

LOKSABHA DEBATES
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JULY, 26, 1994
ELEVENTH SESSION



TENTH LOK SABHA

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates

(English Version)

.....

Tuesday, July 26, 1994/Sravana 4, 1916 (Saka).

.....

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

*Tuesday, July 26, 1994/
Sravana 4, 1916 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House with profound sorrow of the passing away of one of our former colleagues, Shri Jagannath Mishra, who was a Member of Fifth Lok Sabha during 1971—77. He represented Madhubani Parliamentary Constituency of Bihar.

An educationist by profession, he had special interest in reading books on social reforms and politics and gardening. He was also a devoted social worker and had started several educational institutions, hospitals and libraries.

He actively participated in the proceedings of the House.

Shri Jagannath Mishra passed away on 24 July, 1994 at New Delhi at the age of 73 years.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure that the House would

join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while 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

[*English*]

Tourist Circuits

*21. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have since decided to throw open the operation of its eight tourist circuits;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have decided to invite global bids giving opportunity to domestic as well as foreign chains to run these circuits; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINIS-

TER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI

MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (d) A *Statement* is
laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

It has been decided to introduce 'Palace-on-Wheels' type tourist train services on the following tourist circuits:

- (i) Delhi-Jaipur-Agra-Gwalior-Jhansi (Khajuraho)-Varanasi-Lucknow-Delhi.
- (ii) Bombay-Aurangabad (Ajanta/Ellora)-Nanded-Secunderabad-Hyderabad-Pune-Bombay.
- (iii) Calcutta-Gaya (Rajgir/Nalanda)-Varanasi (Sarnath)-Gorakhpur (Lumbini/Kushinagar)-Bhubaneswar-Puri-Calcutta.
- (iv) Goa (Madagaon)-Mangalore-Mysore (Belur/Halebid)-Hospet (Hampi)-Bangalore-Goa (Madgaon).
- (v) Bangalore-Mysore-Madras-Kodaikanal Road-Kanniya Kumari-Trivandrum-Cochin-Mettupalayam (Ooty)-Bangalore.
- (vi) Delhi-Jaipur-Jodhpur-Jaisalmer-Sawai Madhopur-Bharatpur-Agra-Delhi.
- (vii) Delhi-Jaipur-Udaipur-Ahmedabad-Veraval-Palitana-Delhi.
- (viii) Madras-Pondicherry-Nagore-Karaikal/Velankini-Tiruchchirapalli-Madurai-Rameswaram-Thanjavur-Chidambaram-Madras.

While global bids have been invited for the ownership, marketing and management of the tourist trains listed at S Nos. (i)—(v), on the remaining circuits listed at S Nos. (vi)—(viii) it has been decided to launch the tourist train services in collaboration with the Tourism Development Corporations of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu. Global bids were invited up to 25th July, 1994, for attracting investment in tourist train infrastructure. The initial response to the scheme has been encouraging.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Sir, the decision of the Government to allow the pri-

vate companies, foreign and indigenous, in the circuit railways is, I think, a part of a greater programme of the Government of privatising certain functions of the Railway as a whole. Will the Minister be kind enough to indicate the other areas of Railways functioning, which are now being sought or are being thought of being opened to the private investment and private management? May I also know from the Hon. Minister, what will be the ultimate residuary functions of the Railway Department as the Government's undertaking or are they thinking in terms of abolishing the Railways as a public sector undertaking and giving all the powers to the private companies?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: Sir, there is a slight deviation in the question. Anyway, there is no question of privatisation of Railways as a whole. But under the New Economic Policy, to encourage tourism, eight tourist circuits have been identified; out of which three circuits are being operated by the Railways with the collaboration of Tourism Development Corporation in respect of three States—Rajasthan, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu.

As regards the rest of the five circuits, we have asked for bids from the private bidders. The last date was the 25th July and yesterday only about 23 bids have been received. After evaluation whichever is the highest bid that will be given. This is only for encouraging the tourists and the participation of the private sector in this. But there is no question of privatising the Railways as a whole. It will remain in the public sector.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: The global bids also envisage ownership, marketing and management. May I know from the hon. Minister what is the ambit of this ownership? Will the trains be owned by the companies, will railway tracks be owned by the companies and what about other paraphernalia of the railway administration? Who will own them? Then, there is the question of fixing the tariff and sharing of the revenue. What is the principle of fixing the tariff if it is handed over to the private management and what would be the revenue sharing between the Government and private companies?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: The trains will be owned by the private companies at a cost of Rs. 20 crores. But so far as the operation and haulage are concerned, providing locomotive, crew and ground staff, all that will be looked after by the Railways itself. Because they are looked after by the Railways, the companies will

pay about Rs. 10 to 12 lakhs per trip towards the maintenance, haulage and all these things. But the ownership would be with the private company and Rs. 20 crores has been estimated. It will be a train of 21 coaches containing among others 13 air-conditioned coaches having sleeper class, with one standby and two air-conditioned dining cars and two power cars. So, it will have 21 coaches. The cost comes to Rs. 20 crores which will be borne by the company.

As far as returns are concerned, whichever party offers 15 per cent, that will be honoured.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Palace on wheels is proposed to be introduced by main pilgrimage places which include Calcutta-Gaya, and Rajgir-Nalanda circuits also. This circuit falls in my constituency. But there is no railway line between Gaya and Rajgir. The Government of Japan also provided financial aid for developing Buddhist pilgrim places. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the steps proposed to be taken to lay railway line between Gaya and Rajgir to introduce Palace on wheels for this circuit.

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: Sir, the hon. Member knows much better than me because he belongs to that area and constituency. If at all there is no track between Gaya and Rajgir, it has to be provided because it has become one of the circuits.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, three years back Palace on Wheels was introduced on the metre gauge system. But after gauge conversion what has happened to that Palace on Wheels?

Secondly, I would like to know whether the economic viability has been studied after introduction of these eight circuits and whether there will be any hurdles or difficulties in regard to passenger services also.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: Sir, there should not be any hurdles for the passenger services because the timings are adjusted in such a manner. This is a tourist train and it is a trip for one week.

The hon. Member has asked: what will happen to the Palace on Wheels after the conversion into broad gauge. The Palace on Wheels will be utilised in collaboration with the Tourism Development Corporation of Gujarat in one of the circuits and that circuit is Delhi-Jaipur-Udaipur-Ahmedabad-Viraval-Palitana-Delhi. So, that train will be utilised. This is again a metre gauge section.

[Translation]

DR. GIRIJA VYAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, when you were the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism it was due to your efforts that Palace on Wheels was made fully air-conditioned with a hope that Palace on Wheels would give a new boost to tourism not only in Rajasthan but in the country as a whole. I am glad to state that 40 to 45 per cent tourists visit Rajasthan and most of them visit due to attraction for Palace on Wheels. As per the present situation, at some places there is broad gauge while at the others there is metre gauge. Thus Rajasthan has both metre as well as broad gauge line. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the southern route of Rajasthan which would - as you have stated just now—cover Delhi, Udaipur and Gujarat, would satisfy the tourists, because present route covers Jaipur-Ajmer-Udaipur-Jodhpur-Agra? I would like to

know the action proposed to be taken in the prevailing situation?

Secondly, I would like to submit that South Rajasthan has not been provided broad gauge as yet, that is the reason why I have been raising the matter time and again. The private companies which are interested to take up the project are not taking the initiative because entire Rajasthan is gripped in the dispute of broad gauge and metre gauge, I would like to know the steps being taken by the Ministry in this regard?

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: Sir, the conversion programme has been taken up and now a part of the route has been converted into broad gauge. A time will come when the rest also will be converted.

So far as the hon. Member's question about the train coming to Agra, Delhi, Jaipur, Jodhpur and Jaisalmer is concerned, there is a provision for that. This is being done in collaboration with the Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation. In lieu of this, a Palace on Wheels type of tourism train is going to be developed and this route is going to be covered.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the first part of my question is that the bids have been invited but what about the infrastructure of the rail route the platforms, the rails, the cleanliness, the timings and the efficiency? Then, what about the protection and all those things which are the problems that our railways are now facing? Have you called for the tenders only for this tourist train or for infrastructure also? Here you have mentioned that you have called bids for investment in tourist train infrastructure. In this tourist

train infrastructure different from your regular infrastructure of the rails? If it is so, then what is the infrastructure?

The third part of my question is: have you completed all the requirements of the railways commuters in general throughout India? There are so many parts of the country where trains have not even been seen by the people. But you are not worrying about them. You are worrying only about the tourists, and for that you are inviting crores of rupees from outside. You are also asking the Tourism Department to spend. So, have you completed the basic requirements of the common railway passengers? He is not getting anything.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: Sir, it is the constant effort of the Government to see that the basic requirements of the commuters are met all over the country. However, this scheme is mostly in relation to the tourists. As you know, Sir, when foreign tourists come, we earn foreign exchange also. An action plan by the Tourism Department has been made that at least by 1996-97, there will be five million tourists which will give us foreign exchange to the tune of Rs. 14,000 to Rs. 18,000 crore. It is not the objective of the Government that we will have things only for the tourists all over. The primary objective of the Government is to provide all necessary amenities and all possible facilities to the commuters within the country.

So far as the infrastructure is concerned, whatever is existing stations and the ground staff—all that will be provided to the operators.

[*Translation*]

Industrial Status to Agriculture

+

*22. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN,
SHARAN SINGH:
SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to grant the status of an industry to agriculture;

(b) if so, the objective thereof;

(c) the manner in which it is likely to benefit the farmers;

(d) the details of steps taken in this regard and progress made so far; and

(e) if not, the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (e). The draft Agriculture Policy Resolution prepared by the Government, seeks to create a positive trade and investment climate for agriculture at par with industry. The objective is to develop effective systems and bestow similar benefits on agriculture as exist in industry. This would help in creating favourable economic climate for increasing farmers' own investment and efforts for development of agriculture, thereby increasing their income levels. The Resolution was placed in Parliament on 14.5.1993.

[Translation]

SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know whether income tax would be imposed on the agricultural earnings after granting agriculture the status of the industry. If so, the rate thereof in comparison to the rates of income tax imposed on other industrial earnings? Will the rate of tax on agricultural earnings be equal to that of levied on industrial earnings. I would also like to know the quantum of increase in agricultural production and income therefrom as a result of granting the status of an industry to agriculture and the time by which agriculture is proposed to be granted the status of an industry?

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, position in this regard has been made clear in the Agriculture Policy Resolution which has already been laid on the Table of the House. I would like to quote therefrom.

[English]

"However, care should be taken to ensure that agriculturists are not subjected to regulatory and tax collection machinery of the Government. Further, the farmers will be exempted from payment of capital gains tax on compulsory acquisition of agricultural land within the prescribed municipal limits."

[Translation]

This is stated in the Resolution and I would like that you allow a discussion on the matter by giving some time for it so that the apprehensions of the hon. Members could be removed.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The simple question is whether you are going to impose agricultural income tax.

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: No, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: That is all.

[Translation]

SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know the details of the facilities proposed to be provided to the agricultural sector and whether the Ministry propose to implement a special scheme to remove the difficulties faced by the farmers in seeking bank loans at the time of natural calamities like floods, drought etc.

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, after the draft resolution is discussed here, an Action plan would be prepared so that the scheme is implemented effectively. So far as the question of natural calamities is concerned, it is covered under Agricultural Insurance Scheme.

SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the details of additional benefits to be accrued after agriculture is given the status of an industry as compared to the present benefits?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister may please state whether agriculture is being given the status of an industry and what additional facilities are proposed to be provided to this sector.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been a matter of dispute for the last several years whether

the status of an industry should be given to agriculture or not. It is also stated that agriculture should not be given the status of an industry but all facilities being given to industry should be extended to agriculture also. The hon. Member has asked about the additional benefits to agriculture. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister is giving a clear cut reply to this question.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): I always give a clear cut reply and not an ambiguous reply.

MR. SPEAKER: He is asking whether agriculture is proposed to be given the status of industry whereas the hon. Minister is saying that the facilities provided to industries would be extended to agricultural sector also. If it is given the status of industry, income tax would have to be imposed.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: This matter has been a topic of discussion for the last many years. The Advisory Committee was first constituted in February, 1990. The Committee submitted its report in June-July, 1990 and suggested the basis to do the needful. The agricultural policy has already been laid on the table of the House with the permission of hon. Speaker, who in turn referred it to the Standing Committee which finally returned the same to us. I request the Hon. Speaker to allow a discussion on it so that all problems relating to it could be solved. If you permit me, I may read out from the paper available with me about the facilities proposed to be provided. These are as follows:

[English]

- (i) Like Industrial sector, the agricultural sector should have specialised funding institutions;
- (ii) Flow of Credit to agriculture sector should be in just and in reasonable proportion to its contributions to national income;
- (iii) Funding and lending norms in agriculture should be liberal as are in case of industry;
- (iv) Modern equipment and devices in agriculture should be accepted as security by the financial institutions;
- (v) Norms for funding agriculture should be realistic;
- (vi) Marketing finance should be made available to the agriculture sector;
- (vii) The credit requirement of agriculture must be need-based and fully met;
- (viii) Exclusive agricultural financial institutions should be set up at Central and State levels;
- (ix) Farmers' credit needs should be speedily provided for through pass book or card system; and
- (x) Farm sector should be provided cheap credit.

[Translation]

There is a provision for this since the farmer does not possess much land. Banks should take this thing into account. In every State a ceiling has been fixed on

farmer's land. So, there is no problem of excess land with them. If the farmer is left at the mercy of the tax collector, how will he work in the fields? All the time he will have to run after the tax collector. Therefore, he has been totally exempted from the entire tax system. When the issue of capital gain was raised, it was decided that the Government should acquire the land. If the farmer does not sell the land on his own, then how will he gain. A solution has also been found that no capital gain tax should be imposed on the ancestral land that the farmers possess. Every effort has been made to solve all these problems.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I think I will allow the Members to ask pointed questions.

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Please let me know the extent to which you will allow questions. Besides, the agriculture policy, the Centre Government has also passed the industrial policy. Each State evolves its own industrial policy and gives assistance. They give loan, waive interest and exempt sales tax. The industry may suffer sometimes due to some trouble but the businessmen do not suffer the loss because they come under the B.I.F.R. We have taken all these aspects into account and tried to solve the problems.

SHRI RABI RAY: It is good that the hon. Minister has given an account of the benefits that are likely to accrue. He has made a mention of loans.

[English]

I am afraid that what is proposed by the Minister might be disposed of by the Finance Ministry.

[Translation]

My submission is that with the implementation of the Narasimham Committee Report, the lending in priority sector has been reduced to 10 per cent from 40 per cent. What does the hon. Minister want to say in this regard? Apart from it what benefits the marginal farmers and agricultural labourers who are not surplus in market are going to get, if status of industry is given to agriculture?

MR. SPEAKER: They would be extended the storage, marketing and Finance facilities. There are many such things.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: So far as the question of credit and small farmers are concerned a small agro business consortium has been constituted. They will be brought to together on that basis and efforts will be made to give them a new life. Our endeavour is to provide them all those things that are available to tiny sector.

[English]

They should improve upon. The by-product should be value added. This is what we are going to do.

[Translation]

Therefore, I wish all the benefits should be given to them so that not only they get the goods but money also. There was a reference to funds. In this connection I would like to say that in the past years we have granted Rs. 24 thousand crores.

SHRI RABI RAY: The Government has taken a decision that the farmers and the poor people falling under the priority

sector would be extended 10 per cent loan instead of 40 per cent. What does the Hon. Minister say in this regard?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: The way the funds are distributed, we get 10 per cent while 36 per cent goes to industries. My submission is that we should get equal share, since we are 1/3.

[English]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: Sir, from the Hon. Minister's reply the objective seems to be that the benefits of industry will be given to agriculture also. I want to ask a specific question. In the State of Punjab, which has given so much to the nation as far as agriculture is concerned, there are four lakh tractors today and every farmer, who has to purchase a tractor, has to mortgage eight acres of land to the banks. So, will the hon. Minister give proper attention to this matter so that whenever a farmer has to purchase agricultural machinery, his land need not be mortgaged which is worth lakhs of rupees?

MR. SPEAKER: You have made your question very clear. Please take your seat.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: That is what we are trying to do.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, has any policy been evolved regarding the number of labourers to be employed under this agriculture policy? Besides, due to the new industrial policy a large number of labourers are being released. The natural surplus of labour increase should be adjusted in agriculture.

[English]

They are bringing new techniques.

[Translation]

It will reduce employment of labour in industry. This thing has come up before the Industrial Développement Committee that.

[English]

The industry expects that the surplus labour will be absorbed by agriculture. I want to know what is going to be the situation so far as absorbing labour by agriculture is concerned. Have they planned anything? Do they have perspective plan regarding that and to what extent they are going to absorb labour in the agriculture?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: The boot is on the other leg.

MR. SPEAKER: The intensive agricultural operations will absorb more labour.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Seventy per cent of the people still exist on agriculture. Land is not expanding any longer. It is we who are expanding. In the developed countries, only four per cent people, three per cent people are engaged in agriculture.

The land cannot bear this burden. We have to reduce the pressure on land. We have to revert to the industry. It is not the question that we have to absorb it. We have to restructure the industrial base for agriculture.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: I had an occasion to func-

tion as a member of the committee headed by Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh which was specifically entrusted the task of recommending whether agriculture should be given the status of industry or not. The committee has specifically recommended that the same facilities which are being given to industry should be given to agriculture. The committee did not insist on giving the status of industry.

I would like to know categorically the decision of Government over the recommendation made by the committee and the suggestions of the committee to be incorporated in the policy.

MR. SPEAKER: That question is already replied.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: The answer is vague. That is why, I have asked it. Have the suggestions of the committee been included in the national agriculture policy which was not yet framed at that point of time? The draft agriculture policy which the Government placed on 14-5-1993 does not incorporate all the suggestions of the committee.

I would like to know whether the hon. Minister will come forward with a categorical statement before this House? Has the Government examined all the suggestions and what are the implications? How much investment is the Government going to make?

MR. SPEAKER: I am not going to allow the question of this sort.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: For agriculture, in the Eighth Plan, Rs. 22,000 crores is allowed. For irrigation, it is Rs. 32,000 crores. Whereas for power, you have allowed Rs.

115,000 crores and for communication, telephones, you are allocating Rs. 60,000 crores. If this type of attitude continues, how can develop agriculture?

That is my question.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing that.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: You must protect our interest.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not think it comes out of that. Please specify your question.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: The Government has allocated more money for power and communication, leaving the needs of agriculture and irrigation sector. If this is the case, how can the Government develop agriculture? Concrete action has to be taken.

MR. SPEAKER: If the Minister can reply, let him do it. I do not think, it is relevant. But if he is insisting, you can respond.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Consistent with the high priority for agricultural sector, the outlay for agricultural and allied activities have been substantially raised in the Eighth Plan. The total outlay for agriculture and allied activities has been raised by 76 per cent during the Eighth Plan, to the level of Rs. 22,467 crores over the expenditure of Rs. 12,793 crores in the Seventh Plan. That is what I have said.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government said that

agriculture would be given the status of industry and farmers would be given facilities. The question does not merely relate to providing facilities to them. The question is whether the agricultural products would be evaluated on the same line the industrial products are evaluated? The other question is that cities for industries are selected keeping in view the facilities available to them at those particular places. In the same way whether the gangetic plain which is one of the most productive regions of the world.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Virendra Singh, please come to the specific question.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could there be industrial development of agriculture, if it is given the status of industry?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: That is what we are doing. I am saying the same thing *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the farmers have to maintain registers like that of industries when agriculture is given the status of industry.

MR. SPEAKER: He did not say so. He said that only facilities would be given and not the status.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: If they maintain registers, they will not be able to provide foodgrains.

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: If facilities are being given will there be facilities of irrigation, fertilisers and seeds also? *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I know who are related to agriculture.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the draft Agriculture Policy envisages a policy of industry-status to agriculture. And if that is so, whether the foreign investment.

MR. SPEAKER: The Government has not said that they are going to give the industry status to agriculture. Now that question does not arise out of this.

(Interruptions)

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to put a very specific question.

MR. SPEAKER: I think many Members are interested in asking the questions. I think we shall have to find time for the discussion. We will do that.

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I request you to please arrange a discussion on the Agriculture Policy Resolution.

MR. SPEAKER: When questions are figuring in answers, what is the use of allowing a discussion.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: If you arrange a discussion everything will be solved. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Sir, you have allowed me earlier.

MR. SPEAKER: O.K., let Mr. Sudhir Giri complete his question.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: The hon. Minister has said that the benefits given to the industry will be given to the agriculture. And if that is so, whether the foreign investment will be encouraged in the field of agriculture. If it is so, then my question is whether the land reform measures will be affected by this step.

MR. SPEAKER: Will the ceiling law be diluted? He wants to know whether the ceiling law or the tenancy law will be diluted.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: That does not get diluted.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: The draft Agriculture Policy Resolution has been introduced in this Parliament on 14th May, 1993, that is, one year before. The draft Agriculture Policy Resolution prepared by the Government seeks to create a positive trade and investment climate for agriculture at par with industry. I would like to know categorically from the hon. Minister whether any assessment has been made and if so, what assessment has been made by the Department of Agriculture.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I will send the information.

Afforestation

*23. SHRI HARIN PATHAK:
SHRI ARJUN SINGH
YADAV:

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

(a) the details of targets fixed for afforestation and achievement made during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the reasons for the shortfall, if any, in achieving the targets;

(c) the remedial steps being taken to achieve the targets; and

(d) the target fixed therefor during 1994-95, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (d). The details of targets fixed for afforestation and tree planting activities and the achievement made during each of the last three years, reasons for the shortfall if any, the remedial measures and the targets fixed for afforestation for 1994-95 are given in the *Statement* laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The details of the State-wise targets fixed for afforestation and the achievements during the last three years, viz., 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 are given at ANNEXURE I.

(b) and (c) Afforestation and tree planting are continuing activities and the State/Union Territory-wise targets are fixed keeping in view the availability of funds under various Central and State Plan Schemes. The targets are fixed in terms of area for afforestation on public lands, including forest land, and in terms of seedling distribution for plantation on private lands. The achievement of the targets in 1991-92 and 1992-93 at the

national level was generally above 95% except in the case of seedling distribution in the year 1992-93 when it has been of the order of 85%. The achievement figures for the year 1993-94 are tentative. The performance of individual States and UTs is monitored by the Ministry of Environment and Forests as well as the Ministry of Programme Implementation. Afforestation is one of the items taken into account for ranking the States/UTs by the Ministry of Programme Implementation under 20-Point Programme.

(d) The details of the State-wise targets fixed for afforestation/tree planting activities for the year 1994-95 is given at Annexure-II.

Annexure I

Statewise targets and Achievements under point no. 16 (Afforestation/Tree Planting) of the 20-Point Programme during 1991-92 & 1992-93 and 1993-94

Area in hectares
Seedlings in lakhs

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	1991-92			1992-93			1993-94					
		Target Seedlings Area (Public lands (For plant- ing on forest lands) Pvt. lands)	Achievement Seedlings Area (Public lands (For plant- ing on Pvt. lands) forest lands)	Target Seedlings Area (Public lands (For plant- ing on Pvt. lands) forest lands)	Achievement Seedlings Area (Public lands (For plant- ing on Pvt. lands) forest lands)	Target Seedlings Area (Public lands (For plant- ing on Pvt. lands) forest lands)	Achievement Seedlings Area (Public lands (For plant- ing on Pvt. lands) forest lands)						
1	Andhra Pradesh	1600.00	30000.00	1775.91	56590.00	1850.00	63450.00	1102.63	47453.00	1950.00	70000.00	917.19	34530.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10.00	10000.00	7.92	7860.00	5.00	7200.00	5.00	7200.00	5.00	7500.00	5.00	7500.00
3.	Assam	100.00	42000.00	8.68	19458.00	25.00	25000.00	11.80	22486.60	30.00	27500.00	20.76	18144.00
4.	Bihar	700.00	50000.00	837.00	46333.00	600.00	48000.00	180.00	20357.00	750.00	50000.00	190.03*	45855.39*
5.	Goa	50.00	1200.00	22.57	1466.65	25.00	1500.00	27.23	1722.00	30.00	1800.00	33.46	1854.00

6.	Gujarat	2400.00	73000.00	2911.86	63480.00	2500.00	70000.00	2281.46	64847.00	1500.00	68000.00	1631.76	85277.00
7.	Haryana	300.00	46000.00	271.30	31551.00	300.00	37050.00	300.00	34826.00	300.00	37500.00	231.81	33823.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	150.00	57500.00	72.70	35784.00	90.00	32500.00	88.59	31280.00	75.00	35000.00	33.19	32395.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	150.00	10000.00	75.00	15170.61	50.00	20000.00	64.83	17010.85@	60.50	20000.00	42.01	15928.20
10.	Karnataka	900.00	50000.00	437.17	34705.54	555.00	38500.00	374.38	36469.97	450.00	42500.00	274.19	46429.36
11.	Kerala	250.00	11000.00	137.38	11583.96	160.00	25000.00	173.79	17342.70@	300.00	15000.00	136.61@	3127.69 @
12.	Madhya Pradesh	600.00	95000.00	614.60	103151.00	600.00	11000.00	600.12	121394.19	400.00	125000.00	439.00	125187.19
13.	Maharashtra	1230.00	125000.00	1101.61	151255.86	1150.00	163000.00	824.97	153621.38@	1200.00	180000.00	1067.48	100062.17
14.	Manipur	25.00	15000.00	13.04	8363.00	25.00	9000.00	22.46	8600.00	30.00	9500.00	22.00	6928.00 @
15.	Meghalaya	150.00	18000.00	75.00	18991.00	125.00	18000.00	26.58	5148.00	125.00	19000.00	54.88	11604.00
16.	Mizoram	100.00	11000.00	60.23	11447.00	10.00	12000.00	5.86	14000.00	10.00	14000.00	16.31	16750.00
17.	Nagaland	50.00	11000.00	109.19	7450.00	110.00	5850.00	20.10	4700.00	120.00	7500.00	38.00	2797.00 Dec.
													93
18.	Orissa	900.00	61000.00	428.52	58389.80	500.00	60000.00	425.42	74134.85	550.00	75000.00	390.04	70819.00
19.	Punjab	150.00	13000.00	151.29	16987.00	70.00	17000.00	85.90	19360.00	80.00	18000.00	51.78	17800.00
20.	Rajasthan	350.00	82900.00	330.59	85050.00	350.00	65000.00	405.13	66729.00	400.00	65000.00	453.34	67238.00
21.	Sikkim	50.00	8000.00	6.00	6163.29	15.00	8000.00	9.50	8665.38	18.00	8500.00	10.85	8484.82
22.	Tamil Nadu	800.00	64000.00	1013.84	68144.00	875.00	65000.00	1037.36	103553.10	1000.00	114000.00	1124.32	86016.51

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
23. Tripura	50.00	11000.00	87.68	14074.16	50.00	16000.00	37.05	15253.00	50.00	17700.00	28.14	8603.54		
24. Uttar Pradesh	3400.00	90000.00	3192.47	89565.11	3390.00	90000.00	3468.29	100139.26@	3200.00	85000.00	2929.00	83723.24		
25. West Bengal	860.00	45000.00	846.00	47540.00	1000.00	50000.00	802.00	50000.00	800.00	45000.00	800.00@	38200.00	@	
26. A & N Island	5.00	3600.00	5.23	2842.00	5.00	3200.00	5.33	3200.00	5.00	3300.00	5.00	3488.67		
27. Chandigarh	0.00	300.00	0.04	300.00	0.00	400.00	0.28	430.20	0.00	500.00	0.05	8.00	June 93	
28. D & N Haveli	20.00	1000.00	3.00	120.00	10.00	1000.00	7.90	518.00	12.00	100.00	12.02	894.60	Aug. 93	
29. Daman & Diu	1.00	200.00	0.54	117.00	1.00	100.00	1.14	83.34	1.00	150.00	0.94	62.00	*	
30. Delhi	50.00	1500.00	44.89	1632.40	50.00	2000.00	41.60	1512.70	50.00	2000.00	43.51	1740.40		
31. Lakshadweep	5.00	100.00	2.95	50.00	3.00	50.00	3.36	50.00	4.00	50.00	4.27	54.20		
32. Pondicherry	4.00	100.00	10.61	88.72	1.00	200.00	10.81	128.00	4.00	200.00	0.60	126.53		
Total	15000.00	1050000.00	14194.81	1015714.10	14500.00	1064000.00	12450.87	1062225.52	13509.00	1165300.00	11007.54*	975451.51*		

* Tentative

@ Revised

Annexure II

Statewise Targets under point no. 16 (A) & (B) (Afforestation/Tree Planting) of the 20-Point Programme for 1994-95

Sl. No.	Name of State/UTs	Seedlings Distribution (For Plantation on Private Lands)	Area in Hectares Seedlings in lakhs
			Area (Public Lands) including Forest Lands)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1950.00	70000.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6.00	8232.00
3.	Assam	25.00	25000.00
4.	Bihar	750.00	50000.00
5.	Goa	35.00	1900.00
6.	Gujarat	1650.00	75000.00
7.	Haryana	250.00	40000.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	70.00	35000.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	70.00	22000.00
10.	Karnataka	450.00	48000.00
11.	Kerala	300.00	16000.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	450.00	135000.00
13.	Maharashtra	1250.00	190000.00
14.	Manipur	30.00	10000.00
15.	Meghalaya	75.00	20000.00
16.	Mizoram	20.00	18000.00
17.	Nagaland	75.00	7500.00
18.	Orissa	550.00	83000.00
19.	Punjab	85.00	72000.00
20.	Rajasthan	450.00	72000.00
21.	Sikkim	20.00	9200.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	1100.00	120000.00

1	2	3	4
23.	Tripura	45.00	15000.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	3500.00	92000.00
25.	West Bengal	850.00	50000.00
26.	A & N Islands	6.00	3700.00
27.	Chandigarh	0.00	550.00
28.	D & N Haveli	14.50	1000.00
29.	Daman & Diu	1.00	150.00
30.	Delhi	55.00	2200.00
31.	Lakshadweep	4.10	60.00
32.	Pondicherry	4.00	200.00
Total		14140.60	1240692.00

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the past 15—20 minutes we have discussed the point that economic policy of the country is directly linked with agriculture; agriculture is dependent on rain and rain is linked with forests. More forests and more rain mean more agricultural production in the country. But in our country there are some areas where there is no rain for years together and afforestation programme has to be taken up in these areas. The areas of Rajasthan and Kutch region of Gujarat do not receive rain for years and thus desert area is increasing there continuously. I would like to know as to whether the Central Government proposes to formulate some special scheme for development of Kutch region and allocate more funds for it so that afforestation work could be taken up there by formulating special schemes.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: It is correct that forests have a direct link with water

and rainfall. In respect of the question regarding Kutch region I would like to say that afforestation is the responsibility of State Governments. The Central Government will definitely think over it if the State Government formulates and submits any such plan to it for approval in regard to Kutch region.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the protection and preservation of forest wealth is as important as the afforestation itself. These days our forests are being destroyed and occupied by some criminal elements as a result of which forest wealth is being destroyed. The forest wealth is being sold. Even sandalwood is sold stealthily. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government proposes to formulate some special schemes for the protection of forests or whether the Central Government will formulate some special scheme for protection of forests in case the State Government fails to do that. I would also like to know as to whether any stringent

action will be taken against the persons caught while destroying the forest wealth?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: The prevalent Forest Conservation Act, 1980 does not need any amendment but a comprehensive discussion is going on with other Ministries, Departments and State Government, to bring about changes in the existing Indian Forest Act. The discussion is going on for the last many years. I hope that decision will be taken in the next few months. Then in this House I.....

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Mr. Minister please tell us about the subject matter of the discussion.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You have to reply to the main supplementary, not the Supplementary to the Supplementary.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: The Supplementary was whether there is any amendment or any new law.

MR. SPEAKER: No reply to the introductions, please.

[Translation]

SHRI KAMAL NATH: In respect of Forest Conservation Act, I would like to tell that there is no need for amendment in it but in case of Indian Forest Act, State Governments and other concerned departments have been discussing the matter and we want to know about their suggestions in this regard, so that it could be strengthened further. I hope that shortcomings in it will be removed.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has not replied

to my original question. I have clearly asked about the details of the achievements and targets of this sector. If there is any shortfall, what remedial measures are being taken. But figure chart given in the reply shows that during 1991-92 achievements were 95 per cent which declined to 85 per cent in 1992-93. The Hon. Minister should have told about the achievements, but he is talking about deficit and is saying that the situation is improving. He has not told as to what remedial measures have been taken. So I would like to know from you clearly whether the Government of India ever makes review regarding the proper utilisation of funds allocated to State Governments for preservation of forest wealth and afforestation. Please tell in detail whether the hon. Minister makes any effort to know as to what progress has been made by the State Governments in this regard?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not correct that I have not given reply. He had asked in the question about figures for the last three years and what are the shortcomings in that? He has asked reasons for shortfalls if there are any? But when there is no shortfall, how can I reply to that? Sir, in my reply I have said.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Hon. Speaker, Sir, you can see his reply is vague. He is a learned person. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to read out a line from the reply given.

MR. SPEAKER: It should not be so. Please sit down.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in respect of hon. Member's question as to whether the matter is discussed with State Governments or not? I would like to say that once in a year discussion takes

place with Forest Secretaries of State Governments and chief principal conservator. In addition to that State Ministers of Forests of State Governments are invited to the Conference which is convened once in a year and suggestions made by them are discussed thoroughly.

PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Hon. Mr. Speaker, the figures given by the hon. Minister regarding the target fixed and achievements made in the field of afforestation and number of trees planted accordingly at the time of Van-Mahotsavas would have left no space in the country without trees. Therefore I would like to know the hon. Minister if the achievement is only plantation only or their survival also and whether any system is to be adopted to ensure the plantation of trees as well as their survival for at least 10 years. Then only these Van-Mahotsava will be successful. So, I would like to know whether the Minister will issue some instructions to State Governments as the hon. Minister considers State Governments accountable for everything.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Sir, it is a very good question. I was also thinking to ask such a question.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with the doubts raised by the hon. Member. That is why three years back I had asked the State Governments to send figures of afforestation at Panchayat level and not total figures. So that they might be told to hon. Members.

At present, we have got information about the number of plants received from the nursery of each block in each district under the scheme and how much afforestation took place. These figures were placed in the Parliament Library last

year. Because everyone has doubt that afforestation programme is done only on papers and it is not actually implemented.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have conducted independent enquiries in ten per cent selected districts. Sir, through you I would like to give information to the Member that Mandi district was selected from Himachal Pradesh. In the enquiry conducted independently the survival rate of plants in Mandi district was found 78.34%. In this manner around 45 districts were selected throughout the country and on the basis of this enquiry figures of afforestation at village Panchayat level have been placed in the Parliament Library.

[English]

SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HAND-IQUE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister says in this statement that the afforestation target depends upon the availability of funds. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether in the wake of recent decision of the Executive Council of the Global Environment Facility to enlarge the scope of GEF Funding to land degradation which includes deforestation and desertification, the Government would revamp the afforestation programme in a big way and in time-bound phases

I would also like to know whether the Government in its anti-desertification programme would reclaim those agricultural lands which are degraded permanently into semi-desert conditions due to heavy sand deposits caused by recurring floods particularly in Assam.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: It is correct that afforestation is dependent on the amount of funds available and over the years, the increase in fund has taken

place. But we have the degraded forest to the extent of about 30 million hectares. Degraded forest means, there is forest land but there is no forest cover on it. This 30 million hectares of degraded forest spread over the country, is an enormous task. Along with it, the current degradation of forest which is taking place, is supplemented by that. So we were to look at the entire picture. The amount of funds required is very large. These funds have been substantially increased in the last three years. And if I give an example, in 1990-91, the total funds allocated were Rs. 575 crores under the State and Central sector whereas in 1993-94, tentatively it is fixed at Rs. 901 crores. Fund is a constraint. On the other hand, the world's attention on forest specially as a carbon sink, the global environment facility which is to provide funds for preservation of biodiversity and under the climate change convention for forest to act as a carbon sink, it is expected that there shall be substantial funds flow. I would also like to state that in the last three years, there has been substantial increase in funds flow in the forestry sector. What we expect to do in these five years will be more than what we have done from First to Sixth Plan altogether.

SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HAND-IQUE: What about the second part of the Supplementary?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Regarding desertification, very recently, just about six weeks ago, there has been a treaty on

desertification which has finalised. This treaty of desertification will also find funds flow from the global environment facility. And it is expected that on the basis of priority within our country, these funds will be earmarked to those areas.

Coconut Price

+

*25. SHRIMATI SUSEELA
GOPALAN:
PROF. SAVITHRI
LAKSHAMANAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price and demand of coconut have fallen considerably;

(b) if so, the estimated loss to the coconut growers, particularly in Kerala, as a result thereof during the last one year;

(c) the quantity of copra procured after the declaration of the minimum support price of copra in 1994; and

(d) the remedial measures proposed to prevent the fall in price of coconut?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (d). A *Statement* is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The prices of copra during the current year have declined. It has been reported that there has been a shift in consumer demand away from coconut oil to other cheaper edible oils.

(b) Since the minimum support price operations are being undertaken by National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED), the question of loss to the

growers does not arise. The minimum support prices for 1994 season have already been fixed at a level which provides adequate return to the growers.

(c) A total quantity of 47,753 tonnes was procured by NAFED upto 18.7.1994 under price support operations after announcement of the minimum support price of copra for 1994 season. The procurement is still in progress.

(d) In order to arrest the decline in prices, NAFED has been instructed to undertake price support operations more effectively. It has already purchased a sizeable quantity from various markets in Kerala. To minimise the imperfections in the marketing of copra, the Government has taken steps to get the markets regulated. In addition, the regulated markets are being well equipped with proper auction platforms as also the drying and warehousing facilities in all the major copra producing States and Union Territories.

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: It is claimed that the question of loss to the growers does not arise since the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation is procuring copra. What has happened is, even in this lean season, the price of coconut is only Rs. 2,500 for one thousand coconut. In the last season, at this time, it was Rs. 4000. It has come down sharply. And the prices of manure and other things have gone up so much that farmers are finding it very difficult. And it is very difficult to market these coconuts because there is no demand. Two to three crops are lying with the farmers. What is the remedy for it? Actually, procurement at that level is not coming up and also the price is very minimum. Unless the price is increased, the price of coconut will not go up. There should also be some diversification programme in this sector using the oil and other things. Has the Government done anything in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): There is a scheme under which we fix the minimum support price and the Cost and Agricultural Prices Commission fixes it up with due deliberations. This time, we have increased the minimum support price by Rs. 200. For that purpose, we have

purchased about 50,000 tonnes so far through NAFED.

Secondly, I know that the minimum support price below that has come down. But we have brought it up from Rs. 2000. That is what I say.

Thirdly I have recommended to the the State, to the Commerce Minister to release it for export before it is spoiled. Now there is specific licencing. But I said that it should be exported as much as possible because there is no other by-product. Also the industry is declining its use. That is the cause for it and that is why we are procuring it.

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: There was a proposal from the State Government to consider it as a seasonal crop because in the main season the production is very much. If it is declared as a seasonal crop, then the benefits will be much better and the growers will get much more benefits. What is the decision of the Government with regard to that?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: We have taken every consideration in fixing the price. Absolutely we have taken these into consideration. When we fix up the price, we take into consideration all things from

A to Z. As I have stated so many times in the House, every consideration is taken on each and every single item, whatever it may be, and then its price is fixed.

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN:

But it has not substantially helped the growers.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: But this is what we have tried to help the growers.

PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: I am happy to notice the answer given to part (c) of my question which says that 'efforts have been started to minimise the imperfectness in the marketing of copra'. But the answer to part (b), as stated by Shrimati Suseela Gopalan, has disappointed me also. "The question of loss to the growers does not arise" is far away from the real situation. The Government of Kerala has declared this year as the Coconut Development Year and by depending upon the comprehensive coconut development programme we are planning for more than Rs. 200 crore of profit for the coming three years. Earlier, we were the monopoly producers of coconut. Now I am happy that Andhra, Tamil Nadu and Orissa have come on par and also joined in coconut cultivation. Even though coconut is included in the list of oil seeds, we are not getting the full benefit of it. The only reason as far as I know is that coconut is not considered as seed origin. Instead, it is considered as a tree origin. The first part of my question is, will you please consider coconut in the list of seed origin instead of tree origin.

And coming to the second part of my question, may I bring to your kind notice that Coconut Development Board is having no full time Chairman for the last five years and the Commissioner (Horticulture), Government of India is

looking after this Board? I would like to know whether you will be pleased to appoint one full time Chairman to the Coconut Development Board, so that he could very well convince the Government about the problem.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: They get the benefit both ways. I may tell the hon. Member that this year the Government showed special consideration. In the Cabinet we raised the prices by more than a hundred rupees more than what the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices had recommended because we knew that it needs something. I know it hurts when the prices fall below that level. But whatever is done, is done according to the data which we have. About what she has said, both ways you will get it. It does not get much more—either it is seed based or tree based. It does not matter much that way. But we are trying to get something else. That is, we must propagate some other means by which we can sell this copra. We must get the by-product from this. That we are trying to do. Secondly, we are spending more also. We are spending Rs. 20 crore in this year for the development of copra.

About the Chairman, we have already recommended a fine name. The file lies with the ACC. If it comes around within a short time, it will be done.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: We were stressing about some other needs also which we must find out from the coconut. The sweet coconut water is very tasty and it can be processed properly and sold. It could be even better than.... "Coca Cola—or even Pepsi Cola.

MR. SPEAKER: That will not form part of the record.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: The Coconut Development Board has got some scheme to give technical assistance for those who are coming forward to start some industries.

But, this Coconut Development Board, as has already been pointed out, is totally toothless; it is powerless; it can do nothing. That is the way in which it is functioning. There is no farmer in that Board; in that Board, there is no person who has invested in coconut. The Chairman, as she has already pointed out,

MR. SPEAKER: The time will be over and you will get no reply.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Would the hon. Minister throw some light on this and give some favourable answer?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: The question is very well put and I fully side with him.

Assistance will be provided; that is what we are trying to do through Agricultural Consortium. That is what it is for.

MR. SPEAKER: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Supplies to Fair Price Shops

*24. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM:
Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether wheat and other eatable commodities do not reach the Fair

Price Shops in time from godowns of the Food Corporation of India in various States despite depositing money;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of complaints received by the Union Government in this regard in 1994 till date; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to avoid such harassment being faced by the public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d): FCI supplies wheat, rice and sugar to States/Union Territories and their nominees as per the monthly allocations made by the Central Government. There is no delay on the part of FCI in releasing of stocks from its depots to State Governments/Union Territories and their nominees after they have deposited the value of grains/sugar. The internal distribution of foodgrains upto the Fair Price Shops is the responsibility of the respective State Governments/Union Territory Governments.

Central Government have not received any complaints from the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations regarding delayed delivery/issue of Rice, Wheat and Sugar (where FCI is responsible for delivery of sugar to States). The operational responsibility for implementing the PDS, rests with the State Government/Union Territory Administration.

Natural Calamities

*26. SHRI LALL BABU RAI:
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR
PATEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to identify the areas where natural calamities like cyclones, floods, heavy rains and droughts have become a regular phenomenon;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimate loss of like, crops and livestock as a result of these calamities during the current year so far, State-wise;

(d) the Central assistance sought by each State and Union Territory and the amount actually released;

(e) the States and Union Territories visited by the Central team(s) in this regard;

(f) the follow up action taken thereon; and

(g) the details of the existing Centrally sponsored schemes to meet natural calamities?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) to (g). On the basis of studies and surveys conducted, 13 coastal districts in 4 States have been identified as cyclone prone; 627 blocks in 96 districts of 13 States as drought prone; and an area of 40.00 million ha. in 21 States and 1 Union Territory as flood prone.

2. On the basis of preliminary reports received from the State Governments, hailstorms, heavy rains and floods have so far claimed 598 human lives, 24,000 animals and affected a crop area of 5.82 lakh ha. during the current year.

3. Under the existing scheme of financing relief expenditure, the State

Governments undertake relief measures using the annual allocations of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF), which is shared by the Central and State Governments in the ratio of 3:1. The Central share of CRF is released in 4 equal quarterly instalments. The first and second instalments for the current year have been released to all State Governments. In response to a request from the Government of Gujarat, the second and third instalments of CRF amounting to Rs. 31.87 crores were released in advance on 13.06.1994. The fourth instalment has also been recommended for release. In response to a request from Government of Karnataka, for assistance of Rs. 25.00 crores for flood relief measures, the third instalment of CRF amounting to Rs. 5.0625 crores has been released on 20.07.1994. Release of the third instalment of CRF amounting to Rs. 3.375 crores, Rs. 5.8125 crores and Rs. 6.9375 crores have been recommended to Himachal Pradesh, Kerala and Madhya Pradesh respectively on the request of these State Governments.

4. Central Teams have not visited any State during the year. However, Union Ministers have visited the flood affected States of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Orissa, Himachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.

5. The Centrally sponsored schemes being implemented to reduce the adverse impact of natural calamities include Drought Prone Areas Programme, Desert Development Programme, flood forecasting and warning network, cyclone detection radar and disaster warning systems. The Central Sector Schemes of Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Projects, Integrated Watershed Management in the Catchments of Flood Prone Rivers, National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas

and Wasteland Development Programmes also help to mitigate the adverse impacts of droughts and floods.

[English]

Spurious Seeds and Pesticides

*27. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether spurious seeds and pesticides under certification of MARKFED are being marketed to farmers through co-operatives in several States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up a Central machinery to control the sale of sub-standard agricultural inputs to the farmers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the remedial steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) and (b). Seeds and Pesticides are not subjected to certification by MARKFED. The State of Karnataka has reported cases of six samples of Malathion 5% D.P. being marketed by MARKFED to be mis-branded. In all cases, prosecution proceedings have been initiated.

(c) to (e). The Central machinery is already there in the form of Central Seed Committee and Central Seed Certification Board for the purpose of protecting and regulating the quality of seeds; likewise Central Pesticide Laboratory at Faridabad with inspecting staff to aid and assist the

State machinery in food-proof testing of the quality and also booking the culprits who resort to adulteration and prosecuting them as per legal provisions; Fertiliser Quality Control Laboratory with its inspecting staff to aid and assist the State machinery in protecting and regulating the quality of fertilisers as per standards laid down and for Machinery BIS and Central Regional Farm Machinery and Trading and Testing Institute at Budhi are the agencies for ensuring the quality for bigger machinery like Tractors, Thrashers, etc. and the State level Technical Committee is there to ensure the quality of the smaller machinery and in case of any doubt, they take the help of the Central Institute at Budni. There are various Legislative provisions having been enacted to ensure quality of agricultural inputs.

Production of Foodgrains

*28. SHRI SULTAN SALA-HUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rate of growth in the production of foodgrains is expected to rise during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof as compared to last year;

(c) the estimated production target of foodgrains fixed for 1994-95 and expected to be achieved at the end of the year, foodgrain-wise; and

(d) the steps taken for the effective storage of excess production of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) and (b) Final estimates of production of foodgrains for 1993-94 are yet to be received from some of the major States. However, according to the available estimates, the rate of growth in the production of foodgrains during 1993-94 is expected to be 1.3% over 1992-93 as against a growth of 6.9% during 1992-93 over 1991-92.

(c) The targets for various foodgrains crops for the year 1994-95 are as follows:

(In million tonnes)	
Crops	Production
Rice	78.5
Wheat	58.5
Coarse cereals	36.5
Pulses	15.5
Total Foodgrains	189.0

It is too early to indicate if the targets fixed for the year would be achieved as much would depend upon the rainfall and weather situation in the coming months.

(d) The major steps taken by the Government for effective storage of foodgrains are:

1. Plan for construction of additional covered storage capacities under the VIIIth Plan to the extent of 6.62 lakh MTs.
2. Extensive hiring of covered storage capacities all over India to accommodate stocks received

due not only to increased production but also lower off take. The hired covered storage capacity under the occupation of FCI is to the extent of 95.01 lakh MTs.

3. Arrangements have also been made to arrange temporary storages in open under the system known as CAP (Cover & Plinth) for accommodating the increased procurement. The current capacity under CAP scheme is to the extent of 37.96 lakh MTs.

[Translation]

Fertility of Land

*29. DR. SAKSHIJI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether fertility of land has declined due to constant use of chemical fertilizers;

(b) if so, the percentage to which it has declined;

(c) whether the Government have any scheme to import manure in order to increase the fertility of land; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) and (b) There is no conclusive evidence to suggest any decline in Fertility of land due to use of chemical fertilisers.

(c) and (d). There is no proposal with the Government to import manure from other countries.

Construction of Stadia

*30. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI RAM KRIPAL
YADAV:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government have sent proposals for assistance to construct stadia and sports-training centres in their respective States during the current year;

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

(c) the names of places where those stadia and sports-training centres

are proposed to be constructed along with the likely expenditure to be incurred thereon; and

(d) the reaction of the Government to each of the proposal received?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The information is given in the *statement* enclosed.

(d) If the proposals are found in conformity with the provisions of the Scheme, admissible Central assistance can be sanctioned.

STATEMENT

Name of the State	Location	Nature of the proposed infra-structure	Estimated cost (Rs. in lakh)	Present status
Andhra Pradesh	Khamam Distt.	Multi-purpose Stadium	60.00	Letter addressed on 4.5.94 for detailed drawings.
	Nalgonda Distt.	Indoor Stadium	56.30	Application proforma not properly filled, drawing are not complete; size of Gym. Hall and weight lifting hall are not proper etc. Deficiencies intimated on 4.7.94
Assam	Narasannapeta Srikakulam Distt.	Indoor Stadium	40.00	Under process
	Silchar Cachar Distt.	District level sports complex	112.22	Under process
	New Delhi	Outdoor stadium	25.16	Under process
Gujarat	Rajipli Bharuch Distt.	Outdoor stadium	25.29	Under process
	Sui, Bhiwani Distt.	Outdoor stadium	3.19	Under process
Himachal Pradesh	Bilaspur Distt.	Indoor stadium	82.50	Under process

Name of the State	Location	Nature of the proposed infra-structure	Estimated cost (Rs. in lakh)	Present status
Karnataka	Hospet, Bellary Distt.	Taluka Stadium	21.08	The sponsors had incurred their share without seeking our formal approval. Besides assistance had been sought for boundary wall, which is not admissible under the scheme. Hence State Government has been asked on 15.7.94 for review of proposal.
	Harapanahalli Bellary Distt.	Taluka Stadium	24.45	Under process
	Bagalkot, Bijapur Distt.	Indoor Stadium	45.94	Under process
	Haveri, Dharwad Distt.	Taluka Stadium	35.00	Under process
Kerala	Karwar, Distt. Uttar Kannada	Indoor Stadium	106.00	Height of hall not proper; site plan not submitted, cost of gallery to be deleted etc. These deficiencies intimated on 5.7.94
	Haliyal, Distt. Uttar Kannada	Taluka Stadium	26.58	Under process
	Cochin, Distt. Ernakulam	International Stadium	7227.00	Clarifications have been sought in May/June as to whether State Govt. would

Name of the State	Location	Nature of the proposed infra-structure	Estimated cost (Rs. in lakh)	Present status
Tamil Nadu	Nagarcoil Distt. Kanyakumari	Indoor Stadium	16.00	Under process
Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad Distt.	Indoor Stadium	32.27	Under process

*[English]***Orders for Wagons**

*31. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRI SUDARSAN RAY-
CHAUDHURI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request from West Bengal for placing of orders for wagons building units located in the State;

(b) whether these units are on the verge of collapse for want of wagon orders;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government are contemplating to place such orders to the manufacturing units in West Bengal; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. Orders for 7600 wagons in terms of four wheelers have already been released on wagon industry which include 5217.5 four wheeler units for industry in West Bengal.

(d) Does not arise.

District Primary Education Programme

*32. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether UNESCO and other international agencies are assisting the Government in the implementation of District Primary Education Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the names of districts proposed to be covered under the said programme during the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether the programme has been launched in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to implement District Primary Education Programme in the said State?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). Multilateral and bilateral funding agencies like International Development Association, European Community and Overseas Development Agency of United Kingdom have shown interest in funding the District Primary Education Programme. The European Community has already committed assistance of ECU's 150 million (about Rs. 585.00 crores) for the programme. Negotiations with International Development Association for a credit of US\$ 260 million are in final stages.

42 Districts in 7 States are proposed to be covered under this programme during the current year. These are:

1. Assam

1. Darrang 2. Dhubri 3. Karbi-Anglong
4. Morigaon.

2. Haryana

1. Hissar 2. Jind 3. Kaithal 4. Sirsa.

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 3. Karnataka | 1. Belgaum 2. Kolar 3. Mandya 4. Raichur. |
| 4. Kerala | 1. Kasergod 2. Wynad 3. Malappuram. |
| 5. Maharashtra | 1. Aurangabad 2. Latur 3. Nanded
4. Osmanabad 5. Parbhani. |
| 6. Madhya Pradesh | 1. Raisen 2. Mandsaur 3. Satna 4. Ratlam
5. Tikamgarh 6. Guna 7. Patna 8. Rajgarh
9. Dhar 10. Rajnandgaon 11. Rewa
12. Betul 13. Sehore 14. Chattarpur
15. Sidhi 16. Shahdol 17. Raigarh
18. Sarguja 19. Bilaspur. |
| 7. Tamil Nadu | 1. Dharampuri 2. South Arcot
3. Tiruvannamalai Sambuvaraya. |

(c) and (d) The coverage and expansion is linked to the availability of external resources. ODA has shown interest in funding a project on the lines of District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) in 3 to 5 districts of Andhra Pradesh.

Environment Impact Notification

*33. SHRI DATTATRAYA
BANDARU:
MAJ. GEN. (RETD.)
BHUVAN CHANDRA
KHANDURI:

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

(a) whether the Government have modified the Environment Impact Notification issued early this year;

(b) if so, the details of the modifications made;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government are aware of the harmful impact of the modifications as regards the original aims of the Notification;

(e) whether the Government have consulted any NGOs dealing with environment regarding the modifications; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The modifications include the following:

- (i) Exclusion of minor minerals;
- (ii) Exclusion of highway projects with a capital cost of less than Rs. 50 crores;
- (iii) Permitting environmental appraisal outside the Expert Committee in case of projects which are not likely to have significant impacts; and
- (iv) Involving public participation where considered necessary.

These modifications were made without changing the spirit and essence of

the notification to incorporate the views of different Government departments to have expeditious decision making within the prescribed time limit.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

Poaching in National Parks

*34. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the national parks and sanctuaries in the country where poaching has been continuing unabated;

(b) the extent to which the population of animals in these parks has been reduced at the end of 1993 as compared to their population in 1991 and 1992;

(c) the action taken by the Government against those found involved in the poaching of animals;

(d) whether any critical analysis of the measures taken to prevent poaching has been made to identify the weaknesses in the measures to strengthen them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) Occasional cases of poaching in National Parks and Sanctuaries have been reported by the State Governments. It is, however, not continuing unabated.

(b) The census of wild animals is carried out periodically at an interval of 4-5 years with respect to major species only in specific areas and not annually for all species in all the national parks and wildlife sanctuaries. However, the information to the extent available is being collected from the States.

(c) Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, as amended from time to time, provides for deterrent punishment to the poachers. The State Governments who are custodians of the protected areas within their respective jurisdictions are competent to take appropriate action against the poaches as per the law. Cases detected by the regional offices of wildlife preservation are also being dealt with accordingly.

(d) and (e), Measures taken for preventing poaching are reviewed periodically. The relevant details in this regard are given in the *Statement* enclosed.

STATEMENT

The following measures are being taken for preventing poaching:

- (i) Wildlife (Protection) Act is amended from time to time in order to provide for deterrent punishment to the wildlife offenders.
- (ii) State Governments are given central assistance for improving their protection and anti-poaching infrastructure.

- (iii) Cooperation of Army, para military forces, Customs, Police etc., is solicited in order to demolish the organised gangs of smugglers and poachers. India is member of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora which regulates trade in endangered wildlife species.
- (iv) Central Govt. have initiated a scheme of rewards to the informers for eliciting intelligence regarding wildlife poachers and smugglers.
- (v) A Tiger Crisis Cell has been constituted in the Ministry to monitor poaching of tigers and advice on control measures.
- (vi) A Committee to suggest ways and means to control poaching and smuggling of wild animals and its products has also been constituted.
- (vii) Help of media is being taken for education and awareness about the importance and significance of wildlife.
- (viii) Cooperation of Postal and Customs officials have been solicited in checking parcels and packages for detection of wildlife products.
- (ix) The first meeting of the Tiger range countries have been held to ensure the survival of Tiger and Control in illegal trade in Tiger parts and its derivatives.

National Dairy Development Board

*35. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Dairy Development Board is facing a severe liquidity crunch;

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

(c) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) to (c) National Dairy Development Board (NDDDB) was appointed as the Market Intervention Agency to undertake Market Intervention Operations in edible oils/oilseeds under the Integrated Policy on Oilseeds for a period of five years with effect from April, 1989. As on 31st March,

1993, NDDDB reported a loss of Rs. 242.82 crores in the Market Intervention Operations. So far Government has reimbursed Rs. 10.56 crores. Pending reimbursement of balance losses NDDDB has expressed that it has been experiencing severe financial difficulties due to the deployment of NDDDB's money to meet unreimbursed losses and interest thereon. Pending a final decision, NDDDB has been permitted to import on account 50,000 tonnes of palmolein at a concessional duty of 20% for part recoupment of losses.

[*Translation*]

Support Price for Agricultural Products

*36. SHRIMATI SHEELA
GAUTAM:
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the existing support prices of different agricultural commodities including commercial crops, oilseeds and pulses for 1993-94 Kharif and Rabi seasons, separately;

(b) whether any proposal to revise these support prices for the year 1994-95 is under consideration of the Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) to (c) A *Statement* showing the minimum support prices of Kharif and Rabi crops of 1993-94 and those of Kharif 1994-95 season is enclosed herewith. The Report of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices on Price Policy for Rabi Crops of 1994-95 season is awaited. There is no proposal to revise the minimum support prices fixed in respect of Kharif crops of 1994-95 season.

STATEMENT

Minimum Support Prices

(According to Crop Year)
(Rs. per quintal)

S.No.	Commodity	Variety	1993-94	1994-95
(A)	KHARIF CROPS			
1.	Paddy	Common	310	340
		Fine	330	360
		Superfine	350	380
2.	Jowar	F.A.Q.	260	280
3.	Bajra	F.A.Q.	260	280
4.	Maize	F.A.Q.	265	290
5.	Ragi	F.A.Q.	260	280
6.	Arhar	F.A.Q.	700	760
7.	Moong	F.A.Q.	700	760
8.	Urad	F.A.Q.	700	760
9.	Cotton	F-414/H-777	900	1000
		H-4	1050	1200
10.	Groundnut-in-shell*	F.A.Q.	800	860
11.	Sunflower Seed	F.A.Q.	850	900

S.No.	Commodity	Variety	1993-94	1994-95
12.	Soyabean	Black	525	570
		Yellow	580	650
13.	Tobacco (Rs./kg)	VFC F-2 £	18.00	18.50
		L-2 Grade*	20.00	21.00
(B)	RABI CROPS			
14.	Wheat	F.A.Q.	350	
15.	Barley	F.A.Q.	275	
16.	Gram	F.A.Q.	640	
17.	Rapeseed/Mustard	F.A.Q.	810	
18.	Safflower	F.A.Q.	760	
(C)	OTHER CROPS			
19.	Sugarcane@	F.A.Q.	34.50	37.00
20.	Jute	TD-5 Grade	450	470
21.	Toria	F.A.Q.	780	
22.	Copra	F.A.Q.	2150+	2350+
		Ball F.A.Q.	2350+	2575+

F.A.Q. Fair Average Quality

@ These Prices are linked to a basic recovery of 8.5% with a proportionate premium for every 0.1% increase above that level.

£ Black Soil

* Light Soil

+ Calendar Years 1993 and 1994

Industrial Pollution Control Plan

(b) if so, the details thereof;

*37. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS
 PATEL: Will the Minister of
 ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be
 pleased to state:

(c) the amount of loan being given
 by the World Bank to India for this pur-
 pose and the proposed contribution of the
 Union and State Governments thereof;
 and

(a) whether the Government have
 prepared a Plan to check environmental
 degradation caused by the industries;

(d) the States in which the Govern-
 ment propose to introduce this Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has a plan of action to check environmental degradation due to industrial pollution. *Statement-I* showing details is enclosed.

