are quite aware of the fact that actually for rural development Rs. 7010 crore has been earmarked and for EAS and JRY, Rs. 5055 crore has been earmarked. These schemes are working in 2275 most backward blocks of our country. In addition to this, Sir, intensive JRY is implemented in 120 most backward districts.

Panchayati Raj is another main and important subject of the Ministry of Rural Development. Sir, we have passed the Seventy-third and Seventy-fourth Constitution (Amendment) Acts which provided Panchayati Raj and Nagar Palika throughout the country. This imposes responsibility on the State Governments to hold elections regularly and to decentralise administrative and financial powers to Panchayats viz., district, intermediate and village Panchayats.

Sir, Article 243(m) prevents the State Governments not to extend Panchayati Raj System in Schedule Areas. So also Article 243ZC prevents the State Governments not to extend Nagarpalika in Schedule Areas. Now most of the States have formulated their Panchayati Raj Act

according to our Constitution (Seventy-Third Amendment) Act and (Seventy-Fourth Amendment) Act. Some of them have already started holding elections for Panchayati Raj.

Now, when this Article 243(m) prevents the State Governments to extend this Act to rural and Schedule Areas, there will be a vacuum if the Parliament does not extend it to those Schedule Areas. According to Article 243(m) 4 (b), the Constitution authorises the Parliament to extend this Panchayati Raj Act to Schedule Areas. It is the responsibility of the Central Government and the Parliament to extend this with additions and alterations to the Schedule Areas. The ordinary Panchayati Raj Act, which is mentioned in Article 243 is in general and applies to other areas other than the Schedule Areas.

The Government, the Planning Commission and the task force employed by the Planning Commission have reported that it is time for the Government to think over the peace and good Government. In the Fifth Schedule, Part 5(i) and (ii) it has been mentioned that for the peace and good Government, the Government of a State having Schedule Areas can frame regulations in consultation with the Tribal Advisory Council and send it to the President for his approval for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Regarding Nagarpalika also the Parliament has to extend the additions and alterations to the Schedule Areas which is conducive to the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes. Therefore, it is my earnest request to the Government of India that they should come forward with a Bill as soon as possible to fill up this vacuum and extend this Panchayati Raj Act to the Schedule Area whereby the people especially the tribal people can be benefited and they can be helped to have their own self-Government with proper representation and decentralisation of power to help themselves ...(*Interruptions*)

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU (Tenali)
Sir, TDP has not been given a chance so far.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You will speak next.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHINMAYAND SWAMY (Badaun) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address introduced by Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar.

It would have been fortunate, had the President's Address not remained merely an official report and rather reflected the problems and challenges before the country, so that all the Governments, political parties and the citizens could read their faces and thought of removing the flaws. Further, they would have understood their responsibilities and the Address would not have evoked such a lukewarm reaction. Moreover, there would

not have been any 'ifs' and 'buts' and this august House would have welcomed this Motion of Thanks unanimously.

It is natural for an ordinary person like me to have utmost faith and respect for the Hon. President. But if the discussion on the President's Address is affected by 'ifs' and 'buts' it is not a matter of honour for the nation. I would expect from this august House that the Government be requested to make the President's Address comprehensive in future so that all the problems, miseries of all sections of people and the challenges before the nation are reflected therein and there is curiosity among the people as to what the Hon. President is going to say about their welfare.

The President's Address has been discussed here elaborately. Our Hon. learned friend Shri Aiyar is adept in proving the wrong as right. He has utilised his talent fully to present all the achievements but talent cannot alter the truth. Talents have their own limitations. A talented orator selects certain words, by which he adeptly presents wrong as right. However, the truth remains truth and the false remains false.

While discussing law and order, it would have been better, had the challenges in maintaining law and order been also discussed. It does not belove us to express our satisfaction over law and order situation prevailing in the country. In Uttar Pradesh, the crime graph is on the increase continuously. The Government also knows as to how rapidly it is increasing. Today, the situation has come to such a pass that the Chief Minister of the State has to give clarification in foreign countries in this regard. He is placed in the docks. I went through today's newspapers in which it has appeared that the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister had to clarify in foreign countries that no incidents of abduction were taking place here and that these were all rumours.

Security of the nation is the foremost need of the hour. Today, how much security we are able to give to the common man? A few days back, I was abroad. They have shown keen interest in our economic policy and they wish to invest in our country but the same question was posed to me as to what arrangements will be made to provide security to the investors, their properties and their children? When this question was being asked there, the child of a tycoon of Ghaziabad was abducted and there were different sorts of rumours.

Life enjoys the uppermost place. All resources are mobilised through this very life. If we fail to provide security to our life and extend the facilities and benefits; give freedom to and arouse fearlessness among people, our entire machinery is placed in the dock, and everything becomes meaningless.

On several occasions, the attention of the Government was drawn to the situation in Uttar Pradesh through Calling Attention Motion. During the Zero Hour also, the Hon. Members from all sides had drawn the

attention of the Government as to what extent law and order has deteriorated there. It is not confined to Uttar Pradesh only. North-East region, Southern region or Kashmir region is also affected by the law and order problem. The House is well aware of the recent developments there. The biggest example of providing security to the common man is that today a large amount is being spent on the security of the VIPs alone. Had the law and order situation been normal in the country, the life of common people would have been secure and the funds being spent on VIPs like the Hon. Prime Minister, former Prime Ministers Hon. Member of Parliament and the Hon. Ministers would have been used in developmental works and providing means of subsistence, education and employment to common people. But, we have not been able to make it effective. Had we been able to maintain law and order and peace, we would not have been compelled to live in such an insecure atmosphere. On the one hand, we associate our country with Gautam Buddha, Mahatma Gandhi and Lord Mahavir, and on the other hand, we feel ourselves so insecure that there is hardly any citizen, parliamentarian or legislator of the country who moves without.

14.00 hrs.

Security guards or who has not been provided any security. The issue of security has been raised by me several times in this august House. I admit that some persons are exceptions who venture to move without any security. It is their personal courage due to which they disown their security. However, there is still an atmosphere of insecurity in the system.

It has been stated that no major riot has taken place in the country. Does the Government want that let a major riot take place and then it would be mentioned? What is the criterion of a major riot? Can the pre-riots in Karnataka - be it on the issue of Urdu or Hubli incidents - not be construed as riots? Can such minor riots not be covered under the definition of riot? So long as casteist hostility and communal tension exist there and national feeling is not aroused among the citizens, the issue of riots will remain unresolved. It appears to me that sometimes these riots are perpetrated for achieving political mileage also. Otherwise, there was no logic behind telecasting Urdu news bulletin just few days before the elections in Karnataka. Nobody has grudge against Urdu, but had the decision been taken in time, nobody would have complained. Similarly, had the Hubli issue been resolved, as Shri Deve Gowda did, the riot could have been averted there. But, when this issue is linked with politics, political interests or one's ego, troubles starts cropping up there and it takes the shape of riots.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Hon. Shri Aiyar has levelled allegations against the B.J.P. on the Ayodhya issue. In this connection, I would like to submit that the Government should adopt clear-cut approach on it. In

no way, the Ayodhya issue should be used to save one's own skin or to make one's side strong. The Ayodhya issue needs to be dealt with in a transparent manner. May I draw the attention of the Hon. Members sitting on the treasury benches to the statements of the Hon. Prime Minister on this issue. Has there been any consistency in these statements? The statements made from the Red Fort, in Lucknow and in the Congress Working Committee meeting were quite inconsistent with each other. So these statements created a lot of confusion and trouble. We know that the Union Government has failed to get judgement from the Supreme Court. The Union Government had sought the opinion of the Supreme Court on it, but the latter turned down the request. The Supreme Court held that it was out of its jurisdiction and it cannot tell whether there was a mosque or a temple in the beginning. It rather suggested that this issue can be pursued through a dialogue. I would like to know from the Government whether any effort was made or any initiative was taken or any discussion was held in this direction after the Supreme Court gave its opinion. Perhaps not or I do not have any such information. But this issue ought to have been discussed and a solution have been found through consultations and dialogue. Our Hon. colleague, Shri Shankar had stated that the issue had been sub-judice for last 430 years. We hold the Court in high esteem, but should we allow this issue to remain sub-judice for another 430 years? If this issue remained pending in the Court for such a long period, resentment and tension will brew-up which may provoke riots. The Court has expressed its opinion that this issue cannot be settled by the court. The Government should venture to introduce a Bill in Parliament, discuss over it and elicit the opinion of Hon. Members of Parliament on it. It is the House of People and the nation's interests are linked with it. Every child is associated with it. Then, why the opinion of Parliament is not sought on it? Parliament should give its opinion on it and another Bill should be introduced in this regard. But the Parliament is not prepared to do so and the Government just wants to hide this fact.

Sometimes you set up Ramalaya trust, it is really strange that a trust named Ram Janmabhoomi Trust was constituted in 1986. It is already functioning and registered with the Government of India. It is functioning independently. Though we accept it that Vishwa Hindu Parishad has been banned without any reason. There is no justification of it but some serious reason behind it. The institution is banned for just two speeches and an institution, which has a large number of its members and working comprehensively throughout the country is banned. We accept it and it is correct that the Government have banned it and its reply would be given at appropriate forum. But there was no ban on Ram Janmabhoomi Trust. You would have given this work to that Trust by making some amendments if needed. But

you have not done so and constituted a paralised Trust with the help of Shankaracharyas which is the highest institution of Hindus. Government officials were sent there by planes and convinced them. The Government has set up a separate Ayodhya cell. The officials of Ayodhya cell prepared a draft and got their signatures on it later on a few out of them stated that as the script was in English which they did not understand and thus they did not agree with it. Thus strange situation was created, a situation of doubt was created. Even today the policy of the Government is not clear on this issue. Hon. President has also been asked to say something on it but it will also not serve any purpose what do the Government want in this respect and what is its policy.

Sir, my clearcut submission is that there is no other alternative for it. Either the Government should solve this issue through bilateral talks or by bringing a Bill in Parliament and there is no any other solution of it. But it will create much more problem and tension if you follow the third option of delaying the matter for a long time and then, there will be no option for you.

Sir, Hon. Aiyarji had put forth his point on Jammu and Kashmir very effectively. The situation has been definitely improved there and the country should feel obliged therefor, but it not to upto the extent as it is being claimed. It is really surprising that at present identity cards are talk of the town all over the country and identity cards are being prepared. A photo must be attached with identity card for the whole country and in certain states election Commissioner has made it compulsory for holding elections. So long as identity cards would not be prepared no elections will be held there. People have moved to Court but why the issue of identity cards was not raised in Kashmir? Identity cards are needed move there where such foreigners come to occupy the holy Charar-e-Sharif and Hajrat Bal and for sending them back the Government has to bow on their feet and is compelled to request them if they wish, the Government is ready to send them back honourably. The Government makes arrangements for the safe return of terrorists from Charar-e-Sharif wish to send them to Pakistan but after Gresting Sadhvi Ritambhara praising itself as if it has done a commendable job. This is not the way to keep balance. If the Government wish to keep balance it should use its conscience and impartiality must be maintained and there should be no injustice towards any side.

Sir, more than 7 lakh people of Kashmir are living outside. So long as their names are not included in voters' lists which are being reviewed at present and they are not given photo identity cards, what does it mean by elections and if elections will be held what type of elections it would be? If these elections will be held as in Assam and Punjab were held earlier such type of elections will be the mockery of elections because elections are the backbone of democracy and whole democratic system depends upon it. It will be really difficult to inculcate people's faith in democracy when

they loose faith in elections. Therefore such efforts should be made so that more and more people may take part in elections and for obtaining concurrence of all. How will you hold elections in such a terror sticken atmosphere at gun point this question is looming before the country and every one is asking this question but you are repeating it that you will hold elections. Perhaps you may have some magical method of holding elections.

Accordingly Government's policy for dealing with secessionists activities in north-eastern region has been applauded but I would like to know why this policy is going to be failed in Nagaland. It is appearing daily in newspapers about Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram as to how tribes are conflicting? How conflict is being created by making them scapegoat but nothing has been suggested for solving this problem. I would like to say that such type subjects should come before the House and so long as these are not discussed here the President's Address is incomplete.

You have signed the Jharkhand agreement in September, 1994. Why do such demands for separate Vananchal, Uttranchal or Jharkhand come? Why are people raising demands for separate states for their rights. At present one state is so big in our country that neither it has beginning nor the end while other one is so small that it can be crossed in a leap. The geographical situation of a State is equal to a district of another State. Bastar district is so long that it is equal to Haryana State where administration cannot run smoothly. In such a situation if they demand for a separate state then it is not improper, because people want that their difficulties and problems should be looked by the administration effectively. A Commission was set up in this regard which discussed about small states, some work was done but it was kept pending thereafter. The problems of daily struggle for separate state, loss of human labour, wastage of time and tension and conflict created by these could be solved if the matter of small states is decided once for all. We should ponder the issue. We talk about Uttaranchal. I request Hon. Ayarji to visit Badrinath-Kedarnath, I will make arrangements for it. I would like to show you the plight of villages in those areas. Every year I used to go to Badrinath ashram. I know that people have to face a lot of difficulties to reach their native villages. In such situation if people of this area demand for a separate State to elect a governing body as per their aspirations and requirements, they should be given a separate State. Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly has sent twice the Resolution passed by it for getting your approval, but you are delaying the matter. You are not only using the delaying tactics but commit excesses against the people and rape the women who are raising their voice on this matter through your friendly Government. The incidents of 2nd October at Rampur Tiraha and Khatima are proofs of it. That Government was functioning with the help of your support.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to make a personal submission. I belong to Dehradun region and lived there since childhood. I had visited Badrinath-Kedarnath on foot and I agree with you that Uttaranchal is really needed. I am also in favour of Uttaranchal and the Government is considering the matter...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (Mirzapur) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, just now Aiyarji has told that he is in favour of Uttaranchal but on the other hand people demanding Uttaranchal are fired and women were raped and this all was done by the Government functioning with their support. I do not understand as to how Aiyarji put forth his logic.

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMY : I thank Aiyarji for supporting my point by saying that he is in favour of Uttaranchal. It means that Central Government as well as Uttar Pradesh Government is in its favour.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : I have said that I am in favour of it and Government is thinking over it. I can do something if I were the Minister.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is not in the hands of Swamyji to make you a Minister.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMY : I thank Aiyarji for his honesty and we will be able to take some decision on this issue if it is debated with such honesty.

I would like to add one more issue with Uttaranchal. There is a region named Chhatisgarh in Madhya Pradesh which elects 90 MLAs for Legislative Assembly. This area is very poor. A large number of people belonging to this area work in brick kilns in various parts of the country. You may visit any brick kiln and find out that most of its labourers belong to Bilaspur or this area. It is a very poor region. In spite of enormous forest resources, minerals and prosperous, area from viewpoint of natural resources, people of this area are very poor. Most of the people who took part in the movement for separate Chhatisgarh State are today in ruling party. My friend Shri Pawan Diwanji had initiated the movement for separate Chhatisgarh State, Chandulalji is no more among us who led this movement. But it is very sad that important issue like Chhatisgarh has not been mentioned in President's Address. It is also not discussed in this House.

Prior to elections, every political party promises to accord it the status of a separate State if it is voted to power but in reality, nothing is done. The people continue to remain backward there. You should talk about it if you are talking about Vananchal and Uttaranchal. It is your Government in Madhya Pradesh headed by Hon. Digvijay Singhji who won the elections

on the promise that a tribal person would be the Chief Minister of the State if the Congress was catapulted to power. I thank you for having found a tribal like Raja Digvijay Singh in the whole State of Madhya Pradesh. If this is the Congress definition of a tribal, then, I have no comments to make on it.

The C.B.I. has submitted its report of the incident that took place in Uttar Pradesh. It reminds me of the Belchni incident of Bihar in which modesty of 6-7 women was outraged, but the rape case could not be established. At that time, Shrimati Indira Gandhi was the leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha. After visiting the spot, she raised her voice here in this House that such a Government should not be allowed to continue. The incident of Rampur Tiraha in Uttar Pradesh is not the only one of its kind. The Government records reveal that 2000 women were raped in the State during this year. What is the Government waiting for? I fail to understand what is the justification of letting such a Government to continue? To my mind a Government that fails to protect the honour and self-respect of women should not be allowed to run any further. But what and whose report is being awaited? The C.B.I. has proved it. I think that Address is incomplete without a mention of it.

The constitution of a National Human Rights Commission is a good step. The person appointed as its Chairman has held very high offices and I respect him. But, will you take any action on his report? He also visited the hilly areas of Uttarakhand and comprehended the plight of the women. He may also submit his report within a few days.

The members of the National Commission on Women also visited the area and submitted its report. Then, what is the Government waiting for?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, electoral reforms are talked about but I can't understand that the Dinesh Goswami report is before us and a Bill has also been brought forward in this connection in the name of electoral reforms. Which only provided for the measures aimed at alienating a particular party from participating in elections.

