

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Eleventh Session  
(Tenth Lok Sabha)**



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*(Vol. XXXIII contains Nos. 1 to 10)*

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

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Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates  
(English Version)

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July 25, 1994/Sravana 3/1916 (Saka).

<u>Column/Line</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Read</u>
Page (1)1/12 (From below)	Alyar Shri Mani Shankar	Alyar Shri Mani Shankar
250/6 (from below)	Sultan Shri Salahuddin Owaisi	Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi
557/15	terminal	termination
597/18 (from below)	Compleat	Couplet
599/22	Navi	Nari

# ALPHABETICAL LIST OF MEMBERS

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Singh, Shri Devi Bux (Unnao)	Sodi, Shri Manku Ram (Bastar)
Singh, Shri Hari Kishore (Sheohar)	Solanki, Shri Surajbhanu (Dhar)
Singh, Shri Khelsai (Sarguja)	Soren, Shri Shibu (Dumka)
Singh, Shri Lakshman (Raigarh)	Soundaram, Dr. (Shrimati) K.S. (Tiruchengode)
Singh, Shri Mohan (Deoria)	Sreenivasan, Shri C. (Dindigul)
Singh, Shri Motilal (Sidhi)	Sridharan, Dr. Rajagopalan (Madras South)
Singh, Shri Pratap (Banka)	Subbarao, Shri Thota (Kakinada)
Singh, Kumari Pushpa Devi (Raigarh)	Sukh Ram, Shri (Mandi)
Singh, Shri Rajveer (Aonla)	Sukhbuns Kaur, Shrimati (Gurdaspur)
Singh, Shri Ram Prasad (Bikramganj)	Sultanpuri, Shri Krishan Dutt (Shimla)
Singh, Shri Ramashray Prasad (Jahanabad)	Sundararaj, Shri N. (Pudukkottai)
Singh, Shri Ramnaresh (Aurangabad)	Sur, Shri Monoranjan (Basirhat)
	Suresh, Shri Kodikkunnil (Adoor)

Swami, Shri Chinmayanand (Badaun)  
Swami, Shri Sureshanand (Jalesar)  
Swamy, Shri G. Venkat (Pedapalli)  
Syed Shahabuddin, Shri (Kishanganj)

T

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Tara Singh, Shri (Kurukshetra)  
Tej Narayan Singh, Shri (Buxar)  
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Thangka Balu, Shri K.V. (Dharmapuri)  
Thite, Shri Bapusahib (Baramati)  
Thomas, Prof. K.V. (Ernakulam)  
Thomas, Shri P.C. (Muvattupuzha)  
Thorat, Shri Sandipan Bhagwan  
(Pandharpur)  
Thungon, Shri P.K. (Arunachal West)  
Tindivanam, Shri K. Ramamurthee  
(Tindivanam)  
Tiriya, Kumari Shushila (Mayurbhanj)  
Tirkey, Shri Pius (Alipurduars)  
Tomar, Dr. Ramesh Chand (Hapur)  
Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran (Barrackpore)  
Tope, Shri Ankushrao Raosaheb (Jaina)

Topiwala, Shrimati Dipika H. (Baroda)  
Topno, Kumari Frida (Sundargarh)  
Tripathi, Shri Lakshmi Narain Mani  
(Kaiserganj)  
Tripathi, Shri Prakash Narain (Banda)  
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Ummareddy Venkateswartz, Prof. (Tenali)  
Umrao Singh, Shri (Jalandhar)  
Unnikrishnan, Shri K.P. (Badagara)  
Upadhyay, Shri Swarup (Tejpur)  
Urs, Shrimati Chandra Prabha (Mysore)

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Vandayar, Shri K. T. (Thanjavur)  
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Veerappa, Shri Ramchandra (Bidar)  
Vekaria, Shri Shivalal Nagjibhai (Rajkot)

Verma, Shri Bhawani Lal (Janjgir)

Verma, Shri Phool Chand (Shajapur)

Verma, Prof. Rita (Dhanbad)

Verma, Shri Shiv Sharan (Machhlishahar)

Verma, Shri Upendra Nath (Chatra)

Verma, Kumari Vimla (Seoni)

Vijayaraghavan, Shri V.S. (Palghat)

Virendra Singh, Shri (Mirzapur)

Vyas, Dr. Girija (Udaipur)

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Williams, Maj. Gen. R.G. (Nominated  
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Yadav, Shri Chandra Jeet (Azamgarh)

Yadav, Shri Chotey Singh (Kannauj)

Yadav, Shri Chun Chun Prasad  
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Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad  
(Jhunjharpur)

Yadav, Shri Ram Kripal (Patna)

Yadav, Shri Ram Lakhan Singh (Arrah)

Yadav, Shri Ram Saran (Khatgaria)

Yadav, Dr. S.P. (Sambhal)

Yadav, Shri Satya Pal Singh  
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Yadav, Shri Sharad (Madhepura)

Yadav, Shri Surya Narayan (Sahasra)

Yadav, Shri Vijoy Kumar (Nalanda)

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### Z

Zainal Abedin, Shri (Jangipur)

**LOK SABHA**

*The Speaker*

Shri Shivraj V. Patil

*The Deputy Speaker*

Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah

**Panel of Chairmen**

Shri Sharad Dighe

Shri Peter G. Marbaniang

Shri Nitish Kumar

Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee

Shri Tara Singh

Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya

Shri Ram Naik

Shri P.C. Chacko

Shrimati Santosh Chowdhary

Prof. Rita Verma

*Secretary-General*

Dr. R.C. Bhardwaj

## **GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

### **Members of the Cabinet**

<b>Prime Minister and also incharge of the Ministeries/Departments of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Science and Technology, Ocean Development, Electronics, Atomic Energy, Space, Rural Development, Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Law, Justice &amp; Company Affairs and the additional charge of the Ministry of Industry and other subjects not allocated to any other Cabinet Minister or Minister of State (Independent Charge)</b>	<b>Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao</b>
<b>Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs &amp; Public Distribution</b>	<b>Shri A.K. Antony</b>
<b>Minister of Human Resource Development</b>	<b>Shri Arjun Singh</b>
<b>Minister of Health and Family Welfare</b>	<b>Shri. B. Shankaranand</b>
<b>Minister of Agriculture</b>	<b>Shri Balram Jakhar</b>
<b>Minister of Railways</b>	<b>Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief</b>
<b>Minister of External Affairs</b>	<b>Shri Dinesh Singh</b>
<b>Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism</b>	<b>Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad</b>
<b>Minister of Finance</b>	<b>Shri Manmohan Singh</b>
<b>Minister of Power</b>	<b>Shri N.K.P. Salve</b>
<b>Minister of Commerce</b>	<b>Shri Pranab Mukherjee</b>
<b>Minister of Home Affairs</b>	<b>Shri S.B. Chavan</b>
<b>Minister of Urban Development</b>	<b>Shrimati Sheila Kaul</b>
<b>Minister of Welfare</b>	<b>Shri Sitaram Kesri</b>

Minister of Water Resources and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs      Shri Vidyacharan Shukla

Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers      Shri Ram Laxhan Singh Yadav

**Ministers of State (Independent Charge)**

Minister of State of the Ministry of Coal      Shri Ajit Panja

Minister of State of the Ministry of Mines      Shri Balram Singh Yadav

Minister of State of the Ministry of Textiles      Shri G. Venkat Swamy

Minister of State of the Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation      Shri Giridhar Gomango

Minister of State of the Ministry of Surface Transport      Shri Jagdish Tytler

Minister of State of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting      Shri K.P. Singh Deo

Minister of State of the Ministry of Food      Shri Kalp Nath Rai

Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests      Shri Kamal Nath

Minister of State of the Ministry of Labour      Shri P.A. Sangma

Minister of State of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas      Capt. Satish Kumar Sharma

Minister of State of the Ministry of Steel      Shri Santosh Mohan Dev

Minister of State of the Ministry of Communications      Shri Sukh Ram

Minister of State of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries      Shri Tarun Gogoi

**Ministers of State**

Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture      Shri Arvind Netam

**Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Women and Child Development)**

**Shrimati Basva Rajeswari**

**Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office and Minister of State in the Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space, and Minister of State in the Ministry of Science and Technology**

**Shri Bhuvnesh Chaturvedi**

**Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Department of Electronics and Department of Ocean Development**

**Shri Eduardo Faleiro**

**Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs**

**Shri H.R. Bhardwaj**

**Minister of State in the Ministry of Welfare**

**Shri K.V. Thangka Balu**

**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**

**Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development and Department of Heavy Industry)**

**Shrimati Krishna Sahi**

**Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Small Scale Industries and Agro and Rural Industries)**

**Shri M. Arunachalam**

**Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance**

**Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy**

**Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs**

**Shri Mallikarjun**

**Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs**

**Shrimati Margaret Alva**



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
Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Development and Minister of State in the Ministry of Water Resources	Shri P.K. Thungon
Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs	Shri P.M. Sayeeu
Minister of State in the Ministry of Power	Shri P.V. Rangayya Naidu
Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs	Shri R.L. Bhatia
Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs	Shri Rajesh Pilot
Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Wasteland Development)	Col. Rao Ram Singh
Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Rural Development) and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs	Shri Rameshwar Thakur
Minister of State in the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture	Shri S. Krishna Kumar
Ministry of State in the Ministry of External Affairs	Shri Salman Khursheed
Minister of State in the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Department of Tourism)	Shrimati Sukhbuns Kaur
Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Rural Development)	Shri Uttambhai Harjibhai Patel
Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	Dr. C. Silvera

## **Deputy Ministers**

Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare      Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar

Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs      Shri Ram Lal Rahi

Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education and Department of Culture)      Kumari Selja

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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

Vol. XXXIII, First day of the Eleventh Session of the Tenth Lok Sabha No. 1

## LOK SABHA

Monday, July 25, 1994/  
Sarvana 3, 1916 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at  
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

## NATIONAL ANTHEM

The National Anthem was played.

11.02 hrs.

[*English*]

## OBITUARY REFERENCES

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, we are going to make obituary references to our former colleagues who are no more. But, before I make the obituary references to them, we would like to refer to the sad demise of President Kim-II-Sung of North Korea. This House wishes to place on record its profound sorrow and grief at the passing away of President Kim-II-Sung of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. President Kim-II-Sung will be long remembered for his valiant services to his country and as a great revolutionary and nationalist. President

Kim-II-Sung was not only a father figure to his people but his charismatic personality was acknowledged by all. With his passing away, ends an era. He was, till his death, the longest serving leader and was a legend in his life time.

Relations between India and Democratic People's Republic of Korea have always remained cordial and friendly. We also recall President Kim-II-Sung's significant role within the Non-aligned Movement. As recently as April, 1992, President Shankar Dayal Sharma, as Vice President of India, had visited the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and had the occasion to participate in the 80th birthday celebrations of President Kim-II-Sung.

This House wishes to convey its heartfelt sympathy to the people and Government of Democratic People's Republic of Korea and to the members of the family of the late President.

I have also to inform the House with profound sorrow of the passing away of three of our former colleagues, namely Sarvashri Anant Prasad Dhusia, Tula Ram and Kumari Abha Maiti.

Shri Anant Prasad Dhusia was a member of Fifth Lok Sabha during 1971-77. He represented Basti Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh. An educationist by profession, Shri Dhusia was a devoted social worker and worked for the upliftment of the depressed classes of the society. He also had special interest in the fields of education, cottage industries and fisheries. He took keen interest in the proceedings of the House.

Shri Anant Prasad Dhusia passed away on 27 June, 1994 at Basti at the age of 81 years.

Shri Tula Ram was a Member of Second to Fifth Lok Sabha. He represented Etawah Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh from 1957 to 1962 and Ghatampur Parliamentary Constituency from 1967-1977.

Earlier, he was a Member of Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly during 1952-57.

An agriculturist and teacher by profession, Shri Tula Ram was a member of Lucknow University Court.

A devoted social and political worker, he served as the General Secretary of District Depressed Classes League. He also took special interest in solving the problems of rural people and welfare of the weaker sections of the society.

An active parliamentarian, he also served as a Member of Estimates Committee.

Shri Tula Ram passed away on 27th June, 1994 at Etawah at the age of 80 years.

Kumari Abha Maiti was a Member of Sixth Lok Sabha during 1977-79 and was Union Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry. She represented Panskura Parliamentary Constituency of West Bengal. She was also a Member of Rajya Sabha during 1960-62.

Earlier, she was a Member of West Bengal Legislative Assembly for two terms during 1952-57 and 1962-69. She served the State of West Bengal as a Minister

holding the portfolios of Home, Refugee and Social Welfare during 1962-69.

Kumari Abha Maiti was a freedom fighter and she actively participated in the 'Quit India' Movement in 1942.

A social and political worker, she worked for the upliftment of weaker sections of the society and for the benefit of rural people.

A journalist by profession, Kumari Abha Maiti was the editor of 'Satyagraha Patrika' and was the Chairperson of Editorial Board of 'Juger Dak'. A widely travelled person, she had attended the 12th Congress of the Federation of Professional Women, in Canada, in 1971.

As an active Parliamentarian, she made significant contributions to the proceedings of the House.

Kumari Abha Maiti passed away on 2 July, 1994 at Kuala Lumpur at the age of 69 years.

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and I am sure the House would join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to pay homage to one of the great leaders of our time, President Kim-Il-Sung of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. He guided the destiny of his nation for over four decades, first as a revolutionary and as soldier; and after the formation of DPRK, as its Premier and later as President. So complete was his identification with his country that he came to personify it. His passing away leaves a void that will be difficult to fill.

President Kim-II-Sung was a strong votary of the Non-Aligned Movement. India's relations with DPRK was very good during his time. The people of India share the grief of the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. I also wish to place on record the condolence of this House on the passing away of this great leader.

We continue to look forward to strengthening our friendly relations with DPRK.

Three former Members of this House passed away in the period after the last Session. Kumari Abha Maiti was a veteran leader. She was one of our important colleagues in the Congress party in those days. She was a freedom fighter who took an active part in the Quit India Movement. She was also a prominent journalist whose writing showed her jealous concern for women and for the rural poor. As a Minister in West Bengal and later as Minister of State for Industry here, she displayed remarkable administrative ability and leadership qualities. She was also a Member of Rajya Sabha for two years.

She maintained a life-long commitment to the uplift of the weaker sections of society.

Shri Anant Prasad Dhusia was a Member from Basti elected in 1971. He took keen interest in social work particularly in promoting education among the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. He took special interest in helping the rural poor in setting up cottage industries in their homes to be able to make a living in the village itself.

Shri Tula Ram was a Member for four successive terms from 1957. He

was also a Member of the Estimates Committee. He did a great deal of work in rural areas and in agriculture. He worked tirelessly for the welfare of the weaker sections of society.

Sir, I would like to place on record our deep condolences to the families of these Members and, of course, to the friendly people of DPRK on this occasion.

*[Translation]*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I and my party share the sorrow and grief expressed by your goodself and by the hon. Prime Minister on the sad demise of the President of North Korea, Shri Kim-II-Sung and Kumari Abha Maiti, Shri Tula Ram and Shri Anant Prasad Dhusia and place our deep condolences on record.

I have had the opportunity of working with Kumari Abha Maiti. Her contribution within the House and outside was very significant. She succeeded in earning a special place for herself in the social life. We all are profoundly grieved on her sad demise.

Shri Tula Ram and Anant Prasad also were Members of 5th Lok Sabha. Theirs was a remarkable contribution to the House. I place deep condolences on behalf of myself and my party on record on their demise.

Shri Kim-II-Sung of North Korea was a great leader, a crusader and a nation-builder. There were dissenting differences with his ideology and his way of working but under his leadership, North Korea successfully overcame great challenges and moved ahead on the path of progress after crossing all the obstacles in its way.



I did not get an opportunity to see him personally. I wanted to visit North Korea, via South Korea but he was averse to my seeing him after visiting South Korea. He wanted me to visit North Korea directly. According to him it was not proper to visit North Korea via South Korea. This also gives an insight into his personality and his style of functioning. Those who know him say that he was a different personality from within than what he looked outwardly. He was a very sensitive, sweet and affectionate personality.

We all share this national mourning of North Korea and I reiterate my solidarity with what you and hon. Prime Minister said in this connection.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Speaker Sir, I and my party join you, hon. Prime Minister and hon. Atalji in expressing our deep condolences on the demise of great leader of North Korea Shri Kim-II-Sung. I agree that North Korea has, today, strongly emerged as a nation and the leadership Shri Sung has provided in unifying this nation emotionally and in its development is unique.

I, on behalf of myself and my party place on record our deep condolences to the bereaved family of a leader whose remarkable life, full of a crusader's zeal, was dedicated to the nation building.

I, too, have had an opportunity of working with Kumari Abha Maiti. She was a Minister here in 1977. All these three Members Contributed actively in the debates and discussions of this House.

Lastly, I once again express my condolences to their bereaved families and thank you.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Speaker Sir, today we grieve the passing away of an outstanding world leader and statesman President Kim-II-Sung of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. President Kim-II-Sung had fought for the liberation of his country and his people from an early age and he had put up a relentless battle against the imperialist forces, whether it be the Japanese Imperialism or the US imperialism. And he was able to free his country from the stranglehold of those countries.

Sir, his contribution towards the practical application of Marxism-Leninism, is for all to see. He realised that the principles of Marxism-Leninism based on a scientific concept, had to be applied in the concrete situation obtaining in his country and there lies his success. That is why, we find that North Korea is a country where there is no unemployment, no poverty and no hunger. He made significant contribution to the improvement of the conditions of the people of his country. And now Sir, we see in stark contrast, what is happening to some of the former socialist countries. He had also been fighting relentlessly for the unification of the two Koreas. A life long fighter against imperialism, believer in the scientific basis of Marxism-Leninism, an exponent and strong supporter of the Non-Aligned Movement and a father figure so far as the socialist world is concerned, his passing away is a great blow not only to the friendly people of the country of North Korea but to all who are striving for the establishment of societies free from exploitation and free from hunger. His passing away has been at an inopportune time, in a sense, because negotiations are going to start on the question of nuclear arms. We

hope that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will continue to follow the ideals and example of President Kim-II-Sung.

We shall continue to have the closest friendly relations with the Government and people of North Korea. Sir, on my behalf and on behalf of my Party I convey our sincerest condolences to the Government and friendly people of North Korea. We hope that this tragic loss will not halt the progress, both of the country and the friendly people of North Korea.

So far as other colleagues, whom we have lost, are concerned, I have had the privilege of working with them in this House since the Fifth Lok Sabha and I distinctly remember their active participation and contribution to the proceedings of this House. I also mourn their loss and I request you, Sir, to convey our sincerest condolences to the members of bereaved families.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA**  
(Midnapore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all, on behalf of my Party I wish to offer our condolences at the passing away of these three colleagues of ours who made their own contributions to the work of this House.

Kumari Abha Maiti belonged to the District of Midnapore of West Bengal, which district has earned quite a place for itself in the course of freedom struggle, particularly during 1942 Movement. She belonged to a group, I should say, of Congressmen hailing from Midnapore district. We all remember Shri Satish Samant and several other old freedom fighters, both the Congressmen and Communists, who were strong in their own way in the district of Midnapore

which became a bastion of the Freedom Movement. Kumari Abha Maiti was a part of that legacy and she had distinguished herself in the House. She worked as a Minister also in the House.

We shall also miss the absence of our two other colleagues, Shri Tula Ram and Shri Anant Prasad Dhusia.

So far as President Kim-II-Sung is concerned, I had the good fortune to visit his country two years ago as a guest of the Workers Party of Korea. I met him personally and also had for quite a length of time talks with him.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have referred and the Prime Minister also referred to the fact that we have very good relations between our two countries, but I must say that it was the ardent desire of the Government, the ruling party and of the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea that the Indian Prime Minister should pay at least one official visit to their country which unfortunately was not possible to bring about upto now. Especially, since the Prime Minister visited South Korea, they were all the more eager that a visit to their country should also be arranged. I know the Prime Minister also was quite eager to go, but anyway during the life time of President Kim-II-Sung it could not come about. And, it is a tragic irony also that he passed away, though at a ripe old age, on the eve of the historically crucial moment when for the first time a Summit meeting, face to face meeting, between President Kim-II-Sung and the President of South Korea was about to take place which I think would have gone a long way in restoring peaceful and normal conditions in that part of the world and also helping towards the peaceful re-unification of the country which has been divided. From

our own experience in this country, we all feel that any country once divided, if by the efforts of their own people, can be peacefully reunited on the basis of certain agreed principles, nothing could be better.

Unfortunately on the eve of that historic Summit Conference he has passed away.

All I want to say, Sir, is that, there used to be quite a lot of sarcasm and chides, particularly, in the Western Press about the fact that he was always referred to in his country as the great leader. Anybody who visits that country once and sees with his own eyes as to how that country has been transformed and developed over the years under his leadership would not be surprised that his people, at least, do really sincerely regard him as the great leader. I do not wish to add anything but the liberation of his country and its advance to its present position was entirely due to his efforts.

Today, when he has passed away, it is fitting that our country should pay a tribute to his memory. So, Sir, I join with others in hoping that his country will be able to further advance and progress along the path which they have chosen.

*[Translation]*

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are all grieved by the passing away of our three former senior Members.

Shri Anant Prasad Dhusia was my neighbour in district Basti and, usually, we worked together. One who met him was greatly impressed by his innocent disposition and his deep faith in the

upliftment of the poor and down-trodden. He continued to work for the upliftment of the poor even when he was no more a Member of Parliament. He is not with us today.

Shri Tula Ram was no less than him. I also had an opportunity to work with him. He was greatly interested in social works and did a lot in the creative field. He worked throughout his life for his constituency, his district and particularly for the landless labourers. I am confident that the people of his district will emulate his example and complete his unfinished task.

The innocent nature, smiling face and simple personality of Kumari Abha Maiti left an indelible impression on whosoever met her. She worked tirelessly for the upliftment of the women on national and international level. She had creative suggestions for her mission and was constantly anxious to achieve her goal. I am sure that the path she showed will lead to the upliftment of the country's weaker sections and the women in particular.

I urge you to convey our party's condolences to their bereaved families.

*[English]*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, President, Kim-Il-Sung will be known in the history as a greater revolutionary and also a great statesman. He will be known as a builder of the modern Democratic People's Republic of Korea. I had an occasion to meet him twice, first about 19 years before and then last I met him was 4 years before.

During my both the visits, I had seen how North Korea has progressed

in all aspects. It is a delight to see a new generation, a vibrant generation and a young generation, full of vitality and the most important thing is that every inch of his land was used for agricultural purposes. He was a man who was always concerned with peace, with international cooperation and he was a great friend of India. In my last meeting, he, specially, conveyed the feeling that he would like that India and Korea should work together along with other Asian countries.

His last concern was the unity of the Asian countries. He could see that there was an onslaught on the developing countries in the field of economics, in the field of politics. Therefore, he was concerned with all this.

He was really working hard for the unity of the developing countries, particularly the Asian people.

I am sure, his loss is not only to the democratic people of Korea but to the entire people who are fighting for peace, who are fighting for building a new world, who are fighting for a new civilization and a new culture.

I would like you to convey our feelings on behalf of my party to the democratic people of South Korea.

**SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN** (Gobichettipalayam): Mr. Kim-Il-Sung headed North Korea regime in the Second World War when two Koreas came into existence. He had been the President of North Korea for the past 46 years. Throughout his long tenure, he had maintained excellent and cordial relationship with India. I hope the same relationship will continue in the new regime also.

He was a source of strength for peace and solidarity. He had given his support and cooperation to India at the times of crisis. He supported the Kashmir issue and other important issues. In his death, India has lost a good friend.

Three of our former Members of Parliament passed away. They will be remembered for their valuable contribution.

On behalf of AIADMK, I pay my tribute and homage to all of them.

**SHRI CHITTA BASU** (Barasat): I join you and the Prime Minister and other distinguished colleagues in the House to pay on my behalf and on behalf of my party respectful homage to Kim-Il-Sung, the President of the DPRK and the General Secretary of the Korean Workers' Party.

The world knows that he was a great patriot and universally respected by the people of Korea. He was consistent and valiant fighter against imperialism and neo-colonialism. He was a consistent friend of India.

The people of Korea and the people of India have got many common values to sustain. He lived and worked for building socialism in his country. He lived and worked to defend world peace. He lived and worked to continue the fight against imperialism and neo-colonialism and all kinds of machinations of the warmongers of the world. He had undying faith in the ultimate victory of socialism. He contributed for further enrichment of the universal teachings of scientific socialism by introducing his very scientific idea, which is called the *juchi* idea of applying scientific and universal teachings of Marxism, Leninism in the concrete situation of the country.

His demise is a great loss not only to the people of Korea but to the world forces who are fighting against imperialism, who are fighting against neo-colonialism, who are fighting for the defence of peace, who are fighting, as their goal, for establishing socialism.

On behalf of my party, I, once again, pay my respectful homage to that great leader and great Statesman of the world.

We had lost during the intervening period some of our valued comrades.

Sir, I, on behalf of my party and on my own behalf, also express my grieved shock at the sad demise of Shri Anant Prasad Dhusia, Shri Tula Ram and Kumari Abha Maiti. I had the opportunity of having some close contacts with Kumari Maiti, who worked for the upliftment of the downtrodden, particularly women.

With these words, I thank you.

**SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO** (Bapatia): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I associate myself with the feelings expressed in the House on the sad demise of the President Kim-II-Sung, President of North Korea. He was a great warrior, nationalist, revolutionary and a great leader. Mr. Speaker, Sir, he was responsible for the development of the whole of Korea and he maintained good relations with India. He was a strong believer of Non-Aligned Movement.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, he was the President of Korea for the last four decades. His sad demise is sad not only for the Koreans but for all Asians and all the people. I extend on behalf of my party and on my own behalf, my deep condolences to the friendly people of

Korea. I also express my deep condolences to the family members of Shri Anant Prasad Dhusia, Shri Tula Ram and Kumari Abha Maiti. Thank you, Sir.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

**11.36 hrs.**

*The Members then stood in silence for a short while*

**11.38 hrs.**

**ORAL ANSWER TO QUESTION**

*[Translation]*

**Prime Minister's Visit to Russia**

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\*1. **DR. SAKSHIJI:**  
**SHRI DATTATRAYA**  
**BANDARU:**

Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime minister visited Russia recently;

(b) if so, the issues discussed by him with Russian leaders and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any agreements were signed during the visit in various spheres;

(d) if so, the salient features thereof and the extent of their usefulness in strengthening bilateral relations; and

(e) the time by which these agreements are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (e). A *Statement* is placed on the table of the House.

[English]

### STATEMENT

(a) Yes Sir. The Prime Minister visited Russia from 29 June–2 July, 1994.

(b) Wide-ranging discussions took place on international, regional and bilateral issues. In particular, attention was focussed on furthering bilateral cooperation and overcoming obstacles in the economic, commercial, defence, science and technology and cultural fields.

(c) and (d). Yes Sir. The following documents were signed during the visit:—

- (1) Moscow Declaration on the Protection of the Interests of Pluralistic States.
- (2) Declaration on the Further Development and Intensification of Cooperation between India and the Russian Federation.
- (3) Agreement on Cooperation in Science and Technology.
- (4) Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Information Technology.
- (5) Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Tourism.

(6) Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Protection of the Environment and Natural Resources.

(7) Agreement on Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes.

(8) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Science and Technology Cooperation in the field of Meteorology.

(9) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Science and Technology Cooperation in the field of Metrology.

(10) Agreement on Formation of Indo-Russian Aviation Private Ltd.

(11) Protocol to the Agreement on extending credit to the Republic of India for financing long-term projects in the field of technical cooperation and for purchasing special equipment.

A summary of the salient features of each document is given in the Annexure. These agreements and MOUs provide a framework for cooperation on a continuous basis in these area.

(e) The Agreements on Cooperation in Science and Technology, Information Technology, Tourism, Protection of the Environment and Natural Resources, Exploration and Use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes and the MOUs on Cooperation in Meteorology and in the field of Standardisation and Metrology have clauses providing for automatic extension unless revoked by either Party.

Concerned departments are already in the process of implementing these agreements and MOUs. The Agreement on Formation of Indo-Russian Aviation Private Ltd. is in the process being operationalised and the Protocol to the Agreement on extending credit to India for financing long-term projects in the field of technical cooperation and purchasing special equipment has taken effect.

### ANNEXURE

#### **Moscow Declaration on the Protection of the Interests of Pluralistic States:**

Recognition of growing threat from aggressive nationalism, religious and political extremism, terrorism, separatism to the unity of pluralistic States. Inadmissible to arouse inter-ethnic, inter-religious hatred. Support for the territorial integrity of these States. India understands Russian concerns that the fundamental human rights of all people in the FSU States should be safeguarded. Russia appreciates the efforts made by the Government and the people of India to strengthen social harmony, preserve territorial integrity, support to actions taken by India to strengthen social harmony, preserve its territorial integrity, to create atmosphere of confidence in South Asia. International community, international organisations urged to respect integrity of these States.

#### **On the Further Development and Intensification of cooperation:**

Cooperation on such areas as terrorism, subversion, international crime, disarmament. In the area of trade and investment, encouragement to private and public sectors, joint ventures, investments. In the area of Science and Technology, cooperation in the areas of nuclear energy, outer space, passenger

aircraft, information. Cooperation in the in the area of culture and human resources development. Concrete steps under the CEP. Concern over the continuing tension on the Tadjik-Afghan border. Affinity of approach with regard to the Asia Pacific Region and the situation in Afghanistan. Support to the inter-Tadjik dialogue.

#### **Cooperation in Science and Technology:**

Cooperation in fundamental and applied research, industrial research. Encouragement of direct contacts. Exchange of scientists, scientific information, joint research, laboratories and setting up of design bureau. Research activities under ILTP. Nodal departments Department of Science and Technology, India and Ministry of Science and Technology and Technology Policy, Russia.

#### **Tourism Cooperation:**

Establishment of contacts between organisations and companies. Simplification of immigration/customs. Facilitate the issuance of visas upto 3 months. Facilitate import and exchange of publicity material. Exchange of statistics, experience in hotel management. Assistance to each other in training of staff. Opening of representations in either country. Exchange of groups, promotion of individual tourism. Nodal Ministries/Ministries. Department of Tourism, Ministry of Civil Aviation, India and State Committee for Physical Culture and Tourism.

#### **Exploration and Use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purpose:**

Russian Space Agency: Russian Space Agency and ISRO to be the implementing agencies. Cooperation in the field of outer space, space medicines, manned flight, space flights. The planning and

conduct of joint projects, joint use of launch vehicles, space and ground facilities. Intellectual property protection. Consultation on annual basis between the heads of the executive agencies. Additional meetings between the Foreign Ministries if necessary.

#### **Cooperation in the Field of Information Technology Nodal Agencies:**

Department of Electronics from the Indian side and the Presidential Committee on Informatisation from the Russian side are the nodal agencies. Cooperation in areas such as promotion of joint ventures, joint information technology projects in ecology, medicine, management, banking, stock exchange. Presidential Committee on Informatisation Policy. Encouragement of reciprocal purchases of information technology. Setting up of a working group under the Indo-Russian Joint Commission.

#### **Memorandum on S&T Cooperation in the Field of Meteorology between the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) and the Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring:**

Joint work in the areas of meteorology, environmental monitoring, and climate. Exchange of scientists, information, joint projects. Nodal agencies the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) and the Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring.

#### **Cooperation in the field of Protection of Environment and Natural Resources:**

Areas of cooperation include on subjects such as global environment, climatic changes, depletion of the ozone layer, conservation of biological diversity, protection of tigers and Siberian cranes. Prevention of trade in endangered

species. The facilitation of direct contacts between organisations (State, public and private). The establishment of a working group. Forms of cooperation, joint projects, exchange of information. Nodal agencies Ministry of Environment and Forests, India and the Ministry of Environment Protection and Natural Resources, Russia.

#### **Standardisation, Metrology and Certification:**

Nodal agencies, Bureau of Indian Standards and the Committee of the Russian Federation for standardisation, Metrology, and certification: A sub-working Group to be established. Cooperation in the field of standardisation, Metrology and certification. Joint research and standards specimen checks.

#### **Defence Related Agreements:**

Protocol to the Agreement on extending credit to the Republic of India for financing long-term projects in the field of technical cooperation and for purchasing special equipment, dated September 17, 1992: The Protocol makes amendments to the September 17, 1992 agreement and extends the period of utilisation of the credit till September 1996. US \$ 830 million worth of special equipment is to be delivered under the Agreement. 5% interest, 7 years repayment maintained.

#### **Agreement on formation of Indo-Russian Aviation Pvt. Ltd.:**

Signed between Aviation Industries on Indian and Russian sides. Indian partners are Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. and Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Ltd. The Russian partners are the Moscow Aircraft Production Organisation. The Mikoyan Design Bureau, State Corporation for Armaments Export 'Resvoorouzheniye' and the Ryazan State Instruments Plant.



The Joint Venture will soon be registered under Indian Law and will provide a wide range of maintenance support and service to all aircraft of Russian origin in India and in third countries. The Joint Venture shall have an authorised share capital of US \$ 400 million. Equity 50:50.

[*Translation*]

DR. SAKSHIJI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank the hon. Minister of External Affairs for laying down the answers of my questions on the table of the House. Besides it I would like to know, as I had asked in part 'd' of my question, how far these agreements will be useful in strengthening bilateral relations, but the hon. Minister has not given a proper reply to it. Moreover the hon. Minister has not fixed a time limit for the implementation of these agreements. My submission to the hon. Minister is that first of all he should give reply to both of these questions only then I would ask the other question.

MR. SPEAKER: it will be taken as your supplementary question.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the details of all the agreements between India and Russia has been given and regarding their implementation, we have also taken some decisions. Committees have been set up in some areas and in some areas the discussions have been completed and a few are yet to be completed. A final decision will be taken on all these things in the meeting of joint committees which is scheduled to be held in November this year in India. Six groups have been formed for it which will submit their reports by November. The final decision will be taken in the joint committee meeting.

DR. SAKSHIJI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to part 'c' of my question, the hon. Minister has stated that the implementation process had already been started by the concerned departments regarding the agreements, whereas the hon. Prime Minister had gone on a visit to Russia between 29th June to 2nd July and about one dozen agreements were signed during this period. I would like to know, by when these agreements will be implemented. November is fixed for it but I am doubtful about it as even after giving in writing many a times regarding the agreements, the promises have not been kept. I would like to cite a small example in this regard, even after making a promise regarding the Ayodhya issue, the issue was taken to the Supreme Court... (*Interruptions*) Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the hon. Members will behave like this then how one can express his views... (*Interruptions*)

I would like to submit that the hon. Prime Minister had sent the Ayodhya issue to the Supreme Court under article 143... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please come to the supplementary question.

DR. SAKSHIJI: Though the supplementary question I would like to request hon. External Affairs Minister that.

MR. SPEAKER: Don't make submission but ask your question.

DR. SAKSHIJI: My question is that how far these agreements will be useful in strengthening the bilateral relations and what has been the usefulness of the agreements made till date? Whenever the External Affairs Minister or the Prime Minister of our country goes on a foreign

tour, he goes there with a begging bowl in hand and this time also during the foreign tour of the hon. Prime Minister, the same thing has happened...  
(Interruptions)

This time also a promise have been made to give loan. Our Prime Ministers have been going on foreign tours with a begging bowl in hand till date...(Interruptions)

My question is that how long this practise will continue.

MR. SPEAKER: What is the utility of such agreements?

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: I would like to inform you that on such high level, discussions some issues are settled, some policies are framed and the decisions taken are sent to the concerned Ministries. This time also some high level decisions have been taken in the concerned Ministries of both India and Russia will decide it and the Ministries have taken up this work. We are monitoring it so that the decision taken by the hon. Prime Minister.

[English]

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the four-day visit of our Prime Minister to Russia was on two important issues. One is about liquidating the huge debt which this country owes to the second giant, Russia, particularly a sum of Rs. 30,000 crore is lying in the coffers of the Reserve Bank of India. Earlier when Mr. Gorbachev was in the Government, the value of a rouble was equivalent to Rs. 19 in Indian currency. And because of the present political and economic collapse of Russia, the value

of rupee had changed. Now one rouble is equivalent to Rs. 25.

So, in the present context, I wanted to tell the hon. Prime Minister or the External Affairs Minister the mode of repayment should be based on the present international market value. I want to know whether this condition or whether this perspective has come before the agreement between India and Russia.

My second question is a very important one and that is with regard to the transfer of the technology. I want to know whether because of the pressure of United States, Russia was not inclined to give that technology to India. I would also like to know whether this point had also come in the agreement or in the discussion during the visit of the hon. Prime Minister.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Sir, with regard to the debt which India owes to Russia, it is true that some time back when President Yelstin was here in India, some agreements were entered into that India will be paying Rs. 3000 crores every year for 12 years and Russia will import goods against this debt.

The hon. Member has also raised a point of Rupee-Rouble ratio. When we discuss this point, I think, we will have to take a broad view of the total gamut of relations between India and Russia. All these projects which were given to India were given at a very subsidised and low rates as compared to the world market at that time.

Secondly, it was given on a special interest of 2.5 per cent. So, India, all these years, has gained the advantage of this debt. While making a settlement with regard to the debt, this ratio was

fixed and accordingly we are dealing with it.

Thirdly, the hon. Member has raised the question of cryogenic engine. There was an agreement between ISRO on the Indian side and Glavkosmos on the Russian side that they will supply to us this cryogenic engines and also the second advantage that we could have was that they would give us the technical knowhow etc. But later on there was an objection from America and they asked us that let us revise the agreement again. So, in the new agreement, Russia has continued to supply us two cryogenic engines with the additional two cryogenic engines with the option that they will supply to us three more cryogenic engines. That means India will get seven cryogenic engines from Russia under the new agreement. But in this case, Russia will not give us the technical knowhow. But India will continue to get cryogenic engines as agreed upon.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Sir, the question is about transfer of technology.

MR. SPEAKER: He has replied. He is not going to get it.

SHRI INDER JIT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the past, the erstwhile Soviet Union supported India strongly on the Kashmir issue. I would like to ask the hon. Prime Minister, who is happily present here, whether we can now count on Russia to continue to extend its full support to us on the Kashmir issue at the UN and elsewhere as a successor State to the Soviet Union.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Sir, so far as the Kashmir question is concerned, we have discussed this problem with them

and we have placed our view that Pakistan is trying to internationalise this question. Their view is very clear and that has been stated by them that the matter be discussed between India and Pakistan by a dialogue under the Simla Agreement. At the same time, they also say that the internationalisation of this question will not help.

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: Sir, India is the largest supplier of tobacco to Russia. Every year 40000 tonnes of tobacco is to be exported to Russia from India. But in the last two or three years it got hampered. Last year, the Government of India gave an advanced credit of Rs. 100 crore to purchase tobacco for Russia.

An agreement was entered into buy 27,200 tonnes of tobacco, out of which 8,777 tonnes were not lifted from India. I would like to know whether any kind of arrangement was made to lift this tobacco and whether there is any programme to put the tobacco in the debt repayment route process. This is very important as far as Andhra and Kamataka are concerned, where tobacco is the main crop.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Yes, Sir, tobacco is put in that agreement. The Prime Minister was very much emphatic on this issue of tobacco that there should be a three-year prospective agreement between the two parties with regard to tobacco, tea, leather goods, upper shoes and soya bean. These items were particularly discussed to be the part of this debt arrangement so that India could export. A three-year prospect has been agreed upon.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): I would like to add

something in this connection. I have been stressing and re-stressing the fact to the tobacco farmer friends in Andhra and elsewhere that they should now reduce production of tobacco and switch to some other crops because worldwide tobacco has become something which no one wants to use. It leads to cancer. Medical science has proved it times without number. I have been appealing to them in open meetings, public meetings, because my area also comes under tobacco, and I have been warning them that we cannot indefinitely make arrangement for the export of tobacco, either to China or to Russia or elsewhere, particularly when their own condition does not really permit them to give any priority to tobacco. So, these are matters which we have been trying our very best to sort out. But there is a limit beyond which we cannot go, unless the farmers and our friends from the Opposition from Andhra and other States where tobacco is grown, join us in this campaign that progressively they should bring the area of tobacco down and not increase it indiscriminately, as has gone on for some time in these States.

*[Translation]*

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Indo-Russian relations have started a fresh, we should welcome it. Our hon. Prime Minister has also paid a visit there. I would like to know from the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. External Affairs Minister if any change has come in the Indo-Russian relations in the present international set up and if it is so, what is it? Secondly, whether any discussion was held for the Membership of our country to the security council, if so, was an assurance given in this regard?

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Our relations with Russia are very old and almost in every area we have cordial relations with each other. We have different perception in one or two areas but by and large our relations are harmonious. You have made a reference to security council.

*[English]*

As I said, we have some different perception so far as N.P.T. and other areas are concerned.

*[Translation]*

But as far as security council and U.N.O. are concerned, may be restructure in your view, means that it should be restructured and democratised and...

DR. CHATTRAPAL SINGH: It means that India would be the member of the security council or not.

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. I think that he does not mean it but something else.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: It is our view that at the time of its formation the members were less but today the number is large. It should be represented and people from all the areas should be given, representation. As far as India is concerned, Russia will support it.

*[English]*

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will put that point in a further concrete way. I would like to know whether the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation which we had with the erstwhile Soviet Union continues still in the same form including the question of

security in this region or not. I would also like to know whether the present Russia now considers India as the Most Favoured Nation in this region as the former Soviet Union was considering or whether they equate us with Pakistan in the same way as far as this region is concerned.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Sir, Russia considers India a great friend and there is contact at all levels between us and there is cooperation with us. So far as the 1971 agreement is concerned, the Clause 9 of the agreement, which was a security clause, is not there. But otherwise there is complete cooperation in the field of culture and economy.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RABI RAY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that this Indo-Russian agreement signed by the hon. Prime Minister and the President of the Soviet Union has been useful for our defence services specially for our Air Force. I would like to know from the hon. Minister if it is also a fact that the Naval Chief of Russia had made a promise to give us a 'B' class aircraft carrier of 40500 tonnes, which has not been completed as yet I would also like to know from the hon. Minister if any discussion was held in Russia for the benefit of our Navy?

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: As far as the question of co-operation in the field of defence is concerned, a joint venture will be set up for MIG's etc. Secondly a committee has been set up, which will have representatives of both Russia and India, to find out the other fields of cooperation in defence services. As far as your question of naval ship is concerned, their Defence Minister is coming on a visit to our country and a discussion will be held with him.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker Sir, the cold war is over, the Union of Soviet Republics have disintegrated and the Warsaw pact is over but NATO is still intact. Not only NATO does exist but the extension of it is also being done. The point of disarmament has been raised so is there any synchronisation between the extension and strengthening of NATO and the disarmament? Had the policy adopted by our country regarding the N.P.T. and developing of missiles been discussed with the Russian leaders, what is their attitude towards it or we should take it granted that both America and Russia have the same opinion towards it.

*[English]*

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, they know our position so well that they have not raised it at all during my visit.

*[Translation]*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker Sir, I do not have to say anything and I do not have any complaint the hon. Prime Minister is satisfied with this reply.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, I would like to ask just one question from the hon. Prime Minister regarding defence matters. Under the present circumstances, 85 percent of the arms have been purchased for our defence services from Russia. It is obvious here that whatever is written here about the defence related agreement, there is nothing clear in it about the purchase of arms between our country and Russia. On the contrary 830 million dollars have been mentioned, when 85 per cent of our arms are purchased from Russia, has the hon. Prime Minister

decided anything with them for the maintenance of the arms and for the spare parts and other materials?

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Russia has given us a loan of 830 million dollars and we can purchase necessary parts and equipments for the updating of our weapons from them by it. 830 million dollars has been given on loan by Russia for this purpose.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Parallel LPG Marketing

- \*2. SHRI UDAYSINGRAO  
GAIKWAD:  
SHRI VILASRAO NAG-  
NATHRAO GUNDEWAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the private sector companies permitted for parallel LPG marketing in the country and the criteria adopted for such permission;

(b) whether arrangements for LPG import, storage, safety, price and bottling have been made by them;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have fixed some charges to be collected from consumers by these companies;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether these companies propose to commence their marketing activities within a time-bound period; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). Under the Parallel Marketing System, the private agencies have been allowed to import LPG, using setting up their own facilities and distribution network for sale of such imported LPG at market determined prices. Individual parties do not need any specific permission from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the activities they intend to undertake under the Parallel Marketing System. However, they are required to obtain necessary approvals in accordance with the provisions of other relevant Acts and Rules governing safety, environment, etc. At present no private party is ready with the facilities of their own for import of LPG. 11 private parties have signed Memorandum of Understanding with the public sector oil companies for the use of their handling and storage facilities and ports for import of LPG. Several parties have planned to develop their own import facilities. The Chief Controller of Explosives has already issued license for 14 bottling plants and also approved plans for setting up 61 other LPG bottling plants by parallel marketeers.

(d) to (f). Government have not fixed any charges to be collected from the consumers. However, reports have come to the notice of the Government about some parallel marketeers collecting deposits from distributors and consumers. The State and UT Governments have been advised to ban collection of deposits by parallel marketeers without making

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adequate arrangements for supply of these products. Besides, they have also been advised to verify the genuineness, antecedents and capabilities of persons/agencies intending to take up activities under the parallel marketing system and to take appropriate action against persons found indulging in fraudulent and unfair trade practices. Public have also been suitably advised and warned through press releases that they must find out the antecedents, genuineness and capabilities of concerned parallel marketeers before entering into any transaction within them. MRTP Commission also takes action against persons/firms/companies indulging in unfair trade practices.

(g) and (h). The private parties are expected to commence activities under parallel marketing system depending on their commercial decision. However, some of the parties have already imported LPG, major portion of which has been sold to bulk consumers.

[Translation]

### Oil Bill

\*3. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:  
SHRIMATI BHAVNA  
CHIKHLIA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had a proposal to reduce the oil import bill;

(b) if so, the achievements made in that direction so far;

(c) the percentage of reduction made in the oil bill during 1993-94 as compared to the previous year; and

(d) the target fixed for 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). The quantum of import of crude oil and petroleum products is determined on the basis of availability of crude oil and products from indigenous sources. Efforts made to reduce the bill are through increased oil production, increased refinery production, conservation of oil products and competitive purchases.