(c) and (d) The World Bank assisted Industrial Pollution Control Project Phase I would be completed in 1997. Phase II of the project would be implemented from 1994 to 2001. *Statement-II* showing details is enclosed.

STATEMENT-I

The plan of action to check environmental degradation caused by industries include action:

- (i) To ensure compliance of prescribed standards by all units in the identified 17 categories of most polluting industries;
- (ii) To identify critically polluted areas in the country and to draw up action plans in consultation with the Central Pollution Control Board and respective State Governments and to effectively implement these action plans;
- (iii) To prescribe minimum standards for effluents and emissions, under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986; to monitor industries' compliance, and where there are violations, to have legal action taken at the appropriate level.
- (iv) To provide fiscal incentives for installation of pollution control equipment and shifting of polluting industries from congested areas;
- (v) To promote the setting up of common effluent treatment plants for clusters of small scale units;
- (vi) To notify standards for water consumption for major polluting categories of industries under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977.
- (vii) To require industries to submit an annual Environmental Statement, as a first step towards a proposed mere comprehensive environmental audit.

STATEMENT-II

The World Bank assisted Industrial Pollution Control Project Phase I, had a line of credit of US \$ 155.6 million and counterpart funds of about US \$ 108 million to be provided by the Central Government, State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and IDDI and ICICI. This project was implemented in June, 1991 and would be completed in 1997.

The second phase of the World Bank assisted Industrial Pollution Prevention Project which would be implemented from November, 1994 to 2001, involves as assistance of

US \$ 168 million from World Bank and US \$ 162 million as counterpart fund from Central Government, State Governments of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and IDBI and ICICI.

One of the components under the World Bank I and II Projects is for the strengthening of the State Pollution Control Boards. Under the World Bank project Phase I the State Pollution Control Boards of Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu were taken up and in Phase II Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh have been selected. The major portion of the assistance is provided as loans to industrial units all over the country for the setting up of pollution control/prevention facilities.

Privatisation of Sale of Tickets

*38. SHRI HARI KEWAL
PRASAD:
SHRI V. DHANANJAYA
KUMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to hand over the work relating to maintenance of big Railway stations in the country and the activities attached thereto to private parties;

(b) whether the Government also propose to hand over the work relating to sale of tickets to private parties in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the rationale therefor;

(d) whether any directions have been issued in respect of terms and conditions for appointing private agencies for this work and to provide them remuneration through commission on tickets; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

With the objective of better beautification/maintenance and increasing revenue from commercial advertisement, Zonal Railways have been advised to identify the stations and enter into the contracts with the interested parties. The salient features of the scheme are as under:

- (i) The contract will normally be for a period of 3 years.
- (ii) The licensee will be given sole right for exhibiting prescribed number of commercial advertisements at the station, with the prior approval of the competent authority.
- (iii) The licensee will beautify the station by painting platform/roof, main building, ticket window area etc.
- (iv) The licensee will pay a lumpsum fee as fixed by the Railways.
- (v) The licensee will keep a security deposit as fixed by the Railways for the due end satisfactory fulfilment of the terms and conditions of the agreement.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (e).

There is no proposal to hand over the work of sale of tickets to private par-

ties in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar and as such no instructions have been issued.

[English]

Modern Abbatoirs

*39. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have plans to set up modern abbatoirs through multinationals/other sources in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether foreign capital is being encouraged to set up animal farms and poultry farms in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) and (b). The Government has no plans to set up modern abbatoirs through multinationals.

The Ministry of Agriculture is implementing:

- * a Centrally sponsored Scheme for providing assistance to the State Governments for the modernization/improvement of slaughter houses in the country; and
- * a Central Sector Scheme for the development of technology and infrastructure for export oriented livestock product units.

(c) and (d). Proposals for foreign investment in projects for setting up

animal farms and poultry farms, whenever received, are considered on merits.

SPDA Centres

*40. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the main objectives of the Sports Project Development Area (SPDA) Scheme under the Sports Authority of India;

(b) the number of centres sanctioned and established so far under SPDA scheme and the locations thereof;

(c) the extent to which the scheme has been able to provide basic sports facilities to the rural children;

(d) whether more such centres are likely to be set up in 1954-95; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The main objectives of the Sports Project Development Area (SPDA) Scheme are as follows:

- (i) To ensure greater cooperation between the Union and the State Government in the field of Sports and Physical Culture.
- (ii) To provide an opportunity for local and talented sports persons (at par with National Standard) to ensure that no talent remain undiscovered and uncared for from the very young/early stage.
- (iii) Extract greater mileage from existing sports facilities or those to

be created in future. It is seen that in a large number of cases the existing facilities are not being optimally utilised.

- (iv) To eliminate the existing regional imbalances in the development of sports by giving preference to backward areas for opening of SPDA Centres.
- (v) To take benefits directly to grass-root levels.
- (vi) Greater integration of the Schemes of development of

sports of the Union and the State Governments. These must work in tandem or complementary to each other instead of competing with each other. Duplication of work at grass-root levels should also be avoided.

- (vii) Ensure equitable distribution of Central assistance among the States and Union Territories.

(b) 43 SPDA Centres have been sanctioned; out of which 34 Centres are functioning. The location of these 43 Centres are given below.

Name of the State	No. of SPDA Centres	Location
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	2	Nizamabad Kurnool Eluru
Assam	1	Golaghat
Bihar	3	Gumla Ranchi Purnea
Goa	1	Ponda
Gujarat	3	Patan Devgadh Baria Rajkot
Haryana	1	Kurukshetra
Himachal Pradesh	1	Dharamshala
Jammu & Kashmir	1	Udhampur
Karnataka	2	Dharwad Madikere
Kerala	2	Quilon Trissur

1	2	3
Madhya Pradesh	4	Jabalpur Dhar Sehore Raipur
Maharashtra	4	Buldana Nanded Nasik Sholapur
Nagaland	1	Dimapur
Orissa	2	Dhenkanal Phulbani
Punjab	2	Ludhiana Patiala
Rajasthan	3	Jodhpur Ajmer Chittorgarh
Tamil Nadu	2	Nagarcoil Salem
Uttar Pradesh	3	Kashipur Rai Bareilly Safai (Etawah)
West Bengal	2	Burdwan Lebong
Chandigarh	1	Chandigarh
Meghalaya	1	Shillong

(c) Each SPDA Centre covers 80 to 100 blocks. A total number of 787 talented children mainly coming from rural areas have been admitted in various Centres where they have been provided training facilities in selected sports disciplines.

(d) and (e). Four Centres i.e., at Safai (U.P.), Dimapur (Nagaland), Phulbani (Orissa) and Chandigarh are likely to be set up in 1994-95.

Environmental Education

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

(a) whether the Government have constituted any committee to review training Management of resources and environmental Management at School and College level programmes;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether the Government have prepared any action plan on environmental education; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) and (b). Yes Sir, Government of India has constituted a Committee to review the status of facilities available to impact training in Management of natural resources and in specialised areas of pollution control and environment management vide order No. F-33012/36/92-GC(PL) dated 4th May, 1993. The Committee is to review the existing arrangements in the country for imparting:

- (i) training in management of resources in the enterprises/projects so as to orient them towards environmental considerations;
- (ii) formal education and training in specialised areas of pollution control and environmental management; and
- (iii) environmental education at the school level including training of teachers.

(c) and (d). A Centrally-Sponsored Scheme, 'Environmental Orientation to School Education' has been operational since 1988-89. This Scheme aims at integration of education programmes in schools with local environmental conditions. During the 8th Plan, the scope of the Scheme has been enlarged to review curricula of various disciplines at secondary and senior level with a view to infusing environmental concepts therein.

National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has revised the curricula and text-books of various disciplines at all levels of school education to reinforce environmental education dimensions therein. The contents designed to introduce the fundamentals of environmental education have been included in the text-books of Environmental Studies for classes upto V, while various environmental concepts, activities etc. have been infused into curricula and text-books of science and other subjects at upper primary, secondary and senior secondary stages. At higher levels, course design and curriculum are laid down by the Universities, which enjoy complete autonomy in this respect. The University Grants Commission has, however initiated steps to recast the curricula and introduce environmental education both as a foundational course as well as a constituent of other advanced environmental modules.

Vaitarani Teertha at Jaipur

225. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal for developing 'Vaitarani Teertha' at Jaipur Town, Cuttack District (Orissa) as a pilgrimage Centre; and

(b) if so, action taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Stoppage of Rajdhani Express at Palghat

226. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAM-CHANDRAN: will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received from the Malabar area in Kerala for stoppage of Rajdhani Express at Palghat; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Examined but not found justified.

[Translation]

Cow Breeding

227. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by the Government for the improvement of various species of cow and buffalo, State-wise;

(b) the financial aid provided to cow and buffalo breeding centres during 1993-94 and 1994-95; and

(c) the allocation made during the Eighth Five Year Plan for this purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Government has initiated the following centrally adminis-

tered and centrally sponsored schemes for improvement of cow and buffalo:

- (i) Extension of Frozen Semen Technology and Progeny Testing Programme (Centrally Sponsored).
- (ii) National Bull Production Programme (Centrally Sponsored).
- (iii) Central Cattle Development Organisation (Centrally administered).

As far as part (i) and (ii) above are concerned, these schemes are sanctioned depending upon proposal received from State Governments and subject to their being within admissible parameters. As far as (iii) is concerned this is operational in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.

(b) A *Statement* is enclosed.

(c) There is no statewide allocation. However, proposals received from State Government are considered subject to availability of funds during the particular year.

In the Eighth Plan, allocation for 'Extension of Frozen Semen Technology and Progeny Testing Programme' and 'National Bull Production Programme' and 'Central Cattle Development Organisation', are Rs. 19.75 crores, Rs. 19.84 and Rs. 19.75 crores respectively.

STATEMENT

Financial Aid Provided to Cow and Buffalo Breeding Centres During 1993-94 and 1994-95
(Rs. in lakhs)

		1993-94	1994-95
A. Central Cattle Development Organisation (C.C.D.O.)			
(i)	Central Cattle Breeding Forms	Rs. 497.00 lakh	Rs. 553.00 lakh
(ii)	Central Frozen Semen Production & Training Institute	Rs. 48.00 lakh	Rs. 75.00 lakh
B. Extension of Frozen Semen Technology and Progeny Testing Programme.			
Sl. No.	State	Amount released	
		1993-94	1994-95
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8.00	-
2.	Delhi	7.85	-
3.	Gujarat	3.195	-
4.	Himachal Pradesh	22.30	-
5.	J & K (Kashmir Region)	38.32	-
6.	J & K (Jammu Region)	12.69	-
7.	Karnataka	30.88	-
8.	Kerala	38.45	-
9.	Haryana	127.30	-
10.	Maharashtra	11.51	74.05
11.	Meghalaya	3.952	-
12.	Orissa	2.22	-
13.	Uttar Pradesh	14.00	-
14.	West Bengal	84.00	-
C. National Bull Production Programme			
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	8.4	-
2.	Gujarat	188.0	-

Sl. No.	State	Amount released	
		1993-94	1994-95
3.	Haryana	186.1	-
4.	Uttar Pradesh	33.0	-
5.	Delhi	5.0	-

[English]

Zonal Railway Users Consultative Committees

228. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the dates of constitution of Zonal Railway Users Consultative Committees as well as Divisional Railway Users Consultative Committees in various Railways and their terms of office;

(b) the composition of the existing Committees;

(c) the action taken by the Government to reconstitute those committees whose term comes to an end during 1994; and

(d) the number of meetings each zonal committee has during 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Rajghat Thermal Power Station

229. SHRI PARAS RAM BHAR-DWAJ: Will the Minister of

ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a team of the Central Pollution Control Board has conducted stack monitoring at the two units of the Rajghat thermal power station in December 1993;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Pollution Control Board conducted stack monitoring at the two units of the Rajghat Thermal Power Station on 31.12.93. The average stack emission from unit 1 and unit 2 was found to be 127 mg/Nm³ and 207 mg/Nm³ respectively. The emission from unit 2 were not conforming to the prescribed standards.

(c) The Government has taken up the matter with the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking (DESU) asking them to bring down the emission level within the prescribed standards. The DESU has done overhauling of the turbine generator as

part of these on-going efforts to reduce source emission.

[Translation]

DMU Train Between Indore and Bhopal

230. SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it was decided to introduce DMU train service between Indore and Bhopal from July 1, 1994;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in introduction of the said service; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

Passenger Facilities in Dakshin Express

231. SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the inadequate facilities in the present Dakshin Express from Hazarat Nizamuddin to Visakhapatnam and vice-versa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken to rectify the defects?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b): 7021/7022 Dakshin Express is provided with all the facilities as per norms laid down in this regard.

Stoppage at Thane Station

232. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received by the Government from various organisations for giving better status to Thane Railway Station in the matter of cleanliness and maintenance;

(b) whether the Government have also received representations from the Railway users from stopping of Mail/Express trains at this said station; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Adequate amenities have already been provided at this station. These are being strengthened from time to time keeping in view the traffic as also the representations received in this regard. There are 21 safaiwalas posted to maintain cleanliness and regular upkeep of the station premises. Stoppage of additional Mail/Express trains at Thane has been examined but not found operationally feasible.

Shortage of Essential Commodities In Super Bazar

233. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question Nos. 4428, 993, 3133 and 3678 dated 11.4.1990, 2.1.1991, 14.8.91, and 21.8.1991 respectively and state:

(a) whether nothing has changed not even 3-4 years later in the availability of all the grocery and consumer items on the inventory of Super Bazar in the mini branches;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure the availability of all items in all the mini branches that are on the inventory of the Super Bazar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise. Super Bazar has, however, reported that system of procurement has been made more broad based, supply line, augmented and close monitoring carried out to ensure availability of all the items in all the branches.

[Translation]

Fisheries in Gujarat

234. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes approved to promote fisheries in Gujarat during the last three years alongwith the details of progress; and

(b) the details of the financial assistance provided therefor during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Some of the major schemes in operation in Gujarat for promotion of fisheries during the last three years are as under:

- (i) Freshwater Aquaculture
- (ii) Integrated Brackishwater Fish Farm Development
- (iii) Providing fishing harbour facilities at Minor Ports
- (iv) Motorisation of Traditional Craft
- (v) Re-imbusement of Excise Duty on High Speed Diesel Oil
- (vi) Inland Fisheries Statistics
- (vii) Assistance for strengthening fish marketing
- (viii) Group Accident Insurance
- (ix) Establishment of Model Fishermen Villages

Seventeen Fish Farmers' Development Agencies are in operation in the State which have brought about 20,599 ha. of water area under fish culture and trained about 4868 fish farmers in improved methods of fish farming during the last three years. Under the scheme for integrated Brackish-water Fish Farms Development, a demonstration cum-training centre for brackish-water fish

farmers was sanctioned during 1993-94 at Matwad in Gujarat. The BFDAs have so far undertaken development of about 304 ha. brackish-water land for shrimp farming and 158 farmers have been trained. Three Fish Landing Centres at Magod-dungari, Dholai and Chorwad were sanctioned during 1992-93 in Gujarat. Two minor fishing harbours at Jakhau and Mangrol at a cost of Rs. 11.43 crore and Rs. 3.51 crore respectively were sanctioned with central assistance during 1993-94. Sanction has been given for

motorisation of 100 craft. Under the scheme for Inland Fisheries Statistics, three districts of the state have been surveyed to estimate the resources under ponds and tanks. The State has also completed the survey work of resources under reservoirs. Construction of capital items under the inland fish marketing scheme has been initiated by the State Government. Approval has been given for three model fishermen villages in the state so far. A total number of 28,000 active fishermen were insured.

(b)

(Rs. in lakhs)

Scheme	Amount released to State Government		
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
(i) Freshwater Aquaculture	14.00	15.00	17.00
(ii) Integrated Brackish-water Fish Farms Development	11.26	11.50	36.16
(iii) Providing fishing harbour facilities at minor ports	10.00	30.56	109.64
(iv) Motorisation of Traditional Craft	2.00	3.00	—
(v) Re-imbursement of Excise Duty on HSD Oil	151.67	170.60	233.00
(vi) Inland Fisheries Statistics	2.00	2.26	2.18
(vii) Assistance for strengthening fish marketing	—	10.00	—
(viii) Group Accident Insurance	1.63	1.38	—
(ix) Establishment of Model Fishermen Villages	7.00	-	-

Grants to Voluntary Organisations

235. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Voluntary Organisations and the amount of assistance provided to them during 1991-92, 1993-94 (till June, 1994) for creating mass awareness for pollution control, environment and protection of forests;

Year	No. of voluntary Organisations	Amount released (Rs.)
1991-92	521	72,62,900
1992-93	1121	79,96,130
1993-94	1384	1,37,81,777
1994-95 (till June, 1994)	56	36,91,605

(b) and (c). No, Sir. The concerned Voluntary Organisations are required to submit utilisation certificates along with expenditure statements which have been audited by Chartered Accountants, prior to further release of funds to them.

[English]

Fisheries Project in West Bengal

236. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any communication from the Government of West Bengal regarding the World Bank aided fisheries project being implemented in the State;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any enquiry by the department or local officers regarding the utilisation certificate submitted by these organisations; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) The required information is as given below:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Government of West Bengal have not accepted the suggestions of the World Bank Mission in respect of the Meendweep shrimp farm component of the World Bank aided project. The question of taking any corrective measure by them, therefore, does not arise, for the present.

Diversification of Farmers In Fishing

237. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI
PAWAR:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:
SHRI UPENDRA NATH
VERMA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to unremunerative earnings through agriculture, farmers are diversifying into fishing;

(b) if so, whether this trend is causing decline in food production in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SERVICES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR):

(a) Although in some of the States farmers have shifted negligible areas to fishing for diversifying their income source, but this is not due to unremunerative pricing policy.

(b) Food production in the country has been witnessing an increase over the years, with production level estimated to have reached 182.04 Million Tonnes during 1993-94.

(c) For increasing the production and productivity of foodgrains, the Government is implementing special schemes viz. Integrated Cereal Development Programme and the National Pulses Development Project.

Assistance to Destitute Women

238. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of aged, destitute women and widows receiving financial assistance in the Union Territory of Chandigarh;

(b) the total amount of disbursement made on this account during each of the last three years; and

(c) the target fixed in this regard for the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI BASVA RAJESWARI): (a) 393 aged/destitute women/widows are receiving financial assistance in the Union Territory of Chandigarh.

(b)	Year	Amount
	1991-92	Rs. 3.00 lakhs
	1992-93	Rs. 3.65 lakhs
	1993-94	Rs. 4.70 lakhs

(c) No target has been fixed in this regard for the next two years. The Budget Estimate for 1994-95 is Rs. 3.30 lakhs.

[Translation]

Delhi Milk Scheme

239. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to handover the Delhi Milk Scheme to the Government of Delhi in accordance with the recommendations of Cooperative committee; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this direction so far and the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The matter has been taken up with the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (NCTD). However, the NCTD has yet to give its formal consent for taking over the D.M.S.

[English]

Operation Black Board

240. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the Operation Black Board programme recently;

(b) if so, the main achievements and shortcomings noticed;

(c) whether the Government are planning the suitable restructuring of the programme; and

(d) if so, the details of targets and achievements made during the last three years and targets set for the current year, State-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DE-

VELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main findings are:

- The scheme has helped in improving the physical facilities in the primary schools;
- Provision of these basic facilities under Operation Black-board has been appreciated by teachers, pupils and community at large;
- The pupils of OB schools showed better achievement as compared to pupils in non-OB schools.
- The pace of construction of school buildings has not been very satisfactory;
- The utilisation of teaching learning material has not been fully satisfactory because of lack of training of teachers;

(c) Based on the external evaluation and past experience, the scheme has been modified during the 8th plan. The scheme has also been extended to provide 3rd room/3rd teacher in primary schools where enrolment exceeds 100 and to cover upper primary schools.

(d) No State-wise targets are fixed under the scheme. Proposals of the State Governments are sanctioned depending on the pace of implementation of the phases sanctioned earlier. The target during 1994-95 is to sanction teaching learning material for the remaining 500

uncovered primary schools and to sanction about 8000 posts of teachers for the single teacher schools under the on-going OB, sanction third teacher to about 10% primary schools where enrolment exceeds 100 and to cover about 5%

upper primary schools under expanded OB. A sum of Rs. 215 crores has been allocated to the scheme during 1994-95. The achievements made during 1991-92 to 1993-94 state-wise are given in the *Statement* enclosed.

STATEMENT

Achievements under the scheme of Operation Blackboard during 1991-92 to 1993-94

S.No.	State/UT	On-going O.B.		Expanded O.B.	
		No. of schools for which teaching learning equipment sanctioned	No. of posts of addl. teachers sanctioned for single teacher schools	No. of primary schools for which 3rd teacher sanctioned	No. of upper primary schools for which teaching learning equipment sanctioned
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17548	9004		1017
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	355	234		27
3.	Assam	11075	6838		
4.	Bihar	26601	4885		
5.	Goa		38		
6.	Gujarat	7179			1439
7.	Haryana	3576	56		
8.	J & K	2290	2639		
9.	Karnataka	8201	5024		1675
10.	Kerala	1149			
11.	Madhya Pradesh	15892	4323		
12.	Maharashtra	28849	12310		1656
13.	Manipur	548	211		
14.	Meghalaya	2375	1621		
15.	Mizoram	576	45		

1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Orissa	3680	3474		
17.	Punjab	4315	700		
18.	Rajasthan		358	1692	961
19.	Tamil Nadu				560
20.	Tripura	1005	75		
21.	Uttar Pradesh	4695			
22.	West Bengal	37311	1356		
23.	D & N Haveli	103	63		

[Translation]

Vocationalisation of Secondary Education

241. SHRI RATILAL VARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of secondary schools in Gujarat where vocational education is being imparted;

(b) whether trained examiners and required teaching material are being made available in those schools by the Government of Gujarat; and

(c) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Governments to ensure that the State Governments implement the scheme to fulfil the objectives of vocationalisation of secondary education?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The total number of such secondary schools in Gujarat is 284.

(b) and (c).-Yes, Sir. In the vocational schools of Gujarat only trained teachers having prescribed qualifications are being appointed. The required teaching material prescribed by Gujarat State Textbook Board, Ahmedabad has been made available with the school authorities.

Education in Kendriya Vidyalayas

242. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have avoided any scheme or propose to formulate any scheme to improve the standard of education in the Kendriya Vidyalayas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b). Efforts to improve the standard of education in Kendriya Vidyalayas are a continuing process. No specific scheme has been

formulated by Government in this regard. The Rules of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan provide for an Academic Advisory Committee *inter-alia* including educationists, to advise the Sangathan on academic and co-curricular programme, to suggest measures for overcoming shortfalls; and generally to develop the Vidyalayas as 'School of Excellence' in the context of the national goals of education.

[English]

Kumarghat-Agartala Railway Line

243. SHRIMATI BIBHU KUMARI DEVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in regard to the completion of the Kumarghat-Agartala railway line in Tripura.

(b) the time by which the said line is likely to be completed.

(c) whether any assessment has been made of the number of people likely to be displaced due to the acquisition of land for the purpose; and

(d) the estimated amount required for the rehabilitation of the displaced families?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b). A Final Location Survey for construction of a new line from Kumarghat to Agartala (120 kms.) is in progress. The field work has been completed and the Survey Report is expected to be received by December, 1994.

Further consideration of the project will be possible after the Survey Report is received.

(c) and (d). Will be known when land acquisition plans are made which will happen only after the work has been approved by Planning Commission and Parliament.

Eklakhi-Balurghat Line

244. SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction work of Eklakhi-Balurghat railway line has been started; and

(b) if so, the latest position of the project?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Preliminary arrangements are being made for restarting the work on the new rail line from Eklakhi to Balurghat for which an amount of Rs. 1.00 crore has been provided in 1994-95.

[Translation]

Rail Link for Jain Pilgrim Centre

245. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to link the Jain Pilgrim centre in Hastinapur, Meerut, by rail;

(b) if so, the time by which this place is likely to be linked; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No,
Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
(c) Constraint of resources.

New Rail Lines in Bilaspur

246. SHRI PAWAN DIWAN: Will the
Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to
state:

(a) the names of the places selected for construction of new railway lines and electrification of existing lines in Bilaspur division of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) the time by which the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Construction of a new railway line from Dallirajhara to Jagdalpur (235 kms) has been identified and proposal has been sent to the Planning Commission.

Electrification work on the remaining portions of the on-going project Bilaspur-Katni including Anuppur-Bishrampur namely New Katni-Chandia Road and Boridand-Chirimiri is in progress.

(b) Regarding new line, target date will be fixed up once Planning Commission's approval is received and work is actually approved by Parliament.

The electrification work of the above section is likely to be completed by March, 1995.

Food Corporation of India

247. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM:
Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have any proposal to set up offices/godowns of the Food Corporation of India in those districts of Bihar where these do not exist;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). At present, there is no proposal to set up more district offices in Bihar as the network of existing offices is considered sufficient for looking after the Public Distribution work. However, a proposal is under consideration for establishing FCI godowns at Kathiar and Hatia also. A review has also been undertaken to identify locations in South Bihar for establishing more godowns for meeting PDS requirements.

Sugar Mills

248. SHRI ARJUN SINGH
YADAV:
SHRI RAJVEER SINGH:
SHRI HARI KEWAL
PRASAD:
SHRI SURENDRA PAL
PATHAK:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sugar mills in public sector, private sector and cooperative sector in Uttar Pradesh at present;

(b) whether the Government have any proposal to set up more sugar mills in the State;

(c) the number of sugar mills in each sector running in loss and profit respectively;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to make sick mills viable;

(e) whether the Government have any proposal to privatise those sugar mills which are running in loss in the cooperative sector; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) There are 35 installed sugar factories in the public sector, 44 in the private sector and 31 in Cooperative sector in the State of Uttar Pradesh (as on 30.6.1994).

(b) Yes, Sir. As on 30.6.94, the Central Government have issued 25 letters of intent during the current sugar year for setting up of new sugar mills in the State.

(c) Government does not maintain profit and loss accounts in respect of sugar mills.

(d) Sugar Mills have to themselves prepare schemes for rehabilitation/modernisation and get them approved by the financial institutions. Financial assistance is also available from the Sugar Development Fund (SDF) at concessional rates of interest for such rehabilitation/modernisation schemes, subject to their fulfilling the conditions laid down.

(e) and (f); The decision in this regard has to be taken by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

Consumer Protection Act 1986

249. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA): Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Consumer Fora want more teeth' appearing in patriot dated June 9, 1994;

(b) if so, the details of amendments likely to be made in the Consumer Protection Act, 1986; and

(c) the time by which the amendments are likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). On the basis of recommendations made in the XVIth meeting of the Central Consumer Protection Council, the Central Government in the Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution, has constituted a Working Group to examine the need to bring about changes in the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 and the rules framed thereunder in the light of experience gained so far and the difficulties which have arisen in many cases as a result of judicial pronouncements. ■

Howrah Station

250. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the South-Eastern Railway is using the buildings of Eastern Railway in Howrah station;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions for use of such buildings;

(c) whether due to dual administration of both the railway zones, the employees of South-Eastern Railway and the passengers in these buildings are facing serious problems of security, electricity, drinking water and maintenance etc.; and

(d) if so, the remedial measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Cost is shared by both the Railways as per an Agreement which is reviewed periodically.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Green House Scheme

251. DR. LAL BAHADUR
RAWAL:
SHRI RAJVEER SINGH:
SHRI SURENDRA PAL
PATHAK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the objective of the Green House Scheme;

(b) whether the Government propose to launch an Action Plan for the Development and extension of the scheme to some more places in U.P.; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI
ARVIND NETAM): (a) The objective of the Green House Scheme is to propagate the concept of Crop Production under controlled environment.

(b) and (c). The Government has launched a scheme to promote the use of Green Houses during the VIIIth Plan period. An allocation of Rs. 78.25 lakhs has been earmarked for U.P. for covering an area of 9 hectares in the VIIIth Plan period.

Sleeper Class

252. SMT. BHAVNA CHIKHLIA:
SHRI RAMESHWAR
PATIDAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have introduced a special sleeper class category after levying extra 25% fare;

(b) if so, the special facilities provided to the passengers travelling in this class;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any surprise check in long distance trains particularly in Karnataka Express to have a first hand information

regarding the condition of passengers travelling by sleeper class;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) With effect from 1.4.1993, a new class of travel namely the 'Sleeper Class' was introduced with a fare structure fixed at 25% higher than Second Class fare, on abolition of Sleeper Surcharge.

(b) A Sleeper Class passenger enjoys one berth at night and a reserved seat during day time. Only confirmed and RAC passengers are authorised to travel by these coaches, thereby eliminating overcrowding. Since the number of passengers is limited, the facility of toilet, water and other sanities are shared by limited number of passengers. The Sleeper Class passengers are given free allowance of 40 kgs. in luggage as against 35 kgs. for second class passengers.

(c) to (e) With a view to curb the evil of ticketless/irregular travel, regular surprise checks are conducted both on short distance and long distance trains by mobilising large number of ticket checking staff and officers in association with Special Railway Magistrates, Govt. Railway Police and Railway Protection Force. Instructions have been issued to the Railways to pay special attention to the genuine passengers travelling in Sleeper Class with reservation.

[English]

Delhi Milk Scheme

253. SHRI TARA SINGH:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD:

SHRI P.C. CHACKO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to handover Delhi Milk Scheme to the National Cooperative Dairy Federation, Gujarat;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the proposed handover of DMS to private sector is likely to affect the Milk supply in the capital; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) No, Sir.

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

Cultural Expedition

254. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Asian Cultural Expedition has since returned after journeying 12,000 km. across the ancient Silk Road in Central Asia, China and Tibet;

(b) if so, their impressions about the reception meted out to them by the various Central Asian countries through which they traversed and the maintenance of trade ties with India;

(c) if not, whether they have sent any interim reports about their visit;

(d) if so, the broad features thereof; and

(e) the approximate expenditure incurred by the Government on the Expedition?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) It is understood that the Expedition returned on 20.7.94.

(b) to (e). Since the Government of India in the Ministry of Human Resource Development did not sponsor the Central Asian Cultural Expedition, it has not received any report.

[Translation]

Assistance to Voluntary Organisations

255. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the basis on which the Government gives the grant or loan to voluntary Organisations engaged in educational activities;

(b) whether the Government monitors the utilisation of funds by these organisations after giving the assistance or loan to them;

(c) if so, the number of cases in which the Government have received complaints about financial irregularities during last three years through internal audit and other sources; and

(d) the details thereof indicating the action taken against such voluntary organisations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) For receiving financial assistance, generally a voluntary organisation is required to be a registered society, public trust or non-profit making company, in existence for atleast 3 years. Generally, assistance is granted to voluntary organisations on the recommendations of the State Government concerned. The applications are also thoroughly scrutinized by Grant-in-aid Committees under different schemes of the Ministry. The grants are given in accordance with the principles enunciated in the General Financial Rules, 1963.

(b) Voluntary organisations are required to submit utilisation certificates to the Ministry specifying that the grants have been utilised for the purpose for which they were granted and also furnish audited statement of accounts. These certificates are scrutinised in the Departments before further releases are considered.

(c) and (d) During the last three years ending December, 1993, 31 complaints have been received from other sources out of which in 9 cases, payment has been stopped. No complaints have been received through internal audit.

[English]

Vocational Institutions in Bihar

256. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI:
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vocational institutions functioning at present in Bihar;

(b) the number of students registered in these institutions;

(c) the amount provided by the Union Government in the form of financial grants for vocational education in Bihar during the last three years; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for the promotion of vocational education in Bihar?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education at plus two level, 444 vocational sections in 148 schools are operational in the State of Bihar.

(b) Under the provision of the Scheme 25 students per vocational section are to be enrolled.

(c) Based on the proposals received from the State Government of Bihar, an amount of Rs. 409.25 lakhs has been sanctioned for vocational education during the last three years.

(d) State Government has been advised to take the following steps:

- Creation of Management Structure at all levels.
- District Vocational Surveys to be conducted in all districts.
- Training programmes for teachers.

— Amendment of Recruitment Rules to accommodate vocational pass-outs.

— Establishing school-industry linkages.

— Ensure effective monitoring.

The Central Institute of Vocational Education has been set up at Bhopal. Textbooks and instructional material for most popular courses are being centrally prepared.

[Translation]

Production of Sugarcane

257. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH:
SHRI SURENDRA PAL
PATHAK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a bumper production of sugarcane during the past three years;

(b) if so, the States which produced maximum sugarcane during the above period;

(c) the maximum and minimum prices of sugarcane in these States during the above period, State-wise;

(d) whether the total production of sugarcane has been fully utilized by the sugar mills;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the quantum of sugarcane utilized by sugar mills and quantum of sugarcane wasted;

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to utilize the whole production of sugarcane;

(g) the target fixed for production of sugarcane during 1994-95 indicating the percentage of increase as compared to last year; and

(h) the incentive, if any, given to State to promote cultivation of sugarcane?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) There has been continuous increase in sugarcane production in the country since 1985-86 till 1991-92. However, there was some decline in production of sugarcane during 1992-93.

(b) The States which have contributed most of increase in the production of sugarcane upto 1991-92 include Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.

(c) The range of prices of sugarcane paid in the selected States during

the period 1990-91 to 1992-93 are given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(d) and (e). The total production of sugarcane has been fully utilised either by sugar mills or by gur or khandsari units. There has been no report of sugarcane wasted.

(f) The government has been sanctioning the setting-up of more sugar mills and expanding the capacity and renovation of the existing sugar mills in order to improve the overall capacity of sugar mills to utilise the production of sugarcane fully.

(g) The target fixed for production of sugarcane during 1994-95 is 250 million tonnes, showing an increase of 4.2% over the likely production of about 240 million tonnes in 1993-94.

(h) In order to increase the production of sugarcane, the government has raised the Statutory Minimum Prices (SMP) for sugarcane from Rs. 34.50 per quintal during 1993-94 to Rs. 37.00 per quintal during 1994-95 with basic recovery of 8.5% with a proportionate premium for every 0.1% increase above that level. Besides, the government is also undertaking developmental programme for increasing the sugarcane production in various States.

STATEMENT

Sugarcane Prices Paid by Sugar Factories in Selected States

(Prices in Rs. per quintal)

State	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Andhra Pradesh	27.50—36.53	31.52—40.59	35.56—48.65
Gujarat	22.00—33.00	27.00—60.00	26.00—32.50
Haryana	41.00—46.00	45.00—54.00	46.00—50.00

(Prices in Rs. per quintal)

State	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Karnataka	36.00—39.00	30.89—45.00	29.36—50.00
Punjab	42.00—46.00	45.00—49.00	46.00—50.00
Tamil Nadu	30.10—36.25	29.05—35.00	31.00—44.40
Uttar Pradesh	41.00—44.00	45.00—48.00	46.00—49.00

*[English]***Import of Sugar**

258. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have finalised the plan for the distribution of imported sugar through, Fair Price Shops;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the rate per kg. fixed for the distribution of sugar to consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) The Food Corporation of India (FCI) would arrange the movement of imported levy sugar from ports to the designated distribution centres in the case of direct allottee States, except Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.

(ii) In case of Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu, FCI

would allocate sugar in their favour from the ports and the State Governments would arrange the movement of sugar from the port itself to the consuming destinations in the States.

(iii) In case of Food Corporation of India-operated States, the existing system in respect of delivery to the State Governments/Union Territories and payment procedure would continue.

(c) The imported as well as indigenous sugar will be available through the Public Distribution System to consumers at a uniform price of Rs. 9.05 per kg. throughout the country.

Public Distribution System

259. SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE:
SHRI AMAR ROY-
PRADHAN:
SHRI UDAYSINGRAO
GAIKWAD:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to undertake some review of P.D.S. in backward areas of the country to make further improvements therein;

(b) whether requests have been received in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government have any proposal to make available essential drugs through this system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c). Strengthening and streamlining of the Public Distribution System (PDS) is a continuous process to which the Government attaches great importance. In order to improve the reach of PDS, the Central Government decided to revamp the PDS. In consultation with the State Governments and U.T. Administrations, Blocks covered by various area specific programmes such as Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP), Designated Hill Areas (DHA) and Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDP) were identified for coverage under the Revamped PDS (RPDS). State Governments/UT Administrations were requested to initiate measures to open additional fair price shops, issue additional ration cards, create or hire additional storage capacity in the interior areas, make arrangements for door-step delivery of PDS commodities to the Fair Price Shops (FPSs) in the interior areas etc. Progress made by the State Govern-

ments is monitored regularly. Progress in the implementation of PDS and RPDS is reviewed from time to time at meetings of the Ministers and Secretaries in charge of Food and Civil Supplies in States/UTs.

The Central Issue Prices (CIP) of foodgrains meant for distribution in the areas covered under the RPDS is Rs. 50.00 per quintal lower than the CIP of foodgrains issued under normal PDS. Financial assistance is also given to States and UTs for purchase of vehicles for use either as door step delivery vehicles or as mobile fair price shops. Assistance is also provided to States/UTs for construction of godowns in the RPDS areas. Adequate quantity of foodgrains is allocated to the States for distribution in RPDS areas.

(d) There is no proposal at present for distributing essential drugs through the PDS.

Crops Affected by Virus

260. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the standing crops in Gujarat, Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan are being threatened by a virus (white flies) from the neighbouring country; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to avert this danger?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

**Post Literacy and Continuing
Education Campaign**

261. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS:
Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any expert committee/group has been set up by the Government on post literacy and continuing education campaign;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the recommendations made by the Committee thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government on those recommendations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c). No, Sir. The Government of India has constituted an Expert Group under chairpersonship of Prof. Arun Ghosh for Status-cum-Impact evaluation of Total Literacy Campaign. For the scheme of Post Literacy and Continuing Education under which Jan Shikshan Nilayams are established as centres for post literacy and continuing education, the Government has entrusted an evaluation study to an independent social research organisation. The Expert Group and the social research organisation are yet to submit their reports.

Late Running of Trains

262. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether majority of trains were reported running late in the month of June and July, 1994.

(b) if so, the details of the trains found running late between Delhi-Bombay and Delhi-Pune and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial steps the Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Delhi-Bombay and Delhi-Pune trains generally run as per the schedule. But there are few trains viz., 2951/2952 Bombay Central-New Delhi Rajdhani Ex., 2971/2972 Bombay-Jammu Tawi Exp., 2903/2904 Bombay Central-Amritsar Frontier Mail (between Delhi-Bombay) and 1077/1078 Jhelum Exp., 2479/2480 Goa Express (between Delhi-Pune) the punctuality of which is not very satisfactory. The main reasons affecting punctuality are accidents, carriage and wagon defects, engine failure, signal and telecommunication failures, bad weather.

(c) Constant monitoring of the running of all the Mail/Express trains is done round-the-clock and necessary steps are taken to control all the avoidable factors within the control of the Railways.

[Translation]

'Track Circuiting' on Stations

263. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make arrangement for 'track circuiting' on the railway stations to ascertain safety for passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the stations where this arrangement is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir. Track circuits on the railway stations are being provided on the basis of traffic requirements.

circuiting work of Fouling Mark to Fouling Mark on run through lines at 82 stations, Fouling Mark to Block Section limit at 44 stations and loop lines at 5 stations has been sanctioned.

(b) During 1994-95 budget, track

(c) A *Statement* is enclosed.

STATEMENT

I. Stations Sanctioned in 1994-95 for Provision of Track Circuiting "Fouling Mark to Fouling Mark" on run through Lines

1. Hardua	22. Kapsethi
2. Riithi	23. Sewapuri
3. Bakhleta	24. Chaukhandi
4. Salaia	25. Lohta
5. Sagoni	26. Vyas Nagar
6. Bandakpur	27. Hospet
7. Karhiya-Bhadoli	28. Kariganur
8. Damoh	29. Gadiganuru
9. Mohanlalganj	30. Tornagallu
10. Kankaha	31. Doraji
11. Kundanganj	32. Kudatini
12. Jageshwarganj	33. Bellary Cantt.
13. Pirthiganj	34. Bellary
14. Gaura	35. Hagari
15. Badshahpur	36. Virapur
16. Nibhapur	37. Bantanahal
17. Saraikansarai	38. Guntakal West
18. Suriawan	39. Phursungi
19. Mondh	40. Alandi
20. Bhadohi	41. Shindavane
21. Parsipur	42. Rajawadi

43. Valha	63. Kolhapur
44. Nira	64. Miraj
45. Lonand	65. Nujella
46. Salpa	66. Kavutaram
47. Wathar	67. Pedana
48. Palsi	68. Machilipatnam
49. Jarandeshwar	69. Veeravasaram
50. Satara	70. Palakollu
51. Rahimatpur	71. Kakinada Town
52. Targaon	72. Kakinada Port
53. Masur	73. Ambli Road
54. Karad	74. Chharodi
55. Takari	75. Kachvada
56. Kirolskar Wadi	76. Bandbareta
57. Bilwadi	77. Bansipaharpur
58. Sangli	78. Rupbah
59. Jaisingpur	79. Fatehpur-Sekri
60. Hatkanangale	80. Kiroli
61. Rakadi	81. Mirhakur
62. Gurmarket	82. Pathaoli

II. Stations Sanctioned in 1994-95 for Provision of Track Circulating "Fouling Mark to Block Section Limit"

1. Mirzapur	8. Daudkhan
2. Mejaroad	9. Aligarh Jn.
3. Bheerpur	10. Mehrawal
4. Naini Jn.	11. Khurja Jn.
5. Sirsaul	12. Dankaur
6. Mitawli	13. Tirupur
7. Hathras Jn.	14. Irugur

15. Coimbatore (North Jn.)	30. Regupalem
16. Kadiyam	31. Elamanchili
17. Dwarapudi	32. Narasingapalli
18. Anaparti	33. Bayyavaram
19. Ravikampadu	34. Anakapalle
20. Annavaram	35. Thadi
21. Gullipadu	36. Bandbareta
22. Bkkavolu	37. Bansipaharpur
23. Medapadu	38. Rupbah
24. Samalkot Jn.	39. Fatehpur Sikri
25. Pithapuram	40. Kiroli
26. Gollaprolu	41. Mirhakur
27. Hamsavaram	42. Pathaoli
28. Tuni	43. Idgah
29. Narsipatnam Road	44. Agra Fort

III. Stations Sanctioned in 1994-95 for Provision of Track Circuiting "Looplines"

1. Totiyapalayam	4. Aralvayamoli
2. Neyyatinkara	5. Vellyyur
3. Kulitturai	

[English]

Tobacco Cultivation

264. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to extend tobacco cultivation to Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether land suitable for tobacco cultivation has been identified in the State; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to introduce cash crops like tobacco in the tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (c). No, Sir. How-

ever exploratory trials were conducted by Central Tobacco Research Institute (CTRI) working under ICAR, in Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh in association with Tobacco Board and India Tobacco Institute. The trials were conducted to find out the possibility of growing Burley tobacco in that area. Preliminary indications are that the land in Bastar district of M.P. is suitable for cultivation of Burley tobacco.

At present tobacco is already grown in Andhra Pradesh. There is need for trials to confirm the findings of trials in Bastar district.

Punnayya Committee on Higher Education

265. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Punnayya Committee on higher education has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's decision thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir Justice K. Punnayya Committee, constituted by the University Grants Commission, has submitted its report to the Commission. The Committee's recommendations cover various recommendations are as follows:

(i) While universities should be encouraged to augment their resources, State or Government

funding must continue to be an essential and mandatory requirement for support to higher education. The Government/State must continue to accept the major responsibility for funding the essential maintenance and developmental requirements of the universities.

- (ii) Any additional resources generated by a University Institution may be kept in a separate fund to be utilised for furtherance of the objectives of the university/institution. The UGC may provide a matching grant as an incentive to universities generating additional resources.
- (iii) The Unit Cost System of calculation of eligibility for grant should replace the existing Incremental System after the end of the current Five Year Plan.
- (iv) The University Grants Commission must develop a system of presenting annually a set of selected information on academic administration and funding parameters of the institutions particularly which are fully funded by it. This information should be utilised in decision making processes.
- (v) Fixation of norms regarding teacher-student ratio, academic and non-academic costs, work load of teachers etc.
- (vi) Central Universities should avoid offering conventional courses.
- (vii) There should be upward revision of tuition fee with immediate ef-

fect and be periodically adjusted. Fees for library, laboratory, sports should be revised upwards to recover a significant part of the recurring cost.

- (viii) Statutory Committee for planning and monitoring for buildings, etc. should be created for the universities. A statutory body for extending financial assistance to Delhi colleges should be constituted and UGC may not directly fund Delhi colleges.

The Government has not received any proposal from the UGC with reference to the recommendation of the Punayya Committee.

[Translation]

Subsidy to FCI

266. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE
RAI:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the amounts provided to the Food Corporation of India as food subsidy during the year 1991-92 and by the end of 1993-94 respectively;

(b) whether the prices of foodgrains being supplied by the Food Corporation of India through Public Distribution System were also increased during the said period;

(c) if so, the prices of wheat and rice on national average basic during July 1991 and April 1994; and

(d) the economic/support price fixed by the Food Corporation of India for procuring foodgrains during July, 1991 and April 1994?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a)

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Amount of food subsidy released
1991-92	2850
1993-94	5537

(b) and (c). Central issue prices (Ex-FCI godowns) of wheat and rice during 1991-92 and 1993-94 financial years and the Wholesale Price Index of wheat and rice in July 1991 and April 1994 are as under:

(Rs. per quintal)

Effective from	Wheat	Rice		
		Common	Fine	Superfine
28.12.1991	280	377	437	458
11.1.1993	330	437	497	518
1.2.1994	402	537	617	648

Commodity	Wholesale Price Index	
	July 91	April 94
Wheat	174.2	271.5
Rice	200.0	275.9

(d) The Minimum Support Prices of wheat and paddy during July 1991 and April 1994 are as under:

(Rs. per quintal)

Period	Wheat	Paddy		
		Common	Fine	Superfine
July 1991	225	205	315	225
April 1994	350	310	330	350

[English]

food, electricity and irrigation come up to Rs. 15,000 crores per year; and

Subsidy to Agriculture Sector

(c) if so, the allocation of Central subsidies in the Agriculture sector, State-wise?

267. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Preparation of State-wise estimates of Gross Fixed Capital formation (GFCF) is the responsibility of the State Governments. The latest available information in this regard is as under:

(a) the total investment in Agriculture Sector during each of the last three years, State-wise,

(b) whether subsidies in fertiliser,

Estimates of GPCF in Agriculture (at current prices)

(Rs. in crores,

State	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
Andhra Pradesh	554.86	565.69	646.36
Haryana	331.52	251.70	298.11
Kerala	200.40	200.57	243.51
M.P.	612.49	803.01	827.81

State	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
Punjab	391.54	507.90	555.11
Rajasthan	414.33	393.12	241.12
Tamil Nadu	187.67	214.11	169.41

(b) The subsidies on fertilisers, food, electricity and irrigation are estimated at Rs. 18,609 crore for 1990-91, Rs. 22,436 crore for 1991-92 and Rs. 21,780 crore for 1992-93.

(c) The subsidies provided by the Central Government to the fertiliser industry and Food Corporation of India are not on State-wise basis and hence State-wise information on Central subsidies is not maintained.

Synthetic Tracks

268. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to ask the States and Union Territories to lay synthetic athletic tracks and synthetic hockey surfaces to improve the standard of sports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount of expenditure to be involved therein; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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): (a) The Department of Youth Affairs & Sports is already operating a scheme for giving financial support to the States and Union Territories to lay synthetic athletic tracks and synthetic hockey surfaces.

(b) Under the scheme, Central assistance upto 50% of the cost of installation subject to a ceiling of Rs 1.00 crore is provided to the State Government/Union Territory Administration undertaking laying of synthetic track or hockey surface.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Operation Monsoon

269. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRI RAM SINGH
KASHWAN:

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

(a) whether the Government are considered to launch an Operation Monsoon Scheme to check the illegal poaching at a large scale in Monsoon season; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof alongwith the duration of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) The Government of India have already launched the "Operation 'Monsoon'" to check illegal poaching of wildlife during Monsoon season.

(b) The operation is meant to check poaching in forest areas and take preventive measures against it during rains by tackling problems arising out of snapping of communication links, flash floods or bad forest roads which offer an opportunity to poachers and smugglers to enter the interior forest areas and enhance their nefarious activities. The activities include increased patrolling on foot or elephant, to cover the inaccessible areas during the monsoon period.

Teachers of Central Universities

270. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether teachers of the Central Universities have put some demands before the Government during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government on those demands?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by

UGC, some teachers of Central Universities met the Chairman, UGC, recently, and submitted their demands relating to:

- (i) Abolition of dual emolument system;
- (ii) Revival of Merit Promotion Scheme in University Departments;
- (iii) Creation of post of professor in Colleges; and
- (iv) Larger allocation of funds for higher education etc.

The teachers were apprised that while the issues regarding abolition of dual emolument system and revival of Merit Promotion Scheme for under consideration, proposal for creating the post of Professor in Colleges should be sent through the University concerned. The allocation of funds for higher education is increasing over the years.

[English]

Rail-Wagon Manufacturing Units

271. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Rail-wagon manufacturing units in the country at present;

(b) the number of people employed in those units;

(c) the number of rail-wagons manufactured during the last three years, unit-wise: and

(d) the total number of rail-wagons manufactured upto June, 1994?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) There are 11 regular Railway wagon manufacturing units constituting wagon India Limited and two others.

(b) The number of workers employed in those units is approximately 22733.

(c) Unit-wise details of wagons manufactured by industry during the last three years are as follows:

(Figures in Four-wheelers)

Unit	Number manufactured		
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94.
Public Sector			
1. Bharat Wagon Engineering Limited, Muzaffarpur	1400	1375	985
2. Bharat Wagon Engineering Limited, Mokameh	1750	1710	1235
3. Braithwaite, Calcutta	3007.5	3707.5	2120
4. Burn Standard Company Limited, Burnpur	3427.5	3500	2420
5. Burn Standard Company Limited, Howrah	1165	1507.5	2005
6. Jessop, Calcutta	512.5	580	485
Total Public Sector	1,1262.5	12380	9250
Private Sector			
7. Cimmco/Bharatpur	3015	2875	2065
8. Hindustan General Industries, Nangloi	1267.5	1257.5	950
9. Texmaco, Calcutta	4975	4710	3200
10. Modern Industries, Sahibabad	1500	1360	1110

	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
Private Sector			
11. Hindustan Development Corporation, Calcutta.	2693	2678.5	1925
Total Private Sector	13450.5	12881	9250
Total Public and Private Sector	24713	25261	18500

(d) The total number of Railway wagons manufactured during April-June, 1994 is 967.5 Four-wheelers.

[Translation]

Milk Powder Plants

272. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of milk powder producing plants in the country;

(b) the consumption of milk powder and its demand during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the number of plants working at optional capacity and the number of plants lying closed, State-wise;

(d) whether the demand of the State Governments to improve the working of these plants and for more lasting Tetra pack plants is pending with the National Dairy Development Board; and

(e) if so, since when and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) There are 75 milk

powder producing plants operating in the country. These plants are in public/cooperative/private sector.

(b) State-wise break-up of production and demand of milk powder is not maintained. However, the estimated total production of milk powder inclusive of baby food during the last 3 years i.e. 1991, 1992 and 1993 is 1,50,000 MT; 1,65,000 MT and 1,85,000 MT respectively. In the years 1991-92 and 1992-93 milk powder produced were generally utilised in the country and small quantity exported.

(c) Milk powder plants has no such parameter as 'Optional capacity'. Therefore the question of optional capacity does not arise.

(d) and (e). There has been a specific request from the Madhya Pradesh Federation National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) to upgrade the aseptic milk packaging station at Indore to manufacture long shelf line milk in aseptic pack. Since the Madhya Pradesh Federation/Government has not fulfilled the conditionalities for financing under Operation Flood-III, it has not been possible to take any action on the request.

*[English]***Procurement of Wagons**

273. SHRI TARIT BARAN
TOPDAR:
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wagons procured during the last one year from different manufacturing units, unit-wise;

(b) the number of wagons procured during the month of April, May and June, 1994;

(c) whether there is any shortfall in procurement of wagons during the current year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Unitwise details of wagons procured during 1993-94 from manufacturing units are as follows:

(Figs. in FWs)

<i>Unit</i>	<i>No.</i>
Public Sector	
1. Bharat Wagon Engineering Limited, Muzaffarpur	985
2. Bharat Wagon Engineering Limited, Mokameh	1235
3. Braithwaite, Calcutta	2120
4. Burn Standard Company Limited, Howrah	2005
5. Burn Standard Company Limited, Burnpur	2420
6. Jessop, Calcutta	485
Total Public Sector	9250

Private Sector

7. Cimmco, Bharatpur	2065
8. Hindustan General Industries, Nangloi	950

Unit	Number
9. Modern Industries, Sahibabad	1110
10. Texmaco, Calcutta	3200
11. Hindustan Development Corporation, Calcutta	1925
Total Private Sector	9250
Railway Workshops	
Amritsar Workshop, Amritsar	402
Golden Rock Workshop, Tiruchirappalli	604.5
Samastipur Workshop, Samastipur	142.5
Total Railway Workshops	1149
Grand Total	19649

(b) Monthwise details of wagons procured from April to June, 94 are as follows:

Month	Number (In fourwheelers)
April	140
May	82.5
June	745
Total	967.5

(c) and (d). As traffic offerings to the Railways have not been picking up as per projections, but asset utilisation has improved, consequently the requirement of wagons has reduced. Hence, only 10400 four-wheelers are intended to be

procured during 1994-95, which meet the Railways' requirement in full. A review will however be undertaken during the course of the year to determine the residual needs for procurement of additional wagons, if any.

Literacy Drive

274. SHRI RAMESH CHENNI-
THALA: Will the Minister of HUMAN
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased
to state:

(a) whether the literacy drive
launched in many States is not creating
the right impact due to lack of follow-up
action;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures taken by
the Government to make the literacy drive
a success?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF
CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c),
No, Sir.

The TLC (Total Literacy Campaign),
accepted as the principal strategy of the
National Literacy Mission for eradication
of illiteracy, has registered significant im-
pact through some salutary social spin-
offs—like an increasing awareness of
women's equality, resistance to supersti-
tions, and conservation of environment,
besides greater acceptance of immunisa-
tion and the small-family norm. The TLC
has further resulted in significantly higher
enrolment and retention of children in
schools. Besides, some districts have
also successfully experimented with
localised arrangements for skill-devel-
opment of learners and neoliterates.

As a follow-up of the campaign
approach, the TLC in the districts is
invariably followed by a two-year long
PLC (Post Literacy Campaign) intended
to (i) consolidate the literacy gains of the

TLC, (ii) mop-up those of the learners as
had dropped out during the duration of
TLC, and (iii) facilitate the transition of the
neoliterates from guided learning to self-
learning. During the PLC, the neoliterates
are encouraged to assemble in PL
Centres for group discussions and to
develop an interest in reading specially
designed booklets on a range of topics
like health care, environmental sanitation,
conservation of environment, women's
equality, the small-family norm, civic
rights, the adverse effects of
superstitions, communal harmony,
national integration, the various welfare
schemes, etc.

The strategy for both TLC and PLC
provides for a regular system of
monitoring of the progress of the
campaign by both the functionaries of the
ZSS (Zilla Saksharata Samiti), as well as
by the village and panchayat level popular
committees. Such built-in monitoring is
supplemented by the visits of officials and
Consultants from the National Literacy
Mission, and from the State Directorates
of Adult Education, for studying the
progress and counselling the ZSS on mid-
course corrections as may be necessary.
The Central Directorate of Adult
Education is responsible for the
centralised monitoring of all the
campaigns on the basis of monthly
progress reports received from districts.

[*Translation*]

Upliftment of Women

275. DR. LAXMINARAYAN
PANDEYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased
to state:

(a) whether the Government of
Maharashtra has recently announced any

policy on enhancing/improving the status of women in the Country;

(b) if so, the main features of the policy;

(c) the reaction of the Union Government in regard to various aspects envisaged in the policy; and

(d) whether the Union Government propose to formulate such plan aiming at the upliftment of women?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The 'Policy for Women' formulated by the Government of Maharashtra aims to raise the status of women in society as equal partners with men by generating awareness and providing infrastructure, support services and specific training which are essential for women's development. Some of the main features are:

(i) to remove discrimination;

(ii) empowerment by giving adequate and meaningful representation at all decision making levels-political, financial and administrative;

(iii) increasing literacy, training, awareness generation;

(iv) all grants/leases/allotments of Government properties to be in the name of husband and wife;

(v) providing adequate resources for the well being of women and children; and

(vi) adequate support services like accommodation, toilets, hostels, transport, etc.

(c) and (d), The Union Government appreciates and supports such positive steps by the State Governments. The Union Government is already implementing a number of schemes/programmes/steps in areas such as education, awareness generation, economic empowerment, rehabilitation provision of support services, legal literacy, counselling legal aid, enforcement, support to voluntary agencies, publicity campaigns etc., with a view to elevating the status of women.

[English]

Reservation of O.B.C.

276. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the benefits of twenty seven per cent reservation is proposed to be provided to the students of other backward classes (OBC) like that of SC and ST for admission in Government educational institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which action is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE

DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d). The Report of the Backward Classes Commission (Mandal Commission) has recommended reservation of 27% seats in educational institutions for OBCs. The Government has not yet taken decision of this recommendation.

Co-Joint Research Work

277. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 784 on April 28, 1992 and state the specific steps taken by the Government to give preference to the those Ph.D. holders who have done independent research work than those who have done it through co-joint research work in the matter of selection, appointment and promotion during the last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Import of Coaches

278. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently taken a decision to import coaches from Europe; and

(b) if so, the cost of each coach and the exact requirement of coaches by the Railways?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b). No order has been placed recently for import of coaches from Europe.

Quality of Tobacco

279. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ICAR and other tobacco research organisations have given any suggestions to improve the Quality of tobacco being grown in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allotted for implementation of those suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Central Tobacco Research Institute, Rajahmundry have suggested cultivation of improved varieties with appropriate production and protection technologies to improve the quality of tobacco.

(b) Location specific improved varieties (Gowatmi and VI-1158 for traditional black soils and CM-12 (KA) for northern light soils) and optimum dose of fertilizer 70 kg nitrogen/ha, 80 kg phosphorus/ha 80 kg potash/ha for northern light soil and only 40-50 kg/ha nitrogen for black soil) have been recommended. Appropriate plant protection technology has also been worked out.

(c) Total VIII Plan allocation for tobacco research is Rs. 6.18 crores which includes provision for transfer of technology to farmers.

Groundnut Cultivation

281. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has sought any subsidy towards area expansion programme for the Groundnut oil seeds cultivation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any National Research Centre on groundnut oil has been set up in the State;

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to set up such Research Centre in the State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b). The Centrally Sponsored Oilseed Production Programme (OPP) is already under implementation in the State of Gujarat. The programme provides financial assistance for inputs and production technologies for increasing the production of major oilseeds including groundnut. The strategy for increasing the groundnut production inter-alia includes expansion of groundnut in non-traditional areas having potential in Kharif, Rabi and Summer, and also through crop sequence.

(c) to (e). National Research Centre on Groundnut, Junagarh was set up in 1979 and it has been functioning since then. However, no proposal to set up National Research Centre exclusively for groundnut oil has been received from the State Government in the Technology Mission on Oilseeds and Pulses.

Development of Fisheries

282. SHRI S.B. SINDAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes submitted by the State Government for development of fisheries in their States during 1994-95, State-wise;

(b) the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(c) the financial assistance proposed to be provided therefor during 1994-95, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No new schemes have been submitted so far during 1994-95 by the State Governments.

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

[Translation]

Production of Foodgrains

283. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA:
DR. MAHADEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:

SHRI DATTA MEGHE:
SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO
DESHMUKH:
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:

during the last three years were as follows:

(Million tonnes)

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for production of foodgrains during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 and the achievement made in this regard;

(b) whether the Government have taken any measures to increase the average rate of production during the above period;

(c) if so, the details of national average rate of production of wheat and rice during the above period and the percentage of increase in production cost therein;

(d) whether the Government propose to draw a comprehensive action plan or introduced some new schemes to increase the production of foodgrains;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of areas identified for introduction of such schemes/action plan; and

(f) the time by which such schemes/action plan is likely to be implemented?