The other day Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal said in a mood of humour 'what will be your fate Swamyji'? I thank you people for giving me an opportunity to become a Member of Parliament. I will not cut a sorry figure if I am not given such opportunity again but they are trying to prevent the entry of sages and seers into this House whereas the Bill makes no provision for preventing the entry of Mafia here. There can't be any electoral reforms if measures are not taken to check the criminals. Recently Panchayat elections were held in Uttar Pradesh. The common people are more directly associated with the Panchayat elections rather than Lok Sabha or Assembly elections. I would like to pay tributes to late Rajiv Gandhi for having tried to take democracy to the grass root levels. Powers were being

delegated to the people at the lower levels but the way electoral malpractices were resorted to in U.P. elections is reflective of a rehearsal of following the path of Shri Laloo Yadav of Bihar during the next year's elections. Surprisingly, an M.P. is staging a dharna at Ghaziabad today to protest against the manoeuvre of declaring a candidate having secured 3600 votes as a winner against the one who secured 5600 votes and had virtually won the elections. A particular Tehsildar was made instrumental in getting a woman candidate defeated and when this conspiracy was unravelled the woman candidate was declared as a winner and the Tehsildar arrested. So, this was the situation in Panchayat elections and in Bihar Legislative elections and we found ourselves in the opposition.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : What was the reason of your debacle in Bihar?

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMY : I do not know but you are fully aware of how you have won elections there.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, now turning to economic reforms, it is an important issue. The Small Scale Industries are being ignored. I would like to cite an example. Recently, the Ministry of Petroleum issued an order saying that foreign companies will take over the manufacturing of full-fledged cylinders in place of small units that manufacture various parts of the gas cylinder to assemble it later. This way, thousands of workers engaged in these small scale industries will have to face starvation. During the course of a question, our Hon. Member, Shri Lodhaji suggested that these sick units should be entrusted to the workers as they will run them with zeal and enthusiasm and can also make their livelihood. This will not only generate self confidence in them but will also increase production. They are the citizens of our country and have the capability and ability of running these industries smoothly. They will prove that besides putting in labour, they possess administrative, managerial and production capabilities also. This will generate self confidence in the worker to stand on his own feet. The country will also benefit from it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the newspaper reports reveal that foreign companies will now manufacture ice-cream, cold-drinks, tomato-sauce also. Tomorrow they will start producing vegetables, rice, chapati etc. and will make entry into our kitchens, as well. The cost of potato chips is so high and the farmer does not get remunerative prices for his potatoes. In this connection, I would say that the Indians should get their proper share. People can't wait for too long.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you are repeatedly ringing the bell. I have many things to say but would merely say one thing that no measures have been mentioned in this Address for solving the basic problems responsible for creating a great crisis in the country. Hence, I say it with a heavy heart and painfully that

I do not support this Address. Better if such things and found place in his address.

With these words, I conclude.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Each Hon. Member will have ten minutes to speak. If I ring the bell, that does not mean that the speech is excellently good and that you are very much encouraged to speak more. It is an indication that you should make efforts to conclude your speech. Each Hon. Member shall have ten minutes because many Hon. Members want to participate in this debate.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Sir, this principle should have been followed right from the beginning.

With due regard to the Presidential institution, I would like to say that the address of the President delivered on 13th February, 1995 to the Joint Session of the Parliament is nothing but a routine white-washed and sweet coated report of the Congress Government in the process of brushing out an annual ritual. The Address lacks reflection of realities of the Government functioning. Mention has not been made even about the vital problems and their priorities.

The past four year rule of Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao Government deserves an entry in the Guinness Book of Records, not for its achievements but for its misdeeds, abuses, failures, scams, corruption, anti-poor, anti-farmer anti-democratic postures, unprecedented price-rise, unabated unemployment and for having disrespected the secular fabric of the society by demolishing the Babri-Masjid.

This Government started as a minority Government. People did not give them majority. But whatever majority the Congress Government is claiming in the House now is only a manipulated majority by organising split in the anti-Congress parties and thereby they have been claiming the majority.

They are not actually ashamed even to claim the Congress majority in the House. People did not give them the majority.

The Government has adopted anti-democratic posture. Shri Rajiv Gandhi himself had introduced this Bill of Anti-defection. This has been flouted successfully by Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao's Government.

The biggest scam took place during this particular period. That is the world's biggest scandal involving more than Rs. 1 lakh crores of public money. It took place during the time of this Government. The so-called one time sensational Bofors scandal is reduced to insignificance before the present share scam.

In Bofors issue, one Foreign Minister has lost his job while attempting to suppress the revelations of the names of the persons who were found guilty.

In share scam issue, the present world biggest share scam claimed the positions of the two Hon. Minister.

The Government made a big farce of the action taken against the guilty despite the clear findings of the Joint Parliamentary Committee and the CBI agencies.

The famous sugar muddle wherein the Government wanted to throw the entire blame on the bureaucrats but in the process exhibited lack of coordination between the Government and the bureaucrats, ultimately resulted in sending home one more Minister unceremoniously.

You are aware that the railway engine scandal wherein a sizeable amount of Rs. 550 crores is involved, was struck down in favour of the overseas suppliers with staggeringly high price, much against the recommendations of the concerned technical experts. The purchases were made by stage managements the entire issue.

The economic sovereignty of the country is mortgaged to World Bank and IMF. The dictates of these two institutions are now prevailing in the country. Ever since Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao came to office, the economic policies are placed in the hands of the IMF and the World Bank.

Foreign debts increased to more than rupees three lakh crores. Both internal and external debts increased to about rupees six lakh crores now. The debt-servicing also needs raising of new loans. Unless new loans are raised, even the debt-servicing could not be made.

In the name of liberalisation and globalisation, the country has become a partner to the GATT proposals. The Dunkel Draft was agreed upon *in toto* much against the wishes of certain States. Even the Andhra Pradesh State Assembly has passed a unanimous resolution and sent it to the Union Government stating not to accept the Dunkel proposal which are going to be harmful particularly to the agriculturists. In spite of this warning, in spite of the warnings of the Opposition Parties as also that of the eminent economists of the country, these proposals were accepted and the country has become a partner to the GATT proposals. This is going to be quite harmful to the prospects of the Indian economy.

Next, inflation could not be controlled. This is still in double-digit figure. Till yesterday, it was almost more than 10 per cent. This resulted in the abnormal increase in prices of essential commodities - most unprecedentedly by more than 100 to 150 per cent in respect of certain items as recorded during the past four years. This trend is much against the election promise made by the Congress Government during the 1991 elections where they said that if the Congress was voted to power, then the prices would be rolled back to 1990-level. This could not be kept up by the Congress Government.

Unemployment which assumed the alarming dimensions and the so-called industrial liberalisation policy of this Government aggravated the situation. The Congress Party's election manifesto and its promises could not be adhered to. Its election promise of creating one-crore additional jobs every year could not be achieved by this Government.

Coming to the agricultural sector, agriculture is given a raw-deal and step motherly treatment during the Congress Government. The Congress Government is making tall claims that is could achieve production of 106 million tonnes of foodgrains. This is nothing but a false claim that the Government is making. When we look back into the past years, when we take the averages during the past ten years, the production average of agriculture has not crossed 2.5 per cent annual growth as against the 4.5 per cent annual growth rate targeted. The country could achieve only 2.5 per cent growth rate. So, this is not a big achievement. Even today, the per capita foodgrains availability in this country has not crossed about 480 grams per day per head - which is not a big achievement - as against the 454 grams which this country could enjoy in the year 1947. So, on the agricultural front, much could not be achieved during the tenure of this Government.

About fertilizer prices, you have seen that it has gone up like anything. The price of DAP, which was sold at hardly about Rs. 4600 per tonne in the year 1991-92, has gone up to Rs. 11,000 per tonne, a prohibitively high price. The agriculturists are not in a position to purchase fertilizers and adequately apply to the soils. This has caused a lot of imbalance in the application of nutrients to the soils. As against the normal proportion of 4:2:1 of Nitrogen, Phosphate and Potash that is to be applied to the Indian soils, now the ratio stands at 9.3:3.1:1. If this trend continues for some more time, the Indian soils are not going to be productive enough to produce crops. The required nutrients are going to be out of application in the near future.

The much-awaited Agricultural Policy has not seen the light of the day. Though it has been said that the National Agricultural Policy is going to be evolved and given to this country, till today that has not seen the light of the day. Similarly, in respect of agriculture, it was said that it would be treated on par with industry. Even this also has not been finalised. I do not know as what happened to the recommendations that were submitted by the Bhanupratap Singh Committee and the Hanumantharao Committee with regard to agriculture.

They recommended for evolving the National Agriculture Policy and also for treating the Indian agriculture on par with the industry. These recommendations have not seen the light of the day. The much promised single zone for the movement of agricultural product in the country which was promised by the Union Agriculture Minister, quite a number of

times on the floor of the House, has not been materialised. Till today, there are several barriers for the agricultural products to move from one place to other. Even district barriers are there. They are not treating the entire country as a single zone.

Due share for the institutional loan is not forthcoming to the agriculture sector. As you are aware, about 40 per cent of the institutional loans are flowing to the priority sector. At least 23 to 24 per cent should come to agriculture. But now it is only 16 per cent that is going to the agriculture sector and thereby agriculture is not being given its due share.

Coming to the crop insurance, a comprehensive crop insurance was promised by the Hon. Prime Minister. But it has not been formulated so far. If the proposed power tariff of fifty paise per unit in agricultural sector, as suggested by the IMF is going to be implemented, it is certainly going to be suicidal for the agricultural sector. Acceptance of Dunkel proposal is nothing but spelling out the death knell to the agriculturists. Above all, public investment in agriculture has gone down plan after plan. It was 34.5 per cent in the First Plan and now it is only 19.5 per cent. As such, agriculture was given a raw deal.

I have mentioned already about the withdrawal of subsidies and decontrol of fertilizers resulting in abnormal increase in prices. Unless this is going to be rectified, the agriculture is not going to survive in the country and the food production is not going to be comfortable. The prices of the pesticides have also gone up in the recent past by about 100 to 200 per cent during the past four years. Therefore, the problem of spurious pesticides and lack of proper checks are the worrying problems of the farmers.

As you are aware, how the secular fabric has been demolished in this country with the demolition of the Babri Masjid. It has shaken the confidence of the Muslim minorities and the Babri Masjid which stood as a monument of secular fabric of this country, enshrined in the Constitution, was demolished. Now they are formulating that they are going to build another Masjid. If a Masjid is built now, it will not be called as the Babri Masjid. Since it was constructed by Babar, it used to be called Babri Masjid. If this Government constructs a Masjid now, then this is going to be called as the Narasimha Rao Masjid and not the Babri Masjid.

Opposition parties are expressing dissatisfaction over the functioning of this country. But one must feel ashamed that the ruling party Members themselves are coming up with cut motions expressing their resentment over the functioning of the present Government. These are all the reasons why the Congress was routed out in the recent assembly elections in almost all the States like Andhra Pradesh, Kanataka, Maharashtra and Gujarat. In the case of Karnataka, the party was thrown to the third place whereas in Andhra it could not even get the minimum number to be called as the recognised

opposition party. Realising the mood of the people and the anti-Congress wave throughout the length and breadth of the country, the Congress Party has lost its right to rule the country, hence better step down in the interests of the country and the people.

Recently Assembly elections amply prove that the immediate requirements of the Indian masses are the welfare measures underlining the minimum basic needs such as Rs. 2.00 per kilogram rice scheme; pucca houses for the weaker sections; janata cloth scheme for the poorer sections etc. It is proved that they are no longer populist schemes but the productive-oriented welfare schemes.

Our Leader Shri N.T. Rama Rao has emerged as the pioneer, the crusader, the messiah, and the trend-setter in the country in designing such welfare measures for the poorer sections and implementing them successfully. His message that the society is the sacred temple and the poor man is the virtual God and serving this poor man is serving God is being emulated by almost all the political parties now-a-days. Several political parties have come up with such welfare measures in their election manifestoes. Recently even Mr. Antony, the Chief Minister of Kerala, has also come up with a proposal that a cheap rice scheme should be promised to the people. Realising the importance of these schemes, several political parties including the Congress Party, have announced such schemes in different forms in different States. The Union Government should realise its importance and assist the State Government by sharing the burden of such accepted schemes.

Shri N.T. Rama Rao, our leader, has personally requested the Prime Minister soon after assuming the charge as the Chief Minister with a representation to share the burden of Rs. 2 per kilogram rice scheme, besides the loss being incurred in the implementation of total prohibition scheme. But, unfortunately the Union Government has not responded so far. On the other hand the Prime Minister, in his party forum, in one of the Congress Party meetings, has almost ridiculed that Shri N.T. Rama Rao has promised in his election manifesto this Rs. 2 per kilogram rice scheme and now he is coming to the Centre for assistance. Sir, it is to assist the poor people, to assist the welfare measure and not to assist any political party. I therefore request the Union Government, rather we demand from the Union Government, to share this burden which is being borne by the Andhra Pradesh State Government.

The food security is the felt need of the the present day. Now the food security is to be given top priority and if necessary this issue is to be discussed in the National Development Council which is going to be shortly held where all the Chief Ministers would participate and where this policy should be taken up in favour of the welfare measures.

The total prohibition is resulting in a loss of Rs.1200 crore to the Andhra Pradesh State Government. This also should be assisted by the Union Government. This is not a new policy that has been formulated by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh. This was the scheme initiated by the Union Government earlier, as early as 1977. The 7th Finance Commission had also accepted and recommended this. About four States were given 50 per cent assistance during those days, when Shri Morarji Desai was the Prime Minister. The implementation of this total prohibition is not merely any other populist measure, but this improves the economic position of the rural families. This would go a long way in improving their economies. The health of the rural masses would also be improved and the productivity of individuals would be increased. Besides these, crime rate and atrocities on women and such other evils in the society would also come down with the implementation of this particular policy. Hence we request that this should be assisted.

Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar while moving the Motion referred to the cooperative institutions and said that the democratic values will be maintained by the Congress Government in the cooperative sector. This is far from reality. In Andhra Pradesh, when the cooperative elections took place in 1990 they had nominated two members on the cooperative bodies. They were given voting right. With this voting right to the nominated people only, they have captured the power the cooperative institutions. This is quite anti-democratic; this is not in keeping with the principle of democracy. Though we have raise it on several occasions in this House that this is going on in Andhra Pradesh, this has been accepted and endorsed by the Union Government as such. They do not have faith in the democratic values to set in the cooperative institutions...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There are others also who want to participate. Please conclude. Before 3.30 p.m., all the Hon. Members have to finish their speeches.

(Interruptions)

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Another concept is this...*(Interruptions)* that the Central Election Commission should conduct the elections for the local bodies; if it is so, then the entire federal system will be demolished...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Dr. Venkateswarlu, you have taken almost 20 minutes. Kindly conclude.

(Interruptions)

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Lastly, I must say only one word with regard to the constitutional crisis that is prevailing in Tamil Nadu. I am not trying to cast aspersions on any constitutional institution. There are two institutions which are constitutionally created. One is the Chief Minister and the other is the Governor. Now, unfortunately these two institutions are dragged to the streets. We are worried about only one thing. The

respect of these institutions should be maintained and the Central Government cannot be a mute spectator for all that is going on in that State. I say that it cannot escape from its responsibilities in maintaining and protecting the constitutional provisions as such. I request that the Central Government should respond immediately as otherwise it will be taken for granted that this is in league with the atrocities that are going on as far as these institutions are concerned.

Since the Address lacks reflection of realities and since the Government did not come forward to finance the welfare measures being implemented by the Andhra Pradesh Government such as 'two rupees a k.g. rice scheme' and total prohibition...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Dr. Venkateswarlu, you are employing a very wise device.

(Interruptions)

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Besides, it is also involving itself in misdeeds, abuses, failures, scams, corruption and so on; and therefore, I oppose the Motion moved by Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar.

[Translations]

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad) : On the one hand the Presidential Address, is the progress report on the other hand it envisages the annual programme. If a student fails in his class, what progress report will he have? Can the Government point out any progress in the Presidential Address of this year against that of the last year? If it is your achievement that there was no major communal riot in the country, during the last year, then I think that the demolition of the mosque in Ayodhya was your failure. It has been stated in para 3 that the Government is making efforts to keep an eye on the secessionist and communal forces that pose a threat to the unity and integrity of the country. Consequently the ruling party was voted out in Maharashtra and Gujarat and power went in the hands of so called communal forces. I would like to point out that the setbacks received one by one by the Congress. The Muslims are not happy with the policy of the Government. The Nagpur incident has proved that the tribals, the scheduled castes all over the country are not happy with the Government. In the wake of increasing unemployment, the youths are not at all happy with the Government. The linguistic minorities are also not happy with the Government. Two and a half lakhs of industries have been closed down and labourers are being retrenched. Therefore, industrial workers are not happy with the Government. So, how would the ruling party get their votes?

The persons in the ruling party also state that persons belonging to a particular community only were arrested under TADA, therefore, it should be repealed. Perhaps Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar will also agree that it has been used to arrest a particular community therefore, it should be repealed. I would like to know

from the Government whether it proposes to repeal it or not. If it is a fact that TADA has been misused to arrest persons belonging to persons of a particular community only, TADA should certainly be repealed. But will the Government take any action against those Chief Ministers who are responsible for such misuse? What action will be taken by the Government against such elements in the party, in the Central Government and the State Governments?