An amount of US \$ 6.958 billion was provided for import of crude oil and petroleum products during the year 1993-94. As against this, the actual import bill for 1993-94 was about US \$ 5.471 billion. The reduction in the oil import bill during 1993-94 as compared with the original approved import bill is estimated at US \$ 1.487 billion.

(c) The oil import bill for 1993-94 is lower by about 10% as compared to the previous year.

(d) Government has approved an import of 24.230 MMT of crude oil and 14.773 MMT of petroleum products for an estimated value of US \$ 5.980 billion for the year 1994-95.

### National Highways

\*4. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated and released to Bihar during the last three years for construction, repair and

maintenance of National Highways in the State;

(b) the amount spent by the State Government;

(c) the head-wise amount allocated to the State for 1994-95; and

(d) the National Highways in Bihar likely to be taken up for construction, repair and maintenance during 1994-95

and the total amount likely to be spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The amount allocated and released to Bihar during last three years for construction, repair and maintenance of National Highways and the expenditure incurred by the State Government are as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Development		Maintenance and Repairs	
	Allotment	Expenditure	Allotment	Expenditure
1991-92	1142.00	1292.81	1012.30	1089.73
1992-93	1385.00	1384.91	1072.66	1072.73
1993-94	1920.00	1920.00 (tentative)	1276.45	1276.45 (tentative)

(c) The head-wise details of the amount allocated/released to the State for the year 1994-95 is as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Development Amount allocated	Maintenance Amount released
1994-95	1700.00	581.78 (upto 6/94)

(d) Development and maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process and funds are allocated state-wise and not national highway-wise. It is

too early to indicate the amount likely to be spent during 1994-95.

#### Post Offices in Rented Buildings

\*5. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many post offices are functioning in rented buildings;

(b) if so, the rent paid during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the various efforts made by the Government for the construction of Post Office buildings; and



(d) the amount allocated for the said purpose during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Efficiency of Postal operations depends to a great extent on the availability of spacious and well-designed buildings. It is, therefore, one of the objectives of the successive 5 years Plans of the Department of Posts to construct buildings for Post Offices and Mail Offices. During the 7th Five Year Plan, the Department of Posts spent Rs. 155.55 crore on construction

of buildings. The amount allocated during the last three years for construction of Post Office and Mail Office buildings is as under:

<i>(Rs. in crores)</i>		
1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
19.30	20.00	25.95

The rent paid during the last three years for the Post Offices and Mail Offices functioning in rented buildings circle-wise is given in the attached *Statement*. Since State-wise figures are not maintained, information Postal Circle-wise has been given in the *Statement*.

#### STATEMENT

*Rent paid for Post Offices during the last three years circle-wise*

*(in Rupees)*

	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
1. Andhra Pradesh	13995136	15095962	16246145
2. Assam	2430550	2436740	2512975
3. Bihar	5239900	5239900	5239900
4. Delhi	2294278.58	2811738.04	2568638.09
5. Gujarat	6054970	6297930	6308044
6. Haryana	1301994	1397758	1522638
7. Himachal Pradesh	1574000	1703000	1814000
8. Jammu & Kashmir	1471226	1350871	1365386
9. Karnataka	9311419	10387443	12078012

	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
10. Kerala	13190155	12300066	13273668
11. Madhya Pradesh	6024194	5648120	6513740
12. Maharashtra	28431099.72	30652682.54	24237881.51
13. North-East	2487178	2764829	2930810
14. Orissa	4877110	4726840	5732116
15. Punjab	2371611.15	2383477.10	2485168
16. Rajasthan	3377564.48	3697264.48	4227442.92
17. Tamil Nadu	14674708	14047428	15243947
18. Uttar Pradesh	11122916.07	12535774.65	13657437.48
19. West Bengal	12500000	10600000	12200000
<b>Total</b>	<b>142729910</b>	<b>146077823.81</b>	<b>150157949</b>

[English]

**Power Sector**

\*6. SHRI CHITTA BASU:  
SHRI MANJAY LAL:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the position in regard to the power requirement and power generation in the current year in comparison to that of the last year in Delhi and other States;

(b) the number of foreign/private sector companies that have agreed to invest for setting up of power projects in India;

(c) the amount of investment involved from those companies;

(d) the broad features of such power projects and the places where they are likely to be set up; and

(e) the terms and conditions laid down for generation and transmission of power by foreign and private sector companies?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): (a) The energy requirement and energy generation in Delhi, and other States during April-June, 1993 and April-June, 1994 are given in the *Statement I & II* attached.

(b) to (d). As on date proposals have been received from foreign based private companies (including NRIs) and joint ventures for setting up of 35 projects for a capacity addition for 22432 MW involving an investment of Rs. 73386

crores. Details of the proposals are given in the *Statement-III* attached.

(e) The guidelines for investment by private sector companies (both foreign and domestic) in the power sector are given in the *Statement-IV* attached.

### STATEMENT-I

*The energy requirement during April 93-June 93 and April 94-June 94*

Name of the State/ UT/System	Energy Requirement April 93-June 93	(Figures in Mu Net) April 93-June 94
Chandigarh	173	192
Delhi	2860	3140
Haryana	2730	2790
Himachal Pradesh	356	402
Janmmu & Kashmir	855	955
Punjab	5040	5360
Rajasthan	3625	3970
Uttar Pradesh	8020	9185
Gujarat	7620	8110
Madhya Pradesh	5490	6210
Maharashtra	11295	11895
Goa	205	242
Andhra Pradesh	6665	6885
Karnataka	5370	5460
Kerala	1905	2072

Name of the State/ UT/System	Energy Requirement April 93-June 93	(Figures in Mu Net) April 93-June 94
Tamil Nadu	6675	7325
Bihar	2175	2280
DVC	1920	1920
Orissa	2135	2250
West Bengal	3185	3360
Arunachal Pradesh	37.4	41.3
Assam	558.4	567.8
Manipur	70.3	77.2
Meghalaya	65.6	75.8
Mizoram	27.6	32.6
Nagaland	30.6	31.3
Tripura	66.1	73.0
All India	79155	84902

**STATEMENT-II**

*Statewise/Systemwise Energy Generation during April 93 – June 93 and April 94 – June 94*

Name of the State/System	Energy Generation (MUs)	
	April 93 – June 93	April 94 – June 94
BBMB	3243	2761
Delhi	1656	1703
J&K	868	892

Name of the State/System	Energy Generation (MUs)	
	April 93 – June 93	April 94 – June 94
Himachal Pradesh	673	1344
Haryana	659	876
Rajasthan	2060	2240
Punjab	2903	3015
Uttar Pradesh	11971	13205
Gujarat	6731	7522
Maharashtra	10429	11717
Madhya Pradesh	8536	8908
Andhra Pradesh	7821	6985
Karnataka	3642	3786
Kerala	1504	1495
Tamil Nadu	7108	8286
Bihar	783	705
Orissa	1046	804
West Bengal	4092	4717
D.V.C.	1504	1767
Sikkim	7	9
Assam	215	294
Meghalaya	382	330
Tripura	38	41
Manipur	160	154
<b>Total All India</b>	<b>77977</b>	<b>83556</b>

## STATEMENT-III

## Details of Expression by Foreign Private Companies

Sl. No.	Name of Project/ State	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crores)	Name of the Company
1.	Jegurupadu GBPP/ (Dodavari) Andhra Pradesh	Foreign (NRI)	235.00	827.00	GVK Industries, USA
2.	Kakinada GBPP/ (Godavari) Andhra Pradesh	Foreign (NRI)	208.00 (Gas)	748.43	Spectrum Power Generation Ltd. USA
3.	Visakhapatnam TPS/ Andhra Pradesh	Foreign Indian JV	1000.00 (2x500) (Coal)	3000.00	Ashok Leyland & National Power (U.K.)
4.	Kameng HEP/ Arunachal Pradesh	Indian/ Foreign	600.00 (Hydel)	1800.00	Intercorp Industries Ltd. Snowy Mountains Engg. (Australia)
5.	Kharsang GBPP/ Arunachal Pradesh	Foreign Indian JV	48.00 (Gas)	168.00	Intercorp Industries Ltd. Snowy Mountains Engg. (Australia)

Sl. No.	Name of Project/ State	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crores)	Name of the Company
6.	Amguri GBPP/ Assam	Foreign	360.00 (Gas)	1280.00	Northern Engineering Inc. USA/Agra Industries
7.	Paguthan GBPP/ Gujarat	Foreign/ Indian	654.70 (Gas)	2178.14	Gujarat Torrent Energy Corpn. Ltd./Siemens. Germany
8.	Lignite based TPS/ Gujarat	Foreign	250.00 (Lignite)	875.00	Fisenberg Group of Co., Israel
9.	Hissar TPS/ Haryana	Foreign	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1000.00	Cogentrix Inc. USA
10.	Yamunanagar TPS/ Haryana	Foreign	1000.00 (4x250) (Coal)	3500.00	Fisenberg Group of Cos. Israel
11.	Hibra HEP/ Himachal Pradesh	Foreign	231.00 (Hydel)	708.50	Harza Engineering Co. USA.
12.	Dhamwari HEP/ Himachal Pradesh	Foreign	70.00 (Hydel)	245.00	Harza Engineering Co. USA
13.	Mangalore TPS/ Karnataka	Foreign	1000.00 (Coal)	5088.00	Cogentrix Inc. USA
14.	Mangalore TPS/ Karnataka	Indian/ Foreign	300.00 (Coal)	900.00	Jaiprakash Industries Ltd. National Power (U.K.)

15.	Ali-atti Dem HEP/ Karnataka	Foreign/ Indian JV	600.00 (Hydel)	1800.00	Asia Power Co. Ltd. (TAPCO) USA, Karnataka Power Corporation
16.	Hospet TPS/ Karnataka	Foreign	500.00 (1x500) (Coal)	1350.00	Hok Intercontinental Ltd. USA
17.	Raichur St.-V TPS/ Karnataka	Foreign/ Indian JV	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1000.70	Public Power Int., Inc. (North East Energy) USA, Karnataka Power Corp.
18.	Thrikkaripur TPP/ Kerala	Foreign	420.00 (2x210) (Coal)	1480.00	M.A.Al-Mazroui Gen. Trading Est. UAE Scepture Power Co. USA
19.	Dabhol CCGT (LNG)/ Maharashtra	Foreign	2015.00 (LNG)	9051.27	Enron Power Develop- ment Corpn. & General Electric Corp., USA
20.	Khaperkheda TPS Units 5 & 6/ Maharashtra	Foreign	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1632.00	Aranco Line Shipping Co. (Malta/Singapore) R. R. Associates
21.	Bhadravati TPS Maharashtra	Foreign/ Indian JV	1000.00 (Coal)	3000.00	Ispath Alloys Ltd./ Mitsui (Japan)
22.	Talcher TPS/ Orissa	Foreign	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1500.00	Spectrum Technologies, USA



Sl. No.	Name of Project/ State	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crores)	Name of the Company
23.	Kamalanga (Dhankanal TPS) Orissa	Foreign	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1500.00	International Equity Partners, L.P., USA
24.	Ib Valley TPS/ Orissa	Foreign	420.00 (2x210) (Coal)	2025.60	A E S Corporation, USA
25.	Ib Valley TPS/ Orissa	Foreign	3000.00 (Coal)	10500.00	Eisenberg Group of Cos. Israel
26.	Duburi TPS/ Orissa	Foreign/ Indian	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1548.00	Kalinga Power Corp./ North East Energy Services Inc., USA/ Govt. of Orissa
27.	Lapanga TPS/ Orissa	Foreign	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1750.00	Pioneer Energy Inc. USA/Duke Engineering Services
28.	Barsingar TPS/ Rajasthan	Foreign	240.00 (2x120) (Lig)	585.73	Coleman & Associates (Australian Consortium) (Now being awarded through bidding).

29.	Cuddalore TPS/ Tamil Nadu	Foreign	1000.00 (2x500) (Coal)	2000.00	International Contracting & Marketing Corpn., USA
30.	Pillaiyerumalthur CCGT/Tamil Nadu	Foreign	300.00 (2x100 +1x100) (Gas)	429.49	P Vijaykumar Reddy, MAKOWSKI Associates, USA
31.	Zero unit (NLC)/ Tamil Nadu	Foreign (NRI)	210.00 (1x210) (Lig)	750.00	ST Power Systems Inc., USA
32.	Jayamkondam Lignite TPS/ Tamil Nadu	Indian/ Foreign	1500.00 (3x500) (Lig)	4500.00	Jayamkondam Lignite Power Corporation Ltd. (TIDCO), McNally Bharat Germany
33.	Rosa TPS/ Uttar Pradesh	Foreign/ Indian	750.00 (3x250) (Coal)	2625.00	Indo-Gulf Fertilizers & Chemicals/Power Gen. U.K.
34.	Sagardighi TPS/ West Bengal	Foreign/ Indian JV	1000.00 (2x500) (Coal)	2000.00	Development Consultant Pvt. Ltd., CMS, USA Generation & WBSEB
35.	Dankuni GBPP/ West Bengal	Foreign/ (NRI)	20.00 (Gas)	40.00	Spectrum Technologies USA
			22431.70	73385.86	

**STATEMENT-IV**

*Guidelines of the policy to encourage Greater Private Investments in Power Generation and Distribution to Tap Additionality of resources.*

The following are the details of the scheme to encourage greater private sector participation in the electricity generation, supply and distribution:—

- The Indian Electricity Act, 1910 and the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 have been amended to bring about a new legal, administrative and financial environment for private enterprises in the Electricity Sector.
- Private Sector can set up thermal projects (coal/gas) and hydel projects and wind/solar energy project of any size.
- Electricity Projects where the total outlay does not exceed Rs. 25 crores need not be submitted to the Central Electricity Authority for concurrence.
- Private sector companies can set up enterprises to operate either as licensees or as generating companies.
- All private companies entering the Electricity Sector hereafter will be allowed a debt-equity ratio upto 4:1.
- Promoter's contribution should be at least 11% of the total outlay.
- To ensure that private entrepreneurs bring in additionality of resources to the sector, not less than 60% of the total outlay for the project must come from sources other than Public Financial Institutions.
- Upto hundred per cent (100%) foreign equity participation can be permitted for projects set up by foreign private investors.
- The condition of dividend balancing by export earnings which is normally being applied to cases of foreign investment upto 51% equity will not be applicable to foreign investments in the power sector.
- The rates for depreciation in respect of assets have been liberalised.
- With the approval of the Government, import of equipment for power projects will also be permitted in cases where foreign supplier(s) or agency(ies) extend concessional credit.
- The customs duty for import of power equipment has been reduced to 20% and this rate has also been extended to machinery required for modernisation and renovation of power plants.
- A five year tax holiday has been allowed in respect of profits and gains of new industrial undertakings set up anywhere in India for either generation or generation and distribution of power. The five year tax holiday will begin from the year of generation of power.
- The excise duty on a large number of capital goods and instruments in the power sector has been reduced to a lower rate.

- \* The 16% return on the foreign equity included in the tariff can be provided in the respective foreign currency.
- \* Fixed costs can be recovered at 68.5% PLF. Attractive incentives are prescribed for performance beyond this PLF.

For generating companies the following incentives are offered:-

- \* Normative parameters under which generating companies will operate have been notified which *inter alia* provide for 16% rate of return on the paid up and subscribed equity.
- \* Generating companies operating coal based, gas based and hydro projects can sell power on the basis of a suitably structured two part tariff.

The specific incentives for Licensees are:-

- \* Licences of longer duration of 30 years in the first instance and subsequent renewals of 20 years instead of 20 and 10 years respectively as it was before.
- \* Higher rate of return of 5% in place of the previous 2% above the RBI rate.
- \* Capitalisation of Interest During Construction (IDC) at actual cost (for expansion projects also) as against 1% over RBI rate as it was before.
- \* Special appropriations to meet debt redemption obligations.

### National Telecom Policy

\*7. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE  
TRIPATHY;  
SHRI CHETAN P.S.  
CHAUHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new National Telecom Policy contemplates foreign equity participation;

(b) if so, the percentage of such equity by foreign and multinational companies and the other conditions for such participation;

(c) whether any guidelines have been framed in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the future of C-DOT based technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The National Telecom Policy amongst other things, envisages private investment and association of the private sector to bridge the resource gap.

(b), to (d). The guidelines for implementation of the National Telecom Policy are under consideration of the Government.

(e) The National Telecom Policy places emphasis on encouraging indigenous technology and setting up of a suitable funding mechanism for indigenous R&D so that the Indian Technology can meet the national demand and also compete globally.

**Tapti Gas Field**

\*8. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey in off shore Tapti Gas field of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the latest assessment of availability of gas in this area;

(c) whether the availability of gas in the area is sufficient to meet the shortfall at Hazira and the proposed power plant in Pipavav;

(d) if so, the details, thereof;

(e) whether the Gujarat Government has sent any proposal to supply gas from the Tapti gas field and carry the gas on land to Hazira; and

(f) if so, the time by which the Government is likely to take a final decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The recoverable reserves in the mid-Tapti and South Tapti fields are 31525 mm<sup>3</sup>.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f). Two Undertakings of the Government of Gujarat where partners in a consortium that submitted a bid for the development of the mid-Tapti fields. The bid was not found acceptable.

**Environmental Action Plan**

\*9. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:  
SHRI TARA SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NTPC with the concurrence of the World Bank has embarked on an environmental action plan for power plants in various States;

(b) if so, the details of the plan and the quantum of World Bank assistance received for the said task;

(c) the plans of the NTPC to ensure zero discharge of industrial effluent; and

(d) the time by which the environmental plan is likely to be implemented in all the NTPC power plants?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): (a) and (b). The Environmental Action Plan of NTPC for its power plants in various States, *inter alia*, includes:—

(i) Upgradation of Electrostatic Precipitators wherever necessary.

(ii) Implementation of comprehensive effluent discharge schemes.

(iii) Implementation of Resettlement & Rehabilitation (R&R) Action Plan in accordance with the R&R Action Plan in accordance with the R&R Policy

approved by Government of India.

- (iv) Implementation of ecological monitoring studies, ground level contamination monitoring studies, etc.
- (v) Implementation of safety and hazard management plans.

Part of the funds required for the implementation of the action plan would be provided by the World Bank under the US \$ 400 Million NTPC Power Generation Project Loan.

(c) Studies have been initiated by the NTPC to explore the possibilities of zero discharge of effluents from their power plants.

(d) The Environmental Action Plan will be implemented in phases by 1998-99 for the activities identified to be executed at present.

#### **Exploration of Oil and Gas**

\*10. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI:  
SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether global tenders have been invited for oil and gas exploration in certain parts of the country;

(b) if so, the areas for which global tenders have been invited and the response thereto;

(c) whether any decision has been taken in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). Government has so far invited foreign and Indian companies to bid for exploration blocks in seven rounds of bidding. In the recently concluded Seventh Round of bidding, 45 blocks had been offered from the following basins:—

#### **Onshore:**

1. Assam-Arakan
2. Bengal
3. Cambay
4. Cauvery
5. Gujarat-Kutch
6. Krishna-Godavari
7. Punjab
8. Purnea
9. Rajasthan

#### **Offshore**

10. Andaman
11. Bengal
12. Cauvery
13. Krishna-Godavari
14. Saurashtra

12 bids have been received for 10 blocks by the last date for receipt of bids of 30.6.94.

(c) and (d). Bids are under evaluation.

### Hydro Electric Potential

\*11. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:  
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the tremendous hydro-electric potential of Northern and North-Eastern regions;

(b) if so, the estimated hydro-electric potential in those regions; and

(c) the details of the hydel units cleared in the Northern and North-Eastern regions during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): (a) and (b). The Hydro-electric Potential assessed by Central Electricity Authority in the Northern and North-Eastern Regions is 30155 MW and 31857 MW respectively at 60% load factors.

(c) The hydel projects accorded investment approval by the Planning Commission with respect to state sector projects and by the Government of India for Central Sector projects in the last 3 years are indicated in the *Statement* attached.

### STATEMENT

*Hydroelectric Projects in Northern & North-Eastern Regions cleared by Planning Commission/Government of India during the last 3 years*

Region/State/Name of the Project and Implementing Agency	Installed Capacity (MW)	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crores)	Date of Sanction
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#### 1991-92

#### Northern Region

Dhauliganga St. I (NHPC) (Central Govt. Undertaking)	4x70=280	601.98	8.4.91
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#### North-Eastern Region

Nuranang (Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh)	3x2=6	9.85	19.8.91
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Region/State/Name of the Project and Implementing Agency	Installed Capacity (MW)	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crores)	Date of Sanction
Serlui 'B' (Govt. of Mizoram)	2x4.5=9	41.57	31.10.91
<b>1992-93</b>			
<b>Northern Region</b>			
Nil			
<b>North-Eastern Region</b>			
Nil			
<b>1993-94</b>			
<b>Northern Region</b>			
Tehri St. I (UP) THDC (Joint Venture of Govt. of India and Govt. of Uttar Pradesh)	4x250-1000	3391.40	15.3.94
Shahpurkandi (Govt. of Punjab)	2x40+2x40+ 1x6=168	895.08	5.7.93
<b>North-Eastern Region</b>			
Kopili St. I Extn. (NEEPCO) (A Central Govt. Undertaking)	2x50=100	111.00	14.5.93

**Telecom Expansion**

\*12. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUD-  
DIN OWAISI:  
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA  
RAO:

(a) the quantum of funds required by the Government for development and expansion of telecommunication network;

(b) whether Sweden has agreed to help India in tele-communication expansion programmes;

Will the Minister of  
COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:



(c) whether any agreement has been reached in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the names of other countries who have shown interest in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Based on Eighth Five Year Plan targets, the requirement of funds have been assessed as Rs. 40555 crores. However under National Telecom Policy 1994, the targets have been revised.

(i) To provide telephone on demand by 1-4-97.

(ii) To provide public telephone facility in all villages.

The additional investment to the tune of approximately Rs. 23000 crores is required for meeting this revised target which is envisaged to come partly from private sector and partly from department of Telecommunications.

(b) There is no specific proposal from Sweden in this regard.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) Question does not arise.

### **National Highways**

\*13. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the roads/State Highways proposed to be declared as National Highways during the Eighth Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(b) the details of roads proposed to be declared as National Highways during 1994-95; and

(c) the details of the proposals for construction of bridges on National Highways during 1994-95 and during the Eighth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):

(a) Based on the allocation earmarked under the Central Sector Roads programme in the 8th Five Year Plan, it has been possible to declare only one road viz. Kurnool-Chittoor in Andhra Pradesh as National Highway so far.

(b) It is too early to indicate the details of roads likely to be declared as National Highways during 1994-95.

(c) In the Annual Plan (1994-95), it is proposed to take up the construction of 245 bridges at an estimated cost of Rs. 336.05 crores and in the 8th Plan, 429 bridges at an estimated cost of Rs. 680 crores.

### **Murari Committee Report**

\*14. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered the recommendations of the Murari Committee Report on the deep sea fishing industry;

(b) if so, the recommendations proposed to be implemented during 1994 particularly in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) whether any relief has been announced since July 1, 1994 for the sick units in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). While no reliefs on the basis of recommendations of the Technical Committee have been announced so far, the action for consideration of the recommendations has been initiated at the inter-Ministerial level.