Year	Target	Achievement
1991-92	182.50	168.38
1992-93	183.00	180.01
1993-94	188.00	182.04

(b) and (c). For increasing the productivity of foodgrains crops namely Rice, Wheat, Coarse and Pulses, Central Sector/Centrally Sponsored Schemes were implemented during the last three years in major growing States of these crops. The National average yield per hectare of Wheat and Rice is indicated below:

Year	Yield in kg. per hectare	
	Wheat	Rice
1991-92	2394	1754
1992-93	2323	1744
1993-94 (Likely)	2365	1849

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Foodgrains production targets and achievements

The production cost of Wheat and Rice is not worked out at the National Level. However, as per the available information the increase in cost of production of Wheat and Rice in Haryana

and Punjab during 1991-92 over 1990-91 is as under:

State	Wheat	Rice
Haryana	(+) 8.34%	(+) 13.25%
Punjab	(+) 10.28%	(+) 6.20%

(d) to (f). On going Central Sector/Centrally Sponsored Schemes for Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals have

been modified to give focus on the development of cropping system as a whole for the overall increase in production and productivity of cereal crops. In an area only one scheme would be implemented and there would be no overlapping of implementation of the schemes. These modified schemes are being implemented from 1994-95 only in the identified blocks where rice/wheat/coarse cereals productivity is below State/National level and the area coverage is sizeable. States and number of identified blocks to be covered under modified schemes are as follows:

Scheme	States	No. of identified Blocks
ICDP-Rice	Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Kerala, Eastern Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Eastern Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Pondicherry	1200
ICDP-Wheat	Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Northern Rajasthan and Western Uttar Pradesh	425
ICDP-Coarse Cereals	Karnataka, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Sikkim	830

[English]

Central Warehousing Corporation

284. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of cargo handled by the container freight stations of the Central Warehousing Corporation during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the demand for these facilities from exporters and importers has

been increasing year after year during the last few years;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Central Warehousing Corporation has any proposal to set up joint ventures with the private sector for providing warehousing facilities and freight stations within and outside the country;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to amend the Warehousing

Corporation Act, 1957 to enable the Corporation to set up joint ventures; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Containers handled by Central Warehousing Corporation during the last three years is as under:

	1991-92	1992-93 (in TEUs)	1993-94
Loaded containers	67135	83439	106108
Empty	46788	60335	72762
Total	113923	143774	178870

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The demand for Container Freight Station facilities is increasing year after year from the users i.e. Exporters and Importers. Keeping in view the increased demand CWC is developing CFS facilities at Kandla, Surat, Nasik, Madavaram (3rd unit in Madras) and Udaipur.

(d) and (e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Pending Projects of Orissa

285. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of projects proposed to be implemented in Orissa are pending for environment and forest clearance;

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

(c) since when those projects are pending and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to expedite clearance of those projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Names of projects along with their dates of receipt and reasons for

pendency are as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Date of Receipt	Remarks
1.	Sergipalli Lead Mine of Hindustan Zinc Ltd.	July, 1992	Additional information awaited
2.	Mining of Iron and Manganese of M/s Maitri Shukla in Sundergarh Distt.	September, 1993	Under process
3.	Basundhara (East) Open cast Project of Mahanadi Coalfields etc.	October, 1993	Under process
4.	Lakhanpur Opencost (Expansion) Project of Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	January, 1994	Clarifications awaited from project authority
5.	Bhuvaneshwari Opencast project of Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	January, 1994	Clarifications awaited from project authority
6.	Anantha Opencast project of Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	January, 1994	Under process
7.	Bharatpur Opencast project of Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	May, 1994	Additional information awaited
8.	Hingula Opencast project of Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	February, 1994	Clarifications awaited from project authority
9.	0.5 MTPA Capacity Mini Steel Plant of Mid-East Integrated Steel Ltd. Jaipur	January, 1994	Additional information awaited
10.	Duburi TPS (2 x 250 MW) of Kalinga Power Corporation Limited	March, 1993	The case is being processed
11.	Ib Valley TPS (2 x 250 OMW) Stage-II, Orissa Power Generation Corporation Ltd.	January, 1993	Under process

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Date of Receipt	Remarks
12.	Additional power Generation Scheme at Hirakud B and Chiplima B Project	June, 1994	Under process
13.	Mining lease in favour of Smt. M. Shukla	June, 1994	Under process
14.	Rehabilitation of villages of Satbhaya and Kanhapur village	May, 1994	Under process
15.	Construction of Road from Dabatia to Buretal	June, 1994	Under process
16.	Baijukhalla Minor irrigation project	October, 1993	Under process
17.	Construction of 147.2 km Railway Line from Daitari to Bansapani	May, 1994	Under process
18.	Renewal of Mining lease of Joda East Iron project	January, 1994	Under process
19.	Construction of Lower Suktal irrigation project	March, 1994	State inspection Report awaited
20.	Opencast project IB Valley area	September, 1992	Under process
21.	Mining lease in favour of M/s IM&FA	February, 1994	Under process
22.	Bagh Barrage Project	May, 1994	Under process

(d) A final decision on the clearances of the project proposals will be taken within a stipulated time period from the date of receipt of the requisite information which have been sought from the project authorities.

Cleaning of Rivers

286. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the schemes of pollution abatement in towns located along the identified polluted stretches of major rivers of the country have been formulated and finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) The Government has approved a

National River Action Plan, a programme for pollution abatement of major national rivers in their identified polluted stretches. In pursuance of this decision of the Government schemes for taking up pollution abatement works are being formulated to obtain necessary approvals.

(b) A *Statement* showing details of schemes so far, based on the proposals received from the State Governments, is enclosed.

STATEMENT
Estimated Cost of Schemes (Under National River Action Plan NRAP)

(Rupees in Lakhs)

Sl.	Town	River	I&D	STP	CRE	RFD	LCS	Misc	Sub- Total (4) to (9)	Land Cost	Centages 14% of Cost	Total Cost	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
A. Andhra Pradesh													
1.	Mancharial	Godavari	227.46	84.00	10.00		10.00	49.00	380.46	45.00	53.26	479.00	Comments of
2.	Bhadrachalam	Godavari	164.82	60.00			15.00	15.50	255.32	17.05	35.63	308.00	the State Govt.
3.	Rajamundry	Godavari	937.60	877.00	42.40	34.00	164.00	65.00	2120.00	100.00	296.00	2516.00	on Approach
4.	Ramagundam	Godavari	590.00	1088.50		10.00	15.00	20.00	1723.50	97.50	255.00	1076.00	Paper received
			1919.88	2109.50	52.40	44.00	204.00	149.50	4479.28	259.55	639.89	5379.00	
B. Bihar													
5.	Ranchi	Subarna- rekha	154.80	355.00	54.50	44.70	28.00	250.60	887.60	203.20	124.26	1215.06	Comments of the State
6.	Jamshedpur	-do-	112.79	1225.00	52.00	85.64	38.50	48.50	1562.43	18.00	218.74	1799.17	
7.	Ghatshila	-do-	13.10	90.00	4.50	61.18	10.50	3.00	182.50		25.52	207.82	Govt. on Approach Paper not received
			280.69	1670.00	111.00	191.52	77.00	302.10	2632.31	221.20	368.52	3223.03	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14									
C. Gujarat																						
8.	Ahmedabad	Sabar- mati	4135.36	4273.00	40.00	10.00	24.00	8482.36	200.00	1007.03	9869.89		Comments of the State Govt. on Approach Paper received									
D. Karnataka																						
9.	Shimoga	Tunga (Krishna)	187.99	324.45	2.40	6.00	120.00	4.00	644.84	12.50	90.28	747.62	Comments of the State Govt. on Approach paper recd.									
10.	Harihara	Tung- bhadra (Krishna)	64.71	59.90	1.20	12.00	30.00	17.09	184.90	49.90	25.89	260.69										
11.	Bhadravathi	Bhadra (Krishna)	81.32	63.05	1.20	6.00	225.00	12.03	388.60	39.80	54.40	482.80										
12.	Davanagare	Tung- bhadra (Krishna)	176.54	204.38			69.00	28.39	478.31	127.90	86.96	673.17										
13.	K. R. Nagar	Cauvery	45.34	14.64		5.00	3.00	2.05	70.03	4.73	9.80	84.36										
14.	Kollegal	Cauvery	35.54	8.75	1.20	5.00	15.00	0.31	63.80	1.75	8.93	74.48										
15.	Manjangud	Cauvery	72.35	37.60			30.00	5.63	145.58	18.00	20.38	183.96										
16.	Sri Ranga- patna	Cauvery	95.68	19.55	1.20	10.00	30.00	5.80	162.23	8.77	21.71	192.71										
													757.47	732.32	7.20	44.00	522.00	75.30	2138.29	263.35	298.35	2699.79

E. Madhya Pradesh

17. Indore	Khan	584.60	2567.50	80.00	11.20	250.00	296.30	3789.30	120.00	530.46	4439.76	Comments of the State Govt. on Approach paper recd.
18. Ujjain	Kshipra	704.22	1028.60	11.20	263.22	191.67	90.00	2288.91	20.00	320.45	2629.36	
19. Burhanpur	Tapti	151.75	180.00	6.00	50.00	50.00	38.30	476.05	10.00	66.65	552.70	
20. Mandideep	Betwa		90.00		15.00		34.00	14.00	153.00	21.42	174.42	
21. Bhopal	Betwa	60.00	60.00			32.00	37.60	189.60	30.00	26.54	246.14	
22. Vidisha	Betwa	225.00	110.40	4.00	24.00	30.70	33.90	428.00		59.92	487.92	
23. Jabalpur	Narmada	1011.00	104.21	3.00	45.88	41.40	65.00	1270.49	8.64	177.86	1456.99	
24. Seoni	Wainganga	42.61	35.57	0.80	8.21	15.00	17.46	119.65		16.75	136.40	
25. Chapara	Wainganga	21.00	4.77	0.60	7.50	12.42	8.07	54.36		7.61	61.97	
26. Keolari	Wainganga	13.46	6.87	0.60	14.88	8.28	27.73	71.82		10.05	81.87	
27. Nagda	Chambal	220.15	66.00	2.50		10.00	32.00	330.65	15.00	46.29	391.94	
		3033.79	4352.92	108.70	439.89	675.47	660.06	9171.83	203.64	1284.00	10659.47	

F. Maharashtra

28. Karad	Krishna	742.50	373.00	10.00		45.00		1170.50	66.50	163.87	1400.87	Comments of the State Govt. on Approach paper recd.
29. Sangli	Krishna	310.84	960.96					1279.80	101.55	179.17	1560.52	
30. Nasik	Goda-vari	3109.33	2231.25	25.00	241.00	156.45	114.00	5877.03	542.00	822.78	7241.81	
31. Nanded	Goda-vari	828.68	505.40	6.00				1340.08	2.50	187.61	1530.19	
		4999.35	4070.61	41.00	241.00	201.45	114.00	9667.41	712.55	1353.43	11733.39	

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
G. Orissa														
32. Cutback			Mahanadi	Cost break-up awaited						1300.00		169.00	1469.00	Comments of
33. Talcher			Brahmini	38.00	276.00	40.00	25.00	40.00	207.50	626.50		45.00	671.50	the State
34. Chandbali			Brahmini	40.15		10.00	10.00	30.00		90.15		12.62	102.77	Govt. on
35. Dharmshala			Brahmini	29.50		10.00	10.00	15.00	139.50	203.50		38.00	241.50	Approach Paper awaited
				107.65	276.00	60.00	45.00	85.00	347.00	2220.15		264.62	2484.77	
H. Punjab														
36. Ludhiana			Satluj	3150.11	7861.45	59.20		720.00	171.64	1962.40	2785.00	1674.74	16422.14	Comments on
37. Jallundhar			Satluj	366.38	2588.88	6.00		300.00	14.80	4276.07	810.00	598.65	5684.72	Approach paper
38. Phagwara			Satluj	263.39	248.25	1.20		96.00	5.72	614.56	52.00	86.04	752.60	received but
39. Phillaur			Satluj	13.07	13.85	0.60		24.00	1.24	52.76	18.00	7.39	78.15	Govt. of Punjab did not agree to bear the cost of O&M fully
				4792.96	10712.43	67.00		1140.00	193.00	16905.79	3665.00	2366.82	22937.61	

I. Rajasthan													
40.	Kota	Chambal	153.47	846.00	3.00	20.00	88.00	35.00	1145.47	7.80	160.36	1313.33	Comments of the State Govt. on Approach Paper recd.
41.	Keshorapattan	Chambal	19.40	18.00	1.20	5.00	10.00	12.50	66.10	5.00	9.25	80.35	
J. Tamil Nadu													
42.	Kumaralayam	Cauvery	34.80	313.00	1.00	12.00	19.50	10.75	521.05	30.00	72.95	624.00	Comments of the State Govt. on Approach Paper received
43.	Bhawani	"	132.70	87.78	1.00	42.00	20.00	30.56	314.04	10.00	43.96	368.00	
44.	Erode	"	818.18	491.16	1.00	12.00	20.00	19.94	1362.28	16.00	190.72	1569.00	
45.	Trichy	"	355.00	156.00	1.00	35.00	40.00	13.00	600.00	6.00	84.00	690.00	
46.	Pallipatayam	"	128.45	307.80	1.00	12.00	18.00	10.82	478.07	24.00	66.93	569.00	
Total													
			1569.13	1385.74	5.00	113.00	117.50	85.07	3275.44	85.00	458.56	3820.00	
			21769.15	30347.52	496.50	1143.41	3130.42	1997.93	60184.43	5623.79	8391.41	74199.63	

I&D : Interception and Diversion

STP : Sewage Treatment Plant

CRE : Crematoria

RFD : River Front Development

LCS : Low Cost Sanitation

Misc. : Afforestation, Solid waste Management and Public Participation etc.

Add 5% towards expenditure on establishment Research and Development and Monitoring = 3009.22

Total estimated cost (74199.63 + 3009.22) = 77208.85

State Share on 50 : 50 basis = 37099.81

Central Share = 40109.03

Decentralisation of Education

287. SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal regarding decentralisation of education;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c). In pursuance of the 73rd and 74th Constitutional amendments, a Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) Committee formulated guidelines on decentralised management of education, at district, sub-district and village levels. The report of the Committee was endorsed by the Chief Ministers' Conference held in New Delhi on 15th February, 1994. The report has been commended to the State Governments and UT Administrations for appropriate adaptation and effective implementation keeping in view their specific situation.

[*Translation*]

Establishment of Indian Institute of Management

288. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision in regard to setting up of Indian Institute of Management in Indore; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. With the intention of establishing an Indian Institute of Management in Indore, some steps have been initiated including preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) by Educational Consultants India Ltd. (Ed. CIL).

[*English*]

Cancellation of Trains

289. SHRI HARADHAN ROY:
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passenger trains cancelled during 1994;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to restore those trains;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Commercial Exploitation of Crop Varieties Developed by IARI

290. SHRI DHARMANNA
MONDAYYA SADUL:
SHRI R. SURENDER
REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) has recently entered into a commercial agreement with a Bihar-Based Company for exploiting crop varieties developed by IARI scientists;

(b) if so, the details of the crop varieties to be exploited and particulars of the company and the terms of the agreement entered into;

(c) whether the IARI has any proposal to enter into similar commercial agreements with companies based in other parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating inter-alia whether the varieties of crops in farmer fields and those commercialised are based on indigenously developed seeds or on imported seeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b). The Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) has entered into an agreement with the Sone Command Area Development Agency (SCADA), Patna a public sector body fully

owned and funded jointly by the Government of India and the Government of Bihar for making available know how for production of seeds of crops such as Rice, Wheat, Maize and Vegetables. Breeder seeds of varieties which have been released by the Central Varieties Release Committee of the Government of India will be supplied by IARI to SCADA for multiplication and sale by it to the farmers of the area.

(c) No, Sir. There is no other proposal under consideration.

(d) The question does not arise.

[Translation]

Railway Factory at Izzatnagar

291. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: -

(a) the details of the various works undertaken in the railway factory at Izzatnagar under the North-Eastern railway during the last three years;

(b) whether work has not been undertaken as per capacity of the said factory;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the Government have taken a decision to close-down the said factory?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) The details of the major works undertaken in the Railway Workshop at Izzatnagar under the North Eastern Railway during each of the last three years, are as under:

Activity	Year		
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
1. MG carriage POH (in Four Wheeler Units)	1242	1334	1380
2. MG wagon POH (in Four Wheeler Units)	2401	2111	1640
3. MG crane manufacture (in Nos.)	5	3	Nil

(b) Yes, Sir. Some marginal capacity remained unutilised.

(c) The reduction in volume of POH of MG wagons is on account of lower arisings. Manufacture of MG Cranes has been stopped as there is no further requirement of these cranes.

(d) No, Sir.

[English]

Report on Status of Women

292. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has prepared a report on the status of women for the forthcoming World Conference on Women in Beijing; and

(b) the main thrust of the report and the issues likely to be highlighted by Indian delegation in the said Conference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir. A draft country report has been prepared.

(b) The main thrust of the report and issues which have been reflected in the draft country report include the following:

1. Eradication of poverty, and particularly its feminisation.
2. The need for affirmative discrimination in favour of women in political and economic spheres in order to enhance women's status.
3. Empowerment of women through better access to and control over land, credit, savings and other factors of production.
4. To focus not only on women's problems and issues but continuously try to capture women's perspective and visions in developing priorities and strategies.
5. Promotion of women's participation in decision making through positive discrimination in favour of women.
6. To confront negative image of women in media.

7. Elimination of atrocities and violence against women at household and societal levels.
8. Linking of women's concerns with environmental and natural resources management.

Tiger Reserves

293. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:
SHRI RAM PRASAD
SINGH:

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

(a) whether the area under various Tiger Reserves has been shrinking;

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

(c) the preventive measures taken by the Government to check such decline in the habitat area under various Tiger Reserves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):
(a) No, Sir.

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

Admission in Indira Gandhi National Open University

294. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:
Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether fifty per cent of the Students who pass the Senior Secondary Examination of the C.B.S.E. do not get admission in Delhi Colleges although they apply for the same;

(b) whether such students are being deprived of admission in Indira Gandhi National Open University because by the time the last cut-off lists of Delhi Colleges are out, the last date of admission to IGNOU is also over; and

(c) the reasons why additional time is not given for such students to get admission in the Indira Gandhi National Open University after the last cut-off lists are declared?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SEJLA): (a) According to the information furnished by the Delhi University, about 59,947 students have passed the Senior Secondary Examination securing 40% and above marks and 1053 students have passed the said examination securing 33-39%. All these students would have applied to various colleges for different courses in the University of Delhi.

It is estimated that about 32,500 students will be accommodated in the regular colleges, about 5,000 students in Non-Collegiate Women Education Board. The remaining students have to apply to the School of Correspondence Courses and Continuing Education/External candidate Cell which can accommodate the students. The School of Correspondence Courses and Continuing Education can accommodate about 20,000 students which run the undergraduate courses in B.A. (P), B.Com.(Hons.) and B.A.(Hons.) English courses.

(b) and (c). Accordingly to the information furnished by the Indira Gandhi National Open University, the last date to file applications for the degrees of B.A.,

B.Com. and B.Sc. in the University is 3rd August, 1994. Admission to Delhi Colleges are generally completed by middle of July and, therefore, the students who could not get admission to Delhi Colleges may still seek admission to the degree programmes of IGNOU.

Firing Range at Buddhist Sites

295. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the threat to several Buddhist sites located in Sitagarh Hills, Kolhua Pahar, Chhatra and several other sites rich in Buddhist relics in Bihar due to use of these hills by Border Security Forces as a heavy mortar firing range; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to save these sites?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Preliminary investigation shows that the sites do not seem to be threatened due to use of these hills as heavy mortar firing range. The matter relating to shifting of the firing range elsewhere, if found necessary, will be taken up with Border Security Force after detailed investigations are completed.

White Revolution in Madhya Pradesh

296. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes pertaining to white revolution, cattle breeding and fisheries in Madhya Pradesh and the funds allocated by the Government therefor during 1992-93 and 1993-94, year-wise and scheme-wise; and

(b) the targets fixed and achievements made under these schemes during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) The details of the schemes pertaining to white revolution cattle breeding and fisheries in Madhya Pradesh are given below:

- (i) Under white revolution the Operation Flood Programme is under implementation. The allocation of funds of the scheme is given below.

(Rs. in Lakhs)

1992-93	1993-94
59.37	46.64

- (ii) Under cattle breeding, the Extension Frozen Semen Technology Programme is under implementation. The unspent balance of Rs. 4.79 lakh of Sixth Plan and unspent balance of Rs. 13.00 lakh of 1991-92 i.e. a sum of Rs. 17.79 lakh was revaluated to State during 1993-94.

- (iii) Under fisheries the following schemes are under implementation and funds released indicated against each.

(Rs. in lakh)

Name of Scheme	Allocation	
	1992-93	1993-94
1. Freshwater Aquaculture	34.00	120.00
2. Welfare of fisherman	2.00	10.00
3. Strengthening of Inland Fish Marketing	27.50	70.00
4. Inland Fisheries Statistics	1.96	2.50

(b) The targets fixed and achievements made are given in the *Statement* enclosed.

STATEMENT

Scheme	Physical achievements	
	1992-93	1993-94
(I) Operation Flood*		
1. Milksheds	7	7
2. Dairy Cooperative Societies	3892	3981
3. Farmer members (lakhs)	1.99	2.01
4. Milk Procurement (Thousand kgs per day)	213	296
5. Milk Marketing (Thousand litres per day)	209	194
6. Milk Processing capacity (Thousand litres per day)	1000	1000
7. Milk drying capacity (Metric Tonnes per day)	30	30
(II) Fisheries**		
1. Freshwater Aquaculture		
(i) Water area covered (in ha)	3745	5319
(ii) Fishermen Trained (Nos.)	1543	2290
2. Welfare of Fishermen	45	41
3. Strengthening of Inland Fish Marketing (Units sanctioned Nos.)	1	1

Physical achievements

	1992-93	1993-94
4. Inland Fisheries Statistics Surveys of ponds and tanks	conducted	Raipur, Shahdol, Seoni, Bastar, Bentul, Dhar, Sarguja, Satna and Jabalpur

* As all the project proposals were not approved due to non-compliance of conditionalities, the State targets were not fixed.

** Outlay and target not fixed.

[Translation]

Educational Collaboration

297. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUS-MARIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries which have collaboration with India in educational field with special reference to agreements recently held in this regard; and

(b) the details of such agreement?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Scholarship to Artists

298. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have invited applications from poor but enthusiastic artists (like Dramatist, Musician, Dancers, etc.) and selections are made for granting scholarships to them after going through their merit and achievements;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of artists of different fields who have been granted scholarships this year and the amount thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SHELJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department of Culture invited applications for award of scholarships in different cultural fields. All the applications received were placed before the Export Committee constituted for each field, for their consideration and recommendations.

(c) In total 196 candidates have been selected for the year 1993-94. A

Statement showing the number of scholarships awarded in each field is attached. The amount of scholarship is Rs. 1000 per month.

STATEMENT

Field-wise Statement showing the Number of Scholarships

Sl. No.	Name of the field	Number of candidates selected
1.	Mohiniyattam	5
2.	Kathakali	2
3.	Kuchipudi	12
4.	Kathak	8
5.	Rare Art forms	11
6.	Visual Arts	31
7.	Hindustani Music	26
8.	Chhau Dance/Music	7
9.	Odissi Dance	13
10.	Odissi Music	4
11.	Bharatanatyam	11
12.	Karnatak Music	21
13.	Drama	17
14.	Western Music	3
15.	Manipuri Dance/ Music/Martial Arts	25
Total		196

[English]

Seminar of Distance Education

299. SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a seminar on Distance Education was held recently in Delhi;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made in the seminar; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government on these recommendations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c). According to the information furnished by the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), a seminar on quality assurance in Distance Education was held from 30th June to July 2, 1994 in New Delhi. The seminar was jointly organised by the University Grants Commission, Commonwealth of Learning, Canada and the Distance Education Council (IGNOU). The seminar formulated an action plan indicating a variety of steps to be taken by the Universities and Correspondence/Distance Education Units and the Apex Bodies. The Universities have been advised to initiate time-bound action to implement the measures recommended in the action plan.

Regional Office of FCI

300. SHRI KABINDRA PURKA-YASTHA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations for setting up of the Regional Office of the Food Corporation of India at Silchar, Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Representations have been received from various quarters including Members of Parliament and the FCI Staff Unions. They have demanded opening up of a Regional Office at Silchar with a view to have easier and more frequent contacts with the Regional Offices of FCI and overcome communication problems.

(c) The Food Corporation of India is having its Zonal Office at Guwahati which controls Assam and NEF Regions of the Corporation, which is functioning since 1989. The officers can effectively oversee the foodgrains operations of the FCI throughout the NEP Regions from that Office. Besides, there already exists a District Office of FCI at Silchar to supervise the FCI activities in that area. Hence the opening of a new Regional Office of FCI at Silchar is not considered necessary at this stage.

Open Universities

301. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for granting recognition to open universities;

(b) the procedures for supervision and monitoring so that these institutions maintain certain stipulated academic standards;

(c) whether the Kota Open University has been awarding degrees to its students since its inception;

(d) if so, the years for which degrees have not been awarded so far; and

(e) the time schedule by which the arrears of degrees are likely to be cleared?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) According to the rules for declaration of fitness of Open Universities notified under the UGC Act 1956, the Commission shall not declare an Open University to be fit to receive grants from the Central Government, the Commission or any another organisation receiving any fund from the Central Government, unless the Commission is satisfied in respect of the following matters, namely:

- (1) Statute broadly in line with IGNOU Act, 1985;
- (2) Network of Study Centres in accordance with the recommendations of IGNOU; and
- (3)
 - (i) Developed land
 - (ii) Core Staff of 5 Professors/5 Readers and 20 Lecturers.
 - (iii) Buildings:
 - (a) Administrative.
 - (b) Academic (for Core Faculty Guest and Part-time Faculty and their supporting staff Library for Books and Cassettes, Seminars and Committee rooms).

(c) Material storage and distribution.

(d) Studio with auxiliary accommodation.

(iv) Faculty guest house for atleast 20 persons.

(v) Quarters for essential staff.

(vi) Computer system, including site preparation, and equipment for studio, as recommended by the Indira Gandhi National Open University.

(vii) Books and Journals.

(viii) Infrastructure facilities for study Centres established or maintained by the Open University.

(b) The Distance Education Council—an apex body for Open and Distance Education System in the Country—has recently established a Quality Assurance Panel for the purpose.

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

New Railway Line between Mysore Cannanore

302. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been made for laying of a new railway line between Mysore-Cannore; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Seeds Act

303. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have circulated the proposed seed Act details to elicit public opinion and for consideration of State Governments as well as farmers organisations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response from the State Governments as well as that of farmers organisations and experts in this field?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c), At present, there is no proposal to amend the Seeds Act, 1966. Some suggestions have been received from State Governments and Seed Growers' Merchants Association regarding review of penal provisions, modification in notification and certification system, and representation of Seed Industry on various Committees.

[Translation]

Central Consumer Protection Council

304. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted the Central Consumers Protection Council under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986;

(b) if so, the areas which have been given representation in the said Council and the details of its composition; and

(c) the powers and facilities being enjoyed by the representatives of this Council?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). Section 4 of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 provides for setting up of the Central Consumer Protection Council by the Central Government. The Council has since been constituted under the Chairmanship of Union Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution with the Minister of State for CS, CA&PD, as its Vice-Chairman. Other members include State Food Ministers, Members of Parliament, representatives of Central Government Departments and autonomous organisations, consumer organisations, women, farmers, trade and industry etc. All the States/UTs except the State of Jammu & Kashmir have been given representation in the Council.

(c) The non-official Members of the Council are entitled to first class to and fro rail fare and a daily allowance of Rs. 100 per day for attending the meetings of the Council or of any working group constituted under it. The Members of Parliament are entitled to travelling and daily allowances at such rates as are admissible to them. The resolutions passed by the Council are recommendatory in nature.

[English]

Coconut Plantation

305. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the activities undertaken and achievements made by the Coconut Development Board during the last three years in Kerala;

(b) whether any action plan has been drawn up for the development of Coconut Plantations in Kerala; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) The Coconut Development Board has drawn up action plan for development of coconut plantations in Kerala. Funds utilised in the last three years are as under:

		Rs. in lakhs		
Activity undertaken		1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
(1)	Expansion of area under coconut	35.887	36.150	60.299
(2)	Production and distribution of IxD seedlings	7.700	14.450	10.463

Activity undertaken	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
(3) Integrated Farming in Coconut small holdings	67.893	70.000	463.823
(4) Providing assistance for irrigation facilities to coconut growers	1.500	3.505	—
(5) Drip irrigation scheme	50.000	9.404	—
(6) Demonstration-cum-seed production farm	2.599	6.520	10.240
(7) Nursery attached to DSP farm	—	4.702	2.000
(8) Integrated control of leaf cater-pillar	—	-	4.323

(b) and (c). The Government have drawn up the action plan for development of coconut plantation in Kerala as indicated above with a total outlay of Rs. 3063.76 lakhs during VIII Plan.

Non-Governmental Organisations

306. DR. R MALLU: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provide financial support to Non-Governmental Organisations engaged in the consumer affairs and in the protection of their rights;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to bring out a magazine on consumer affairs; and

(d) whether this work is likely to be handed over to NGO as part of communication and advocacy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). The Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs & Public Distribution has two schemes to provide financial support to Non-Governmental organisations engaged in consumer affairs. In the first scheme, the consumer organisations which are registered under any law for the time being in force, are given financial assistance to a maximum limit of Rs. 25,000 (on 75% grant basis). Recently, the Government has also set up the Consumer Welfare Fund where any agency/organisation which has been registered under any law for the time being in force and which is working in the field of consumer protection for a period of three years, is eligible to apply for financial assistance. The maximum assistance available under the Consumer Welfare Fund is Rs. 5 lakhs.

(c) and (d). The Ministry is already bringing out a quarterly journal

"Upabhokta Jagaran". There is no proposal to hand over this work to NGOs.

CCS Rules in Kendriya Vidyalayas

307. SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has not yet adopted CCS (Recognition of Service Association) Rules, 1993;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay;

(c) whether the item forms a part of the agenda of the fifty-eighth meeting of Board of Governors of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b). The CCS (Recognition of Service Association) Rules, 1993 are yet to be adopted by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan with the approval of its Board of Governors.

(c) and (d). The 58th meeting of the Board of Governors is yet to be fixed.

[Translation]

Centrally Sponsored Scheme in Madhya Pradesh

308. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the Centrally Sponsored schemes implemented in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years with a view to increase agricultural production; and

(b) the achievements made under these schemes during the above period and the expenditure incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b). The relevant details in respect of important Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes implemented in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years are given in the attached *Statement*.

These schemes contributed significantly to the increase in agricultural production in Madhya Pradesh. An increase of the order of 15% in foodgrains, 64% in Cotton and 53% in Oilseeds is anticipated during 1993-94 over the production in 1991-92.

STATEMENT

Name of the Scheme	Funds released from 1991-92 to 1993-94 (Rs. lakhs)
(i) Special Foodgrains Production Programme—Maize & Millets	442
(ii) Special Foodgrains Production Programme—Wheat	447

Name of the Scheme	Funds released from 1991-92 to 1993-94 (Rs. lakhs)
(iii) Integrated Programme for Rice Development	595
(iv) Intensive Cotton Development Programme	92
(v) National Pulses Development Programme	1048
(vi) Oilseeds Production Programme	2257
(vii) National Water-shed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPPRA)	5480

[English]

Vidharbha Express

Environment Protection Act, 1986

309. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 empowers the Ministry to close down polluting industries but not allow it to levy fines on defaulters;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering suitable amendment to the Act to ensure effective implementation of the Act; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The Act is being implemented effectively.

(c) Does not arise.

310. SHRI RAMCHANDRA GHAN-GARE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand to provide stoppage of Vidharbha Express at Chandur station; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Examined but not found justified.

Production of Tobacco

311. SHRI UDAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether various varieties of tobacco are being produced in the country;

(b) if so, the places where such varieties are being produced alongwith

their production during 1992-93 and 1993-94, variety-wise;

(c) whether there is a demand of Indian Tobacco in International Markets;

(d) if so, the names of the varieties which are in demand with names of consuming countries; and

(e) the details of steps being taken by the Government to boost the production of those varieties of tobacco?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Major tobacco growing States in India are Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Bihar, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu. Major types of tobacco grown in

India are Flue-cured Virginia, Bidi, Natu, Cherott, Hookah, Cigar and Chewing. The cultivation of FCV tobacco is concentrated in coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh and in the transitional zones of Karnataka. The cultivation of bidi tobacco is mostly confined to Charotar area of Gujarat comprising Kheda and Vadodara districts, Nipani area of Belgaum district in Karnataka and Kolhapur and Sangli districts of Maharashtra Chewing tobacco is mostly grown in Coimbatore, Anna and Periyar districts of Tamil Nadu. Hookah and Chewing tobacco is grown in Vaishali, Samastipur, Purnea and Muzaffarpur districts in Bihar, Coochbehar and Jalpaiguri districts in West Bengal and Farukhabad and Etah districts in Uttar Pradesh. Cigar tobacco is grown in Trichy and Anna districts of Tamil Nadu and Cigar wrapper in Coochbehar district of West Bengal. Estimated Area and Production of various types of tobacco during 1992-93 and 1993-94 are as under:

(000' ha)

	Area		Production	
	1992-93	1993-94(p)*	1992-93	1993-94(p)*
FCV tobacco	155.2	122.0	161.4	125.0
Burley, Natu etc. tobacco	47.0	50.0	59.0	60.0
Bidi tobacco	117.9	125.0	186.6	195.0
Cigar and Charoot tobacco	12.8	13.4	14.7	15.0
Hokah tobacco	25.9	27.7	71.6	74.0
Chewing tobacco	51.9	59.8	74.0	78.0
Snuff	7.0	8.2	13.3	13.0
	417.7	406.1	580.6	560.0

(P)* = Provisional.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Flue-cured Virginia, Burley and chewing types are the important varieties which are exported to over 50 countries. Major importing countries are Russia, U.K., Belgium, France, Germany, Netherlands, Nepal, Algeria, USA, Libya, Bangladesh etc.

(e) (i) Directorate of Tobacco Development, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing non-plan scheme for production and distribution of pure seed and seedlings of FCV and bidi tobacco and training of farmers in adoption of improved package of practices with a view to increasing the productivity of tobacco.

(ii) Scheme for assessing the cost of production of FCV tobacco in Andhra Pradesh is implemented to generate data for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) for recommending minimum support prices for tobacco.

(iii) Research at Central Tobacco Research Institute, Rajahmundry and its sub-stations to evolve better techniques and high yielding varieties, which are passed on to growers for increasing production and productivity.

[Translation]

Facilities on Stations

312. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of railway stations in Gujarat where facilities of waiting room, restaurant, drinking water, latrine, retiring rooms and platforms with roofs are not available.

(b) whether any survey was conducted in this regard and if so, the number of cases handed over to the Railway Advisory Committee;

(c) whether there is any proposal to provide these facilities on the stations during the current financial year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (d), The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Grant-in-Aid by UGC

313. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of grant-in-aid allocated by the University Grants Commission to the universities in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) whether the amount of grant has been utilised fully by all the universities;

(c) if not, whether the unutilised grant has been surrendered by any University;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any new scheme regarding financial allocation to Andhra

Pradesh in the current financial year has been approved by the Government; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) KUMARI SELJA: (a) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Assistance to Earthquake Victims

314. SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total central assistance allocated and released to Maharashtra for relief and rehabilitation of the earthquake victims of Killari and other regions;

(b) the total contribution received from the donors (including foreign donors) for earthquake relief till date;

(c) whether the Government have received any progress report from the State Government in regard to rehabilitation of earthquake victims; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Five instalments of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund amounting to Rs. 41.25 crores were released to Government of Maharashtra in advance for relief and rehabilitation measures in the earthquake affected areas of Maharashtra.

(b) An amount of Rs. 243.37 crores has so far been received by Government

of Maharashtra from donors including donors from abroad for relief and rehabilitation measures.

(c) and (d). Government of Maharashtra has launched a programme to rehabilitate the victims of the earthquake. The programme is being assisted by a credit of US \$ 246 million from the International Development Association. The loan agreement was signed on 06.04.94 and the credit became effective on 27.06.94. The programme consists of housing, infrastructure, economic and social rehabilitation and technical assistance. Under the programme, 1330 houses have so far been completed in 39 villages and construction of 4798 houses is in progress. The work in other sectors is also in progress.

New Railway Station

315. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been made to Government by the Railway Users Organisation for establishing a railway station between Mulund and Thane Railway Stations; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Press Passes to Freedom Fighters

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

(a) the number of freedom fighters who have been provided free railway travelling facility with one companion during 1994 till date in each zone;

(b) whether the Government have received any complaints in regard to obtaining the passes and availing free travel facility by producing bogus certificates;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

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

(e) if so, the findings thereof; and

(f) the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) A *statement* is attached.

(b) to (f). Issue/renewal of the Complimentary Card passes granted to Freedom Fighters is done on production of Original Pension Payment Order (PPO)/live certificate issued from the Bank from where pension is drawn. Till now, the Ministry of Railways have not received any complaint about issue of such Passes on production of bogus PPO/live certificate. However, on receipt of advice from Ministry of Home Affairs about suspension of the pension of Freedom Fighters, necessary action is

taken to cancel the Passes, if any, issued to them.

STATEMENT

Railway	Number of Freedom Fighters who have been issued First Class Complimentary Card Passes, with a companion, during the period from 1.1.1994 to 30.6.1994
Central	2424
Eastern	4474
Northern	3522
North Eastern	2543
Northeast Frontier	444
Southern	2194
South Central	4599
South Eastern	1359
Western	907

Milk Production in Uttar Pradesh

318. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of milk at present, State-wise;

(b) the national average of the production of milk at present and the share of Uttar Pradesh in it;

(c) the measures being adopted by the Government to bring the milk production in Uttar Pradesh at par with the national average;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to encourage milk production in Uttar Pradesh;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which this scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b).¹ A *Statement* showing state-wise total milk production, national average of per capita milk production and per capita production of milk in Uttar Pradesh is enclosed.

(c) The milk production in terms of per capita availability in Uttar Pradesh is already more than the National average.

(d) to (f). Besides State Government programmes, following centrally sponsored schemes are being implemented to enhance the milk production in the country. These schemes are being taken up in all States including Uttar Pradesh:

(1) Extension of Frozen Semen

Technology and Progeny Testing Programme.

- (2) Assistance to States for Feed and Fodder Development.
- (3) National Project on Rinderpest Eradication.
- (4) Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases.
- (5) Professional Efficiency Development.
- (6) National Bull Production Programme.
- (7) Integrated Dairy Development Programme is non-operation flood, hilly and backward areas.
- (8) Programmes under Operation Flood-III. These schemes are likely to continue under VIII Five Year Plan.

STATEMENT

Milk Production - Statewise

(Provisional)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	1992-93 (000 tonnes)	Per capita availability of milk per day (gms)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3103	124
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	42	128
3.	Assam	657	77
4.	Bihar	3360	102
5.	Goa	28	63
6.	Gujarat	3795	244

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	1992-93 (000 tonnes)	Per capita availability of milk per day (gms)
7.	Haryana	3715	596
8.	Himachal Pradesh	610	313
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	600	205
10.	Karnataka	2590	153
11.	Kerala	1889	173
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4879	195
13.	Maharashtra	4102	138
14.	Manipur	83	119
15.	Meghalaya	52	77
16.	Mizoram	11	41
17.	Nagaland	37	79
18.	Orissa	530	44
19.	Punjab	5583	736
20.	Rajasthan	4570	274
21.	Sikkim	30	192
22.	Tamil Nadu	3468	167
23.	Tripura	34	32
24.	Uttar Pradesh	10649	203
25.	West Bengal	3023	118
26.	A & N Islands	21	193
27.	Chandigarh	37	147
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	4	75
29.	Daman & Diu	1	26
30.	Delhi	250	68
31.	Lakshadweep	1	50
32.	Pondicherry	27	88
All India		57781	181

*[English]*SHRI PANKAJ
CHOWDHARY:**Arsenic Poisoning**

319. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Experts Committee constituted to investigate the causes of the arsenic poisoning of ground water in West Bengal has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the findings thereof and suggestions made for its elimination from drinking water sources; and

(c) the further action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):
(a) No, Sir.

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

*[Translation]***Fake Tickets**

320. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints regarding sale of fake railway tickets in the country;

(b) if so, the number of persons arrested for such activities during the last six months in each zone;

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

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) the approximate amount of loss incurred due to the sale of fake tickets; and

(f) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Zone-wise details of persons arrested is given below:

Railway Zone	Persons Arrested	
	Railway Staff	Outsiders
Central	4	2
Eastern	—	5
Northern	2	38
North Eastern	4	3

Railway Zone	Persons Arrested	
	Railway Staff	Outsiders
N.F.	—	—
Southern	—	—
South Central	—	—
South Eastern	—	1
Western	—	—
Total	10	48

(c) and (d). Enquiries are conducted by GRP and CBI.

(e) The value of detected fake tickets was Rs. 22,656 only.

(f) Regular and extensive checks on trains and platforms are made by Commercial staff. Surprise checks are made by Anti-Fraud Squad of Commercial Department and Vigilance Branch. The RPF, GRD and CBI are also associated where outsiders are involved.

[English]

Industrial Pollution Control

321. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision to provide financial incentives for installing pollution control equipments and for shifting the pollution

causing industries from crowded places to other places; and

(b) if so, the details of the work carried out in this regard, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b), Yes, Sir.

Details of the work carried out which benefit all the States include:

- (i) Fiscal incentives are given in terms of rebate on cess payable under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977;
- (ii) Depreciation allowance at 100% is provided for installing pollution control devices;
- (iii) To encourage industries to shift from congested urban areas, capital gains arising from transfer

of building/land and material, are exempted from tax;

- (iv) Financial assistance towards capital investment upto 25% or Rs. 50 lakhs whichever is less is given as subsidy to industries in small scale sector for setting up of common Effluent Treatment Facilities.
- (v) Industrial Development Bank of India and Industrial Credit and Invest Corporation of India also provide loans at reduced rates of interest for installing pollution control devices;
- (vi) Customs Duty at reduced rates of 35% + 5% auxiliary charges levied on equipment and spares for pollution control;
- (vii) Excise Duty at reduced rates of 5% is chargeable on manufactured goods that are used for pollution control;
- (viii) Bricks and blocks manufactured of fly ash and phosphogypsum are exempted from excise duty;
- (ix) Exemption under Section 35 CCD of the Income Tax Act is given to assesseees who incur expenditure by way of payments on any sum towards associations or institutions which carry out programmes of conservation of natural resources.

[*Translation*]

Kendriya Vidyalayas

322. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to open new Kendriya Vidyalayas during 1994-95;

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

(c) the number of new Kendriya Vidyalayas proposed to be opened in trans-Yamuna area of Delhi during the current year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has issued sanction orders for opening of 20 Kendriya Vidyalayas in Civil/Defence Sector and 3 Kendriya Vidyalayas in Project Sector during the academic year 1994-95. Details are given in the *Statement* enclosed.

(c) There is no proposal to open a new Kendriya Vidyalaya in Trans-Yamuna area of Delhi during the current academic year.

STATEMENT*List of Kendriya Vidyalayas Sanctioned During 1994-95*

Sl. No.	Place	State
1.	Machhilipatnam	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Srikakulam	Andhra Pradesh
3.	Khagria	Bihar
4.	BSF Kishangunj	Bihar
5.	Delhi Cantt. No. 4	Delhi
6.	NTPC Gandhar Power Project	Gujarat (Project Sector)
7.	Sirsa	Haryana
8.	ITBP Sarhan	Himachal Pradesh
9.	A.G. Gwalior	Madhya Pradesh
10.	Dongargarh, Rajnandgaon	-do-
11.	Sagar	-do-
12.	Bhopal	-do-
13.	GAIL Jhabue	-do- (Project Sector)
14.	Gopalpur Cantt.	Orissa
15.	Dhenkanal Town	Orissa
16.	NTPC Talchar Distt. Angul	Orissa (Project Sector)
17.	Kota	Rajasthan
18.	Bhilwara	-do-
19.	Mansarovar, Jaipur	-do-
20.	Gonda	Uttar Pradesh
21.	Chopan	Uttar Pradesh
22.	Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun	Uttar Pradesh
23.	Burdwan	West Bengal

[English]

ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be
pleased to state:

Vamanapuram Irrigation Project

323. SHRIMATI SUSEELA
GOPALAN: Will the Minister of

(a) whether the Government have
received any request from the
Government of Kerala for allocation of

forest land for the construction of the Vamanapuram irrigation project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No proposal under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for the diversion of forest-land for Vamanapuram irrigation project in Kerala has been received by this Ministry from the State of Kerala so far.

(b) Does not arise

[Translation]

New Trains to Bihar

324. SHRI LALL BABU RAI:
SHRI MOHAMMED ALI
ASHRAF FATMI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bihar-bound trains are more over-crowded than trains on other routes;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to introduce more Bihar-bound trains?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFÉR SHARIEF): (a) and (b), There is overcrowding during some occasions such as summer holidays, Diwali and Holi festivals, marriage season, etc. on various sections including Bihar-bound trains as well,

(c) The new services introduced in 1994-95 which serve the passengers of Bihar include:

- (1) Kathiar-Sealdah Express
- (2) Delhi-Muzaffarpur/Samastipur Express (4 days a week)
- (3) New Delhi-Guwahati Rajdhani Express (weekly)
- (4) New Delhi-Bhubaneshwar Rajdhani Express (weekly)

Besides, the increase in frequency of the following trains also serve the passengers of Bihar:

- (1) New Delhi-Puri Purushottam Express from tri-weekly to 5 days a week.
- (2) Indore-Howrah Shipra Express from bi-weekly to tri-weekly.
- (3) Gwalior-Howrah Chambal Express from bi-weekly to tri-weekly.

[English]

Import of Lead

325. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH
HOODA:
SHRI RAJENDRA
AGNIHOTRI:

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem appearing in the 'Navbharat Times' dated July 5, 1994 about the import of dangerous pollutant lead in the country;

(b) if so, the quantity of such lead imported during the last six months alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the developed countries have imposed strict ban even on its improper disposal such as burying under the earth, burning or throwing in the sea; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto and the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Not being a characterised material classified for the purpose of trade such information on import is not available.

(c) The disposal of such wastes are controlled by means of a variety of legislations and regulations in the developed countries.

(d) The Government have notified the Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. According to these rules, import of hazardous wastes from any country to India is not permitted for dumping and disposal. However, import of such wastes may be allowed for processing or reuse as raw materials, after examining each case on merit.

Stock Limit of Edible Oils

326. SHRI SULTAN
SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI:
SHRI M.V.V.S MURTHY:

SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have any proposal to withdraw the exemption granted to the various organisations under the Storage Control Order, 1977;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the decision of stock limit will help in checking the price rise of edible oils?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). The Central Government had withdrawn the exemption from the stock limits of edible oils and edible oilseeds prescribed under the Pulses, Edible Oilseeds and Edible Oils (Storage Control) Order, 1977 which was available to Corporations/Companies owned or controlled by the Central Government, or State Governments or Statutory Corporations or Central level or State level Cooperative Societies engaged in the production, procurement, sale, purchase or distribution of edible oils and edible oilseeds through a notification issued on 31.5.1994. However, the Control Order was further amended through another notification issued on 28.6.1994, to enable the Government to grant such exemption to the above mentioned categories of Organisations

wherever justified. Accordingly, through a separate notification dated 30.6.1994, such exemption, upto specific prescribed limits, has been granted to 22 organisations.

(c) The decision of the Government to withdraw the exemption which was granted to certain categories of Organisations earlier, from the stock limits prescribed for edible oils and edible oilseeds, is expected to have a sobering impact on the prices of edible oils. Since, the price variations are caused by a number of factors, the impact of the decision on stock limits can not be quantified in isolation

[Translation]

Sports Facilities in Mathura

327. DR. SAKSHIJI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has sent any proposal to the Union Government for the development of sports and infrastructural facilities in Mathura district;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

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): (a) to (c). The State Government of Uttar Pradesh had sent a proposal on 23.5.92 for financial assistance for construction of a Sports

Stadium in Mathura district at an estimated cost of Rs. 25.85 lakhs. On scrutiny, the proposal was found deficient and the State Government was requested on 15.3.93 to submit lay-out plan of the project giving full details including all dimensions and showing all proposed works. As there was no response from the State Government, the proposal was rejected on 15.11.93.

Railway Projects In Gujarat

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

(a) whether Gujarat is lagging behind in the implementation of ongoing rail projects in comparison to other States;

(b) whether the funds allocated for these projects were withheld;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to restore the closed rail line in Chota-Udaipur tribal area of Gujarat and to convert it into broad gauge during the current financial year;

(e) if so, the amount allocated/proposed to be allocated for the same; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

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

(f) Unremunerative nature of the project and acute constraint of resources.

[English]

Milk Production

329. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a recent 'Food Outlook' Report of the Food and Agriculture Organisation, milk production in India is likely to rise this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total milk production during each of the last three years;

(d) the country's position amongst the world milk producing countries;

(e) whether India has become self-sufficient in regard to milk; and

(f) if so, the details thereof indicating the per capita availability of milk during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Food Outlook Report of the Food and Agriculture Organisation has indicated that milk production in developed countries is forecasted to continue to grow in 1994. In Asia the anticipated expansion is 2%. In India, the production is expected to increase by 4%, in line with the growth rate in recent years.

(c) The total milk production during

the last three years is as under:

(Million tonnes)

1991-92	55.7
1992-93	57.8 (provisional)
1993-94	60.8 (provisional)

(d) India ranks second among world milk producing countries.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Question does not arise.

Hindi University

330. SHRI PAWAN DIWAN:
SHRI RAM TAHAL
CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to establish a Hindi University;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts being made by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c). Government set up an Expert Committee in July, 1992 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Shiv Mangal Singh 'Suman' to suggest about the nature, structure, location, financial requirements and other related matters in respect of the setting up of an International Hindi University. The

Committee submitted its Report to the Government on 1.5.1993 which is being examined in consultation with other concerned Departments/Ministries of the Government.

Allocation of Foodgrains

331. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of rice, wheat, sugar and kerosene supplied to West Bengal for distributing through the public

distribution system during the last three years, year-wise and commodity-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government have any plan to continue the supply of these commodities through P.D.S.; and

(c) if so, the quantum, thereof contemplated for this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The quantities of rice, wheat, sugar and kerosene supplied to West Bengal during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 are as under:

(In '000 tonnes)

Year	Rice	Wheat	Sugar	Kerosene
1991-92	591.8	895.6	328.80	718.16
1992-93	494.2	711.3	333.98	733.11
1993-94	528.9	821.8	333.98	742.92

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The allocation of wheat and rice from Central Pool which are supplemental in nature, are made on a month to month basis, having regard to the demand, seasonal availability, relative needs of various States, offtake trend and other relevant factors.

Monthly allocations of levy sugar to most of the States/Union Territories are being made on a uniform norm of ensuring 425 grams per capita availability for the projected population as on 1.10.1986. On this basis the monthly levy sugar quota of West Bengal has been fixed at 25,888 MTs. In addition an yearly

festival quota of 7796 MTs is also allocated to West Bengal.

It has been decided to allocate 7,48,563 MTs of kerosene to West Bengal during the year 1994-95.

[Translation]

Rail Link between Bodh Gaya and Rajgir

332. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any survey during 1991 to

provide a rail link between Bodh Gaya and Rajgir;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

Reservation Centres

333. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRI SULTAN
SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to link railway reservation centres nationwide into a single computer network;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total investment to be made and the amount earmarked for this project; and

(d) the time by which the project is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For this purpose, a new software is being developed using modern technology.

(c) The total cost of the project is about Rs. 3 crores out of which Rs. 1.5 crores has been earmarked for the current year.

(d) Trials of the software are proposed to be conducted at Secunderabad in the current year. After successful completion of these trials the networking is proposed to be extended to other locations.

[Translation]

Food Corporation of India

334. Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether a notification has been issued to abolish contract system in godowns of the Food Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of godowns in the country at present, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Appropriate Governments under the contract labour (Regulations & Allocation) Act, 1970 have so far issued 8 notifications covering 193 centres of the FCI wherein employment of contract labour has been prohibited.

(c) State-wise number of FCI godowns, as on 31.3.1994 is as under:

State	No. of godowns
Arunachal Pradesh	3
Assam	40

State	No. of godowns
NEF	26
West Bengal	84
Bihar	51
Orissa	46
Delhi	10
Uttar Pradesh	229
Rajasthan	88
Haryana	121
Punjab	427
Himachal pradesh	18
Jammu & Kashmir	16
Madhya Pradesh	146
Gujarat	53
Maharashtra	62
Karnataka	54
Tamil Nadu	31
Andhra Pradesh	164
Kerala	33
Total	1702

Afforestation in Drought Prone Areas

335. SHRIMATI BHAVNA
CHIKHLIA:
SHRI RAMESHWAR
PATIDAR:
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:

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

(a) whether the Government have fixed targets for afforestation in the drought prone areas of the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the achievements made so far, State-wise; and

(d) the assistance provided by the Union Government for this purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):
(a) to (c). Afforestation/tree planting are continuing activities undertaken all over the country, including the States which have drought prone areas. The details of the targets and achievements of afforestation/tree planting activities in the States which have drought prone areas are given in the *Statement-I* enclosed.

(d) The details of expenditure incurred on afforestation and tree planting activities including the assistance provided by the Union Government for the years 1991-92, 1992-93 and allocations for the year 1993-94 are given in the *Statement-II* enclosed.

STATEMENT-I

Statement showing Statewise Targets and Achievements under point No. 16 (Afforestation/Tree Planting) of the 20-Point Programme during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	1991			1992-93			1993-94					
		Target	Achievement	Seedlings Area (Public lands including forest lands) on Pvt. lands)	Target	Achievement	Seedlings Area (Public lands including forest lands) on Pvt. lands)	Target	Achievement	Seedlings Area (Public lands including forest lands) on Pvt. lands)			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1600.00	30000.00	1775.91	56590.00	1850.00	63450.00	1102.63	47453.00	1950.00	70000.00	917.19	34530.00
2.	Bihar	700.00	50000.00	837.00	46333.00	600.00	48000.00	180.00	30357.00	750.00	50000.00	190.03	* 45855.39 *
3.	Gujarat	2400.00	13000.00	2511.86	63480.00	2500.00	70000.00	2281.46	64847.00	@1500.00	68000.00	1631.76	85277.00
4.	Haryana	300.00	45000.00	271.30	31551.00	300.00	37050.00	300.00	34826.00	300.00	37500.00	231.81	33823.00
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	150.00	10000.00	75.00	15170.61	50.00	20000.00	64.83	17010.85	@ 60.00	2000.00	42.01	15928.20
6.	Karnataka	900.00	50000.00	437.17	34705.54	555.00	38500.00	374.38	36479.97	450.00	42500.00	274.19	46429.36
7.	Madhya Pradesh	660.00	95000.00	614.60	103151.00	600.00	110000.00	600.12	123494.19	400.00	125000.00	439.00	125187.19

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
8. Maharashtra	1230.00	125000.00	1101.61	151255.86	1150.00	163000.00	824.97	153621.38	@1200.00	180000.00	1067.48	100062.17		
9. Orissa	500.00	30000.00	428.52	58389.80	500.00	60000.00	425.42	74134.85	550.00	75000.00	490.04	70819.00		
10. Rajasthan	350.00	82500.00	330.59	85050.00	350.00	65000.00	405.13	66729.00	400.00	65000.00	453.34	67238.00		
11. Tamil Nadu	800.00	54000.00	1013.84	68144.00	875.00	65000.00	1037.36	113553.10	1000.00	114000.00	1124.32	86016.51		
12. Uttar Pradesh	3400.00	90000.00	3192.47	89565.11	3390.00	90000.00	3468.29	100139.26	@3200.00	85000.00	2929.00	83723.24		
13. West Bengal	850.00	15000.00	846.00	47540.00	1000.00	50000.00	802.00	50000.00	800.00	45000.00	800.00	@38200.00	@	
Total	13780.00	806500.00	13435.87	850925.92	13720.00	880000.00	11866.59	900545.60	12560.00	977000.00	10490.17	*833089.06*		

* Tentative

@ Revised

STATEMENT-II

Statewise Expenditure of Funds for Afforestation/Tree Planting Activities under the 20-Point Programme during 1991-92, 1992-93 and Allocation for the year 1993-94

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UT's	1991-92 Expenditure	1992-93 Expenditure	1993-94 Allocation
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2376.92	3671.15	3324.70
2.	Bihar	1643.65	1864.70	3381.46
3.	Gujarat	6467.49	6663.94	6684.04
4.	Haryana	4151.92	3940.35	3777.40
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	1486.83	931.55	1108.02
6.	Karnataka	3830.06	5844.53	7548.06
7.	Madhya Pradesh	6592.49	5884.01 @	7350.68@
8.	Maharashtra	6565.34	6321.10	8936.45
9.	Orissa	2444.22	3842.85	4069.50
10.	Rajasthan	8034.63@	9390.41 @	12550.44@
11.	Tamil Nadu	3891.94	5111.08	5199.39
12.	Uttar Pradesh	7238.96	9174.84	9043.33
13.	West Bengal	2398.72 @	3618.21	2098.30 *
Total		57123.16	66258.72	75071.77@

* - Tentative

@ - Revised

[English]

poverty line under several Central schemes; and

Women Welfare Schemes

336. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA:
Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to include women below the

(b) if so, the details of the schemes metted for the welfare of such women?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

(SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI): (a) and (b). Under various poverty alleviation and women development programmes, provision has been made for extending development assistance to women below the poverty line. Some of these schemes are as follows:

- (1) *Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP)*: Its objective is to enable selected families of the target group (rural poor), including women, to take up income generating schemes. Of the selected beneficiaries, 40% have to be women.
- (2) *Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA)*: Its objective is to focus attention on women families below the poverty line to improve their socio-economic status through creation of opportunities for income generating activities on self sustaining basis. The scheme also envisages provision of support services.
- (3) *Training of Rural Youth and Self Employment Programme (TRYSEM)*: This scheme provides training leading subsequently to self-employment. Under the scheme, 40% of youth trained should be women.
- (4) *Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY)*: Under this scheme of promoting rural employment, 30% of the employment opportunities are earmarked for women.
- (5) *Support to Training and Employment Projects (STEP)*: The programme aims to upgrade the skills of poor and asset less

women, mobilise and conscientize them and provide employment on a sustainable basis to women in traditional sectors.

- (6) *Training-cum-Employment-cum-Production Centres (NORAD)*: The Scheme extends financial assistance to public sector undertakings/Corporations/Autonomous Bodies/Voluntary organisations to train poor women in non-traditional trades and provides employment on a sustainable basis.
- (7) *Socio-Economic Programme (SEP)*: The programme provides 'work and wage' to needy women such as destitutes, widows, deserted, economically backward and the handicapped.
- (8) *Rashtriya Mahila Kosh*: The Kosh aims to reach the poorest of the poor and assetless woman who are in need of credit through NGOs/self-help groups for sustenance of their existing employment, generation of further employment and asset creation.
- (9) *Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY)*: The Yojana has been designed to generate self-employment opportunities and wage labour for the un-employed and under-employed urban poor living below the poverty line. Women beneficiaries along with the beneficiaries belonging to SC/ST categories constitute a special target group.

Research Scholarship

337. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UGC has decided to enhance the amount of scholarships being given to Research Scholars;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the economic burden likely to be increased on the Government due to this decision?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The University Grants Commission has decided to revise the emoluments of Junior Research Fellows and Research Associates with effect from 1.4.1994 as per the details given below:

1. Junior Research Fellows:

Existing Emoluments per month

Rs. 1800.00 in the first and second year

Rs. 2100.00 for subsequent years

Revised Emoluments per month

Rs. 2500.00 in the first and second year

Rs. 2800.00 for subsequent years

2. Research Associates:

Existing Emoluments per month

Rs. 2200-100-2700

Rs. 2700-100-3200

Rs. 3200-100-3700

Rs. 3700-125-4325

Revised Emoluments per month

Rs. 2800-100-3300

Rs. 3300-100-3800

Rs. 3750-125-4375

Rs. 4325-125-4700-150-5000

(c) The UGC has advised the universities that the above enhancement will be subject to the following conditions:

(i) Commitment for 1994-95 will be limited to the budget estimates for this year.