In the Presidential Address this time there is the mention of the issues of Kashmir, North Eastern region, the Jharkhand and the Uttarakhand, the totally disturbed areas, in paras fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth respectively. But nothing significant has been stated regarding this issue in it. The Government could not find out any solution to this problem so far. Kashmir is discussed widely. Everybody knows the situation in Kashmir. The roads are blocked there. So, foodgrains are not being supplied there and people are in great distress there. All is well there. The Pakistanis are infiltrating there. The action taken by you against the trained Pakistani infiltrator is a right step. If required, the people of the country are ready to launch an offensive against them. We want to solve the Kashmir issue ourselves. Any external force trying to worsen the situation there will be dealt with iron hand.

I would like to submit that we will certainly fight out Pakistan on Kashmir issue, but against whom should we fight on the distribution of Cavery water issue? Nothing has been stated on Punjab. Today Punjab is calm. But it is calm on the gun point of Shri K.P.S. Gill. The problems in Punjab are dormant. The Government did not think over the important issues of Abohar and Chandigarh. The Government can suppress the demand of people on gun point for a few days. But until and unless their genuine demands are fulfilled, the actual problem is resolved, nothing will be achieved. Today the youths in Punjab are silent, but the Government should not be under the impression that they have forgotten everything. I am not talking about the Golden Temple and the riots in Delhi. I am talking about the former military General A.S. Vaidya who was killed at Punjab. Had they forgot everything, this incident might not have taken place there. It is not an easy thing. But the Government does not think over it at all.

The promises made by the Government during elections are not fulfilled after the elections. That is why the ruling party was voted out in Karnataka. You managed to get 25 seats only in Andhra Pradesh and were just reduced to a bundle of bids.

Moreover, the Government dismissed the Bhandari Government and tried to install the Government of its own choice there but the party faced such a humiliating debacle in the hand of Janta Dal that it could get only one seat. Yet it did not take any lesson from it. It could form Government in Manipur through political manoeuvre only. The Government must contemplate. It thinks that the BJP has been voted to power in four states like

Maharashtra, Gujarat etc., so it is very happy. But it has forgotten that there is another force in Tripura, West Bengal, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar. It is forgetting the left front and the National Front. Under certain compulsions we could not engineer any alliance in Orissa, Maharashtra and Gujarat. Otherwise the present situation might not have cropped up. But next time we will form an alliance. This is the call of time. The democratic and secular forces are emerging now. They are ready to assume the reins of the Government.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : The left party is likely to make alliance with us.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : That's nice, if it is ready to make alliance with your party. But first you should control Shri Kumaramanglam.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : You yourself should control him. He belongs to your group.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : I am happy that you have admitted that he belongs to my group. There are still certain good persons in the Congress to whom I can introduce you now. The JPC Chairman Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha is one of good persons in the Congress and he is likely to leave the Congress. He is alleged to have bogged down your Government. But he is an upright and honest man.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : I also have prepared a report. I also should be appreciated.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : I did not call you dishonest. I did not allege that you were involved in the sugar scam. You were not given any Ministerial berth. Had it been so, we could judge you what kind of a person you are.

Regarding achievements I would like to tell you two or four things. It has been stated here that significant progress has been made in various fields. But the Government did not pay attention to the growth rate of population during the period of 1981 to 1991 as per the census report. That time growth rate of population was 2.14. If compared against the food production no progress will be seen. Our food production was raised by 1.01 per cent last year. If we tally it with the population growth, we will find that the food production is very inadequate.

Today industries are being closed down. The Government has failed to establish any consistency between the GDP and the GNP. In such a situation the Government is closing down its business and industries and inviting the Multi National companies.

The Government must invite them. They had been, they are and they will remain in future also. But I want to state only this much as to in what direction. The Government is taking the core sector and the service sector? You refer to West Bengal frequently. Is West Bengal not a part of our country? It is the helplessness of West Bengal that it has to follow the Union Government.

15.00 hrs.

We also are compelled to follow it. But the foreign capital and the multi National Companies are coming into our country. Their entry will spoil the core-sector and we cannot prevent it. The patent law has not been amended in other countries. But the Government is very much worried about passing it. It should pay attention to all these issues.

Lastly I would like to point out that hill people right from Kashmir to Meghalay or to say Arunachal Pradesh are worried for their backwardness. The Government is least concerned about them. Recently new Government has been formed in Tripura. In the face of protest made by the Chief Minister there the Government withdrew para military forces. It caused huge damages. It appears that the Government wants to help the secessionist activities. You, however, may go on aiding and abetting the agitation. But I would like to state that the people outside are saying that Shri Narsimha Rao is the last Congress Prime Minister.

AN HON. MEMBER : He does not talk about people here...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karol Bagh) : The Bharatiya Janata Party also is saying the same thing ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : You think that I will take their side. I would like to tell the Bharatiya Janata Party one thing. The people of India are religious. They believe in religion. They love religion. All right, I am an atheist, you may instigate them for a while. But the people of India are not communal. The people of India want that a democratic and secular force should come in power in the Centre.

With these words I am constrained to say with regret that I cannot support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address moved by Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar. I rather oppose it.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri P.G. Narayanan. Then Shri Shravan Kumar Patel and Shri Bhogendra Jha.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, thank you very much for allowing me to speak on the Motion of Thank on the President's Address. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur) : Sir, I have been asking you so many times to allow me to speak.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Okay, you have sent a slip.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM : Sir, all the Parties have been given a chance to speak.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Yaima Singh, you are a single individual. There are a group of persons. According to the list and according to the norms, I am

calling the names. I am not exercising any discretion. Kindly oblige to sit. You will have a chance.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM : Sir, being the only and single Member, shall I resign from this House?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No, No. Who said that? It is not my saying. Your name is listed here. According to the norms, I will call your name also.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If everyone wants to go out of the House after speaking early, who is to sit here? It is not fair on your part to make such remarks. There are three persons from Congress who have given their names. You have given a letter. Certainly you shall have to wait for your chance because the Whip has not sent your name.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : I will have to wait means, I will speak!

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I wish so. I wish, you should have a chance to speak. Yes, Mr. Narayanan.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN : Sir, I want to press only one point. A serious Constitutional crisis has cropped up in Tamil Nadu following the continuation of the present Governor. The State Assembly has passed a Resolution demanding his recall and asking the Centre to consult the Chief Minister before a Governor is appointed...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KODIKUNNILL SURESH (Adoor) : How can you pass a Resolution?

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam) : The Resolution is passed. How can I explain? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let us hear what he wants to say.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN : Sir, it is an insult of the Assembly. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let us examine them. If whatever remarks he is going to make are according to rules they will go on record, otherwise they will be removed from the record.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Narayanan, you put the fact in such a way that it does not harm the Constitutional provisions.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN : Yes, Sir. I am aware of that...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Narayanan is on his legs. He is the leader of a Party. He should be respected.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN : Sir, the Resolution which was passed in Tamil Nadu Assembly is nothing but one of the principal recommendations made in the Sarkaria Commission's Report. Another important recommendation made by the Sarkaria Commission was that active political persons should not be appointed as Governors. These principal and important recommendations have been neglected by the Government so far. Sir, the entire Report of the Sarkaria Commission has been kept in cold storage by the Central Government for the past several years. It is because of the indifferent attitude and scant respect for federalism by the Central Government. The Centre cannot escape from its responsibilities by merely stating that it is not aware of the situation in Tamil Nadu. The other day, Mr. Shukla stated on the floor of the House that he was not aware of the situation. Sir, the Central Government is unfit to rule the country. After all, Governors do not jump from heaven. They are nominees of the Government of India and are accountable to it. Sir, I charge that the Centre's pretension that it is not aware of the situation in Tamil Nadu, and the sanction given by the Governor...** against the Chief Minister is far from truth ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We remove the name of the Governor. Mr. Narayanan, do not use names.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We have removed it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN : On the other hand, I have information that they are collaborating with the Governor to destabilise the Government of Tamil Nadu. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN : Sir, this type of blackmailing tactics resorted to by the Centre will definitely pose a threat to the unity and integrity of the country.

Sir, while intervening in the discussion on the Resolution in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, the Chief Minister revealed one startling news. When she met the Governor in August, 1993. She was ill-treated and insulted...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : These are all administrative matters.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Janarthanan, your Leader is on his legs, kindly resume your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN : Sir, this type of discourteous and obnoxious behaviour is not expected of the Constitutional Head. There must be, generally, a cordial working relationship between the Chief Minister and the Governor...*(Interruptions)*

** Not Recorded.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai) : If she was insulted, why did she wait for two years to tell us? Why did she keep it as a secret?

DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM (Tiruchengode) : She informed the Prime Minister and the President of India...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, you please sit down. Whatever they are saying will not go on record. You cannot ransack the House like this.

*(Interruptions)***

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN : She had written to the President and the Prime Minister regarding the insults and ill-treatment meted out to her by the Governor ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : She had made a public statement just after the Governor had...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : She had states this in the Assembly also.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN : The Constitution Head should counsel the Chief Minister as a friend and a philosopher but on the other hand, our Chief Minister, being a lady, was highly insulted and humiliated by the Head of the State. This itself is a good reason to warrant immediate recall of the Governor. Our heritage and culture will not tolerate insult to womenfolk. The people of Tamil Nadu are agitated following the insult meted out to the the Chief Minister who was elected by them. A corrective action is called for by the Centre to prevent violent reaction.

Sir, while strongly condemning the uncivilised behaviour of the Head of the State, I ask the Centre to recall him forthwith. I also demand that Article 155 of the Constitution should be suitably amended so as to provide for consultation with the State Chief Minister before the Governor is appointed. Sir, already the Speaker has directed the Government to answer suitably when replying to the debate. Sir, I hope the Government will take immediate steps to solve this problem. Sir, I have great respect to the President of India. I am unable to support this Motion of Thanks moved by my colleague, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar.

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL (Jabalpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the first place I would like to thank you for having given me this opportunity to participate in the discussion. Sir, the President of India in his Address had recounted the progress made on the economic, domestic and on the foreign affairs fronts during the previous years. Sir, since majority of my colleagues in the Treasury Benches have spoken on the new economic policy as well as on the affairs which are

** Not Recorded.

going on in the nation, I would like to begin with the success that India has achieved in the foreign affairs. Sir, the year 1994-95 has indeed been an eventful year in regard to improving relations with the major nations of the world. The long awaited visit of the Prime Minister to the United States of America, the United Kingdom and to Russia materialised during the year with much success in the development of close and friendly relations. During the Prime Minister's US visit, America showed a greater understanding of India's stand in regard to Kashmir, recognising and declaring Kashmir as a bilateral issue between India and Pakistan to be settled bilaterally under the Shimla Agreement. The US administration also did not appreciate the Pakistan's role in engineering militancy from across the border and of waging a proxy war against India. It is noteworthy that the recent visit of the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mrs. Benazir Bhutto to the United States of America did not bring much success to Pakistan and the Kashmir issue was also left as it was. Any relaxation was also not shown so far as the question of application of Pressler Amendment is concerned. So, the Prime Minister's visit also gave boost to the Indo-US trade and economic relations which has resulted in a number of investment proposals from the American investors and collaborations with the American firms in high-tech areas and infrastructure sector. The pronouncements also showed greater understanding of India's stand on Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

As a result of Prime Minister's visit to the United Kingdom, the Indo-UK ties also got the boost, not only on the diplomatic and economic front but also on the defence front.

The United Kingdom Government has expressed its keenness to develop closer defence ties with India. So far as the Prime Minister's visit to Russia is concerned, the cryogenic engine deal was revived and the ticklish issue of India's debt repayment to Russia was also amicably settled.

15.19 hrs.

(SHRIMATI SANTOSH CHOWDHARY *in the Chair*)

This year India had the proud privilege of hosting Dr. Nelson Mandela, the first elected President of the South Africa. This was indeed a landmark in the history of our fight against apartheid and racial discrimination which was started with the clarion call given in the beginning of the century by Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi to abolish racism in whatever form it was practised in South Africa in particular and anywhere in the world in general. It was all the more a matter of great pride and privilege to the people of this nation to have welcome Dr. Mandela on the Republic Day as a guest of honour.

Pakistan once again failed to move its resolution on Kashmir in the UN Human Rights Commission. It required the broad vision and statemanship of the Prime Minister, Shri Narasimha Raoji to have chosen the Leader of Opposition, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji to head the Indian delegation to the UN Human Rights Commission which by itself showed to the world that whenever the question of India's unity and solidarity arises, Indian people are one.

India's demand for expansion and further democratisation of UN Security Council is gaining support from different member nations around the globe and the day is not far when India will find itself among the permanent members of the expanded Security Council.

Madam, so far as the economic reforms are concerned, we have to compare the situation which prevailed in 1991, before the new Government took over and the present scenario. Madam, when this Government came into power, the situation was indeed very precarious. The balance of payment situation was alarming, inflation was in double digits, almost 17 to 18 per cent and foreign exchange reserves had considerably dwindled. The NRIs had lost confidence in the Indian economy and we had to pledge our gold worth millions of dollars abroad. India was almost inching towards a situation where we would have got into a debt trap.

From that the situation has been retrieved and now the balance of payment situation is comfortable. India has got a record foreign exchange reserves of over 20 billion US dollars. Even the growth in the country is picking up and industrial growth is almost 8.7 per cent. For the first time India has been successful in repaying IMF loan amounting to 1.1 billion US dollars ahead of schedule.

Madam, all economic developments have got to be evaluated and seen with the angle of benefiting the poor people of this nation. The stabilization of prices is indeed a very important factor. The Government is fully aware of this. Article 47 of the Constitution of India enjoins upon the States to ensure that the nutritional level of the people is looked after. Almost 35 per cent of the people of this nation are still below the poverty line and therefore, the Government has introduced the public distribution system. We also have the revamped public distribution system under which 800 new blocks are likely to be added.

After the announcement of the Budget, the inflation has already come back again to single digit and the wholesale prices of important commodities has also shown stability and downward trend. The Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojna, announced by the Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao on August 15, 1993 and implemented from 2 October, 1993, which was designed

to provide self-employment to unemployed youth in the urban areas, has also been extended to the rural areas. Over two lakhs of youths have been benefited this year against 31,797 last year. Economic growth has created new jobs for our people and in the words of Finance Minister, six million new jobs are added each year. In the year 1994-95 the increase is expected to be even higher.

Madam, the Government has also paid utmost attention to the rural development. In the Eighth Plan, 30,000 crores of rupees have been earmarked for the central plan outlay for the rural development. In this year's announcement which the Finance Minister made, Rs. 7,700 crore have been allocated for rural development purpose.

Madam, one of the Members in the Opposition had mentioned about the population explosion. I personally feel that the Government must pay utmost attention to curtail the population of this country. We are almost three times more than what we were at the time of independence. Every year we are adding a new Australia to this nation and unless and until stringent measures and effective steps are taken up, I do not think India will be able to achieve the target that it has set about to achieve. For this purpose, I would suggest that not only incentives should be given for curtailment family but also other punitive action should be taken in form of taxations for people who maintain large families.

Madam, so far as the situation of women in this countries is concerned, although they constitute 50 per cent of the population of this nation and the Constitution guarantees equal rights for women, the representation of women in public bodies is far from satisfactory. It was Rajiv Gandhi who for the first time, through Panchayat Bill tried to ensure 30 per cent representation for women on the elected bodies. If you take the example of Lok Sabha, there has never been a situation where more than 10 per cent of the members have been women. So we should try to do something so that the situation of women in this country is improved.

Madam, in the end I would like to conclude with one problem which is facing the Maha Kaushal Region of Madhya Pradesh. I belong to the Maha Kaushal Region. The Railway Ministry had formulated a Committee, which was known as Sareen Committee, which went into the question of setting up Railway Zones in the nation. The Tenth Railway Zone, according to the recommendations of that Committee, was to be set up in Jabalpur and that Committee submitted its report to the Government. Just recently the Railway Ministry again appointed another Committee to go into that question and the second Committee has also recommended Jabalpur to be the Tenth Railway Zone headquarters. And yet we are facing some obstacles. I would like to urge upon the Government to ensure that - agitation is

going on in the minds of the people of the Maha Kaushal Region - Jabalpur's right is given. I think, Jabalpur is the key centre of the Maha Kaushal Region and it would be in the fitness of things if this place is declared as the headquarters for the Central Railway Zone.

Madam, I thank you very much for giving me the time and I support the Motion moved by Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar.