### National Mineral Policy

\*15. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new National Mineral Policy has eased restrictions on foreign investments in joint sector ventures;

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

(c) the details of the new joint venture projects envisaged between Kudremukh Iron Ore Company and Hindustan Zinc Ltd. and foreign mining companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The National Mineral Policy, 1993 for non-fuel and non-atomic minerals, *inter alia*, states that induction of foreign technology and foreign participation in exploration and mining for high value and scarce minerals shall be pursued. Foreign equity investment in joint ventures in mining promoted by Indian Companies would be encouraged. While foreign investment in equity would

normally be limited to 50%, this limitation would not apply to captive mines of any mineral processing industry. Enhanced equity holding can also be considered on case to case basis.

(c) Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited has not entered into any joint venture projects. Hindustan Zinc Limited and Nuigini Mining Company of Australia have signed an MOU on 18.7.1994 in New Delhi for undertaking evaluation and development of known gold prospects in India.

### Central Road Fund

\*16. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 761 on February 28, 1994 and state:

(a) whether the Group of Ministers has implemented the resolution on Central Road Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether augmentation in CRF is in accordance with the revised estimates;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the criteria adopted for making allocation from the CRF; and

(e) the details of on-going works that have been affected adversely due to non-allocation of funds from CRF, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF  
THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE  
TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):

(a) No, Sir.

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

(d) Pending actual augmentation of Central Road Funds, the funds are being allocated as per old Resolution taking into account the total cost of schemes approved for State, total funds released previously, *inter-se* priority on All India basis, requirements projected by the State Government and availability of budget provision.

(e) The Central Government does not make scheme-wise allocation of funds to the State Governments under Central Road Fund. Only a lump sum amount is placed at the disposal of States against the approved schemes.

#### **Dulhasti Hydroelectric Power Project**

\*17. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.)  
BHUWAN CHANDRA  
KHANDURI:  
SHRI SANDIPAN  
BHAGWAN THORAT:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Hydro-Electric Power Project has been under construction at Dulhasti by a French firm;

(b) if so, whether the work has been discontinued quite sometime back;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to re-start the work;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government have suffered any financial loss due to discontinuance of or for re-starting the project; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The French Consortium of firms has stopped the work at site since August, 1992 citing the prevailing security environment as the reason.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. National Hydroelectric Power Corporation and the French Consortium of firms are negotiating the terms of resumption of work and towards this end a Memorandum of Understanding was recently signed by them.

(f) and (g). Yes, Sir. Delay in completion of the project will entail a cost over-run.

#### **Investment Promotion**

\*18. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated and implemented any investment promotion strategy in foreign countries to highlight the comparative advantage of investment in India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has formulated and is implementing a comprehensive investment promotion strategy aimed at promoting foreign investment into India.

Within the broad framework of this strategy, several steps have been taken to disseminate information about India's new economic policies and highlight the comparative advantages of investment into India.

- (a) Several promotional events have been organised both abroad as well as in India to project the country as an alternative investment destination to international corporate and business audiences. These promotional events have been addressed by Ministers and senior Government officials as well as representatives of business and industry.
- (b) In addition, bilateral visits of Government delegations to important countries are used to address targetted business audiences and inform them of our liberalised economic policies.
- (c) Government is working with apex industry organisations in its efforts to attract foreign investment. Overseas visits of Indian business delegations are in particular, being used to project India. Our apex Chambers have, in collaboration with their

overseas counterparts and with the active participation of Indian Embassies abroad, organised several promotional events on the opportunities for investment in India.

- (d) Intensive interactions have been organised on investment issues with several visiting high level business delegations. Such delegations have also been given assistance in meeting with relevant institutions and Ministries.
- (e) Importance has been given to developing suitable publicity material aimed at projecting India as an attractive investment destination. Publicity kits comprising brochures, a floppy diskette entitled "Doing Business with India" and video presentations have been regularly prepared and updated. Government has worked closely with Apex Chambers and with business and industry in preparing these materials aimed at projecting the liberalised economic policies.
- (f) India's Embassies abroad have accorded high priority to projecting India's economic and commercial interests and in particular, to attracting foreign investment into India. As part of this effort, Heads of Missions and other officers have developed a wide range of contacts with local business communities as well as NRI businessmen and are constantly trying to motivate them to investing in India.

Government proposes to continue with these various steps to take them further in disseminating information about our economic reform programme amongst foreign investors. In particular, it is intended to lay increasing emphasis on a sector-specific approach in investment promotion efforts. Government and our Embassies abroad are trying to and will continue to utilise every available opportunity to project India as an investment destination.

[Translation]

### **Indo-China Relations**

\*19. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken the Government to strengthen further the trade, cultural and other relations with China during the last two years; and

(b) the response of China in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). Following the visit of the Prime Minister to China in September 1993, Government have maintained the momentum of high level exchanges with China with ministerial visits in the agriculture, culture, petroleum, coal and metallurgy sectors. The seventh meeting of the India-China Joint Working Group was held in Beijing on 6-7 July 1994. Chinese Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Mr. Qian Qichen visited India from 17-19 July, 1994.

In the last two years, total two-way trade almost doubled in 1993 over 1992

to US \$ 675 million. Over 25 India-China collaborations are operating in both countries. At the recent meeting of the Joint Economic Group (JEG) headed by the Commerce Ministers of the two countries in New Delhi, June 14-17, 1994 the trade protocol for 1994-95 was signed. A new border trade route thorough Shipki Pass in Himachal Pradesh opened in July 16, 1994, in addition to the existing route through Lipulekh Pass in Uttar Pradesh.

The Festival of India in China (May-June, 1994) saw an exposition of Indian art, culture, music, song, dance, textiles, science and technology, books, films, fashion and philosophy in 16 cities throughout China.

Other exchanges such as science and technology, agriculture, space, social welfare, audit, civil services training and personnel management are growing.

The growing trade and other exchanges with China are also a result of China's positive and constructive interest in these developments.

### **Steel Production**

\*20. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production of steel in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether China has offered more cost effective technology for the production of steel and mining of iron ore; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Details of State-wise production of Saleable steel during 1993-94 are given in the enclosed *Statement-I*.

(b) and (c) Metallurgical & Engineering Consultants India Ltd. (MECON) is providing pulverised coal injection technology on the basis of know-how from their licensor, M/s. Central Engineering and Research Incorporation,

Beijing (CERI) of China, while M/s. Simplex, an Indian firm, has signed an agreement with M/s. China Metallurgical Import & Export Corporation for mini blast furnace technology. A list of joint ventures in the iron and steel sector between India and China is enclosed as *Statement-II*.

Chinese companies have also shown interest in entering into joint ventures for development of iron ore mines in India.

### STATEMENT-I

#### *State-wise production of Saleable Steel (Including Alloy Steel)*

(*'000 tonnes*)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	Production 1993-94 (Prov.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1204.7
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—
3.	Assam	4.2
4.	Bihar	5522.1
5.	Goa	5.2
6.	Gujarat	56.3
7.	Haryana	93.1
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	43.5
10.	Karnataka	269.0
11.	Kerala	0.1

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	Production 1993-94 (Prov.)
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3553.7
13.	Maharashtra	565.6
14.	Manipur	—
15.	Meghalaya	—
16.	Mizoram	—
17.	Nagaland	—
18.	Orissa	1152.7
19.	Punjab	212.9
20.	Rajasthan	39.8
21.	Sikkim	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	73.1
23.	Tripura	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	106.2
25.	West Bengal	1286.8
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	—
27.	Chandigarh	23.8
28.	Daadra & Nagar Haveli	—
29.	Daman & Diu	—
30.	Delhi	—
31.	Lakshadweep	—
32.	Pondicherry	31.9
Total		14244.7

Additional estimated production from  
\*EAF/IF units for which State-wise  
break-up is not available. 1660.0

Grand Total	15904.7
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\* Electric Arc Furnance/Induction Furnace.

## STATEMENT-II

*List of joint ventures & technological collaborations between India and China*

Sl. No.	Name of the Company & Location	Name of the Foreign Collaborator	Item of Manufacture and Capacity	% Foreign Equity Share & Amount
1.	M/s Mid-East Integrated Steels Ltd., Kalinga Nagar Industrial Unit, Orissa	M/s. China Metallurgical Import & Export Corp., China	Pig Iron Cap-0.5 NTPA	4.55% (Rs. 538 lacs) NRI holding 15.62% (Rs. 1846.36 lacs)
2.	M/s. Simplex Engg. & Foundry works Ltd., New Delhi	(i) M/s. China Metallurgical Import & Export Corp., China (ii) M/s. Beijing Central Engg. & Research Inc. China	Supply of Engg./Drawing for setting up of mini blast furnace etc. -do-	24% Total 49% of the paid up capital of Rs. 320.0 lacs 25%
3.	M/s. Simplex Engg. & Foundry Works Ltd., New Delhi	M/s. Baoosteel Engg. & Construction Corpn. China	Technical/Project consultancy services in the field of metallurgical industries	49% of the paid up capital of Rs. 64.0 lacs



Sl. No.	Name of the Company & Location	Name of the Foreign Collaborator	Item of Manufacture and Capacity	% Foreign Equity Share & Amount
4.	M/s. Simplex Engg. & Foundary Works Ltd., New Delhi	M/s. China National technical Import & Export Corpn., China	Turnkey supply of various sizes of mini blast furnace project for manufacture of pig iron	US \$ 20.47 lacs
5.	M/s. Simplex Engg. & Foundary Works Ltd., New Delhi	-do-	Turnkey supply of various sizes of mini LD Converters for manufacture of Steel	US \$ 11.2 lacs
6.	M/s. Nagpur Alloy Castings Ltd., Nagpur	M/s. China Shongang International Trade and Engineering China	Non-Alloy Pig Iron	US \$ 6.46 lacs

[English]

**LPG Connections in Thane District,  
Maharashtra**

1. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for LPG connections pending with LPG distributors in Thane district as on December 31, 1993, with period of pendency;

(b) the present position in regard to the allotment; and

(c) the steps taken to reduce the period of pendency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). As on 31st December, 1993, there were 2.46 lakhs of applicants on the waiting list in Thane district. The waiting period of new LPG connections depends upon the number of persons on the waiting list with the distributor, slack with the distributor and also the annual programme for enrolment of new customers. Efforts are constantly on to release LPG connections to as many applicants and as early as possible, subject to product availability. New connections are released depending on the waiting lists and slacks available with the distributors.

**Negotiated Settlement to Bilateral  
Issues with Pakistan**

2. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any requests to some foreign countries to persuade Pakistan to work towards a bilaterally negotiated settlement to the outstanding issues between the two countries including Kashmir instead of internationalising the issue; and

(b) if so, the names of such countries and their reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). Government during the course of usual Ministerial, Official and Diplomatic exchanges with other countries have and will continue to apprise them of Government's commitment to seek the resolution of all differences with Pakistan peacefully and through bilateral negotiations within the framework of the Simla Agreement. However, there can be no role of any sort for any third country. There is general appreciation for India's stand in this regard.

**Dumping of Plastic Bottles by  
Pepsi**

3. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Plastic Pepsi bottles from the United States processed under unsafe conditions are being dumped into India;

(b) whether such plastic bottles are a health hazard; and

(c) if so, measures proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent such potential health hazard to workers and consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI):

(a) No, Sir.

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

#### **Agreement to Combat Terrorism**

4. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has signed agreements to combat terrorism and check illicit traffic in narcotics with a number of countries;

(b) if so, the names of such countries; and

(c) the extent to which the Government has achieved success in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India has signed agreements to combat terrorism and/or to check illicit traffic in narcotics with the following countries:

Mauritius, Zambia, U.K., U.A.E., Russia, Bulgaria, Romania, Myanmar.

In addition,

(i) India and US actively cooperate to combat illegal narcotics trafficking through the mechanism of the Indo-US Joint

Working Group on Narcotics. During Prime Minister's visit to US in May, 1994, the two countries signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperative Measures to Increase Awareness and Support for Efforts to Combat Production and Distribution of Use of Illegal Drugs.

(ii) India and *Spain* have issued a Joint Declaration on combating terrorism, drug trafficking and organised crime in February, 1993.

(iii) An India-*Pakistan* Committee to combat drug trafficking and smuggling was set up in December, 1986. This Committee has been meeting from time to time to review the drug trafficking and smuggling situation in the two countries and explore ways to improve the modes of exchange of information.

(iv) with *Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan* and *Turkmenistan*, India has signed a Declaration on Principles of Cooperation, which contains an article providing for cooperation, *inter-alia* in the fields of terrorism, illegal international trade in narcotics, etc.

(c) Not many incidents have occurred, prompting intervention under the provisions of above agreements, etc. However, Indian drug enforcement agencies maintain direct linkages with other countries to check illicit narcotics trafficking. Considerable success has been achieved by means of joint efforts.

**International Islamic Conferences**

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

(a) the brief particulars of International Islamic Conferences organised by Non-Governmental Organisations in which participants were sponsored or financially assisted by the Government during 1991, 1992 and 1993;

(b) the details of Indian participation, if any;

(c) whether any resolutions or declarations bearing on matters of interests to India were adopted at these conferences; and

(d) if so, the operative part of those resolutions and declarations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Telephone to Panchayats in Howrah, West Bengal**

6. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received proposals for installation of telephones at Panchayat Offices from the Howrah Zilla Parishad;

(b) if so, when and the details of Panchayat Offices;

(c) the number of Panchayat Offices in Howrah District provided with telephones so far and the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the rest of the Panchayats are likely to get telephone connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir. The Government is not aware of any such proposal from Howrah Zilla Parishad. However, it has been planned to install telephone in the Panchayat Villages.

(b) The question does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) 71 Panchayat Offices have been provided with telephone facility so far as per details given in the *Statement-I* and *II*.

(d) Public telephones are planned to be provided to the remaining Panchayats by March, 1995.

**STATEMENT-I**

*Panchayat offices in Howrah District under West Bengal Telecom provided with telephone*

Sl. No.	Name	Telephone No.	Date of installation
1.	Amaraguri	Amta-302	20.12.93
2.	Amta	Amta-264	01.01.91
3.	Antila	Bagnan-215	16.10.92
4.	Anulia	Amta-284	01.12.93
5.	Badyanathpur	BGN-288	15.09.92
6.	Bagnan I	BGN-203	02.06.92
7.	Bagnan II	BGN-204	02.06.92
8.	Bainar	BGN-253	02.09.92
9.	Bakshirhat	BGN-285	03.09.92
10.	Balichak	Amta-307	03.01.94
11.	Bangalpara	BGN-282	16.09.92
12.	Bargachia	JBPR-42	01.01.91
13.	Basantapur	KPPS-40	01.01.92
14.	Bhandarghacha	Amta-283	01.12.93
15.	Bhatora	BGN-293	13.09.92
16.	Bidhichandrapur	CP-35	01.04.93
17.	Bonharishpur	Amta-234	01.01.94
18.	Chandrabhag	BGN-216	10.08.92

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Sl. No.	Name	Telephone No.	Date of installation
19.	Dehimandalgat I	AUDH-34	01.01.92
20.	Dehimandalgat II	AUDH-32	01.01.92
21.	Gangadharpur	Gangadharpur-37	02.03.92
22.	Garbariachitnan	BGN-292	10.08.92
23.	Garbhanipur	CP-40	01.05.93
24.	Gobindapur	JVPR-27	01.01.91
25.	Hailyan	BGN-283	02.08.92
26.	Haturia I	BGN-290	05.08.92
27.	Haturia II	BGN-289	05.08.92
28.	Jagatballavpur	JVPR-31	01.01.91
29.	Jaypur	Amta-301	20.12.93
30.	Jhamtia	Amta-305	23.12.93
31.	Jhikira	Amta-287	15.12.93
32.	Kalyanpur	BGN-284	07.08.92
33.	Kanpur	KPPS-30	01-01.91
34.	Kasmouli	BGN-291	06.01.92
35.	Khalna	Amta-303	22.12.93
36.	Khardaha	Amta-306	17.01.94
37.	Khalave	Bagnan-214	10.07.92
38.	Khosalpur	Amta-285	02.12.93
39.	Krishnabad	Amta-288	17.12.93

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Sl. No.	Name	Telephone No.	Date of installation
40.	Kurchi-Sibpur	Udayanarayanapur-34	01.02.92
41.	Mugkalyan	Bagnan-281	12.09.92
42.	Orphuli	Bagnan-286	12.08.92
43.	Panchala	Panchala-30	28.12.91
44.	Pantihal	Jagatballavpur-39	12.02.91
45.	Rashpur	Amta-286	02.07.91
46.	Sankarhati	Jagatballavpur-24	02.04.91
47.	Saratchandra	Bagnan-259	01.05.93
48.	Subsit	Bagnan-287	12.07.92
49.	Tajpur	Amta-304	22.12.93
50.	Udang I	Amta-282	20.11.93
51.	Siyampur	Falta-2315	} During 1993-94
52.	Dinghala	Falta-2317	
53.	Kamalbar	Falta-2318	
54.	Baneshar	Falta-2307	

**STATEMENT-II**

*Panchayat Offices in Howrah District under Calcutta Telephones provided with telephone*

Name of Gram Panchayat	Pub. Ph. (Telephone No./ Date of Opening)
1. Uttarjhapardah Village & P.O. Uttarjhapardah	6690-008 30-08-93
2. Domjur 3 Village & P.O. Domjur-3	6690-810 21-03-93
3. Dakshin Jhapardah-2 Village & P.O. Dakshinjhapardah-2	6690-811 31-03-93
4. Begri-2 Village & P.O. Begri-2	6690-013 10-09-93
5. Mohiary-4 Village Uttar Mohiary P.O. Mohiary-4	6690-007 30-08-93
6. Makardah-I 3 Village & P.O. Makardah 3	6690-014 11-09-90
7. Bankra I Village & P.O. Bankra	665-1897 3-03-93
8. Bankra II Village & P.O. Bankra	665-1898 3-03-94
9. Durgapur Abhoynagar Village Durgapur P.O. Samabaygali	64-1686 5-03-94
10. Bally-Village Bally P.O. Ghoshpara (Bally)	64-2749 23-03-94
11. Sapuipara Basukuthi Village & P.O. Sapuipara	64-3842 30-05-94



Name of Gram Panchayat	Pub. Ph. (Telephone No./ Date of Opening)
12. Mashila Village & P.O. Mashila	6690-015 11-09-93
13. Andul Village & P.O. Andul Mouri	6690-011 11-09-93
14. Duillya Village Duillya P.O. Andul Mouri	6690-016 11-09-93
15. Jorehat Village & Kamrangh P.O. Jorehat	6690-017 11-09-93
16. Sankrail Village & P.O. Sankrail	6690-020 28-02-94
17. Banipur Village & P.O. Banupur	6690-019 24-01-94

### Import of Crude Oil

during 1991-92, 1992-93, and 1993-94 has been as under:—

7. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the trend in the import of crude oil during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the quantum of crude oil to be imported during the current financial year; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the refining capacity to save foreign exchange going out of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) The import of crude oil

Year	Quantity (in MMT)
1991-92 *	23.99
1992-93 *	29.25
1993-94 *	30.82

\* Provisional

(b) The import of 24.23 MMT of crude oil for the year 1994-95 has been envisaged.

(c) Efforts are being made to increase refining capacity by taking up expansion of existing refineries and by setting up of new grassroot refineries in

the Public Sector, Joint Venture and Private Sector in order to reduce expenditure on import of products.

[Translation]

### **Commemorative Postal Stamps**

8. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ahmednagar Quincenary Committee had requested to issue a Commemorative Postage Stamp in memory of Rani Chand Bibi and Ahmednagar Fort on the occasion of completion of 500 years of Ahmednagar City and Fort;

(b) if so, the reasons for not accepting the request so far; and

(c) the time by which the Commemorative Postage Stamps are likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). A proposal was received from Shri Yashwant Rao Patil, M.P. Lok Sabha for release of a commemorative stamp to mark the 5th Centenary Year of Ahmednagar Fort & Chand Bibi. This was placed before the Philatelic Advisory Committee for its consideration on 1.1.5.92 & subsequently it was examined by the sub-committee of the Philatelic Advisory Committee. However, the proposal was not among those recommended.

(c) Does not arise.

### **Bridge over Bhutahi-Balan River**

9. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the traffic on the road running almost parallel to the Indo-Nepal border is disrupted and blocked in the absence of a bridge over the river Bhutahi-Balan and the river Bagmati; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):

(a) and (b). The road in question forms part of the State Road network. The Central Government is primarily concerned with the roads declared as National Highways only, including bridges thereon. It is, therefore, not possible for the Central Government to take action in the matter.

[English]

### **Diesel Based Power Plants in Kerala**

10. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have proposals to set up diesel based power plants in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of estimated cost thereof; and

(d) the time by which the work is likely to be started for implementation of those proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V.

RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (d). The following proposals have been received from the Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB) for installation of Diesel Generating (DG) projects in Kerala:—

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)	Estimated cost including IDC (Rs. crores)
1.	Brahamapuram DG District Ernakulam	5x20	281.00
2.	Kasargode DG District Kasargode	3x20	178.00
3.	Kozhikode DG District Kozhikode	6x20	357.00

The Brahamapuram DG Station has since been sanctioned by the Planning Commission for implementation in the State Sector. The land for the project has been acquired and levelling work is in progress. The orders for the supply of main plant and equipment have not been placed on the supplier.

The proposal for DG Station at Kasargode was techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in December, 1992. Subsequently, the KSEB decided to change the site for this project as the earlier site was within 500 metres of high tide line. The KSEB have been advised to submit a supplementary report bringing out the changes in the scheme due to change in site. As regards Kozhikode DG Station (120 MW), the CEA has not considered it for techno-economic appraisal as all the essential inputs/clearances have not been tied up by the State authorities.

The construction work in respect of Kasargode and Koshikode DG Stations could commence only after investment approval by the Planning Commission has been accorded and funding arrangements for their implementation are tied up.

[*Translation*]

#### **Road Tax on Petroleum Products**

11. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision on the proposal of increasing the rates of road tax on petroleum products; and

(b) if not, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The road tax is levied on Motor Vehicles by the State Governments in accordance with the rules/regulations framed by them under State legislation. Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to the resolution on augmentation of Central Road Fund adopted by Parliament on 13.5.88. However, the resolution has not been implemented so far. Since the decision in this regard is yet to be taken, it is too early to indicate the time by which it would be implemented.

#### Utilisation of Natural Gas in Gujarat

12. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of natural gas being utilised at present in Gujarat especially in its tribal areas;

(b) the average quantum of LPG being used every day;

(c) the quantum of natural gas being processed in LPG in the State and the various schemes of the Government to increase the production of LPG;

(d) whether gas of the wells having no oil is covered and preserved; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND

NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) The average utilisation of natural gas in Gujarat at present is 14.8 MMSCMD.

(b) The average daily consumption of LPG in Gujarat was 731.95 MT in 1993-94 (Provisional).

(c) Around 7.3 MMSCMD of natural gas is currently being processed for extraction of LPG. GAIL has proposed setting up of an LPG and C2/C3 extraction plant at Gandhar.

(d) to (e). The production of free gas is regulated according to the demand.

#### STD in Gujarat

13. SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the cities in Gujarat where only one way STD facility is available; and

(b) the time by which incoming and outgoing STD facility is likely to be made available in those cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The names of stations in Gujarat provided one way STD are given in the *Statement* attached.