(ii) The number of Junior Research Fellowships and Research Associate-ships in 1994-95 should be suitably reduced so that the expenditure does not exceed the commitment already made for the current year.

[Translation]

Construction of Sub-Way

338. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct a underground sub-way on Ramghat Road railway crossing in Aligarh district of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and

(b). State Govt. has yet to make a firm proposal. The earlier proposal of road under bridge has been changed by State Govt. in March '94 to Road Over Bridge. Technical clarifications desired by State Govt. in regard to proposal for Road Over Bridge have been supplied on 6.4.94. The proposal will be considered for inclusion in the Railway's Works Programme after the requisite formalities are finalised by the State Govt. Construction of the Bridge proper will be completed along with the completion of approaches by the State Govt. after the sanction of the work.

[English]

Subsidy on Fertilizers

339. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR
MANDAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a final decision regarding payment of ad-hoc subsidy for decontrolled fertilizers for Kharif 1994;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in taking a final decision so far; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scheme for sale of decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers with concession to the farmers

has been approved for continuance during 1994-95 with effect from 10th June, 1994 for the following categories:

<i>(Rs. per tonne)</i>	
Product	Concession per tonne
Indigenous DAP	1000
MOP	1000
SSP	340

Indigenous Complexes Rs. 435 to Rs. 999. This time, it has been decided to make payments directly to the manufacturers/importers (for MOP) on the basis of reports of sales received from the State Governments/UT Admns.

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

Pending Projects of Maharashtra

340. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of various development projects of Maharashtra pending with the Government for environmental as well as forest clearance;

(b) since when these are pending and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to clear these projects early?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Names of projects along with their dates of receipt and reasons for pendency are as follows:

I. Projects pending environmental clearance.

Sl. No.	Names of the Project	Date of receipt	Reasons for pendency
1.	Upper penganga project, Irrigation Department	May, 1994	Additional information awaited
2.	Nagothane combined cycle gas turbine power project of M.S.E.B.	June 1992	Additional information awaited
3.	Waste heat recovery project at Uran (3 x 120) of MSEU	June 1993	Additional information awaited
4.	Airport at Kasalkinde, Taluka Kundal, Distt. Sindhudurg	July 1993	Additional information awaited
5.	Airport at Shirdi, Taluka Kopergaon, Distt. Ahmednagar	February 1993	Additional information awaited
6.	Worli-Bandra Link Road, Bombay	July 1993	Under process
7.	Laying of submarine pipelines, Bombay port Trust	March, 1994	Additional information awaited
8.	Captive Jetty, Tehsil-Pen, Distt. Raigad of M/s Nippon Denro Ispat Ltd.	May, 1994	Additional information awaited
9.	Melamine plant of RCF, Thal	February, 1993	Under process
10.	Wirur/Chincholi underground project	October, 1993	Under process

II. Projects pending forest clearance

1.	Percolation Tank at Nagaon (Bonari Nala)	May, 1994	Under process
2.	Percolation Tank at Bhilani	May, 1994	Under process
3.	Laying of water pipe line for emergency, Murwad water supply scheme	May, 1994	Under process

Sl. No.	Names of the Project	Date of receipt	Reasons for pendency
4.	Dandori Minor Irrigation (MI) Tank	April, 1994	Under process
5.	Widening of Bombay -Ahmedabad National Highway	May, 1994	Under process
6.	Construction of MI Tank at Ranipur	May, 1994	Under process
7.	Construction of Palandur MI Tank	February, 1994	Under process
8.	Construction of M.I. Tank at Sairsala	February, 1994	Site inspection report awaited
9.	Chsakasman project	December, 1993	Under process
10.	Construction of Naya Sakya project	November, 1993	Under process
11.	Upper Penganga Project, Isapur right bank, canal	March, 1993	Under process
12.	Deolati Field Firing project	September, 1992	Site inspection report awaited
13.	For Non-Forestry use of restored land of provided forests	June, 1993	Under process
14.	Construction of MI Tank at Nimbala	March, 1994	Under process
15.	Construction of MI Tank at Waghzira	June, 1994	Under process
16.	Construction of Utawali medium irrigation project	July, 1993	Site inspection report awaited
17.	Construction of Nimbadevi MI Tank	June, 1994	Under process
18.	Construction of Kalpathari tank project	June, 1994	Under process

Sl. No.	Names of the Project	Date of receipt	Reasons for pendency
19.	Establishment of International standard sports complex at Nagpur	June, 1994	Under process
20.	Construction of Percolation Tank at Waghdi	June, 1994	Under process
21.	Construction of percolation Tank at Raipur	June, 1994	Under process
22.	Construction of Percolation Tank at Khudki	June, 1994	Under process
23.	Construction of Percolation Tank at Panala	June, 1994	Under process

(c) A final decision on the environmental clearance of the project proposals will be taken within the stipulated time period from the date of receipt of the requisite information. These have been sought from the project authorities.

[Translation]

Ex-Factory Sugar Price

341. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
SHRI GUMAN MAL
LODHA:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether ex-factory sugar price is fixed by the Government after consulting sugar mill owners for sale of sugar in open market;

(b) if so, the ex-factory price of sugar during October, 1993 to June, 1994, month-wise;

(c) the price of sugar fixed separately during October, 1992 to September, 1993 month-wise;

(d) the criterion being adopted by the Government for the fixation of sugar prices; and

(e) the period of time for which ex-factory price is fixed generally at a time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (e). No, Sir. Ex-factory price of freesale sugar for sale in the open market is not fixed by Government.

Sales Outlets of National Seeds Corporation

342. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sales outlets of the National Seeds Corporation in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) their annual turnover, State-wise;

(c) whether more outlets are proposed to be opened in these States; and

(d) if so, the details of location thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The required information is as under:

State	Sale counters of NSC	No. of dealers
Gujarat	5	77
Madhya pradesh	4	72

(b) The annual turnover of sale counters and dealers of NSC in these two States was as under:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

State	Sale through NSC's own sale counters	Through dealers	Through State Govt.
Gujarat	0.78	12.82	12.52
Madhya pradesh	5.53	32.59	62.62

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

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

(c) the time by which the Government accommodation is likely to be allotted to all employees?

Staff Quarters in Delhi

343. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a sum of Rs. 40 crores was allocated during 1992-93 to construct Railway staff quarters in Delhi;

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Although no time frame has been fixed for the provision of quarters to all the Railway employees, constructions of additional quarters is a continuous process which is undertaken by including suitable works in Railway's Annual Works Programme depending on the overall availability of funds.

available in North Eastern Region of the country, State-wise;

(b) the total area under farming at present in North Eastern Region, State-wise; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to bring remaining agricultural land of N.E. Region under farming?

[English]

Agricultural Land

344. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total agricultural land

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b). As per Land Use Statistics, 1990-91 (latest available) the total agricultural land (cultivable area) and area under farming as reflected by cultivated land in the North Eastern Region, State-wise is as under:

('000 ha.)

State	Total cultivable area	Total cultivated area
Arunachal Pradesh	267	174
Assam	3229	2794
Manipur	164	140
Meghalaya	1074	261
Mizoram	584	248
Nagaland	642	308
Tripura	312	271

(c) Various programmes of reclamation of land, soil conservation as well as extension of irrigation facilities are being implemented to bring more area under cultivation from remaining cultivable land.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recognised the degree 'Sahitya Sudhakar' awarded by Bombay Hindi Vidya Peeth;

(b) if so, whether students holding "Sahitya Sudhakar" can appear for Civil Services examinations conducted by UPSC/SSC;

Recognition of "Sahitya Sudhakar"

345. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN

(c) if so, whether students holding such degree can seek admission in the deemed Universities for higher studies e.g. M.A. Hindi; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Government has recognised the level of Hindi in the degree "Sahitya Sudhakar" awarded by Bombay Hindi Vidya Peeth as equivalent to the level of Hindi in B.A. Thus this recognition is with regard to the standard of Hindi alone and is not to be treated as equivalent to a complete B.A. degree awarded by a University

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) No, Sir, as "Sahitya Sudhakar" in itself is not equivalent to a complete B.A. degree

Aligarh Muslim University

346. SHRI SYED
SHAHABUDDIN.
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH.

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently received a memorandum from the A.M.U. Staff Association regarding the situation in the University;

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

(c) the steps to be taken by the Government to amend the A.M.U. Act in

order to define precisely the circumstances in which the Vice-Chancellor may act on behalf of the University Court or the University Executive Council?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The issues raised in the memorandum generally relate to alleged gross irregularities in admissions, examinations, appointments and financial matters in the University; alleged misuse of powers by the Vice-Chancellor and his style of functioning as also alleged deliberate flagrant violation of Statutes and Ordinances of the University by the Vice-Chancellor. The memorandum also suggests an inspection by the Visitor under Section 13 of the A.M.U. Act. The memorandum dated 10th July, 1994 is receiving attention of the Government.

(c) The Court and the Executive Council of AMU, among others, are the Authorities of the University. Section 19(3) of the AMU Act clearly defines that the Vice-Chancellor may, if he is of the opinion, that immediate action is necessary on any matter, exercise any power conferred on any authority of the University by or under this Act and shall report of such authority the action taken by him on such matter;

Provided that if the authority concerned is of the opinion that such action ought not to have been taken, it may refer the matter to the Visitor whose decision thereon shall be final.

Insurance Scheme for Passengers

347. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railway passenger Insurance Scheme has been implemented;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the present status of the scheme; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The Railway Passenger Insurance Scheme is being implemented with effect from 1.8.1994.

Ladies Special Trains

348. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received requests from various quarters for the introduction of a 'Ladies Special Train' on Suburban Harbour Line in Bombay; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Freight Operations Information System

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

(a) whether the Government propose to computerise its freight operations information system (FOIS);

(b) whether FOIS has already been in operation in some terminals;

(c) if so, the places where it has been undertaken so far;

(d) the time by which rest of the country to be computerised in respect of freight operations; and

(e) the steps proposed to be in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. Only test trials are being conducted. For this purpose, terminals have been installed at Agra Cantt., Mathura, Tuglakabad, Shakurbasti, New Delhi Control Office, Ghaziabad, Tundla, Meerut City, Saharanpur, Ambala Cantt., Azadpur, Subzi Mandi, Jind, Delhi Cantt., Badarpur and Indraprastha Power House.

(d) and (e). On successful completion of the trials and after the system has been evaluated and accepted, it is proposed to extent it to cover initially the entire Northern Railways and progressively thereafter the other zonal Railways.

[*Translation*]**Quality of Sugar**

350. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quality of sugar produced by indigenous sugar industry is not upto the international standards;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government have laid down some norms in regard to quality of sugar;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for the implementation thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). The comparison of ISS Grade with the International Grade is given in the attached *Statement*.

(c) and (d). Government of India has prescribed Indian Sugar Standard in the vacuum pan sugar factories in India for manufacture of sugar. For crystal

sugar, there are 6 grades in vogue under 3 grain sizes viz. L, M & S, each grain size group having two colours, viz. 30 and 29. Accordingly, the prescribed ISS Grades of White Crystal Sugar are as under:

ISS Grade	L-30
ISS Grade	L-29
ISS Grade	M-30
ISS Grade	M-29
ISS Grade	S-30
ISS Grade	S-29

Crystal Sugar which is below the specified requirements in respect of grain size or colour, shall be designated as 'Below ISS Grade'.

(e) Inspecting Officers (Sugar) in the Directorate of Sugar, Ministry of Food, periodically visit the sugar factories to draw samples of sugar with a view to check quality of sugar manufactured by the sugar factories. For offences relating to wrong grading of sugar, necessary action is taken against the defaulting sugar factories under the provisions of the Sugar (Packing and Marking) Order, 1970.

STATEMENT*Comparison of ISS Grade with the International Grade*

Plantation White Sugar	Indian Standard Specification of Vacuum Pan Sugar (Plantation White)	Specification of White Sugar according to Codex Alimentarius Commission
1. Polarisation	99.5% Minimum	99.5% Minimum
2. Moisture	0.08% Maximum	0.1% Maximum

Plantation White Sugar	Indian Standard Specification of Vacuum Pan Sugar (Plantation White)	Specification of White Sugar according to Codex Alimentarius Commission
3. Colour (ICUMSA Unit)	150 Maximum	150 Maximum
4. Invert Sugar	0.1% Maximum	0.1% Maximum
5. Conductivity ash	0.1% Maximum	—
6. Sulphur Dioxide	70 mg. per kg. Maximum	70 mg. per kg. Maximum
7. Arsenic	1 mg. per kg Maximum	—
8. Lead	2 mg. per kg. Maximum	—
9. Copper	2 mg. per kg. Maximum	—

[English]

New Colleges

351. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has recently issued fresh guidelines regarding recognition to new Colleges under Universities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it has stipulated for minimum infrastructural facilities including land and sufficient staff strength to qualify colleges for affiliation with the Universities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE

DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d). University Grants Commission has formulated model guidelines regarding conditions for affiliation of the colleges. The salient features of the aforesaid guidelines are indicated below:

A. Temporary Affiliation:

— All colleges, except those run by the State Government, shall be managed by a duly constituted and registered society or a trust or a local body or a governing body, as stipulated in Section 2(f)/12-B of the UGC Act, 1956, as amended from time to time.

— The number of teaching posts and qualification (as prescribed by the University) of the teaching staff, their recruitment procedure and conditions of service shall be in accordance with the Statutes/ Ordinances/Regulations of the

University and shall be such as to ensure the imparting of adequate instructions to the students in the courses of studies to be undertaken by the college.

- The college shall have undisputed possession of land measuring at least 5 acres relaxable to 2 acres in metropolitan cities and shall submit a blueprint of the proposed building for the college.
- The college shall have a building with sufficient accommodation to meet the immediate academic and other requirements with adequate scope for its future expansion.
- The College shall satisfy the University that adequate financial provision is available and that the college has deposited the endowment funds.
- The college shall also satisfy that it has adequate recurring income from its own resources for its continued and efficient functioning.
- No application for the grant of affiliation which does not have the explicit concurrence of the State Government for the opening of the new college shall be entertained by the University.
- All the time of applying to the University for grant of affiliation, the college, whether Government or non-Government, shall submit the proof of availability of the staff and other essential needs of physical facilities.

3. Permanent Affiliation:

In addition to the conditions stipulated for temporary affiliation, the college shall fulfil the following as well before the grant of permanent affiliation:

- * The college is in undisputed possession of land.
- * The college has constructed building as per blueprint submitted.
- * The college has deposited in full the endowment fund.
- * The college has a duly constituted Managing Committee.
- * The staff has been appointed as per prescribed norms and qualifications.
- * The staff is being paid full salaries and other allowance regularly and timely.
- * The college fulfils all the conditions stipulated in Statutes, Ordinances of the University.
- * The college has a duly constituted college council with proper representation of its teaching staff to advise the Principal on the functioning of the colleges.

The above guidelines have been sent to the State Government and affiliating universities.

[Translation]

Plantation of Fruit Trees

352. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to launch any programme for encouraging plantation of fruit trees to

boost the production of fruits in the country particularly in rural areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI
ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India is providing assistance on fruit development through the following schemes, which are mostly being implemented in rural areas:

- (i) A Central Sector Scheme on the development of fruits involving assistance for production of planting material, area expansion, rejuvenation of old orchards, training etc. is being implemented in all States with a VIII Plan outlay of Rs. 74.30 crores.
- (ii) A Central Sector Scheme on use of plastics in agriculture covering assistance for use of drip irrigation, greenhouses, plastic mulch, exclusively for horticultural crop including fruits is approved with an outlay of Rs. 250 crores
- (iii) Nutritional Garden Scheme of National Horticulture Board provides assistance for planting fruit trees in the household premises of rural areas at a cost of Rs. 12.50 crores.

[English]

Exploitation of Children

353. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HAN-
DIQUE: Will the Minister of HUMAN
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased
to state:

(a) whether the recommendations made by the Central Advisory Committee constituted to evaluate the directives of the Supreme Court delivered in a judgement on the exploitation of Children as sex slaves have been examined by the Government; and

(b) if so, the steps the Government have taken for prevention of such crimes and for rehabilitation of such victims of exploitation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT)
(SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI): (a) The recommendations made by the Central Advisory Committee constituted in pursuance of the directives of the Supreme Court given in a judgement on the exploitation of child prostitutes have since been sent to the concerned Central Ministries/Departments and to the State Governments for taking appropriate action.

(b) The Immoral Traffic {Prevention} Act, 1956 supplemented by the Indian Penal Code prohibits trafficking in human beings including children. Higher penalties, punishments have been prescribed in cases relating to the prostitution of a child or a minor under the Act.

The Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 provides for the care, protection, treatment and rehabilitation of neglected or delinquent juveniles including girls.

The enforcement of the Acts is the responsibility of the State Governments. The Central Government have issued instructions from time to time to all States/Union Territories for strict

implementation of the Act. Meeting with DGPs of all the States have been held in this regard.

Many of the State Governments have set up State Advisory Committee within their jurisdiction for suggesting measures for the care protection, treatment and rehabilitation of the young victims rescued from brothel houses.

The Government has an extensive network of Short Stay Homes and Homes set up under the Juvenile Justice Act for Protection and Rehabilitation of the victims. The services of qualified doctors, psychiatrists are available in the Short Stay Homes. These services are available on part time basis in the Homes under Juvenile Justice Act.

A National Plan of Action for the SAARC Decade (1991-2000 AD) of the girl child focussing on survival, protection and development of the girl child has been formulated. A special set of interventions for adolescent girls has been institutionalised through the ICDS infrastructure. Programmes of action and advocacy are being implemented to project positive images of girl children so as to bring about changes in societal attitudes towards them.

Damage to Foodgrains

354. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of damage caused to foodgrains in the country particularly, Madhya Pradesh due to rains and moisture in the absence of scientific storage facility in each year during the last three years; and

(b) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b), The stocks of foodgrains in the FCI godowns all over the country are scientifically stored by them. There has been no significant damage to the foodgrains stored in the FCI godowns due to rains/moisture during the last 3 years in the absence of scientific storage systems.

Manipuri Language

355. SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a conflict between the groups of Manipuri speaking people over their languages;

(b) whether Bishnupriya Manipuris are deprived of getting their primary education in their mother tongue;

(c) whether the Government propose to find out a solution of the problem; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d), As per the latest information available with the Government of India, the Government of Manipur has provided for major Indian languages generally, Hindi, Bengali and Manipuri and dialects recognised by the State Government like Tanqkhul, Hmar, Paite, Lushai and

Thadou Kuki as medium of instruction at primary stage for the school children belonging to respective linguistic groups. The State Government has not made any distinction between different dialects of Manipuri language. In matters of medium of instruction and teaching of language subjects in schools, the State Governments enjoy full autonomy and the Government of India does not issue any directive to the State Governments in such matters.

Mysore and Hubli Workshop

356. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mysore Workshop has been converted into broadgauge workshop;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the workshop is likely to be converted into broadgauge workshop?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) The work of conversion of the Mysore Workshop into broadgauge is in progress.

(b) Conversion of the Mysore Workshop into broadgauge was approved in the Railway Budget 1993-94 at an anticipated cost of Rs. 11.50 crores. An outlay of Rs. 2.48 crores has been provided for the same in Railway Budget 1994-95.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The conversion of the workshop into broadgauge is likely to be completed by March, 1996.

Egg Production

357. SHRI SOBHANADREE-SWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated production of eggs during 1993-94, State-wise;

(b) the targets fixed in regard to production of eggs for the current year and per-capita availability of eggs at present; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the production of eggs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b): The anticipated production of eggs during 1993-94 and the targets for production of eggs during 1994-95 statewise is given in the attached *Statement*. The anticipated per capita availability of eggs in the country during 1993-94 is around 27.

(c) The following major steps are envisaged to increase the egg production:

- (i) Increasing the availability or quality clicks to poultry farmers.
- (ii) For the overall development of poultry, establishment of an apex body at the national level.
- (iii) Organisation of poultry units on cooperative basis will be encouraged to benefit small farmers.

(iv) Training facilities will be strengthened so that appropriate technology and knowledge is disseminated to workers and farmers on a wide front.

products will be fully exploited by providing the required incentives and logistic support.

(v) The potential of export of poultry

(vi) Market intervention operations will be expanded.

STATEMENT

Egg Production - Statewise

(lakh Nos.)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	1993-1994 (Anticipated Achievement)	1994-95 (Target)
States			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	41000	43000
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	320	325
3.	Assam	5790	6090
4.	Bihar	14500	15000
5.	Goa	920	940
6.	Gujarat	4750	5000
7.	Haryana	5278	5460
8.	Himachal Pradesh	620	700
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	3170	3200
10.	Karnataka	14450	16510
11.	Kerala	18450	19500
12.	Madhya Pradesh	10900	11200
13.	Maharashtra	24400	25700
14.	Manipur	940	1080
15.	Meghalaya	720*	740
16.	Mizoram	25	28
17.	Nagaland	430	480
18.	Orissa	5300	5600
19.	Punjab	23000	24000

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	1993-1994 (Anticipated Achievement)	1994-95 (Target)
20.	Rajasthan	3400	3500
21.	Sikkim	135	145
22.	Tamil Nadu	29200	30660
23.	Tripura	400	420
24.	Uttar Pradesh	9000	13090
25.	West Bengal	25500	27000
	Total	242598	259368
Union Territories			
26.	A & N Islands	510	570
27.	Chandigarh	370	370
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	70	75
29.	Daman & Diu	30	35
30.	Delhi	650	700
31.	Lakshadweep	45	50
32.	Pondicherry	130	135
	Total U.Ts.	1805	1935
	Grant Total	244403	261303

Pass Percentage in Kendriya Vidyalaya

358. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pass percentage of students of Kendriya Vidyalayas at CBSE examinations held in 1994 has been poorer than that of 1993 and also in comparison with the students of non-Kendriya Vidyalayas;

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

(c) whether any remedial steps have been taken in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b). A preliminary analysis indicated by Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), in respect of schools located in

CBSE Regions, has shown that the pass percentages in Class XII for 1994 in Kendriya Vidyalayas have increased compared to 1993 results; except in Delhi Region where there has been a significant drop from 87.9% in 1993 to 81.1% in 1994 as against 89.7% of non-Kendriya Vidyalaya schools. In other CBSE Regions, the Kendriya Vidyalayas have performed better compared to non-Kendriya Vidyalaya schools except for a slight decline of 1% in the Allahabad Region from 82.4% to 81.4%.

Regarding Class X results, it is seen that pass percentage in Kendriya Vidyalayas located in the CBSE Regions have generally declined in 1994 compared to 1993; except for slight increase in the Delhi Region schools from 89.4% to 89.9%. Compared to non-Kendriya Vidyalaya schools, the Kendriya Vidyalayas in Madras Region have performed better showing 91.9% as against 87.8% for non-Kendriya Vidyalayas in 1994.

However since the regional grouping of schools under the Kendriya Vidyalayas Sangathan and the CBSE Regions are not identical, the above indicates only the general trend.

(c) to (e). The reasons for the significant drop in Delhi schools are being looked into by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan for taking suitable remedial measures.

Veerappa Moiley Committee

359. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Veerappa Moiley Committee on delicensing of sugar industry has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations of the said Committee;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto and action taken thereon; and

(d) the time by which a final decision on the recommendation is likely to be taken and the recommendations implemented so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d). No such committee on delicensing of sugar industry was constituted. However, a Working Group consisting of the Excise Ministers of Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal with Shri Veerappa Moiley, Chief Minister, Karnataka as Chairman was constituted in the Excise Minister's Conference held on 4.11.1993 to look into matters relating to molasses and alcohol. The Working Group submitted its report on 11th June, 1994 and its recommendations are under examination in the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilisers.

Israeli Agricultural Techniques

360. SHRI SULTAN

SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:

SHRI BOLLA BULLI

RAMAIAH:

SHRI MANJAY LAL:

SHRI RAM PRASAD

SINGH:

PROF. RASA SINGH

RAWAT:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Indian delegation visited Israel in the recent past to study

the agricultural techniques being adopted there;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of the visit;

(c) whether those techniques have been found suitable for India;

(d) if so, whether any agreement has been arrived at for training of farmers in those techniques;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken to implement the Israeli techniques in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (f). A few official Indian delegations visited Israel in the recent past to study the agricultural sector in Israel. These include:

- (i) Visit of five members delegation sponsored by Ministry of Agriculture from 6—12 July, 1992;
- (ii) Delegation led by Shri Sharad Pawar, Chief Minister of Maharashtra to visit the Agri. Tech. Exhibition organised by Government of Israel in May, 1993; and
- (iii) Delegation led by Agriculture Minister in July 1993.

Keeping in view the advances made by Israel in water management, dry land farming, drip irrigation, green house technology, etc., which are relevant to Indian situations the delegations identified and recommended several areas for cooperation with Israel.

An agreement for cooperation in the field of agriculture was signed between the two countries in December, 1993. The agreement, *inter alia*, provides for cooperation in agricultural science and technology including research, education, extension, training, development projects and joint ventures in areas of water and soil management, arid and semi-arid crop production, plant and animal sciences, veterinary sciences, agro-forestry, etc. Coordination under the agreement is to be carried out through biennial Work Plans. A Draft Work Plan for the period 1994-95 containing specific proposals for cooperation is presently under consideration of the Israeli side.

A delegation of Israeli experts alongwith Indian counterparts carried out a joint survey of the Indra Gandhi Canal area in Rajasthan, *inter alia*, to identify Pilot projects in arid zone, horticulture, water management, livestock, afforestation, etc., for implementation in this area.

Sugar Mills in Andhra Pradesh

361. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have any proposal to set up some more sugar mills in the Andhra Pradesh in view of sugarcane production in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). The Union Government does not set up sugar mills in any part of the country. It however, grants Letters of Intent/Industrial Licences

in accordance with prevailing licensing policy guidelines for setting up of new sugar mills. 15 letters of Intent has been issued for setting up of new sugar mills in

the State of Andhra Pradesh during the Sugar Year 1993-94. A *Statement* giving the details of these mills is given in the attached *Statement*.

STATEMENT

Location-wise Letters of intent issued during the Sugar Year 1993-94 for setting up of new Sugar Mills in Andhra Pradesh

Sl. No.	Name of the Applicant	Location
1.	Coastal Papers Ltd.	At Korasavada, Distt. Srikakulam
2.	Sri Vasavi Jute Wine Mills Ltd.	At Veergatham, Distt. Srikakulam
3.	Shri N.V.B. Challamaiah	At Kothakota, Distt. Vishakhapatnam
4.	Andhra Sugars Ltd.	At Buttayagudem, Distt. West Godavari
5.	Shri V. Shobhanadri	At Kanchikacherla, Distt. Krishna
6.	Smt. G.S. Ramani	At Adurupalli, Distt. Nallore
7.	Shri D. Ramakrishna Reddy	At S.R. Puram, Distt Chittoor
8.	Shri S. Jayaram Chowdhary	At Buchinaidukhandriga, Distt. Chittoor
9.	Shri B. Sanjiva Rao	Thangallapally, Distt. Karimnagar
10.	Sri Vasisth Sugars and Chemicals Ltd.	Huzurabad, Distt. Karimnagar
11.	Tirumalla Sugars Ltd.	At Kadam, Distt. Adilabad
12.	NCS Estates Pvt. Ltd.	Bhoompally, Distt. Nizamabad
13.	Smt. K. Jyoti Reddy	At Bichhkonda, Distt. Nizamabad
14.	Ammana Sugars Ltd.	At Pragnapur, Distt. Medak
15.	Ganapati Developers Pvt. Ltd.	At Daultabad, Distt. Medak

Fish Marketing

362. SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any Centrally sponsored scheme for providing assistance for marketing of fish;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount released under the scheme during 1992-93 and 1993-94, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SERVICES AND MINISTER OF

STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the terms of the scheme, till 1993-94, 100% Central assistance was provided to the States for strengthening of infrastructure for inland fish marketing. Facilities such as cold-storages, ice plants, fish handling sheds, retail marketing outlets, etc. besides insulated vans for transportation of fish and bicycles with insulated boxes have been sanctioned.

(c) A *Statement* is attached.

STATEMENT

Details of Funds released to State during 1992-93 and 1993-94

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S. No.	Name of States	Amount released	
		1992-93	1993-94
1.	Andhra pradesh	44.50	—
2.	Bihar	10.00	—
3.	Gujarat	10.00	—
4.	Haryana	24.00	65.00
5.	Himachal Pradesh	10.00	—
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	10.00	20.00
7.	Karnataka	—	40.00
8.	Kerala	—	60.00
9.	Madhya Pradesh	27.50	70.00
10.	Manipur	10.00	—
11.	Mizoram	24.50	—
12.	Nagaland	23.00	—
13.	Oissa	44.50	55.00
14.	Punjab	30.00	—
15.	Rajasthan	15.00	20.00

Sl. No.	Name of States	Amount released	
		1992-93	1993-94
16.	Tamil Nadu	—	20.00
17.	Uttar Pradesh	50.00	60.00
18.	West Bengal	22.00	90.00
Total		355.00	500.00

[Translation]

Tiger Reserves, National Parks and Sanctuaries

363. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names and the locations of tiger projects, National Parks and Sanctuaries, State-wise; and

(b) the details of the expenditure incurred thereon by the Government during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) The names and the locations of the Tiger Projects, National Parks and Sanctuaries, State-wise are given in the attached *Statement*.

(b) The Central Assistance to the State Government under the Schemes of the Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries, Project Tiger, Project Elephant and Ecodevelopment in and Around protected Areas during the last three years are as follows:

(Rs. in lakhs)

	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
(i) National Parks and Sanctuaries	915.66	946.00	1129.51
(ii) Project Tiger	549.82	642.05	760.80
(iii) Project Elephant	234.61	200.00	558.60
(iv) Ecodevelopment	109.40	296.43	243.48
Total	1809.49	2084.48	2692.39

STATEMENT**National Parks in India**

S. No.	Name
--------	------

Andaman & Nicobar Islands

1. Marine
2. Hiddle Button
3. Mount Harriet
4. North Button
5. Saddle Peak
6. South Button

Andhra Pradesh

1. Sri Venkateswara

Arunachal Pradesh

1. Mouling
2. Namdapha (Tiger Reserve)

Assam

1. Kaziranga
2. Manas (Tiger Reserve)

Bihar

1. Betla (Tiger Reserve)
2. Valmiki (Tiger Reserve)

Goa

1. Bhagwan Mahavir

Gujarat

1. Gir
2. Marine
3. Vansda
4. Velavedar

Haryana

1. Sultanpur

S. No.	Name
--------	------

Himachal Pradesh

1. Great Himalayan
2. Pin Valley

Jammu & Kashmir

1. City Forest
2. Dachigam
3. Hemie High Altitude
4. Kistwar

Karnataka

1. Anshi
2. Bandipur (Tiger Reserve)
3. Bennerghatta
4. Kudremukh
5. Nagarhole

Kerala

1. Eravikulam
2. Periyar (Tiger Reserve)
3. Silent Valley

Madhya Pradesh

1. Bandhavgarh
2. Fossil
3. Indravati (Tiger Reserve)
4. Kangor
5. Kanha (Tiger Reserve)
6. Madhav
7. Panna
8. Pench
9. Sanjay
10. Satpura
11. Van Vihar

S. No.	Name	S. No.	Name
Maharashtra		3.	Gangotri
1.	Gumal	4.	Nanda Devi
2.	Nawegaon	5.	Valley of Flowers
3.	Pench	6.	Rajaji
4.	Sanjay Gandhi	7.	Govind Pashu Vihar
5.	Tadoba	West Bengal	
Meghalaya		1.	Singalila
1.	Balphakram	2.	Neora Valley
2.	Nokrak	3.	Sunderbans
Mizoram		Manipur	
1.	Blue Mountain	1.	Kaibul Lamjao
2.	Murlen	2.	Simoli
Orissa		<i>Wildlife Sanctuaries in India</i>	
1.	North Simlipal (Tiger Reserve)	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	
2.	Bhittar Kanika	1.	Arial
Rajasthan		2.	Bamboo
1.	Keoladeo Ghana	3.	Barren
2.	Ranthambore (Tiger Reserve)	4.	Battimalve
3.	Sariska (Tiger Reserve)	5.	Belle
4.	Desert N.P.	6.	Benetta
Sikkim		7.	Bingham
1.	Khanchendzonga	8.	Bliter
Tamil Nadu		9.	Bluff
1.	Guindy	10.	Brush
2.	Indira Gandhi	11.	Bondovile
3.	Marina	12.	Buchanan
4.	Mudumulai	13.	Channal
Uttar Pradesh		14.	Chingue
1.	Corbett (Tiger Reserve)	15.	Clyde
2.	Dudhwa (Tiger Reserve)	16.	Cone

S. No.	Name	S. No.	Name
17.	Curlew	47.	North Brother
18.	Curlew (B.P.)	48.	Northe Reef
19.	Defence	49.	Oliver
20.	Dot	50.	Orchid
21.	Dottral	51.	Oyster
22.	Duncan	52.	Oyster
23.	East	53.	Ox
24.	East of Inglis	54.	Paget
25.	Egg	55.	Parkinson
26.	Entarance	56.	Passage
27.	Elat	57.	Patric
28.	Gander	58.	Peacock
29.	Goose	59.	Pitman
30.	Gurjan	60.	Point
31.	Hump	61.	Potanma
32.	Interview	62.	Ranger
33.	James	63.	Reef
34.	Jungle	64.	Roper
35.	Kwangaung	65.	Rose
36.	Kyd	66.	Rowe
37.	Dandfall	67.	Sandy
38.	Qatouche	68.	Sea Serpent
39.	Lohabarrack	69.	Shark
40.	Mangrove	70.	Shearme
41.	Mask	71.	Sir Huge Rose
42.	Mayo	72.	Sister
43.	Magapode	73.	Snake
44.	Montogemary	74.	Snake
45.	Narcondum	75.	South Reef
46.	North	76.	South Sentianal

S. No.	Name
77.	South Brother
78.	Spike
79.	Spike
80.	Stoat
81.	Surat
82.	Swamp
83.	Table (Delorano)
84.	Table (Excelsior)
85.	Talabaicha
86.	Temples
87.	Tillenchong
88.	Tree
89.	Trilby
90.	Turf
91.	Turtle
92.	West
93.	Wharf
94.	White Cliff
Andhra Pradesh	
1.	Coringar
2.	Etumagaram
3.	Kaundinya
4.	Kawel
5.	Kinnarsani
6.	Krishna
7.	Kolleru
8.	Lanjamadugu (Sivaram)
9.	Manjira
10.	Magarjunasagar (Tiger Reserve)
11.	Malapattu

S. No.	Name
12.	Pakhal
13.	Papikonda
14.	Pocharam
15.	Pranchita
16.	Pulicat
17.	Rollapadu
18.	Sri Venkateshwara
19.	Sri Lankamalleswara
20.	Gunla Brahmeswaram
Arunachal Pradesh	
1.	Eagle Nest
2.	Itanagar
3.	Kamlang
4.	Lali
5.	Mehao
6.	Pakhui
7.	Sessa Orchid
Assam	
1.	Barnadi
2.	Dibru Saikhowa
3.	Dipor Beal
4.	Garampeni
5.	Laokhowa
6.	Manas (Tiger Reserve)
7.	Nameri
8.	Orang
9.	Probitara
Bihar	
1.	Bimbandh
2.	Betla

S. No.	Name	S. No.	Name
3.	Dalma	3.	Dhumkhal (Jhoolpaneshwar)
4.	Gautam Budha	4.	Gaga
5.	Hazaribagh	5.	Gir
6.	Kaimpur	6.	Hingoladahh
7.	Koderma	7.	Jambughoda
8.	Kabar	8.	Jessora
9.	Lawalong	9.	Kachch Desert
10.	Mahuadand	10.	Khijadiya
11.	Nagi Dam	11.	Marine
12.	Nakti Dam	12.	Nelsarover
13.	Parasnath	13.	Maryan Sarovar
14.	Rajgir	14.	Paniya
15.	Topchanchi	15.	Porbandar
16.	Udaipur	16.	Rampura
17.	Valmikinagar (Tiger Reserve)	17.	Ratanmahal
18.	Vikramshila Dolphin Sanctuary	18.	Thol
		19.	Wild Ass
		20.	Purna Wildlife Sanctuary
		21.	Kutch Bustard Sanctuary
Chandigarh		Haryana	
1.	Sukhna Lake	1.	Bhindras
Daman and Diu		2.	Chhilchhila
1.	Fudam	3.	Nahar
Delhi		4.	Sultanpur
1.	Indira Priyadarshini	5.	Bir Bhikargarh
Goa		6.	Chautala
1.	Bhagvan Mahavir	7.	Saraswati
2.	Bondla	Himachal Pradesh	
3.	Cotiagao	1.	Bandli
4.	Chorao	2.	Chail
Gujarat			
1.	Belram Ambaju		
2.	Barda		

S. No.	Name
3.	Churdhar
4.	Daranghati I and II
5.	Gamgul Siya-Behi
6.	Gobindsagar
7.	Kalatop and Khajjar
8.	Kanwar
9.	Khokhan
10.	Kias
11.	Kugti
12.	Lippa Asrang
13.	Majathal Hasarang
14.	Manali
15.	Nargu
16.	Nainadevi
17.	Pong Dam
18.	Raksham Chitkur
19.	Renuka
20.	Rupi Bhaba
21.	Sachu Tran Nala
22.	Shikari Devi
23.	Shilli
24.	Simia Water Datchment Area
25.	Simbalbara
26.	Talra
27.	Tirthan
28.	Tundah
Jammu and Kashmir	
1.	Baltal
2.	Changthang
3.	Gulmarg
4.	Hirapora

S. No.	Name
5.	Hokersar
6.	Jasrota
7.	Karakoram
8.	Lachipora
9.	Limber
10.	Nandani
11.	Overa
12.	Overa-Aru
13.	Ramnagar Rakha
14.	Surinsar Mansar
15.	Trikuta
Karnataka	
1.	Adichunchanagiri
2.	Arabithito
3.	Bhadra
4.	Biligiri Rangaswamy
5.	Brahmagiri
6.	Cauvary
7.	Dandeli
8.	Chataprabha
9.	Gudavi
10.	Melkote Temple
11.	Mokambika
12.	Nugu
13.	Pushpagiri
14.	Ranganthittoo
15.	Ranebennur
16.	Shettihally
17.	Sharavathi Valley
18.	Someshwara
19.	Talakaveri

S. No.	Name	S. No.	Name
Kerala		17.	Nandur Madmeshwar
1.	Aralam	18.	Painganga
2.	Chimmony	19.	Phansad
3.	Chinnar	20.	Radhanagari
4.	Idukki	21.	Rehekari
5.	Neyyar	22.	Sagreshwar
6.	Perambikulam	23.	Tansa
7.	Peechi Vazani	24.	Yawal
8.	Peppara	Madhya Pradesh	
9.	Periyar	1.	Achanak Mar
10.	Shandurvney	2.	Badalkhol
11.	Thattakad	3.	Bagdara
12.	Wayanad	4.	Barawapara
Maharashtra		5.	Bhairamgarh
1.	Andheri	6.	Bori
2.	Aner Dam	7.	Gandhi Sagar
3.	Bhimashankar	8.	Ghatigaon Great Indian Bustard
4.	Bor	9.	Gomarda
5.	Chandoli	10.	Karara Great Indian Bustard
6.	Chaprala	11.	Ken Ghanal
7.	Gautala authram	12.	Kheoni
8.	Great Indian Bustard	13.	Narsingarh
9.	Jaikwadi	14.	National Chambal
10.	Kalsubai Harish Chandragad	15.	Neoradehi
11.	Karnala	16.	Pachmarhi
12.	Katopurha	17.	Pamad
13.	Koyna	18.	Panpatha
14.	Malvan (Marine)	19.	Palpur (Kung)
15.	Malghat (Tiger Reserve)	20.	Pench
16.	Magziri	21.	Phena

S. No.	Name
22.	Ratapani
23.	Ralamandal
24.	Sailana
25.	Sanjay (Dubri)
26.	Sardarpur
27.	Semarsot
28.	Singhori
29.	Sitanadi
30.	Son Gharial
31.	Tamer Pingla
32.	Udanti Wild Buffalo

Manipur

1. Yogoupokpi Lokchao

Meghalaya

1. Baghmara
2. Nongkhyllern
3. Sijju

Mizoram

1. Dampa
2. Murlern
3. Khawnlung
4. Nganpui

Nagaland

1. Fakim
2. Intanki
3. Pulichandze
4. Rangapshar

Orissa

1. Balukhand Konark
2. Bhitarkanika

S. No.	Name
3.	Chandka-Dampara
4.	Chilka
5.	Debrigarh
6.	Hadgarh
7.	Khalasuni
8.	Kotgarh
9.	Kuldiah
10.	Lakhari Valley
11.	Mahanadi Baisipalli
12.	Nandankanan
13.	Satkosia Gorge
14.	Simlipal
15.	Sunabeda
16.	Ushakothi
17.	Karlapet

Punjab

1. Abohar Area
2. Bir Bunerheri
3. Bir Gurdial Pura
4. Bir Motibag
5. Harika Lake
6. Govt. Forest area of village Rehmapur

Rajasthan

1. Bandha-Baratha
2. Bassi
3. Bhensrondgarh
4. Darrah
5. Desert
6. Jaisanand

S. No.	Name	S. No.	Name
7.	Jamwa Ramgarh	3.	Mudumalai
8.	Jawahar Sagar	4.	Mukurthi
9.	Keladevi	5.	Mudanthurai (Tiger Reserve)
10.	Kumbhalgarh	6.	Point Calimers
11.	Mt. Abu	7.	Pulicat
12.	Nahargarh	8.	Vedanthangal
13.	National Chambal	9.	Vettangudipatti
14.	Phulwariki Nal	10.	Svilliputhur
15.	Ramgarh Visdhari	Uttar Pradesh	
16.	Sarika	1.	Askot
17.	Sajjagarh	2.	Bakhira
18.	Shergarh	3.	Binsar
19.	Sitamata	4.	Chandra Prabha
20.	Sawai Mansingh	5.	Sohagiverba
21.	Tal Chapper	6.	Govind Pashu Vihar
22.	Todgarh Ravali	7.	Hastinapur
23.	Van Vihar	8.	Kaimpur
Sikkim		9.	Katerniaghat
1.	Fambung LHD	10.	Kedarnath
2.	Kyonghosla	11.	Kishanpur
3.	Maenam	12.	Lakh Bahosi
4.	Singhba	13.	Mahavir Swami
Tripura		14.	National Chambal
1.	Gumati	15.	Nawabganj
2.	Trishna	16.	Ranipur
3.	Sepahijala	17.	Samaspur
4.	Roa	18.	Sohilwa
Tamil Nadu		19.	Sonnadi
1.	Khamalai (Indira Gandhi)	20.	Senog Hill
2.	Kalakad (Tiger Reserve)	21.	Patna

Sl. No	Name
22.	Saman
23.	Sursarovar

West Bengal

1. Ballavpur
2. Bethudahari
3. Buxa (Tiger Reserve)
4. Champrameri
5. Gorumara
6. Halliday
7. Jaldapara
8. Jore Pokhri
9. Lothian Island
10. Mahananda
11. Narendrapur
12. (Parmadan) Bibbuti Bhuwan
13. Raiganj
14. Ramnabagan
15. Sanjakhali
16. Sinchal

Tiger Reserves in India

S.No.	Name of Tiger Reserve	Location
1.	Bandipur	Karnataka
2.	Buxa	West Bengal
3.	Corbett	Uttar Pradesh
4.	Dudhwa	Uttar Pradesh
5.	Indravati	Madhya Pradesh
6.	Kalakad Mundathurai	Tamil Nadu
7.	Kanha	Madhya Pradesh

S.No	Name of Tiger Reserve	Location
8.	Manas	Assam
9.	Melghat	Maharashtra
10.	Nagarjuna Sagar	Andhra Pradesh
11.	Namdapha	Arunachal Pradesh
12.	Palamau	Bihar
13.	Periyar	Kerala
14.	Ranthambore	Rajasthan
15.	Sariska	Rajasthan
16.	Simlipal	Orissa
17.	Sunderbans	West Bengal
18.	Valmiki	Bihar
19.	Peneh	Madhya Pradesh

[English]

Adi Ganga

364. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to include Adi Ganga into the Ganga Action Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Part of diversion of pollution from Adi Ganga has been covered under

the on-going Ganga Action Plan Phase I Scheme. According to Government of West Bengal, it has been decided to take up the remaining works under Ganga Action Plan Phase II.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Railway Passes

365. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway passes issued to the persons of special category during each of the last three years in each zone;

(b) the details of persons to whom these passes were issued; and

(c) the criteria being adopted for issuing of such passes?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Presumably, the reference is to grant of Complimentary Card Passes issued to individuals/organisations. These passes are made available over all Zonal Railways. The number of such passes issued during the last three years is as under:

	I Class	II Class
1991-92	80	12
1992-93	213	13
1993-94	230	21

However, it may be pertinent to mention that all such passes issued have since been cancelled.

(b) A Statement is attached.

(c) Such Card Passes are granted by Ministry of Railways to eminent persons, organisations devoted to social, cultural, scientific, literary, sports and educational activities of all India Character etc. and based on justification/merits of each case.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Details of persons to whom Complimentary Card Passes have been issued/renewed during the period 1991-92 to 1993-94
--------	--

1	2
---	---

I. 1st Class Complimentary Card Passes

1. Shri Ratnesh Kumar Srivastava
2. Shri Suresh Yadav
3. R.K. Mission, Gwalior
4. Smt. Champa Limaye
5. Shri Madhu Limaye
6. Pt. Shamta Prasad Mishra
7. Shri Jagdish Joshi
8. Smt. Nirmala Deshpandey
9. Shri Bhagey Gobardhan
10. Shri S.P. Tare
11. Smt. Sarla Kumari
12. Shri Brahmchari Subudhanand
13. Shri Bharat Bhushan

1	2	1	2
14.	Shri T.R. Ramakrishnan	33.	Shri Kala Baba
15.	Shri J.S. Mundrey	34.	Miss Avanti Maken
16.	Shri Shankar Sahail	35.	Brother Ravindra Jain
17.	Smt. Kameshwari Mishra,	36.	Shri Ashok Bharati
18.	Sister Mary Mascarenhas	37.	Shri V.R. Gauri Shankar
19.	Shri Durga Vijaya Pandey	38.	Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Wardha
20.	Shri Balvijay	39.	Swami Amritarupananda
21.	Smt. Vimala Farooqui	40.	Bharat Scouts and Guides
22.	Smt. Nirmala Ram Das Gandhi	41.	Faquer Hazi Pir Syed Fazil Ali Nizami
23.	Dewan Syed Mainul Abedin Ali Khan	42.	Smt. Mussarat Shaheed
24.	Swami Harinarayananda	43.	Smt. Abha Gandhi
25.	All India Federation of the Deaf, New Delhi	44.	Indian Council for Child Welfare, New Delhi
26.	Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust, Indore	45.	Ms. Saba Naqvi
27.	Swami Swatmananda	46.	Shri Prakash Bhumik
28.	Swami Atmavidananda	47.	Shri K.G. Channa Veerappa
29.	National Society for Prevention of Blindness, New Delhi	48.	Shri S.M. Gavaskar
30.	Shri S.N. Subba Rao	49.	Dr. Golam Yazdani
31.	Shri S. Nijalingapa	50.	Shri Kedar Prasad Mandal
32.	Smt. Subhasini Ali	51.	Smt. L.B. Shastri
		52.	Dr. Charanjit Chanana

1	2	1	2
53.	Kanchi Kamakoti Math, Kanchipuram	73.	Shri S.A. Jagannathan
54.	Shri Zail Singh	74.	Swami Tapananda
55.	Swami Vijayananda	75.	Shri Janeshwar Mishra
56.	National Commissioner, Bharat Scouts & Guides, New Delhi	76.	Shri Hari Shankar Mahaley
57.	Shri Ram Ashray Pandey	77.	Shri Syed Ahamad Zamin
58.	Shri Rameshwar Neekhra	78.	Shri S.K. Bandopadhyay
59.	Indian Adult Education Association, New Delhi	79.	Shri Shyam Bihari Mishra
60.	Shri P. Arora	80.	Shri Sita Sharam Jha
61.	Smt. Ashraf Imam	81.	Shri Sundar Lal Bahuguna
62.	Shri Nimai Bhattacharya	82.	Shri Awadh Bihar Birthaney
63.	Shri Nanaji Deshmukh	83.	Major A.K. Singh
64.	Shri Shamin Jaipuri	84.	Shri Bansilal
65.	Shri Triveni Prasad Singh	85.	Shri Ram Chandra Mehrotra
66.	Shri Vijay Narain	86.	Kasturbha Health Society, Wardha
67.	Shri Lallan Prasad Vyas	87.	Prof. Bhim Singh
68.	Shri Saifuddin Hussaindhai Bhal	88.	Mrs. Mohsina Kidwai
69.	Dr. Sushila Nayar	89.	Bramchari Subudhanand
70.	Km. Saraswati Ammal	90.	Prof. Madhu Dandavate
71.	Km. Alamelu Ammal	91.	Shri N.S. Manaklao
72.	Shri Jagannath Kashyap	92.	Shri Rajendra Chaudhary
		93.	Shri Madan Raj Bhandari

1	2	1	2
94.	Shri N.H. Kulkarni	115.	Swami Vijayanand
95.	Shri Virender Kumar Gaur	116.	Shri Mufti Abdul Razaq
96.	Shri Rajiv Kumar	117.	Shri Janardhan Trivedi
97.	Shri M.G. Tapaswi	118.	Shri Mahabir Prasad
98.	Shri S.M. Asif	119.	Shri Mohd. Naseer Faqir
99.	Sadhu Amrit Das	120.	Smt. Shoba Raju
100.	Dr. Shiv Jatan Thakur	121.	Shri Mureshwar Ghasia
101.	Shri Rajendra Prasad	122.	Shri Ahmed Ali Quasmi
102.	Shri Raghu Thakur	123.	Shri Khan Abdul Wadood
103.	Dr. M.C. Modi	124.	Shri Yatri
104.	Shri Hafiz Syed Md. Mazhar Ali	125.	Shri Satyapal Bhagi
105.	Shri K.G. Agarwal	126.	All India Minorities Front
106.	Shri Rajendra Singh Bismail	127.	Shri Amar Singh
107.	Shri Uday Singh	128.	Shri Harish Chander
108.	Shri Mohd. Shafi Quershi	129.	Ms. Manorama
109.	Ms. Usha Sinha	130.	Dr. (Km.) Alia
110.	Shri R.K. Nayak	131.	Baba Abdul Hamid
111.	Shri B.V. Raman	132.	Shri Mohd. Rafiq
112.	Shri Ram Singhji Bhanawat	133.	Smt. Manu Hari Pathak
113.	Shri O.N. Duraibabu	134.	Shri Maulana Fuzail Ahmed
114.	Shri Ramakrishnan	135.	Shri Maulana Sadruddin Ansari

1	2	1	2
136.	Shri M.M. Umar	164.	Shri Kamal Kanti Ghosh
137.	Shri Jamil Ahmed	165.	Shri H.M. Joshi
138.	Shri Joseph Vazakkan	166.	Shri S. Ravi
139.	Shri Harsh Vardhan	167.	Shri B. Krishnan
140.	Smt. Zaheerun Nisar	168.	Justice R.K. Shukla
141.	Shri K.R. Krishnaswamy	169.	Smt. Veena Duggal
142.	Shri D. Munuswamy	170.	Shri Syed Fida Ali
143.	Shri Upendra Narayan Vidyarathi	171.	Smt. Manorama Singh
144.	Shri L.B. Choubey	172.	Shri V.V. Easwaran
145.	shri T.G.K. Menon	173.	Shri Ajay Singh
146.	Shri V.R. Naidu	174.	Shri Satyapal
147.	Prof. H.N. Sharma	175.	Shri Mohd. Hamid
148.	Dr. Santosh Goindi	176.	Shri G. Maniratnam
149.	Shri Bhakta Charan Das	177.	Smt. Varsha Sanghi
150.	Chaudhury Mohd. Arif	178.	Shri Madhav Kulkarni
151.	Shri B. Lakki Gowda	179.	Shri Mohd. Alam
152.	Shri Saadat Mohd. Khan	180.	Shri Shyamendra Tyagi
153.	Shri Shakti Kinkar	181.	Shri N. Mishra
154.	Shri Jagdish Singh	182.	Shri V.K. Madhavan Kutty
155.	Shri S.D. Arya	183.	Shri Prashun Bhaumik
156.	Shri S.P. Rana	184.	Shri S.S. Pandey
157.	Shri M.S. Mijagula	185.	Shri M.A. Masoom
158.	Ms. Muzamil Siddiqui	186.	Swami Narayananda Bharathi
159.	Shri Pramod Tiwari	187.	Shri C. Janga Reddy
160.	Shri S.K. Singh	188.	Prof. Mumtaz Ali
161.	Shri A.K. Singh	189.	Shri H.N. Prasad
162.	Shri Bishan Kumar Yadav	190.	International Institute of Ayurvedic Sciences, Delhi
163.	Shri Dinesh Sharma	191.	Shri Syed Nazir Alam
		192.	Shri Rishad Kamal Kidwai

1	2	1	2
193.	Shri S.M. Asif	223.	Shri Sardar Manmohan Singh
194.	Shri Gazi ifzur Rehman	224.	Smt. Kaniz Fatima
195.	Shri Jaffer Ultadi	225.	Shri Gopinath Dikshit
196.	Shri Ashok Chander	226.	Ms. Sudha V. Reddy
197.	Shri Yogi Ranjeet	227.	Shri Banarsi Das
198.	Smt. Chanamma	228.	Shri B. Prasad
199.	Shri G. Ramaswamy	229.	Shri Nasib Pathan
200.	Shri A. Gopal Rao	230.	Smt. Sashi Sharma
201.	Smt. Leela Devi B. Prasad	231.	Shri Syedbhai
202.	Shri Maulana H.R. Noomani	232.	Shri B.C. Bhagat
203.	shri S. Shahabuddin Fauzdar	233.	shri Harish Bhardwaj
204.	Shri Adya Prasad Onmatta	234.	Shri R.M. Salem
205.	Shri Rajan Tewari	235.	Shri Virendra Nath Rai
206.	Shri Moti Lal Vohra	236.	Shri Vikrama Rai
207.	Shri J.P. Gadkari	237.	Shri Rajayogindra Veerya Shastri
208.	Shri Mukesh Chander	238.	Shri K.M. Khan
209.	Shri M. Basheer	239.	Shri Ramesh Bhai
210.	Shri D.K. Pathak	240.	Shri Shamshad Ahmed Ansari
211.	N. Shri Nayyar Rabbani	241.	Shji Dulab Berva
212.	Shri Jagdish Narain Deshpande	242.	International Institute for Special Education
213.	Sisters of Missionaries of Charity, Delhi	243.	Shri Abdul Sattar
214.	Ms. Shikka Trivedy	244.	Shri K. Natrajan
215.	Shri Ganesh Shankar Pandey	245.	Smt. Gyanvati
216.	Shri R. Babu Prasad	246.	Shri P.S. Krishnan
217.	Shri Jai Prakash Singh	247.	Shri Sarvashakti Kumar Singh
218.	Shri Mohd. Wahi Siddiqui	248.	Shri Mehar Singh Rathi
219.	Shri Hasan Mohd. Warsi	249.	Shri Sunil Shastri
220.	Dr. H.M. Khan	250.	Shri S.N. Rana
221.	Ms. Harvinder Kaur	251.	Narayan Swaroop Brahmachari, Dwarkapeth
222.	Shri Gulab Sehra		

1	2	1	2
252.	Shri Sunil Vyas	282.	Shri Ganga Prasad
253.	Shri Amarnath Dubey	283.	Sannyasi Yogashruti
254.	Shri Maulana Waheed Uz-zaman	284.	Ilyash Khan
255.	Shri Shiv Kumar	285.	Shri Mohd. Furqan
256.	Shri Sanjay Kulkarni	286.	Shri Alfaque Ahmed
257.	Shri Hussain Waheed	287.	Pandit Ram Prasad Mishra
258.	Shri Kashi Nath	288.	Shri Bhim Singh
259.	Shri Janardhan Diwedi	289.	Shri M. Ranga Reddy
260.	Shri Gazi Abdul Hameed	290.	Shri G. Eashwer
261.	Shri Usman M. Adhami	291.	Shri A.M. Tauseef
262.	Dr. Penchaliah	292.	Vaid Om Prakash Agarwal
263.	Shri H.S. Mehta	293.	Shri Khan Ghufuran Zahidi
264.	Dr. Kuber Misra	294.	Ms. Madhu Shetyl
265.	Shri G. Vaidyanathan	295.	Shri Hafiz Abdul
266.	Shri A.C. Pandey	296.	Shri Hafeez Janadi
267.	Shri Pradyut Guha	297.	Dr. Krishan Bir Chaudhary
268.	Shri Madhav Rao Scindia	298.	Shri Shakeel Chandra
269.	Shri George Fernandes	299.	Shri Shahabzada Abdul Rasheed
270.	Shri Hi Samul Islam Siddiqui	300.	Shri Virender Nath
271.	Shri Safi Baba Malang	301.	Shri Panchanaz
272.	Shri Navin Bhai Shah	302.	Shri Mohd. Qasim Ansari
273.	Shri Radha Raman Sharma	303.	Smt. Priya Raina
274.	Shri G. Venkateswara Rao	304.	A. P. Temple Shahibag, Ahmedabad
275.	Shri Sunil Deng	305.	Shri D.N. Banerjee
276.	Shri Ram Rattan Singh	306.	Shri Nazeer Ahmed Siddiqui
277.	Shri Manmohan Chaudhury	307.	Shri Hazi Mohd. Haroom
278.	Shri Athul Jamal Lari	308.	Shri A. Gopal Rao
279.	Shri Jamshed Ali	309.	Shri Avinash Pande
280.	Shri Hussain Dalwai	310.	Shri Maninderjit Singh Bitta
281.	Shri Nav Bahadur Thapa		

1	2
311.	Shri Gajendra Singh
312.	Shri S.K. Chaturvedi
313.	Shri Salamat Ullah
314.	Master Farazuddin Shariet
315.	Shri Kapil Dev
316.	Shri Hari Krishan Goswami
317.	Shri Lokpati Tripathi
318.	Shri P.N. Reddy
319.	Smt. Kamala Tyagi
320.	Shri Jeeva Nand Jha
321.	Shri Indu Bhushan Goswami
322.	Shri Radhika Raman Balan
323.	Shri Ramesh Kalia
324.	Shri Haroom Rashid
325.	Shri Reban Asif Siddiqui
326.	Shri D. Sundrani
327.	Nischalananda Saraswati Swamiji
328.	Smt. Nirmala Bhagey
329.	Smt. Deepa Kaul
330.	Shri Darshan Singh Yadav
331.	Shri Mangi Lal Arya
332.	Shri Suresh Bahadur Singh
333.	Shri Shira Kumar
334.	Shri Taja Murthy
335.	Shri Devender Pandey
336.	Shri Awadesh Singh
337.	Shri Ramesh Sharma
338.	Shri Sharad Kumar Sadhak
339.	Shri Vimal Mehrotra
340.	Shri Zafar Iqbal

1	2
341.	Shri J.M. Chinchal
342.	Shri Aryabhushan
343.	Shri Mohd. Zaman Arif
344.	Shri Buta Singh
345.	Shri Ajay Singh
346.	Shri P.C. Sethi
347.	Shri K.C. Lenka
II. Second Class Complimentary Card Passes	
1.	Smt. Sudha Singh
2.	Shri Ved Prakash Paliwal
3.	Mohd. Shaheed Khan
4.	Shri Jai Prakash Gupta
5.	Two Brothers of Missionaries of Charity, Calcutta
6.	Shri Pratap Narain Singh
7.	Shri Jata Shankar
8.	Shri Umesh Sharma
9.	Shri Banarsi Das
10.	Shri Ramesh Bhai
11.	One Representative of Kanchi Kamakoti Mutt, Tamil Nadu
12.	One Representative of Kanchi Kamakoti Mutt, Tamil Nadu
13.	Shri Zabib Khan
14.	Shri Manzoor Ahmed Siddiqui
15.	Shri Dinesh Singh
16.	Dr. Ram Singh Pamar
17.	Two sisters of Missionaries of Charity, Delhi
18.	Shri V.V.S. Avadhani
19.	Smt. Sunita Das

1	2
20.	Shri Fradyan Kumar
21.	Shri B. Laxman Yadav
22.	Shri Ishwar Joyce
23.	Shri Kedar Nath Mishra
24.	Shri R.C. Gupta
25.	Dr. (Mrs.) Lucy Bharucha
26.	One office-bearer of All India Tehreek Khaksarany Haque, Firozabad
27.	Shri D.N. Banerjee
28.	Shri Syed Bakher Hussain Nakshbandi
29.	Shri M.S. Bhatnagar
30.	Shri Manoj Tyagi
31.	Shri P. Khalal
32.	Shri Arul
33.	Shri K.N. Venkatesh
34.	Shri Sekhar

[English]

Pollution in Cities

366. SHRI HARIN PATHAK:
SHRI RAJVEER SINGH:
SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:
SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL:

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

(a) the first ten most polluted cities in the country alongwith their present level of pollution;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the first ten pollution free cities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):
(a) There is no universally accepted inter-se weightage for different pollution parameters so as to assign pollution rankin for various cities in the country. The Central Pollution Control Board is monitoring the ambient air quality in 290 locations situated in 92 cities of the country for air quality parameters such as suspended particulate matter, oxides of nitrogen and sulphur dioxide. The names of the ten cities where the levels of each of these parameters showing highest annual mean concentration is given in the annexed *Statement*.