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani) : Madam, I rise to oppose the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address presented here. Before I corroborate my stand with the help of some facts and arguments, I would like to make it clear that I have a serious grievance against the Government. Apart from deepening the present crisis, the Government is working in contravention of national traditions and seriously jeopardising the future. After independence, India is ranking high in terms of rampant unemployment, largest number of people living below the poverty line and the largest pool of illiterate people. I would like to correct it for the information of those Hon. Ministers and leaders that India has the largest number of literates after China, India has the largest manpower after China, and India has the largest number of people living below the poverty line after China. Our fight for independence and its achievement is rendered futile if we are demoralised and discouraged by the progress and prosperity of other nations. To my mind we should not link the failures and wrong policies of this Government with the country's debacle. In 1950, the foodgrain production was 5 crore tonnes against a population of 35 crore in our country. There have been many failures for which the ruling parties have been responsible. I can't dare say that we are not responsible because many parties formed the Government turn by turn but the Congress had a lion's share. Today, India produces 18.5 crore tonnes of foodgrains as against five crore tonnes and our population has increased from 35 crore to 90 crores.

Madam, Chairperson, my gravest grievance is against the Government's economic policy. Fortunately, the Hon. Prime Minister is present here. An integrated economic policy was formulated in our country. Shri Jawaharlal Nehru was its pioneer, and it was a national policy. The private sector has never been extirpated. The Tatas, the Birlas and others have been flourishing here. The Public Sector has consistently been subjected to assaults for the past few years. Even profitable industries in Public Sector are being sold out and the drum of the success of the new economic policy is being beaten in the name of earning the foreign exchange. In a nutshell, we are setting our own house ablaze in order to warm our hands. Neither this Government nor our Parliament is empowered to plunge our country into such a grave crisis. As you have brought

many a basic policies for this country of 90 crore people in today's changing world order, an integrated economic policy becomes equally important. In this connection, I would like to differ with the views of some of my friends regarding increase in unemployment. I would say that we have failed to exploit the skill and brains of the youths which can be used for augmenting the country's production.

We will be incurring losses if, with a view to removing unemployment, we over staff our offices and maintain surplus workforce in our factories. But everybody's talent is not being utilised. We have a population of 90 crore, i.e. 180 crore working hands. Every hand should be imparted skill and proper technical training. Our Hon. Finance Minister and the Prime Minister are at present only seeing the beacon light from abroad. The Hon. Prime Minister had been active in the freedom struggle. To me, the greatest power is the manpower. We need the most suitable micro and macro technology.

15.31 hrs.

(MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

My submission is that with the help of this, We can compete with the multinational companies (MNCs) and give job to every hand. Hence, development of good technology either by private or by public sector should be encouraged- be it in the direction of farming or setting up cottage industries as well as small scale industries. A small country like Switzerland is the fore-runner in the field of watch manufacturing in the world today. There, a child in the family makes a switch, another manufactures one part, an elderly member manufactures another part and yet another member of the family assembles these parts. But we are not making use of the available talent. We tend to become employees rather than the owners. There is a scheme in the name of the Prime Minister, for lifting the people above poverty line but it is not being properly implemented. The excess funds are going down the drain. These funds are not properly utilised. A part of these funds is pocketed by the bank staff, another part by the block level officials and the remaining part by those who avail these but the poor get nothing. Today, we have become cowards in the name of democracy. I am talking of the common people and not of any particular party. One can become a millionaire within 5 years if one goes in for production. I would urge upon you to conduct investigations in some areas. I am ready to offer not only my area but two-three districts for the purpose so as to assess the work done there. How can it be that we should sow the seeds and somebody else should eat the fruit. Kalidas had also foolishly cut the same branch he was sitting on. Likewise, the funds allocated by the Government are not being utilised.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, our sovereignty will be in peril once we encourage the foreign entrepreneurs. The Hon. Finance Minister was pained when I said this last year. Mir Jaffar gave certain facilities to the East India Company as a trading conglomerate and we were enslaved for 200 years. These industrial giants will certainly influence the country's political circles because many people are ready for sale and these companies will surely buy them. Those holding the financial reigns will not leave politics unaffected. Therefore, it will jeopardise our economic sovereignty followed by political sovereignty. At least no MNC should be allowed to enter into production of consumer items. The indigenous industries and industrialists should be encouraged and a technology that we are not able to develop should be procured from abroad without any demur. I am saying this because I went through a sensational newspaper report only yesterday that 40 per cent of the economy of an affluent nation like USA is controlled by one per cent population.

How can wealth be controlled by 20 per cent people here? In America, the sources of income are in the hands of 5 per cent people. The people might not be owning even a small piece of residential land, but they live in rented mansions.

MR. SPEAKER : Time is very limited, so please conclude.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : I am concluding. Coincidentally, I am the last speaker.

MR. SPEAKER : You were offered to speak first but you always like to speak last.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Now, I shall only say that I will not give reply to what Mr. Speaker said.

In such a situation, I think that we are faced with an imminent danger by way of changing the draft of the Patent Act. I was present in the House when this Patent Act was brought forward in 1973 and we passed it after deliberating on its pros and cons but the way the Government is trying to present it today is not a welcome step. Our Act also provides for patenting and its provisions are very flexible. Many countries, companies and individuals can do it other way round also as the products, the goods will be patented but it is an invasion of our science and knowledge, human rights and human development. We will do our utmost to oppose it and see that it is not passed. I would like to urge upon the Government not to take any such step.

Here, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the issue of holding elections in Kashmir. We have been repeatedly expressing our opposition to the President's rule, yet we were earlier compelled to vote but this time we will not cast vote. I would like the Government to make all the preparations for elections in Kashmir. The militants and the President of Pakistan

should not be given the veto power to stall the electoral process according to their sweet will. The Government should conduct elections there. I say it on behalf of my party that we will not support any Constitutional Amendment Bill aimed at extending the President's rule in the State. Some danger is indeed involved in independence but democracy is no exception. The answer to this is a better democracy. Here, there is no question of doing away with democracy. Therefore, as I had urged earlier, the Government should make full preparations for elections. I fail to understand why some of our colleagues on the other side oppose it. The elections should be free and fair there, no matter whosoever wins and comes to power. In the House, the elected Member will say that has a right to call it 'Independent Kashmir'. He has also the right to say that they should secede. At times, we also talk nonsense here, some other people might do so as well.

MR. SPEAKER : Jha Saheb, please conclude now.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Leaving aside some insignificant points, I would lastly like to touch upon the issue of farmers.

MR. SPEAKER : I have been saying it since morning that the Hon. Prime Minister has to give reply in the other House also.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : With regard to agriculture and pricing policy, we demand that the farmers should get remunerative prices. There are demands that consumers should get items at cheaper rates. As a whole, the inflation is on the increase. This Government does not have any integrated price policy. So far as this integrated price policy is concerned, the basic producer should get remunerative prices. There should be parity between industrial and farm production. Some limit, be it 20-25 per cent, should be fixed for what the real producer gets and the price the consumer pays. The loot by the middlemen is needed to be checked. All farm production ingredients like water, electricity, fertilizers and other implements should be made available to them on cheaper rates. In case such a policy is not formulated, then, in the capacity of the Secretary-General of Akhil Bharatiya Kisaan Sabha, I would like to warn that we will gherao the Parliament on behalf of the farmers on 9th August. It will not be good to pave way for the foreign market by decreasing the farmers' produce.

[English]

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM : Sir, I have to express with great disappointment that not a single word has been mentioned in the President's Address in respect of the affairs of the State of Manipur. (jjj/1540/pb)

The State of Manipur is now in shambles. Many innocent persons have been shot dead by the CRP men. There is uncertainty of life in that State. Hundreds of houses have been burnt in broad daylight but no

military man was there, no CRP man was there and no State Armed Police man was there. So, this is the condition of that State. But there is no mention about all this in the President's Address as if it is not a part of the country. That is my grievance, Sir.

Since the time is very short, I shall only touch upon the points that I want to place before the House. Even though the situation in the State is like this for the last about four years, I am sorry to say that neither our Hon. Prime Minister nor has the Home Minister visited that State. The Prime Minister or the Home Minister should have at least visited the State to console the people and to instill confidence among them. But it was not done. So, my point is, what positive action is going to be taken by the Central Government in respect of the State. Is it the policy of the Government that the revolts will be crushed by armed power and by guns only? If this is the policy, then I am sorry to say that it will not be successful. So, I am proposing that the Government should first take steps to declare general amnesty to these underground revolting youths and then they may proceed with other political considerations.

The Government may have a dialogue with the people who are demanding the review of the merger agreement. They are demanding some other territory for having seceded a very important part of Manipur, that is, Kabow Valley. It was a part of Manipur and was given away to Myanmar. People of Manipur State are to be convinced as to which region are they prepared to give in lieu of that.

I also urge upon the Central Government that there should not be any appeasement policy towards the revolting militants. It is learnt that the Government is going to appease these militants by integrating some part of Manipur with neighbouring States, say, Nagaland and others. That would not be acceptable to the people of Manipur. If the people are forced to agree to it, then there will be a civil war in the State. The people of this State fought against the Britishers with a patriotic zeal to protect their motherland, their territory. So, there will be no compromise as regards the integrity of the State of Manipur. I urge upon the Central Government not to proceed with the idea of appeasing these militants by offering them certain parts of the State.

Now I would like to come to the present state of affairs in the State. There have been innocent killings and raping of women. Very recently, on 17th April, a girl was kidnapped, raped and killed.

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

SAHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM : It is now understood that a close relative of a member of the present Council of Ministers is involved in this rape but he is being protected by the Government. I have just received a message to this effect. So, this is the state of affairs in that State.

Sir, it is a very sorry state of affairs. I will take only two more minutes to complete.

MR. SPEAKER : You have taken more time. Please conclude.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM : Sir, what was the result in the last elections in the State? Out of 59 seats for which elections were held, Congress won only 21 seats and the rest 38 seats were won by non-Congress parties. But the Congress Party was allowed to form the Government. This is strange. It is very strange. It is not fair on the part of our Hon. Prime Minister to welcome those defectors to Delhi and assuring them ministerial berths and other things. It is not fair. With this unfairness the Government was formed.

Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar was proud of that while initiating the debate on this Motion. But we are quite against it.

Lestly, I only want to mention one issue. I have many other points. But I shall leave them.

MR. SPEAKER : There is time for you make those points afterwards. Please conclude now.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YAMNAM : Sir, I want to mention about shifting of Assam Rifles from Kangla Fort. The Kangla Fort is situated in the heart of the capital city of Imphal. It is considered as a very important place historically and there are temples. Considering that the occupation of that place by the Assam Rifles, a paramilitary force, is affecting the sentiments of the people, and they are hurt, the Central Government has taken a decision to shift that. But it has not materialised.
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Yaima Singh, please sit down now. What Shri Yaima Singh is saying further is not going on record.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Mohan Rawale to speak now. Shri Rawale, please be brief.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur) : Sir, just a minute please. Manipur is facing a problem. I urge the Prime Minister to visit the area and see for himself how the people are suffering. With these words, I oppose this Motion.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, just a minute please. The Hon. Member has said about territorial dispute of Manipur and he has mentioned that some territory of Manipur is being thought over to be transferred to Negaland. It is totally wrong. Government is firm in this regard. No proposal will be entertained by the Government of India as far as territorial integrity of Manipur is concerned. We shall be maintaining it. We are firm about it and we shall not entertain any such proposal.

*SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay - South Central): Mr. Speaker, Sir, 1st May is "Maharashtra Day". Bombay Corporation represents Bombay.

MR. SPEAKER : You can speak in Marathi. It is being translated.

*SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Trivandrum has been renamed as Thiruvananthapuram, Varanasi has been renamed as Banaras, Cochin also has been renamed. It is demanded by residents of Bombay that Bombay should be renamed as 'Mumbai' All the Negarsevaks' of Bombay Corporation belonging to different political parties have demanded that Bombay should be renamed as 'Mumbai'. A resolution was unanimously passed in the Corporation as early as 1985 to rename Bombay as 'Mumbai'. But so far, the name of Bombay has not been changed. The name 'Mumbai' is mentioned in the Constitution and laws. I met Hon. Prime Minister personally and he said that he had no objection to change the name of Bombay to 'Mumbai'. The name of 'Peking' has been changed. It has made no difference. It is an international capital. There is no mention of change of name of Bombay to 'Mumbai' in President's Address. So, I request the Hon. Prime Minister to give this gift 'Mumbai' to the residents of Bombay on the occasion of 1st May. The name of 'Sahar' Airport should be changed to Chatrapati Shivaji Airport.

There are a large number of textile workers in Bombay. Many Textile Mills are lying closed. The Government has allocated only Rs. 1 crore per year for revival of these Mills. For all NTC Mills only an amount of Rs. 1 crore has been allocated. But for Voluntary Retirement Scheme, the same Government has allocated Rs. 300 crore. So, is it the policy of the Government to close down the mills? In this President's Address, there is no mention of revival package, working capital or raw material for these mills. If the mills taken over by NTC are not nationalised, the mills will have to be handed over to their respective owners. Mr. Venkatswamy who has now become Cabinet Minister had told in this House that the Government would bring forward a resolution regarding rehabilitation and modernisation of textile mills. But so far that resolution has not come before the House. Because of non-availability of raw material many mills will have to be closed down.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to speak briefly about national language. Most of the countries have their own national language. But, I am sorry to say that India has no national language. In Germany, England, France, they have their national languages. Germany, English, French. But unfortunately, Hindi is not the national language of India. In this country, we have national animal, national bird, national song, national flag, but unfortunately, no national language. Hindi has not become the national language as yet. This is the misfortune of this Government. It is an official language

** Not recorded.

* Translation of speech originally delivered in Marathi.

but not the national language. Hindi is spoken by a large number of people.

I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity. I want to raise only one or two points. Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar referred to 'remote control'. I have great respect for Vajpayeeji and Advaniji. The recent Maharashtra elections were won mainly because of Balasaheb Thakare. He has said that one who grows up here must love this soil and his motherland. He says that those who do not love 'Bharat Mata' should quit this country. Mr. Thakare has the courage to say that. He has said that if there are two children in the family and if we give discriminatory treatment of them, that creates quarrel among them. We, Hindu and Muslims are children 'Bharat Mata'. *But do we not have Common Civil Code?* when Shah Bano case was there before the Court, Rajiv Gandhi had said at that time that they would introduce Common Civil Code. But Shiv Sena Chief who is propagating Common Civil Code is called as traitor. Shiv Sena Chief loves the country.

In this House, Shri Rajesh Pilot, Home Minister had come to Bombay after the bomb explosions. I had toured with him at that time. On 24th February, Mr. Pilot said that Pakistan and ISI are behind this bomb blasts. More than 300 persons were killed in the blasts which included many poor people. The CBI Chief Prosecutor Mrs. Natarajan had said in the TADA Court on 14th July that this is an international conspiracy. There was plan to have bomb blasts in major cities Madras, Ahmedabad, Calcutta etc. She had said on 15th July in Bombay TADA Court that a meeting was held in Taj Mahal Hotel to hatch the conspiracy of bomb blasts. In this meeting Memon and other culprits who are at large were present. But this Government withdrew the charges of treason against them keeping in mind the elections. But, there is no reference in the President's Address to charge them again for treason. Shiv Sena Chief Bal Thakery did say that he was proud of those who demolished Babri Masjid. But, you should understand why did he say this. When Hitler won first World War.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : It was an incident which had brought shame to the country and had lowered the name of the Indian people everywhere in the world.

[Translation]

How is he trying to justify it.

[English]

This is absolutely wrong.

*SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : When Germany won the war, in France, the symbol of Germany, the Pillar was demolished. When Hitler won France, the first thing that

he did was to demolish that symbol of insult. What we asked for was only our Temple. That is our belief and faith. This is the Temple for which lakhs of people have sacrificed. More than a lakh people have sacrificed their life. Are these people insane?

[Translation]

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is totally wrong that it generated tension throughout India...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You need not give the reply. Please sit down.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Padrauna) : The question raised by the Hon. Member.. *(Interruptions)* Had not the Communist Party supported the division of India? ...*(Interruptions)* That party that supports Pakistan is talking like that today....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Sir, I am on a point of order. I am very sorry that I have to make this point of order. An Hon. Member is saying something in the House attempting to create a division amongst the people of this country and trying to extol something which, I believe, is treated as an event of national shame. Now the Hon. Member is extolling the virtues of demolition. Where are we going? This House has to represent certain basic minimum principles. The ethos of this country should be harmony among the people. This is a very very serious thing. I hope the Hon. Member will at least control himself. He has got many other places to speak about this. Let the inside of this House not be diluted in this manner.

MR. SPEAKER : I think the Member who are making the statements on the floor of the House should realise what are the implications of the statements they are making here. They are making a sort of confessions. They should understand the implications of such confessions made on the floor of the House.

*SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Sir, the people had a feeling that Babri Masjid is a memorial of a foreigner. Everybody has love in his heart for Lord Ramachandra. They fought for it with this feeling in their mind. I myself went there. There is a Temple of Sita and Laxman. Here the prayers are offered even after 47 years, it was locked. This country is 'Hindustan'. We have accommodated you. We have accommodated all religions in India.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Somnath Babu has expressed his feelings here. My point of order is that he is the only Member of his party. There should be some time limit.

* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Marathi.

* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Marathi.

[English]

*SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : I am speaking with honesty.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Rawale, you should please conclude now.

*SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : I would like to speak about Bangladeshis. Recently, there was a news that 32 Pakistani intruders who crossed the border were killed. I had asked a question to Mr. P.M. Sayeed who had told me that 78441 Bangladeshi persons were caught on the border. UNICEF record says that more than one and half crore Bangladeshis live in India. Home Minister has said that more than 5 lakh people are there in the cities. In Bombay bogus ration cards were issued to them. A person called Chaudhary was caught. So they must be sent back to their country.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Rawale you must now conclude.

*SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Yes Sir. The Government has not taken any action to remove these foreigners and there is no mention about it is the President's Address. You speak about Kashmir. We are losing Kashmir because Article 370 is in vogue. Mani Shankar Aiyar proudly says that in V.P. Singh's regime 560 militants were killed while in our regime 1500 militants were killed. Do you votes.

On Independence Day in Kashmir 'Pakistan Jindabad' slogans are given and on Pakistan Independence Day these slogans are given there. Who is responsible for this? If you had deleted Article 370 this situation would not have arisen. I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity.

16.00 hrs.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER : What is your point of order?

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, the Hon. Member Shri Mohan Rawale has stated that his leader and his organisation is responsible for the demolition of the Babri Masjid.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : I have said that we are proud of those who demolished the Babri Masjid ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Why is the Government not taking any action against them? Let the Prime Minister clarify the position as to what exactly they are proposing to do in this regard.

Translation of speech originally delivered in Marathi.

MR. SPEAKER : This is not a point of order.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : There is a time to speak. You can speak later on.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : I want to say something. I have given my request to the Hon. Deputy-Speaker. I have got a signed slip given by the Hon. Deputy-Speaker saying that I would be allowed to speak. He has given me that slip in writing. Therefore, I would like to speak for five minutes... (Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, we were here at that time... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address moved by our senior and able colleague Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar. While initiating discussion on the Motion of Thanks, Aiyar ji took my name and said that there is peace and tranquility in Punjab. I agree with him. He also said that terrorism has been eradicated from Punjab but if there is somebody who can pose a danger to the Chief Minister of Punjab, it is Jagmeet Singh Brar. My friend said so in the House. In this connection I will conclude with a couplet of Faiz Ahmed Faiz and would like to tell my senior colleague :

'Garuro Sarvo Saman Se Keh Do Ki Phir Wahi Tajdar Honge,

Woh Khasokhas Jo Waliye Chaman The Garuro Sarvo Saman Se Pahle."

AN HON. MEMBER : Kindly explain it.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : I do not want to waste my time explaining it. It simply means :

'Bazaare Aqal Unhin Ke Dam Se Roshan Hai,
Jo Gahe-Gahe Junoon Akhtiyaar Karate Hain."

You should not take ill a feeling expressed from the heart. I welcome what my able and intelligent friend said and would like to add that I pose him no danger.

At first, I would like to tell the House that our Hon. Prime Minister visited Punjab eight days ago. He was given a warm welcome there. He paid a visit to Punjab after three years.

MR. SPEAKER : We have a very limited time and we have no time for such discussions.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR (Faridkot) : People were present there and he was affectionately welcomed. Sir, kindly listen to me. You are interrupting ... (Interruptions)

First listen to what I say.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot impose yourself like this.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : I am not imposing myself. I am saying that the people of Punjab gave a hearty welcome to the Hon. Prime Minister.

MR. SPEAKER : I am telling you to be brief.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : I would only like to add that false promises have been made to the people of Punjab for the last 40-45 years. The Hon. Prime Minister made an announcement of writing off the loan of Rs. 6500 crore at Ludhiana because the people of Punjab had fought for the cause of national unity. In this House, which represents 80 crore people, I would only like to say that the Prime Minister has made a great announcement. I alongwith all the people of Punjab welcome it but I don't know whether Rs. 6500 crores will be written off or not? It is said in the terms of reference sent to the Finance Commission that only 1/3rd amount of the interest accrued on Rs. 6500 crores which amounts to Rs. 900 crores may be written off. The Hon. Prime Minister has stated:

[English]

"There will be no further recovery of loan from Punjab. The pending clauses of Rajiv Longowal Accord will be implemented and central assistance will be provided."

MR. SPEAKER : You are not allowed to read from newspapers.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : I am not reading from newspapers. I am reading from the Prime Minister's authentic statement, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Did he give it in writing?

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : Yes, Sir, He has to reply to the debate and our great leader will reply.

MR. SPEAKER : Do you understand that time at our disposal is very limited? Both the Houses have to be attended to.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : Secondly, as the time is very short, I have never walked out of the House. I follow the House etiquettes...*(Interruptions)*. One of the statements made by the Prime Minister is as follows.

[English]

Punjab is the most peaceful State in the country. He said, 'restoration of law and order in Punjab and Assam borderlands have been the major achievement of four year old Government of our party.

MR. SPEAKER : What is it that you are reading?

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR (Faridkot) : This is a statement of the Prime Minister.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not going on record. Newspapers have not to be quoted.

*(Interruptions)***

** Not Recorded.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : We have all heard it.

MR. SPEAKER : Do not quarrel on this. Do not carry on this kind of a discussion.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : I will not quote the speech...*(Interruptions)*

One of the Prime Minister Statements is.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I am not allowing this statement.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : I would like to say that the move from Repeal of TADA was initiated in Punjab with a signature campaign of hundreds of people. The TADA was introduced to fight the powers across the border and establish peace but not to use it against the minorities. More than, 15000 people are languishing in the jails of Punjab. Same is the fate of other minorities in the country. In the presence of my party leaders here, I may submit that if TADA was introduced to establish peace in Punjab, then draconian law should now be repealed as the purpose has been achieved. Otherwise, it is sending very wrong signals to the minorities of the country.

Sir, I would like to submit one more thing. Being a Member of Parliament I can express my views that...*(Interruptions)*** I have also read the Constitution of this country and have done Post-Graduation in Political Science. At least I know that...*(Interruptions)***

[English]

SHRI R. ANBARASU : I am on a point of order...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I would like to hear his point of order.

SHRI R. ANBARASU : The administrative action of the Governor cannot be discussed on the floor of the House. The High Court of Madras has also dismissed the petition.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : He has no business to raise it...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : If he knows a little English, he should read the judgment in between the lines...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : My ruling on this point is that the Governor's action cannot be discussed in this House. The matter which is *sub judice* cannot be discussed in this House and those who are raising these kinds of matters should carefully read it. If it is against the rules and the Constitution, it will not form part of the record.

** Not Recorded.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Rawle ji was speaking just now. I would like to comment on one thing that the great leader of our country and leader of opposition Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji and Shri Advani ji were listening very attentively to the speech of the Hon. Member of their allied party, Shiv Sena. When we go around the country, one question is raised that the symbol of lion is fixed in the office of Shri Bal Thackeray.

MR. SPEAKER : We do not have time to discuss these things.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : I would like to comment a simple thing. If someone says in his speech that 15-17 crore minority people should be expelled out of the country and if someone becomes man eater then I would like to say one thing to the leaders of the Bhartiya Janta Party...

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Bala Sahib Thackeray never said so.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : I would like to submit in the House that may be due to our mistakes the Bhartiya Janta Party's dream to come to power have been true but it will never come to power in the Centre if it makes such remarks...(*Interruptions*)

I would like to conclude after mentioning two points only. I would like to submit by heart that the Minorities Commission of India, the Scheduled Caste Commission of India, the Backward Classes Commission of India and the Safai Karamchari Commission of India are set up for the Welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Central Government has served them notices to immediately shift their offices out of Delhi, whereas stress has been laid in the President's Address to pay more attention towards these classes. On the contrary these commissions have been asked to shift their offices out of the capital which is a gross injustice with these classes. I would like to urge upon the Hon. Prime Minister to pay attention towards it.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform the Hon. Member that, that order has been cancelled.

MR. SPEAKER : Alright, it is not being done. Your suggestion has been accepted. Please take your seat

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : There is no time. You should also understand that there is time constraint.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : Now I will make my last point. I would like to submit that I am very much

thankful to the Hon. Prime Minister for what he has done for Punjab but if the ruling party and this country think that by waiving off the loans, peace can be restored in Punjab, then it will be a big misunderstanding.

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down, you are doing a great service to the nation.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR : I am not delivering a communal speech. I am speaking the truth. I am speaking about the outstanding issues of Punjab. Punjab has not got the capital for 29 years. Even after the massacre of 15000 people and setting up the Commission, the culprits of the Delhi riots have been apprehended and moving freely. Not even a single person has been punished. What more big danger can be to the country than this. Therefore, my submission is that those cases should be settled immediately and the people responsible for it should be arrested. At last I would like to submit that..

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, it is not going on record. You please sit down. I am not going to allow you. Please sit down.

(*Interruptions*)**

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to the Hon. Members, who have participated in the debate and given very valuable suggestions. I do not propose to take up points alongwith the names of Members who have raised them. I have culled out a few items, a few issues, on which I would like to submit to the House my views.

Sir, we have come a long way since 1991 and the conditions of 1991. I do not want to remember them nor to remind the House of them. I will only say that in this long journey of the nation, we have come to a point where we can look to the future with certain amount of confidence and optimism and that is the main thrust of the President's Address to the Members of Parliament. I would endorse that spirit. I would endorse that optimism because what has been done during the last four years does justify that optimism. Facts, figures, situation as we have seen from time to time - we have lived through these four years - all this is witness to the fact that the optimism of the President, or *Rashtrapatiji* is fully justified.

Sir, there seems to be some forgetting of what we said last year and the year before last because when we talk this year, we seem to think that we are saying something for the first time. Sir, I would like to remind the House that ever since 1991, the spirit of the Government's actions has been the same. The purpose of actions of the Government and the policies of the Government has not changed. It has been on the same lines. And from 1991 to 1992, of course, we were only

** Not Recorded.

doing fire fighting. From 1992 onwards, you will find a continuity in the programmes, in the policies, in the attitudes and in the thrust of whatever the Central Government has been doing. I started in 1991 to say that our actions have followed the basic principle of continuity with change. As our economic situation has improved, our commitment to the poor has manifested in higher outlays, and higher and higher outlays can be seen from the figures which are available to the House. Year after year, this has happened. This has been a common thread all through in the President's Addresses, Budgets and policy formulations. As a result, every year from 1992 onwards saw an increasing number of programmes being fielded. In 1992, I had clearly stated that we would not accept the proposition of unlimited capitalism and leave the poor out. Our position was stated very clearly. And in 1993, I had stated that the Budget of 1993-94 intended to give a major push to our policy of reducing poverty and increasing employment. This is what we called 'human face' from day one. We are not calling it for the first time this year. Uplift of the poor is an article of faith with us. That is why in 1994, there was a note of optimism in the President's Address and this year that optimism and self-assurance has been vindicated.

Our thrust and commitment to the basic philosophy of the Congress has continued uninterrupted. While our achievements have been significant, there are many problems which still face the country. There is no gainsaying that. And to these problems, reference has been made by the Hon. Members and I would like to respond to as many of them as I can.

Sir, the first criticism which has been levelled not only today but year after year against the new economic policy is that the policy is wrong and the policy is against the interests of the country. Sir, this criticism, I do not have to answer with any great stress and do not have to belabour the point too much because my task has been rendered easier by what has been happening during the last few years or at least a year, maybe, more than a year when successive Governments not ruled by Congress have come back to the same line; and during the last two or three days, we can see in the newspapers, a line up of Chief Ministers, 'just-elected Chief Ministers', coming for investment, from wherever it is available, making it absolutely clear that they have no hesitation in getting this investment because they know, as we know, that this investment is necessary. The only difference is that some people read the writing on the wall a little earlier; others read it a little later; but eventually all read it; and that is the great thing about this country; and I do not have to answer that point at all.

But there is one point this year, Sir, which has been stressed a little because of certain exigencies coming in the next one year, I presume; there has been a wedge being driven between the foreign investor and

the local industrialist. Now, this is something which does not exist; this discrimination does not exist; but it is sought to be portrayed like this. I would like to appeal to Hon. Members not to do this because this is not going to be in the interest of the country. We have not made any distinction, any discrimination against the local investor or local industrialist; and in fact, whatever local industry needed as protection, that has been given and that will continue to be given; but it cannot be the protection, the absolute protection to keep out everybody from outside as the protection that they have enjoyed for the last 30 or 40 years. There has to be a change and that change has come. It is possible that some Members might say that the pace of this protection or the withdrawal of this protection, lowering of this protection has been a little quicker than necessary. That is a matter of perception; and I feel that according to Government, according to all calculations made by the Government, all assessments made by the Government, this protection or this withdrawal of protection, lowering of the protection has not been to the detriment of the local industry.

There has been some criticism that the policy of encouraging foreign investment has been at the cost of domestic industry. The decision to invite foreign direct investment was on account of our need to add to resource availability, induction of modern technology and upgradation of marketing and management skills available in the country. Accordingly when any foreign company has sought fiscal tax or tariff concessions, it has been advised that proposal-specific-concessions are not part of our system. We do it across the board; there is a change in the policy; everybody falls in line with that policy. And there are an favourites played in this game. Such changes are made as part of the Budget and are applicable to all companies in a sector irrespective of whether they are Indian, joint ventures or foreign owned. We are consistently monitoring this aspect to ensure that Indian companies are not put to any disadvantage.

Some Hon. Members mentioned that the policy has encouraged the take-over of Indian industry by multinationals. This is not true. Where the Indian companies have, for instance, for reasons of infusion of capital or technology, sought to allow the foreign company to enhance their equity stake, the Government has accorded permission. However, we have made it incumbent upon Indian companies applying for such a change in equity structure to have the endorsement of their own Boards of Management or shareholders of the Indian company before Government accords such approvals. All these moves have been voluntary decisions of the company and not predatory ones or imposed by the Government.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : What about Maruti?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Maruti is not today's Maruti is an old case.

I am somewhat surprised to hear that domestic industry has been adversely affected by the policies. Now, I am quoting some figures. The financial results of the corporate sector do not seem to indicate this. I understand that the provisional financial results for 135 major companies for the six months period ending in September 1994 have shown high level of profits. Except for five companies, all the rest have done well and the percentage growth of profits over the previous year for many companies has been, in figures, upto triple digits - not even double digits but triple digits. As a sample, this does not reflect a domestic industry which has been hurt by the reform process.

I should also like to once again state that foreign investment has come into sectors to which we have attached importance. I would emphasize that 83 per cent of approvals accorded for foreign equity investment has been in the priority sectors with the major share being in power, oil refineries, metallurgical industries, chemicals, transportation, food processing, electronic equipment, etc. Even the balance of 17 per cent consists of the service sector (8 per cent), textiles (4 per cent), leather and rubber goods (0.8 per cent), soaps, cosmetics and vegetable oils (0.3 per cent), trading companies (0.3 per cent), fermentation industries (1.0 per cent) and miscellaneous industries (2 per cent), namely, jewellery, toys, locks, sports equipment, etc. Thus, there is clearly no distortion in the investment pattern in favour of an undesirable proliferation of consumer industries...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Acharia, please do not interfere.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : I would wish to draw the attention of the Members to two interesting features of the foreign investment proposals approved by the Government. In the first three years of the policy, the number of projects approved for companies in which foreign equity exceeds 75 per cent were only 8.7 per cent of the total. This illustrates that investment is mainly coming with Indian partners and this would ensure that Indian companies are getting the benefit of upgraded technology, marketing and management inputs, inflow of the additional capital injection and increased employment. Similarly, if we take the total number of approvals accorded for projects with foreign equity exceeding Rs. 300 crore, these amount to only 13 out of 2526. On the other hand, those with foreign equity below Rs. 3 crore were 2006. It would be evident that the companies that are availing of the advantages of foreign investment are not big multinational giants but small and medium companies. Their partnership with emerging small and medium entrepreneurs should be encouraged rather than shunned. And this is the answer to the criticism that has been levelled in this connection, Sir.

Figures are so clear. All in all, I feel that industry has adjusted well to the changed economic environment. In 1994-95, the growth in the manufacturing sector was

9.2 per cent. It is particularly noteworthy that our capital goods sector has shown resilience and its growth in the same period has been 24.7 per cent above the previous year. Surely, this does not reflect an industrial sector under pressure from foreign capital !

In addition to this, we are in touch with the local, domestic industrial sector almost all the time, continuously. I have had interaction. I am sure other Ministers have had interaction. I am equally sure that Hon. Members of the Opposition, leaders of the Opposition, and Chief Ministers of the States other than Congress States are constantly in touch with them. We have not come across any such direct or indirect complaint that the Indian industry is suffering as a result of foreign investment coming. This has not come to my notice. But I would certainly like to know if there are any instances of this kind and if there is any such prevailing feeling that such a thing is happening, I would certainly like to know about it. I am telling you, I have not come across it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : What about the Bombay Club?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : This is what I am saying. If there are instances, yes, we can certainly go into them. But as a policy and as a general fallout of the policy, this has not happened. That is what I would like to tell.