(b) Both way STD facility is proposed to be given to all these stations progressively by December '94.

**STATEMENT****STD In Gujarat**

*List of Stations in Gujarat provided one way STD as on 21.7.94*

Sl. No.	Name of Stations
1.	Nandej
2.	Sadra
3.	Navagam
4.	Matar
5.	Adas
6.	Napad
7.	Sandesar
8.	Kanjari
9.	Lasundra
10.	Tarapur
11.	Liliya Mota
12.	Derol
13.	Nabipur
14.	Budhel
15.	Vejalpur
16.	Gambhoi
17.	Sala

Sl. No.	Name of Stations
18.	Ranavav
19.	Aditygna
20.	Chorwad
21.	Sherbag
22.	Balva
23.	Jhulesan
24.	Santej
25.	Dhenoj

**Electronic Exchanges in Rajasthan**

14. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:  
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of electronic exchanges commissioned in Rajasthan during 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up new exchanges in the State during 1994-95;

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

(d) whether the Government propose to expand modernised telephone exchanges in Rajasthan during the remaining period of the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) 386 electronic exchanges were commissioned in Rajasthan during 1992-93 and 368 during 1993-94. Detail are placed in the *Statement-I* attached

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) District-wise details are placed in the *Statement-II* attached.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) During the remaining period of 8th Five Year Plan it is proposed to:—

- (i) Expand the capacity of existing telephone exchanges so as to provide telephones on demand.
- (ii) Replace all life expired and worn out electro-mechanical exchanges.
- (iii) To replace all linefinder type MAX-II and Strowger type MAX-III electro-mechanical exchanges by Electronic exchanges.

#### STATEMENT-I

*Details of Electronics Exchanges commissioned during 1992-93 and 1993-94*

Technology	Year 1992-93	Year 1993-94
Siemens	—	1
Siemens RS US	—	2
E-10B	1	2
C-DOT Max-I	1	3
C-DOT SBM 1400L	5	1
C-DOT SBM 1000L	15	2
C-DOT SBM 4241	2	—
ILT 512P	21	—
ESAX 200L	10	—
C-DOT 256P	—	1

Technology	Year 1992-93	Year 1993-94
C-DOT 128P	209	210
Milt 64P	122	146
<b>Total</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>368</b>

**STATEMENT-II**

*New Exchanges proposed to be set up during 1994-95*

*(District-wise list)*

		District	No. of New Exchanges proposed
		14. Bikaner	04
		15. Barmar	07
		16. Jaisalmer	03
		17. Nagaur	05
		18. Churu	01
		19. Sriganganagar	08
		20. Jodhpur	02
		21. Ajmer	05
		22. Bhilwara	05
		23. Chittorgarh	02
		24. Dandhara	01
		25. Dungarpur	02
		26. Udaipur	01
		27. Pajsamand	02
		28. Pali	04
1.	Jaipur	16	
2.	Dausa	04	
3.	Alwar	01	
4.	Bharagpur	02	
5.	Dholpur	01	
6.	Kota	02	
7.	Baran	00	
8.	Jhalawar	01	
9.	Sikar	05	
10.	Jhunjhunu	03	
11.	Sawaimadhopur	03	
12.	Dundi	02	
13.	Tonk	00	

District	No. of New Exchanges proposed
29. Sirohi	04
30. Jalore	04

[English]

### Issue of Passports

15. SHRI RAMESH CHENNI-THALA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is inordinate delay in getting passport even after the increase in Passport fee;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). The time taken by a passport office for issue of passports varies from office to office and depends on a number of factors including the staff strength, workload, office infrastructure and completion of prescribed procedures. Some offices are now taking less time for issue of passport as compared to that before the increase in passport fee as shown in the enclosed *Statement* in July 1993.

(c) Government have taken a number of steps to reduce the time taken to issue passports which include *inter-alia*, augmentation of staff strength, introduction of productivity-linked incentive scheme, periodic inspections and computerisation of passport offices in a phased manner.

### STATEMENT

*Time taken by each Passport Office to issue the passport*

Sl. No.	Office	Time taken in Dec '92	Time taken as of 31.3.94
1.	Ahmedabad	105 days	80 days
2.	Bangalore	28 days	73 days
3.	Bareilly	70 days	49 days
4.	Bhopal	40 days	79 days
5.	Bhubaneswar	60 days	44 days
6.	Bombay	50 days	52 days



Sl. No.	Office	Time taken in Dec '92	Time taken as of 31.3.94
7.	Calcutta	90 days	30 days
8.	Chandigarh	270 days	291 days
9.	Cochin	180 days	48 days
10.	Delhi	70 days	24 days
11.	Goa	40 days	32 days *
12.	Guwahati	60 days	28 days *
13.	Hyderabad	80 days	45 days
14.	Jaipur	240 days	44 days
15.	Jalandhar	270 days	106 days
16.	Kozhikode	330 days	66 days
17.	Lucknow	180 days	114 days
18.	Madras	150 days	37 days
19.	Nagpur	28 days	35 days
20.	Patna	300 days	280 days
21.	Trichy	300 days	50 days
22.	Trivandrum	240 days	35 days

\* Time taken as of 4.2.1994

[*Translation*]

**LPG Outlets to Women**

16. SHRI A. ASOKARAJ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG outlets run by women in the country as on date;

(b) whether any special exceptions are granted to LPG outlets run by women; and

(c) whether school dropout women are considered for these agencies?

[English]

#### **Privatisation of Oil fields**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) As on 1.6.1994, 780 LPG distributorships were being operated by women all over the country either on proprietorship basis or partnership basis.

18. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(b) No, Sir.

(a) whether the Government propose to privatise a number of small sized oil fields in the country.

(c) As per present policy for dealer selection, there is no separate reservation for women. They can also apply in response to the advertisements if they meet the eligibility criteria.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the conditions laid down for the privatisation of these oil fields and the benefits likely to be derived as a result thereof; and

#### **Branch Post Offices in Bihar**

17. SHRI RAM KIRPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(d) the manner in which the resettlement of the employees is to be affected as a consequence thereof?

(a) the number of new branch post offices sanctioned in Bihar during 1993-94 and the number of such offices opened out of them; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). Government of India has in August, 1992 invited foreign and Indian private companies to participate in the development of 31 small sized oil and gas fields.

(b) the number of such offices proposed to be opened during 1994-95?

A further offer of 33 small sized fields was made in October, 1993.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) During 1993-94, 90 branch post offices were sanctioned in Bihar and all the branch post offices have already been opened.

(c) The fields would be developed under production sharing arrangements, by the companies on their own, without any participation by ONGC/OIL.

(b) The targets for opening of post offices during 1994-95 have not yet been finalised.

The parties would have to bear their share of statutory levies likely royalty and cess. The private companies share of oil would be paid for at international

market price; pricing of gas produced would be on internationally accepted principles;

The involvement of private companies in oil production would bring quickly into the production stream discovered hydrocarbons reserves in the country and augment the indigenous availability of petroleum, thereby conserving foreign exchange reserves.

(d) No employees of ONGC will be affected as a result of development of these fields by Indian and foreign companies.

[Translation]

**LPG Distributorship in Nahataur,  
Uttar Pradesh**

19. DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have cleared applications for the allotment of L.P.G. distributorship of Indian Oil Corporation in Nahataur town located under the Bijnor District of Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). Subject to economic viability and product availability, locations having a population of 20,000

and above are considered for setting up of LPG distributorships, in a phased manner. Nahataur Town in District Bijnor (U.P.) has not been included in the current LPG Marketing Plan 1992-94.

**Export of Steel**

20. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals under consideration of the Government for the import and export of steel during the current financial year;

(b) the foreign exchange earned from export and spent on imports of steel during the last three years; and

(c) the impact of new economic policy on the annual import and export of steel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) As per the current export-import policy, export and import of steel is freely allowed. Import of steel depends upon the specific requirements of importers in order to supplement indigenous availability both in terms of quantity and quality. Export of steel depends upon the demand in the international market and the prevailing international prices.

(b) The value of steel exports and imports during the last three years is as under:—

Year	Exports	Imports
1991-92	Rs. 283 crores	Rs. 1360 crores
1992-93	Rs. 708 crores	Rs. 1625 crores
1993-94 (Prov.)	Rs. 1673 crores	Rs. 1433 crores

(c) With the liberalisation of the trade policy including the facility for duty free import of raw materials for exports, convertibility of the rupee etc. steel exports have increased from 3.87 lakh tonnes in 1991-92 to 22.21 lakh tonnes (prov.) in 1993-94. On the other hand steel imports have not shown an increasing trend.

[English]

### **Value Added Services**

21. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised plan for value added services like paging and electronic mail services to be introduced all over the country;

(b) if so, the details regarding the present status of the same;

(c) whether guidelines for new Telecom Policy have been finalised, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the implications thereof in terms of extension of network in rural and semi-rural areas with State-wise break-up.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details regarding the present status of the Value Added Services are given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(c) and (d). Guidelines for implementation of Telecom Policy are yet

to be finalised. This matter is presently under consideration of the Government.

### **STATEMENT**

#### *Details regarding present status of Value Added Services*

As far as Value Added Services are concerned, tenders have been invited for franchising of Cellular Mobile Telephone Services in four metro cities, Radio Paging Service in 27 cities in the first phase and for the rest of the country in the second phase from Indian registered companies on a non-exclusive basis. The Indian Companies are required to have experience in the operation of these services and in case they do not have such experience they can have a joint venture company with a foreign company having the requisite experience with equity participation in the joint venture.

2. Proposals have also been invited for franchising of other Value Added Services on a non-exclusive basis. Proposals for these services are being received and examined on a continuous basis. Only Indian registered companies are eligible for consideration.

3. The present status of these services is as follows:

#### (a) **Cellular Mobile Telephone Service:**

8 companies, 2 for each metro city of Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras have been provisionally selected. Some of the companies have approached the Court of Law. The matter is sub-judice in the Supreme Court. The hearings in the case are over and judgment is awaited.

**(b) Radio Paging Service:**

In the first phase of tender 15 companies have been issued letters of intent, out of which Seven Companies have signed the licence agreement. The

matter is also sub-judice in the Court of Delhi and there is no stay.

In the second phase of tender, the evaluation is under progress.

**(c) Others Value Added Services:**

Service	Proposals received	Letters of intent issued.	Under examination.	Remarks
E-Mail	19	@ 14	5	@ includes 3, who have signed LA.
Voice Mail	4	3	1	—
64 Kbps Data Service	9	7	2	—
Audiotex	3	—	3	—
Video Conferencing	1	—	1	—
Others	3	—	3	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>@ 24</b>	<b>15</b>	

**Lead Free Diesel**

22. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to sell diesel containing less than 0.5 percent lead, from April 1, 1996;

(b) if so, the international standard of lead in the diesel, and the rise in the

price of diesel, if any, due to this change; and

(c) the time by which the lead free diesel is likely to be made available in the rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

[English]

**Business Channel**

23. SHRI RAM SINGH  
KASHWAN:  
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL  
KATHERIA:  
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:  
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNI-  
HOTRI:  
SHRI HARISH NARAYAN  
PRABHU ZANTYE:  
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUD-  
DIN OWASI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to start a special postal service 'Business Channel'; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Business Channel has been introduced with effect from 1st July, '94 in 6 important cities of the country viz Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Bangalore & Hyderabad. The scheme envisages segregation of business mails posted in post offices or in mail offices across the counter in bulk by various organisations at the stage of collection, sorting & transmission, such segregation will help in streamlining the functioning of mail offices and in the process it will ensure better disposal not only of the mails posted in bulk but also the other mails.

**Indian Council for World Affairs**

24. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation for taking over the management of the Indian Council for World Affairs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the deterioration in the working conditions and salary of staff in the council;

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

(e) whether the Government propose to take various measures including possibility of introducing any Bill in Parliament for taking over the management of the council; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these measures are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The ICWA Employees Trade Union have, from time to time, been representing the Government for taking over the management of the Indian Council of World Affairs.

(c) The representations received from ICWA Employees Trade Union contained such reports.

(d) The Indian Council of World Affairs is an autonomous body and Government of India has no control over its management. As such, it is not in a position to take any steps in this regard.

(e) and (f). As a policy, Government is not in favour of taking over of autonomous bodies. However, the Government has decided to constitute a high-powered committee to oversee the functioning of the Indian Council of World Affairs. However, as the Council is an autonomous body, the Government can constitute such a committee only with its consent. Presently, the governing body of the ICWA is being persuaded to pass a resolution requesting the Government to constitute this high-powered committee. Once this committee is constituted, it can also look into allegation, demands and complaints of the staff.

[Translation]

### Power Sector

25. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken to hand over various power projects to the domestic and foreign companies; and

(b) if so, the details with reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) With the objective of bringing in additionality of

resources for the capacity addition programme in the electricity sector Govt. formulated a policy in 1991 to encourage greater participation by privately owned enterprises in the electricity generation, supply and distribution.

(b) The details of the policy are given in the enclosed *Statement*. The reasons for introducing the policy was the widening gap between electricity demand and supply and severe resource crunch faced by the State Electricity Boards and Central and State Sector Generating Corporations.

### STATEMENT

*Guidelines of the policy to encourage greater private investments in power generation and distribution to tap additionality of resources*

The following are the details of the scheme to encourage greater private sector participation in the electricity generation, supply and distribution:—

- The Indian Electricity Act, 1910 and the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 have been amended to bring about a new legal, administrative and financial environment for private enterprises in the Electricity Sector.
- Private Sector can set up thermal projects (coal/gas) and hydel projects and wind/solar energy project of any size.
- Electricity Projects where the total outlay does not exceed Rs. 25 crores need not be submitted to the Central Electricity Authority for concurrence.

- \* Private sector companies can set up enterprises to operate either as licensees or as generating companies.
  - \* All private companies entering the Electricity Sector hereafter will be allowed a debt-equity ratio upto 4:1.
  - \* Promoter's contribution should be at least 11% of the total outlay.
  - \* To ensure that private entrepreneurs being in additionality of resources to the sector, not less than 60% of the total outlay for the project must come from sources other than Public Financial Institutions.
  - \* Upto hundred per cent (100% foreign equity participation can be permitted for projects set up by foreign private investors.
  - \* The condition of dividend balancing by export earnings which is normally being applied to cases of foreign investment upto 51% equity will not be applicable to foreign investments in the power sector.
  - \* The rates for depreciation in respect of assets have been liberalised.
  - \* With the approval of the Government, import of equipment for power projects will also be permitted in cases where foreign supplier(s) or agency(ies) extend concessional credit.
  - \* The customs duty for import for power equipment has been reduced to 20% and this rate has also been extended to machinery required for modernisation and renovation of power plants.
  - \* A five year tax holiday has been allowed in respect of profits and gains of new industrial undertakings set up anywhere in India for either generation or generation and distribution of power. The five year tax holiday will begin from the year of generation of power.
  - \* The excise duty on a large number of capital goods and instruments in the power sector has been reduced to a lower rate.
  - \* The 16% return on the foreign equity included in the tariff can be provided in the respective foreign currency.
  - \* Fixed costs can be recovered at 68.5% PLF. Attractive incentives are prescribed for performance beyond this PLF.
- For generating companies the following incentives are offered:-
- \* Normative parameters under which generating companies will operate have been notified which *inter alia* provide for 16% rate of return on the paid up and subscribed equity.
  - \* Generating companies operating coal based, gas based and hydro projects can sell power on the basis of a suitably structured two part tariff.



The specific incentives for Licensees are:

- \* Licences of longer duration of 30 years in the first instance and subsequent renewals of 20 years instead of 20 and 10 years respectively as it was before.
- \* Higher rate of return of 5% in place of the previous 2% above the RBI rate.
- \* Capitalisation of Interest During Construction (IDC) at actual cost (for expansion projects also) as against 1% over RBI rate as it was before.
- \* Special appropriations to meet debt redemption obligation.

[English]

### **Oil Selection Boards**

26. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States where new Oil Selection Boards have been formed so far;

(b) the reasons for changing the old Oil Selection Board; and

(c) the criteria followed by the Government to form the new Oil Selection Boards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). The tenure of Chairman and Members of seven Oil

Selection Boards were terminated on March 2, 1994, as the functioning of the Boards was not found satisfactory. Six out of the seven Oil Selection Boards for the undermentioned States have since been reconstituted:

1. Bihar
2. Haryana
3. Karnataka
4. Maharashtra, Goa, Daman & Diu
5. Punjab
6. Uttar Pradesh

(c) As per existing policy, Oil Selection Boards are constituted/reconstituted as under:

- (i) A retired Judge of a High Court - Chairman
- (ii) A representative of SC/ST/other weaker sections - Member
- (iii) A prominent public figure - Member

### **Abattoirs**

27. DR. P.R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given approval for the setting up of new abattoirs in the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the amount allocated therefor and other details in this regard; and

(c) whether the Government propose to close down the existing abattoirs in view of public protest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b). Permission to set up abattoirs is given by the State Governments under the provision of the concerned State Governments.

Various schemes to provide assistance for modernisation and improvement of abattoirs and for integrated meat processing plants have been formulated and are operated by the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying (Ministry of Agriculture) and Ministry of Food Processing Industries. The total assistance released under various schemes of both the ministries is Rs. 10.2 crores in 1992-93 and 1993-94 Rs. 13.6 crores have been allocated for 1994-95.

(c) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Direct Exchange Lines**

28. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (Deepa): Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of direct exchange lines set up till 1991;

(b) the total number of such lines set up by the end of 1993-94;

(c) the target fixed in this regard for 1994-95; and

(d) The time by which this target is likely to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Total number of direct exchange lines as on 31-3-91 was 50,74,734.

(b) Total number of direct exchange lines as 31-3-94 is 80,37,384. The increase of direct exchange lines from 31-3-91 to 31-3-94 being 29,62,650.

(c) Based on Annual Plan 1994-95 14 Lakh DELs are to be provided.

(d) The above target of DELs is planned to be achieved by 31-3-95.

*[English]*

#### **Excess Billing in Delhi**

29. SHRI SHANTARAM  
POTDUKHE:  
DR. LAL BAHADUR  
RAWAL:  
SHRI RAJVEER SINGH:  
SHRI SURENDRA PAL  
PATHAK:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints recorded for excess billing in MTNL, Delhi during 1993-94 and 1994-95 (so far);

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

(c) the steps taken to ensure the correct billing to the customers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The number of excess billing complaints received during 1993-94 and 1994-95 (upto June, 1994) is as under:—

Year	No. of complaints
1993-94	11,581
1994-95 (upto June' 94)	3,124

(b) The complaints of Excess Billing is examined thoroughly from all aspects including clerical and technical faults as per laid down procedure. In case of clerical error the bill is corrected immediately. In other cases, the fault records, exchange equipment and the outdoor plant are checked. The subscriber's calling pattern is also verified with reference to his previous record and the observation report.

After considering all these aspects a decision is taken on the complaint and suitable rebate is allowed to the subscriber, if found justified.

(c) Besides issue of bills on computer, following steps have been taken to reduce the incidence of excess billing complaints.

Subscribers having STD/ISD facilities are brought on electronic exchanges to the extent possible, which provides dynamic STD/ISD locking facility.

Indoor equipment and outdoor plants are regularly checked to ensure that there is no technical fault.

All DPs, pillars are put under lock, to avoid misuses by any unscrupulous person. Entry to the exchanges has been restricted.

Vigilance unit also conducts surprise checks with regard to possible misuse or diversion of line.

### Roads in Gujarat

30. DR. K.D. JESWANI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of on-going road construction works in Gujarat sanctioned by the Union Government under Central Road Fund;

(b) the details and estimated costs involved therein;

(c) the funds allocated by the Government for these schemes;

(d) whether the complete amount has been sanctioned by the Union Government; and

(e) if not, the time by when the balance is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). A *Statement* indicating the on-going works in Gujarat sanctioned under Central Road Fund is given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(c) and (d). Allocation of funds is done every year in lump-sum and not work-wise taking into account the total cost of schemes approved for the State, total funds released previously, *inter-se*

priority on All India basis, requirements projected by State and availability of budget provision. However, funds released

to Gujarat for on-going works under Central Road Fund during the last five years are as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

1989-90	100.00
1990-91	150.00
1991-92	60.00
1992-93	70.00
1993-94	80.00

(e) Since release of funds under Central Road Fund depends upon the availability of budget provision, it is difficult

to indicate the time by when balance would be released.

#### STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of works	Date of sanction	Amount approved under C.R.F. (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4

#### ROAD WORKS

1.	Establishing District Lab. (Testing) at 10 places	27.10.83	17.00
2.	Traffic Engineering Cell	13.1.86	30.12
3.	Establishing R/Lab and Development Cell	6.3.86	11.75
4.	Widening to intermediate Lane of Uchhel-Nisar Road (35 Km)	15.1.87	50.00

1	2	3	4
5.	Construction of Turing lanes and Developing Rests areas on State Highways on Five places	14.5.87	11.50
6.	Studies relating to Traffic Volumes, Accidents Prone areas Parking Stoping Locations & Reconstruction for Temporary Safety & Capacity of High in 10 selected Heavily routes.	14.5.87	14.00
7.	Widening to 2-lane of Linkhade Lindi-Checklia road in selected 15 Kms (99.85 KM to 145 KM)	14.7.87	50.00
8.	Widening to 4-lanes carriageway on Ahmedabad-Mehsana road in Gujarat (selected 12 KM)	14.7.87	65.00
9.	Construction of a parallel service road on Ahmedabad bypass from Km 6/0 to 13/230	28.2.92	98.67

**BRIDGE WORKS**

10.	Construction of bridge and its approaches across river Folku and diversion near Dhangadhra on Ahmedabad-Viramgan-Dhangadhra road in Surendernagar District.	19.6.80	40.00
11.	Construction of bridge with approaches across river Shihan on Jamnagar-Khanbhlia-Davarka Road.	15.4.87	14.71

[Translation]

**Oil Refineries in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh**

31. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received proposal from the Government of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh for setting up of oil refineries in respective States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). Government of India has accorded 1st Stage approval to M/s Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL) and M/s. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL) for preparing a Detailed Feasibility Report for setting up of 6 MMTPA grassroot refineries in Joint Sector in Western India and Central India respectively. The locations of the above proposed refineries have been decided at Deoghar, District Ratnagiri, Maharashtra and Bina, District Sagar, Madhya Pradesh respectively.

#### **Telephone Connections in Delhi**

32. SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed the targets to release telephone connections immediately on demand in Delhi State;

(b) if so, the time by which this target is likely to be achieved;

(c) whether a large number of telephone connections were released in Delhi during the first three to four months of the year 1994;

(d) if so, whether all sanctioned telephones have since been installed;

(e) the minimum and maximum time consumed in the installation of these telephones;

(f) whether the level of maintenance has declined due to increase in the number of telephones; and

(g) if not, the extent to which maintenance work has been carried out by the Government in Delhi during last six months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). As per National Telecom Policy, telephones are to be made available on demand by end of year 1997.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) No Sir.

(e) The minimum time consumed is a few days. The maximum time cannot be ascertained as some telephones have not been installed due to area being technically not feasible.

(f) and (g). No Sir, However due to large provision of telephone congestion was encountered on a few exchange routes due to higher traffic than anticipated at Planning stage. The number of junctions on such inter exchanges routes showing congestion are augmented suitably.