(b) Industrialisation and increase in vehicular traffic are the major contributors to air pollution. Use of coal and fuelwood for cooking in household also contribute to air pollution.

(c) As per the same survey done by the CPCB the ten cities which are showing least pollution in terms of annual mean concentration of suspended particulate matter, oxides of nitrogen and sulphurdioxide in the ambient air are given in the Annexed *Statement-II*.

STATEMENT-I

Annual Mean Concentration in Microgramme per cubic metre for the important Ambient Air quality Parameters in different Cities

Sl No.	Parameters					
	Suspended Particulate Matter		Sulphur Dioxide		Oxides of nitrogen	
	Name of the City	Annual Mean Concentration	Name of the City	Annual Mean Concentration	Name of the City	Annual Mean Concentration
1.	Dehra Dūn	596.0	Gajroula	130.6	Gajroula	106.8
2.	Delhi	498.0	Howrah	57.8	Howrah	81.4
3.	Kanpur	491.0	Calcutta	47.2	Jabalpur	74.8
4.	Alwar	488.0	Faridabad	38.2	Alwar	71.9
5.	Gajroula	481.0	Jharia	36.9	Guwahati	68.3
6.	Agra	438.0	Dhanbad	35.3	Kota	66.2
7.	Korba	417.0	Ahmedabad	35.0	Jalandhra	61.6
8.	Indore	409.0	Sindri	30.9	Surat	57.7
9.	Satna	399.0	Delhi	29.6	Hyderabad	50.2
10.	Jabalpur	394.0	Surat	29.4	Ahmedabad	45.5

STATEMENT-II

Names of Cities Observed to have Minimal Annual Mean Concentration of important ambient air quality parameters for the maximum Data recorded in Microgramme per Cubic Metre •

S. No.	Parameters					
	Suspended Particulate Matter		Sulphur Dioxide		Oxides of nitrogen	
	Name of the City	Annual Mean Concentration	Name of the City	Annual Mean Concentration	Name of the City	Annual Mean Concentration
1.	Madras	53.0	Kozhikod	3.3	Yamuna Nagar	4.0
2.	Guwahati	59.0	Kottayam	3.5	Ahmedabad	5.1
3.	Vasco	59.0	Jabalpur	4.4	Cochin	5.2
4.	Cochin	72.0	Daman	4.6	Daman	5.8
5.	Trivandrum	72.0	Kanpur	5.1	Korba	7.4
6.	Haldia	80.0	Ahmedabad	5.6	Ponta Sahib	7.5

S No.	Parameters					
	Suspended Particulate Matter		Sulphur Dioxide		Oxides of nitrogen	
	Name of the City	Annual Mean Concentration	Name of the City	Annual Mean Concentration	Name of the City	Annual Mean Concentration
7.	Shimla	87.0	Jaipur	6.0	Silvasa	7.7
8.	Daman	91.0	Madras	6.3	Angul	7.9
9.	Nagda	94.0	Nagpur	7.0	Hyderabad	8.4
10.	Pondicherry	97.0	Silvasa	8.1	Nagpur	8.5

[Translation]

New University in Delhi

367. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM:
Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have approved the proposal of the Government of Delhi to set up a new University/College so as to solve the admission problem of students in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which new University/College is likely to start functioning?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) No such proposal has been received by the Central Government from the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi.

(b) Does not arise.

Bridge over Ganga

368. SHRI LALL BABU RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to construct a bridge on Ganga from Deeghaghat to Sonapur has been lying pending with the Government since long;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for not clearing the above project so far?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). A survey for a rail bridge across River Ganga near Patna was conducted in Feb. 91. The survey report revealed that the cost of the bridge would be about Rs. 468 crores with a negative rate of return. In view of the unremunerative nature of the project coupled with huge investment involved, when the railways are faced with a resource crunch, construction of the bridge was deferred.

Education for Handicapped Children

369. DR. SAKSHIJI:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:
SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of handicapped children in the country at present;

(b) the percentage thereof who do not go to school; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure that more handicapped children go to schools?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b). According to information furnished by the National Council of Educational Research & Training (NCERT), the number of handicapped children in the country at present is 10.39 million. The precise percentage of disabled children who do not go to school is not available.

(c) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Intergrated Education for the Disabled Children is expected to cover 50,000 disabled children by the end of the 8th Plan. Under this scheme 100% financial assistance is provided to States/Union Territories/Voluntary Organisations for creating necessary facilities for disabled children in common schools and giving various allowances to the disabled children, for books and stationery, transport, uniform, equipment

etc. Special education has been launched as a component in pre-service training of teachers. Under the District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) also there is provision for enrolment of disabled children alongwith normal children. The Ministry of Welfare is giving grants-in-aid to 320 organisations for education, training and rehabilitation of disabled children. State Governments/Union Territories are also running special schools for disabled children.

[English]

New Sugar Mills

370. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for setting up of new sugar mills pending consideration with the Union Government at present;

(b) the number of proposals out of them sent by the Government of Gujarat and since when these are pending; and

(c) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) As on 30.6.1994, 82 applications for setting up of new sugar mills are pending consideration in the Ministry of Food.

(b) There is no application pending for setting up of new sugar mills in Gujarat.

(c) Question does not arise.

Hostels for Working Women*[Translation]*

372. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan for construction of a number of Working Women's Hostels in Delhi and New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details alongwith capacity, cost and the schedule of construction thereof;

(c) whether any policy has been laid down by the Union Government about the need and desirability of Working Women's Hostels in different cities and towns; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI): (a) and (b)-Yes, Sir. The Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi has indicated that there is a plan to construct 4 additional Hostels for Working Women in Delhi/New Delhi. No proposal has yet been received by the Government of India.

(c) and (d). The Union Government assesses the need and desirability of working women's hostels on the basis of the periodic employment data obtained from the Directorate General of Employment and Training, and the recommendations made by State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

Computerised Reservation Facility

372. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR:
SHRI RAJENDRA
AGNIHOTRI:
DR. RAMESH CHAND
TOMAR:
SHRI GOPI NATH
GAJAPATHI:
SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:
SHRI PHOOL CHAND
VERMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the computerised reservation-cum-booking offices presently working in the different parts of the country with their locations and their timings of functioning, Division-wise;

(b) the details of computerised reservation-cum-booking offices proposed to be opened during 1994-95 and 1995-96 with locations, State-wise;

(c) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred thereon; and

(d) the details of the offices where return and onward journey reservation facilities are available?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) The details of computerised reservation-cum-booking offices presently working in

different parts of the country with their locations, Division-wise;

Central Railways

Division	Location
Bombay	Pune Bombay (VT) Thane Kalyan Kurla Belapur
Bhopal	Bhopal Habibganj
Jhansi	Gwalior Agra Cantt.
Nagpur	Nagpur
Solapur	Solapur

Eastern Railway

Sealdah/Calcutta area	Sealdah Old Koilaghat Rabindra Sadan Tolleygunge Majerhat Dum Dum Jn. Bidhan Nagar Ballygunge
Howrah/Calcutta Area	Howrah New Koilaghat Fairier Place Bally
Danapur	Patna Mahendrughat
Asansol Dhanbad	Asansol Dhanbad

Division	Location
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Northern Railway

Lucknow (NR)	Varanasi Lucknow
Ferozpur	Ludhiana Amritsar Jammu Tawi
Jodhpur	Jodhpur
Allahabad	Kanpur Allahabad
Bikaner	Bikaner Delhi Cantt.
Ambala	Kalka Shimla Chandigarh Ambala
Delhi Division area	International Tourist Bureau Baroda House Railway Board Karkardooma Ghaziabad I. R. C. A./NDIS Parliament Hous Delhi Main Nizamuddin Sarojini Nagar
Delhi Division/Area	Kirti Nagar Delhi Shahdara Noida New Azadpur

Moradabad	Dehradun
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North Eastern Railway

Gorakhpur	Gorakhpur
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Division	Location	Division	Location
Lucknow	Badshahnagar		Darul Shafa Ammerpet
Northeast Frontier Railway		Vijayawada	Nijayawada
Lumding	Guwahati	Guntakal	Tirupati
Southern Railway		South Eastern Railway	
Madras	Madras Central (Moore Market) Egmore Mambalam Madras Beach Tambaram	Adra	Ranchi
Bangalore	Bangalore City Bangalore Cantt.	Bilaspur	Bilaspur
Trivandrum	Trichur Emakulam Trivandrum Central	Khurda Road	Puri Cutack Bhubaneshwar
		Waltari	Vishakapatnam
		Chakradharpur	Tatanagar
		Western Railway	
Palghat	Calicut Palghat Erode Salem Cannanore Mangalore Coimbatore Jn. Coimbatore North	Bombay	Surat Churchgate Bombay Central Andheri Borivali
Tiruchirappalli	Tiruchirappalli	Vadodara	Vadodara Ahmedabad Padmavati Partapnagar Gandhinagar Mani Nagar
Madurai	Madurai		
Mysore	Mysore	Jaipur (WR)	Jaipur
South Central Railway		Kota	Agra Fort
Hyderabad	Kacheguda	Ratlam	Indore
Secunderabad	Secunderabad Hyderabad	Rajkot	Rajkot

Division	Location
Bhavnagar	Gandhigram
Ajmer	Ajmer (One Message Terminal)

Normally the computerised Reservation Offices on Indian Railways

are functioning from 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. from Monday to Saturday, and from 8 A.M. to 2 P.M. on Sundays. At a few locations, however, the timings have been modified to suit the local conditions.

(b) and (c). The details of computerized reservation-cum-booking Offices proposed to be opened during 94-95 and 95-96 or thereafter subject to availability of funds.

Railway	State	Location	Estimated Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)
SCR	Karnataka	Hubli	30.0
	Maharashtra	Kolhapur	30.0
	Goa	Vasco	35.0
	Andhra Pradesh	Kakinada	30.0
		Guntur	30.0
S.R.	Kerala	Quilon	19.97
	Karnataka	Bangalore Cantt.	18.0
	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore North	
		Tuticorin } Tirunelveli }	19.61
N.R.	Uttar Pradesh	Haridwar	35.00
		Punjab	Jalandhar
	Bihar	Pathankot	35.0
		Muzzafarpur	20.0
		Gaya	30.0
	West Bengal	Rourkela	20.0
		Malda Town	19.0
		New Jalpaiguri	20.0
	Madhya Pradesh	Raipur	25.0
CR & WR	M.P.	Jabalpur	260.0
	Maharashtra	Bhusawal	30.0
	Maharashtra	Nasik	30.0

Railway	State	Location	Estimated Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)
	Karnataka	Gulbarga	27.0
	U.P.	Jhansi	35.0
		Meerut	35.0
	Haryana	Faridabad	22.0
	Rajasthan	Ajmer	20.0
		Udaipur	30.0
	Rajasthan	Kota	35.0
	Gujarat	Gandhidham	35.0
	M.P.	Ratlam	30.0

(d) The following reservation Centres have the return and onward reservation facilities through computer terminals and automax.

Location/ Station	The system from which facility is available on a few Computer terminals
1	2
Madras Central	Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Secunderabad
Bangalore	-do-
Trivandrum	-do-
Ernakulam	Bombay
Madurai	Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Secunderabad on BPT
Tiruchirappalli	-do-
Calicut	-do-
Cannanore	-do-
Coimbatore	-do-

1	2
Mysore	-do-
Trichur	-do-
New Koilaghat	Delhi, Bombay, Madras
Old Kailaghat	-do-
Patna	Madras
Vishakapatnam	Madras
Bhubaneshwar	Madras, Bombay, Delhi
Bombay Central	Delhi, Madras, Secunderabad
Churchgate	-do-
Pune	-do-
Bombay VT	Howrah, Delhi, Madras and Secunderabad
Ahmedabad	-do-
Guwahati	Bombay, Madras
Secunderabad	Madras, Bombay

1	2
Hyderabad	Bombay, Madras
Kachiguda	-do-
I.R.C.A.	Bombay, Calcutta and Madras
Delhi Main	-do-
Sarojini Nagar	-do-
Lucknow	-do-
Varanasi	-do-
Jammu Tawi	Calcutta and Madras
Jaipur	Bombay
Bhopal	Bombay
List of Stations with Automax facility on Indian Railways	
Saharanpur	Guntakal
Bareilly	Kazipet
Bhatinda	Tirupati
Dehradun	Guntur
Faizabad	Miraj
Ferozpur	Vasco
Jalandhar	Asansol
Meerut City	Dhanbad
Haridwar	Danapur
	Sealdah
Moradabad	Howrah
Pathankot	Mughalsarai
Kapurthala	Malda Town
Baroda House	Khurda Road
	Kharagpur
	Adra
Paighat	Nagpur
	Vishakapatnam

1	2
Madurai	Chakradharpur
Bangalore	Bilaspur
Mysore	Bhusawal
Tiruchirapalli	Jhansi
Ernakulam	Solapur
Mangalore	Manmad
Coimbatore	Jabalpur
Trivandrum	—
Kota	Devali
Madras Central	Nasik
Ratlam	Villapuram
Rajkot	Secunderabad
Vijayawada	Bhavnagar
Hubli	Godra
	Indore
Nagpur (CR)	
Rajmundry	Aurangabad
Nellore	Porbender
Ajmer	Jaipur
Bharuch	

Construction of Overbridges in Bihar

373. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct overbridges at Navada railway crossing and Chainpur Station falling under Gomo-Barakakana Section in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Railway considers replacement of busy level crossings by Road over bridges proposals for which are sponsored by State Government/local authority concerned, duly consenting to bear their share of cost as per Rules. No such proposal has been received.

[English]

Sugar Price

374. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:
SHRI ANAND RATNA
MAURYA:
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE
TRIPATHI:
SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH:
SHRI MANJAY LAL:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have checked the increase in the price of sugar in the open market recently;

(b) if so, the details of the achievements made; and

(c) the quantity of free sale quota of sugar released in the months of June and July, 1994?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The wholesale prices of S-30 grade of sugar in the five principal markets of the country, which were in the range of Rs. 1483 to 1620 per quintal on 19th May 1994, started showing a downward trend and have reached the range of Rs. 1303 to Rs. 1570 per quintal during the period 1st to 19th July, 1994. The retail prices which were in the range of Rs. 14.00 to 17.30 per kg. May, 1994 started showing a downward trend and have reached a range of Rs. 13.50 to 16.40 during the period 1st to 19th July, 1994.

(c) Freesale sugar quota released for June, 1994 and July, 1994 was 5.6 lakh tonnes and 6.0 lakh tonnes respectively.

Violation of Women's Rights

375. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of World Bank's Report which has unleashed new propoganda of human rights violation in India with regard to women;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Ban on Foodgrain Trade

376. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI:
SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand has been made to the Union Government to construct foodgrain warehouses and to lift ban from foodgrain trade; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). At present, there is no ban on foodgrain trade. Food Corporation of India is the main agency engaged in construction of godowns for storage of foodgrains. Periodical demands are being received by Food Corporation of India from the State Governments, Private Parties, Members of Parliament, various Associations and Unions including Staff Unions etc. for construction of godowns at various places. All such proposals are examined on their merits and considered accordingly.

Free Railway Passes

377. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of free railway passes issued to various categories of persons during 1994, category-wise;

(b) the details of individuals and

organisations holding such passes in each class; and

(c) the criteria adopted for issuing such passes to these persons?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Presumably, the reference is to grant of Complimentary Card Passes issued to individual/organisations. The number of such passes issued from 1.1.1994 to 20.7.1994 is as under :

I Class	II Class
106	07

However, it may be pertinent to mention that all the passes issued have since been cancelled.

(b) A *Statement* is attached.

(c) Complimentary Card Passes are granted by Ministry of Railways to eminent persons, organisations devoted to social, cultural, scientific, sports and educational activities of all-India character etc. and based on justification/merits of each case.

STATEMENT

S.No. Details of individuals/organisations to whom Complimentary Card Passes have been issued from 1.1.1994 to 20.7.1994

1	2
---	---

I. First Class Complimentary Card Passes

1. Shri Virender Kumar Gaur
2. Shri Syed Nazir Alam

1	2
3.	Shri S.S. Pandey
4.	Shri Saba Naqvi
5.	Shri Kedar Prasad Mandal
6.	Shri Prashun Bhamik
7.	Shri G. Muni Ratnam
8.	Smt. Leela Devi R. Prasad
9.	Mr. Qari Hifzur Rehman
10.	Shri Nazeer Ahmed Siddiqui
11.	Shri Hazi Mohd. Haroon
12.	Shri Shahabuddin Fouzdar
13.	Smt. Asha Devi Rathod
14.	Prof. H.N. Sharma
15.	Shri A. Gopal Rao
16.	Shri J.N. Kashyap
17.	Shri Shankar Suhail
18.	Shri J.P. Gadakari
19.	Km. Saraswati Ammal
20.	Ms. Alamelu Ammal
21.	Brother Ravindra Jain
22.	Shri Avinash Pande
23.	Shri Maninderjit Singh Bitta
24.	Shri Ram Lal Jawa
25.	Shri V.A. Changre
26.	Shri Gajendra Singh
27.	Two Sisters of Missionaries of Charity, Delhi
28.	Two Sisters of Missionaries of Charity, Delhi
29.	Two Sisters of Missionaries of Charity, Delhi
30.	Shri S.K. Chaturvedi

1	2
31.	Dr. Banarsi Das
32.	Shri Salamat Ullah
33.	Shri Syed Ahmed Zamin
34.	Master Farazuddin Shariat
35.	Shri Ramesh Bhai
36.	Smt. Channamma Hallikeri
37.	Shri Rajendra Prasad
38.	Shri Nasib Pathan
39.	Shri B. Babu Prasad
40.	Shri Kapil Dev
41.	Shri Hari Krishan Goswami Alias Manoj Kumar
42.	Smt. Kaniz Fatima
43.	Shri Harish Bhardwaj
44.	One Representative of Kanchi Kamakoti Mutt, Tamil Nadu
45.	One Representative of Kanchi Kamakoti Mutt, Tamil Nadu
46.	One Representative of Kanchi Kamakoti Mutt, Tamil Nadu
47.	Shri Rajendra Tiwari
48.	Shri Keshav H. Kulkarni
49.	Smt. Nirmala Deshpande
50.	Dr. Sushila Nayar
51.	Shri Lokpati Tripathi
52.	Shri P.N. Pandey
53.	Smt. Kamala Tyagi
54.	Shri Jagdish Narain Deshpande
55.	Shri M.G. Syed Bhai
56.	Shri B.V. Raman
57.	Shri Jeeva Nand Jha
58.	Shri Indu Bhushan Goswami

1	2
59.	Shri Radhika Raman Balan
60.	Shri Ramesh Kalia
61.	Shri R.D. Salam
62.	Shri Haroom Rashid
63.	Shri Rehan Asif Siddiqui
64.	Shri D. Sundrani
65.	Shri Sunderlal Bahuguna
66.	Shri Rajayogindra Veeriah
67.	Shri Brahmachari Subudhanand
68.	Shri Vijay Narain
69.	Shri D.K. Pathak
70.	Shri Rajiv Kumar
71.	Shri V.R. Gauri Shankar
72.	H.H. Nischalananda Saraswati Swamiji Sankaracharya, Puri
73.	Shri Bharat Kumar Makwana
74.	Shri Hiralal Pippal
75.	Smt. Nirmala Bhagey
76.	Shri Rashid Kamal Kidwai
77.	Smt. Deepa Kaul
78.	Shri H.N. Swami Narayana Nanda Sharati
79.	Smt. Sashi Sharma
80.	Shri Lallan Prasad Vyas
81.	Shri Hafiz Syed Md. Mazar Ali
82.	Shri Darshan Singh Yadav
83.	Shri Mangi Lal Arya
84.	Shri R.S. Bismail
85.	Shri Suresh Bahadur Singh
86.	Shri Shira Kumar
87.	Shri Taja Murthy

1	2
88.	Shri Harendra Nath Prasad
89.	Smt. Sarla Kumari
90.	Shri Devender Pandey
91.	Shri Awadesh Singh
92.	Shri Ramesh Sharma
93.	Shri Sharad Kumar Sadhak
94.	Shri Vimal Mehrotra
95.	Shri Zafar Iqbal, Hockey Olympian
96.	Shri J.M. Chinchalkar
97.	Smt. Kameshwari Mishra
98.	Shri Zail Singh
99.	Shri Janeshwar Mishra
100.	Smt. Mohsina Kidwai
101.	Prof. Madhu Dandevate
102.	Shri P.C. Sethi
103.	Shri George Fernandes
104.	Shri K.C. Lenka
105.	Shri Aryabhushan
106.	Shri Mohd. Zamen Arif

II. Second Class Complimentary Card Passes

1. Dr. Umesh Sharma
2. Shri M.S. Bhatnagar
3. Shri Manoj Tyagi
4. Shri Arul
5. Shri K.N. Venkatesh
6. Shri Sekhar
7. Shri Ishwar Joyce

[English]

Irregularities in Sports Authority of India

378. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) has pointed out a large number of irregularities in financial management of the Sports Authority of India;

(b) if so, the punitive and corrective measures taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Sports Authority of India had taken over incomplete buildings constructed for ASIAD 1982;

(d) if so, the details thereof and amount involved therein;

(e) whether the Sports Authority of India has not been able to put these buildings to any use and put up a proposal for return of these buildings or parts thereof;

(f) if so, the details and Government's decision thereon;

(g) whether the Government have investigated into the reasons for taking over those buildings and fixed accountability; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

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): (a) and (b). The Comptroller & Auditor General of India has conducted the performance audit of the schemes of Sports Authority of India. The CAG has pointed out shortcomings related to the implementation of schemes/programmes of Sports Authority of India. It has also suggested improvement in implementation procedures of various schemes. The Sports Authority of India has taken note of various suggestions made by Comptroller and Auditor General of India and the improvement suggested are being carried out in the system.

(c) and (d). No Sir, . However Players' Building near Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, I.P. Estate, New Delhi was part of the Work for the ASIAD 82 which could not be completed by DDA. In 1987 this building was purchased by Delhi Administration for running a multi-speciality hospital by Indraprastha Medical Corporation (IMC). In 1989 it was decided that SAI would take the building from Delhi Administration and for this purpose an amount of Rs. 14.83 crores was paid to Delhi Administration. However, the possession of the building could not be taken as the issue of payment of further dues to the contractors engaged by IMC was raised.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Various options for the best use of the building are being considered by Government.

(g) Does not arise.

(h) Does not arise.

Train Halt at Muringoor

379. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation for a Train Halt at km. 65/3—8, at Muringoor between Chalkudy and Karukuly on Ernakulam-Trichur Section of Trivandrum Division; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All such proposals, including this one, are examined and decided keeping in view the various parameters laid down in this regard.

Committee on Pollution Control

380. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high powered committee has been set up to prepare a time-bound action plan for pollution control in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the composition and terms of reference of the said committee; and

(d) the time by which the committee is likely to submit its report to Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A High Powered Committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of Secretary, Environment & Forests, Govt. of India, Development Commissioner cum Secretary (Environment) Govt. of NCR of Delhi is the Member Secretary to this Committee.

(c) The composition of the High Powered Committee is as under:

1. Secretary (E&F)	Chairman
2. Additional Secretary & Project Director, GPD	Member
3. Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board	Member
4. Commissioner, Delhi Police	Member
5. Commissioner, Transport, Delhi	Member
6. Secretary, Urban Development, NCD Delhi	Member
7. Vice Chairman, Delhi Development Authority	Member

8.	Additional Commissioner, MCD	Member
9.	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India	Member
10.	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum, Government of India	Member
11.	Deputy Inspector General of Forests (FC), Ministry of Environment & Forests Government of India	Member
12.	Development Commissioner, NCT Delhi	Member Secretary

Terms of Reference of the Committee are to prepare a comprehensive action plan for pollution control in Delhi.

(d) The Committee is likely to submit its report by the end of August, 1994.

Prawn Seed Hatcheries in Orissa

381. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prawn Seed hatcheries have been set up in Orissa with foreign assistance;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the foreign investment made in those hatcheries;

(c) whether there is any proposal for setting up of new and better prawn seed hatcheries in Orissa with foreign assistance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Under the World Bank assisted Shrimps and Fish Culture Project, 21 shrimp seed hatcheries of different sizes are to be set up in Orissa. These hatcheries have a designed capacity of producing about 132 million shrimp seed/annum.

[Translation]

New Railway Lines

382. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several State Governments have requested the Union

Government to lay new railway lines in their States;

(b) if so, the details of such proposals received upto July 1, 1994 State-wise;

(c) the proposals proposed to be approved by the Government during 1994-95; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). A *Statement* is attached.

STATEMENT

(b) The details of the proposals received during last three years are as under:

Andhra Pradesh

1. Peddapally - Patancheru
2. Nandayal-Yerraguntala
3. Kotapalli-Kakinada
4. Tirupati-Katpadi
5. Nizamabad-Ramgundam

Assam

1. Lanka-Silchar
2. Rail-cum-Road bridge at Bogibhil

Arunachal Pradesh

1. Murkongaslek-Paseighat
2. Lekhapani-Kharsang

Bihar

1. Rajgir-Gaya
2. Dehri- on-Sone-Bharathpur
3. Muzaffarpur-Sitamarhi

Gujarat

1. Bhavnagar-Tarapur
2. Ambaji-Khed Brahma
3. Linking Pipavav Fort with rail
4. Linking Bedi Fort with rail
5. Linking Rosy Pier with rail
6. Linking Alang Ship Breaking Yard with rail
7. Providing direct BG route to Gandhinagar
8. Rail-cum-road bridge between Bhavnagar and Bharuch across the Gulf of Khumbat

Haryana

1. Gurgaon-Alwar via Badshahpur

Himachal Pradesh

1. Sohna-Nuh-Nagina-Ferozepur-Zhirka and Rangurli

Karnataka

1. Kottur-Harihar
2. Chikmagalur-Sakleshwar
3. Hospet-Ankola

Kerala

Madhya Pradesh

1. Ramganj Mandi-Bhopal
2. Dallirajhara-Jagdalpur

Maharashtra

1. Wardha-Yeotmal-Pusad-Nanded
2. Ahmednagar-Beed-Parli Vaijnath
3. Khamgaon-Jaina
4. Pantharapur-Conard
5. Solapur-Beed-Warrangal-Chalirgaon
6. Pune-Nasik
7. Kalhagaon-Ratnagiri

Manipur

1. Diphu-Karong-Imphal

Orissa

1. Haridaspur-Paradeep
2. Talcher-Gopalpur

Rajasthan

1. Kolayat-Phalodi
2. Ramganj Mandi-Bhopal
3. Sangner-Todaraisingh-Nathdwara

Tripura

1. Kumarghat-Agartala

Uttar Pradesh

1. Farukhabad-Hardoi/Sandila

West Bengal

(c) The proposals recommended by the State Government, are examined from time to time. Decisions in respect of the following have been taken so far.

- (i) Boghibil Bridge has been adopted as a 9th Plan project to be taken up after completion of Jogighopa Bridge.
- (ii) The proposals for Kottur-Harihar, Dallirajhara-Jagdulpur have been sent to the Planning Commission for clearance.
- (iii) Surveys are in progress for Kumarghat-Agartala, Kolayat-Phalodi, Chikmagalur-Sakleshpur and further consideration of these projects would be possible once the survey reports are available.

(d) In view of the position explained in para (c) above no time frame can be indicated at present.

Quality of Goods

383. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases registered against the manufacturers who

exaggerate the quality of their product in the advertisements during the last one year and the number out of them penalised; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) This Ministry does not compile such information.

(b) In view of the above, the question does not arise.

[English]

UPOV Convention

384. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the implications of the decisions arrived at in 1991 UPOV convention; and

(b) the date from which these decisions are likely to be effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The 1991 UPOV Convention makes farmers exemption an optional exception as against a clear exception as provided in UPOV Convention 1978. The 1991 Convention strengthens the breeders protection in terms of number of activities for which breeders' authorisation is needed, items over which breeders' protection extends, number of genera to

be protected, period of protection and deletion of prohibition for having both patents and other forms of protection for breeders.

(b) The enforcement of 1991 Convention depends on its ratification by the requisite number of member countries of UPOV.

Double Rail Line Link In Andhra Pradesh

385. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of district in Andhra Pradesh which have double rail line links with the State Capital;

(b) the names of districts which do not have any train link with State Capital;

(c) whether the Government propose to link these districts with capital by the Railway; and

(d) if so, the time by which the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) 13 Nos.

(b) Karimnagar and Medak.

(c) Karimnagar District will be connected on completion of Peddapally-Nizamabad rail link. There is no proposal to connect Medak at present.

(d) By 1999-2000.

Setting up of Veterinary University

386. SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sent any proposal to the Union Government for setting up of Veterinary University in the State with the Central assistance; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

[Translation]

Shramjeevi Express

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

(a) whether the Shramjeevi Express running between Patna and New Delhi is running with inordinate delay since last one year;

(b) if so, the number of occasions when this train was cancelled for inordinate delay during January 1, 1993 to June 30, 1994; and

(c) the remedial steps proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the operation of this train?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Punctuality performance of Shramjeevi Express has not been satisfactory.

(b) 23 occasions in each direction.

(c) Efforts are being made to improve the running by introducing air brake stock.

(b) whether the Governments of Bihar and Madhya Pradesh have requested for allotment of more quota for the year 1994;

(c) whether the supply of these essential commodities is to be continued through P.D.S.; and

(d) if so, the quantity proposed to be supplied during the current year?

Allotment of Essential Commodities to States

388. SHRI LALL BABU RAI:
SHRI RAM TAHAL
CHOUDHARY:
SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI
ASHRAF FATMI:
SHRI SATYNARAYAN
JATIYA:
SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of wheat, rice, sugar, edible oil and kerosene supplied to each State during the last four months, commodity-wise and month-wise;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Monthwise allocation and lifting of rice, wheat, edible oil and kerosene made to each State during the last 4 months (March to June 1994), is indicated in *Statements* enclosed (*Statement I, II, III and IV*). Monthwise allocation of levy sugar (including festival quota) made to various States from March to June, 1994 is given in *Statement-V*.

(b) An additional monthly allocation of 4000 tonnes of rice and 10000 tonnes of wheat was made to Bihar from March to June, 1994. The monthly rice and wheat quotas of Bihar and Madhya Pradesh for PDS (including RPDS) have also been increased from July, 1994 as follows:

(in tonnes)

	Rice		Wheat	
	Normal Quota	Increased Quota	Normal Quota	Increased Quota
Bihar	24,600	31,800	51,600	58,000
Madhya Pradesh	40,900	48,560	41,000	48,660

The request of Madhya Pradesh for increase of levy sugar quota based on 1994 population has been received in July, 1994. Similarly Bihar Government

has also requested recently for enhancement of levy sugar allocation for the State based on 1991 census population.

No request has been received from Bihar and Madhya Pradesh for increase in the allocation of edible oil.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The allocations of wheat and rice which are supplemental in nature, are made to States/Union Territories on a month to month basis having regard to demand, seasonal availability, relative needs, offtake trend and other relative factors.

Monthly allocation of levy sugar to most of the States/Union Territories are being made on uniform norms of ensuring 425 gms. per capita availability for the

projected population as on 1.10.1986. These norms are in effect from 1.2.1987. Accordingly about 3.35 lakh tonnes of sugar is being allotted per month for distribution under Public Distribution System (PDS) for the entire country. Besides this Government releases about 1 lakh tonne per annum as festival quota to States/Union Territories in proportion to their monthly levy allocations.

The quantity of edible oil to be supplied to the States for PDS during the current year will depend on the inter-se requirement of the States/Union Territories, availability of imported edible oil (palmolen) and other relative factors. The statewise allocations of SKO for 1994-95 is given in *Statement-VI*.

STATEMENT-I

Allocation (A) and Offtake (O) of Rice (PDS) from the Central Pool During March to June, 1994

(In '000 tonnes)

Sl. No.	States/Union Territories	March, 94		April, 94		May, 94		June, 94	
		A	O	A	O	A	O	A	O
'1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	190.00	183.30	125.00	136.40	165.00	157.50	190.00	190.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8.60	9.80	8.60	10.00	5.40	8.30	5.40	5.5
3.	Assam	38.40	27.60	38.40	24.50	38.40	24.10	38.40	25.7
4.	Bihar	28.60	5.20	28.60	7.00	28.60	3.80	28.60	5.8
5.	Delhi	20.00	6.60	20.00	7.00	20.00	6.20	20.00	4.1
6.	Goa	4.50	2.30	4.50	4.10	4.50	4.60	4.50	0.3
7.	Gujarat	34.50	15.90	34.50	16.20	34.50	8.60	34.50	12.4
8.	Haryana	3.30	0.40	3.00	0.50	3.00	0.60	3.00	0.8
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7.50	6.00	7.50	3.00	7.50	2.90	7.50	3.0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	36.20	11.60	36.20	9.50	44.00	8.30	44.00	10.0
11.	Karnataka	75.00	33.30	75.00	43.80	75.00	44.70	75.00	45.6
12.	Kerala	150.00	71.50	150.00	59.70	150.00	72.40	150.00	97.8
13.	Madhya Pradesh	40.90	9.50	40.90	11.90	40.90	16.70	40.90	21.1
14.	Maharashtra	71.50	23.30	71.50	10.80	71.50	24.90	71.50	32.1
15.	Manipur	10.00	3.20	10.00	3.60	10.00	3.90	10.00	5.2
16.	Meghalaya	10.50	11.80	10.50	10.30	10.50	11.20	10.50	11.4
17.	Mizoram	7.60	10.00	7.60	11.30	7.60	6.60	8.35	8.8
18.	Nagaland	7.50	10.50	7.50	9.40	7.50	6.90	7.50	6.4
19.	Orissa	38.70	3.80	38.70	5.00	38.70	11.90	38.70	12.0
20.	Punjab	1.50	0.20	1.50	0.20	1.50	0.20	1.50	Neg
21.	Rajasthan	3.00	1.20	3.00	0.60	3.00	0.80	3.00	5.9
22.	Sikkim	4.50	2.30	4.50	1.80	4.50	1.10	4.50	1.4
23.	Tamil Nadu	100.00	129.70	100.00	93.90	100.00	97.20	100.00	95.2
24.	Tripura	16.20	10.80	16.20	9.00	16.20	13.10	16.20	13.6
25.	Uttar Pradesh	45.80	12.20	45.80	12.40	45.80	18.40	45.80	16.1
26.	West Bengal	80.60	30.50	80.60	33.20	80.60	33.30	80.60	32.2
27.	A & N Island	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.25	0.00	0.00	—
28.	Chandigarh	0.30	0.10	0.30	0.10	0.30	0.10	0.30	3.1
29.	D & N Haveli	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.50	—
30.	Daman & Diu	0.50	0.50	0.50	1.10	0.50	0.30	0.50	—
31.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.10	0.00	—
32.	Pondicherry	2.00	0.30	2.00	0.20	2.00	0.20	2.00	0.30
Total		1037.90	664.10	972.90	537.00	1019.75	528.90	1043.25	666.60

STATEMENT-II

Allocation (A) and Offtake (O) of Wheat (PDS) from the Central Pool during March to June, 1994

(In '000 Tonnes)

Sl. No.	States/Union Territories	March, 94		April, 94		May, 94		June, 94	
		A	O	A	O	A	O	A	O
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15.00	9.30	15.00	5.50	15.00	4.50	15.00	4.5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.60	0.70	0.60	0.50	0.60	0.50	0.60	0.4
3.	Assam	20.00	29.00	20.00	25.80	20.00	50.90	20.00	18.8
4.	Bihar	61.60	42.70	61.60	17.20	61.60	10.30	61.60	7.5
5.	Delhi	72.00	39.50	72.00	27.70	72.00	10.20	72.00	6.1
6.	Goa	3.10	1.50	3.10	1.50	3.10	2.20	3.10	0.4
7.	Gujarat	53.50	34.10	53.50	29.10	53.50	24.30	53.50	24.9
8.	Haryana	18.20	9.10	10.20	0.30	10.20	0.30	10.20	0.6
9.	Himachal Pradesh	11.00	12.50	11.00	10.90	11.00	11.00	11.00	10.5
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	20.00	13.00	20.00	12.00	30.00	8.30	30.00	11.1
11.	Karnataka	30.00	19.00	30.00	20.20	30.00	19.20	30.00	19.9
12.	Kerala	30.00	24.40	30.00	22.90	35.00	28.50	35.00	29.9
13.	Madhya Pradesh	41.00	18.00	41.00	11.20	41.00	11.80	41.00	10.8
14.	Maharashtra	80.00	41.50	80.00	32.90	80.00	25.90	80.00	19.2
15.	Manipur	2.70	1.00	2.70	1.20	2.70	0.80	2.70	1.4
16.	Meghalaya	2.00	4.80	2.00	1.20	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.0
17.	Mizoram	1.10	1.70	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.3
18.	Nagaland	1.20	3.50	4.00	9.10	4.00	6.20	4.00	4.2
19.	Orissa	30.00	20.00	30.00	14.70	35.00	10.80	35.00	12.2
20.	Punjab	20.00	0.40	20.00	0.10	20.00	0.00	20.00	Neg.
21.	Rajasthan	146.50	65.40	146.50	33.60	76.50	40.90	65.50	40.6

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	120
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	73	—	48	—	—
10.	Karnataka	—	95	—	215	—	1137	—	772
11.	Kerala	—	2028	1500	1001	—	73	—	36
12.	Madhya Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16
13.	Maharashtra	—	80	—	2	—	58	—	—
14.	Manipur	—	—	400	0	400	—	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	—	—	100	—	100	—	—	20
16.	Mizoram	—	20	—	—	100	—	100	50
17.	Nagaland	—	—	200	191	200	90	200	170
18.	Orissa	—	—	800	—	1000	800	—	90
19.	Punjab	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20.	Rajasthan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21.	Sikkim	—	—	200	—	200	85	—	60
22.	Tamil Nadu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
23.	Tripura	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25.	West Bengal	—	89	2500	167	—	879	—	186
26.	A & N Islands	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
27.	Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
28.	D & N Haveli	—	—	50	30	50	30	—	40
29.	Delhi	—	145	—	228	—	201	85	142
30.	Daman	50	—	100	—	100	80	—	—
31.	Diu	—	—	30	—	20	50	—	—
32.	Lakshadweep	—	90	—	—	—	—	—	—
33.	Pondicherry	—	—	450	—	450	340	—	403
Total		1550	3714	7380	4927	7870	5339	385	4369

STATEMENT-IV*SKO Allocation Vs Releases During 1994**(Figs. in MTs)*

State/Union Territories	March, 94		April, 94		May, 94		June, 94	
	State Allocation	Sale	State Allocation	Sale	State Allocation	Sale	State Allocation	Sale
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Haryana	12233	12225	12233	12224	12233	12355	12271	11566
Himachal Pradesh	3818	3453	3318	3166	3318	3180	3366	3075
Jammu & Kashmir	4729	4628	4729	5063	4729	4953	5152	5161
Punjab	25702	25749	25702	25751	25702	25031	25782	25591
Rajasthan	23459	23152	23459	23259	23459	23061	23981	23478
Uttar Pradesh	80242	82834	80242	81036	80242	80425	81621	80422
Chandigarh	1744	1530	1744	1402	1744	1382	1744	1254
Delhi	18260	18272	18260	18138	18760	18401	18260	18578
Northern Region	168687	171873	169687	170039	170187	168788	172177	169125
Assam	20913	21295	20913	21207	20913	21034	20976	20810
Bihar	44375	44634	44375	44326	44375	44363	45525	44888
Manipur	2251	2237	2101	2119	2101	2119	1756	1729
Meghalaya	1205	1276	1205	1213	1205	1248	1211	1228
Nagaland	857	859	857	896	857	896	861	830
Orissa	15596	15573	15596	15589	15596	15604	16065	15940
Sikkim	628	621	628	602	628	625	630	628
Tripura	1834	1796	1834	1847	1834	1839	1852	1829
West Bengal	62194	63517	62194	61525	62194	62200	62380	62065
Arunachal Pradesh	788	837	788	784	788	781	790	747
Mizoram	517	511	517	517	517	517	519	514
Andaman & Nicobar	264	316	264	247	264	408	382	380
Eastern Region	151422	153472	151272	150872	151272	151634	152947	151588

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Gujarat	63717	64235	63717	63848	63717	63756	63916	63056
Maharashtra	117365	120737	117365	118478	117365	117474	117312	118034
Goa	2261	2270	2261	2263	2261	2249	2261	2230
Diu	121	121	121	129	121	127	121	110
Daman	122	122	122	122	122	121	122	121
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	259	261	259	261	259	260	259	261
Madhya Pradesh	34105	34051	34105	33860	34105	33551	34923	34963
Western Region	217950	221803	217950	218961	217950	217538	218914	218775
Andhra Pradesh	539	49499	539	49904	539	49738	50261	49630
Karnataka	37628	37829	37628	37634	37628	37383	37744	37786
Kerala	22461	22454	22461	22467	22481	22457	22528	22576
Tamil Nadu	55549	55756	55549	54549	55549	55104	55716	55393
Pondicherry	1235	1193	1235	1203	1235	1193	1239	1225
Lakshadweep	81	70	81	56	81	23	81	0
Southern Region	166993	166801	166993	165823	166993	165898	187569	186808
All India Total	706052	713949	705902	705695	706402	703858	711607	706097

STATEMENT-V*Statewise Allocation of Levy Sugar including Festival Quota**(Figures in Tonnes)*

S. No.	State/Union Territories	1994			
		March	April*	May	June
1.	Andhra Pradesh	26545	25281	25281	25281
2.	Andaman & Nicobar	259	247	247	247
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	330	314	314	314
4.	Assam	10098	10341	9617	9617
5.	Bihar	38132	33459	33459	33459
6.	Chandigarh	391	372	372	372
7.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	54	51	51	51

S. No.	State/Union Territories	1994*			
		March	April*	May	June
8.	Delhi	10357	9921	9921	9921
9.	Goa	525	500	500	500
10.	Daman	41	39	39	39
11.	Diu				
12.	Gujarat	17004	16194	16194	16194
13.	Haryana	6705	6386	6386	6386
14.	Himachal Pradesh	2120	2019	2019	2019
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	3280	3136	3136	3136
16.	Karnataka	18657	17769	17769	17769
17.	Kerala	12551	11953	11953	11953
18.	Lakshadweep	107	71	71	71
19.	Madhya Pradesh	26283	25031	25031	25031
20.	Maharashtra	31435	29938	29938	29938
21.	Manipur	729	694	694	694
22.	Meghalaya	695	662	662	662
23.	Mizoram	274	261	261	261
24.	Nagaland	447	426	426	426
25.	Orissa	13013	12393	12393	12393
26.	Pondicherry	320.2	305	305	305
27.	Karikal	76.7	73	73	73
28.	Yanam	7.4	7	7	7
29.	Punjab	8342	7945	7945	7945
30.	Rajasthan	17760	16914	16914	16914
31.	Sikkim	173	165	165	165
32.	Tamil Nadu	23674	22547	22547	22547
33.	Tripura	1051	1001	1001	1001
34.	Uttar Pradesh	55572	52926	52926	52926

S. No.	State/Union Territories	1994			
		March	April*	May	June
35.	West Bengal	27182	25888	25888	25888
36.	Mahe	15.7	15	15	15
G. Total		354206	335244	334520	335520

Note: March, 1994

1. Normal Monthly Quota + 5% Adhoc addl. increase From April, 94 to June, 94 Normal Monthly Quota
2. This does not include allocation of levy sugar made to para-military forces i.e. B.S.F., C.R.P.F., ITBP etc.

* 5% Ad hoc addl. increase was withdrawn from April, 1994.

STATEMENT-VI

States/Union Territories	SKO allocation during 1994-95	States/Union Territories	SKO allocation during 1994-95
States: Below National Level		States: Above National Level	
Orissa	192784	Arunachal Pradesh	9484
Bihar	560735	West Bengal	748563
Madhya Pradesh	446055	Andaman & Nicobar	3128
Rajasthan	306660	Assam	251713
Uttar Pradesh	1016836	Manipur	21074
Himachal Pradesh	40390	Tamil Nadu	668587
Tripura	22228	Punjab	325678
Nagaland	10327	Lakshadweep	875
Meghalaya	15705	Pondicherry	14863
Jammu & Kashmir	68741	Sikkim	7559
Mizoram	6234	Maharashtra	1512524
Andhra Pradesh	603132		
Kerala	270336		
Sub Total		Sub Total	
		4167164	

States/Union Territories	SKO allocation during 1994-95
Gujarat	798295
Dadar & Nagal Haveli	3108
Goa	27132
Delhi	238540
Diu/Daman	2944
Chandigarh	20298
Sub Total	4654996
Total	8822160

[English]

Coffee through Fair Price Shops

389. SHRI SULTAN
SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:
SHRI R. SURENDER
REDDY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some coffee growers have decided to offer coffee for supply through Public Distribution System in southern States;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions of the said proposal;

(c) whether the Government have agreed to the proposal;

(d) whether any other consumer items are being offered in this manner; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. One of the Coffee Growers Association has offered to make available 2000 tonnes of pure coffee beans at a reasonable price to the State Governments of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh for distribution through the Public Distribution System (PDS). However, the Association has suggested that coffee may be drawn from the coffee pooled with the Coffee Board for immediate to distribution indicating that a suitable mechanism for the pricing system has to be worked out.

(c) The mechanism for replacing the pooled coffee as well as the price at which such coffee is to be distributed including other modalities for passing on the same to the consumers have been worked out as the Association has not indicated as to exactly when they would release the promised quantity of coffee and what would be their offer price.

(d) and (e). As per present policy, Central Government allocates rice, wheat, levy, sugar, superior kerosene oil, imported edible oil and soft coke to States/UTs for distribution through the PDS. State Governments and UT Administrations were advised to add additional items of mass consumption such as tea, iodised salt, pulses and soaps through PDS outlets taking into account local requirements and consumer preferences. State Governments/UT Administrations can consider distribution of coffee to consumers using PDS outlets.

Railway Land

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

(a) the total area of the railway land illegally occupied by the people in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details of the land given on lease and lying unused; and

(c) the manner in which the Government propose to use such lands?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) 59.33 hectare (approx.).

(b) 17.89 hectare of land has been given on lease and whole of it is under use.

(c) Does not arise.

Import of Sugar

391. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:
SHRI ANNA JOSHI:
SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:
SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:
SHRI P.C. THOMAS:
PROF. K.V. THOMAS:
SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATH RAO
GUNDEWAR:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent import of sugar has been made through the private agencies;

(b) if so, the loss suffered by the Union Government thereby;

(c) whether the withdrawal of FCI orders for import of sugar also resulted in any loss;

(d) if so, the extent thereof;

(e) the total quantum of sugar contracted for import and the quantum thereof reached at various ports of the country so far; and

(f) the countries from which it has been imported indicating the price and quantity thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Government have allowed duty free import of sugar under Open General Licence (OGL). Under this scheme, private agencies and public sector undertakings namely STC and MMTC are importing sugar.

(b) The Union Government has not suffered any loss on account of imports of sugar made by the private agencies.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) As per information available from various sources, a total of about 17.37 lakh tonnes of sugar has been contracted for import into India till 20.7.1994, of which about 6.24 lakh tonnes has arrived at various ports.

(f) As the import of sugar is under O.G.L., the details regarding the country of origin and prices in respect of private agencies are not available with Government.

[Translation]

[English]

Damage to Railway Property

392. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether economic blockade in the tribal areas of Bihar has caused damage to the railway property;

(b) if so, the details of loss suffered as a result thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to save railway property in future?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are as under:

Year	Damage to Railway property in Rs. approx.
1992-92	18.00 lakhs
1993-94	8.40 lakhs
1994-95 (Upto June)	—

(c) This being a law and order problem, close liaison is maintained with the State Police authorities to deal with the situation and to prevent damage to Railway property. Guarding of vulnerable points and vital installations, patrolling of track, armed picketing in between two stations by the side of railway lines round the clock are undertaken. In addition, pilot engines under armed guards are sent ahead of important trains. Patrolling by trollies, motor trollies and tower wagons is also taken up extensively.

Raids on Kerosene Oil Depots

393. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether raids on kerosene oil depots were made during the last six months;

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

(c) the action taken against persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c). Operational responsibility for actual distribution of kerosene through the fair price shops/kerosene oil depots under the Public Distribution System (PDS) is that of the State Governments and UT Administrations, who have been delegated powers under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to check malpractices in distribution and take action against persons indulging in such malpractices. Enforcement staff of the State Governments/UT Administrations are undertaking periodic inspections, including raids, of fair price shops/kerosene oil depots distributing kerosene and other PDS commodities. Central Government does not maintain Union Territory-wise details of raids carried out on kerosene oil depots by the enforcement staff of State Governments/UT Administrations. The

Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi has, however, reported that during the last six months 181 raids were made on kerosene oil depots in Delhi. Authorisation of 25 kerosene oil depots were suspended and departmental action was taken against 70 kerosene oil depots. First information reports were lodged with police in 9 cases against kerosene oil depot holders.

[*Translation*]

Procurement of Paddy

394. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of wheat and paddy procured during 1993-94, State-wise;

(b) whether the Food Corporation of India has been imposed quality cuts particularly in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) A *Statement* giving requisite information is attached.

(b) and (c). Paddy is procured as per the tolerance limits prescribed for various constituents under uniform specifications. However, in the case of procurement of rice the quality cuts are levied as prescribed under uniform specifications in the entire country including Andhra Pradesh.

STATEMENT

State-wise Quantities of Wheat and Paddy procured for Central Pool by Food Corporation of India and State Governments and their procuring agencies upto 18.7.1994 during 1993-94 marketing season.

(Quantity in lakh tonnes)

State/Union Territory	Wheat	Paddy
Andhra Pradesh	—	0.21
Bihar	—	0.05
Haryana	34.54	1.45
Karnataka	—	0.01
Madhya Pradesh	2.42	2.57
Maharashtra	—	0.25
Orissa	—	0.37
Punjab	64.95	55.30
Rajasthan	4.96	—
Uttar Pradesh	21.27	Neg.
Pondicherry	—	0.03
Delhi	0.20	—
Himachal Pradesh	0.01	—
Total	128.35	60.24

[*English*]

Minor Fishing Harbours

395. SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the minor fishing harbours approved during the last three years in Kerala vis-a-vis with other States, State-wise;

(b) the original cost, revised cost

and physical progress on each such projects during this period;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up any Committee to look into the time and cost over-run factors involved in these projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL

ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b). The details are given in the *Statement* enclosed.

(c) and (d). A Central Monitoring Committee which includes officials of State Government has already been set-up to monitor the progress of construction of minor fishing harbours in Kerala. The Committee has already held two meetings in Kerala to review the progress.

(e) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Minor Fishing Harbours Sanctioned During 1991-92 to 1993-94 and their Status as on 31.3.1994

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Harbour	State	Original cost	Revised cost	Status
1.	Chombal	Kerala	556.00	—	Construction in progress
2.	Mopla	Kerala	564.00	—	Construction in progress
3.	Thangassery Stage-II	Kerala	569.50	—	Construction to commence during 1994-95
4.	Jakhau	Gujarat	1143.60	—	Construction in progress
5.	Mangrol Stage-II	Gujarat	701.00	—	Construction to commence during 1994-95

[*Translation*]

Chhapra-Shahganj Railway Line

396. SHRI LALL BABU RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to double the Chhapra-Mau-Balia-Shahganj railway line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The level of traffic on this line does not justify its doubling.

**Alleged Irregularity in Allotment of
Railway Quarters**

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

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints from the MPs regarding alleged irregularity in allotment of railway quarters and unauthorised use of those quarters in Samastipur Zone of the North Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof and the action taken in each case against allottees and officers/staff responsible for illegal allotment as on 30th June, 1994?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The cases pertain to irregular allotment of quarters without prior approval of the competent authority. Disciplinary action against four officers and one staff responsible for irregularities has been taken. The allottees not entitled have been served notices for vacation of their present quarters.

[English]

Central State Farm in Gujarat

398. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of Central State Farms in Gujarat;

(b) the total area being utilised for production of seeds for various foodgrains; and

(c) the total production made therein during 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) At present, State Farms Corporation of India (SFCI), a Public Sector Undertaking under the administrative control of this Ministry do not have any Central State Farm in Gujarat.

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

[Translation]

Railway Workshops

399. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of railway workshops in Bihar;

(b) the capacity of each workshop;

(c) whether the Government propose to expand these workshops during 1994-95; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Three.

(b) A *Statement* is attached.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT*[English]*(b) (i) *Samastipur Workshop:*

1. POH of M.G. Wagons — 25 Four Wheeler Units per month.
2. Manufacture of B.G. Wagons (Box'N') — 10 Wagons per month.

(ii) *Jamalpur Workshop:*

POH of B.G. Diesel Locomotives — 6 Locos per month.

Box wagons rebuilding — 50 wagons per month.

Manufacture of Diesel Locomotive components, carriage and wagon components, manufacture of Tower wagons and Diesel Cranes, manufacture of brake blocks, repairs of carriage and wagons, sub-assemblies such as wheels, bogies etc.

(iii) *Sini Workshop:*

(Figures in tonnage/month)

1.(a) Bridge Girder, Foot Over Bridge, Platform Shelter etc.	42
(b) Steel channel sleepers	25
2. Pad Plating of Steel Sleepers	2.5
3. Tie Bar	4
4. Foundry and smithy	4
5. Glued Joints	100
6. Permanent Way, Points and crossing and SEJ	26
7. Other repairing of Plant and Machinery, manufacturing of Push Trolley/Motor Trolley, Rail dollies etc.	25
Total	228.5

Metro Railway Project

400. SHRI DATTATRAYA
BANDARU:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR
MANDAL:
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Metro Rail project in Central Calcutta is responsible for collapse of some houses there;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted into this matter; and

(c) the assistance proposed to be provided for rehabilitation of affected families?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Certain buildings adjoining the construction site of Metro Railway showed signs of distress. Seven such buildings are proposed to be reconstructed by Metro Railway.

(b) A high power Committee headed by Prof. N. Som of Jadavpur University has been appointed by the State Government of West Bengal.

(c) Metro Railway has offered quarters at Dum Dum to rehabilitate the affected persons and alternatively a rent payment of Rs. 1200 per month, till such time the buildings are rebuilt.

Procurement of Milk by Delhi Milk Scheme

401. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the average quantity and the rates at which milk is being procured by the Delhi Milk Scheme from the Cooperative Societies and private parties per day at present; and

(b) the reasons for not procuring maximum quantity of milk by the Delhi Milk Scheme from the Cooperative Societies to meet the demands of public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b). The Cooperative Societies are supplying at an average (June, 1994) 17,168 kgs. per day of milk to Delhi Milk Scheme against the agreed quantity of 30,500 kgs per day at the rate of Rs. 8.22 per kg. The private Contractors are supplying at an average a quantity of 81,720 kgs. of milk per day (June, 1994) at Rs. 8.40 per kg. The Delhi Milk Scheme is unable to purchase more milk from the Cooperative Societies as they have failed to fulfil their commitment.

Extension of Railway Line

402. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to conduct any survey of Angamaly-Erumely via Muvattuduzha, Thodupuzha and Pala for extension of railway line from Kottayam to Punalur; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The field work for the survey will be taken up shortly.

Adult Education Mission

403. SHRI JITENDER NATH DAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an expert committee or group has been constituted to evaluate the adult education mission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has made any study regarding Adult Education Mission in India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b). An expert group has been set up under the Chairmanship of Prof. Arun Ghosh and consists of Prof. Veena Mazumdar, Prof. Andre Beteille, Prof. U.R. Anantha Murthy, Prof. S.M. Kansal and Shri Achin Vanaik to carry out a status-cum-impact evaluation of total literacy campaigns.

(c) and (d). The report of the Expert Group is awaited.

Construction of Belapur-Panvel Line

404. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer

to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 6005 on May 3, 1994 and state:

(a) the response of Maharashtra Government regarding the funding of Belapur-Panvel railway line; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b). There is no response from the State Government of Maharashtra so far. Further consideration would depend on their response.

Railway Stations in Kerala

405. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAM-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to improve the conditions of the Cannanore, Calicut, Tellicherry and Badagara Railway Stations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b). Amenities commensurate with the volume of traffic handled have already been provided at these stations.

As a measure of further improvements, works of provision of paid waiting hall, extension of platform shelter on platform No. 2/3 and improvement to vegetarian and non-vegetarian kitchens at Cannanore; provision of shelter on platform No. 2 and provision of drinking water taps at Tellicherry; improvements of circulating area and vegetarian and non-vegetarian kitchens and provisions of electronic display system, additional seating arrangements and additional latrines at Calicut; and provision of additional drinking water taps at Badagara have been taken up.

[Translation]

New Sugar Mills

406. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new sugar mills set up in recent past have started production; and

(b) if so, the names of such sugar mills state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). The names of sugar mills which have gone into production in the recent past, i.e. during the current 1993-94 season (October to September) as given in the attached *Statement*.

STATEMENT

Names of the Sugar Mills which started crushing Operations for the first time during the season 1993-94

Sl.No.	Name of the Mill	Location
Uttar Pradesh		
1.	M/s Venus Sugars Ltd	Mazhawali (Bhartra), Teh. Sambal, District Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh
2.	M/s Willard India Ltd.	Agota, District Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh
Punjab		
3.	M/s Rana Sugars Ltd.	Baba-Bakala, District Amritsar, Punjab
Maharashtra		
4.	Shri Adinath Sahakari Sakhari Karkhana Ltd.	Shelgaon-Bhalwani, Post Jeur, Taluk Karmala, District Solapur, Maharashtra
5.	M/s Jai Kisan SSK Ltd.	Borbadi, Teh. Darwha, District Yavatmal, Maharashtra
6.	M/s Chopda Shetkari SSK Ltd.	Machale, District Jalgaon, Maharashtra
Orissa		
7.	M/s. Shakti Sugars Ltd.	Haripur Village, Teh. Dhenkanal Sadar, District Dhenkanal, Orissa
8.	M/s. Ponni Sugars & Chemicals Ltd.	Bolangir, Orissa
9.	M/s Western India Sugars & Chemicals Industries Ltd.	Dharamgarh, Teh. Dharamgarh, District Kalahandi, Orissa

[English]

Division of Sugarcane Producing Area

407. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of Maharashtra to divide the sugarcane producing area in the State in three regions on the basis of sugar contents;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (c)/ No, Sir. However, Ministry of Food have divided State of Maharashtra into 3 zones for the purpose of fixation of ex-factory levy price sugar, based on the recommendation received from the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP).