Sir, there has been some criticism about the WTO. This is again a matter which has been figuring in our debates...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : If Indian industry is not suffering, how come every other day, one industry is being closed down in West Bengal?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Every third day, I meet a very large, a very influential delegation of Members of Parliament particularly from West Bengal's CPI (M) or CPI, buttressed by some union leaders — their own leaders — and they come and tell me that what all we are doing is wrong. All that I have to do is to refer the matter to the Chief Minister of West Bengal. Nothing else!

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Are you not paying any heed to them?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Mr. Speaker Sir, Shri Somnath Chatterjee has netted more foreign investments in the last six months than the entire Government of India has done in four years. So, his rhetoric also has very suitably changed. This change is a welcome change.

Sir, about the GATT, we have been the contracting parties right from the beginning. I remember very well when we had these discussions in Punta Del Este in Uruguay, Shri V.P. Singh who was the then Finance Minister, accompanied by Shri K.C. Pant who was then perhaps the Defence Minister and a very important delegation went from here. We have been fighting the

battle on behalf of the developing countries right through. I may also say, Sir, that in this battle, many of the other developing countries, even big developing countries, fell by the wayside. If anyone has continued the battle throughout, it is India and maybe one or two others. But many have had to yield. We have not yielded. But this is a multilateral forum. Now, in the Non-aligned, in the G-77 or in any forum of the developing countries, what we have been saying consistently and persistently is that we want a multilateral system of trade. This has been there and we have been saying this for the last 25 or 30 years.

And whenever one country seeks to dominate another through bilateral arrangements, we have been opposing it; opposing it tooth and nail. Therefore, today when we have a multilateral forum finalised, working, to say that all this is wrong, is something like putting the clock back. I am afraid, we cannot do that and we should not do that. It is not in the national interest to do that. Yes, when there is multilateral negotiations, there is always something like a 'give' and something like a 'take'. We will have to see how far our interests are being served and I am absolutely certain, Sir, that in all these long negotiations, very persistent negotiations, hard negotiations, our Government has done extremely well and, on the whole, we have come out with more gains and that is how we have become the champion of the developing countries. I do not have anything to be ashamed of it. I do not have anything to apologise for this.

Sir, I now come to some of the important matters that have been raised like the social sector. Now, again in continuation with the human face that we have been advocating, I must submit to the House that in the very first Budget presented by this Government, we had clearly stated our commitment. As I just said, for rural development more was allocated. I think these figures have been quoted by many other Members, I do not have to repeat them. What I would like to say is that every year we are yielding some new programmes for the alleviation of poverty and increase in the employment opportunities. Special programmes targeting poor and the weaker sections have been initiated in the last four years. These programmes include revamped Public Distribution System, Employment Assurance Scheme, *Mahila Samridhi Yojana*, Prime Minister's *Rozgar Yojana*, Intensive *Jawahar Rozgar Yojana* and Artisans Tool Kits Programme. Under the revamped Public Distribution System, as Hon. Members know, foodgrains are supplied at reduced price, that is reduced by about Rs. 50 per quintal less than the Central issue price. Now, on this point I would like to say—some Members have raised this point, it is a very valid point - that the market price and the RPDS prices are more or less the same. Therefore, the off-take is coming down. I agree that this has been the scene. But why is it happening; we are not very clear about it as yet. We are making studies about this and my own feeling is that we may have to raise this differential of Rs. 50 further so that in the RPDS blocks, in the shops run there by the Government, it may be possible to sell those commodities at even cheaper prices than they are selling

at the moment. But it is also possible that the diminution in the off-take has other reasons. It is possible that people go to the open market. They have more advantages in going to the open market and buying things rather than going to the fair price shops. Fair Price *shopwalas* may not be very regular and so on. There may be many many reasons. We will have to do into those reasons. But I agree that this differential of fifty rupees is not necessarily the only reason. To the extent this reason is found to be valid, I would certainly like to go into it.

In fact, Sir, our study today is centred around the poorest families and their family budgets. We are going there and from there we are building up the policy structure of what is to be done on prices; what is to be done on food subsidy. Food subsidy, as Hon. Members know, was Rs 4000 crore until last year. This year it has come to Rs. 5,200 crore. Now, it is not just a matter of raising it. The point is : Why are we raising it? What is the advantage of raising it?

It is possible that we may be raising it; but it may be going only to the FCI and their officers and their expenditure etc., and may not reach the ultimate consumer. So, now we are chasing this point from the beginning to the end. That study, that exercise has been started, Sir. I would like to know what is the percentage which the producer gets and what is the percentage which is wasted between the producer and the ultimate consumer. We have come to the figure of 61.2 per cent which is what the producer gets. I agree that the other people are getting too much and a part of what the other people are getting should go to the consumer or to the producer. In principle I agree, but how is it to be done? We have a huge organisation like the FCI. If you do not have that organisation, in a country like India, it is not possible to have food security. Because we have had four or five good seasons, are we going to gamble with our security? This would be very wrong. But, at the same time, if you have this very huge organisation, as it is today, how are you going to bring down the difference between what the producer is getting and what the consumer is getting and in between whatever is being got by the other people. This is the question we are addressing, Sir. In the next few weeks, I am sure, we will be able to find some way of getting the producer a little more, or the consumer a little more of this concession so that the middlemen it is not the middleman, just not a trader but it is an organisation whatever the 'middleman', is getting that expenditure is reduced to the minimum and the benefit goes either to the producer or to the consumer or both, if necessary.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada) : Free movement of foodgrains is not yet being permitted in all areas.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : We have experimented with free movement. It has not been found useful all over the country. We see that if you allow free movement today, some States will stand to gain; many States will stand to lose. It all depends on whether the State is a surplus State or a deficit State. This is well-

known. We have tried it for the last 20-25 years one way or the other and we have seen that there has to be some way of tracking down what is happening in the movement of foodgrains, because the whole country being one, we have to see that disparities in prices also should not be too much.

Sir, the supply of improved tool kits to rural artisans, Sir, is a very quiet programme. But this has been going on in a very successful manner with great benefit to the artisans in our villages. So far 2.46 lakh artisans, that means almost half the villages or maybe more than one third of the villages, have been covered. The artisans are happy. They are not really any longer going to the cities because their tools are better. They are able to become more productive and that kind of unbanisation has been more or less reduced. The scheme has been extended to all the districts in the country this year, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Prime Minister is speaking about the rural development. He has been given wrong information regarding that all these are paper figures only. Nothing like this is going on in the villages. Please get it rectified.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) : Sir, after the speech of the Prime Minister is over, questions can be asked. I would request you, Sir, not to allow any interruptions.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when we are about it, we are interrupted but when others ask about ask something nothing happens.

[English]

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : I have seen. I am not leaving anything to chance. I am not only supervising these things personally, I have kept this Ministry with myself with some idea, some purpose. I am myself monitoring every one of these programmes, not 100 per cent but as a sample. Tomorrow I am going to Orissa. We have had a programme of visiting villages, sitting with the District Collectors sitting with the people who are beneficiaries, finding out what is happening, and calling the bank people also in the PMRY we are involving everybody including myself. That is why I have kept this Ministry with myself. I can say with certain amount of personal knowledge—I am not saying that 100 per cent of everything that I am saying is happening—but I am at least able to see something is happening and I am able to satisfy myself that something is reaching the people which was the case earlier because so many barriers were the way.

Now, I will come to Tool Kits Programme. I have now started giving power tool kits. Now, the artisans are

saying that they have electricity in the village why should they use the old tool kits which do not use power. We are now changing. In Punjab, the other day, a number of people told me that Punjab has electricity in every village; so why do you not change this ? I have immediately made a commitment there publicly that wherever the tool kits do not run on electricity, will be changed and a new tool kit, power driven tool kit, which, of course, costs about Rs. 1,000 or Rs. 2,000 more than the other one, will be given. But we are prepared to do that. Wherever there is electricity-in every village, any village—we are prepared to change that.

To promote self-employment amongst the educated unemployed youth—one Hon. Member was just saying that all this money is being wasted—now I would like to assure him. If he wants it, he can come with me, I will give him the list of those who have been benefited. I will give the list of what they are doing, what each one of these beneficiaries is doing. I have called for those lists, blockwise, districtwise, and villagewise, if you wish. But, of course in a country of this size 30,000 or two lakhs or three lakhs, does not make any impact, I agree. But, then, this is how you start. Maybe next year, we will go to five lakhs, after that we will go to ten lakhs. This is how every boy or girl who is a little educated, not very much educated, not highly educated but he cannot go out of the village because he has no money. Now, he is being rehabilitated in this manner. We can show you all the details, give you all the details that are needed. If there are any bogus things, I am prepared to take action. In this, the bank people, I am told, in many cases, are not cooperating to the extent they should. Now, we are pulling up the bank people. We will see to it that they cooperate and even if they have any difficulty in their actual operation, then we will see that those difficulties are removed. So, Sir, the programme is so designed that it covers all sections of the society and all areas in the country.

Last year, as the Hon. Members know, an Urban Poverty Alleviation Programme had been started to cover 345 Class-II towns and would involve urban local bodies in accordance with the Seventy-fourth Constitution (Amendment) Act, in all aspects of the scheme. A provision of Rs. 100 crore has been made and I am sure that it will take off this year in a real way, in a big way. The Eleventh Schedule of the Seventy-third Constitution (Amendment) Act relates to the Panchayats in the rural areas and it provides for 29 functions which could be entrusted to them. Now, this has to be really done to the hilt. This has been done only partly at the moment because the Panchayats are in the process of coming into existence and when they come, all these will have to be implemented and most of the programmes that we have started would be made over to the Panchayats and it would be possible for the Panchayats to ground them up, to field them wherever they want.

Sir, this year, for the first time, those who are not covered by any of these programmes are being covered. Like old people, like survivors of families whose main bread-earners have died, a provision of sustenance of pre-natal and post-natal maternity care to poorwomen for first two births, creation of a new rural infrastructural development fund, expansion of the mid-day meals scheme for school children, a group life insurance scheme of the LIC to be implemented by Panchayats in the rural areas and schemes for assistance by way of better credit for small scale industries, khadi and village industries. I am very glad to say in this connection, Sir, that under the Indira Awas Yojana, we have doubled the target; ten lakhs of houses will be built this year.

I have also now decided that the families of ex-servicemen, Sir, who belong to those villages will also be included among the beneficiaries of the Indira Awas Yojana. Yesterday, I have also decided that this benefit will be extended to the para-military forces also. Yesterday I had a very pleasant experience of some social reforms among the para-military forces. Some young men had died in action in Kashmir. Now, for their widows, just about 20 years, 22 years, 23 years old, a social organisation, among them, has managed to arrange their remarriages with young men from the same forces. I saw the them...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : May I request the Hon. Members...

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : I am on a different point. It is not about money I am speaking.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Acharya, this is not good.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : It is about transformation I am speaking and if this is appreciated, we can certainly think of how much we can take it up. That is a different matter. So, in Indira Awas Yojana, the point I am making is that all these sections are also being included.

Now, I will come to Jammu and Kashmir, Sir. This point has been raised by many Members. Sir, I would say what has been done in Jammu and Kashmir. Steps have been intensified to control militancy through sustained operations against terrorist in order to reduce the fear of the gun. The security forces have scored a number of significant successes. Secondly, a number of detainees including the prominent secessionist leaders have been released. They have not only been released but they have been allowed to come to Delhi. They have been allowed to have free discussions with many leaders of the political leaders. They have been allowed to visit some embassies etc., and this kind of general interaction is being encouraged which is taking place.

The delimitation process is underway and the work of revision of electoral rolls is also expected to be completed shortly. In the context of our efforts to revive the political process it was important that the civil administration became functional. The restoration of the morale of the local administration coupled with

disenchantment of the public with the militants has improved the overall ground situation. And I am saying this with a certain amount of responsibility. It is not just to tell the House what is not true. I am saying all this from not only reports but from very very reliable sources. I understand that there is a general improvement and people do want elections. They do want the electoral process to start. They are still afraid of the gun. That fear of the gun although much reduced still remains. This is the position, Sir.

There has been a noticeable step up in the pace of developmental activities since one year. Since one year we have been paying special attention to the developmental aspects in Jammu and Kashmir. A special plan assistance of Rs. 993 crore was given to Jammu and Kashmir in 1994-95. The schemes are being closely monitored. I have personally deputed two teams of Union Secretaries drawn from fifteen sensitive Ministries of the Government in critical areas of development. Under various Central sector programmes, an amount of Rs. 200 crore was made available during 1994-95. There has been a marked enthusiasm among the people to come forward and avail of the benefits under programmes like the IRDP, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and Employment Assurance Scheme.

Let me mention the comparative picture of achievements with 1993-94. Whereas in 1993-94 under JRY employment provided was 25.50 lakh mandays, in 1994-95 it was 65.93 lakh mandays. Under Indira Awas Yojana whereas in 1993-94, 390 houses were built, the figure for 1994-95 is 1697 houses.

Million well scheme - 1,563 wells in 1993-94; and 3,409 wells in 1994-95. The step up which has been achieved is to be noted. Rice supplied to the States increased from 36,200 tonnes to 44,000 tonnes and wheat allotment from 20,000 tonnes to 30,000 tonnes per month.

Since the people of J and K have a preferences for coarse rice, special teams were deployed to bring this rice from Punjab, Haryana and UP to J and K. So far 45,000 tonnes of rice has been moved to the Valley since October 1994. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Have the expenditure been made on Kashmir valley only or on Jammu and Laddakh also.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : The expenses have been made everywhere.

[English]

A massive programme has also begun on top priority to restore schools, bridges, hospitals, electric installations damaged by the militants. The Terrorists had damaged 450 educational institutions ranging from primary schools to colleges. There are all being repaired. This is the work that is being done.

I shall not give too many details. What I would like to submit to the House is, I have noted the opinions of all the Members on this matter. I am being very careful in submitting to the House the exact position as it is today, from all accounts, conditions are improving for the electoral process to be taken up. I am consulting with the leaders of the Opposition Parties. Right now I am engaged in that. The Government has noted the desire for more autonomy voiced in several quarters. Soon after completing the round of consultations, I will take the Parliament into confidence with clear cut proposals. This is what I propose to do in this Session and in the next few days, I would like your indulgence to give me some time to take the House into confidence.

On Defence, a mention has been made in the House of the Agni and Prithvi programmes. As Hon. Members are aware, Agni is a technology demonstrator and the project has been to our satisfaction. I visited the factory only three or four days back.

As far as Prithvi is concerned, the phase of user trials is over and subsequent activities are in hand. I would like to assure the House that there is no question of any outside pressures compelling us to delay or to compromise on our defence requirements. Whatever, we believe, needs to be done to secure the defence of the nation will be done.

Sir, about External Affairs, I would very briefly say that in the next two-three days we are going to have a Summit of the SAARC countries. I would not like to say anything about our relations separately with individual countries at this juncture when the SAARC Summit is to take place. All I would like to say is that we are trying our very best to improve relations from our side. There has not been any lapse. We would appreciate if this is properly responded to.

For the first time, we are going to have the SAPTA (South Asian Preferential Trading Arrangement) being initiated this year. For ten years, we have not been able to make any headway in the SAARC meetings and SAARC Summits on the trade arrangement or trade relations between the countries. This should have been done long ago but for the reasons which are not so unknown, this has not happened.

17.00 hrs.

This year it is going to happen and I would like to submit to the House that this is a happy augury that within these seven countries some preferential trade treatments are also going to be given to one another and this will really result in what we have seen, in a combination like the ASEAN, in the last 15 to 20 years how ASEAN has gone from strength to strength. In the same manner it is possible for SAARC also to perform in the coming years.

These are what I really wanted to place before the House, Sir. If there is anything more, I am prepared to respond...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, many vital issues such as price rise, unemployment, exit policy, sick industries have been specifically raised. Sir, the Hon. Prime Minister has not even referred to them. These are the issues which are vitally concerned to the people...*(Interruptions)* These are very important issues which have been raised by the people everyday...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN : What about the Tamil Nadu situation? ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal) : Please say something about the Muzzaffarnagar incident.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : These are the very important issues on which we must know the Government's mind...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Say something about the Muzzaffarnagar incident. The report of the CBI is lying pending in the Allahabad Court.

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Many important issues such as TADA, unemployment, sick industries, price rise have been raised ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur) : It seems that there is no unemployment, there is no price rise...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SAYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) : Sir, one or the other new things are being said regarding Mathura and Kashi. A new Ayodhya movement is being launched. It is the duty of the Government to save there.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Law is there for that...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : There is a danger of fascism in the country. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Sir, I would like to very categorically say that TADA, which was enacted in 1986, was for a particular purpose, for a particular situation that prevailed in the country at that time. It has been used ever since by several States. Some States have not used it; some States have used it...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : This has been misused...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is being said by the Government that they want to bring some amendments in TADA. Everyone belonging to each party has raised the issue of TADA. What will be its form? TADA has been used in the areas where extremists are active and the people are in jail. In what form the Government wants to bring it. It should also be made clear.

[English]

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : While this law was enacted in 1986 to meet a difficult situation created by terrorist activities in some parts of the country, I have no hesitation in saying that some of its provisions were misused causing avoidable hardship to some people. I am clear in my mind that the law, as it is, should not continue. After the Home Minister's consultations - the Home Ministry is just now consulting the Leaders of the Opposition on the options that are open for us, what are the options and which option is the best according to them - he will come to a conclusion. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : We have given our opinion...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Now you please sit down. You are not the whole House.