*[Translation]*

#### **Replacement of Gas Cylinders**

33. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the leaking gas cylinders are not replaced by the concerned oil company whereas the gas dealers have to give replacement for the leak gas cylinders to consumers; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). As per the present policy, distributors are under instructions to weigh and also to check for leakage, each and every cylinder, before delivery to customers. Any leaky cylinders found at the time of inspection before delivery by distributors are to be returned to supply point for which full reimbursement provided by oil company.

In regard to leaky cylinders found at the customers' premises during use, the same are replaced by new cylinder against free replacement or proportionate compensation.

#### **Telephone Connections in M.P.**

34. SHRI SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

-

(a) the places in Madhya Pradesh where the number of applicants on the waiting list is more than one thousand as on June, 1994;

(b) the measures taken to clear the waiting list;

(c) the time by which telephone connections are likely to be provided;

(d) whether the Government propose to expand the telephone exchanges in the State particularly in Ujjain;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) (1) Bhopal, (2) Bhilai, (3) Gwalior, (4) Indore, (5) Raipur, (6) Rewa, (7) Sagar and (8) Satna have a waiting list of more than one thousand in M.P.

(b) and (c). The Telecom Policy 1994 envisages the provision of telephones practically on demand by 1.4.1997 all over the country. During 1994-95 it is proposed to provide 57000 new telephone connections in Madhya Pradesh.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. During 1994-95 it is proposed to add 91,600 Switching lines in Madhya Pradesh out of which 2000 lines are proposed in Ujjain.

(f) Question does not arise.

#### **Telephone Exchanges with S.T.D.**

35. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL:  
SHRI RAJVEER SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone exchanges in the country selected for linking with STD facility during the last two years;

(b) the number of telephone exchanges out of them linked with this facility particularly in State of Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) the number of places which are proposed to be linked with STD facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) 2496 stations were proposed for provision of S.T.D. facility during the last two years namely viz. 92-93 & 93-94.

(b) A total of 3475 stations have been connected to the STD network during the last two years. However, some of the stations planned have not yet been linked to the STD network due to constraints in respect of availability of funds equipments, land, building etc.

In Uttar Pradesh 112 stations have been linked to the STD network during 92-93 & 93-94.

(c) 1294 stations are proposed to be linked to the STD network during 94-95 subject to availability of resources such as funds, equipment, land, building etc.

[English]

#### **Telephone in Panchayats in West Bengal**

36. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Anchal Panchayat offices in West Bengal with and without telephone facility, separately; and

(b) the time by which all the Anchal Panchayats are likely to be provided with such facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) As on 30.06.1994, the numbers of such offices with and

without telephone facility are 2,748 and 323 respectively.

(b) By March, 1995 all such Panchayats are likely to be provided with this facility.

#### **Collaboration with Foreign Companies**

37. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the norms followed by various countries to collaborate with foreign companies in their domestic telecom sector;

(b) whether the United States does not permit more than 20% foreign equity in the domestic telecom sector;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to allow high equity holding by foreign companies in the Indian telecom sector in view of the above facts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Details in respect of some of the countries are given in *Statement* attached.

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

(c) and (d). In the Indian Telecom manufacturing sector, proposals with upto 51% foreign equity are allowed on automatic approval basis. Proposals for foreign equity in Telecom Value Added Services sector and proposals for more



than 51% foreign equity in the telecom manufacturing sector are considered on case by case basis by the Government. Norms for equity holding by foreign companies in the Basic telecom services which has been permitted to Indian registered companies under the National Telecom Policy announced on 13.5.94 are yet to be finalised.

### STATEMENT

#### *Norms for collaboration with foreign companies*

#### 1. **Indonesia:**

Under the liberalised regulations announced by the Government of Indonesia on 2.6.94, foreign investment upto 95% is permissible in Telecom. The minimum equity holding for Indonesia partner which was earlier 20% was reduced to 5%.

#### 2. **Australia:**

There are no restrictions on the foreign ownership for "Service Providers" in Telecom which can be owned upto 100% by foreign companies. 'Service Providers' are entities which lease telecom capacity from Licensed carriers and provide full range of Telecom services including Voice Services.

However, Australia has permitted two general carriers, one with 100% Govt. ownership and other with 51% Australian ownership. In addition, there are three Mobile carriers one with 100% Government ownership, 2nd with 51% Australian ownership and third with 100% foreign ownership. In the case of third Licensed company for mobile carrier, the 100% foreign ownership is required to be changed to majority Australian ownership

within 10 years of grant of licence, *i.e.*, by 2003.

#### 3. **Srilanka:**

Foreign investments in Telecom sector upto 40% are approved on automatic basis and foreign investment above 40% are subject to case by case approval.

#### 4. **Myanmar:**

Mayanmar Foreign Investment Law does not allow foreign investment, including joint collaboration/joint ventures, in telecommunications sector, which remains a total monopoly of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications, a State-owned enterprise. However, multinational companies, such as Ericsson and Siemens are awarded contracts for projects in the telecommunications sector in Myanmar from time to time.

#### 5. **Germany:**

So far Telecom Sector has been a government monopoly. A new Law providing for privatisation of Telecom. has been passed. This Law will come into force from 1.1.1995. Under this law Government corporation 'Telecom' will offer 49% of its equity on the stock exchange from 1996 onwards retaining 51%. There will be no restrictions for participation by foreign companies in telecom service.

#### 6. **France:**

In France, regulatory framework of the French telecommunication industry is governed by their Law of December, 90. Under telecommunication network infrastructure, a company with more than 20% of the registered capital or voting

rights held directly or indirectly by foreign nationals other than those belonging to European Community cannot be granted licences to participate in the domestic telecommunication sector in France. Similarly, telecommunication services pertaining to telephone services between fixed points and telex services have been reserved for the public telecommunication operator-France Telecom-only.

#### 7. Singapore:

In Singapore, foreign participation in basic telecom services is not permitted at present. In the Value Added services, there is no foreign participation restriction and each case is considered on case by case basis.

#### 8. Vietnam:

In the are of domestic telecommunication services in Vietnam, foreign equity participation is not permitted. Involvement of foreign companies in the form of contractual business cooperation without equity participation is allowed. For manufacture of telecommunication equipment equity participation of upto 99% (but in practice only upto 70%) is permitted.

#### Clearance for Steel Plant in Bihar

38. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for the setting up of a steel plant in Bihar has been lying pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for delay in giving clearance; and

(d) the time by which the project is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d). One proposal of M/s. Ashiana Alloys & Steels Ltd. for grant of industrial licence for manufacture of Mild Steel Ingots & Steel Castings for an annual capacity of 13,500 Metric Tonnes at Digha Ghat, Patna, Bihar was received in June, 1994. The proposal has already been examined and an appropriate communication will be issued shortly to the applicant.

#### Siliguri-Darjeeling Section

39. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there are frequent landslides on the road connecting Siliguri to Darjeeling;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to declare it as a National Highway; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Road between Siliguri and Darjeeling is already a National Highway. It is occasionally affected by landslides during rains. Immediate steps are taken to remove slips and to keep the road traffic-worthy.

[*Translation*]

1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94, district-wise; and

**Telephone to Gram Panchayats in Gujarat**

(b) the total expenditure incurred thereon?

40. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:  
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS  
be pleased to state:

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF  
THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS  
(SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) *District-wise* details  
of such Gram Panchayats are given in  
the *Statement* attached.

(a) the number of the Gram  
Panchayats in Gujarat provided with  
Telephone facility during 1990-91,

(b) The total expenditure incurred  
is about Rs. 84 crores.

**STATEMENT**

*Details of Gram Panchayats District-wise, provided with telephone facility in Gujarat*

District	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
Ahmedabad	2	58	194	126
Gandhinagar	-	7	19	1
Baroda	-	31	47	323
Rajkot	3	89	35	231
Surat	-	188	27	127
Nadiad	-	116	266	344
Bhavnagar	3	46	78	160
Bhuj	5	46	85	158
Jamnagar	1	22	106	121
Junagadh	3	69	61	175
Mehsana		242	145	244

District	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
Valsad	2	111	63	134
Himatnagar	2	99	182	190
Palanpur	6	109	129	206
Surendranagar	6	92	55	295
Bharuch	5	48	153	183
Godhra	-	82	27	277
Amreli	-	121	83	75
Dang	-	1	-	-
Union Territory	-	2	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>1576</b>	<b>1755</b>	<b>3370</b>

[English]

### Spillage of Oil

41. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:  
SHRI BOLLA BULLI  
RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether thousands of tonnes of oil has spilled over either through accidents or washing of large tankers or during transfer of oil at ports every week;

(b) if so, whether there was spillage of huge quantity of oil contaminating resort beaches on the Atlantic coast when a barge slammed into a coral reef of San Juan;

(c) if so, whether the Government have made any assessment as to how much coral reef disaster is occurring in the country every year;

(d) the steps taken to check spillage of oil in the country; and

(e) the various factors responsible for this oil spillage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

### Koel-Karo Hydel Project

42. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:  
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes of the Union Government for the implementation of the Koel-Karo Hydel Project in Bihar and the extent to which the Commitment has been fulfilled;

(b) whether the Union Government have not made efforts for the execution of the project; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). In December, 1993, Government of India had suggested to the Government of Bihar to explore the possibility of execution of the project through private participation since the current resource position of NHPC did not enable it to start work immediately on the project. The Government of Bihar however requested the Govt. of India to provide funds or direct NHPC to arrange funds from external agencies. It is not possible within the existing plan allocation for the 8th Plan to provide funds for speedy execution of the project. Also external funds even if available, normally cover only a part of the project cost.

[*Translation*]

#### **Indo-China Agreement**

43. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI:  
SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:  
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR  
PATEL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China have entered into any agreement in the field of oil recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the agreements are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). At the conclusion of the recent visit of Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas to China, agreed minutes were signed between the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and China National Petroleum Corporation envisaging cooperation in the oil sector.

#### **Coal Production by IISCO**

44. PROF. RITA VERMA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of S.L.V. and segregated Jhama Coal produced by Ramnagore Chasnalla, Jitpur Collieries of Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO) during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(b) the month-wise details of sales of segregated Jhama and S.L.V. Coal in each of these collieries during 1993-94; and

(c) the opening stock of S.L.V. and segregated Jhama Coal in all the three collieries of IISCO as on March 31, 1994?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The quantity of Segregated Low Value (S.L.V.) and segregated Jhama Coal produced by Ramnagore, Chasnalla & Jitpur Collieries of Indian Iron and Steel Company Ltd. (IISCO) for the years 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 is given below:

UNIT: METRIC TONNES

Year	Ramnagore	Chasnalla	Jitpur
1991-92	1,33,309	NIL	NIL
1992-93	1,82,661	NIL	NIL
1993-94	1,28,285	17,331	NIL

(b) The details of month-wise sales of segregated Jhama/S.L.V. coal during 1993-94 are as under:

UNIT: METRIC TONNES

Month	Ramnagore	Chasnalla Quantity Sold	Jitpur
April '93	6925.400	NIL	NIL
May '93	5723.060	NIL	NIL
June '93	3520.980	NIL	NIL
July '93	273.060	NIL	NIL
August '93	942.140	NIL	NIL
September '93	11196.880	NIL	NIL
October '93	18969.720	NIL	NIL
November '93	14406.560	NIL	NIL
December '93	11180.120	1116.20	NIL
January '94	11110.380	1998.48	NIL
February '94	10303.700	2547.60	NIL
March '94	14240.920	1491.58	NIL
<b>Total</b>	<b>108792.920</b>	<b>7153.86</b>	

(c) The opening stock of S.L.V. and segregated Jhama Coal as on 31.3.94 is given below:

Chasnalla	Ramnagore	Jitpur
10,053	53,455	NIL

[English]

#### **Oil Development Cess**

45. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:  
SHRIMATI BHAVNA  
CHIKHALIA:  
SHRIMATI SHEELA  
GAUTAM:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives behind levying the Oil Development Cess;

(b) the extent to which these objectives have been achieved;

(c) the present rate at which the Oil Development Cess is being levied;

(d) the total amount at present in the Oil Development Cess Fund;

(e) the purpose for which the amount collected has been utilised in the past;

(f) whether it is proposed to provide this amount to the Oil Industry Development Board; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Oil Industry (Development) Act, 1974, provides for a levy of cess on indigenous crude oil and natural gas as a duty of excise, to be credited to the Consolidated Fund of India, and the Central Government may, if Parliament by appropriation made by law in this behalf so provides, pay to the Oil Industry Development Board from time to time from out of such proceeds such sums of money as it may think fit for being utilised exclusively for the purposes of this Act, viz. for the development of Oil Industry, and for matters connected therewith.

(b) Since the inception of the Act and upto March, 1994, the Oil Industry Development board has provided loan assistance of Rs. 5175.00 crores to the oil industry to supplement its resources for meeting capital and operational requirements. During this period, grants-in-aid to the tune of Rs. 93.11 crores were also disbursed for oil sector activities.

(c) The present rate of levy of cess on crude oil is Rs. 900.00 per tonne.

(d) As on 31.3.94, the total accumulation in the Oil Industry Development Fund is Rs. 3007 crores.

(e) This amount has been utilised for funding capital and operational requirements of the oil industry. Part of these funds has also been used for extending soft term loans and grants-in-aid for research and development activities of relevance to the oil industry.

(f) and (g). As per Section 16 of Oil Industry (Development) Act, 1974, the Central Government may pay to the

Board such sums of money as the Central Government may consider necessary.

### Inter State Bus Service

46. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether parallel inter-State bus service to Hardwar, Rishikesh, Dehradun, Mussoorie, Agra, Jaipur, Jammu, Katra etc. are being operated regularly from different parts of Delhi;

(b) whether these buses are plying in utter violation of the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988;

(c) the number of buses booked for violating the provisions of MVA in the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) the action taken against the operators of those buses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). No, Sir. However, the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have informed that temporary permits are issued to Contract Carriage buses under Section 87 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 for going outside Delhi. Further they have also informed that any violation of the terms of the permit conditions, are checked by their Enforcement Wing.

(c) and (d). The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have further informed that they do not maintain separate data about challans made for different type of vehicles for violation of the Motor Vehicles Rules. However, the data furnished by them in respect of the challans made for all types of vehicles during the last three years is indicated below:

Year	Total No. of challans made for buses viz. DTC, Contract Carriage, Mini buses, Redline Buses, Tourist Buses etc.	Total No. of challans made for other States Buses
April, 91 - March, 92	3182	564
April, 92 - March, 93	8553	821
April, 93 - March, 94	27619	593

[Translation]

### Shipyard in Hazira

47. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to construct a shipyard in Hazira;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?



THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):

(a) Government of India have no proposal to construct a shipyard

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

**Satellite Money Order Service in District Headquarters**

48. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the district headquarters in different States have been linked with the Satellite Money Order Service;

(b) if so, the number of headquarters which have been linked with this service and the number of those yet to be linked; and

(c) the work done in this regard during 1993-94 and the scheme of the Government for 1994-95 in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). In order to provide speedier and more effective Money Order Service, the Department of

Posts has taken up a programme of transmission of Money Order advice through satellite channel. The first phase of this programme envisages setting up of 75 micro earth stations in the country covering the State capitals and remote and hilly areas. The 75 locations selected for such micro earth stations is given in the *Statement* attached. Each micro earth station consisting of a VSAT (Very Small Aperture Terminal) and other necessary peripherals, is to provide expeditious link to other Post Offices situated around it for a more efficient Money Order service. The number of micro earth stations for satellite transmission of Money Orders is proposed to be enlarged subsequently to provide more intensive coverage of the country.

(c) The Department has launched a pilot scheme during 1993-94 at six locations namely Delhi, Madras, Bangalore, Lucknow, Shimla and Patna where micro earth stations have been set up to work out and refine the detailed procedures for the system.

With successful implementation of the pilot scheme, the project will be implemented in phases from 1994-95 with the setting up of micro earth stations in the remaining locations.

**STATEMENT**

*List of Proposed Locations for Micro Earth Stations (VSATS)*

Sl. No.	Name of the Circle	Town/Cities
1.	Assam	1. Guwahati, 2. Silchar, 3. Tezpur, 4. Dibrugarh, 5. North Lakhimpur
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1. Hyderabad, 2. Vijaywada, 3. Visakhapatnam, 4. Tirupati, 5. Kurnool

Sl. No.	Name of the Circle	Town/Cities
3.	Bihar	1. Patna, 2. Ranchi, 3. Gaya, 4. Purnia, 5. Darbhanga, 6. Madhepura, 7. Muzaffarpur
4.	Delhi	1. New Delhi G.P.O.
5.	Gujarat	1. Rajkot, 2. Baroda, 3. Ahmedabad
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1. Shimla, 2. Mandi
7.	Haryana	1. Ambala, 2. Rohtak
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	1. Jammu, 2. Srinagar
9.	Karnataka	1. Bangalore, 2. Mysore, 3. Dharwad, 4. Mangalore, 5. Raichur
10.	Kerala	1. Trivandrum, 2. Calicut, 3. Cochin
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1. Raipur, 2. Jabalpur, 3. Indore, 4. Ratlam, 5. Bhopal 6. Gwalior
12.	Maharashtra	1. Nagpur, 2. Bombay, 3. Pune 4. Panaji, 5. Aumagabad
13.	North Eastern	1. Shillong, 2. Aizwal, 3. Agartala, 4. Kohima
14.	Orissa	1. Bhubaneswar, 2. Sambalpur
15.	Punjab	1. Ludhiana, 2. Jalandhar
16.	Rajasthan	1. Jaipur, 2. Jodhpur, 3. Udaipur, 4. Ajmer, 5. Kota
17.	Tamil Nadu	1. Madras, 2. Coimbatore, 3. Madurai, 4. Trichi, 5. Thanjavur
18.	Uttar Pradesh	1. Lucknow, 2. Kanpur, 3. Varanasi, 4. Agra, 5. Allahabad, 6. Saharanpur, 7. Bareilly, 8. Rudraprayag
19.	West Bengal	1. Calcutta, 2. Siliguri, 3. Port Blair

[English]

**Substitute for Petrol Developed by Patrex**

49. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Patrex Fuel India has developed a substitute for petrol as reported in the, 'Times of India' dated June 24, 1994;

(b) if so, whether Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited has tested the product developed by Patrex Fuel India Ltd.; and

(c) if so, by when it is likely to be made available in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) A claim has been made by Patrex Fuel India that they have developed a substitute for petrol as reported in the Times of India dated 24-6-1994.

(b) BPCL has tested a product presented by Patrex Fuel India.

(c) Government has not permitted private marketing of petrol or its equivalent.

**LPG Dealers in Karnataka**

50. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHURS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of private LPG dealers in Karnataka;

(b) whether the Government has fixed any maximum deposit amount and the maximum price for LPG being sold by these private LPG dealers;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount of deposit and the rate of LPG being sold by private LPG dealers in Karnataka;

(e) whether some of the private LPG dealers are collecting huge amount as deposits and selling LPG at exorbitant rates; and

(f) if so, the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Under the Parallel Marketing System private agencies are free to appoint distributors and register customers.

(b) to (d). Under the said system private agencies have been allowed to import LPG using/setting up their own facilities and distribution network for sale of such imported LPG at market determined prices, under their own terms. The Government does not regulate price or deposits, etc.

(e) and (f). Some such reports have come to the notice of the Government. The State and UT Governments have been advised to ban collection of deposits by parallel marketeers without their making adequate arrangements for supply of these products. Besides, they have also been advised to verify the genuineness, antecedents and capabilities of persons/agencies intending to take up activities

under the parallel marketing system and to take appropriate action against persons who have been found indulging in fraudulent and unfair trade practices. Public have also been suitably advised and warned through press releases that they must find out the antecedents, genuineness and capabilities of concerned parallel marketeers before entering into any transaction with them. MRTP Commission also takes action against persons/firms/ companies indulging in unfair trade practices.

### **Cashew Nut production and processing**

51. SHRI R. DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cashew nut processing units, State-wise;

(b) the quantity of raw cashew nuts processed annually in each States during the last three years;

(c) whether cashew nut producers are not getting remunerative prices for their products;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of cashew nut farmers co-operative societies, State-wise;

(f) whether the Union Government have taken steps to encourage cashew

nut farmers cooperative societies to ensure remunerative prices for farmers; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (g). As cashew processing is being done mostly in the small scale and unorganised sector, information regarding State-wise number of units, quantum of processing, number of co-operative societies etc. are not maintained centrally. However, as per the available information there are some 690 factories processing raw cashew nuts in the country which are mostly located in the cashew producing States of Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Pondicherry and Tripura. State-wise production of raw cashew nuts during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 are given in the *Statement* attached. In addition to processing of cashew nuts produced within the country, India also imports raw cashew nuts and process them in the factories. Import of raw cashew nuts in the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 were of the order of 82,639 MT, 1,06,322 MT and 1,33,293 MT respectively. Thus, the total amount of cashew processed in the country which is inclusive of processing of domestic raw cashew during the year 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 was estimated to be of the order of 3,77,229 MT, 4,11,632 MT and 4,82,683 MT respectively.

**STATEMENT***Production of Raw Cashew Nuts**(Unit: Metric Tonnes)*

State	Years		
	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Kerala	1,42,100	1,43,200	1,51,600
Karnataka	25,770	26,750	31,260
Andhra Pradesh	37,770	40,360	44,880
Orissa	29,100	31,840	39,060
Maharashtra	29,510	31,960	25,590
Goa	14,100	14,490	33,810
Tamil Nadu	12,470	12,710	19,190
West Bengal	3,440	3,660	3,660
Pondicherry	280	290	290
Tripura	50	50	50
	2,94,590	3,05,310	3,49,390

**Utilisation of Natural Gas in Tripura**

52. SHRIMATI BIBHU KUMARI DEVI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme has been prepared for the utilisation of the natural gas available in Tripura for domestic distribution through pipelines in and around the city of Agartala;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and the estimated cost of the same;

(c) whether the Government have taken a decision in regard to the implementation of the scheme; and

(d) the time by which the same is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF  
THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND

NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (d). The Tripura Natural Gas Company (TNGC) is distributing natural gas to industrial and domestic consumers in and around Agartala. TNGC is at present drawing 500 SCMD of gas from Gas Authority of India Ltd.

### **Post Offices in Gram Panchayats of Gujarat**

53. SHRI HARIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Gram Panchayats in Gujarat;

(b) the number of Gram Panchayats out of them with Post Office facility till March, 1994; and

(c) the time by which the post offices are likely to be opened in the remaining Gram Panchayats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). There are 13108 Gram Panchayats in Gujarat and out of these 8077 Gram Panchayats are with Post Office facility at present.

(c) Post Offices are opened under annual plans subject to availability of funds. While priority is given to Gram Panchayats in opening of post offices, it is not possible to indicate a time-frame for covering all Gram Panchayats.

### **Private Sector LPG Distribution in Gujarat**

54. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of LPG distributors in private sector oil companies operating in each district of Gujarat as on March, 1994;

(b) the total number of consumers registered and in waiting list in the agencies; and

(c) the time by which all the consumers registered are likely to get connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). Under the Parallel Marketing System private agencies are free to appoint distributors and register customers without any involvement of the Government and the information is not available with the Government.