[Translation]

Sugar Production

408. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of decline in production of sugar in private, cooperative

and public sector, separately, and the reasons therefor and the solution of this problem;

(b) the names of public sector sugar mills in Bihar regarding which decision has been taken to close them down or to modernise them or to maintain their status quo; and

(c) the amount due to farmers and labourers by these mills and the time by which it is likely to be paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The sugar production in the private, co-operative and public sectors during the year 1992-93 and 1993-94, as on 15th June, and the shortfall during 1993-94 over 1992-93 is given below:

(Fig. in lakh tonnes)

Sector	1992-93	1993-94	Shortfall
Public	8.77	7.29	1.48
Co-operative	62.73	54.83	7.90
Private	33.25	32.26	0.99
Total	104.75	94.38	10.37

The fall in sugar production in all the sectors can be attributed to the heavy diversion of sugarcane to gur and khandsari sectors and also due to fall in sugarcane/sugar production in the major sugar producing State of Maharashtra.

(b) There are 15 public sector sugar mills in Bihar which belong to the Bihar State Sugar Corporation Ltd. It is for the State Government to take a decision

whether to close down or to modernise or to maintain status quo in respect of these mills.

(c) The information regarding amount due to labourers by these mills is not maintained. A statement showing the position of cane price arrears of sugar mills in the public sector in Bihar, as on 15.5.1994, is given in the attached *Statement*.

STATEMENT

*Position of Cane Price Arrears of sugar mills in the Public Sector in Bihar as on
15th May, 1994*

Sl. No.	Name of Factory	Cane Price Arrears (Rs./Lakhs)		
		Relating to current season (1993-94)	Relating to previous and earlier season	Total
North Bihar				
1.	Garaul	3.16	123.87	127.03
2.	Ryam	14.58	Nil	14.58
3.	Lohat	42.74	Nil	42.74
4.	Sakri	19.16	105.78	124.94
5.	Samastipur	3.47	Nil	Nil
6.	Banmankhi	30.92	204.10	235.02
7.	Lauriya	62.60	298.87	361.47
8.	Sugauli	53.98	275.16	329.14
9.	Motipur	22.81	255.61	278.42
10.	Mirganj	14.39	344.35	358.74
11.	Siwan	Nil	Nil	Nil
12.	New Savan	Nil	Nil	Nil
South Bihar				
1.	Bihta	Nil	Nil	Nil
2.	Warisaliganj	0.43	72.95	73.38
3.	Guraru	Nil	1.80	1.80
Total		268.24	1558.82	1826.86

[English]

Prices of Consumer Items

409. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the comparative retail and whole sale prices of various consumer items especially varieties of wheat, rice, cereals, pulses, sugar, edible oils, spices and kerosene as in June 1991, 1992, 1993 and 1994;

(b) whether the Union Government have noticed the high rising in the price trend; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). A comparative

Statement showing the wholesale and retail prices of various consumer items as in June 1991, 1992, 1993 and 1994 is attached.

(c) Rise in the Prices of some commodities are attributed to higher demand, near stagnant production, hike in administered prices, widening gap in demand and supply and also due to seasonal factors. The Government has given highest priority for controlling the increase in prices within reasonable limits. The Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee on Monitoring of prices reviews the price scenario and advises the concerned authorities to take appropriate and timely action. Efforts are being made to increase the production. Commodities which are in short supply are being imported to supplement their easy availability in the market. Import of sugar, edible oils, palmolein and cotton have been placed under Open General Licence (OGL). PDS is being strengthened and streamlined so that its benefits reach even in the inaccessible areas. Stringent action against hoarders, blackmarketeers and such anti-social activists is being taken under the essential Commodities Act and similar other legislations.

STATEMENT

A Comparative Statement giving wholesale and retail prices of various consumer items

Commodity	June 1991				June 1992				June 1993				June 1994			
	Bombay		Delhi		Bombay		Delhi		Bombay		Delhi		Bombay		Delhi	
	W.P.	R.P.	W.P.	R.P.	W.P.	R.P.	W.P.	R.P.	W.P.	R.P.	W.P.	R.P.	W.P.	R.P.	W.P.	R.P.
Rice	500	5.50	400	6.00	655	7.40	525	7.00	625	7.50	580	7.00	691	8.50	625	8.50
Wheat	295	4.50	275	3.50	625	7.20	360	4.50	500	7.50	360	4.50	675	8.00	396	5.00
Gram	875	10.00	775	10.50	1000	12.00	735	10.00	1125	15.00	1060	13.00	1441	17.00	1280	16.00
Tur	1500	16.00	1350	16.00	1500	17.00	1150	16.00	1301	16.00	1100	14.00	1425	17.00	1370	17.00
Sugar	892	9.30	945	10.00	950	9.80	950	10.00	1035	11.00	1065	11.50	1450	15.50	1475	16.50
Groundnut oil	3640	38.00	38.67	44.00	33.00	38.00	3633	42.00	3100	34.00	3050	36.00	3680	40.00	3833	46.00
Mustard oil	2953	34.00	2900	30.00	2900	36.00	2800	30.00	2900	34.00	2840	30.00	3587	38.00	2967	32.00
Vanaspati	3847	41.00	3577	36.00	3667	44.00	3633	38.00	3437	36.00	3330	35.00	3693	40.00	3787	39.50
Chillies**	2500	4.00	3000	3.50	3900	5.50	4700	7.50	1900	4.50	2800	4.50	1700	5.00	1850	5.00
Kerosene*	—	2.66	—	2.77	—	2.43	—	2.52	—	2.44	—	2.52	—	2.53	—	2.58

M.P. 22.7

Note: W.P.: Wholesale Prices (in Rs. per quintal)

R.P.: Retail Prices (in Rs. per kg.)

**: Retail prices in Rs. per 100 Gram

*: Rs. per litre

Sugar Mills

410. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Letters of Intent issued for setting up of new sugar mills during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether all these Letters of Intent have passed through the screening committee;

(c) whether the new sugar mills have started functioning smoothly; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) 17 letters of intent have been issued for setting up of new sugar mills in the country during the last three sugar years i.e. 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 (October-September) as per details below:

Sl. No.	State	No. of letters of intents issued
1.	Punjab	6
2.	Haryana	1
3.	Uttar Pradesh	3
4.	Madhya Pradesh	1
5.	Maharashtra	2
6.	Gujarat	1
7.	Andhra Pradesh	1
8.	Orissa	2
Total		17

Sl. No.	Year	No. of letters of intents issued
1.	1990-91	16
2.	1991-92	1 (for Madhya Praeesh)
3.	1992-93	—
Total		17

(b) No, Sir. Eleven Letters of Intent did not pass through Screening Committee as it was not in existence then.

(c) and (d). Generally, it takes about 3-4 years to set up a new sugar factory. However one factory viz. M/s. Rana Sugars Limited has gone into production during the Sugar Season 1993-94 (October-September) at Butter-Savian, District Amritsar (Punjab).

Production of Gur

411. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH:
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR
YADAV:
SHRI TARA SINGH:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
SHRI DHARMANNA
MONDAYYA SADUL:
SHRI UPENDRA NATH
VERMA:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have any proposal to impose a ban on production of Gur;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether State Governments have been consulted in this regard;

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

(e) the impact thereof on farmers and consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Public Participation

412. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes/plans being launched by the Government to take public participation in cost effective environmental plans including pollution control programmes; and

(b) the achievements made during the last three years under these schemes/plans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). The Government have issued guidelines in June, 1990 to the State Governments highlighting the need and procedure to be adopted for involvement of village community and voluntary organisations in the protecting and

development of degraded forests on the basis of sharing of forest produce. Since then, 14 States have issued their own guidelines in this regard. The basic thrust of the scheme is to involve local people in cost effective schemes for afforestation of degraded forest lands.

The Government have also been organising the National Environment Awareness Campaign every year since 1986, with the aim of creating environmental awareness at all levels of society. Financial assistance for organising workshops, seminars, padyatras, public meetings, exhibitions, essays/debate/painting is being given under this campaign to NGOs, schools, colleges, universities, research institutions etc. Around 1500 such organisations have been provided financial assistance for this Campaign.

The Government has started a scheme for the establishment of Paryavaran Vahinis (Environmental Brigades) to involve college students, rural youth and local NGOs in district level associations. The Government has also started Eco-Clubs for school children in various parts of the country.

[*English*]

Demand/Supply of Sugar

413. DR. KARTIKESHWAR PATRA:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:
PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN:
SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA):
SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any assessment of consumption of sugar in the sugarcane crushing year 1993-94;

(b) if so, the estimated demand of sugar in terms of quantity;

(c) the demand of sugar for consumption in the country during the last three years;

(d) the quantity of sugar released for sale in open market and through public distribution system since October, 1993 to July, 1994; and

(e) the total quantity of buffer stock of sugar in the country by the end of April, 1994?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). The estimated consumption of indigenous sugar during the current sugar year 1993-94 would be about 110-111 lakh tonnes.

(c) The consumption of sugar in the country during the last three years was as under:

Sugar year (October-September)	Quantity (Lakh tonnes)
1990-91	107.15
1991-92	112.25
1992-93	120.05

(d) The quantity of sugar released (from October, 1993 to July, 1994) was as under:

(i) Levy sugar allocation : 35.05 Lakh tonnes.

(ii) Free Sale sugar allocation 60.15 Lakh tonnes.

(e) Government has not maintained any buffer stock during the sugar year 1993-94 (October-September) and as such the buffer stock of sugar in the country by the end of April, 1994 was nil.

[Translation]

Public Distribution System

414. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total population of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh covered under the Revamped Public Distribution System;

(b) whether the Government have received complaints and suggestions from the concerned State Governments in respect of this new Public Distribution System;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the quantity of the commodities made available to these States for distribution under this system during the year 1993-94, State-wise, Year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The estimated population in the areas covered under the Revamped

Public Distribution System (RPDS) in Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh as reported by the State Governments in 1990 are 136.05 lakhs, 123.49 lakhs and 121.67 lakhs respectively.

(b) No specific complaints have been received from these State Governments with reference to the implementation of RPDS. The Government of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh had sought enhanced allocation of foodgrains for distribution in the RPDS areas. The Government of Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh had suggested extension of coverage of the RPDS to certain other areas in their States.

(c) The Central Government has increased the allocation of foodgrains for the RPDS areas in Uttar Pradesh by 24000 tonnes per month with effect from July, 1993 and in Madhya Pradesh by 15320 tonnes per month with effect from July, 1994. The Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh had been provided financial assistance of Rs. 80 lakhs and Rs. 100 lakhs respectively for purchase of vans to be used either as mobile fair price shops or as door step delivery vehicles in 1993-94. The Government of Madhya Pradesh was also given assistance of Rs. 98.04 lakhs for construction of six godowns in the RPDS areas of the State. There is no proposal to extend the coverage of RPDS to any other area in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

(d) The quantum of foodgrains reported as distributed during 1993-94 in RPDS areas of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh was 5.02 lakh tonnes, 2.41 lakh tonnes and 3.80 lakh tonnes respectively.

Model Railway Station in Gujarat

415. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have selected some railway stations in Gujarat to develop them into Model Railway Stations:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount sanctioned for the development of these railway stations;

(d) the progress made in the development work undertaken in these railway stations; and

(e) the number of passenger trains that will stop at these Stations?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (d). In 1986, three Railway Stations viz. Ahmedabad, Rajkot and Junagadh in the State of Gujarat were selected to be developed as 'Model Stations' and works in this regard were completed at a cost of Rs. 41.23 lakh. Under this scheme, all the required amenities, commensurate with the volume of traffic handled, were provided.

(e) All trains running on the concerned sections stop at these stations.

[English]

Railway Crossing in Gujarat

417. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway crossings in Gujarat and the number of unmanned crossing out of these;

(b) whether there is any proposal to construct over bridges on busy railway crossing; and

(c) if so, the estimated cost including the amount of share of expenses to be borne by the Union Government and State Government?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) In Gujarat there are 4455 level crossings out of which 3040 are unmanned.

(b) and (c). State Govt. has moved two proposals viz.:

1. Road Over Bridge between Surat and Vadodara (at km. 268/8-10 in replacement of level crossing No. 146.
2. Road Over Bridge near Mahila College/Amrapali Cinema at Rajkot in replacement of level crossing No. 7 at km. 4/6-7.

The estimated cost of Road Over Bridge at Surat is 4.64 Crores. Share of both Railway and State Govt. is Rs. 2.32 Crores, each.

The details of Road over Bridge at Rajkot have not yet been worked out.

Licence for Sugar Mills

418. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI:
SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether licenses for sugar mills in the Kurukshetra and Yamuna Nagar districts of Haryana have been granted over-ruling the recommendations of the high-powered inter-ministerial screening committee;

(b) if so, the sugar mills which have been granted the licenses ignoring the recommendations of the said committee; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). Proposals for setting up of new sugar mills in Haryana, including those received for Kurukshetra and Yamunanagar districts, were considered by the Screening Committee on 22.6.93. The Committee, after consideration, recommended grant of a letter of intent in district Yamunanagar. The Committee, however did not recommend grant of any letter of intent in district Kurukshetra.

The Chairman and Managing Director of M/s Saraswati Industries Syndicate Ltd. through a representation dated 10.7.93 requested for change of location from village Pipli to village Kamoda in Kurukshetra district. The matter was received and it was decided by the Ministry of Food to recommend the grant of letter of intent/license for the establishment of a new sugar factory at the changed location of Kamoda. The Licensing Committee in the Ministry of Industry considered the matter and agreed with the recommendation of the Ministry of Food.

The following letters of intent have been issued in districts of Kurukshetra and Yamunanagar by the Ministry of Industry:

Sl. No.	Name of applicant	Location
1.	M/s ISGEC Covema Plastics Ltd.	At Kamoda, Teh. Thanesar, Distt. Kurukshetra
2.	M/s Horizon Agro Chem. Ltd. C/o Yamuna Gases & Chemical Ltd.	At Kot, Teh. Chachrauli, Distt. Yamunanagar

Import of Sugar

419. SHRI ANNA JOSHI:
SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether some controversy had surfaced in the Ministry over the import of sugar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to settle the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). The Government have allowed duty free import of sugar under Open General Licence (O.G.L.). Under this scheme, private parties and public sector undertakings, namely, STC and MMTC are importing sugar. There is at present no controversy in the Ministry of Food over the import of sugar.

[*Translation*]

Gauge Conversion

420. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for conversion of narrow gauge lines into broad gauge during 1994-95 and in each zone; and

(b) the amount likely to be spent on this work?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Arjuni-Wadsa, 23 kms NG section of Gondia-Chandafort line on S.E. Railway.

(b) Rs. 18 crores.

[*English*]

Circular Railways in Calcutta

421. SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Circular Railway in Calcutta has not been completed due to non-availability of land;

(b) whether his Ministry has taken up the matter with CPT authorities as well as with the Ministry of Surface Transport;

(c) if so, the result achieved so far; and

(d) the steps so far taken by the Ministry to complete the project?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) CPT authorities are not agreeable to part with the requisite land, through which the proposed alignment passes.

(d) Under the circumstances, as an alternative, Elevated Track through Customs Bonded Areas as well as Garden Reach Road and Circular Garden Road has since been considered. A feasibility study has been taken up and further action would depend upon the results of the survey.

[Translation]

Railway Wagons

422. PROF. RITA VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway wagons supplied to Bharat Coking Coal Limited during the last three years;

(b) the number of the wagons utilised for transportation of coal during these years with the period prescribed for coal-loading;

(c) whether any demurrage amount of Railway is outstanding against the Bharat Coking Coal Limited;

(d) if so, the details thereof during the year 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94, separately; and

(e) the steps taken to recover it?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b). Railways have supplied to BCCL, on

a daily average 2367 wagons during 1991-92, 2611 during 1992-93 and 2814 during 1993-94. Of these, on a daily average, 848 wagons in 1991-92, 968 wagons in 1992-93 and 1170 wagons in 1993-94 were not loaded within the prescribed loading time.

(c) and (d). The amount outstanding towards demurrage charges against the Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. at the end of 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 are as under:

1991-92	:	Rs. 1,46,302.00
1992-93	:	Rs. 34,12,453.00
1993-94	:	Rs. 8,72,400.00

(e) Periodical meeting are held at various level for recovery of the outstanding dues.

Land Under Paddy Cultivation

423. DR. P.R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total acreage of land put under paddy cultivation during the current year indicating acreage of land put under Basmati and non-Basmati varieties separately;

(b) the total quantity of rice likely to be produced; and

(c) the percentage of production of rice likely to be increased/decreased as compared to previous year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) The total area under paddy cultivation during the current

year is likely to be normal which is estimated to be about 42 million hectares. Variety-wise area estimates of crops are not prepared.

(b) The total quantity of rice likely to be produced during 1993-94 is estimated to be about 78 million tonnes.

(c) The production of rice during 1993-94 is likely to show an increase of about eight per cent over the previous year.

[English]

People of India Project

424. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the people of India Project undertaken by the Anthropological Survey of India has been completed;

(b) if so, whether the work done by the Anthropological Survey of India has evaluated and published;

(c) if not, the present status of this project;

(d) the total amount spent so far on this project; and

(e) when this project is likely to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE): (a) Yes, Sir. The field work on the Project has been completed.

(b) and (c). The work has been evaluated by the Advisory Committee of the Anthropological Survey of India and also by the Comptroller & Auditor General through a special audit on both academic and financial aspects. The date collected on the project is being analysed and is in the process of being published. However, twelve out of 43 volumes slated to be brought out have already been published.

(d) The total amount spent so far is Rs. 2.26 crores.

This does not include the salary component of the regular staff of the Anthropological Survey of India deployed for this job.

(e) It is expected that the entire publication work will be completed in another 3 years.

Railway Crossing in Madhya Pradesh

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

(a) the number of railway crossings in Madhya Pradesh and the number of unmanned crossings out of these;

(b) whether any proposal is under consideration to construct new over bridges on busy railway crossings; and

(c) if so, the details of estimated cost alongwith the amount of share of expenses to be borne by the Union Government and State Government?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) In Madhya Pradesh there are 3003 level

crossings out of which 1842 are (b) and (c). The details are as unmaned. under:

(in lakhs of Rs.)

	Details of work	Location	Estimated cost	
			Railway's Share	State Govt's Share
1.	Road Over Bridge in replacement of level crossing No. 23-A	Sagar	48.40	152.4
2.	Road Over Bridge in replacement of level crossing No. 175	Nimbola	110.00	71.00

(These do not include the works already sanctioned)

[Translation]

[English]

New Railway Line**Forestry Scheme**

426. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

427. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey was conducted to lay the railway line between Ghogli and Maharaj Ganj of the North-East railway;

(a) whether all matured tree planted under rural forestry schemes by the Railways on both the sides of railway line Bakhtiarpur to Biharsharif have been destroyed totally by the villagers at nearby villages;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government have received the survey report; and

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

(d) if not, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (c). No. Sir. However, about 1800 trees aged between 10-12 years have been cut and stolen. This being a law and order problem, complaint has been lodged with the Police authorities. Further action rests

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

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

with the State Government. Railways have also intensified vigilance.

[Translation]

Research Centres under I.C.A.R.

428. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research propose to start some new research centres during the Eighth plan period;

(b) if so, the number and the selected sites of such centres specially in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) how these new centres will be helpful to farmers; and

(d) the cost-benefit of such new centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of nine National Research Centres (NRC) being opened in different parts of the country during the Eighth Plan, one NRC on Oil Palm is located at Pedavegi village in West Godawari Distt. of Andhra Pradesh.

(c) Oil Palm being an important vegetable oil bearing plant, the centre will

generate technology for selection of improved strains containing higher oil content, their propagation and production technology.

(d) Since the centre is in the process of being established, it is too early to assess the cost benefit.

[English]

Railway Projects in Gujarat

429. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of requests received from the Government of Gujarat and the Madhya Pradesh regarding conversion of metre gauge line and laying of new Rail Lines and creation of New Railway Division at Ahmedabad/Gandhinagar etc. which are pending with his Ministry;

(b) the details of present status and action taken thereon;

(c) the targeted fixed for their completion?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (c). Details of the requests received from Governments of Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh regarding laying of new railway lines conversion of metre gauge lines into broad gauge and creation of new Railway Division are as under:

Proposal	Status	Target
New Railway line from Dallirajhara-Jagdalpur	Matter is being examined in consultation with Planning Commission.	—
Conversion of Jabalpur-Gondia NG line into BG	Included in the 1st phase of Action Plan under Project Unigauge. Work will be taken up in the coming years.	—
New line from Godhra to Indore via Dewas-Makai	The Final Location Survey has revealed that the project cost would be Rs. 600 crores with negative rate of return. The project is being reviewed in the light of the changed traffic pattern as a result of gauge conversion of Delhi-Ahmedabad route.	—
New line from Ramganj Mandi to Bhopal	Survey report (1992) revealed that cost of proposed 262 kms. long line would be Rs. 249.77 crores while return would be negative. The work could not be taken up owing to unremunerative nature and constraint of resources.	—
New line from Kapadvanj to Modasa	Work has been frozen due to low priority.	—
Conversion of Rajkot-Veraval MG line into BG	Work has been included in Budget 1994-95. Preliminary arrangements are being made for taking up the work.	1996-97
Conversion of Gandhidham-Bhuj MG line into BG	The survey has revealed that the project would be grossly unremunerative. It will, however, be considered alongwith remaining lines when lines to be taken up in next phase of Action Plan are decided upon, based on the projections of traffic and availability of resources.	—
Conversion of Wankaner-Navlakhi-Maliya Miyana MG section into BG	Railway has been asked to work out details of the proposal	—

Proposal	Status	Target
Provision of a rail link upto Alang Ship Breaking Yard	Railway has been asked to work out details of the proposal.	—
Construction of a rail-cum-road bridge between Bhavnagar and Bharuch across the Gulf of Khambat	Railway has been asked to work out details of the proposal in consultation with the Government of Gujarat.	—
Provision of a direct BG rail link between Gandhinagar and Delhi	Railway has been asked to work out details of the proposal in consultation with the Government of Gujarat.	—
Creation of a new Division of Ahmedabad	The matter relating to creation/reorganisation of Divisions is under study and examination.	—

Price of Essential Commodities

430. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:
PROF. K.V. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any rise in the prices of essential commodities after the presentation of General Budget;

(b) if so, the details thereof with respect to each of the months of April, May and June 1994; and

(c) the measures taken to check the prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC

DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). A Statement showing month-wise percentage variation in the Wholesale Price Index Numbers of selected essential commodities during the months of April, 94 May, 94 and June, 94 is given in the attached *Statement*.

(c) Rise in the prices of some Commodities is attributed to higher demand, near stagnancy in production, hike in administered prices, widening gap in demand and supply and also due to seasonal factors. The Government has given highest priority for controlling the increase in prices. The Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee on Monitoring of Prices reviews the price scenario and advises the concerned authorities to take appropriate and timely action. Efforts are being made to increase the production. Commodities which are in short supply

are being imported to supplement their easy availability in the market. Import of sugar, edible oils, palmolen and cotton have been placed under Open General Licence (O.G.L.), P.D.S. is being strengthened and streamlined so that its

benefits reach even in the inaccessible areas. Stringent action against hoarders, black marketeers and such anti-social elements is being taken under the Essential Commodities Act and similar other legislations.

STATEMENT

Percentage variation in the wholesale price index numbers of selected essential commodities during April, 94, May, 94 and June, 94

Commodity	Percentage Variation		
	April, 1994	May, 1994	June, 1994
Rice	Steady	- 0.9	+ 0.9
Wheat	- 4.1	- 3.0	+ 0.3
Gram	- 7.7	+ 1.2	- 0.3
Arhar	- 1.6	- 1.6	+ 0.2
Potatoes	- 2.1	- 1.7	+ 16.9
Onions	- 13.1	- 2.7	- 0.7
Tea	- 6.8	+ 14.0	+ 2.7
Salt	- 0.1	- 0.3	Steady
Sugar	+ 1.8	+ 4.8	+ 0.8
Vanaspati	+ 2.6	+ 5.0	- 0.1
Groundnut oil	+ 6.6	+ 3.1	+ 1.5
Mustard oil	+ 2.1	+ 1.4	+ 1.3
All Commodities	+ 1.8	+ 0.3	+ 0.5

Shortfall in Freight

431. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of losses suffered by the Railways from April 1, 1993 to June 30, 1994 due to shortfall in freight, passenger traffic, damage caused to railway property in different parts of the

country due to agitations, inflation and increase in operational expenses; and

(b) the remedial steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) There was no shortfall in passenger earnings during the year 1993-94, as compared to Revised Budget Estimates for the year. However, there was a shortfall in goods earnings in 1993-94 as compared to Revised Budget Estimates of the order of Rs. 272.64 crores (provisional). The figures for the year 1993-94 are indicated in the *Statement* enclosed.

Likewise there is no shortfall in passenger earnings in the year 1994-95, April, 94 to June, 94, as compared to Budget Proportion. However, there is a

shortfall in goods earnings during this period as compared to Budget Proportion. Figures are indicated in the *Statement* attached.

During 93-94, there has been a marginal increase in Ordinary Working Expenses. During the period April, 94 to June, 94 there has actually been a saving against the proportionate Budget Grant.

The precise impact of inflation on expenses is difficult to workout. The extent of damage caused to railway property due to agitations will be collected and laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) Railways are trying to bridge this gap by more innovative marketing, and successfully launching well directed strategies for effecting allround operating efficiency of the system.

STATEMENT

Provisional figures of Passenger and Goods earnings for the year April, 1993 to March, 1994

(Rs. in crores)

	Revised Estimates	Actuals (Provisional)	Variation
Passenger Earnings	4865.00	4895.21	(+) 30.21
Goods Earnings	12830.00	12557.36	(-) 272.64

Provisional figures of Passenger and Goods earnings for the period April, 1994 to June, 1994

(Rs. in crores)

	Budget Proportion	Actuals (Provisional)	Variation
Passenger Earnings	1296.27	1379.41	(+) 83.14
Goods Earnings	3321.37	3207.82	(-) 113.55

Freight Traffic Growth

432. SHRI SHANTARAM POT-DUKHE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have undertaken any systematic study about the freight traffic growth;

(b) if so, when such study was undertaken; and

(c) the manner in which the projections are made on passenger fares and freight traffic?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (c). Study groups are formed for assessing the traffic growth for both freight and passenger traffic for 5 year plans. These groups take into account the developments that are taking place, likely to take place, growth in population, growth in GDP, growth in industries, etc. Thus a systematic study is undertaken every five years or so and is a continuous process. These are reviewed at the time of formulating the Annual Plans. Regarding passenger fares, no such projection are made.

Modernisation of Railway Station

433. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount earmarked for modernisation of railway stations in the Budget for 1994-95;

(b) the break up for each zonal railway; and

(c) the railway stations of Central Railway proposed to be modernised during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b). Modernisation of Railway stations is taken up under the Plan Head Passenger and Other Railway Users Amenities for which a provision of Rs. 6000.25 lakh has been made in the year 1994-95. Railway-wise details in this regard are as under:

Railway	Allocation (Lakh of Rupees)
1. Central	807.45
2. Eastern	803.75
3. Northern	637.94
4. North Eastern	136.10
5. Northeast Frontier	251.39
6. Southern	799.55
7. South Central	423.11
8. South Eastern	1618.70
9. Western	522.25

(c) Major works of modernisation/improvements have been taken up at Manmad, Itarsi, Mathura, Puna, Kamshet, Bhusawal, Gwalior, Igatpuri, Dehu Road, Ballabgarh, Patharia, Byculla, Ambivli, Talegaon, Harda, Bhopal, Banapura, Kalva and Satna. In addition many smaller works have also been taken up at various stations on Central railway.

Indian Veterinary Research Institute

434. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the performance of Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI) and GARI, Izzatnagar, Bareilly during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the achievements made by the Indian Agricultural Research Institute through the said institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The performance of the Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI) was reviewed by a Committee which submitted its report in February, 1993, whereas the performance of the Central Avian Research Institute (CARI) has been reviewed from time to time while considering Annual Plan Proposals.

(b) The Committee on IVRI has listed in detail the research achievements of IVRI including its Regional/Sub-Stations and their relevance. It has made recommendations regarding the mandate; organisational set up; problems/constraints affecting the working of the Institute and procedures of admission, course curriculum and disciplines in the academic programmes of IVRI. CARI has developed commercial broilers, layers and quails. It has also improved the guinea fowl for meat purposes.

(c) Since there is no collaborative programme of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute with the Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI) or the Central Avian Research Institute (CARI) the question does not arise.

Electric Locomotives

435. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:
SHRI AJOY
MUKHOPADYAY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of 6000 HP, 3 phase electric locomotives so far purchased;

(b) the number of such locomotives so far arrived in country;

(c) whether there is a programme to manufacture the locomotive in Chittaranjan locomotives works with that technology; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) A purchase order for procurement of thirty 6000 HP, 3 phase electric locomotives has been placed.

(b) None.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The transfer of technology required for manufacture of 3 phase locomotives at Chittaranjan Locomotive Works will commence with the supply of locomotives. With this transfer of technology, the first indigenously manufactured locomotive is expected to be turned out in 1996-97.

[Translation]

Expansion of Education

436. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Madhya Pradesh Ke 19 Jilon Mein Shiksha prasar Ke Leeye 32 crore Rupai" appearing in 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated 28.6.94;

(b) if so, the details of the educational schemes proposed to be launched in nineteen districts of Madhya Pradesh;

(c) whether the Union Government monitor that the funds thus allocated are utilised by the State Governments for the right purposes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In keeping with the National Policy on Education (NPE) and its Programme of Action (POA), a new programme called District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) to operationalise the strategy of decentralised planning has been initiated to develop district and population specific plans for Primary Education development through people's participation. The programme has a marked focus for gender and other dis-

advantaged groups like SC/STs. It seeks to enhance school effectiveness through inputs like introduction of Minimum Levels of Learning (MLLs), improvement of teacher training and improving school facilities.

The European Community (EC) has agreed to provide an assistance of ECU's 150 million (about Rs. 585 crores) for the programme. The programme, *inter-alia*, is proposed to be launched in 19 districts of Madhya Pradesh as identified by the State Government.

(c) and (d). Under the District Primary Education Programme, the Government of India proposes to monitor the progress and utilisation of funds through bi-annual reviews and mid-term appraisal to ensure that the funds allocated are utilised for the purpose for which these have been allocated.

Arrears to Sugarcane Growers

437 SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:
SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 7066 dated May 5, 1994 regarding arrear to sugarcane growers and state:

(a) the time by which outstanding arrears will be paid to the sugarcane growers; and

(b) the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) As per the Sugarcane (Control) Order issued by the Central

Government under the Essential Commodities Act, it is obligatory on the part of all sugar mills to pay the Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) for sugarcane to growers. In the case of State-advised prices of sugarcane, which are substantially higher than the SMP, the responsibility for ensuring timely payments of cane price dues lies with State Governments which have the necessary powers and field organisations to enforce such payments. Accordingly, action against defaulters has to be taken by the respective State Governments.

In order to prevent the accumulation of cane price arrears, State Governments have been advised to follow a more reasonable pricing policy for cane in conformity with the Bhargava Formula. A Committee of 5 Ministers of State Governments has been constituted to make recommendations regarding the pricing policy which should be followed for State-advised prices of sugarcane.

On the basis of the updated statistical compilations for the sugar season 1992-93, the arrears of sugarcane price on an all-India basis, which were 16.9% of the total cane dues as on 31.3.1993 during the season 1992-93, got reduced substantially to 3.4% as on 31.7.1993 and further to 1.5% as on 15.11.1993. During the current season 1993-94, as on 15.5.1994, the arrears were Rs. 166.34 crores, representing 3.6% of the total dues.

(b) Delay in the payment of cane price could be attributed to a number of factors, such as poor financial position of the sugar mill, high cost of production, excessively high State-advised cane price, inadequate sales realisation, etc.

Environment Protection Programme

438. DR. RAM KRISHNA KUSMARIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the forum comprising the various countries relating to the development of India has unanimously supported India's Environment Protection Programme;

(b) if so, the amount to be provided by the development consortium during the next three years for the environment protection programme; and

(c) the details of the programmes formulated for the protection of environment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) A presentation of India's environmental priorities was made to members of the India Development Forum at Paris on 29th June, 1994. These priorities include the conservation and sustainable utilisation of biodiversity, wasteland development and afforestation, soil and moisture conservation, waste reduction, pollution control, improved access to clean technologies, the development of alternative energy technologies, etc.

(b) and (c). No specific information is available on the amount to be provided during the next three years for environmental protection. However, it is expected that there will be the necessary emphasis on environmental protection programmes in the specific priority areas mentioned above. The National Environment Action Programme of the Government, which was released in

December, 1993 is a detailed statement of our priorities and lists several programmes which are proposed to be taken up. Copies of the National Environmental Action Programme have been placed in the Library of Parliament House.

[English]

Land Under Foodgrains/Horticulture

439. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area under cultivation for foodgrains and horticulture in Maharashtra separately; and

(b) the number of farmers engaged in the production of foodgrains and horticulture crops separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) As per Land Use Statistics, the total area under cultivation of foodgrains and horticulture crops in Maharashtra during 1988-89 (latest available) is estimated as 143.63 and 4.56 lakh hectares respectively.

(b) Since farmers are providing usually various types of crop mixes, separate estimates of number of farmers engaged in the production of foodgrains and horticulture crops are not available. However, the total number of operational holdings in Maharashtra as per 1990-91 Agricultural Census is provisionally placed at 94.7 million.

[Translation]

Import of Foodgrains

440. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of imported rice and wheat distributed to consumers through Public Distribution system during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the average cost per k.g. of the foodgrains imported and rates at which it was supplied to consumers in different States; and

(c) the loss suffered by the Government as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The quantities of imported rice and wheat distributed through the Public Distribution System during the last three years are given below:

(Figs. in '000 tonnes)

Year	Rice	Wheat
1991-92	23.93	80.09
1992-93	23.03	1325.60
1993-94	Under Compilation	

(b) The landed cost of wheat and rice imported during 1992-93 and 1993-94 is as under:

Rate : Rs./k.g.

Year	Landed Cost	
	Wheat	Rice
1992-93	4.82	6.23
1993-94 (RE)	5.32	6.71

The Central Issue Prices of wheat and rice for both imported and indigenous for issues under Public Distribution

system in all the States are uniform as indicated below:

(Rate : Rs./k.g.)

Year	Wheat	Rice		
		Common	Fine	Superfine
1991-92 (w.e.f. 12/91)	2.80	3.77	4.37	4.58
1992-93 (w.e.f. 11.1.93)	3.30	4.37	4.97	5.18
1993-94 (w.e.f. 1.2.94)	4.02	5.37	6.17	6.48

The State Governments/Union Territory Governments supply the foodgrains to the consumers through Fair Price Shops at the retail prices fixed by them after taking into account Transportation Costs and other incidentals etc.

(c) Since the foodgrains are being issued to the consuming public through Public Distribution System on subsidised basis, the question of loss does not arise.

[English]

Pooyamkutty Hydro Electric Project

441. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pooyamkutty Hydro Electric Project in Kerala has been cleared by his Ministry from environment as well as forest angles;

(b) whether any indepth study has been made into the ecological imbalances that are likely to arise out of its project;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the total area in hectares of forests land likely to be submerged/destroyed as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The Pooyamkutty Hydro Electric Project in Kerala was accorded environmental clearance in June, 1985 suggested safeguards and mitigative measures. Formal approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the Scheme has not been accorded, so far, as certain clarifications sought from the State Government are still awaited.

(b) and (c). The Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi, has conducted an indepth study on the long term environmental and ecological aspects of Pooyamkutty Hydro Electric Project in Western Ghats of Kerala. The study encompasses the possible environmental changes which could occur because of impoundment and project related activities. A multi-disciplinary committee constituted has also analysed the environmental and ecological implications of the project.

(d) A proposal for diversion of 3001.8 ha. of forest land has been received from the State Government of Kerala for the forest area coming under submergence and project related activities.

Doubling of Railway Lines

442. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position in regard to doubling of the railway lines in Kerala; and

(b) the amount sanctioned for this purpose for the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Three doubling works are in progress in Kerala. Their position is as under:

(i) Kayankulam-Quilon

Work is progressing well. The section upto Karunagapalli has already been opened. Work is in progress between Karunagapalli and Quilon and two more block sections out of three are expected to be completed in 94-95, the entire section being doubled in 95-96.

(ii) Doubling between Kayankulam-Trivandrum

Land acquisition is in progress. The amount asked for the same by Kerala Govt. has been deposited with them. Long lead items of work such as ROBs in Trivandrum City, widening of deep cuttings in hard soil are being taken up. The work would be progressed and completed in the 8th Five Year Plan.

(iii) Doubling between Kuttipuram and Calicut

The work has been included in the budget for 1994-95, preliminary arrangements are being made for taking up the actual work.

(b) The allotment in the current year for the above work is Rs. 14 crores.

[*Translation*]

Eastern Railway Vigilance Department

443. SHRI MANJAY LAL:
SHRI RAMASHRAY
PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI TEJ NARAYAN
SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any arrangement for conducting preventive checks, investigation into the complaints and other enquiries made by the vigilance department of Eastern Railway; and

(c) if so, the details of the enquiries/investigations conducted and the cases detected by the various departments during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of investigations conducted and the employees punished as a result thereof are given below:

Year	No. of preventive checks conducted	No. of complaints investigated	No. of employees punished	
			Gaz.	Non-Gaz.
1990	1973	793	14	363
1991	2235	704	14	472
1992	2669	696	13	456
1993	3030	584	Under compilation	

[English]

Reconstruction of Platforms

Doubling of Railway Track

444. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been made for doubling the Bangalore-Mysore railway track;

(b) if so, the estimated cost for the above work;

(c) whether there is any proposal to take up the above work during 1994-95; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

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

(d) The present level of traffic between Bangalore and Mysore does not justify its doubling.

445. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that people are finding it difficult to board or alight from Bangalore-Mysore trains due to difference in the height of the train and the platforms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the platforms of different railway stations between Bangalore-Mysore are not modified consequent on the conversion into broadgauge line; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to mitigate the problem of commuters on this route?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No representation has been received so far from any passenger or association regarding any difficulties in boarding alighting from the trains in Bangalore City-Mysore section. During conversion of

Bangalore-Mysore section most of the existing platforms have been retained and new platforms have also been constructed and therefore all three types platforms namely Rail Level, Low Level and High Level exist in Bangalore-Mysore section.

(b) Details regarding types of platform existing in Bangalore-Mysore section after conversion are given below:

- (i) Nayandahalli - One high level platform.
 - (ii) Kengri - Two high level platforms plus one low level island platform.
 - (iii) Hejala - One rail level platform.
 - (iv) Bidadi - One low level platform plus one rail level platform.
 - (v) Ramanagram - One low level island platform plus rail level platform.
 - (vi) Channapatana - One low level island platform plus one rail level platform.
 - (vii) Settisalli - One low level platform plus one rail level platform.
 - (viii) Maddur - One high level island platform plus one low level platform.*
 - (ix) Hannakere - One high level platform.
 - (x) Mandya - One high level island platform plus one high level bay platform.
 - (xi) Yellyur - One high level platform plus one low level platform.
- (xii) Byadarahalli - One low level platform.
 - (xiii) Bandavapura - One high level platform plus low level platform.
 - (xiv) Srirangapatnam - One low level platform.
 - (xv) Naganalli - Two low level platforms.
 - (xvi) Mysore Jn. - One low level island platform plus one low level platform.
 - (xvii) Halt Station iv No. - Low level platform has been constructed at all halt stations.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Raising of platforms on this route would be considered alongwith those on all other sections of Indian Railways under Passenger Amenities Works in the coming years, based on the traffic handled and the availability of resources.

Import of Palmolein

446. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAM-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to give permission to individual States to import Palmolein;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any proposal has been received by the Union Government from Kerala for the import of Palmolein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). As per the present policy of Government direct import of edible oil by States for the Public Distribution System is not allowed.

(c) No, Sir.

Construction of Over Bridges in Kerala

447. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAM-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for construction of over bridges at level crossings between Cannanore and Calicut in Kerala are pending with the Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Wheat for Central Pool

448. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to declare bonus to the wheat and paddy procured for Central Pool in Punjab; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Government have no proposal to declare bonus on wheat and paddy procurement in Punjab or in any other State.

(Interruptions)

12.00 hrs.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mandal please.

(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): Sir, I have given a notice to raise the issue regarding floods...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): About floods, we will make a statement tomorrow..*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: We will take up the issue of floods tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL (Godda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in an incident of borrowing of steam pipe at Bokaro Steel plant on 23rd, five employees have been killed and 22 others have been injured and hospitalised. Even three months back, three persons had died in another incident of bursting gas pipe. Later on an enquiry committee was set up to enquire into the incident, but it has not yet submitted its report. In fact, the officers of

the Bokaro Steel Plant do not take care of the maintenance but just take it in a casual manner and attention is not paid towards the safety of the workers inspite of the fact that the productions in that factory has been quite satisfactory and this year they have earned a huge profit of rupees 320 crore. Nothing has been done for the welfare of the labourers. It is only this major incident which has come to light otherwise almost in every 10 days one or the other minor incident take place in the Bokaro Steel Plant. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to institute a high level enquiry to ensure safety measures for the workers. These days, the officers there, are not working with a sense of responsibility. It can be seen that a retired justice, who happens to be a relative of the director of personnel in that plant, has been heading the enquiry committee set up to enquire into the Gas-pipe burst incident. With that situation one can easily imagine as to what would be the outcome of such an enquiry. Be it the bursting of gas pipe or the steam pipe leakage incident, the big officers do not bother about the labourers. In such a situation all the labourers of the Bokaro Steel Plant are feeling insecure. The Government should, therefore, ensure the provision of safety measures in the plant and payment of compensation to the affected workers and provision of employment to one of the family members. I also request the Government to come forward with a statement in this regard... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs may please ask the Minister to make a statement on this.

Now, Shri Ram Nagina Mishra regarding 'non-payment of crores of rupees of dues to farmers.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Padrauna): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak and I also thank you on behalf of the sugarcane growers. The sugarcane growers of Uttar Pradesh have been facing a very miserable situation as eight sugar mills in that state have already been privatised by the Government of Uttar Pradesh and in respect of another 20 sugar mills, they have made an announcement only one week before. This announcement has been made at a time when the sugarcane growers have crores of rupees outstanding against these mills. The repair work in these sugar mills has been stopped. The work stands from the last week of October to the first week of November. The farmers are crying for the remunerative prices of their sugarcane. From that angle Deoria is the worst affected district where there are 14 sugar mills out of which 4 are in the private sector, 7 working under a corporation and 3 under the control of the Kanpur Sugar works owned by the Central Government. Unfortunately all the mills of Kanpur Sugarworks are being sold and there is a lot of anxiety among the farmers about the payment of their arrears as all these factories are being sold. I therefore, urge upon the Centre Government to take steps to ensure first of all the payment to the farmers and then to entire the commencement of crushing season in these factories, which used to start their crushing operation earlier in the last week of October or in the first week of November and to see that the interests of farmers are not hunt.

[*English*]

SHRI P.G. NARAYAN (Gobichetti-palayam): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on

behalf of our Chief Minister and people of Tamil Nadu, we are thankful to the President of India for giving assent to Tamil Nadu Reservation Bill to continue 69 per cent of reservation. We also thank our Prime Minister and the Home Minister for having made all possible efforts to get the assent of the President for the Bill.

The first step is over. For getting legal protection, the new Reservation Act has to be included in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution so as to ensure protection under Article 31-B of the Constitution. As this is a very urgent matter, I appeal to the Prime Minister to take steps immediately to include Tamil Nadu Reservation Act in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution.

Further, Constitution amendment is absolutely necessary for giving powers to States to vary the reservation quotas according to population and in tune with other local factors. In this regard, our Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Puratchithalaivi Dr. Jayalalitha, has already written letters to the Prime Minister and to leaders of various political parties seeking their support for such Constitution Amendment.

The reservation policy which helps the advancement of weaker sections of the society is a matter of social concern. Population of backward classes and the level of their social and educational development vary from State to State. So, uniform reservation policy applicable to the nation as a whole is not possible. So, I urge upon the Prime Minister to take steps to pilot a Government Bill to amend the Constitution to provide adequate powers to States to decide the quantum of reservation according to the population and other related local factors. I also appeal to all political parties to support our demand cutting across party lines.

[Translation]

SHRI DUTTA MEGHE (Kanpur): Sir, about 4 lakh persons have been effected in Nagpur by the heavy floods and rains on 12th July. 11 people have either been washed away in the flood water or have died in the incidents of house collapse... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister is going to make a statement on it so, you may continue tomorrow.

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA (Junagarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry to say that no facilities have been provided to the pilgrims of Amarnath. They can not even travel peacefully as terrorists have created panic in the valley, some terrorists organisations have declared that they will be creating obstructions in the way of Yatra and State Government employees and officers have also refused to undertake the responsibility of arrangement of this yatra and the adoption of a resolution in a meeting by the state administration to cancel this yatra are ample proofs that though Kashmir is apparently an integral part of the Indian union yet it is actually under the control of foreign and Kashmiri terrorists.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to ensure safety and security of pilgrims of Amarnath yatra and check the activities of the terrorists.

The officers who have refused to take the responsibility of security and make provision of facilities for the people should also be directed to mend their ways take all safety measures and provide facilities to the pilgrims. It is the responsibility of the Government... *(Interruptions)* I request the hon. Minister

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to make a statement on it and take action against those who have refused to undertake the responsibility of security of pilgrims... (*Interruptions*)..

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, this important yatra is our age-long and ancient tradition. The Government should therefore, pay their full attention to it..(*Interruptions*)

MAJ. GEN (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal): Hon. Speaker, Sir, it is shameful that the officers have refused to abide by the orders and it is a case of disobedience. The Governor is least bothered to further take up this issue. It is a serious matter that the officers have refused to comply with the orders. After all what is their underlying intention. The Government should make a statement in this regard highlighting the facts pertaining to it..(*Interruptions*)

12.11 hrs.

RE : DAMAGE DONE TO THE
STRUCTURE OF GURUDWARA
COMPLEX LOCATED AT MAJNOON
KA TILA, DELHI BY DDA

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to a very important serious and urgent matter. The 408 year old structure of Gurudwara at Majnoon ka Tila in Delhi is spread over an area of 150 acres. It has been the abode of Guru Nanak Dev and Guru Har Govind. On 23rd June, 1994 the entire Gurudwara complex was damaged with a bulldozer in connivance with the DDA and the police.

If the people has not staged a drama to check it the entire structure of Gurudwara would have been completely demolished.

MR. SPEAKER: Paswanji, is it an issue which should be raised in the Legislative Assembly Delhi.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, this issue is related to the D.D.A. but the police is under the Control of the Central Government. It is, therefore, the Central Government, which is responsible for it. The land is that of the State Government of Delhi and D.D.A. is also under them. It is for this reason that the State Government is also responsible for it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, people from all the parties including Shri V.P. Singh and myself had gone there and in the lathi charge there Prof. Yashpal Singhji, who is the senior Vice President of the Gurudwara Management Committee was injured and got one of his legs broken. I would like to urge upon the Government not be a silent spectator to all these things. They should themselves go and see there that it was like Blue Star Operation and the people are very much agitated over it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government had given an assurance in this House that the status of religious places will be maintained as per their position in 1947 but it has been completely violated in this case. The Lt. Governor had gone there to apologise. In case nothing wrong was done there, what for they apologised in this way? On whose orders the Gurudwara Complex was tried to be demolished? The police is still there. I would like to submit that immediate action should be taken against the guilty officers and the reconstruction work of the

complex should be undertaken and a statement should be made by the Government on it on the floor of the House highlighting the facts of the case. It is a mischief against the minorities which amounts to a grave offence. Such incidents create a lot of resentment among the people which in turn gives way to chaos and terrorism.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR (Faridkot): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Ram Vilas Paswanji has raised the issue of Majnoon Ka Tila Gurudwara. I would like to say something on it. It is not an ordinary incident, it has been widely taken note of throughout the world, since it is a case of pertaining to a 1000 year old historical Gurudwara of the capital city of Delhi. On whose orders the complex was demolished with a bulldozer? Who is behind this conspiracy? Of whose orders, they resorted to lathi charge on the S.G.P.C. authorities and the controlling authorities of the Gurudwara. It is very sad that this Gurudwara is associated with Majnoon Faquir, who was a great saint of the Bhakti movement. The tourists and the truck drivers are served food in this Gurudwara. It is once again after the Blue-Star Operation that the sentiments of the entire Sikh community have been deeply hurt. I would like to know whether these orders were given by the Central Government or by the Lt. Governor? Were these orders given by the Bhartiya Janta Party Government? Has the Government conducted any inquiry in this regard? In case such an inquiry has not been conducted, does the Central Government propose to set up a high level enquiry committee to punish the guilty? If this enquiry is not conducted, I would like to bring it to the notice of this House with a heavy heart that in each village of Punjab they have pasted posters telling the people that Gurudwara has been demolished. I would like to

submit that this misunderstanding should be removed at the earliest and the Hon. Home Minister should order an enquiry at the earliest to get the guilty punished. The whole House should support it.

"Ikbal Marham Koi Anna Nahi Jahan Mein
Kya Kisi Ko Sunayen Darde Naha Hamara."

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): We should know what are the real facts. A statement should be made by the Minister... (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): A statement will certainly be made but one misunderstanding should be cleared. We will certainly look into the matter. One thing has been made clear that no action was taken to cause damage to the Gurudwara... (Interruptions) Some action was taken in the adjoining areas where langar used to be served or where some other activities of devotees used to take place. This action has been stopped. We have discussed this matter in the Business Advisory Committee and we have now requested the Home Minister to immediately look into this matter. As soon as he collects the facts he will probably come and clarify the matter here in the House.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHAR VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the Bhartiya Janata Party I would like to give clarification and the need for it has arisen because Shri Brar mentioned the name of my party.

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SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR:
Since the BJP is in power in Delhi, so the
responsibility rests with it only.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
My party is in power in Delhi. However,
the Lt. Governor and DDA took action in
Delhi with the help of the Police. All three
of them are not governed and controlled
by the BJP Government of Delhi. The
Chief Minister and many Ministers want
there to lodge protest. Who gave the
orders for inquiry? Please do not
associate the BJP with it.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: It is
not clear who gave the orders?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
This matter pertains to your Government.
(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV
(Azamgarh): Who gave the orders?

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: I
have already said that the Home Ministry
is looking into it. The Gurudwara has not
been damaged and as soon as the
information is collected, it will be supplied
to the House.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi
Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of
Amarnath Yatra in itself is quite important.
However, regarding Kashmir time and
again statements have been made by the
Government that situation to a large

extent is under control and has improved.
In this background news is pouring in that
the senior officials have expressed that
the cooperation will be given regarding
Amarnath Yatra because the militants
have warned against it. The news in this
regard is a matter of concern for all of us.
Therefore, it will be proper if the
Government makes a statement
regarding the Amarnath Yatra and also
the stand of the State Government
officials.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will make my
observation in two parts. First, on the
matter that was raised by Mr. Paswan and
second, on the matter that was hinted at
by.

Mr. Advani and his colleagues.

As far as first part is concerned, the
hon. Minister has said that the Home
Minister will look into it and come before
the House with information.

These are very sensitive matters.
Let us, please, put it in correct
perspective. Let us not use the language
or the words which will create problems
rather than solve problems. Let us not try
to apportion the blame also. Let us take it
in corrective perspective.

As far as Amarnath Yatra is
concerned, there are again two parts.
First, organising yatra and second,
providing protection to the yatriis.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune): Denial
of the Government also.

MR. SPEAKER: You can give your statement.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Sorry.

MR. SPEAKER: Organising Yatra is one thing and providing protection to yatris is another thing, if somebody is not giving protection to yatris that means somebody is not doing his duty. This also has to be looked into. Well, Mr. Shukla, you collect the information and give it to the House please.

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): Yes.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain): Lock out has been going on in Grasim Industries in Nagda in Madhya Pradesh. As a result thereof, thousands of workers have been rendered jobless. Lock out was declared because the issue of bonus and wages could not be settled. Stoppage of production in Grasim Industries has threatened closure of other textile industries dependent on it. Therefore, I would like to request the Government to order revival of Grasim Industries and settlement of bonus and wages issue for ushering in industrial peace and for restoring production.

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): I want to draw the attention of the House to a very serious matter of human tragedy. There has been a spurt in kidnapping of school children in Delhi and in surrounding areas. There have been

cases where these hooligans, in order to make easy money, kidnap school-going children and later on these children are killed also.

Do you know what kind of tragedy is taking place in the families and in the societies? How will you prevent it? I do know what kind of security measures can be taken for the school-going children in the areas where they live. This is a very serious matter which has rocked our hearts.

I want to know whether the Government has given any thought to it. If the small children are killed like this, then how will we live in the society? Sir, I want to draw your attention in the hope that you will throw some light on this. Some kind of action has to be taken on this.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): The Government should give some response on this matter.

[Translation]

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA (Shajapur): A mother and daughter were paraded nude and raped in Chajaria village in Rajgarh in Madhya Pradesh and the husband was beaten to death.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Why don't you go to the Court? Why don't you help them in the Court?

[Translation]

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Atrocities on women are being committed all over the country whether it be Jalgaon or Madhya Pradesh. *(Interruptions)*

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[English]

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SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA:
Today.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not correct.
Otherwise every Court matter will come
before the House.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Then next
week we can have a discussion on it.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: We will decide it in
the Business Advisory Committee
meeting.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA
(Mandsaur): When she demanded water,
urine was put into the mouth. Her
husband was killed then and there. It is a
very shameful incidence.

[Translation]

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:
Nothing could be more shameful than
this. I would like to request the Central
Government to intervene in the matter
and justice should be done.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Ferozepur):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like
to draw the attention of the Government
towards the plight of labourers of Food
Corporation of India engaged in loading
and unloading of foodgrains from trains in
Punjab. In every Session of Parliament a
mention is made regarding the workers
working in Punjab. A large rally of the
workers was held at Lucknow in January,
1994, just before the election in four
States. It was addressed by the Minister
of Food and an announcement was made
that all the workers of Punjab will be
departmentalised, but till date nothing has
been done. Ultimately the workers of FCI,
Punjab sat on a 'Dharma' at
12, Barakhamba Road from 20th June
onwards. Paddy season is going to start
soon. If their grievances are not
immediately sorted out, massive loss will
be incurred.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I do not think that
such matters should be brought on the
floor of the House.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.
Please help them out in the Court.

[English]

Therefore, I request immediate
fulfilment of the promise regarding
departmentalisation of the workers.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA
(Midnapore): Unfortunately, I was not able
to attend the meeting of the Business
Advisory Committee yesterday. Has it
been informed by the Government as to
when this House can expect to receive
the Action Taken Report on the JPC
scam? You have said that the discussion
will take place. I do not know under what
rule it will take place. When is the Report
going to be laid on the Table of the
House?

PROF. RITA VERMA (Dhanbad):
Are atrocities on women not an issue so
as to be discussed here?

MR. SPEAKER: Regarding what?

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN
(Indore): Regarding Jalgaon incidence.

MR. SPEAKER: There is a Court and the legislature in the State.

allowed because of the gravity of the problem.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to make only one point.

MR. SPEAKER: Does that mean that every legal matter will be raised in the House?

MR. SPEAKER: You make your point. If you behave like this than there would not be enough time to discuss important matters. It is for the courts to decide such matters.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: It is not a legal matter, but is connected with international racket wherein youth and women are misused. It is true that a Cassette was filmed and is being sold in the international market. Mr. Speaker, Sir, under globalisation plan flood gates are being thrown open and many such incidents are taking place. This issue does not pertain to Jalgaon alone but is an onslaught on our cultural heritage. Power, politics and criminals are hand in glove and due to it national character is under threat. It is correct that a Committee should be set up to enquire into all this, but discussion should also be allowed. However, a funny thing is happening now. Alleged culprits are being declared mentally deranged, by the entire ruling party, to free the culprits of the charge levelled against them. This matter needs to be discussed because we do not want repetition of Jalgaon type incidents involving politicians. Ignoring Jalgaon incidence will not be good. Situation in whole of Jalgaon is such that women fear to tread out, as was the case during the days of foreign invaders. Today parents in Jalgaon are afraid and do not want to send their daughters to schools and colleges fearing that it will become difficult to marry off the girls. Nobody wants discussion because all the alleged culprits are either corporators or Chairman of some Corporation or the words of MLAs.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: I would like to submit.

MR. SPEAKER: What is your submission?

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: It is not a matter to be taken up in the Court. The issue does not pertain to atrocities on four women only, but it is a deep conspiracy.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not use this forum like this. You are not using this forum in a proper manner.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I fail to understand the logic behind the point that this not the forum.

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed you to speak. Please make your point. However, if matters pertaining to States are raised like this I should not disallow it.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:
No. If such incidents take place in other States too, then discussion will have to be

MR. SPEAKER: There is Legislative Assembly in Maharashtra for it.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:

Though the matter is being taken up in the Assembly yet the Jalgaon incident is connected with political process and international racket. But we always take these such matters lightly.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this matter has already been discussed in Maharashtra Assembly. *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, kindly allow a discussion of this matter. *(Interruption)*

MR. SPEAKER: Madam, I am ready to discuss this matter in a broader perspective. But you shall have to bring it in a broader perspective. If you want to bring every matter which can be taken to the Court or to the Legislative Assembly—you have Governments belonging to different parties in different States — and if such matters are brought before the House, you will only get up and say that this cannot be brought in here. You bring it in the BAC. We will discuss it in a proper way but it shall not relate to one incident.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur): Sir, we demand a discussion on this.

(Interruption)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Sir, I want to know whether a general discussion on this will take place this time. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. GIRIJA VYAS (Udaipur): Please allow one hour discussion on this subject.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Okay, we will see.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards a very important matter. TADA 1987 which was enacted for a special purpose is being misused now-a-days. Earlier it was used against terrorists, but now it is being used for political motives. Today, thousands of people, all over the country, have been put behind the bars; they are being deprived of justice. My personal opinion is that this is in violation of human rights. Mr. Speaker, Sir, particularly as an aftermath of Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid incident thousands of people particularly in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and now in Maharashtra have been kept imprisoned, they have been deprived even of their right to put forth their case properly. The situation in the country has deteriorated to the extent that people have lost faith in justice and judges. Nobody is able to put forth, his case properly. Excesses are committed on people; they are kept in custody and pressurised to admit the crimes; false cases have been loaded in courts against them. I feel that TADA is inhuman and undemocratic and thus it should be revoked. I would like the Government to make a categorical statement as to what is the number of innocent people who have been imprisoned wrongly and towards whom the Government has not been paying adequate attention.

491 *Re: Damage done
to the structure of*
[English]

JULY 26, 1994

*Gurudwara, Majnoon 492
Ka Tila, Delhi*

MR. SPEAKER: Half an hour is over. Now, Papers to be Laid.

Shrimati Basava Rajeswari.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice for Adjournment Motion. What happened to that? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, it is relating to sugar matter. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: We discussed this in the BAC.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): Sir, the notice for Adjournment Motion should be taken note of by the Chair. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry that I could not participate in the discussion on sugar scandal as that day I could not come in the House due to pain in my foot.

MR. SPEAKER: You could have sent somebody.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I had sent, but it is a serious matter. I would like that as it was decided to take up the matter in the form of Adjournment Motion.

MR. SPEAKER: If you take up the matter legally, I may allow, not otherwise.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I am making this submission to you because the matter cannot be raised legally. I would like to raise it in the House so that it could be taken up for discussion.

MR. SPEAKER: If the matter cannot be discussed legally then why the demand to this effect is being made. However, I would allow a discussion on it. But it is to be decided that now it is to be discussed.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was decided to take up the discussion on sugar scandal today. But there is no reference to it in today's list of Business.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I was also under the same impression that discussion on sugar scandal was to be taken up today.

MR. SPEAKER: You were not there.

(English)

It is decided that matter will come up for discussion. But what we decided there you are not going to discuss here also. I have said that it will come up for discussion.

MR. NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: We do not know what has been decided yesterday. We have a right to know.

MR. SPEAKER: You have no right to know from me.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: We have given an Adjournment notice. We want a response from the

Chair about our Adjournment notice. You cannot say that something has been decided and we have no right to know. We want a response in our Adjournment notice.