After the Home Minister's consultations, Sir, the Government will immediately come up with the necessary legislation...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat. When I am standing, you should take your seat.

It is true that many Members have raised many important issues. But to each of these issues, it is very difficult to reply on the floor of the House in the available time. Now these issues are collected at one place and the spirit of the enquiry has been responded to. I would allow one or two Members to raise very important issues, not issues which can be raised in the shape of a question to the Government, but very important issues which cannot be raised in the shape of a question and I am sure the Hon. Prime Minister will reply to that. I would request the Members to ask the question and I will leave the discretion with me to allow or disallow or ask the Prime Minister of reply to those questions.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had mentioned the Lucknow visit of the Hon. President of Iran in my speech. He was our Hon. guest. Everyone is agreed with it that our relations with Iran should be strong but whatever happened during his Lucknow visit and a particular party tried to avail petty gains of his visit, tried to incite communalism and he was invited to interfere in the internal affairs of our country. Does the Hon. Prime Minister has the report of the incident of Lucknow.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : I would like to submit this much only that some persons may have done something but visiting dignitaries have not interfered in our internal affairs and it appears from whatever he has said that he did not want to say anything which he did not liked. Whatever he said, give strength to our policy.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : I am not blaming the Hon. President of Iran. Perhaps the Hon. Prime Minister could not understand to what I said or may be. I could not make him understand...*(Interruptions)*. I am criticising, those who tried to hag the Hon. President of Iran in our internal affairs. Whether the Prime Minister is aware of the fact that when the President of Iran went to Imbarara from Amansi Airport the national flag of our country was not there? The leaders of the Congress who were present on the stage at Lucknow, were not allowed to speak. It was said before the President of Iran that the minorities are in danger in the country and only their Government and their party, towards which I am pointing can save the minorities. Who the President of Iran taken to Lucknow for this purpose only? I am the elected representative of Lucknow but I was not invited to that programme. Will the visits of the foreign guests be misused in this say?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : We do not agree to that at all. But, please tell how the leader of a party can be stopped to boast about his party.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I think I will allow the Members to put their questions and I think it will be more convenient for the Hon. Prime Minister to reply to them at one time. Otherwise, there would be so many questions and so many replies.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful for the opportunity given to me. There are so many issues on which he has not touched. We are upset.

But so far as price rise is concerned, this is not a matter concerning only the people who are sitting here but the whole country is affected rather. This concern has been expressed by all the Congress Members. Maybe, because of the whip, they have not said here but outside they are saying. Therefore, this is a matter on which not even a reference has been made and not even a whisper has been made by the Hon. Prime Minister. I would like to know what is the Government's perception and what are the Government's policies on this.

The other thing is revival of sick industries. It is very good to say that all the West Bengal MPs or Trade Unions are going there because we are very keen that these should be revived. Sir, out of the list of companies that has been prepared by this Government when it came into power, many of the companies which should be wound up or were in bad shape, have been revived by their own efforts. They are making profit now. So far as the other units are concerned, we are repeatedly

saying that most of them can be revived but really no serious action has been taken. In Government companies, even wages and salaries have not been paid.

MR. SPEAKER : Somnathji, the Prime Minister has to go to the other House.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, I am only indicating that these can be easily revived.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Even individual cases which I am receiving from them, I am sending them to the Departments. I am personally taking some interest for getting them revived...*(Interruptions)*

It is not that they are being lost on the Government, it is not like that. These are individual cases. Some cases are good cases, some cases are gone cases.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : It is not considered. I have given this list. We have been assured unit by review by Mr. Prime Minister, the Finance Minister says so and Shrimati Krishna Sahi says so, but it is not being done.

MR. SPEAKER : That is all right.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : That is why our question is; What is the Government's reply to it?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : To this, my reply has already been given.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Why do you not set a time limit or appoint a task force?

MR. SPEAKER : Very briefly, Shri Sharad Yadav.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think that the visit of the Hon. President of Iran has been fruitful for our country. His statements were balanced. During that period, the Finance Secretary of America had also been here. He had said that if he knew that the President of Iran was likely to come there, he would have rescheduled his programme. I think that his remark is sad in this regard. The Government's stand on it should be made clear.

[English]

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN : Sir, regarding the situation in Tamil Nadu, are you going to recall the Governor or not? Are you going to solve this crisis?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, no. That is not possible.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN : We are not satisfied with the attitude of the Government. We are walking out.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : Tamil nadu is a part of India.

17.13 hrs.

At this stage, Shri P.G. Narayanan and some other Hon. Member left the House.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Prime Minister on some important issues in his speech but it is sad that he did not utter anything on the eradication of corruption. The Hon. Prime Minister had said some months back in the House that he would inform the House about the Bofors after monitoring. The Hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Vidyacharan Shukla had called on the leaders of opposition and assured them that the papers relating to Bofors would be shown soon. The people of this country are worried about the corruptions and Bofors for many years. I would like to know from the Hon. Prime Minister, when the information regarding it would be furnished?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I think I should first of all thank the Members for the excellent cooperation they have given today and I am sure that they would like to respect the feelings of the Members in the other House also where the Prime Minister is expected. So; I would respect the Prime Minister to briefly respond to one or two points which are made now and I think the House will agree that he should be allowed to go to the other House. We can take up the rest of the business here.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MAJ. GEN. (Retd.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : You do not have any feelings in your heart. Nothing is being said about Uttranchal and on the report regarding it. Nothing is being said about the Muzzaffarnagar incident...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Maj. Gen. Khanduri this is not a Question Answer Hour.

MAJ. GEN. (Retd.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : I have mentioned it in my speech.

MR. SPEAKER : You may be right. You might have raised it. He is not expected to reply to all questions. Reorganisation of the States is not a small matter on which he can respond immediately. You should understand it.

MAJ. GEN. (Retd.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Please give me one minute. I am not talking of the reorganisation...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I am very sorry. Although we referred to it with all seriousness yet it seems that the Hon. Prime Minister has no time to deal with it. We are going to the people. There is no point in continuing here. Therefore, in protest, we are walking out.

17.16 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Somnath Chatterjee and some other Hon. Members left the House.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Nothing has been said about corruption and social justice. We walk out in its protest.

17.17 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Sharad Yadav and some other Hon. Members left the House.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : The workers have not been paid wages for months together... (Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : It is not going on record.

17.18 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Basudeb Acharia and some other Hon. Members left the House.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree to it that the reply to all the questions and issues cannot be given in such sort of discussion but there are some issues which are agitating the minds of the people. These have been mentioned in the discussion.

MR. SPEAKER : As you say?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : There is the issue of Uttranchal. We are not discussing about the reorganisation of the State. The CBI has presented its report to the Allahabad High Court regarding the treatment the Uttranchal activists were given at Muzzaffarnagar and the women were raped there. The Hon. Prime Minister is extending support to that Government. You might be remembering that a number of complaints were received on that day regarding the Panchayat elections. How the democracy was mocked at there Rahi ji, who is present here, had staged a hunger strike on it. The Hon. Prime Minister made him break his hunger strike.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Then how are you saying that we are extending support to that Government.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Congress Party is playing a double game. Rahi ji goes on strike and the Hon. Prime Minister saves the Government. After all Article 356 is there?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is called battle of wits.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : I would like to submit that the Hon. Prime Minister should give the

reply. The Government should make its stand clear on the incidents of rape and the bungling in the Panchayat elections.

[English]

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Sir, on that day are have the Home Ministry's Demand. I shall request the Home Minister to say something.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, what has been said? What is going on between you and the Hon. Prime Minister? What you have said?

MR. SPEAKER : If you want to speak on price-rise?

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Only one small point, Sir... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now now, please. Otherwise I have to allow all others.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : It is not going on record.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Shahabuddin Ji, it is not going on record. Please sit down. When you have a point, I give you the time. But this time I do not think you have the time for making a point.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Sir, I have been at some pains to explain how we want to minimise, it not eliminate, the difference between the price we pay to the farmer and the price which the consumer has to pay. This I have tried to explain. There are no ready answers to this. We cannot say that we will not pay the farmer fair prices. We have to. But, at the same time, out of that, about thirty-eight per cent or thirty-seven per cent is going in the middle, on the way to the consumer. That is all can be really diminished. We are going into that.

In regard to oil, I am sorry to say that it has been now put on the OGL. Oil prices are stabilising.

In regard to pulses, I am sorry, our country is not self-sufficient in pulses, and in other countries from where we get pulses, the prices ruling today are higher than what they are in India. That is something which the Government cannot help. So, we will have to make do with whatever situation there is today, until the situation in the other countries improves or the prices come down. So, in the case of each commodity, there is a particular way of controlling or bringing the prices down, or keeping them down and not allowing them to go up. So, in each of these commodities, the Government is trying to do whatever can be done. I can explain commodity-wise what is being done. But what all I want to say is,

ultimately the producer also has to be given a fair price, and that is the basis on which all other things are calculated. We cannot go on increasing subsidies beyond a point. So, how much can we do is the question. It is a question of what we can afford to do. This is how it is. The price situation is not in the hands of one person, not in the hands of one agency that just at the push of a button it can be controlled or brought down.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, all the Hon. Members who had raised the issue have left the House. The Hon. Prime Minister is giving reply after their departure. Does he want that we should also leave the House, only then he will reply to our questions? What are you doing? Mr. Speaker, Sir, ask him to give the reply Regarding Uttranchal, the Government...

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Those who have gone have not given me the notice that they are about to leave.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : No, I had requested you to reply.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it would have been better if the Hon. Prime Minister had said something about the Uttranchal. The Hon. Home Minister says that the discussion is going on with the activists but the Hon. Prime Minister does not say something?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : I am saying.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : What would be the fate of the report of the CBI regarding rape incidents?

[English]

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Sir, I think something would have to be left for the day on which we take up the Demands of the Home Ministry. I shall request the Home Minister to say something about Uttaranchal on that day.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are not satisfied with the reply given by the Hon. Prime Minister.

17.24 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and some other Hon. Members left the House.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Prime Minister has not mentioned anything about Central assistance to the "One Kg. rice

for Rs. two" programme in Andhra Pradesh. In protest against the anti-poor policies of this Government we are walking out.

17.25 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde and some other Hon. Members left the House.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWLE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know apart Bombay from the Hon. Prime Minister...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I do not expect him to do that in the House. It is not fair.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWLE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know about the NTC Mills, whether they are paying or not...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : It is not going on record.

*(Interruptions)***

SHRI MOHAN RAWLE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon Prime Minister has not said anything about the problems of Bombay. I walk out of the House in the protest.

[English]

17.26 hrs.

At this Stage, Shri Mohan Rawale left the House

MR. SPEAKER : A number of amendments have been moved by Member to the Motion of Thanks. Shall I put all the amendments to the vote of the House together or does any Hon. Member want any particular amendment to be put separately?

I shall now put all the amendments together to the vote of the House because nobody has asked for the amendments to be put separately.

Amendment Numbers 1 to 38, 51 to 65, 103 to 125, 311 to 365, 373 to 388, 433 to 607, 700 to 716, 799 to 834, 846 to 874, 887 to 894, 899 to 912, 927 to 931, 942, 943, 992 to 995, 1052 to 1066 and 1084 to 1097 were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put the main Motion to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That an Address be presented to the President in the following terms :

"That the members of Lok Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to

** Not Recorded.

deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 13th February, 1995'

The motion was adopted

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Topdar may raise his point now. The concerned Minister will sit in the House.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barrackpore) : Sir, the employees of the Jute Corporation of India are on hunger strike from 25th of this month. They are demanding that the activities be resumed by the J.C.I. instead of the Government order to reduce the strength and to abolish the J.C.I. organisation altogether. Without discussion in any forum, the Government has unilaterally decided to demolish this organisation. This will have a severe impact on the jute industry as well as the cultivators whose number is no less than 12 lakhs in West Bengal, Orissa and Assam. The Textile Minister is here. I, therefore, request him to kindly respond to these points.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, there is a serious situation in the office of Atomic Energy Commission, Bombay. There has been a hunger strike since 21st of April and the situation has further been deteriorated. The workers have been demanding for the allotment of quarters. There are 250 quarters which are lying vacant. In spite of that these quarters are not being allotted. They had to resort to this hunger strike. Yesterday the authorities of Atomic Energy Commission, Bombay have closed down the office from 2 O'clock and there is a tension there.

I urge upon the Minister of Science and Technology to intervene in the matter immediately so that the situation is eased out and not deteriorated further and the lives of employees, who are on indefinite hunger strike, are saved.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the world labour report, 1995 has been published in Delhi day before yesterday. Do you know that the international labour organisation works for the welfare of the labourers and the Director of the ILO after taking the national renewal fund in doing the structural changes, the World Labour Report, 1995 is about it and it has been stated in it that the main function of the National Renewal Fund is to retrained the works. The Central Government has not done so and after the implementation of the new economic policy only 500 labourers and employees have been given the training. It has also been complained in the World Labour Report that :

[English]

The report predicted the collapse of the welfare social security system if the old workers were pressurised into the early retirement to make the way for the young unemployed. The report highlights the

need for a massive thrust on retraining the workers to deal with the problem of actual potential of unemployment resulting in the structural adjustments. The retraining along with the labour market measures would be a powerful instrument in enabling the workers- who were displaced from their former jobs - to return to their employment.

[Translation]

My submission is that after implementing the new economic policy and making the promise to do the welfare of the labourers it has backed out of its promise. On account of it the international labour organisation had to make remarks against the Central Government. Therefore my submission is that the Government should impact large scale training to the workers and should continue the welfare system further as per the suggestions given by the I.L.O. in its 1995 report. The Government had made a promise keeping in view the national renewal fund, but the same has not been fulfilled and the ILO has made a complaints. Therefore my submission is that keeping in view that complaint the employees and the labourers should be trained.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera) : Mr. Speaker Sir, the question of the Dalit Christians have been raised continuously in this House for many days and the Government has given assurance time and again. When the National Front was in power, we had also raised the issue. The Dalit Sikhs have been given reservation and the Dalit Baudhs have also been given reservation. The number of the Dalit Christians is much but they have not got any facility as yet. The Hon. Minister of State of Welfare is present here. Sitaramji has also said time and again that the issue of the Dalit Christians will be taken seriously and they will also be given the status of the Scheduled Castes but I am sorry to say that till date they have not been given this status. They are staging a dharna. The Government has ready Bill for 200 tribes. People of all castes including the tribes are staging a dharna. I would like to know from the Government if it contemplates to bring a Bill during this session for the tribes or other castes like the Dalit Christians or the Dhawang issue to give them the status of the Scheduled Caste? We urge upon the Government to bring the Bill in this Session. We would support it therefore the Government should get it passed. Today, I met the Hon. Minister in this regard and we had raised this issue before him. The Hon. Minister is present here. If he throws some light on it, I will feel obliged.

[English]

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG (Shillong) : Sir, on twentieth of this month, at about 1.30 p.m. in the afternoon, a cyclonic storm hit East Khasi Hills and Jaintia Hills in Meghalaya and damaged about 20 villages. Sir, about 10 persons were killed in this cyclonic storm, the worst of its kind, and more than a hundred dwelling houses were destroyed and about 20-25 school buildings also were damaged by this cyclonic storm.

Sir, I appeal to the Government that immediate help be extended to the Government of Meghalaya out of the Prime Minister's Relief Fund to provide immediate relief to the people suffering in these areas.

MR. SPEAKER : For assistance from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund, you do not raise it in the House. You meet him there and you will get it.

SHRI PETER G. MARDANIANG : Anyway, Sir, I am bringing it to the notice of the Government about these happenings.

And I also support the point raised by Shri Ram Vilas Paswan on the Dalit Christians' issue.

[Translation]

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH (Meerut) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, these days the thrashing of the wheat crop is going on and for this purpose the farmers need diesel but it is not available to them. In my district one kilometer long queue of the farmers can be seen on the diesel pumps. The district administration of Meerut has send the information to the Central Government regarding the paucity of diesel. I would like to draw the attention of the Government through you and the House towards the paucity of diesel in Meerut district and urge upon the Hon. Minister of Petroleum to make available diesel in Meerut district to the farmers and to release the special quota.

[English]

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur) : Sir, the serious situation in the public sector units becomes very evident through the decisions even of the officers in these organisations to take recourse to organised and peaceful agitation from yesterday. There is a growing conviction that in the name of liberalisation, what is happening is actually the mass murder of the public sector units by denying them the minimum safeguards which are required by them to enter into competition with the big private companies, principally the MNCs. By denying them working capital or investment for modernisation, such as at IISCO and NTC, denying the requisite Government orders as in the Wagon industry, by refusing Government guarantee for bank loans needed for the revival of the sick industries as at Braithwaite and by allowing mass corruption and irregularities at the highest management level, the viability of these units is being systematically destroyed. Profit making units are being handed over to private sector for peanuts by selling shares at unbelievably low prices. Workers are not getting wages as at Jessops and NTC; at Tannery and Footwear Corporation, no working capital has been provided for revival. And therefore through gross neglect this Corporation has come to a state where the BIFR has ordered its closure. On the other hand, even private companies like M.S. Shoes indulging in unfair trade

practices have no difficulty in getting crores of money within seven days from the public sector banks.