*[Translation]*

### **Shortage of Instruments**

55. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited is facing acute shortage of the instruments to be installed in the telephone exchanges due to which delay is being caused in replacement of the old exchanges;

(b) if so, to what extent the working of the telephone network has been affected on account of that; and

(c) the steps taken to overcome it and the remedial measures taken to improve the functioning of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No Sir. The old and life expired exchanges are being replaced in a phased manner.

(b) and (c). Does not arise in view of the (a) above.

#### **Directions to LPG Distributors**

56. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have directed LPG distributors to ensure that the employees who would go to supply the LPG cylinder would also carry weighing instrument with him; and

(b) if so, when such directions were issued and the time by which the same would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). No such directions have been given to the LPG distributors. However, LPG distributors are under instructions to carry out pre-delivery checks including correctness of weight of a filled LPG cylinder at their godowns.

#### **LPG Agencies in Bareilly, U.P.**

57. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up LPG agencies at Fatehganj West, Mirganj and Nawabganj Municipality at Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). Subject to economic viability and product availability, LPG distributorships are opened at locations having population of 20,000 and above in a phased manner. There is no proposal at present to set up LPG distributorships at Fatehganj West, Mirganj and Nawabganj Municipality of Bareilly (U.P.)

*[English]*

#### **Oil Exploration**

58. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting was held recently in New Delhi to formulate a plan for oil exploration for the next three years;

(b) if so, the decision reached at the meeting; and

(c) the areas selected for oil exploration in the country and estimated quantity of oil projected to be produced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). A proposal for enhancing the exploration effort in the Eighth Plan has been formulated which includes:—

(i) National Seismic Programme.

- (ii) Deep Water Exploration. (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (iii) Exploration in Frontier areas. (c) if not the reasons therefor?
- (iv) Acquisition of acreage/reserves abroad.

#### **Assistance to South Africa**

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

(a) whether the new Government of South Africa has approached the Government for assistance in respect of skilled/ professional manpower, machineries etc. from India for their developmental schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c). The Government is discussing various aspects of bilateral cooperation with the Government of South Africa. The Government of India has offered technical and other assistance to the new South African Government.

#### **Pradeep Port Trust**

60. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed labour trustees in Pradeep Port Trust have been nominated;

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) On the basis of verification of membership among the Port and Dock Workers at Paradeep Port conducted by the Ministry of Labour for the period as on 31-12-1990, Utkal Port & Dock Workers Union is entitled to both the seats. As there are two factions in the Union, there is a dispute about its leadership. Title suit in this connection is pending. Since this Union is entitled to both the seats, it has not been possible to nominate the trustees till title suit is disposed.

[Translation]

#### **Private Parties to Import LPG**

61. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISING PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have permitted private sector LPG companies to import LPG;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the quantum of LPG to be imported;

(c) whether these parties have made arrangements for storage of LPG;

(d) if so, the details thereof;



(e) the measures being taken by the Government from safety point of view;

(f) the details of the waiting list for LPG connection with each of the distributor; and

(g) the time by which the registered consumers are likely to get connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (e). Under the Parallel Marketing System, private agencies have been allowed to import LPG, using/ setting up their own facilities and distribution network for sale of such imported LPG, at market determined prices. Individual parties do not need any permission from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for undertaking parallel marketing system. However, they will have to obtain necessary approvals under the relevant Acts and Rules regarding safety, pollution control etc., as applicable. 11 parties have entered into Memorandum of Understandings with Government Oil Companies for utilising their import and storage facilities. By 15.7.1994, 20424 MTs of LPG have been imported by the private agencies. In addition, one party is reported to have imported 5,000 cylinders of 11. Kg. capacity each.

(f) to (g). Under the said scheme the private agencies are free to appoint distributors and register customers without any involvement of Government.

#### **Payment for Lost Items**

62. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to revise the ratio of compensatory payment in the event of the insured goods getting lost in transit and whether such cases are proposed to be brought within the purview of Consumer Protection Act;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c). There is already a provision under the rules to pay compensation not exceeding the amount for which a Postal article has been insured in case of loss of the insured article subject to the condition that compensation so payable shall in no case exceed the value of the articles lost or the amount of damage caused. Postal services are already under the purview of the Consumer Protection Act. However, the liability of the Government is limited to what has been laid down in the Indian Post Office Act.

#### **Hiring of Tankers**

63. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has ben drawn to the news-item appearing in 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated June 28, 1994 under the caption 'Tel parivahan ke purane farmule se sarkar ko karoron ka nukasan';

(b) if so, whether the hiring charges of a tanker in the international market are less as compared to Indian formula adopted in hiring tankers; and

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

[*Translation*]

### **Visit of Foreign Delegations**

65. SHRI RATILAL VERMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the countries from where high powered delegations visited India from march, 1994 to June, 1994 under the leadership of heads of the State and Heads of the Government;

(b) the broad details of the talks held with those delegations, country-wise and the outcomes thereof; and

(c) the views expressed by these delegations in regard to Kashmir issue; country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) The names of the countries, whose high-powered delegations led by their Heads of State/ Heads of Government visited India from March, 1994 to June, 1994, are Poland Maldives and Argentina.

In addition, the Heads of State/ Government of the following countries visited New Delhi to attend the re-convened G-15 Summit in March, 1994;

Indonesia, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Senegal, Malaysia and Argentina.

(b) Information, country-wise, is as under:

#### **Poland**

Issues concerning international and regional affairs as well as bilateral

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). The hire charges under cost plus formula of old national fleet are currently lower than the market rates but new ship acquisitions are costing more.

[*English*]

### **Privatisation of Petroleum Products**

64. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to privatise production and distribution of petroleum products in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). Government has already approved proposals for private investment including foreign investment in refining and have granted LCs to seven private parties to set up oil refineries in the country.

Parallel Marketing has been introduced to promote private sector initiative and investment in Marketing of LPG, SKO and LSHS and other decanalised products with the objective of increasing availability of these products in the country.

cooperation were discussed. Views were also exchanged on disarmament. On bilateral aspects, the two sides concurred on the need to strengthen trade and economic ties and activate the Indo-Polish Joint Business Council and the Indo-Polish Joint Commission. It was also decided that the two sides would exchange views on restructuring of the UN Security Council and cooperate and coordinate efforts in GATT in relation to the follow up of the Uruguay Round and particularly the Multi-Fibre Agreement.

### **Maldives**

Discussions covered the issues of mutual interest of bilateral, regional and international nature and the areas of existing and future cooperation between India and Maldives. The visit led to better understanding of each other's views and enhanced cooperation between the two countries.

### **Argentina**

Wide-ranging discussions on international, regional and bilateral issues were held. Four Agreements--(i) Agreement on abolition of visas for diplomatic and official passport holders; (ii) Agreement on establishment of Indo-Argentina Joint Commission; (iii) Intent on signing of Cultural Exchange Programme; and (iv) Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation between Exim Bank of India and its Argentina counterpart organisations were signed.

### **G-15 Summit**

However, discussions with the Heads of State or Government, who had come for the G-15 Summit Meeting, were mainly in the context of G-15, chalking out areas of concrete cooperation and

reaffirming its continued relevance. There were also fruitful bilateral discussions held with these leaders.

(c) Country-wise position is as under:

### **Poland**

The outstanding issue between India and Pakistan should be settled bilaterally and that they were against the internationalisation of this issue.

### **Maldives**

Kashmir problem should be amicably and peacefully resolved through a dialogue between India and Pakistan.

### **Argentina**

Did not express any view on Kashmir issue.

### **G-15 Summit**

Though there was no reference to Kashmir in Joint Communique issued at G-15 Summit, it highlighted the threat posed by terrorism in the following words:

"Terrorism has emerged as one of the most dangerous threats to the enjoyment of human rights. Terrorists and their organisations violate the human rights of innocent civilians while at the same time undermining the free functioning of democratic institutions. Terrorism takes on a particularly pernicious character when it is aided from abroad. The international community should cooperate effectively to prevent and combat terrorism."

[English]

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**Adulteration of Petrol**

66. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR:  
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND  
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued guidelines to the petrol pumps and connected shops under its department with regard to put a check on adulteration of petrol;

(b) if so, the number of such cases handed over to vigilance department for enquiry during the last three years;

(c) The number of persons against whom action has been taken after ascertaining the adulteration alongwith the number of petrol pumps cancelled by Government, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government propose to formulate any policy in this regard so that common consumers are not cheated by supplying unadulterated petrol; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a), (d) and (e). The MS/HSD Control Order, 1990 and marketing discipline guidelines are in operation for curbing adulteration/malpractices at the retail outlets. As per guidelines, regular inspections are carried out by Oil Company Officers and Joint Industry Teams. Surprise inspections are made by mobile laboratories. Density checks under MS/HSD Control Order are carried out by dealers and Oil Companies. Filter paper test and furfural doping test are also carried out for checking adulteration. In proven cases of adulteration, punitive action is taken including termination of dealership.

(b) and (c). In cases of adulteration detected by Oil Companies, action is taken by the Oil Companies themselves.

The State-wise details of cases of proven adulteration wherein action has been taken by the Oil Companies are given in the enclosed *Statement*.

**STATEMENT**

State	Name of the Dealer and Location	Action Taken
1. Orissa	1. Kedar Gauri Service Station Bhubaneswar	Dealership terminated
	2. Janpath Service Station, Bhubaneswar	-do-
	3. Badri Narain, Kashi Prasad, Bhadrak	-do-
2. Uttar Pradesh	1. Singh Service Station, Dehradun	-do-

State	Name of the Dealer and Location	Action Taken
3. Maharashtra	1. M/s. M.P. Auto, Kamptee Road, Nagpur.	Dealership terminated
	2. Jay Auto, Bombay.	-do-
	3. M/s. Ram Agencies, Saoner.	-do-
	4. M/s. Parthsarthy, Shahpur.	-do-
4. Karnataka	1. M/s. N.A. Service Station, Bangalore	-do-

### Road Construction Projects

67. SHRI DHRMANNA MODAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of private sector projects for road building are lying pending with the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

### Visit of Prime Minister of Taiwan

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

(a) whether the Prime Minister of Taiwan recently visited India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the broad details of the talks held by him with Indian leaders and the outcome thereof; and

(d) the extent of usefulness of the visit in regard to Indo-Taiwanese relations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) No Sir.

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

### Maintenance of Buses

69. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report in the 'Hindustan Times' dated July 9, 1994 captioned, "Dirty buses add to commuters woes";

(b) if so, what are the standards laid down, if any, about the facilities, structure and maintenance of buses in the Union Territory of Delhi under DTC and under STA permits;

(c) whether any inspection and survey of all these buses has since been carried out and if so, details thereof;

(d) the total number of buses in the DTC fleet as on April 30, 1994;

(e) whether Government propose to reduce the size of the DTC fleet; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Under the provisions of Section 56 of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, Stage Carriage Permit buses are required to obtain certificate of fitness which is valid for one year. Inspection is carried out at the time of renewal of certificate of fitness by the Board of Inspectors. The dimension, facilities, structure etc. of the buses are checked as per the conditions laid down in Rule 91 to 122 of Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989. The owner of the bus plying under State Carriage Permits is responsible to keep the bus neat and clean as per permit conditions. So far as DTC is concerned, all the DTC buses are checked for the cleanliness/presentability at the time of out-shedding from the Depots everyday.

(d) As on 30-4-1994 DTC had a fleet strength of 3505.

(e) and (f). It has been decided to keep the fleet strength of DTC fixed at 3500 buses.

#### **Kayamkulam Thermal Power Plant**

70. SHRIMATI SUSEELA  
GOPALAN:  
PROF. K.V. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have given its approval and arranged required financial assistance for the Kayamkulam Thermal Power Project in Kerala;

(b) if not, the time by which the approval would be given and the financial allocation made; and

(c) the financial institution funding the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). The Government of India have recently decided that the Kayamkulam Thermal Power Project in Kerala will be implemented by the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC). NTPC would arrange for requisite finance partly through its own resources and partly through commercial borrowings, issue of bonds, etc. A token provision of Rs. 1 crore has been made by NTPC in the current financial year pending investment approval for expenditure on establishment etc. Investment approval to the project will be accorded after updating of the cost estimates.

#### **Match Wax**

71. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is surplus availability of match wax in the country, after regular allotments;

(b) if so, whether any regular allotment of match wax is being provided to the Haryana;

(c) if not, whether any demand of Haryana is pending with the Union Government and if so, the reasons for delay in allotment;

(d) whether regular allotment of match wax has been considered recently in any other cases; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) At present there is no surplus availability of paraffin wax type-III (match wax). To make the product easily available, paraffin wax has been decanalised with effect from 1.4.1992.

(b) The allocation of paraffin wax type-III is made to some States/UTs on regular basis. However, adhoc allocations of match wax have been made in the past to various States/UTs including Haryana to liquidate the surplus availability at that particular point of time.

(c) to (e). The Directorate of Industries, Haryana has requested allotment of about 700 MTs per month of paraffin wax type-III (match wax) on regular basis. The demand of individual State/UT is decided on a case to case basis, on merits.

[Translation]

#### **STD Facility to Village Panchayats**

72. SHRI JANGBIR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the village panchayats provided with S.T.D. facility during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of the village-panchayats proposed to be provided with the said facility during 1994-95; and

(c) the time by which the above facilities is likely to be provided to Bahal, Luharu, Dadri, Boni-Khera, Tosham and Bond located in Bhiwani district of Haryana?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(c) the details are as under:—

- (i) Bothway STD facility has already been provided at Dadri, Bawani-Khera and Tosham during March, 1994.
- (ii) STD facility in outgoing direction has also been provided at Luharu during March, 1994.
- (iii) Bothway STD facility to Bahal, Bond and Luharu has been planned to be provided during the year 1994-95.

#### **Agreements with foreign countries in Power Sector**

73. SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the foreign countries with which agreements relating to power generation have been signed by Indian Government during June, 1994;

(b) the country-wise names of companies which are coming forward to invest in power sector of India and the amount likely to be invested by each of them; and

(c) the extent to which the power production is likely to go up in the country as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No Agreements have been signed with foreign countries for power generation in private sector in June, 1994.

(b) and (c). The details are given in *Statement* attached.



## STATEMENT

*Details of expression by Foreign Private Companies*

Sl. No.	Name of Project/ State	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
1.	Jegurupadu GBPP (Godavari) Andhra Pradesh	Forgn. (NRI)	235.00 (Gas)	827.00	GVK Industries, USA
2.	Kakinada GBPP/ (Godavari) Andhra Pradesh	Forgn. (NRI)	208.00 (Gas)	748.43	Septnum Power Generation Ltd. USA
3.	Visakhapatnam TPS Andhra Pradesh	Forgn./ Indian JV	1000.00 (2x500) (Coal)	3000.00	Ashok Leyland & National Power (U.K.)
4.	Kemeng HEP/ Arunachal Pradesh	India/ Forgn.	600.00 (Hydel)	1800.00	Intercorp Industries Ltd. Snowy Mountains Engg. (Australia)
5.	Kharsang GBPP/ Arunachal Pradesh	Forgn./ Indian JV	48.00 (Gas)	168.00	Intercorp Industries Ltd. Snowy Mountains Engg. (Australia)

6.	Amguri GBPP/ Assam	Forgn.	360.00 (Gas)	1280.00	Northern Engineering Inc. USA/Agra Industries
7.	Paguthan GBPP/ Gujarat	Forgn./ Indian	654.70 (Gas)	2178.14	Gujarat Torrent Energy Corpn. Ltd./Siemens, Germany.
8.	Lignite based TPS/ Gujarat	Foren.	250.00 (Lignite)	875.00	Eisenberg Group of Co. Israel
9.	Hissar TPS/ Haryana	Forgn.	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1000.00	Cogentrix Inc. USA
10.	Yamunanagar TPS/ Haryana	Forgn.	1000.00 (4x250) (Coal)	3500.00	Eisenberg Group of Cos. Israel
11.	Hibra HEP/ Himachal Pradesh	Forgn.	231.00 (Hydel)	708.50	Harza Engineering Co. USA.
12.	Dhamwari HEP/ Himachal Pradesh	Forgn.	70.00 (Hydel)	245.00	Harza Engineering Co. USA.
13.	Mangalore TPS/ Karnataka	Forgn.	1000.00 (Coal)	5088.00	Cogentrix Inc. USA
14.	Mangalore TPS/ Karnataka	Indian/ Forgn.	300.00 (Coal)	900.00	Jaiprakash Industries Ltd. National Power (U.K.)

Sl. No.	Name of Project/ State	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
15.	Almatti Dam HEP/ Karnataka	Forgn./ Indian JV	600.00 (Hydel)	1800.00	Asia Power Co. Ltd. (TAPCO) USA, Karnataka Power Corporation
16.	Hospet TPS/ Karnataka	Forgn.	500.00 (1x500) (Coal)	1350.00	Hok Intercontinental Ltd. USA
17.	Raichur St.-V TPS/ Karnataka	Forgn./ Indian JV	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1000.70	Public Power Int., Inc. (North East Energy) USA, Karnataka Power Corpo.
18.	Thrikaripur TPP/ Kerala	Forgn.	420.00 (2x210) (Coal)	1480.00	M.A. Al-Mazroui Gen Trading Est. UAE Scepture Power Co., USA
19.	Dabhol CCGT (LNG)/ Maharashtra	Forgn.	2015.00 (LNG)	9051.27	Enron Power Development Corporation & General Electric Corp., USA
20.	Khaperkheda TPS Units 5 & 6/ Maharashtra	Forgn.	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1632.00	Aranco Line Shipping Co. (Malta/Singapore) R R Associates
21.	Bhadravati TPS Maharashtra	Forgn./ Indian JV	1000.00 (Coal)	3000.00	Ispath Alloys Ltd., Mitsui (Japan)

22.	Talcher TPS/ Orissa	Forgn.	500.00 (2x250 (Coal)	1500.00	Spectrum Technologies USA
23.	Kamalanga (Dhankanal TPS) Orissa	Forgn.	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1500.00	International Equity Partners, L.P., USA
24.	Ib Valley TPS/ Orissa	Forgn.	420.00 (2x210) (Coal)	2025.60	A E S Corporation, USA
25.	Ib Valley TPS/ Orissa	Forgn.	3000.00 (Coal)	10500.00	Eisenberg Group of Cos. Israel
26.	Duburi TPS/ Orissa	Forgn./ India	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1548.00	Kalinga Power Corp./ North East Energy Service Inc., USA/ Govt. of Orissa
27.	Lapanga TPS/ Orissa	Forgn.	500.00 (2x250) (Coal)	1750.00	Pioneer Energy Inc., USA/ Duke Engineering Service
28.	Barsingar TPS/ Rajasthan	Forgn.	240.00 (2x120) (Lig)	585.73	Coleman & Associates (Australian Consortium) (Now being awarded through bidding).
29.	Cuddalore TPS/ Tamil Nadu	Forgn.	1000.00 (2x500) (Coal)	2000.00	International Contracting & Marketing Corpn., USA

Sl. No.	Name of Project/ State	Foreign/ Indian	Capacity (MW)	Prov. Cost Estimate (Rs. Crs.)	Name of the Company
30.	Pillaiperumalnallur CCGT/Tamil Nadu	Forgn.	300.00 (2x100 +1x100) (Gas)	429.49	P Vijaykumar Reddy, MKOWSKI Associates, USA
31.	Zero unit (NLC)/ Tamil Nadu	Forgn. (NRI)	210.00 (1x210) (Lig)	750.00	ST Power Systems Inc. USA
32.	Jayamkondam Lignite TPS/Tamil Nadu	Indian/ Forgn.	1500.00 (3x500) (Lig)	4500.00	Jayamkondam Lignite Power Corporation Ltd. (TIDCO), Mcnally Bharat Germany
33.	Rosa TPS/ Uttar Pradesh	Forgn./ Indian	750.00 (3x250) (Coal)	2625.00	Indo-Gulf Fertilizers & Chemicals/Power Gen. U.K.
34.	Sagaridighi TPS/ West Bengal	Forgn./ Indian JV	1000.00 (2x500) (Coal)	2000.00	Development Consultant Pvt. Ltd. CMS, USA Generation & WBSEB
35.	Dankuni GBPP/ West Bengal	Forgn. (NRI)	20.00 (Gas)	40.00	Spectrum Technologies USA
			<hr/> 22431.70	<hr/> 73385.86	

## Country-wise break up of the proposals

Country	Capacity	Cost	No. of Offers
1. USA	14169.00	46596.39	22
2. UK	2050.00	6525.00	3
3. Germany	2154.70	6678.14	2
4. Australia	888.00	2553.73	3
5. Japan	1000.00	3000.00	1
6. Malta	500.00	1632.00	1
7. Israel	1670.00	6400.60	3
	22431.70	73385.86	35

[English]

**Gold in Assam**

75. SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to conduct a survey to reassess gold availability in the country;

(b) if so, whether the sands of river Subansiri in Assam was found to be rich in gold deposits; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to extract these reserves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A study by the Regional Research Laboratory, Jorhat and Directorate of Geology and Mining (Assam) has indicated poor incidence of 0.37 g/t of gold in Subansiri river, Assam at some places.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**L.P.G. Bottling at Gorakhpur, U.P.**

76. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received proposal from the Uttar Pradesh Government to set up a bottling plant at Gorakhpur;

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard; and

(c) the amount estimated to be spent on setting up of this bottling plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) No such proposal has been received. One LPG bottling plant is already operating at Gorakhpur.

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

[English]

**Passport Offices**

77. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to hand over the function of issuing passports to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

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

(c) whether there is any proposal to streamline the system of public dealing in passport offices;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have introduced any innovations in the system of processing passport applications during the last one year; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (f). Streamlining the working of the passport offices is a continuous process involving various steps like computerisation of passport offices in a

phased manner, improvement of the infra-structure of passport offices, regular inspections of passport offices, and augmentation of staff strength, as necessary.

### Steel Units

78. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of major, minor and medium steel units being set up in Orissa during the Eighth Plan; and

(b) the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). According to the information received from the State Government of Orissa, five steel plants and one cold rolling mill are proposed to be set up in Orissa during the Eighth Plan. The details of these plants and their progress are given below:—

Sl. No. & Location	Name of the Unit	Product & Capacity (in lac tonnes)	Progress
1.	Mid-East Integrated Steel Ltd., Daitari	<u>Phase-I</u> Pig Iron— 4.64 <u>Phase-II</u> Steel — 500	531 acres of land taken over by the company. Site work started. Chinese collaboration approved.
2.	Brahamani Iron and Steel Co., Daitari	Concast Slabs — 5.50	Land allotted.
3.	Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd., Daitari	Billets & Slabs— 10.00	Land acquisition is in progress. Loan application to IDBI made. Application for Environment clearance made.

Sl. No. & Location	Product & Capacity (in lac tonnes)	Progress
4. ORIND Steels Ltd., Daitari	CR Steel Coils – 5.00	Land allotted
5. Bhusan Steels & Strips Ltd., Daitari.	Concast Slabs – 6.50	Land allotted. Site demarcation work in progress.
6. Mesco-Kalinga Steels Ltd., Daitari.	HR Steel Coils – 12.00	Land allotted. MOU signed with State Govt. for implementation of the project.

### Indian Missions

79. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the countries where there is no Indian Mission; and

(b) the names of the countries where Indian Embassies are likely to be opened during 1994?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) A list containing the names of the countries where there is no Indian Mission at present is given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(b) An Indian Mission is likely to be opened in Colombia. However, a formal announcement will be made after the necessary administrative procedures have been completed.