MR SPEAKER: My response to Adjournment notice is and my ruling on the Adjournment notice is that that matter was discussed on the floor of the House as an Adjournment Motion. Secondly, that matter is decided to be discussed on the floor of the House in the Business Advisory Committee. And in view of the fact that there is no urgency involved in it, the Adjournment Motion cannot be taken up. The rule says that only the urgent matters of public importance will be taken up. In my opinion there is no urgency.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): But I hope that it will be discussed.

MR. SPEAKER: It will be discussed on the floor of the House.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: We are not questioning your wisdom or judgement.

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you discussing unnecessarily? I have said that it will come up for discussion. That is all. The form will be decided. I am not answerable to each one of you on the floor of the House.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): Sir, I want to draw your attention and of the House to the serious drug menace... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: We will take it up tomorrow. Not like this. Not everything on one day. This is not the last day.

Now, Papers to be Laid on the Table.

12.40 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Annual Report and Review on the working of National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development, New Delhi for 1992-93 and Statement for delay in laying these papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 6096/94]

**Consumer Protection (Amendment)
Rules 1994**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Consumer Protection (Amendment) Rules, 1994 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 522(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd June, 1994 under sub-section(1) of section 31 of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986

[Placed in Library. See No.LT 6097/94]

Statement No. V showing action taken on assurance given by the Minister of Finance on the Report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Irregularities in Securities and Banking Transactions during the Eighth Session of Tenth Lok Sabha, 1993

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 beg to lay on the Table a copy of Statement No. V (Hindi and English versions) showing action taken by the Government on assurance given by the Minister of Finance on the Report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Irregularities in Securities and Banking Transactions during the Eighth Session of Tenth Lok Sabha, 1993.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6098/94]

Notification under Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985; Annual Report and Review on the Working of Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation, Calcutta for 1992-93, etc.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 40 of the Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985:-
 - (i) The Ordinance on Fees payable by students published in Notification No. G.S.R. 595 in Gazette of India dated the 26th December, 1992.
 - (ii) The Ordinance on Recognition of Examinations/ Degrees published in Notification No. G.S.R. 596 in Gazette of India dated the 26th December, 1992.
 - (iii) The Ordinance on Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates published in Notification No. G.S.R. 597 in Gazette of India dated the 26th December, 1992.
 - (iv) G.S.R. 211 published in Gazette of India dated the 24th April, 1993 making certain amendments to sub-

clause (a) of Clause (9) of Statute 17 on Terms and Conditions of Service and Code of Conduct of Academic Staff.

- (v) G.S.R. 545 published in Gazette of India dated the 6th November, 1993 making certain amendments to Rules 6.1.2 and 8.2 of CPF-cum-Gratuity Scheme of Statute 23.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6099/94]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation, Calcutta, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation, Calcutta, for the year 1992-93.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6100/94]

[English]

12.40 ¹/₂ hrs.

ASSENT TO BILLS

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table the following two Bills

passed by the Houses of Parliament during the last session and assented to since a report was last made to the House on the 14th June, 1994:

- (1) The Anti-Hijacking (Amendment) Bill, 1994.
- (2) The Suppression of Unlawful Act Against Safety of Civil Aviation (Amendment Bill, 1994).

12.41 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

Eleventh Report

[English]

SHRI SHIV CHARAN MATHUR (Bhilwara): Sir, I beg to present the Eleventh Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Energy on the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited (Acquisition and Transfer of Power Transmission System) Bill, 1994.

12.41 ¹/₂ hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Forty-first Report

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Forty-First Report of the Business

Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 25th July, 1994."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Forty-first Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 25th July, 1994."

The motion was adopted.

12.42 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to Formulate a Viable Policy to Minimise the Rate of Dropouts among the Girl Students**

[English]

SHRI P. P. KALIAPERUMAL (Cuddalore): Sir, the Jakarta Declaration for the advancement of women reaffirms the commitment of countries of Asian and Pacific regions towards the advancement of the status of women. Education has been identified as a major tool for advancement of women.

But the rate of dropouts among the girls has not been minimised. One of the reasons for these obstacles is absence of freedom from fear among girls and their parents. They are in a state of panic due to increasing atrocities against girl students by anti-social elements.

In these circumstances, parents are in the grip of panic and hence do not favour education of girls.

Easy and safer access of girls to educational institutions is an imperative for achieving the object of advancement of women. Security measures within the school campus alone are not sufficient. Provision of security network with transport arrangements for the girls to commute to schools and back home is inevitable.

I urge upon the Central Government to make all-out efforts to minimise the rate of dropouts among the girl students, ensuring them freedom from fear.

- (ii) **Need to provide more Facilities to Health Guides in Tribal Areas of Madhya Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRI MANKU RAM SODI (Bastar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise the following issue.

Under the Sixth Five Year Plan one health guide for every one thousand people was appointed on an honorarium of Rs. 50/- per month, in the rural areas of the country. Earlier, these guides were provided mini-kits of medicines. Despite having limited medical facilities and a meagre honorarium they worked diligently with full and made the scheme popular. They have been extending a great contribution in the prevention of gastroenteritis in the rural areas.

These health guides want to gear up this movement, particularly in tribal rural areas with their decision. But the provision of mini-kits to them has been withdrawn since 1986-87. For this purpose the guides deployed in rural areas in all over Madhya Pradesh presented a joint representation to the administration demanding to restore the

provision of mini-kits and increasing the honorarium from Rs. 50/- to Rs. 500/- they also demanded to get the status of class-IV employees.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to give a serious thought to strengthening this health service and raise the honorarium of health guides to Rs. 500/- and they should be treated as class-IV employees.

(iii) **Need to Include Orissa in the Hilly Areas Development Programme**

[English]

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI (Sambalpur): Sir, the Government of India have sponsored a number of schemes for the development of backward forest and hilly areas in the county. Two-thirds of the total area in the State of Orissa is hilly area. The hilly areas in Orissa have some perennial problems. The districts located in the hilly regions have not been developed at par with the plain and coastal areas. The road communication network, health care facilities, provision of drinking water and education, etc. in these areas are lagging far behind as compared to the remaining areas of the State. Unless the Central Government pays attention to the development of these areas, the people will continue to suffer and the regional imbalance is bound to take place. If the State of Orissa is brought under the Hilly Areas Development Programmes, each area of the State will get due share in respect of development.

I, therefore, request the Central Government for the inclusion of Orissa in the Hilly Areas Development Programme.

(iv) **Need to Waive off the condition of Fifty Percent Working Capital Required to be met by Kerala Government for Implementation of Market Intervention Scheme for Cash Crops**

PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN (Mukundapuram): Sir, the Kerala Government had prepared a Market Intervention Scheme for cash crops like pepper, ginger, turmeric, nutmeg, cinnamon, clove and cocoa etc. which has been forwarded to the Union Government for approval way back in March, 1993. However, the Union Government had approved the said scheme, subject to the condition that State Government should meet 50 per cent of the working capital and 50 per cent of the losses but simultaneously requested the Union Government for exemption from other condition regarding working capital requirement.

The spice crops are high value crops and require huge working capital which is beyond the capacity of State in the present situation.

I would, therefore, request the Central Government to intervene in the matter and formulate a system so as to waive off the condition regarding working capital.

(v) **Need to set up a Bench of High Court at Meerut in Uttar Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH (Meerut): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there has been a long standing demand for setting up a Bench of High Court in Meerut. For this purpose Jaswant Singh Commission was

constituted in 1981 and the report was also submitted to the Government in 1985. But no action has been taken in this regard so far.

People of western region of Uttar Pradesh have to go to Allahabad in connection with their case which involves lot of expenditure and time and is also inconvenient to them. Keeping all these factors in view the demand for setting up a Bench of High Court at Meerut in Western Uttar Pradesh was made. Meerut has a special historical significance from the point of view of the independence movement of 1857 and Mahabharat period. The Central Government had also assured in Lok Sabha on 21.7.1986 to set up a divisional Bench there.

Therefore, I would request the Central Government to take an immediate action with regard to the setting up of a Bench of High Court in Meerut.

(vi) Need to give Autonomous Hill Council Status to Laddakh Region of J & K and Provide Other Facilities for its Around Development

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roesra): Mr. Speaker, Sir, recently, I had been to Leh. Even though Leh is a part of Jammu & Kashmir, it is a completely peaceful area. The Central Government had announced on 9th October, 1993 that Leh-Laddakh would be given the status of autonomous hill Council. But the assurance has not been fulfilled so far, due to which there is a wide spread resentment among the people of that region. Earlier, the people of that region, were exempted from income tax. But from 1989, the Income Tax has again been imposed on them.

Tourism is the main source of livelihood for the people of Laddakh. Earlier in 1992-93 there were 16 Air flights per week for Laddakh, which have since been reduced to only four in a week. The Leh-Laddakh region was assured to be declared as a Scheduled Tribal area in 1989, but that assurance has not been implemented so far.

Therefore, I would urge upon the Central Government to give a status of Autonomous Hill Council to Laddakh immediately, exempt the people from income-tax, increase the air-trips, withdrew the increase made in the air-fare, give Leh-Laddakh a status of Scheduled tribe area and include the Argon Community in Scheduled Castes.

(vii) Need to provide more Funds to State Government of Andhra Pradesh to mitigate the grievances of Weavers in the State

[English]

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO (Bapatla): Sir, the Centre's aid and assistance meant for the weavers have not been fully implemented with the result that there is great resentment among weavers of Andhra Pradesh. The Andhra Pradesh Weavers United Front and Backward Classes Action Council has decided to call on a convention of the Backward Classes and organise a *bandh* to express their protest.

I therefore, request the Union Government to consider sympathetically the Andhra weavers' case and provide sufficient funds to mitigate their grievances in time.

(viii) Need to set up a Central Institution at Hardoi Town of Uttar Pradesh for dissemination of Modern Scientific Techniques of Farming

12.51 hrs.

**PRE-NATAL DIAGNOSTIC
TECHNIQUES (REGULATION AND
PREVENTION OF MISUSE) BILL**

**As Reported by Joint Committee -
Contd.**

[Translation]

SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK (Shahabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the increasing demand for foodgrains in the country there is the utmost need to introduce latest scientific techniques in agriculture. In this regard the condition of Hardoi and Kheri districts is quite bad because still traditional techniques are being used there in agriculture.

In this field data obtained from Satellites can prove to be very useful. The problem of the area is that there is no Government, Non-Government or voluntary organisation to analyse the data received from the satellites and further to translate these into local language for the benefit of the farmers. This is the reason why the farmers are still using traditional means of farming. Using latest techniques and their knowledge is still a day dream for the farmers.

Therefore, I would like to submit to the Central Government that here is a need to set up a Centre at Hardoi in Uttar Pradesh to make use of the 'remote sensing natural resources technique' and make available the necessary latest information to the local farmers of Hardoi and adjoining district of Lakhimpur-Kheri in their own language. This will benefit the farmers and increase agricultural production.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Bill, 1991. There has been a lot of debate on this Bill and there has been no opposition whatsoever to this Bill. So, it is above any controversy and acceptable to all. This is a very important Bill and this is to the year 1991 and in the second part of 1994 we are considering this Bill in the House.

Sir, the only thing that comes to our mind that this being a social legislation this also should not meet the fate of some such legislations, which have already been enacted, at least in the matter of implementation. Again, this is not the first time that such a Bill is being passed. In Parliament we are passing this Bill for the first time. But in certain States such laws are already in existence. It is existing in the States of Maharashtra, Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat and Rajasthan also as the hon. Member from Rajasthan stated yesterday.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to certain remarks of some medical practitioners which they have stated in the course of an interview which has come out in some reputed journals. I do not like to name those people. But precisely the contents are that in a matter of this nature where there is a ban it can reduce sex determination tests only by 20 per cent.

[Shri Sriballav Panigrahi]

That means, there are so many ways of fighting female foeticide and for those who perform the sex determination tests, the ban is a passing inconvenience. So, the Government has to be very careful particularly with regard to implementation in this male dominated society. This is both a social and economic phenomenon. Of course, men and women are equal both constitutionally and legally. But in the social and religious arena it is not so.

In regard to religious rites particularly, we all know that the ladies are not allowed to perform *Sharadh* etc. the poor people do not like to have daughters because at the time of marriage, they have to pay dowry for their female children. So, we should revolutionalise the society and reform the society. We should bring reforms in our society that socially, religiously and economically women are treated equally with men. Of course, legally men and women are equal. But in respect of wages, regardless of the legislations that we have, female labourers are paid less. Different things are there. Religious leaders, social workers, reformers, political people should take a lead by joining together and creating that sort of atmosphere in the society. Creation of mass awareness is very much called for the successful implementation of this sort of legislation. The bureaucrats alone cannot implement it successfully. Voluntary organisations, social workers need to be involved actively and effectively. The aspect should be given due consideration by the Government. Even in certain States where such laws are there, there are loopholes. I congratulate the Government of India that they have tried to improve upon those laws. Still it cannot be said that this is entirely free from loopholes.

There are strict provisions like sending the medical practitioner behind the bar, besides imposing fine for the first offence, and for the second time, cancellation of registration of clinics etc. At the same time, who can bring the complaints of violation to the authorities? For that, I would seek a clarification from the hon. Minister. Can the people other than the affected Parties like voluntary organisations, social workers also approach the appropriate authority? You have not specified in the Act itself about the appropriate authority. I hope that would be provided in the rules. That should be taken care of in the rules.

About three decades before, from the census report, we could see, male-female ratio was 1000 : 1002 or 1000 : 1005. The number of females were slightly more than the number of males. Now it has come down drastically. Recently, the ratio of male and female is 1000 : 921. In certain States like Haryana, the number of females is 869 against 1000 males. There is total imbalance. It is because of the atmosphere that they have to give dowry for the female children. Are we proud that female foeticides are going on in large scale? The point is, in a town like Sirsa in Haryana which is near Delhi, there at least 100 Sex Determination Tests and about twenty to twenty five abortions are performed every day where such a ban is already there. It is so, despite Haryana has put a sort of restrictions of such practice.

13.00 hrs.

I do not like to make a long speech of this. This has an urgency. The way the foeticide is going on in our country is an insult to the womanhood and this is a social evil. It may be due to economic cause and there are other things also.

From our BJP side though some hon. Members are there, it would have been still better if their leaders were present. I would appeal that it is high time when, from the religious point of view, from the economic point of view and from the legal point of view, a new situation has to be created. We know that reforms are needed. I would say, why not the ladies be allowed to perform *shradh* and why not the ladies be allowed to go to the burning *ghats* and also lit the pyres, the *mukhagni* etc. Why do we prefer a male child? It is because of so many things. After all, we are a religious society and whether we may call, progressive and all those things, these things come to our minds, such as, who is there after our death to perform *shradh* and who will lit our pyres in the burning *ghats*. This way, in all spheres, all men and women should be treated at par and should be treated equally.

I congratulate the Government for this Bill which has come before this House. It should have been brought much earlier. Anyway, the Government should take care of the implementation of these provisions with due participation of the voluntary organizations and the people at large both in letter and spirit.

With these words, I lend full support to this Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

13.01 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch
till Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.09 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha Re-Assembled after
Lunch at Nine Minutes past Fourteen of
the Clock.*

[MR. TARA SINGH *in the Chair*]

PRE-NATAL DIAGNOSTIC
TECHNIQUES (REGULATION AND
PREVENTION OF MISUSE) BILL

**As reported by the Joint
Committee - Contd.**

[*Translation*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Saroj Dubey.

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY (Allahabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me the time to speak. I rise to fully support this important Bill. This Bill should have been introduced long back, because the Joint Committee had presented its report long ago. However, long delay has been witnessed in introducing the Bill. In the meantime a number of female foeticide might have taken place. It is difficult to indulge into guess work in this regard. Even now conspiracies are being hatched to terminate pregnancies in cases it is found that foelies is female. Widespread use of latest equipment and pre-natal diagnostic techniques has become quote torturous for women. Earlier it was painfully difficult to kill girls, but latest techniques have made it easier. Now-a-days newspapers and magazines carry advertisements inviting couples for pre-natal investigations and if female child is there in the womb then pregnancy could be terminated. This way conspiracy to kill girls during pregnancy is on. Many female child pregnancies are being terminated. This Bill to stop sex determination is very

[Shrimati Saroj Dubey]

good. Strict implementation can only check medical termination of pregnancies.

Termination of pregnancies gives us the feeling that medical fraternity and couples are secretly hand in glove to stop female children from coming into the world. In every small or big town in the country such private clinics have mushroomed. Doctors at these clinics are responsible for termination of pregnancies and it seems in the present social and economic scenario our traditional values of love, affection generosity and kind heartedness are losing ground i.e. vanishing.

Doctor before embarking on the path of health care swear to protect human lives and use their talent to free the humanity of sufferings. Sadly, the Doctors are also doing fraud with their profession by indulging in such nefarious acts. This is the reason for the present state of imbalance in our society. Number of women is declining day by day. In 1901 sex-ratio was 972 : 1000 and it declined to 934 : 1000 in 1981 and further declined to 927 : 1000 in 1991. In some districts in Punjab and Haryana sex ratio is just 869 : 1000. If this way sex ratio continues to decline then imbalances will increase Non-reduction in decline in atrocities on girls i.e. after birth atrocities, will increase their sufferings and cases of rape, violence and kidnapping will further increase. Women organisations have raised hue and cry against termination of pregnancies after sex determination tests confirm about girl child. The Government of Rajasthan has done a laudable task to ban sex-determination tests. Haryana has also banned sex determination tests. The Government of Maharashtra was the first to ban these tests by enacting laws. However, sadly no case of prosecution of

any person or institution during the last few years was reported to the Joint Committee, during its visit to Maharashtra, though laws are there and appropriate authority is also there. Even in Maharashtra such incident continue to occur. Though laws in this regard have been enacted in Maharashtra yet in the neighbouring Gujarat such inhuman incidents are taking place. Mere enacting of laws will not solve the problem. Laws are to be strictly implemented and leaving the matter to the State Governments will not serve the desired purpose. Strict national laws should be there, where in provision for stringent penal actions are incorporated. If stringent laws are there then people will fear to indulge in such nefarious things. The Committee during the tour of Maharashtra was informed that with the appropriate authority set up even the persons running the institutions engaged in such things are associated as members.

In this way, every day the cases of foeticide are reported. It may not be so that this Bill meet the same fate. The purpose with which we are fighting against this menace is not served. Our struggle for safeguarding the entity of women would go into waste. As the things are not going according to rule, it is necessary that this law should be implemented in every State.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Uttar Pradesh is the largest populated State. Recently, an advertisement appeared to this effect that clinical facilities are available to know about the sex foetus. Get yourself examined and have a male child. Thus, women are invited through such advertisements to undergo pre-natal sex determination test. This kind of a practice is not proper. On the one hand, the women is regarded as the incarnation of Goddess but on the other hand, she has

to take the permission of the man to give birth to a female child which in violation of the law of nature. The women cannot give birth to a child without the consent of her husband. If it is detected that there is a female child, that is not allowed to take birth. As you know very well that even when this technique was not developed, the female children were used to be killed after birth in Rajasthan. But in this case, the child is killed before taking birth. It is a matter of great concern. A committee, of which I was also a member, visited a village of Rajasthan. There, we were told that in that village not a single wedding party had come till then because the female children are killed after taking birth. Now 47 years have passed since we got independence but this is happening in the absence of any effective law. In our Constitution, men and women enjoy equal rights but today that right is also being reduced to shreds. Under the garb of this law, the money is being minted. Some small and big private institutions are also minting money with the help of Ultra-Sound and Sonography machines. They give false reports in the name of tests and thus the woman opts for abortion. In this case also, the woman is held responsible that she takes the initiative. Even today, she has no freedom to have a child of her choice because there is always a pressure on her from her mother-in-law, sister-in-law and husband. She is directed to bear only male child and otherwise forced to opt for abortion on their wish. To keep a check on this kind of lawlessness, the need of such a Bill was felt very much. Though it has been brought forward late, yet we welcome it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, when we think that the women should come forward to work with men successfully they are unable to do so because on the one hand, the law is made therefor but on the other

hand, no law is made for their development. There is a place in Tamil Nadu, where such a custom is in vogue that the female child is not allowed to take birth. When B.B.C. reported this matter that in what barbaric manner this crime is being committed, the Government became alert. However, due to the fear of superstition and customs, no step was taken to keep a vigil on such acts. Now the question arises is why is it happening? Why the female child and the women is being discriminated against? We will have to counter this kind of social approach and the psyche. Today, the girls are considered as a burden. Due to the fear of dowry system, the family members feel disappointed on the birth of a female child. Even in hospitals, the nurses and midwives do not ask for a tip for a female child. In villages, on the birth of a male child the guns are fired. While on the birth of a female child, cracked metallic plates are beaten. We will have to take some steps to remove this type of evils. It has been said in the scriptures of the Hindus - "Yatra Nari Pujyante, Ramantey Tatra Devata". On the one hand, in our society, the woman is considered as Goddess, Laxmi and Annapurna whereas on the other hand, the female child is killed during the pregnancy. She is considered an object of sexual pleasure. This is a wrong concept. She should also be given a right to live as a human being.

Vask Muni has said - "Duhita Duhita Durey Hita Bhavati". It means - one should remain away from women because she is the root of all evils. We shall have to take revolutionary steps to change such a thinking. In this effort, all social organisations will have to be brought together. Further, we will also have to distribute good literatures and organise seminars to preserve the dignity of the woman in our society. Unless, there

[Shrimati Saroj Dubey]

is improvement at social, economical and educational level, this law will not serve any purpose. Sometimes, it is apprehended that this legislation may also remain in the file like other legislations. Therefore, the Government must show its strong will power and take effective steps. This law will prove effective only when some concrete steps are taken to check foeticide and make women socially and economically self-reliant.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am hopeful that this Bill bring a new ray of hope to the women. It is also hoped that the Government, with the help of voluntary organisations and by changing the social thinking of the people, will make provisions for rigorous imprisonment and heavy penalty on the people indulging in such crimes. Further, it will help in imposing restrictions on wrong-doers and the purpose, with which this Bill has been brought forward, will be fully served.

I would once again support this Bill and say that we would succeed in our efforts.

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Mr. Chairman, due to the tragic death of two of my colleagues, I could not move my amendments. I was not in a position to do so. But Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya has given those amendments which were common to us.

The first question that has been raised by many here is the question of delay from 1991 to 1994. All that I can request now is that for Heaven's sake, please do not delay the President's

assent. Today, the Bill will be passed; and get the President's assent quickly.

Secondly, as Shrimati Maliniji said already, we want the acts of sex determination to be in the hands of the Government institutions because otherwise, we are afraid that we would not be in a position to control the proliferation of such institutions which are so many now.

Thirdly, we also want the registering of the ultrasonic equipments. Since ultrasonic equipments are used for various reasons like detection, etc., we cannot say that you can totally ban the use of ultrasonic tests. But, we say that ultrasonic equipments should be registered so that the committees which are to go into these things, can keep an eye and monitor those institutions.

Another point is this. In the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, in the case of contraceptive failure, it has been allowed that person may go in for the termination of pregnancy. I am afraid that under this subterfuge, many many female foeticide will be there. So, my submission is that the termination of pregnancy due to contraceptive failure which is allowed in the other Bill should be amended suitably; otherwise, this will create another big problem for monitoring.

I am not in a position to speak even for a long time. So, my last point would be on awareness, as is rightly said by all of us here. I am very sorry to say this about today's position. I do not know about yesterday's situation. Today, when they took up this Bill, it took such a long time for getting quorum. Even now, you may look at the benches. How many are present? What awareness do we expect from ourselves? Are we all aware ourselves? Are all the Parliament

Members aware of this? Can they lead this?

Therefore, I would say that only the passing of the Bill not do any good, though we welcome the passing of the Bill because 'something is better than nothing'. But, it is a complicated affair; very great awareness and proper monitoring will be needed for this. I hope, the Parliament will give its own attention towards it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[Translation]

DR. G. L. KANAUIA (Kheri):

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this important Bill. However through this Bill, we will be able to learn many things on this subject. It is not only India but the whole world is anxious about the outcome of this Bill. In this regard, our women organisations are equally anxious. However, this Bill should have been brought earlier.

There are some apprehensions over this Bill. Though there is a fear of imbalance in the ratio of women and men yet socially, there is a need to pay attention on the point that how it would be implemented effectively. In regard to the cases of infanticide, I would like to put my views on the basis of my 37 years experience. I know that in India, boys are preferred over girls. Here the thinking of a family is such that if a female child is born, the family continues to flourish and if a female child is born, the members of the family have to go with folded hands to the doors of the others. I have myself seen in Uttar Pradesh and some parts of Madhya Pradesh that some female children are killed after birth so that they do not have to go to the homes of other. In my clinic, many alive female babies used to take birth. But, when I used to

take a round in the next morning, I was surprised to hear from them that the female baby was born dead. It is not happening these days only but it was been continuing for centuries. I fully agree with the views of the Member who has spoken before me. However, it is ironical that in our society, the mother-in-laws motivates her daughter-in-law to opt for such a test. In this way, one woman conspires against another woman. I do not understand that when such an act is considered an oppression on a woman, then why do women come forward in such misdeeds?

Therefore, I would like to inform the House that mere enactment of law will do nothing because when this Bill was not there, the abortions were also being done but then the root cause was different. At that time, one used to go for abortion under certain compulsions. The parents used to indulge in such acts when they had a fear that their daughter has conceived illegally or something wrong has happened. However, today it has taken a form of business, about which much has already been said in this House.

When I was myself involved in the work of family planning, I saw that the family, in which there were only girls, did not opt for family planning until it had a male child. I also saw that the family in which there were 5-6 girls, used to wait for the birth of a male child and thereafter, opt for family planning. In my opinion, it is a social evil, which we are trying to do away with through this Bill. Unless we create awareness among the people and make them understand its importance, they will not be able to know its objective. The Bill which has been brought forward in this House is incomplete in many aspects. In this Bill, the provision for punitive punishment is very less. Earlier,

[Dr. G. L. Kanaujia]

the position was different. There were certain reasons for undergoing abortion. These may be — mother suffering from some dreaded disease and not in a position to give birth to the child, a heart patient, not mentally fit or deformity in foetus. At that time also, it used to be considered appropriate to go for abortion under the advice of the doctors. Although it was legal at that time and it is so now also, yet the way these determination tests are being carried out these days are beyond our comprehension. If these tests are done for some scientific advantage, to eradicate the disease or to remove the pain, it is understandable but the manner in which it is being misused, its only solution is to cancel the licence of the guilty doctors. In this connection, a committee should also be constituted but it should not be centralised. Rather, it should be decentralised so that wherever such cases are reported, the guilty person could get the punishment and others may learn a lesson from this.

However, in this Bill, many points have been covered but I am not able to understand that how it would be implemented? Unless laws of the states are amended, the custom of giving property right only to the son is changed and women is given the right to run the family, we will not be able to implement it effectively. Though it is a good Bill, yet it is incomplete. I would like to convey to the House my this feeling that in this Bill, there should be a provision for deterrent punishment.

It is written in the Bill that such diagnostic work will only be done by a recognised institution. But since I have become a Member of Parliament, I have been seeing how medical department functions. Earlier, I have been Director

General, Health Services, Uttar Pradesh for 37 years, about 12-14 thousand doctors used to work under me. I know, there are many structural defects. In this regard, we had also discussed this issue in the committee meetings, I.C.M.R. seminars and other meeting of Human Resource Development but so far, I have not seen any possibility of improvement in these defects. I have a doubt over the intention of the Government to make some improvements because until they come out of the Administrative clutches, one cannot expect any improvement.

Our hon. Minister Shri Shankaranand is a very experienced person. He has been a minister for a long time but he is trapped in such a net from where it is difficult to come out. Now, the issue of diagnosis has come up. I am just giving you a suggestion. They would do what their I.A.S. officers say. I would like to ask them that what are the reasons for the Head of the Department, the Director General, Medical Health Services working as 'acting' for years? I would like to ask on the floor of this House that which Chief Secretary or Secretary has been functioning as 'acting' till date? Is not the Director General, ICMR Dr. Satyawati who was selected formally six months ago, working as 'acting'? It is all because of the dominance of I.A.S. I am afraid that this Bill may somehow get lost under their trap. It has also not been recalled that when were the recommendations of the Selection Committee on this subject received? Unless a provision for punitive action is made in this Bill and the doctor, who indulge in such acts is punished and simultaneously, his/her M.B.B.S., MS or FRCS degrees are confiscated, this Bill would not serve any purpose.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the second point is awareness. We spend a lot of money on public awareness. Here, the point is to

give the right of a boy to a girl. I would request my women Members of Parliament to look into this aspect also. I do not understand the logic why do a women commit atrocities on another women? It is India and not a foreign country. I have toured all over the world by road. I have got the degrees of MBBS, MS and FRCS. I have been in foreign countries for 14 years. I know that the woman of India is very forebearing and sensitive. No other woman of the world has such qualities. The Indian woman is ready to tolerate such atrocity on her but why is it so? The bride which is burned today becomes the mother-in-law tomorrow and she also burns her daughter-in-law. I do not understand this logic.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would request that unless the Government makes its intention clear about making improvements in the medical department by sitting and discussing together, the things will not improve. It is not that Shri Shankar has become the Minister and he will drink everything. He should try to become like Shankarji. I would request the hon. Minister that the Bill, which he has moved, is worth appreciating and thanking. I fully support it. I hope that this Bill would be passed unanimously.

The whole House appreciate it but to implement it, you will have to think about some punitive action also. Otherwise, this will not become effective. I would also request him to end the corruption prevalent in the medical profession and ensure that such diagnostic works are done only by recognised centres.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it has been proposed to register the nursing homes. How many to them have been registered

so far? Who go there? The people do not go in Government hospitals because they have to fulfil the demands of the staff, nurses, doctors, consultants, compounders and superintendents etc. While, people prefer to go to a nursing home because there only one person's wish has to be fulfilled. We should think over this peacefully. The Government will have to exercise check over this cadre and bring improvement in this profession. Today it is completely spoiled. Unless, you intend to improve it, there will not be any improvement. The condition of AIIMS, Dr. R.M.L. Hospital, G.B. Pant Hospital and Safdarjung Hospital is very unsatisfactory. The Government must look into it.

With these words, I thank you.

[English]

SHRI R. NAIDU RAMASAMY (Periyakulam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for providing me this opportunity to speak on the Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Bill, 1991, as reported by the Joint Committee.

Sir, I am very sorry to say that the Government has proceeded to lay down a legislative policy without adequately preparing a background of a social structure to support and sustain it. Poverty is still rampant in the country under successive regimes of Congress at the Centre. The successive Congress Governments at the Centre have also with vested interests saw to it that the poor are kept poorer and the illiterate particularly women are kept illiterate. These failures have contributed to a social structure dominated by evils afflicting the women in the country.

Sir, there are three areas in the Bill. One is ban on sex determination tests.

[Shri R. Naidu Ramasamy]

This is dealt with in Clause 6 of the Bill. The second is about regulation of the use of the pre-natal diagnostic techniques for uses other than sex determination. Clauses 4 and 5 of the Bill deal with these provisions. The third is about the creation of an administrative structure to support the regulatory provisions. Rest of the provisions of the Bill deal with this third area.

It would thus be seen, Sir, that only one provision and the corresponding penal provision in the Bill relate to the major thrust of the policy. The rest of the provisions digress from the focus of the issue. Female foeticide, neglect of female children, sexual inferiority imposed upon women by the community and consequent ill-effects have not been adequately dealt with by this Bill.

The emphasis of the Bill on the other hand is on the registration etc., of the genetic centres and other such matters which do remotely have some nexus with banning of sex determination tests. The women of the country are least worried how the Government regulates the functioning of the centres which make available the facilities of pre-natal diagnostic techniques. There is a Medical Court which may be empowered to provide for these matters by issue of appropriate regulations. The anxiety with which the Government has sought to provide for these matters also does not stand testimony to the honesty of the Government to tackle female foeticide on an exclusive footing.

There is lack of appreciation on the part of the Government to the basic fact that female foeticide is not caused only by sex determination tests. How many villages in India have the facility of sex

determination? In rural India, these facilities are not available. By the time these facilities come to villages, female foeticide would no more be practised in the village because these facilities mean development and in those villages where these facilities have come, poverty and accompanied social oppression of women would no more be there.

Sir, in this connection, I would like to highlight with great pride the achievements of the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu in tackling female foeticide. She is the forerunner in this country for sowing the seeds of an egalitarian society which sufficiently offers a basic ground work for obliterating the evil practice of female foeticide.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not read from the papers. You must put forward your points. You will not be able to read all your papers within the prescribed time limit.

SHRI R. NAIDU RAMASAMY: The hon. Minister of Tamil Nadu had started Cradle Babies Scheme. If the mothers could not bring up their female children, the State Government themselves adopt those female children by giving all the facilities for them.

The State Government of Tamil Nadu had started Police Stations exclusively managed by women. In India, only in Tamil Nadu it had been started.

Therefore, Sir, what is essential is that the Government must strive to create social structure which supports the Government's policy against female foeticide. Mere banning of sex determination tests will not help. To check this effectively, apart from creating the necessary social structure, the Government must punish those who

commit and aid in committing foeticide, female or male, stringently.

Sir, the modern medical centres are not the only centres for sex determination. Women in the household are experts in determining the sex of the child by observing the behaviour of pregnant mothers. Most of these women are living in rural India. The Government must, therefore, be aware that the proposed law would be scuttled in rural India unless the target group for punishment is precisely identified.

Despite these, I welcome the measure in principle but I demand that the Minister must look into all my arguments for amplifying the law and weed out unwanted provisions so that the proposed law acquires teeth to tackle the social menace of female foeticide.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not a subject to be debated by old people but this subject is relating to young generation.

SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR (Motihari): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. The recent debates on prevalent traditions regarding discrimination between man and woman is not a new thing for our society. In olden times, there was matriarchy society during the primitive era, later on it changed into women-ruled society and thus this discrimination between man and woman continued to be followed in the name of castes, religions, customs and traditions. All these traditions were prevalent in our society where women were considered inferior to men.

It is a long and old historical story of our country. Merely bringing a Bill will not change the attitude of the society. My

several friends have pointed out that Bill is not sufficient but I would like to say that something is better than nothing. We should move towards betterment of the society. I know about a person of my own village who has eleven daughters but he had refused to adopt family planning methods in the hope of a son. I also know about a person who was very religious and throughout his life he regularly carried 'Kanwars' to a place, famous in Bihar to worship God 'Shiva'. But he did not beget a son. So these are the customs. I will not say that Congress Government should hurt the feelings and custom of people. But it is the primary responsibility of the Government to remove the bad customs of the society whether they are prevalent in any town and states of the country. It is the responsibility of all the progressive powers in the society who are fighting for the cause of humanity and dignity of mankind.

Soviet Union is now no more in existence but I know that Soviet Union had not only enacted laws for equal rights for man and woman but also practised it. I do not know as to whether the capitalist society today is striving for providing equal rights to men and women or exploiting them. Today with the achievements of science, some doctors are not working for progress of mankind but are working against the ethics of medical science. Now doctors are minting money by pre-natal sex determination of the female foetus, which is highly condemnable. By enacting the law in this regard, social and voluntary organisations which are working for the cause of women, should be encouraged. But Government is not taking any action in this regard.

Just now Shri Shankaranandji has shed some light on the proposed actions

[Shri Kamla Mishra Mudhukar]

of the Government in this regard. I would like to ask whether the Govt. is going to enact the law or take some concrete action in this regard or not? This feeling should be created among the male members of the society because being a male-dominated society they think that son will be given right to property. Different communities practise different customs. I am supporting this Bill and would like to say that this feeling should be created among the people of the country by way of a movement by voluntary organisations. Female foeticide should not be permitted. Several laws have been enacted in the country but without animation and participation of people that have failed to create the desired effect. So enlightenment of people in this regard is essential. My colleague Geeta Mukherjee and some other Members have suggested that Committees should be set up to implement this law by making it a mass movement. It should be taken to village and at the grassroot level. Our laws have provisions for stringent punishment for offences but these are not implemented properly. Parliament is going to discuss the sugar scam. Although there are so many laws enacted to check such type of offences, yet many scams are taking place in the regime of this Government. Only enacting the laws will not serve the purpose, their proper implementation is also very essential. There is a need for social movement for creating awareness among the people. The suggestions given by me and the Member from BJP who is also a doctor, are very good. So these should be considered and included in the Bill. The period of conviction should also be increased. This Bill can effectively achieve its objectives only when these suggestions will be considered thoroughly.

With these words, while supporting the Bill I conclude.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Chairman, Sir, many things have been said about this Bill. I whole heartedly welcome this Bill. This Bill reveals misuses of scientific inventions in our country now-a-days because this invention was invented for knowing any deformation in foetus. Sant Vinobaji had said that Science is our feet but enlightenment is our eyes. Feet can move us further at the path of progress but eyes are also necessary to show the way. This scientific invention is very useful in itself but by its misuse, doctors are encouraging foeticide and it has become a curse for the society. That is why Vinobaji had said that enlightenment is our eyes. It has also been said in Vedas that "Yatra nari punayante, remante tatra devta" means that angels live at places, where women are worshipped. In the same way it has been said - "Matre devo bhav" which means that Mother is like an angel, as mother frames and develops the character of the child. But today female foetus are being destroyed because of social customs and superstitions which stigmatise the whole society. A social movement should be launched for removal of this sin from the society. Today doctors are working contrary to the ethics of their profession for minting money. They are taking advantages of superstitions prevalent in the society and it is creating immorality.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I request the Government for proper and effective implementation of the Bill presented by the Joint Committee. It is necessary to create social awareness among people for its efficient implementation, we use electronic media and newspapers for big advertisements but do not raise questions related to women's interests, their health and for creating social awareness among

them. There is a need for wide spread publicity for creating women consciousness and awareness in the society.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the great leader of modern India, Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati was the first person who has shown his farsightedness and drawn the attention of the society that Vedas have given equal rights and status for man and woman both.

They said - "Vedoon ka hai yeh ailan-nar nari sab ek saman." Since primitive age, woman has been given an esteemed place in the society. We say "Radhe-Shyam", "Gauri-Shankar", "Sita-Ram". In other words Radha enjoys a place higher than Shyam; Gauri prior to Shankar and Sita prior to Ram. Similarly temples of Jagat Janani (the mother of the world) Jagadamba have been constructed at many places and she is given respect; through her, motherhood is given respect and the same motherhood is being ignored at its roots even before it can take birth. Medical termination of pregnancy is being resorted to.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, our perverted customs like 'Rasam pagari', things like 'Mritu-bhoj' and the saying that goes like, 'there is no salvation without a son and a person devoid of son shall go to hell after death' and the associated rituals like 'tarpan' and 'pind-dan' and 'who will kindle the pyre in the absence of a son' are responsible for creating this array of blind faiths.

15.00 hrs.

The question, "who will do the 'Karma-kanda' after me?" inspires the men and women to yearn for the birth of a male child. There is a need to wash off

this obsession and create awareness in the society. The provisions made in this law for punishment against foeticide are appropriate but they should also be implemented appropriately. The Government makes the laws. The people in a bid to violate them find out the lacunae and thus, the other way out. There is need to plug all those loopholes and create social awareness against this practice and also eradicate the blind faiths prevalent in the society. Such people professing medical practice who have opened clinics of sex determination of foetus are encouraging and abetting these traditional misbeliefs. There should be a social or professional boycott of such medical practitioners, and there should be a code of conduct for them so that such black sheep are condemned. The society recognises the view-point that a son is needed to carry forward the dynasty of his father. There is need to make such laws when we talk of social equality and equality of rights. There is also a need to change our approach. For this co-operation of social reformers and religious seers can be sought. Corruption and bribery renders many good laws redundant. This law should be protected from corrupt practices and implemented stringently in the right perspective and the society should be freed from the atrocities on women which will help the formation of a healthy society.

[English]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to all the Members who have participated in the discussion on this Bill. Each one of them has supported this Bill. They have expressed some concern about some of the points in the Bill and they have given some suggestions also.

We have taken note of their suggestions and we will definitely look into them.

This Bill mainly relates to the recently developed scientific technique enabling pre-natal determination of sex of the foetus. This technique is useful in determining the genetic disorder and abnormalities of the foetus. From time to time, the women organisations and many other social organisations have expressed their concern about the misuse of this technique for female foeticide in our country. Many hon. Members have expressed their concern about the penal and other provisions of the law. There are adequate penal provisions in this Bill. There is a provision in this Bill that anybody can complain to the authorities and the authorities can take action on that complaint. If the medical practitioner is found guilty, they can forward that case to the respective Medical Council and that Medical Council can cancel his registration also.

Sir, India is a country of diversification. I come from the eastern region of our country. I do not know much about the religious techniques of our country. But since childhood I know that in our part of the country the *Durga puja* is observed as a national festival. The tradition of Goddess Durga is that at that time there was an evil force in the world and all the Gods and Goddesses prayed and created Goddess Durga to destroy this evil force. I am illustrating this because at that point of time also it was felt that the ultimate force was the mother, who can destroy all the evil. That is the belief in our religious teaching. It is there at the time of *Vedas* and upto now. But, at the same time, in our country, we are very much concerned about female foeticide.

We live in these two very extreme situations.

Definitely, any law passed by this legislation is a first step and it is not the final step. Many hon. Members have rightly said about creating awareness among the people. It has to be sincerely taken up by all the hon. Members in their respective constituencies, in their societies and in the States so that we can effectively face this problem. But just passing legislation or just providing some penal provision we cannot do much in eradicating this social evil of killing the girl child in the infancy and even before she was born. This social evil is there.

Many hon. Members have mentioned about the male-female ratio in our country. It is true that the gap is increasing though the social awareness is growing. If you go through the literacy percentage, it is also growing. But, at the same time, the gap between men and women ratio in our society is increasing. It is definitely an alarming situation for all of us. We have to collectively do something for this.

In this legislation — the Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Bill, 1991 — it is elaborately explained as to what is allowed and what is not allowed. In Section 7 of the Bill there is mention of Central Supervisory Board under the chairmanship of the Central Health Minister. There will be representatives from lady Members of Parliament and there will be representatives from the voluntary organisations also. The Government believes that without the active cooperation of the voluntary organisations and all the Members it cannot be done. We are going to address ourselves to one of the greatest social evils of our society and that will not be possible without enlisting the support of

everybody, irrespective of their political affiliations and their social organisations. There are provisions here about the appropriate authority, the advisory committee etc. Many hon. Members have explained about the provisions that are there in this Bill. The Central Supervisory Board has a responsibility to chalk out some programme to create public awareness in our society so that this type of misdeed can be arrested and stopped in our society.

[Translation]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): States alone can't enforce it whereas the number of their representatives is few only four.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: There is a provision for Central Supervisory Board in this Bill. We have made an alternative provision of four people from States.

[English]

Four members are to be appointed by the Central Government by rotation to represent the State and Union Territory, two in the alphabetical order and two in the reverse alphabetical order.

[Translation]

This is the Central Advisory Board and every state will have a proper authority in that. State will be represented. Similarly voluntary organisations and women will be represented. Then Section 17 provides for the participation of the State. So, there is no difficulty in that.

[English]

There will be no difficulty in the representation of the State. The Central

Supervisory Board will do the job of monitoring the implementation. Its responsibility is also envisaged in the Bill. The responsibilities and functions of the Appropriate Authority and the Advisory Committee are also rightly envisaged in the Bill.

So, I think it is a good beginning as many Members have said. The implementation is not only the responsibility of the Government machinery. It has to be the responsibility of all of us. I think the first requirement for this is the creation of social awareness among the people against the practice of female foeticide which is very much prevalent in our society. We can quote many figures justifying one point or the other. But the fact remains that there is still a gap between the male and the female ratio. We have to arrest it. In this respect, I have to congratulate the State Government of Kerala, because this is the only State where the percentage of female is more than male percentage. If you divide them into rural and urban areas, the percentage of women in the rural areas is comparatively more than the percentage of women in the urban areas. This is also a fact of life.

Sir, I am very much thankful to all the hon. Members who have participated in the debate and I am very much thankful to the Members of the Joint Committee also who have taken a lot of trouble. They have considered about 304 representations from various organisations and they have taken oral evidence from many groups. They have visited some places also. They have deliberated this Bill and discussed elaborately in their 18 sittings of the Committee. Finally, I appeal to all the hon. Members to pass this Bill, as reported by the Joint Committee.

DR. K.D. JESWANI (Khedda): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was one of the speakers

the hon. Minister been able to perceive this?

yesterday on this Bill. I would like to have some clarifications from the hon. Minister. I had raised one important technical point in Section 6. Section 6 of the Bill has two provisions, namely A and B and both of them are just equal. If you combine them both, it will be only one section. I had requested to add one more Section that there should be some check on the reports of the Sonologist, because if the Sonologist reports in a normal language that there is a presence of the scrotum, then that becomes a scientific report and no court can challenge it. So, you can add one more clause to this Section 6 as I have suggested that no person shall conduct or cause to be conducted any sonography and report the findings which may hit either the female or male sex positively or negatively. I do not know whether you have been able to perceive this technical terminology. But I would again request you to consult some of your technical advisors and try to include this. This is a very vital issue to which I am drawing your attention.

This will remove one of the loopholes in the medical terminology and also in the report of the Sonologists.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: I am thankful to Dr. Jeswani for this. I understand sub-clauses (a) and (b) of clause 6 have adequately covered all these things. The Supervisory Board will be there and they will judge the impact of this Act. When it is required, definitely the Government will take note of it and consider the review of the Act. At this stage, I do not think that is necessary.

I request all of you to pass this Bill as reported by the Joint Committee.

DR. K.D. JESWANI: I have my own doubt. This is a very technical matter. Has

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: I have neither objected to any other provision, nor this provision also. But there is a technical difficulty here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Under what procedure, you are asking this question. Please sit down.

The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the regulation of the use of pre-natal diagnostic techniques for the purpose of detecting genetic or metabolic disorders or chromosomal abnormalities or certain congenital malformations or sex-linked disorders and for the prevention of the misuse of such techniques for the purpose of pre-natal sex determination leading to female foeticide; and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as reported by Joint Committee, be taken into consideration."

The Motion was adopted

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2 - Definitions

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jodhpur): I beg to move:

Page 2,—

for lines 6 to 14, substitute—

(c) "Genetic Unit" means a unit

attached to a Government hospital research institution or medical college for the purpose of providing Genetic Counselling to patients and for performing gynaecological and obstetric procedures for designated and specified tests as defined under clause (d) and (e) of this section;

(d) "designated tests" means any of the following pre-natal diagnostic tests, techniques, or procedures, namely:

- (i) amniocentesis;
- (ii) chorion Villi Biopsy;
- (iii) foetoscopy;
- (iv) any other test which the Government may by notification in the official gazette designate.

(e) "specified test" means any of the following pre-natal diagnostic tests, techniques, or procedures, namely:

- (i) any of the designed tests mentioned in sub-clause (i) to (iii) of clause (d) of this section;
- (ii) any other test notified as a designated test by the Government under sub-clause (iv) of clause (d) of this section;
- (iii) sonography; and
- (iv) any other test which the Government may by notification in the official gazette specify: (3)

I would seek the following clarifications from the Minister.

The medical colleges and hospitals in the public sector some years back used

to have these diagnostic tests and they also used to determine the sex of the foetus. Subsequently when it was found out that this sex determination test was misused for female foeticides, the public sector hospitals were forbidden to do sex determination along with the diagnostic tests. Following that, in Government and public sector medical colleges and hospitals, there has been no report of these tests being misused for sex determination. On the other hand, we find that when these tests which are forbidden for sex determination in the public sector, there was an unusual proliferation of private clinics which call themselves genetic clinics, genetic units and genetic laboratories which have proliferated, after this caution was taken in the public sector.

Therefore, I beg to submit that most of these genetic units, genetic laboratories which have sprung up were opened specifically for the purpose of misusing these diagnostic tests. Therefore, what is required is, very strong action should be taken against them and most of these should be closed down. That should be the efforts of the Government whereas, in the Bill, the Government has allowed private sector clinics to operate provided they have obtained licence from the appropriate authority. This does not answer the case at all, as one lady Member has said, in spite of the Bill being enacted in Maharashtra, even after that we find that in the private sector, these clinics are conducting these tests for sex determination.

And licensing alone will not answer the problem, and therefore, I have suggested that these genetic tests specifically, which I have called as 'designated tests' in my amendment, should be attached only to the public

[Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya]

had given a note of dissent and that is why we are pursuing it here.

sector. It should be taken out of the private sector. That is my amendment. I want to know from the Minister why the Government is shying away from this stern decision of closing down units which have been specifically set up to make profits out of these sex determination tests. I feel this is a compromise.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment No. 3 to Clause 2 moved by Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 3 was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: Sir, Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya has expressed her concern about this and that matter also came up for discussion in the Joint Committee and the Joint Committee has taken a view on that. Now they have to register and they have some responsibility and they have to follow some procedure. When they register in the private sector and when they have the facilities. I do not see any logic behind excluding them, all those who are qualified, from running this type of centres, I think there is no logic to exclude them. So, we have included these private sector clinics also.

*Clause 3 — Regulation of Genetic
Counselling Centres, Genetic
Laboratories and Genetic
Clinics*

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: I beg to move:

"Page 3,—

for lines 7 to 18, substitute

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Mr. Chairman, I was also a co-Member to the dissent note given in that Committee. Actually, what the hon. Minister has explained is not enough. On this question as to why this particular thing should not be only in the Government institutions, no answer has been given.

(1) no -medical geneticist, gynaecologists, registered medical practitioner, or any other person shall conduct or cause to be conducted or aid in conducting by himself or through any other person, any of the designated prenatal diagnostic techniques or procedures except at genetic units provided for the purpose at Government hospitals, research institutions or medical colleges;

MR. CHAIRMAN: Actually, the hon. Minister has said that each and every clause was considered by that Committee. He has replied according to that.

(2) all medical centres having or acquiring equipments which are to be used for the specified tests, including sonography, are to be

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Sir, we were Members and we

541 *Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse Bill)* SRAVANA 4, 1916 (SAKA) and Clause 542

registered under this act, and will be required to maintain records of all such tests done on pregnant women for the period specified in the Act." (4)

MR CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment No. 4 Clause 3 moved by Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 4 was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 3 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clauses 4 to 16 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4 to 16 were added to the Bill.

Clause 17—Appropriate Authority and Advisory Committee.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: I beg to move:

"Page 8—

for lines 19 and 20 substitute—

"(c) to act upon complaints of breach of the provisions of this Act or rules made thereunder within the shortest possible time, and not exceeding twenty four hours to prevent the removal and obliteration of evidence by the accused." (5)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment No. 5 to Clause 17 moved by Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 5 was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 17 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 17 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The motion is:

"That Clauses 18 to 22 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 18 to 22 were added to the Bill.

Clause 23 — Offences and Penalties

MR. CHAIRMAN: Amendment No. 6.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: I beg to move:

Page 11, lines 29 and 38,—

omit "(including such woman unless she was compelled to undergo such diagnostic techniques)". (6)

This is about the punishment. We find that in this Bill this punishment also covers the women themselves who are about to be mothers. But since women are under pressure of society and of their family and they do not have any say in

[Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya]

their own procreative life, it is, I think a double burden of punishment on them to punish them in accordance with this. That is why I have brought this amendment to remove this injustice.

MR..CHAIRMAN: I put amendment 6 to Clause 23 moved by Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 6 was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 23 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 23 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clauses 24 to 34 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 24 to 34 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1— Short title, extent and commencement

Amendment made

Page 1, line 6,—

for "1992" substitute "1994" (2)

(Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

*Clause 1, as amended, was added to the
Bill.*

Enacting Formula

Amendment made

Page 1, line 1—

for "Forty-third"

substitute "Forty-fifth" (1)

(Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

*The Enacting Formula, as amended, was
added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Long Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Long Title was added to the Bill.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR:
I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

15.29 hrs.

AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA BILL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL
AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI
GHULAM NABI AZAD): *I beg to move.**

"That the Bill to provide for the constitution of the Airports Authority of India and for the transfer and vesting of the undertakings of the International Airports Authority of India and the National Airports Authority to and in the Airports Authority of India so constituted for the better administration and cohesive management of airports and civil enclaves whereat air transport services are operated or are intended to be operated and of all aeronautical communication stations and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

The Airports Authority of India Bill was introduced in the Parliament last year. The primary purpose of the Bill is to remove duality in the management of airports and to bring under a single authority, international and domestic airports of our country, for better administration and cohesive management of airports and aeronautical communication services.

A major problem at airports is multiplicity of organisations. Within Civil Aviation itself, two separate Authorities, namely NAA and IAAI, function in water-tight compartments, thereby aggravating avoidable problems of coordination.

International airports are managed by International Airports Authority of India, but even there, the vital functions of air traffic control and aeronautical communications are the responsibility of National Airports Authority. This dual control creates practical problems of divided responsibility, with adverse impact on the quality of service and safety.

Apart from the five International Airports, currently engaged by International Airports Authority of India, there are 87 domestic airports and 28 civil enclaves in defence airports, which are managed by National Airports Authority. There is a growing demand for operation of international flights at more and more airports. To meet this aspiration, plans have been set into operation for establishments of model airports in different regions of our country. The model airports will have facilities for Customs and Immigration services, so as to handle, in due course of time, international traffic. Thus, the distinction between airports managed by International Airports Authority of India and those coming under National Airports Authority would not remain for long.

Presently, there is a mismatch between responsibilities and resources of the two Authorities. Investment requirements for development of National Airports Authority airports and air traffic management services are high, but National Airports Authority's revenue potentials are inadequate because of low traffic intensity. The airports of International Airports Authority of India, on the other hand have high traffic intensity and, therefore, generate substantial surpluses.

* Moved with the recommendation of the President.

[Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad]

Merger would, therefore, facilitate better mobilisation and utilisation of resources for integrated development of airports.

It would facilitate closer integration, better administration and cohesive management of airports, aeronautical communications and air traffic management services.

The expertise developed in various fields in the two organisations can be pooled for improved efficiency also.

With the proposed unification, it would be possible to avoid overlap and pool the human resources for better utilisation of the manpower.

An unified Authority would be in a better position to undertake bold programmes of balanced airport development in the country by evolving, on the basis of its combined strength, innovative methods of securing resources for expansion and modernisation of facilities.

15.32 hrs

[SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA *in the Chair*]

Madam, I would like to point out that there is a printing mistake in Clause 2. For that, I will be bringing an amendment separately. There is just a printing mistake of one word.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the constitution of the Airports Authority of India and for the transfer and

vesting of the undertakings of the International airports Authority of India and the National Airports Authority to and in the Airports Authority of India so constituted for the better administration and cohesive management of airports and civil enclaves whereat air transport services are operated or are intended to be operated and of all aeronautical communication stations and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore): Madam, I stand to support this Bill. There is nothing much to discuss here. This Bill has already been subjected to close scrutiny by the Standing Committee. It is a step in the right direction. (*Interruptions*) Whenever you do right things, we wholeheartedly support you. But, at the same time, whenever we oppose anything, you must also take it in the right spirit.

Coming to the point, with the opening up of our economy and the so-called liberalisation, there are opportunities for making investments.

Now the main reason for merging the International Airports Authority of India and the National Airports Authority of India into one single entity is that the income generating capacity of the National Airports Authority is very meagre compared to that of the International Airport Authority. The traffic intensity is no doubt less in the national airports. But we should not forget that operation of the civil aviation plays a vital role in integrating our country. When we expect more and more foreigners to visit our country, it gives an ample opportunity for development of tourism. When they gain entry through the airports, then naturally they will have to

travel through the length and breadth of this country to examine the opportunities for making investments and also as tourists so that they can contribute to our economy. But our experience would show that the facilities that are being provided in our airports are very meagre. In many cases, the terminals are not able to handle the aircrafts which are already in operation. I would quote the example of the Mangalore Airport which is situated in my constituency. Now the traffic density, that is, the density of the travellers is very heavy between Mangalore and Bombay. There are three aircrafts in operation daily. And then one more aircraft is operated thrice a week between Mangalore and Madras via Bangalore. The terminal building is so small, so congested that simultaneously when we receive more than two aircrafts at the airport, it becomes very difficult for the passenger to find a place even to sit there. We have been making several requests to the hon. Minister. But the stock reply we get is that they do not have money and the developmental works will be taken up in the coming five year plan. Now, unless you provide the facilities required at the terminals, you cannot attract more and more passengers, you cannot attract fresh investments, you cannot expect new aircrafts to be operated from one point to the other point.

I do not know whether, with the constitution of the new authority, the Government would venture to allow private participation also in the construction and maintenance of the runways, the traffic-ways, the airport as a whole. I am sure, the Minister is giving due attention to this aspect.

A few days ago, I read a news item that the Government of Karnataka has already signed an MOU with one NRI to make investment for the construction and

maintenance of new runways in the Mangalore Airport. I do not know how far this could be implemented because as of now, control of the airport lies with the National Airport Authority. I would like to know whether, with the new entity coming into being, the State Government have any authority to enter into such an MOU.

Whether the State Government can contribute for taking up developmental works at the airports is a question to be considered. No doubt, the merger of these two authorities — IAAI and NAI — would provide for closer integration, better administration and also for cohesive management of the airports, aeronautical communication and also the air traffic management services. Providing facilities in the airports like sufficient space and some special attractions would definitely go a long way in achieving development even in the field of business.

Look at the airport of Singapore. Though it is a small country, the international airport at Singapore is very big in comparison to any of the airports which we have here. The number of aircrafts received, the volume of business which is entertained, the cargo services rendered at that airport, all this would contribute in a big way to the economy of that country. Likewise in India since we have opened up, I have already mentioned this point earlier, we require such a facility. Then only we can think of achieving some good business here also. So, speedy measures will have to be taken to achieve this objective.

The Bill was prepared in the year 1993. Then it was allowed to be rested in the Rajya Sabha for quite a long time. Thereafter the Standing Committees were constituted and naturally as per the rules the Bill had to be referred to the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee has

[Shri V. Dhananjaya Kumar]

also submitted its report long ago. But I do not know for what reason the Government has thought that the constitution of the new authority need not be speeded up. No doubt, there is a provision made for vesting of all the assets of both these authorities in this new entity and simultaneously the interest of all the employees working at present with both these authorities are safeguarded. They will be hereafter treated as the employees of the new entity.

A provision has been made for the recruitment of employees hereafter by the new entity. Many a time the passengers who would wish to have a safe landing after boarding the aircraft find that the aircraft has failed to take off due to the sudden strike, what is called snap strike, resorted to by the vital sector like the air traffic control management. For reasons best known to them, they suddenly take decisions to go on strike and make the passengers sit inside the aircraft for hours together without even allowing them to come out to breathe fresh air. We have suffered this many times. So it would be advisable to consider that at least this sector is treated as an essential service.

The Government makes provision for giving good salary, for providing better service conditions to the employees of this Airport Authority. I would plead with the Government that it should make it mandatory for them so that they also render equal and better services to the users of the Airports, to the users of the civil aviation facilities. This is a vital department. At times people in charge of that, people who control these facilities can play havoc with the lives of the people also. Even in the matter of handling the cargo, one would like to

dispatch the cargo by air traffic for speedier disposal or for reaching the destination early. But, when they land in such troubles, there is no use in it; and people would naturally take diversions to other modes of transport. These aspects also will have to be kept in view.

I do not know, the Minister has not given any account about the real financial position of these Airport Authorities, as of date. But, a hint is given that the International Airport Authority has enough money whereas the National Airport Authority is starving for money. The proposed investments in the coming Five Year Plan is of the order of Rs. 3000 and odd crores whereas in the Seventh Plan, the provision made was only of the order of Rs. 1566 crores. May I know whether the Government would expect that there will be augmentation of income generation to that extent by the constitution of a single authority? It is not explained anywhere. How does the Government intend to do it? How does it propose to augment the income just by the constitution of a single authority? I can understand that after the constitution of the single authority if the Government is able to make immediate investments and provide better facilities in all the domestic airports also, they can attract more and more air traffic, more and more passengers and handle a good number of cargo and thus, income generation could be augmented. Without making investments and just by constitution a new authority to govern the affairs of both the national airports and the international airports. I do not think the lauded objective could be achieved.