We want to know whether the process that is going on can be called liberalisation or cartelisation.

In the oil sector, the findings of ONGC on the Bombay High and the Krishna-Godavari Basin are being turned over to the multinational corporations on the basis of an agreement which would not only compromise ONGC but deprive our country of oil worth millions of dollars produced in our own fields. Further, in the public sector units, the flight of talent is being forced by denying revision of scales, dearness allowance etc. while there is unlimited increase of perks and salaries in the private sector units.

We feel that there must be an end to this and the way in which the nation's precious assets, the greatest assets, are being destroyed cannot be allowed. This cannot go on like this.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to have a new look at this. The Prime Minister's speech showed that they are entirely oblivious of this whole thing.

I want the Government to open its eyes towards the systematic destruction of the public sector units.

I would request you and appeal to you to immediately allow us a discussion on the subject on the floor of the House.

SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI (Sikkim) : Sir, people belonging to Tamong community who have come from four States like Sikkim, West Bengal, (mostly from Darjeeling district of West Bengal), Meghalaya and Assam have been observing hunger strike at Jantar Mantar for almost a week now demanding their community to be included in the Scheduled Tribe list. This Tamong community belongs to the same ethnic group to which the Bhutia, Lapchas, Sherpas, Yolmos and Kagatya belong. All of them are from Tibet-Burma stock. While the above communities belonging to the same ethnic group were included in the Scheduled Tribe List more than four decades ago, the Tamong community was unfortunately left out. Tamong community has a distinct culture of their own and also their own customs, social traditions and songs and dances and language and dialect. Tamong religion is Lamaistic Buddhism and they use the same texts written in Tibetan as are used by other Tibetan Lamas. Educationally, economically and politically, the Tamongs are still backward and separate from the mainstream of national life. Despite a number of assurances given to this community by the Central Government, nothing has been done till now.

So, I would like to urge upon the Government to recognise this community or include this community in the Scheduled Tribes List as soon as possible.

PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN (Mukundapuram) : Sir, the price of copra recommended by the Commission

for Agricultural Crops and Prices is the same approved for 1994 season i.e. Rs. 2,350/- only. Government of Kerala has sent a proposal to the Central Government for support price for 1995 season on 31.10.1994 itself. But this unfortunate decision of the Commission was taken even after it had discussions with the representatives of the State Government on 21.12.1994. There is only 57 percentage change regarding the support price of copra when the price for 1995-96 is compared to that of 1989-90. During 1989-90, it was Rs. 1,500/- and now it is only Rs. 2,350/-.

For paddy, wheat, barley grain, groundnut, soyabean, cotton export etc., we are having a higher percentage change of 92, 97, 97, 106, 72, 76, 74 respectively when it is compared with 1989-90.

I am having the exact figures with me.

Paddy	1989-90	185
	1995-96	355
	Percentage change	92
Wheat	1989-90	183
	1995-96	360
	Percentage change	97
Barley	1989-90	145
	1995-96	285
	Percentage change	97
Gram	1989-90	325
	1995-96	670
	Percentage change	106
Groundnut	1989-90	500
	1995-96	860
	Percentage change	72
Soyaben	1989-90	370
	1995-96	650
	Percentage change	76
Cotton export	1989-90	690
	1995-96	1200
	Percentage change	74

Only for Copra 1,500 to 2,350. That means 57 percentage change. (kkkk/1745/brv-nsh)

So, I urge upon the Government to immediately declare the support price of copra as Rs. 3500/-.

MR. SPEAKER : I propose to give to all the Members, who want to make the statement, time for making the statement even by sitting after six of the Clock.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister of Welfare Kamlapuri Bais is a sub-caste of Bias Community in Bihar. That caste has been included in the list of the Backward Classes in Bihar but it has not been included in the list of the Central

Government. The people belonging to the Bais society have met the Hon. Minister of Welfare several times and I myself have written a letter but no action has been taken in this regard till date. On account of it these youth of the Backward Classes are deprived of its benefits. Therefore my submission is that the people of Kamlapuri Bais community should be included in that.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Ram Ganga river flows in my Constituency. Due to the pollution and construction of dam, water is not being released into it. The waste water of various factories is also flowing in it. There the people are in the dire need of potable water. There is the scarcity of drinking water even for animals. Due to the religious sentiments, the people come there on Dusshera Fair for a bath. The water is so much polluted that after having a bath in it, one has to take bath in the well. Now, the Dusshera of Jyaistha is nearing therefore the Government should be asked to release a fixed quantity of water in it. Today, the condition is that the people have launched a movement there. Lest the condition should become explosive through you. I urge upon the Central Government, the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Water Resources that at least the potable water should be supplied in my Constituency. Irrigation is not possible since the dam has been constructed. I have raised this issue several times in the standing committee also but a deaf ear is turned to it.

My humble submission is that the Hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is present here, he should be asked to make arrangements of drinking water at least in the month of Jyaistha. He will get the things done even if you direct him to do so.

MR. SPEAKER : I think that he is not supposed to make arrangements for providing the drinking water but he is to see that the water should not be polluted. Therefore we would like to have his statement.

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to bring a very important issue to the notice of the Government. You are aware that poultry industry has developed considerably. Of late, even the pisci-culture as well as the brackish water prawn-culture is making rapid strides particularly in our State of Andhra Pradesh. I wish to bring your notice a serious situation where poultry was affected by *gambora* disease. Similarly, the prawn-culture has received a setback temporarily due to bacterial and viral infections. The need of the hour is insurance coverage. But at such a crucial time, the Insurance Companies are not coming forward to extend the coverage to such risks. The very objective, the very purpose of insurance is being defeated. When there is no risk, when there is no

accidental occurrence, why should a farmer or any industry or organisation take up any insurance cover at all?

This is a very serious situation. I request the Government to look into this matter and take necessary steps to issue suitable instructions to the concerned authorities to extend the coverage of such diseases also to protect the interests of the poultry farmers and pisciculture farmers.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : The National Confederation of Officers' Association which is a confederation of several officers' association, comprises of about 1.5 lakh officers in several public undertakings. They are on strike and have been demonstrating in Delhi for two days. Their main demand is the pay revision.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That has become a part of record. Why is it necessary to repeat this?

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : I just want to support that. The Labour Minister is also here. I thought that when I also say about it, the Labour Minister will have an opportunity to hear about the pay revision once again which has been pending since 1.1.92 and has not been implemented. I submit that that may be taken up immediately as many of our talents are going to private organisations for new jobs, better jobs. So I bring this one aspect to the notice of the Labour Minister.

SHRI LAETA UMBREY (Arunachal East) : Sir, recently one car belonging to an MP was stolen from the South Avenue MPs flats. Many people including the Hon. MP expressed their concern...

MR. SPEAKER : Such a matter should not be raised.

SHRI LAETA UMBREY : It is about the security. There is absolutely no security in South Avenue and North Avenue.

MR. SPEAKER : Fortunately, the Home Minister is sitting here. I think, he has taken note of this. I am not allowing this. It is not going on record.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Let us maintain the standard and dignity of the Members and the House also. You could have raised it with the Home Minister.

SHRI LAETA UMBREY : It has been raised.

MR. SPEAKER : I am not allowing this. Please sit down. Matters which belong to us and pertain to us are not raised on the floor of the House. We talk for others and not for ourselves. Please sit down.

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURY (Serampore) : With your kind permission, this matter has been raised on more than one occasion. But the problem continues ever since. The Textile Minister is here. The plight of the

workers and the staff of the National Textile Corporation Mills has been raised here for umpteen number of times. But the problem is still there. The Textile Ministry had decided in a tripartite meeting that more than Rs. 2000 crore would be invested for the modernisation programme so that the factory may be modernised. As you are aware, during the late 80s, a tripartite agreement was drawn up in the NTC Mills in West Bengal, Assam and Bihar and accordingly the work pattern and the work load of the workers have been raised. But for the last two to three years, the workers of NTC Mills of West Bengal, not to speak of other regions are also not getting their wages in due time, they are not getting their salaries in due time. The working capital is not there; raw material is not there. So this problem must be met with all urgency immediately.

Just one more thing. As Dr. Malini Bhattacharya has raised the issue of all other public sector units particularly of West Bengal...

MR. SPEAKER : These are not matters to be raised like this. Shri Rasa Singh Rawat to speak.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards an important problem.

The way the disease of Cancer is spreading is a matter of deep concern. A survey was conducted and it was found in it that the number of mouth Cancer patients is much more in our country as compared to the European countries. This disease attacks on account of using continuously, the beetle leaf, tobacco, pan masala and the gutkas. Secondly in marriages and function, a special chemical containing ingredients of heavy metal is used in preparing vegetables and sweets to make the colourful. It should be learned alongwith the gutkas and pan masalas in view of the increasing incidences of cancer.

My other submission is that right from the primary health centres to the upper level hospitals including the district hospitals should have the facility of detecting cancer its proper remedy.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is deep soil erosion due to the Buxar from Ganges to Tilakraikehota at in Bihar. Thousands of villages have been hit by the Ganges.

MR. SPEAKER : It is a State subject.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH : The historical part of Buxar is likely to be hit by the Ganges. Besides it, Majhria, Umarpurdiyal, Arjunpur, Ahiravli, Keshwapur and Manikpur villages etc. are likely to be hit by the Ganges. I urge upon the Central Government that it

** Not recorded.

should implement its earlier decision to construct the embankment from Buxar to Koyaléwar. To stop the soil erosion of the Ganges barrage should be constructed from Buxar to Tilakraikéhotá.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, efforts are going on to sell out some of the cement factories to the private sector, which are being run by the Cement Corporation of India and are running in loss due to its mismanagement. On account of it there is resentment among thousands of labourers. In my Constituency, in Nayagaon at Mandsaur, there is a cement factory. Efforts are going on to hand it over to the private sector. The labourers engaged in it have given a memoranda regarding it. I have written to the Ministry in this regard. The labourers are bent upon hunger strike due to the failure of the Government to take any action. The Government should intervene in it and these should not be handed over to the private sector.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, terrorism is spreading rapidly in Jahanabad are of Bihar. You might have been reading about it in the newspapers. 3-4 persons are being killed daily. There is a paralysed Government also. That area have been under the feudals and on account of it they have been exploited much. Due to it they could not make any progress. The poor and the dalit youths are openly joining their ganges. They are doing with full arms and amunitions. Around 10 persons of a marriage party, which came to a village Area, were killed by the M.M.C. people. Such incidents are taking place there continuously. I have raised this issue several times. If the developmental work is given a boost there, these terrorists can be driven away and their parallel Government can be put to an end. The Government must pay attention towards it.

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY (Ranchi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Central Government offices located in the tribal areas of Chhotanagpur and Santhal Pargana in Bihar are by and by being shifted elsewhere. The circle office of the Ministry of Science and Technology has been shifted to Bhuvaneshwar, the Ranchi based Press Information Bureau has been shifted to Kanpur, the Ranchi based office of Film Production Unit and studio have been shifted to Calcutta, the office of Film Development Corporation has been shifted from Ranchi to West Bengal, the Ranchi based Railway wagon factory has been shifted to West Bengal, the two units of regional office of Kendriya Vidyalaya Examination Committee, Allahabad circle office have been shifted to Delhi, the Ranchi based All India Radio Civil Wing Unit has been shifted to Calcutta. The Directorate of Field Publicity is also being shifted. All these will adversely affect the development of the area. In this connection dharna demonstrations and processions also are being held and hunger strikes are being observed by the employees' confederation. The Central Government should stop shifting of offices at the earliest.

18.00 hrs.

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR (Hapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister of Communications to two important places of my area. Muradnagar and Pilkhwa are two major business centres where trade of handloom items is done. Both the places are situated at an aerial distances of 13 and 17 kilometres respectively from Ghaziabad. Whereas the aerial distances from Noida and Dadri are 26 and 18 kilometres respectively. The PCO facility for these places is available at Ghaziabad but not for Muradnagar and Pilkhwa.

I request the Hon. Minister of Communications to provide PCO facility from Ghaziabad for the people of Pilkhwa and Muradnagar so that the traders and common people may be benefited from it.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister Shri Rajesh Pilot. My constituency is located in the area touching the Bangladesh Border. The road construction and fencing work has already been started there. This is a defence work which is getting too late. The Government will certainly look into it. But here the problem before us is that following the work being done by the C.P.W.D. and fencing work, some territory of our country is being left on the side of Bangladesh. Now the situation has come to such a pass that the trans-border land of our farmers cannot be tilled. We are time and again stating it. There is no fault of Bangladesh in it. The fault lies with the C.P.W.D. and the Ministry of Defence who are constructing road.

Through you I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister Shri Rajesh Pilot once again to pay his attention to it so that the land of our country does not go in the hold of Bangladesh and our farmers are not deprived of their land.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister of Forests and Environment to terror spread by tigers in my constituency. There is project tiger in my constituency due to which a large number of persons have been killed by tigers. Such incidents took place two years back also. At least 20 to 25 persons have been killed during last three months. Moreover, many animals have also been killed by tigers. The reason behind it is that the tiger which grows old in the project is no more kept inside the forest and it is compelled to come out. Such a tiger kills persons as its preys. I had raised this issue earlier also. The situation today is such that children cannot go to their schools because they have to walk 8 to 10 kilometres to reach any primary, or secondary school or a college. The people cannot return their home in the evening. Such incidents usually take place these days. My request is that certain arrangement should be made for old tigers so that they do not sneak into residential areas and no loss is suffered thereby.

Secondly, the compensation policy fixed for such incidents is very difficult to be implemented in hill areas. For instance if an animal is killed there, a veterinary has to be called on for necessary examination and a certificate has to be issued in this regard. One has to walk on foot at least the whole day to fetch the doctor. So, a veterinary doctor can be brought only if he is available and is ready to walk on foot. Moreover, the animal loses its life before the veterinary doctor reaches there. In such a situation people do not get any compensation. Therefore, I request the Hon. Minister of Forest and Environment to provide relaxation to people of hill areas in receiving compensation and arrangement should be made for upkeep of old tigers.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : A statement on this please.

[Translation]

SHRI HARADHAN ROY (Asansol) : The Coal India Ltd. has accepted security laws and mines are being operated according to security provisions of the laws as a result of which in my area.

MR. SPEAKER : You could have asked questions also in this regard.

(Interruptions)

SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Therefore, the Director General, Mines and Safety has declared several villages and towns of my area unsafe. Assurance was given in this very august House that the villagers would be rehabilitated. But nothing has been done so far. There is package for those people also who were allotted plots. There is rehabilitation package for those also who are to be shifted elsewhere. But it has not been implemented so far. Where will the people of our village go? They are just starving. On the other hand, the Burn Standard Company, factory of Fire Bricks, Cycle Corporation of India, IISCO, BALCO etc. all have been scheduled to be closed down...(Interruptions) They are losing their jobs. So, they are facing starvation...(Interruptions)

Sir, therefore, the Hon. Prime Minister is requested to make arrangements for the protection of the residents of my village...(Interruptions)

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur) : Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the grave crisis which has surfaced in northern India and Himachal Pradesh in particular. There is acute shortage of petroleum products and therefore, several mile long queues of trucks are seen there. All the private and Government buses are standing there. The Government of Himachal Pradesh itself has made this point. The Hon. Prime Minister also has revealed it. The Heads of the Government of States will reach Simla to attend the SAARC Conference. The Government has

accepted that it is not certain whether petrol will be made available for them also. Trucks do not have diesel to transport fruits, vegetables, flowers lying on roadside. The public buses and private buses all are facing this grave crisis.

Sir, I have been giving notice to raise this issue for the last three days. People are continuously ringing me up.

MR. SPEAKER : Your giving notice does not mean that you have been given permission.

[English]

You should not mention that notice.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL : All right...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : A statement may be made on this also. Mr. Minister, this is an important matter, do you want to respond?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, first, I would like to state that I do not know whether the Hon. Member has given any representation on the issue of jute. If he has done so, I would shortly convene a meeting and invite the Hon. Member also in this regard. First let me know the problem. Thereafter I would try to solve the problem...(Interruptions)

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : Please tell about the NTC.

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : All know about this...(Interruptions). This will be settled within a week.

[English]

SOME HON. MEMBERS : It is an assurance...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot take an assurance, which cannot be fulfilled.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You do it as quickly as possible.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : It is a gentleman's assurance. I shall not move it to the Assurance Committee.

MR. SPEAKER : Before I say that the House stands adjourned, I thank you very much for the cooperation extended today.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : I also thank you very much, Sir, that it is because of your intervention and guidance, we were able to finish today.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : They have extended a very good cooperation.

[English]

We should be thankful to them also.

The House stands adjourned to meet again on Tuesday, the 2nd May, 1995 at 11 a.m.

18.11 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, May 2, 1995/Vaisakha 12, 1917 (Saka)

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