The Government will have to think of a source from where investments can come in. That is why, I would like to know from the Government as to whether there is any proposal to invite private

participation in the development of the airports. The new entity, that is the Airports Authority of India could be a medium through which investment can be made. No doubt, the air traffic control should not be given in the hands of the private people; no doubt, the cargo handling facilities should not be given in the hands of the private people. But, at the same time, providing better facilities to the tourists, providing better amenities at the terminal buildings could be very well handled by the private people so that at least you will get better services — a good cup of coffee or tea in the terminal buildings. Now, we are made to pay through our nose; many a time, you will have to pay Rs. 10 or Rs. 15 per cup of tea; but that tea is also not upto the mark. The facilities that are being provided at the present moment and not upto the mark. That is why some attention will have to be paid to this aspect also.

When you make a provision for better air taxi operation, naturally, you will have to take care of the travelling public. You will have to take care of the passengers also. So, I hope the Government will initiate steps in this direction and speed up the whole process and also find out the money to make the investment. It is a universal principle. Unless you make fresh investment, you cannot earn anything more. So, you will have to find out money, make fresh investment and make available the facilities. Then only, you can earn more and you can achieve the targets which are proposed.

The Minister has been making a mention as to the demand for declaring more and more national airports as international airports. There is no doubt that now there is a great potential in Mangalore. Though I may be termed as 'selfish', you know the potential of the

Mangalore airport. If you can establish a direct link between Mangalore and the Middle-East countries, it will benefit a number of people who are working in the Middle-East countries, it will benefit a number of people who are working in the Middle-East countries.

When my leader, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, had the opportunity of serving this country as the Minister of Foreign Affairs, he made the issuing of passports easy. Taking advantage of that, a good number of talented people from that area could find jobs in the Middle-East countries. A connection from Mangalore to Middle-East countries would be very nearer. The people need not fly up to Bombay and then take a route to Middle-East countries.

Mangalore has all the potential. About four or five years ago, vast land was acquired for the purpose of setting up an international airport at Mangalore. But now the land is lying vacant. Afterwards, the land was handed over to the NTPC to set up a thermal power project. Even the NTPC has no money. The land is lying vacant. Even now, the airport authorities — Civil Aviation Department — can again examine the possibility of constructing an international airport at Mangalore where the land is available so that the income of the proposed entity could be augmented and a direct link between Mangalore and the Middle East countries could be established.

With this suggestion I once again make an earnest request to the Minister to consider all these suggestions. I support the Bill. I would again request him that speedier measures may be taken to see that this dream comes true at the earliest possible opportunity.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS (Ernakulam): Madam, this is a rare Government legislation which has got the wholehearted support of the entire House. This shows the interest the people of this country have taken for the development of civil aviation. The Airports Authority of India will bring under a single umbrella the National Airports Authority, as well as the International Airports Authority. Before this Bill was brought to this House, a lot of discussion had taken place both inside the House and outside the House. The International Airports Authority, which has been looking after five major international airports, that is, Delhi, Calcutta, Madras and later Trivandrum, had surplus funds.

Whereas the National Airports Authority which is looking after 87 small and medium airports and 27 enclaves is short of funds. So, by bringing these two authorities under a single umbrella, we will be able to channelise the financial resources available to both the Authorities, so that the new liberal economic structure and the open sky policy taken up by the Government can be ably implemented.

Madam, when this Bill has been formulated, Government has taken adequate measures to protect the interests of the general public. I would like to refer to page 3, Clause 3, sub-clause (3) where the structure of the Authority has been specified. Unfortunately, many of the public sector undertakings and corporations have miserably failed because those who headed these organisations happened to be people without adequate knowledge about the organisations and they happened to occupy those positions through political

pressure and political influences. Fortunately for this Authority, it has been clearly specified and I would like to quote Clause 3, sub-clause (5):

"The Chairperson and the members referred to in clause (c) of sub-clause (3), shall be chosen from among persons who have special knowledge and experience in air transport or any other transport services, industry, commercial or financial matters or administration and from among persons who are capable of representing organisations of workers and consumers."

I congratulate the hon. Member for the special interest he has taken to see that the consumers as well as the workers in the Authority and Airlines are properly represented in these organisations.

Sir, I have some suggestions. After the implementation of the open sky policy, our skies as well as the airports are jammed with traffic fortunately, the Government and the Civil Aviation Ministry have taken pains to see that things go in a well organised manner. Safety has been given utmost importance. But we have to be a little more careful. Look at the five international airports in the country. Those who come to the airports either to receive or see off the passengers do not have space to sit and they have to suffer either in the hot sun or heavy rains, whether it be Madras or Delhi, wherever you go, you find that those who accompany the passengers and those who are to receive the passengers do not have any proper shelter or sitting facilities. When you plan a new airport or when you plan to modernise the existing airports, you please see to it that some shelter space is provided for those people who come to

receive the passengers or who go to the airport to see off the passengers.

16.00 hrs.

Similarly, either in the arrival hall or in the departure hall the passengers themselves find it very difficult to sit. There are not enough seats in the passengers hall. All these facilities for the passengers have to be adequately modernised.

When we go to the airports we have to pay the toll but we do not have the modern vending machines. A lot of time is being taken to pay the tax. The people who come to the Airport need business centres with modern communication and transmission facilities. We do not have such facilities. So, when you modernise our Civil Aviation industry, when you open our skies, you have to modernise the entire structure.

The same is true with regard to the communication system. We find either during the monsoon season or during the winter season very often flights are being delayed. Reason is that we do not have modern radar system. We should have a modern radar system so that whatever be the climate the flights should take off in time. Even a delay of 5—10 minutes in the morning cause a delay of 1-2 hours in the evening because the entire system is being affected. So modern equipments have to be brought in to regulate our Civil Aviation industry.

I have got to say a word about people's participation in Kerala for the development of Airport in Kochi. We have started the construction of a modern airport of an international standard purely with the participation of people. We are neither getting the financial assistances from the Centre or the State Government.

We are only getting technical assistance from the Civil Aviation Ministry but the people have come out with a cooperative society with the Chief Minister as its Chairman and on next August 21 we are laying the foundation stone for this modern airport. We invite the hon. Minister to attend this function.

Similarly, to lengthen and strengthen the runways of Calicut the people of Calicut have come out and they have given adequate fund for this. This shows the interest that the people take in the development of our Civil Aviation industry.

I think Madam with this legislation that we are bringing in the Civil Aviation industry in this country will get a new thrust. I request the hon. Minister when you think of the Civil Aviation industry think of the next hundred years. When you think of the radar system, think of the next hundred years. You think about this industry which is going to grow faster and this is going to be one of the industries which will help the development of our economy and the development of our tourism. So, I feel with the passing of this Bill the Civil Aviation Ministry will get a new teeth so that both the International Airport as well as the National Airport can be modernised, strengthened and can be made modern airports which go parallel to any modern airport outside the country.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): Sir, I must confess that I am a little puzzled by this Bill. Is there anything more in the Bill than what is stated and whether the merging of this National Airports Authority and the International Airports Authority is only because of the stated reasons? Let me first go into the stated reasons.

[Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee]

The stated reason is nothing else but that a loss making sector has to be merged with a profit making sector.

The National Airport Authority is a loss-making sector. The International Airports Authority is a profit-making sector. We have to merge them in order to avoid having a loss-making sector. If this is the reason, I was wondering why is that in another area, a loss-making unit like IISCO is not merged with a profit-making unit like SAIL. Therefore, there is a doubt in my mind whether there are other things than what has been stated here. If this is the approach for a public sector area, viz., if there are loss-making units and profit-making units in the public sector, they should be merged in order to make the whole system viable. This is stated in the case of Airport Authority but not in the case of, as I mentioned say, in the steel sector. I have a suspicion. That suspicion is that, apart from that, why was it a loss-making at all. Let us very frankly face the fact. Travelling by air is a necessity for a very insignificant sector of the population. Insignificant in other sense, not numerical. Those who have tried to use air, their percentage is not even one per cent.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA
(Andaman and Nicobar Islands): Except members of Parliament.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Those people who do not travel by air and who pay Income Tax is only one per cent. Even all the Income Tax payees are not able to travel by air. There are certain other areas where, due to necessity, the people who do not pay Income Tax, have to travel by air. Take

the example of people living in Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Mizoram. So, in this one per cent, only a very narrow fringe of population comes. As far as our national airports are concerned why is it that we do not add Surcharge? If we do that the airports will not lose. Why should we lose for the sake of those people only? This is the question which has to be answered. We are trying, through this Bill, to give subsidy to that small fraction of our population. Now, you are saying that you will be able to subsidise them better by merging the international airports with the national airports. This is the kind of logic that is being put forward here. I suggest that there is something else to it also. This question arises in my mind for two reasons. Very recently there has been a hike in the air fares. It is very interesting. It is ten per cent for long distance travelling. Take the examples of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Leh and Mizoram where people have to necessarily travel by air because there almost no other communication is available. Here the fares has been hiked by sixteen per cent or even twenty per cent. People who are really rich, they normally travel by air. In such cases, the hike is by only ten per cent viz., the so-called trunk routes which is very less. I have a suspicion that the private air taxi operations alone are now being asked to operate in these routes.

They are now being asked to fly not only in the trunk routes but also in these shorter routes. And unless the air fares are hiked, they may not be tempted in those directions. Exactly and similarly, the airports which were neglected so long in the name of loss are to be utilised by those private sector operators. Vayudoot has been withdrawn. We are asking the private sector to cover those regions. It is necessary that such airports should be improved for the sake of the private sector and, therefore, the profits of the trunk

routes should flow into the loss of non-trunk and non-international airports. These are the questions which trouble me. I want to know whether this position is being taken by the Government of India and the hon. Minister. The Minister has to answer to these things.

I have two proposals. One is that the charges should be increased at the metropolitan airports and at the international airports so that you do not subsidise. You refuse to subsidise. Every year we are told in the course of Budget speech that we have too big a subsidy for foodgrains and we have too big a subsidy for fertilisers. But under cover, we are subsidising the rich in their air flights and nobody mentions that. So, this is one suggestion; to which I want the Minister to respond it.

Then, I come to the merger problem. Now it has been pointed out by the preceding speaker that it has been provided that the Board should be such that it will comprise such persons who are capable of representing the organisations, the workers and the consumers. This is how the Board is supposed to be composed of. Now I have some very concrete suggestions for the Minister to consider. The provision says that the number of representatives on the Board is not less than eight and not more than 14 apart from the Chairman or Chairperson. There is a gap of six. The minimum is eight and the maximum is 14. Now I have a simple proposal to make. One of the biggest consumers are Members of Parliament. So much so that some of us or most of us can become frequent fillers in your new schemes... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Free consumers... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: All the same, they are consumers. Like in other Authorities and in other Boards, there should be two representatives from Lok Sabha and one representative from Rajya Sabha in this Board. Then, there should be an explicit provision that a representative of the Unions operating there should be in the Board. Then, there should be an explicit provision that a representative of the Unions operating there should be in the Board. Anybody and everybody can represent. Even the Prime Minister, Shri Narasimha Rao can represent the workers. Therefore, what I suggest is that from eight to 14, there is an elbow-room for six persons. Three of the them can be filled by Members of Parliament and the other three can be filled by the representatives of the workers functioning in relation to the airport authorities... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): No labour leaders... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: You can have one Birla representative in the interest of the workers. That is your point of view. I believe those who represent the workers doing day to day activities in the airports should be in the Board.

I will come to functioning and other things also. I have also another suggestion to make. Why do you not have local boards like other central organisations such as the Reserve Bank of India etc.? Why do not have, at least to begin with, local boards for the previously noted five major international airports? Please have representatives of the States in the local boards. I will argue a little later as to why it is necessary. But my suggestion is that you have local boards for five major international airports.

[Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee]

facing in Vayudoot in relation to Indian Airlines will come up.

The hon. Member who spoke before me gave us the experience of Kerala where voluntary participation is taking place. So, around such airport, try to have a local board, maybe advisory. For instance, as the Calcutta Airport falls in my constituency, I should be there... *(Interruptions)* There are some MLAs and some Assembly constituencies in all the local areas of the airports. It can be some municipality with the Member of Parliament in it. But in the local boards, the representatives of the State, representatives of the legislature, representatives of the municipality etc. should be there. There are 87 airports. We can have their representatives in the boards. I am suggesting this in a very constructive spirit and that will solve many of the problems of the airports. I will come to them a little later.

16.18 hrs.

[SHRI P.C. CHACKO *in the Chair*]

I have one more suggestion. I just pose a problem to you. I do not know how you will take that into account. Any merger — I have seen several mergers during the course of my life when I was an employee also — poses a problem of *inter-se* seniority among the employees. I do not know how you are going to tackle it. But there should be one promotional channel at some level. You have to solve the problems of *inter-se* seniority. For that you have to consult the unions there. All the unions function in relation to International Airport Authority of India and National Airport Authority. So, you should consult those people and sort out your problems of *inter-se* seniority. Otherwise the same kind of problems as you are

Now, what are the functions of these airport authorities with regard to these kinds of peculiarities? Please refer to Chapter III. Perhaps you are aware but I am not very sure that you are aware. The functions of these airport authorities are to maintain runways, taxiways, aprons and terminals and ancillary buildings at the airports and civil enclaves. Now, are you aware that the taxiways are maintained not only by the direct employees of the airport authority but also by the contract labourers? Even the crucial job of soaring away birds, so that accidents do not take place, is not done directly by the employees of the authority but by the contract labourers. And these contract labourers, despite the Supreme Court judgement that if they do the same kind of job they should get the same kind of emoluments and perquisites, are not getting them. The contract labourers either agricultural labourers or urban manual labourers get the minimum wages decided at the State level.

At the Calcutta Airport, we have sweepers, both as employees and also as contract labour, but you violate this court judgement. And what are you going to do? These crucial functions, as I mentioned, like maintenance of taxiways, maintenance of terminals, maintenance of associated building where the staff stay, all these are done by contract labour. You are opposed to it I know. I do not know whether you will be able to persuade the Minister that this contract labour must go. And so long as it is there, they must be paid the same amount and same facilities which your permanent employees get. I must inform that these contract labourers have been able to get — through struggle, not because of generosity — Provident Fund and ESI facilities. You are

a Minister whom I do not want to consider as unsympathetic to labour as such and, therefore, I am drawing your attention to all this.

There is another suggestion which I forgot to make earlier. I want that in the Board there should be one representative from your ITDC. Somebody at the top level in ITDC should be represented in the Board because apart from those train journeys which have been handed over to the private sector, these air journeys are very very relevant for attracting tourists and, therefore, the perception of the ITDC people should be a valuable input in the Board of Management. There is also another reason why I mention ITDC. On page 6, it is mentioned that it is the function of the Airport Authority to run hotels, restaurants, etc. Why have you decided that despite having very well run ITDC restaurants, they should be handed over to the private sector. In Calcutta, I know that you are going to hand over the restaurant in the new terminal building to Oberois, although ITDC there do give good service. And it is not merely that. There is a story behind that. The ITDC restaurants there were initially engaged by the Airport Authorities, then they were absorbed by the ITDC people and now they are on the verge of being thrown out because the contract of the new domestic terminal is going to be given to the Oberois and this old terminal will be utilised for international flights, which are very rare. You are taking this step consciously or unconsciously, I do not know. I do not want to charge you as a saboteur of the public sector, but this is what is going to happen. You will transform ITDC into a losing operation while trying to save some other losing airport into a profitable one or a non-losing one, by merging the National and International Airport Authorities. so, I want an assurance from the hon. Minister that

the running of restaurants, wherever ITDC facilities are at least there, should be handed over to them only and in any case a representative of the ITDC should be in the Board. I do not want any Somnath Chatterjee to distract your attention.

AN HON. MEMBER: He is only supporting you.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I shall pose a few more problems. I am very closely associated with the Calcutta Airport. Therefore, I tell you that this Airport Authority, as I said, why they should be associated with the local population.

About the new terminal building there, for which we have approached you with the West Bengal delegation which has come with the proposal that it should be named after Netaji, I want a categorical assurance from you. This new building was about to be opened in June. But in June it could not be opened. Why was it not opened? There are some very important functions and other things which are going to take place like the International seminar on industrial development etc.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Will there be aerobridges?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Yes, there will be aerobridges.

They are not opening the new building. Do you know on what grounds they are not opening it? There is a private sector bus terminal there. The Director says that unless that private sector bus terminal is eliminated, they cannot open this terminal building. Previously, in West Bengal, all the buses around the city were

[Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee]

State Transport buses and only State Transport buses were reaching the airport. Now the Director is saying that their promise is to the State Transport people only and they are providing space for them. But, in the meantime, what has happened is that in the last so many years the primary transport connection has gone to the private sector. The Director is refusing to provide any space for them. This is creating the problem between the Transport Department of the West Bengal Government and the International Airports Authority at Calcutta.

There is another problem. Let me draw your attention to it. There is plenty of empty space around the airport. Some of the space is being utilised for all kinds of things. There is a regulation very recently that a particular area, which is at some distance from the airport but nevertheless which is the property of the airport authorities, is being utilised for the last 60—70—80 years as a playing ground and why do you not leave it to them. Unless you have these areas of interaction, unless you are able to inter-act with the local population, you cannot solve the problem. Otherwise there will be more problems coming from the local population.

I will pose another problem of the airport authorities. I live very close to the airport. There is a regulation that any person building a house there, around a particular radius, has to take a no objection certificate from the airport authorities. I have seen some such certificates. It is also mentioned that if the provisions or stipulations are not followed then the airport authority is empowered to bring down those premises. Why are you not doing that? It is proving to be

dangerous for the flights. There are tall buildings which are coming up with or without no objection certificate and the airport authority is doing nothing about it thus endangering all passengers of the flights. Birds, along with these tall buildings, are creating hazards for the airports. For birds you have contract labour and for building you have a Director who will not move.

I, therefore, suggest that you should have local cooperation. That is why I mentioned that a local Board will be very useful in sorting out these kinds of problems.

I will conclude with just one or two apprehensions. There is a suggestion from that quarter, who are very hardened champions of liberalisation because they consider the present liberalisation to be 'so-called' liberalisation, who are all in favour of private sector entry and foreign investment.

What I am afraid of is, are you really taking the first step towards handing over even the National Airport Authority by floating them first as a company from authority and then permitting them to have 49 per cent of shares opening up 20 per cent to foreign investment? You may deny it. Why am I saying this? It is because, already the Bangalore airport does not belong to either to the National or the International Airport Authority, but it belongs to HAL. A new airport is being constructed there. Who will own that? Is it the private sector or the foreign sector?

So, today in individual areas where international air travel is possible, you are opening up an airport for the private sector. It is the first step to handing over the entire National Airport Authority to the private and the foreign sector? I have this

apprehension in my mind because your Cabinet have Ministers like Mr. Pranab Mukherjee and Dr. Manmohan Singh who are all for handing our country over, through GATT or IMF or World Bank, to foreigners? These are the apprehensions which I expressed and I want a response from you despite the apparent simplicity of the proposals of the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is the department of civil aviation but it works with a speed less than that of a bullock-cart. On 29 July, 1992, the Cabinet gave its approval to this Bill and the hon. Minister introduced it into the Lok Sabha in 1993 after a lapse of one year and today after an year of introduction he has come to the House to get the Bill passed. The hon. Minister took only two years to come before the House with the Bill. Therefore, God alone can save his department and its speed.

Sir, there are no two opinions that there is a need to reform international as well as national airports in India because according to the Government figures the number of foreign tourists will rise to one crore twenty lakh and their number may rise to two crore twenty lakh during the next five years. It will be deplorable not to maintain our airports well when tourists are expected in such a good number to visit the country. The revenues of International Airport Authority have risen from a mere Rs. five crore to Rs. 107 crore in twenty years. Its income in non-traffic sector has risen from Rs. 2 crores to 165 crores. The more capital investment is made in it and more reforms introduced, the less remains the scope for loss and this is why International Airport Authority has to be continually incurring losses till 1990 but within three years after 1990, it earned a profit of Rs. 45 crores

with its income ever increasing. But I am sorry to say that the department has been very careless in accelerating the pace of maintenance of international airports, their security equipments, the passenger amenities and development etc. Then different regions are not being treated equally. A development and extension scheme of Rs. 300 crores was formulated for the Bombay and Delhi International airports and Rs. 352 crores were spent on them but Madras and Calcutta airports have been placed in the 3rd phase in future plans of extension of international airports. We have collected this information from the department itself. Once Calcutta airport was discriminated against and many international flights were cancelled but now some of them have been resorted. I would like to know why have the very old and important airports of Calcutta and Madras been placed in the 3rd phase of extension plan. I urge that provision for these two airports should be made on the lines of Delhi and Bombay airports for which Rs. 312 crores were earmarked and their extension plans should be formulated.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Bombay airport is the superb one from the point of view of international flights and most of such flights are operated from here, but the slums and residential areas surrounding this airport could not be evacuated despite of giving them compensation and lands elsewhere because the Government was lacking in will-power and consequently, there is a risk involved in the security of lives of the passengers.

The second thing relates to the extension of national airports. There are 5 international airports in the second phase of plan and there is need to increase their number. Like international airports, passenger amenities should also be provided at the national airports. Last

[Shri Mohan Singh]

year, Indian Airlines took some initiative in this direction. Last year, the number of passengers on board in the flight from Calicut airport scheduled for Dubai was half of its capacity. On asking the reason, it was said that the runway could not bear the full capacity load. I urge that facilities of the standard of international airports should be given to the national airports also. Lucknow airport of Uttar Pradesh is very important in this regard. A quiet large number of people from Uttar Pradesh go abroad for employment and business purposes, their number being no less than any other State sending people abroad, but there is no international airport in Uttar Pradesh. I urge that Lucknow airport be declared an international airport and all necessary facilities be provided there. A provision of Rs. 3019 crores may be made for that. Then the new air-taxi operators whose number has risen from 6 in 1990 to 17 now and are having a fleet of 45 aircrafts in 1993 which is expected to grow further have a capacity of ferrying 21 per cent passengers.

I came to know from newspapers that they are evading the taxes payable to the airports they operate from. I urge that no loose rope should be given to them in this regard. You have formulated extension schemes by mobilising your own resources but the tax should in any case be collected on time from air-taxi operators so that the Government earns revenue and extension schemes of these airports are completed with your own resources besides Central aid. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatsinghpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Bill seeks to bring the two authorities, that

is, the National Airports Authority and the International Airports Authority, under a simple umbrella or what is called Airports Authority of India. The Bill was referred to a department — related Standing Committee. In that Committee I gave the view that the proposal to merge the two should be critically examined. The single point that has been raised for the merger of both was that the International Authority's earnings are not that high. They have said that it is a losing concern. They have said that the earnings are not so much. And, therefore, if they come together there will be enough funds for carrying out expansion and also for efficient construction of the international airways etc. and to control it.

When the Secretary appeared before that Committee, I asked him a single question, that is, whether he has made any assessment, if the International Airports Authority is having more income, as to how much income could be ploughed back and what was his projection. He was unable to give any projection. I do not know whether the Ministry has examined the projections. By projections, I mean that when you merge these two, you must have a concrete idea as to how much money will be available so that it could be utilised for expansion. I think it is natural to demand from the Minister here whether he has made any assessment of it and has come to a conclusion that sufficient funds required for the expansion would be available by merging these two.

The second point is about the working of the National Airport Authority that was constituted. As you know, there were so many committees like the Raja Committee, the Tata Committee and the Das Committee. These Committees recommended that there should be two authorities. They say that the National

Airports Authority has less income. To know why it has got less income, certain factors will have to be taken into consideration. 65 per cent of its revenue is from navigation facility charges and these are to be reviewed every year. These navigation facility charges form 5 per cent of the income and they are to be reviewed every year and the addition should be made. But from 1987, it has not been reviewed and thereby, the position of the National Airport Authority remained tight and as a result of that there is a net loss of Rs. 830 crore.

If the navigation charges would have been revived annually, this would have brought in an additional income to National Airports Authority to the tune of Rs. 830 crores. Similarly, about the parking etc. in National Airports, the charges are less and if this should have been done by the standards of International Airports, especially these 02 airplanes, I think there would have been another income of Rs. 3000/- crores. This is complete inefficiency on the part of the management. I do not know what is the reason. That should be scrutinised. They say that the National Airports Authority's income is less.

I do not agree with this view. The persons who were called for evidence clearly said that the Government said that the National Airports Authority should be given budgetary support.

The hon. Minister should categorically state here how much budgetary support has been given to it during the years and as the ex-Chairman deposed, even the Government without giving the budgetary support were improving and having profit for the last two or three years, though not in the past. So, naturally what I mean is that : if this inefficiency is there and if this inefficiency

is covered up by the Government, then merging it with the International Airports Authority and creating one Authority, how will it be beneficial, I do not understand. It may be an assumption. But it cannot be a reality. Assumptions are not always translated into reality. The idea that drives the Government to take this position is not clear. That is my doubt. That is why, in the Standing Committee I said that it should be referred back to the Ministry to be considered and they have in their report stated that people holding the views of Shri Loknath Choudhury are in a minority. Our friends on the other side who are very much anxious to do it as early as possible, are very much more enthusiastic than the Government itself. It does not mean that we are opposed to it by a small number. We say that when you go for something, you must have a clear perception for what you are going to do and you must know why the losses are there are what is your projection. Without having a proper understanding of this problem, only going for merger will not bring the required result. (*Interruptions*) Who confuses, history will tell it. Don't worry. What is happening today will change tomorrow. At times, some people do it.

This inefficiency of National Airports Authority and the Government's callousness of not giving any budgetary support to it saying that it had made losses, is unfortunate.

Secondly, about the constitution, Nirmalda has said many things. I do not want to repeat it. I think those factors will be taken into consideration.

About the two sets of employment, you see some are working in the National Airports Authority and some are working in the International Airports Authority.

[Shri Lokanath Choudhury]

So, something has been done to keep them under one division and to keep the others in another division. It is like making *Jarasandh*. You are bringing two different elements together where are there contradictions. While doing so, how can they be integrated? If you really want integration. I would suggest that you should make integration in the whole organisation itself. So, do not be afraid. Please do not go half way in dealing with this matter. By going half way, you will only damage the prospects for which you are making this Authority. You yourself will be the cause of the damage. You know that if there are two sets of employees being controlled by two ways, having different pay-scales, it will definitely be harmful and it will bring discontentment. If you have any idea of building a castle, your castle will collapse.

My third point is about the expansion. Naturally we want expansion. Mere expansion will not do. You want to involve the people. That is all true. But to expand it, we must have the capacity also to make the common man enjoy the facility. That should also be a part of our perception. I think we have forgotten that. For bringing a healthy child, if you take a healthy element coming from somewhere and fix it to a non-healthy thing, it will be a disaster. So, I think the Minister should give me categorical replies. He should state whether the charge that was to be revised annually had brought a net loss of Rs. 830 crores. He should also state that in respect of parking charges, even if we have been down at the international standards, whether Rs. 3000 crores are a loss to the National Airports Authority. I would further like to know whether the income of the National Airports Authority has been deliberately made so due to inefficiency of those who are in charge of

it. It may not be due to any intention. The important point is that these types of people are also in charge of such an Authority. So, while I am agreeing to the suggestions made by Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee for including others, I would only suggest that the Government should re-think about one aspect. When they are moving fast, will it help them ultimately? Let them not repent for taking a decision for which the country and the entire air services of the country will suffer.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset I congratulate the hon. Minister for having brought forward such a very important legislation keeping in mind the best interests of our aviation industry and the airports, I hope all of us would welcome this legislation. Even while welcoming this legislation, some of our hon. Members have said that it is a merger of two Authorities, one a profit-making Authority and the other one a loss-making Authority, to make an Authority as a profit-making one. It is true that the National Airports Authority is a loss-making agency. But as it is seen from the Budgetary provisions and also from the balance-sheet prepared by the National Airports Authority, in 1991-92, it has made a profit of Rs. 17.27 crores.

In 1992-93 it was Rs. 11.76 crores and in 1993-94. It is Rs. 17.33 crores. It shows that the National Airports Authority is also a profit-making agency. But apart from that, the reason given by the Minister for the merger is, as a matter of fact, something which is to be welcomed by everyone of us. The Minister has made it abundantly clear that the merger would facilitate better mobilisation and utilisation of resources for the integrated development of our airports. That is, as a

matter of fact, the need of the time so far as our airports are concerned.

Secondly, it would provide for the closer integration, better administration and cohesive management of the airport, aeronautical communication, air transport management service. This is also a matter to be taken into consideration as a reason for the merger. Subsequently, the Minister has made it clear that the expertise development in various fields in the organisation is to improve efficiency of the management. Therefore, this has been a long overdue one which fortunately, we have the occasion to debate and pass this legislation into a law. Therefore, we will all be very much happy if this avoidance of the duplication in the operational services can also be achieved.

What is the present position? The National Airport Authority is controlling the ATCs. But so far as Delhi Airport is concerned, the ATCs have no control over the runway. If an approaching aircraft finds an obstacle on the runway, the ATC cannot give information to the National Airport Authority under which he is working. He will have to contact the International Airports Authority officials, the manager of airport and he should again contact his counterpart in several other sections to take necessary steps to remove the obstacles, if any. So, this is a cumbersome procedure. By merging the two authorities, we will have an efficient functioning of this service airport operation.

Another example is of the Trivandrum Airport. In one sector, the management is of the International Authority and the domestic sector is under the National Airports Authority. There are

two generators, two transformers. Why is this duplicity? Better merge and put them under one management. So, merger is something which is inevitable and it is long overdue. This is a welcome feature so far as our airports are concerned.

I would like to mention one or two things. Even the management of our airports under the present International Airports Authority is not satisfactory at all. If somebody goes to the IGI Airport in Delhi, what is the situation there during the monsoon season? There is a leakage and, with the result, ordinary passengers and the visitors have to suffer all the difficulties. Down pour had created such a havoc inside the Airport that nobody was there to take care of it. For example, just see the standard of our duty free shop which is under the International Airport Authority, in the international airports.

17.00 hrs.

It is a substandard one as compared to the international standard. The functioning of our International Airport Authority is not up to the standard. By merging both, we will be able to do more.

I wish to make one point here. Even the functioning of the National Airports Authority is not satisfactory, I know the financial constraints of both the Authorities. It is not with a budgetary provision that it is going on. It is by generating the revenue by airport and aircraft operations that they are functioning. There is aeronautical revenue and non-aeronautical revenue. More aeronautical revenue can be generated if there is more lading and more aircraft operations; non-aeronautical revenue comes from cargo and other services. If we will just go to the cargo side, under the International Airports Authority whether in

[Shri E. Ahamed]

Delhi or Bombay or Madras or Trivandrum, I must say that is nothing but "cargo corruption" that is going on everyday. Whoever goes over there finds that there are touts and agents and they mislead them, mismanage things and also take bribes and other gratification from the people who want to take their cargo material from the cargo complex. So the management is very much deplorable so far as the cargo facilities provided by the International Airports Authority or any other Authority is concerned in our country. The only thing is, either we must generate funds from the aeronautical services or the non-aeronautical services. But in this case we can have resources by entering into joint ventures or through institutional finance.

My friend, the hon. Member from Mangalore was referring to the Singapore Airport. Why should we just take the Singapore Airport alone? Even if we take the Singapore Airlines, what is the position of Air India? The Singapore Airlines has ordered for twenty-four 747 Jumbos whereas this great country's national carrier Air India has placed order for only four. Even out of the four, I think we have received only two or three. This is how they are managing! As far as my information goes, they are reselling their aircraft after every seven years. After every seven years they are getting substantially good value and they are replacing the fleet with new arrivals whereas what are we doing? How much money will the Central Government be able to give? Even the arrival of one of the four 747, it was a great joy and it made big news. In all other countries everyday they are adding to their fleet one after another. But in our great country the arrival of a 747 aircraft in the Air India fleet is a very big news. How they are

managing and how we are managing! The reality is the mobilisation of fund; how we will be able to mobilise the fund. Either the Central Government should provide the funds, which according to us is having a resource crunch and it is not possible. Otherwise we will have to generate funds through the financial institutions where also the Government will find it extremely difficult to stand guarantee. Our financial institutions also have some other commitment. So the only way according to me is to generate funds from the joint sector, from the joint ventures. That is one thing that should be done.

My friend Shri K.V. Thomas has made a very relevant point. So far as our system is concerned, the development of our airport with the mobilisation of public fund is what Cochin has done. That is what Calicut is doing. In Calicut, with the assurance of the Minister, the State Government, under the leadership of our Chief Minister, has formed a Committee. That Committee has mobilised more than Rs. 10 crore. Even now they are mobilising the fund for the expansion of the runway on the assurance of the Government.

This is the public money. The only guarantee is the State Governments as well as the Authority. But, what is the present position of the National Airports Authority? As per the assurance given by the hon. Minister, we should have had the laying of the foundation stone in the month of December. But, even now, the National Airports Authority could not prepare the project report. When it was raised at the appropriate forum, what did they say? They say that they found a big rock there; which they have to blast. Has the rock appeared there yesterday or day before yesterday? The rock was there already in Calicut. It is in my constituency and that is why, I say this. Taking into

consideration the rock and other positions, the preparation of contract and other project works were being taken up then. But, now they say that they found a rock. If this is the way the National Airports Authority is going to conduct their affairs, then we will have the very same old experience of inefficiency, incompetence and such other things.

Even when the people are ready to give you the money, you are not prepared to implement the project. Then, what this Government is for? What this Authority is for? On the one hand, the Government say that we do not have the money for development and on the other hand, when the people are ready to provide funds, you say that we could not prepare the project report, our engineer was wrong in assessing that or we could not just assess what exactly we could have done there.

I would like to say the present position of Calicut. There are 19 weekly flights to Gulf countries and several in-flights. Seven flights to Sharjah, three flights each to Abu Dhabi; Dubai and Muscat every week. Besides that, two private airlines are operating the services. To such a very busy airport, which has given a sort of a boost to the Indian Airlines, the National Airports Authority has not given due consideration even after taking into consideration its importance, its profit-making capacity or the resource that that airport will be able to generate.

Therefore, I would urge the hon. Minister to give an assurance on the floor of the House which was given to the Kerala Government and through the Kerala Government to the people that the mobilised funds will be properly utilised without further delay. I would just like to take only one minute more.

The next point I wish to say is about the Trivandrum Airport. I am very sorry to say that the Civil Aviation Ministry is giving a lukewarm attitude towards that Airport. Why do I say so? The reason is this. There are international airlines wanted to land there. The landing facility is also available there. Emirates Airlines, Kuwait Airlines, Qatar Airlines, Luftansa Airlines, Singapore Airlines and Malaysian Airlines want to land there. But, you say 'no' to them because it will affect the Air India. On the one hand, you want liberalisation; and on the other hand, you say they shall not come here. Air India is not having their flights run properly. If there is any air service to be cancelled by Air India, the first one will be the flight from Trivandrum to Kuwait or to other places. Only for Air India, are we to suffer like that? How much money the Airports Authority could generate if the landing facility is given? If the same handling is given to Indian Airlines or Air India, how much money they themselves will be able to generate? Why are we very much shy about all these things? I wish to say that this attitude is wrong. This is not conducive to the policy which this Government has declared. You all say often — hon. Finance Minister, hon. Commerce Minister, hon. External Affairs Minister — in every country and invite them by saying, "Come, Why do you not come to India?"

How would you come to India? Do you know what is the difficulty of an Indian to return to his home country. To come to India, a man from a Gulf country, until the introduction and operation of Indian Airlines, will have to go from pillar to post to get a ticket back to India. Air India is the only service which will be cancelled or which will have no facilities or which will invariably be delayed. Air India is, as a matter of fact, always 'Arriving Indefinitely' — AI. That is the position. Therefore, why

[Shri E. Ahamed]

are we to take such a narrow-minded attitude on this matter? So, Trivandrum airport should be opened to all international flights. Trivandrum should be given its due. That is one airport which has generated revenue and has brought Air India, I should say, out of red. Even now, the Air India says, it is their exclusive treasure. In the best interest of the country, change this attitude and allow the other International aircraft to land there.

I do not wish to take all the valuable time. Once again, I request the hon. Minister to assure me with respect to the Calicut airport and also to make some provision to have advisory committees with respect to each and every airport even by an executive order. Even if the provision does not find a place in the legislation, let the hon. Minister assure the House that there shall be an executive order to have the advisory body in respect of each and every airport giving representation to the local representatives of the people. In that case, I will also have some say with respect to the airport in my constituency, Calicut.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum):

Sir, I thank you very much for giving me the time to speak on the Airports Authority of India Bill, 1993. I have been listening to the speeches of all the previous speakers. Even though on certain clauses some differences of opinion have been expressed. I am happy that this is a non-controversial Bill which has the unanimous support of this House. To that extent, as a Member coming from Trivandrum. I am also particularly happy.

The need for strengthening the air traffic and to provide more facilities, when the global changes are taking place and

when we have to compete even with the private airlines, cannot be over emphasised. I remember that Mr. Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee and Mr. Lokanath Choudhury have been airing some doubts about the real need before the amalgamation of the two authorities. The main stress, according to them, is that one loss-making authority is being merged with another profit-making authority. In my opinion, that particular issue has been slightly over-emphasised. It is true that the International Airports Authority is a profit-making one and that the National Airports Authority is a loss-making one. But that does not mean that this is only aspect behind this merger. If one particular aspect is brought to the notice, I will say that this merger is in the larger interest of the country and in the larger interest of both the authorities.

According to the latest figures in the Eighth Plan, the present debt servicing liability of the National Airport Authority is about Rs. 125 crore. In other words, a loss of Rs. 125 crore was incurred by the National Airports Authority during the Eighth Plan. During the same period in the Eighth Plan, the International Airports Authority has got a tax to the tune of Rs. 120 crore. So, while one unit has got a tax of Rs. 120 crore, the other unit has made a loss of Rs. 125 crore. When both are merged, on the one side one need not pay tax and on the other side, there will be no loss. It is not a mere merger of a profit making unit with a loss making one. I am highlighting these aspects to say that some of the opinions coming from that side are not at all supported by facts.

It was in the year 1971 that the International Airports Authority was constituted as an autonomous body, taking into consideration the need for heavy investment as also more

operational flexibility required for the development of major international airports. At that time, there were only four major international airports, viz. Calcutta, Delhi, Bombay and Madras. But in 1991, Trivandrum, which was requesting for a similar status for long, was also declared an international airport. But quite unfortunately, no substantial work is done either to improve the facilities or to make it a real international airport, except during the last one year. I am very thankful to the present Minister who has taken special interest to see that some of the needs of the Trivandrum International Airport are duly considered. And work is going on only for the last ten months. Mr. Chairman, you may remember that you were present when a delegation of Members of Parliament, Members of the State Legislature and some of the leaders of Trivandrum met hon. Minister about ten months back. At that time, he was sick. In spite of that, he was very kind enough to receive us and he gave a categorical direction to the then Secretary. Then only, the whole Department started working. Sir I come from Trivandrum. In fact, I stay just four kilometres from Trivandrum. And I am very glad to see that work is now really going on in a time bound manner. Work relating to land acquisition for the extension of the runway was over long back and the land was acquired fifteen years back when the present Chief Minister, Shri K. Karunakaran was the Home Minister in the Government of Shri Achyuta Menon. It was a time of great agitation when late Shri A.K. Gopalan threatened that he would go on a dharna if the squatters were to be evicted. But in very shrewd manner, in one night some arrangement was made to provide some alternate land to the occupants. So, they were removed and land was acquired for the extension of the runway. Though this work was over nearly fifteen years back, actual work on the extension of the

runway has been started just ten months back. Now, we have to strengthen the runway also so that by the end of 1997, the whole runway will be completed to cater to the needs of future development and it will be possible to have parking space for Boeing 747s, A-320s and A-300s together. Work relating to this aspect has started.

But I am sorry to mention that the real work relating to the second terminal has not substantially started. Even today, the hon. Minister was telling that he had given some directions in this regard. I am glad that the pace of this work is also being speeded up.

Sir, the need for this merger is a genuine one and it is necessary to meet the present and future requirements. It is not a question of merging loss making and profit making companies. There is also a duplicity of functions with overriding jurisdiction and there are two authorities looking to same type of work.

Here I would like to share my personal experience. About two years back, I was in the Bangalore Airport and it was evening.

I was waiting for a flight to Delhi and suddenly the electricity went away. As you know, Sir, in Bangalore when electricity is not and no fans are there the mosquitoes — I cannot say in what number — come in millions and nobody can stand there. So, it became very uncomfortable. I saw four foreign tourists standing there. We can put up with everything because we are the representatives of people. We can also travel by bus or by train but they were foreign tourists and they did not know how to face it. I rushed to the staff and asked them whether they can do anything. They

[Shri A. Charles]

said that it is none of their business and they asked me to go to the proper authority. I went there and they said that this is the area of technical staff and I should go to the ground staff. So, in this way for at least half-an-hour I knocked at every door but I was not able to do anything. I did not tell them that I am a Member of Parliament because I know their reaction even if I would have told them. So, I thought there was no point in telling them and I said that I am a passenger. Finally, I heard these foreign tourists saying, "this is worse than a slum". Can you imagine any tourist going to Bangalore airport or any other-airport if this is the treatment you are giving to him? So, this is one aspect of it.

I feel if there is one authority responsible for it there is some sort of double assurance that somebody will be responsible for each operation and if there is some lapse it will be rectified immediately.

Shri Lokanath Choudhury said that the employees will continue to be in two separate compartments having two types of service conditions. That is not true. After his speech I had just gone through the various clauses just casually. There is a specific provision in Clause 18, Sub-Clause 7 where it is specifically stated:

"After the expiry of the period of one year; or the extended period, as referred to in sub-section (2), all the officers and other employees transferred and appointed to the Authority, other than those opting not to be the officers or employees of the Authority within such period, shall be governed by the rules and regulations made by the Authority in respect of the service conditions of

the officers and other employees of the said Authority."

So, only during the transit period of one year till the merger is complete, till the *inter se* seniority and other conditions of service are settled an employee can opt out to go or he can remain in. And, if he becomes a full member of the service the new Authority can pass such legislation, can pass rule which will be binding on all. So, in my opinion the service conditions of all the employees of the National Airports Authority and International Airports Authority will definitely be protected. There are sufficient clauses to protect their interest. If they wish to resign they have the retirement and such other benefits.

In this connection I may bring to the kind notice of the hon. Minister that the Open Sky policy which was declared in 1991 was behind the back of this august House. I was a Member of Parliament in that Lok Sabha. You may remember when the matter was rushed through, at some odd hour some statement was made and that statement had never seen the light of the day. Only after the Air Taxi Operators hijacked the whole sky that we came to know that this new Open Sky Policy has been declared by the Government. At no point of time was that discussed. We never considered this seriously in the House.

So, I would request the hon. Minister that the policy that was declared then, any charges made thereafter and the existing position will have to be discussed in this House so that, at least, we may know what exactly is the present position.

Sir, I had a very bitter experience last week. On the 12th of this month, I had represented to you about the difficulty that people of Trivandrum are facing. We

are coming from the Southern most part of the country. It is impossible for us to come by train more or less regularly. The main difficulty that we are facing is that from Trivandrum to Delhi, it takes more than two-and-a-half days. So, if we want to go to Delhi and then come back to Trivandrum, that will take us six days. So, during one Session, we just go for two days. The only facility that is available to us is the airlines. Sometimes we try to manage that also with the facility of intermediate journeys that are provided to us. On the 12th of this month, I had an 'okay ticket' from Trivandrum to Delhi via Bombay. The flight was to leave Trivandrum at 12.30. I came to the Airport in time. I was told that the flight was a little late. It was delayed and delayed and finally at 3 O'clock, it took off. The connecting flight from Bombay was IC-406. It leaves at 5 o'clock. I was there. The Member of Rajya Sabha, Mr. Thennala Balakrishna Pillai was there and there were some Government Officers who had to attend to some discussions. So, almost seventy passengers were there. We had asked the Duty Manager to send a message that about seventy passengers are coming from Trivandrum. They have to catch IC-406 by 5 O'clock. We were told that the message had already been sent. So, we were not at all worried. At ten minutes to five, we were at Bombay. There the weather was rough. We were told that the landing will be slightly delayed. Exactly at 5 O'clock, we tried to send a message, through the pilot, that our flight is hovering over Bombay Airport; we are stranded; and we shall be able to land a little late. We have to catch flight IC-406. We were informed by the Duty Officers that they have got the message and there would not be any problem. So, we landed at 5 O'clock. Fortunately, we went out. The Duty Officers were there. There was an announcement that the passengers

bound for Delhi may get into the bus. So, we thought that we are safe. But after getting into the bus and when we were about to be taken into the arrival lounge, we were told that the doors of the IC-406 have been closed. It was not a case of flight taking off. We had pleaded and pleaded but there was no hope. Then, we again went to Duty Manager. He was very arrogant. There were also very *pukka* gentlemen whom we had met. But at that time, the Duty Manager, did not even have the courtesy to talk to the Members of Parliament. When we said that we are Members of Parliament, we were stranded, he said, he has no message. We, then quarrelled for about half an hour and spoiled our throats also. We had also wasted our time by waiting there. The 8.30 flight was delayed and all of us reached Delhi in the dead night *viz.*, at 1 O'clock. I want an inquiry to be conducted into this indifferent behaviour of the officer. I was surprised to know that when I was at Trivandrum, at 3 O'clock, just twenty-five minutes back, the East-West flight had taken off. Had we boarded that flight, we would have reached Delhi by 8 O'clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN: At this rate, you may not get time to deal with the Airport Authority. You are talking about Indian Airlines. You speak on the Airports Authority.

SHRI A. CHARLES: Indian Airlines is very much a part of it. I am speaking about the whole system. This International Airports Authority has a lot of things to do with the Indian Airlines. So, I would say all these things will have to be taken into consideration and the Airports Authority should look into all aspects of giving good service to the passengers.

Then, for the purpose of encouraging tourism also, we have to see

[Shri A. Charles]

that more and more facilities are given. That can be ensured by the new Authority only. If more facilities are given, then we will be able to have more and more tourists. As I have already said that better coordination will be possible with the merger of the two Authorities.

Nobody has pointed out about the merger of Vayudoot with Indian Airlines, which has also taken place and that poses a problem for the staff because the staff of Vayudoot are not paid on par with the staff of Indian Airlines.

My last point is about the North Eastern States. I would request that the need of the seven North Eastern States shall have to be considered and Vayudoot service may be given to these States even on subsidy basis. There are several stations, where Vayudoot are now being operated occasionally even on loss. I do not think that there is any need for having such routes to be operated by Vayudoot. The real need is for the North Eastern States. Even if it is a loss-making unit, it has to be strengthened because of the need of that region. Even today we had a long discussion about the problems that are being faced by the people of the North Eastern States. We have to respect their sentiments. We have to protect their identity. We have to satisfy their needs. The capital of these North Eastern States will have to be tied up with the capital of this great country at least by Vayudoot, if not, by a regular flight.

My friend, Shri E. Ahmed has said that Trivandrum is being neglected. Sir, as a Member coming from Trivandrum, at present, I do not share that view because during the last one year substantial work is being done. The airport is being improved. The present project for strengthening, extension of runway and the construction of the second terminal

will be completed as per the schedule by the end of 1997. But I have only one request to make. The total project of the second phase has not been finalised. For the last thirty years, the threat of land acquisition around that airport is still there. Nobody can sell the land; nobody can put up a building; and nobody can buy the land. So, a lot of confusion is there. I have already given a proposal that the exact land that is required for the second phase will have to be identified and that will have to be notified so that in the remaining land, people can buy or sell or put up some buildings and regular life and activity can go on. At present, in the whole area, the life is static and the people are very much scared. So, I request that within a time frame, the whole project of the second phase shall be finalised and the land to be acquired shall, at least, be notified so that we know that these are the lands, which we require for the future development and the rest of the lands can be utilised by the owners of the land as they like. If this is done, the present problem of Trivandrum can be solved.

There are a number of requests for more international flights. When the airport has been declared as an international airport, more flights naturally would come. That has not happened so far. So, that aspect may be looked into and proper attention and improvement shall be given to the Trivandrum international airports.

With these words, I support the Bill. I would say that the Minister has been very kind enough to give a careful thought to the overall development of our air service.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANKARSINH VAGHELA (Godhra): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister for deciding about making Indian Airlines Competitive vis-a-vis. The private air lines and merger of the two authorities, i.e., IAAI and NAA. These two authorities must have been set up on the basis of certain reasons and now due to certain reasons only these are being merged. I am of the opinion that there should be decentralisation of power but if we go for a single authority, we must also have some monitoring authority over it and while doing so, we must ensure to avoid duplication of powers between them.

Sir, the treatment being meted out to the foreign tourists coming through our own airlines to our country forms the first impression on them about our country. I feel that Indian Airlines and Air India do not leave very good impressions on the tourists. So far as the loss of airlines or five star hotels is concerned, a common man has no link with such things. So, a common man should not be burdened with losses incurred by Five Star hotels or various Public Undertakings. Most part of the money in the coffers of our country is contributed by the common man. Who is in no way linked with these losses. The Government should either hike the fares or find any other way out but they should not involve the common man, he has no concern with this. You have stipulated a term of one year, for Board of Directors and five years for the Chair person, but I feel that a term of three years is sufficient for both of them. The corrupt practices should not be adopted while making such appointments. The appointment should be strictly on merit basis. Like Army Officers are appointed on the Board of Directors in Central Excise or Customs purely on merit basis. So, only the efficient people

should be appointed on the Board of Directors which will serve some purpose. A relative or party workers should not be appointed on the Board of Directors. The number of Directors stipulated at 8—14 should be brought down because too many cooks spoil the broth. It is only good in the case if these people have their individual responsibilities. The number of Directors should neither be less than 6 nor more than 9 to ensure a smooth administrative functioning. If they are experts in their fields then, the number can be increased. There is no such thing as accountability. In the event of an air crash, the causes of the crash can only be ascertained only after locating the Black Box. Dr. Bhabha died in an air crash but the Black Box of that plane could not be traced till date. The possibility of tampering with the Black Box is always there. Only after its detection the causes of the crash can be ascertained. Who is accountable for it? What caused the mishap?

Now, I would like to say something about the employees. All the Government employees should be provided similar kinds of facilities irrespective of the fact that they are employees of Public Undertakings, State Government or the Central Government. The Central Government employees, State Government employees or employees of Public Undertakings or Banks have different pay scales. A uniformity should be ensured in this regard. Several employees have not been provided with proper Government accommodation while this facility is provided at many places. But the Central Government does not extent any facility. With all the facilities, the employees would be able to take more interest in their work. You can go for uniform pay scales and facilities to the Government employees and the Public Sector employees which is in your control.

[Shri Shankarsingh Vaghela]

Different pay-scales result in frequent strikes. There should be a policy of "Work first salary later" in respect of our Government employees but our friends have taught them the policy of 'salary first, work later'. The disintegration of Russia can take place here also. That is why, please, do not get misled by the communists.

You have also mentioned about running of hotels and restaurants. You should not do it on your own. You should hand over some of them to Private Sector and some of them should be run as Joint Ventures. You may try out whatever is profitable. If they are incurring losses, then these should be run as joint ventures but if the losses continue, then, these can be handed over to Private Sector because they always earn profit and normally do not incur losses. If needed, the participation of I.T.D.C. can also be considered in this regard.

So far as the security of Airports and those who come to see off/receive their relatives is concerned, I would like to say something about that. Despite such tightened security the planes are high-jacked and bomb-blasts take place at Airports. But the people who come to see off/receive their relatives/acquaintaneous are forced to watch their dear ones through a glass and they have to buy costly tickets to be able to do so. They are forced to bear rains and chilly weather outside. I make a submission that they should be allowed to go with the passengers upto the point where there is no security risk. There is nothing wrong in that.

It takes three hours to travel to any part of the Eastern Delhi from Delhi Airport. Similarly, sometimes it even takes four hours to travel from Bombay Airport to the Bombay city due to traffic-jam and

rains etc. My suggestion is that we should also adopt the system prevalent in America. Small air-crafts, small planes of States or small private planes should be allowed to land on the terrace. If Dhirubhai Ambani wants to use his own air-craft and land on his building, he should be allowed to do so. Because if some people want to spend money to save time, the same should be utilised by the Government. This practice may be adopted in metropolitan cities like Calcutta, Bombay, Delhi and Madras. It would save on time.

Everybody should be allowed to go for joint ventures. Column 21 on page 10 mentions something about tenders. It should be open because there is scope for corruption if it is done *in camera*. The tender should be publicly opened so that everybody, who is interested in bidding, should know that the highest bidder has got it. The more the openness, the less the corruption. Be it buildings, hotel food, airstrips, cement or food-samples if adulteration is found in the construction material or food items should be got tested in the laboratories and then if anybody is found involved in corruption, he should be punished. It should be done openly. Recently a bridge was constructed after the name of Shri Chimanbhai Patel. It caved in the day it was opened for public and the traffic was obstructed. Who is involved in this sinister alliance? Who will take its responsibility? Who will be accountable to the fact as to whether the bridge was constructed properly or not? Whenever any lapse comes to the notice, the person who was in charge of the project should be held responsible even though he might have retired by that time. The Engineer should be held responsible for it. Who had indulged in corruption and passed it? Which private company was involved in it? That is why, I suggest that everything

should be open so that the person concerned should be held responsible.

Sir, the clause 24 on page 11 states about the funds. I would like to tell the hon. Minister that it should not be profitable fund. The funds should not be viewed from the profit point of view because Public Undertakings follow the policy of 'no loss, no profit'. Profit is earned by you through price-rise as you enjoy monopoly in a particular sector. What is the need to have profits? Go in for expansion and provide new facilities, lower down the prices/fares and provide new facilities to satisfy the employees and there can be many other facilities. Give more facilities to the consumers/passengers and then people will prefer Indian Airlines over other airlines.

Sir, today we find competition everywhere and it is good to have competition. We are happy to travel in Indian Airlines. We do not prefer other air services. But delays in flights irritate passengers we have become used of this trend so much that when some aircraft is on time it is a surprise for us. I had to go to Ahmedabad from Bombay on the 21st and the flight was scheduled to start at 7 O'clock. We were in the security check-up when we were told that it would take-off at 8 O'clock but it did not. Then we were asked to have refreshments and told that it would leave at 11.15 P.M. but finally it took-off at 11.45 P.M. If I had travelled by road or by train, then, I would definitely have reached earlier than this. I want to ask whether the Duty Officer was not aware that the Aircraft was yet to reach there? We were made to wait in the security check-up lounge. They should have their own police for security purposes. It is my suggestion that the Authority of Indian Airlines should appoint

their own security personnel. This security is not under your control. Nobody takes responsibility in this regard and the passengers are harassed for such a small thing. If somebody comes from the states he has a transistor, cells etc. with him. It is a matter of common sense that these are not for blasts. Your flights get delayed daily and a flight on time causes surprise. On making an enquiry on the phone we get assured that the flight is on time but at the Airport we have to waste two-three hours time. It causes great inconvenience to us.

When we reach the Airport, there is a very big queue for security check-up. Every passenger is in a great hurry to catch the flight. There should be two queues for this purpose. There is only one ladder to enter the Aircraft and come out of it. Two ladders should be provided for this purpose. The passengers have to take the bus to reach the Aircraft. I suggest that the Aircraft should be grounded at a distance of 50—100 feet so that the passengers could walk down to the Aircraft with their luggage. This way the time of the passengers and money on account of diesel will be saved. What kind of security is observed by not allowing anybody come within a distance of 50 feet of the Aircraft? In fact, security personnel keep roaming around here and there. Once we said that our Parliament session starts at 11 'o clock and therefore we walk down instead of taking a bus but we were not allowed to do so. The distance of the Aircraft should be as such which could be covered in two minutes. It is possible in every season but rainy season.

I would like to say something about the kind of Hindi spoken by the Air Hostesses. They say that 'Aaj ke hamare captain hain Captain Satish Sharma hain'. Here, the word 'hain' should not be used

[Shri Shankarsingh Vaghela]

twice. I have mentioned it several times and it can be improved upon but I do not understand why Hindi is repeatedly being treated with such contempt. Please get it improved upon.

Your good pilots, Air-Hostesses and Duty Managers leave the jobs and join other companies. What stringent rules have you made to check this tendency? You should say that since so much has been spent on their training etc., they should first pay a sum of Rs. 1,00,000 only then, they can leave the company. The Private Enterprises lure good workers of other companies. You should say that you have trained them and invested a lot of amount. Then why should somebody else take the benefit. A stringent action should be taken against persons having such vested interests. They should be asked to pay such a big amount so that they are not able to leave you. You must take appropriate steps in this regard.

Sir, Vayudoot Air-crafts are in a very bad condition. The doors of these aircrafts suddenly open in the air and one has to hold on to something in order to avoid a fall. If you can fly small air-crafts in the hilly areas then it is, O.K., otherwise Vayudoot should also be closed down as Pawan Hans. Big air-crafts are not suitable for hilly areas.

Secondly, our air strips are of different kinds. As our Minister of Railways is getting all the metre gauges converted into broad gauge, similarly all the Airports should have air-strips where aeroplanes of such types as 320, 330 or all other type of aeroplanes could land. You should make a permanent arrangement at all the Airports of our country where all types of aeroplanes like 320, 330 or 474 could land. And they should be linked to suit the areas like our

border areas of Gujarat. Surat is a very big Industrial town and there is Saurashtra. Keshmad Airport has been closed by you and Deesa Airport of Porbander, North Gujarat has also been closed down. You justify that small Airports do not get much traffic but even the arrangements for getting traffic is also to be done by you only. If some particular route does not suit you, then, you may hand it over to private airlines. They can fly their private air-crafts. But the arrangements at all the Airports should be proper where air-crafts could land at night also. Today the condition of the Airports is such that air-crafts cannot land at several airports for want of proper lighting. If there is a power failure, then, you should make some other arrangements to ensure the landing of air-crafts at night or even during heavy rains and there is no risk of accidents. Your excuse of darkness cannot be accepted in this scientific age. An alternative arrangement can be made. Make arrangements to convert small air-strips into big air-strips to benefit people. If you cannot run airlines, then, hand it over to the private agencies.

You have cut a joke by giving Ahmedabad Airport as international status. Have the people of Bombay become so powerful so as to stop the flow of revenue to Ahmedabad. Today of all the people who are leaving for U.K. or U.S.A. 80% are Gujaratis. People of Ahmedabad want to go direct to London or America from there. You should provide them a direct service so that they could directly go to America, London, New Jersey, Germany or at least African countries from Ahmedabad itself. They face great difficulties in going from Bombay. Do not depend on Bombay alone. The case of Gujarat is a genuine one. There are lakhs of Industrialists in Gujarat. You should make arrangements for their arrival and departure. You can

have the figures from Bombay and compare and then give priority to Ahmedabad. Do not depend on Bombay alone. The people of Ahmedabad should be provided facility of having direct flights to New York, London etc. from there itself. You will get adequate traffic from there. If they are to get a flight from Bombay then they will have to waste their 3-4 hours in it. If you propose to give the status of an international Airport to Ahmedabad Airport, then, you should implement it in the real sense and should provide all the facilities like international airports.

In the end, I would like to say that the air fare charged is equivalent to the fare of the railway's 1st class A.C. Compartment. My submission is that you should introduce a new class it may be called 111rd class, I class or X, Y, Z class or club class but it should be such that a common man could travel in that. A child always gets fascinated by a plane in the sky and aspires to travel in it once he grows up. He should also be provided a chance to fulfil his dreams. The fares should be lowered down a little to enable a common man to travel in it. You can find a way out to introduce a new economic class so that a person having a lower income could also travel in it. It is my submission that you should make arrangements to provide all the facilities of international level at Ahmedabad Airport so that the local people would get direct flights to foreign countries. Sir, with these words, I thank you for giving me time to speak.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, it is 6 O'clock. What shall we do?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY

OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): It is the second day of commencement of the House. So, I do not request the House to sit for more time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are 13 more speakers to participate.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, please extend the time of the House by one hour.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is 6 O'clock. That is why, it is our request to you to adjourn the House till tomorrow.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (Mirzapur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, please do not continue the proceedings of the House. Please adjourn the House for today. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, we will continue tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why do we not allow some more Members and then adjourn.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No, Sir, we will continue tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow, the 27th July, 1994, at 11.00 a.m.

18.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven
of the Clock on Wednesday, July 27,
1994/Sravana 5, 1916 (Saka)*