### STATEMENT

*Names of the countries in which resident Indian Missions do not exist.*

1. Benin	13. Gambia
2. Burkina Faso	14. Guinea
3. Burundi	15. Guinea Bissau
4. Cameroon	16. Lesotho
5. Cape Verde Islands	17. Liberia
6. Central African Republic	18. Malawi
7. Chad	19. Mali
8. Comoros	20. Niger
9. Congo	21. Rwanda
10. Equatorial Guinea	22. Sao Tome & Principe
11. Eritrea	23. Sierra Leone
12. Gabon	24. Swaziland



- 
- |                        |                                   |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 25. Togo               | 56. Luxemburg                     |
| 26. Zaire              | 57. Monaco                        |
| 27. The Bahamas        | 58. San Marino                    |
| 28. Cook Islands       | 59. Antigua & Barbuda             |
| 29. Marshall Islands   | 60. Barbados                      |
| 30. Nauru              | 61. Belize                        |
| 31. New Caledonia      | 62. Bolivia                       |
| 32. Society Islands    | 63. Caynan Islanas                |
| 33. Tonga              | 64. Colombia                      |
| 34. Tuvalu             | 65. Costa Rica                    |
| 35. Fiji               | 66. Commonwealth of Dominica      |
| 36. Kiribati           | 67. Dominican Republic            |
| 37. Papua New Guinea   | 68. Ecuador                       |
| 38. Solomon Islands    | 69. El Salvador                   |
| 39. Vanuatu            | 70. Grenada                       |
| 40. Western Samoa      | 71. Guatemala                     |
| 41. Azerbaijan         | 72. Haiti                         |
| 42. Albania            | 73. Honduras                      |
| 43. Armenia            | 74. Netherlands Antilles          |
| 44. Bosnia-Herzegovina | 75. Paraguay                      |
| 45. Croatia            | 76. St Christopher and Nevis      |
| 46. Estonia            | 77. St Lucia                      |
| 47. Georgia            | 78. St Vincent and the Grenadines |
| 48. Latvia             | 79. Turks and Caicos Islands      |
| 49. Lithuania          | 80. Uruguay                       |
| 50. Moldova            | 81. Taiwan                        |
| 51. Slovak Republic    | 82. Djibouti                      |
| 52. Slovenia           | 83. Mauritania                    |
| 53. The Holy See       | 84. Somalia                       |
| 54. Iceland            | 85. Gibraltar                     |
| 55. Liechtenstein      |                                   |
-

**Automatic Telephone Exchanges in Kerala**

(b) if so, the details thereof with locations and capacity of each exchange?

80. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(a) whether the Government propose to set up new automatic telephone exchanges in Kerala; and

(b) As given in the enclosed *Statement*.

**STATEMENT**

*New Automatic Telephone Exchanges proposed to be set up in Kerala during 1994-95*

**Alleppey**

- |                       |   |                 |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------|
| (1) Arthinkal         | — | 256 P C-DOT RAX |
| (2) Pathirapally      | — | 256 P C-DOT RAX |
| (3) Alleppey Unit III | — | 2000 Lines RLU  |

**Cannanore**

- |                         |   |                 |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------|
| (1) Vaniyappara         | — | 256 P C-DOT RAX |
| (2) Tellicherry Unit II | — | 3000 Lines RLU  |

**Calicut**

- |                      |   |                              |
|----------------------|---|------------------------------|
| (1) Rec Calicut      | — | 256 P C-DOT RAX              |
| (2) Calicut Unit II  | — | 10000 Lines (New Technology) |
| (3) Calicut Unit III | — | 5000 Lines E-10-B Main       |

**Ernakulam**

- |                   |   |                 |
|-------------------|---|-----------------|
| (1) Manjapra      | — | 256 P C-DOT RAX |
| (2) Murukkumpadam | — | 256 P C-DOT RAX |

(3) Erakulam Unit IV	—	2000 Lines (New Technology)
(4) Erakulam-Wellington Island Unit II	—	3000 Lines C-DOT MAX I
(5) Kothamangalam Unit II	—	2000 Lines C-DOT MAX I
(6) Perumbavoor Unit II	—	3000 Lines C-DOT MAX I
<b>Palghat</b>		
(1) Palghat Unit II	—	5000 Lines RLU
<b>Pathanamthitta</b>		
(1) Vallicode-Kottayam	—	256 P C-DOT RAX
<b>Quilon</b>		
(1) Quilon-Vellayittambalom	—	2000 Lines RLU
<b>Trivandrum</b>		
(1) Trivandrum-Kaithamukku	—	4000 Lines (New Technology)
(2) Trivandrum-Kaimanam	—	2000 Lines (New Technology)
(3) Trivandrum-Medical College Unit II	—	E-10-B (M) 4000 Lines
<hr/>		
Total	—	20 Exchanges
<hr/>		

[*Translation*]

**LPG Godown Between Jhansi and Kanpur**

81. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI:  
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a LPG godown on the National Highway between Jhansi and Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether any provision of foreign assistance was envisaged in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

### **Rates of STD Telephones Calls**

82. DR. R. MALLU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether domestic rates of STD calls and FAX are halved after 9 P.M., and on holidays;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide similar facility for overseas calls also;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). The domestic rates of STD calls and FAX are charged at 25% of the normal tariff between 2100 hours to 2400 hrs. and 0000 hrs. to 0600 hrs. on week days, National Holidays and Sundays for radial distances over 50 K.Ms. between any two exchanges or between any two long distance charging centres.

(c) to (e). The question of tariff for ISD calls is dependent upon number of factors including revenue sharing with other countries and is therefore examined by the Government periodically.

### **Commemorative Stamps**

83. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals pending with his Ministry for release of commemorative stamps as on June 30, 1994;

(b) the number of such stamps released during 1993-94 with names of eminent persons;

(c) whether any recommendations from the Government of Maharashtra is pending for issue of commemorative stamps; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The number of proposals pending as on 30.6.94 for consideration by the Philatelic Advisory Committee, which functions in the Department of Posts to advise on such matters are twenty-nine.

(b) The total number of stamps issued during the period June '93 to June '94 is 31 out of which 15 were of eminent personalities.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### **Diamond Mining Sector**

84. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the country's share in international diamond market;

(b) whether the selling price of the Indian diamonds abroad is lower than the corresponding domestic selling price;

(c) the details of the benefits accruing to the diamond mining and trading sector as a result of the new Economic Policy adopted by the Union Government; and

(d) the number of workers engaged in the diamond mining sector and the employment potential of this sector in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) India has 40% share in the international market in cut and polished diamond.

(b) Selling price of diamonds depend on their quantity.

(c) As a result of New Economic Policy of Union Government, some reputed International Diamond Mining Companies are taking interest in exploring new mines for diamond production. Some Companies have shown interest in technical collaboration with NDMC for increasing Diamond production from its Diamond Mining Project, Panna, Madhya Pradesh.

(d) Total employees employed by NDMC as on 30.6.94 are 681 in its diamond mining project situated at Panna.

#### **MOU between GSI and Oil India**

85. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether G.S.I. and Oil India Ltd. have signed a Memorandum of

Understanding on conducting an aeromagnetic Survey of Bihar.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the above agreement would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Geological Survey of India (GSI) signed an MOU with Oil India Limited on 16th September, 1993 to conduct high resolution aeromagnetic surveys over parts of Ganga Valley in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar for a period of two years for acquisition, processing and interpretations of the high resolution aeromagnetic data with the objective of identification of exploration targets for oil.

(c) Aeromagnetic surveys commenced from 20th November, 1993.

#### **Companies Producing Soft Drinks**

86. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for production of soft drink in the country by unemployed persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of indigenous and foreign companies producing soft drinks in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Soft Drinks are normally understood as Sweetened Aerated Water. There are 650 indigenous companies licensed under Fruit Products Order as on 1.1.1994 for producing Sweetened Aerated Water. No foreign Company is producing soft drinks in India. However, M/s Pepsi Foods Ltd., and M/s. Britco Foods Co. Pvt. Ltd. are manufacturing soft drink concentrate.

**Production of Natural Gas and Crude Oil in Bombay High**

87. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether natural gas is being produced alongwith crude oil in the Bombay High;

(b) if so, the quantity produced during 1993-94 and the manner in which it is proposed to be utilised for industrial purposes;

(c) whether any pipelines are being laid for the supply of natural gas of Bombay High from main land to terminals; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) to (d). The gas production from Bombay High during 1993-94 was about

4539 MMSCM. This is presently transported to Uran through a subsea pipeline for use by industries in fertilizers, power, petrochemicals, etc. Another pipeline from Bombay High (ICP platform) to Heera field is presently under construction to facilitate transportation of additional gas from Bombay High to Uran through the existing trunkline.

[English]

**Manganese Ore India Limited**

88. SHRI RAMCHANDRA GHANGARE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Manganese Ore India Limited has signed a memorandum of Understanding with the Government of India for the year 1994-95; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the MOU signed by MOIL with Government of India, during the year 1994-95. MOIL expects to produce 6.25 lakh tonnes of Manganese Ore and 385 tonnes of Electrolytic Manganese Dioxide (EMD) with an expected net turnover of Rs. 82.76 crores and a profit (after tax) of Rs. 9.19 crores.

[Translation]

**Conversion of Telephone Exchanges in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh**

89. SHRI RAJ NARAIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to replace the old telephone exchanges in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh during 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details with locations thereof, year-wise; and

(c) the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connection in Dehradun, Gorakhpur and Varanasi Divisions in Uttar Pradesh and Paschim Vihar in Delhi as, on June 30, 1991 and on October 31, 1994 separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

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

[English]

### ONGC Projects

90. SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation projects, scheduled to commence production this year are suffering huge cost overruns;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when the NEELAM projects are likely to start production;

(d) the steps taken to avoid escalation in the original cost;

(e) whether ONGC have given number of oil fields to the Indian and foreign entrepreneurs; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the date on which they are likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). Three ONGC projects namely Neelam Development, L-II Development and L-III Development which were scheduled to commence production this year have observed cost escalation. While revised cost estimates for L-II & L-III projects have been received from ONGC, the revised cost estimate for Neelam Development has since been approved.

(c) Neelam Project has since commenced production.

(d) Steps taken to check cost overruns include:—

- (i) To provide an exclusively dedicated group of personnel to coordinate timely execution of the projects; and
- (ii) Award of contracts at fixed lump-sum basis to the extent possible.

(e) and (f). Four medium sized fields—Mukta, Panna, Mid & South Tapti and Ravva have been awarded to two consortia of Indian and foreign companies for development under joint sector. Contracts have not been signed so far.

### Telephone Connections in Maharashtra

91. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in Maharashtra, district-wise and category-wise;

(b) the time by which the waiting list will be cleared; and

(c) the programme, if any, chalked out for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Information is given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(b) and (c). Telecom Policy 1994 envisages the provision of telephone connections practically on demand by 1.4.97 all over the country. During 1994-95 it is proposed to provide 2,47,000 new telephone connections in Maharashtra including MTNL Bombay.

### STATEMENT

*Number of Persons on waiting list for Telephone Connections in Maharashtra, District-wise and Category-wise as on 31.3.94*

Sl. No.	District	OYT	SPL	GENL	Total
1.	Bombay (MTNL)	5316	937	87043	93296
2.	Thane (Kalyan)	3901	123	31019	35043
3.	Nasik	805	828	17746	19379
4.	Nagpur	1498	1304	25088	27890
5.	Jalgaon	131	292	7263	7686
6.	Raigad	73	10	2020	2103
7.	Ahmednagar	59	234	10051	10344
8.	Aurangabad	635	612	11256	12503
9.	Jalna	1	Nil	1416	1417
10.	Nanded	164	51	3559	3774
11.	Parbhani	5	9	1587	1601
12.	Latur	147	310	4172	4629



Sl. No.	District	OYT	SPL	GENL	Total
13.	Beed	14	33	1612	1659
14.	Osmanabad	3	5	912	920
15.	Kolhapur	210	233	11470	11913
16.	Solapur	1020	791	8926	10737
17.	Sangli	322	223	6485	7030
18.	Satara	5	12	1561	1578
19.	Ratnagiri	138	123	3425	3686
20.	Sindudurg	8	39	1131	1178
21.	Pune	187	1033	53688	54908
22.	Dhule	65	46	3274	3385
23.	Akola	152	140	4341	4633
24.	Amaravati	47	91	3794	3932
25.	Dhandara	34	30	1189	1253
26.	Buldana	1	84	875	960
27.	Wardha	4	2	1173	1179
28.	Yeotmal	76	82	1664	1822
29.	Ghandrapur	5	Nil	2109	2114
30.	Gadchiroli	Nil	2	388	390
		15026	7679	310237	332942

**Maritime Boundaries with Pakistan  
and Bangladesh**

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

(a) the progress made in the  
bilateral negotiations on demarcation of  
maritime boundaries with Pakistan in the  
Arabian Sea and with Bangladesh in the  
Bay of Bengal;

(b) the exact status of negotiations;  
and

(c) the reasons for the delay in the  
conclusion of agreements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (c). A  
*Statement* is attached.

**STATEMENT**

**Pakistan**

(a) to (c). We have held five rounds  
of discussions with Pakistan with a view  
to demarcating the India-Pakistan  
maritime boundary in the Sir Creek area.  
The last round of talks on the issue were  
held at New Delhi on 5-6 November,  
1992 during which the two sides had a  
detailed exchange of views. However,  
the differences in the interpretation of the  
boundary in the Sir Creek area persist.

Government have since conveyed  
to Pakistan certain constructive and  
specific suggestions which can form the  
basis of a comprehensive and meaningful  
dialogue on the issue.

**Bangladesh**

(a) Indo-Bangladesh talks on  
maritime boundary in the Bay of Bengal  
were first held in November 1974. The  
last round of talks was held in August  
1982. Despite these talks, no substantial  
progress has been achieved so far.

(b) The water is being pursued  
through diplomatic channels in order to  
seek resumption of the Indo-Bangladesh  
talks on demarcation of maritime  
boundary.

(c) No agreement has been  
concluded because of divergent  
approaches and viewpoints of the two  
sides.

**Vehicular Pollution**

93. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN  
CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister  
of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased  
to state:

(a) the comparative figures of the  
daily emission of vehicular pollution in  
Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and  
Bangalore;

(b) what percentage of total  
atmosphere pollution is caused by  
Vehicles in these cities; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken  
by the Government to control vehicular  
pollution in the major metropolitan cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF  
THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE  
TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):  
(a) to (c). The information is being  
collected and will be laid on the Table  
of the House.

**National Mineral Development Corporation**

with his Ministry for 1994-95 recently; and

94. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:  
Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(d) if so, the details thereof?

(a) whether the performance of the National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) has been improving over the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of the turnover, profits and dividends paid by the NMDC during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the Corporation has signed a Memorandum of Understanding

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). While the production of iron ore and diamonds by the National Mineral Development Corporation Limited (NMDC) has been increasing every year, profits have been affected over the last three years primarily due to increase in operational costs and decline in the export prices of iron ore. Details of the turnover, profits and dividends paid by the NMDC during the last three years are as under:—

	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94 (Prov.)
(i) Sales Turnover (including other income)	Rs. 304.74 crores	Rs. 299.37 crores	Rs. 306.54 crores
(ii) Net Profit	Rs. 145.21 crores	Rs. 116.30 crores	Rs. 96.74 crores
(iii) Dividend paid	Rs. 26.43 crores	Rs. 26.43 crores	Rs. 26.43 crores (Proposed)

(c) and (d) In the Memorandum of understanding for 1994-95 signed recently between NMDC and the Steel Ministry,

the Company has undertaken to achieve the following physical and financial targets during 1994-95:—

(i) Production of Iron Ore	11.2 Million Tonnes
(ii) Production of Diamonds	17800 Carats
(iii) Gross Margin	Rs. 78.26 crores
(iv) Net profit to Capital employed	11.51%

**Distribution of Dealership for LPG/  
Petrol/Diesel in Kerala**

95. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received complaints about distribution of dealership for LPG and Petrol/Diesel bunks in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Oil Selection Boards has been disbanded before its normal tenure in Kerala; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (d). Complaints were received against the functioning of the Oil Selection Board for Kerala and Lakshadweep including a few Writ Petitions filed in the High Court of Kerala against the selections made by the OSB. In view of this, the tenure of the Chairman and the Members of OSB (Kerala & Lakshadweep), which was due to expire on 31.12.1994, was terminated on 2.3.1994, in public interest.

[Translation]

**Allotment of Dealership**

96. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM

AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licences issued by the Government during the last two years for allotment of petrol pumps, diesel pumps and LPG agencies respectively;

(b) the number of licences out of them given to persons belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward classes, handicapped, educated unemployed and persons retired from the Armed forces and Para-military forces, State-wise;

(c) the number of licence-holders against whom complaints regarding less measurement and adulteration have been received and the action taken against them;

(d) the number of foreign companies which have issued licences for petrol/diesel pumps and LPG agencies alongwith the State-wise number of licences issued by them; and

(e) the number of licences proposed to be issued in the public sector and private sector during the current financial year, the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Letters of Intent for petrol/diesel Retail Outlets and LPG distributorships are issued by the Oil Marketing Companies on the recommendations of the Oil Selection Boards and also in pursuance of Government sanctions issued under discretionary powers.

Accordingly, LOIs issued during the last 2 years are reported as under:—

	RO	LPG
1992-93	32	104
1993-94	671	381

(b) The existing policy provides reservation for different categories of people as under:—

SC/ST	-	25%
Physically handicapped	-	7½%
Defence	-	7½%
Freedom Fighters	-	5%
Open	-	55%

There is no separate reservation for backward classes and educated unemployed persons.

(c) Six dealerships have been terminated after charges of adulteration against them have been proved.

(d) and (e). About 1400 RO dealerships and 850 LPG distributorships already included in the Marketing Plans are due to be allotted during the current year by the public sector Oil Marketing Companies. Actual number would depend on various factors such as the number of candidates applying in response to advertisements and the number of interviews that could be conducted by the Oil Selection Boards. Under the Parallel Marketing System private agencies are

free to appoint distributors for LPG and kerosene without any involvement of Government. Petrol/diesel are not allowed to be marketed by private agencies including foreign companies.

### **Bridges in Gujarat**

97. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Oil and Natural Gas Commission have allocated funds for the construction of bridges in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount spent so far by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission on the Construction of bridges in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). ONGC Ltd. have not specifically allocated funds for construction of bridges in Gujarat. However, the Corporation has assisted the Government of Gujarat with a sum of Rs. 2 crores for construction of an over-bridge over Sabarmati Railway Crossing at Ahmedabad. Of this, Rs. 1 crore was released during 1992-93 and balance Rs. 1 crore was released during 1993-94.

### **Telephone Dues Against Ex. Ministers/Ex.M.Ps.**

98. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details in regard to those Ex. Ministers/Ex. Members of Parliament

and retired Government Officers as on 30th June, 1994 against whom telephone bills for more than ten thousand rupees are outstanding and they have not made any payments in this regard for the last six months of more; and

(b) the action taken by the Government so far to recover the amount outstanding against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[English]*

#### **Consular Offices in Hyderabad**

99. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Union Government for setting up Consular offices of some of the developed countries in Hyderabad;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) No, Sir.

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

#### **Power Finance Corporation**

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

(a) whether the Power Finance Corporation propose to raise resources through bonds;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the purpose for which the amount realised through bonds is proposed to be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) At present there is no proposal before the Power Finance Corporation to raise resources through Bonds.

(b) and (c). Do not arise in view of (a) above.

#### **Oil Exploration**

101. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had invited bids in 1993-94 for oil exploration in various blocks;

(b) if so, the foreign and Indian companies which have responded;

(c) the details of companies which have been allotted exploration work, company-wise and State-wise;

(d) whether all the blocks have been allotted; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). During 1993-94 Government of India had invited Indian and foreign companies for exploration of oil and gas is specified blocks under the Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Rounds. The list of foreign and Indian companies which put in bids in these three rounds is given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(c) to (e). While proposals received under Fifth Round are under consideration of Government, negotiations with bidders who submitted bids under Sixth Round are in progress. The bids received under Seventh Round are under evaluation.

#### STATEMENT

##### Fifth Round

##### Indian Companies

Hindustan Oil Exploration Company, Baroda

Essar Oil, Bombay

Videocon International Ltd., Ahmedabad

Phoenix Overseas Ltd., India

Rupsa Petroleum

Tata Petrodyne (P) Ltd.

##### Foreign Companies

Rexwood Corporation, USA

Okland Oil Company, USA

Command Petroleum Holding NL, Australia

Vaalco Energy Incl., USA

Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. Ltd., Korea.

##### Sixth Round

##### Indian Companies

Tata Petrodyne, New Delhi

Reliance Industries, Bombay

Videocon Petroleum, Aurangabad,

Larsen & Toubro, Bombay

Hindustan Oil Exploration Co., Baroda

Rupsa Petroleum, West Bengal

Gujarat State Petrochemicals Corporation, Ahmedabad

Phoenix Overseas, New Delhi

Harsh Oil and Gas consultants, New Delhi.

Nahanwar Marketing Private Ltd., New Delhi

Petrodrill (P) Ltd., New Delhi

##### Foreign Companies

BHP Petroleum, Australia

Amoco Petroleum Co., USA

Enron Exploration Co. USA

**Euroissue of VSNL**

Command Petroleum, Australia

102. SHRI BAPU HARI  
CHAURE:

Vaalco Energy, USA

SHRI PARASRAM  
BHARDWAJ:

Phoenix Geophysies, Canada

Will the Minister of COMMUNICA-  
TIONS be pleased to state:

Samson International, USA

Rexwood Corporation, USA

(a) whether attention of the  
Government has been drawn to the  
news-item captioned "VSNL losing Rs. 1  
crore a day" appearing in the 'Hindustan  
Times' dated July 11, 1994 regarding re-  
launching of Euroissue of VSNL;

Okland Oil Co., USA

**Seventh Round****Indian Companies**

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

Gujarat State Petrochemicals Ltd.

(c) the reaction of the Government  
thereto?

Essar Oil Ltd.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF  
THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS  
(SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.Harsh Oil and Gas Consultants (P)  
Ltd.

Phoenix Overseas Ltd.

(b) VSNL, had proceeded for a  
Euroissue of 20 Million Shares as per  
Government approval. However, as the  
indicative price at the end of the book-  
building process was found less than  
Rs. 1400, the Company in consultation  
with the Government deferred the issue.

Reliance Industries Ltd.

Tata Petrodyne

Hindustan Oil Exploration Company

(c) The amount of loss quoted in  
the Newspaper appears to be without the  
basis.**Foreign Companies**

Phoenix Geophysics Ltd. Canada

**Telephone Connections**

Vaalco Energy Inc. USA

103. SHRI RAMESH CHENNI-  
THALA:Rexwood Corporation and Okland Oil  
Co. USA

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:

Opseis Geophysical System, USA

Will the Minister of COMMUNICA-  
TIONS be pleased to state:



(a) the break-up of the backlog applications for telephone connections as on date, State-wise;

(b) whether there is any action plan prepared to clear the backlog; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) State-wise waiting list as on 30.6.94 is given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) National Telecom. Policy 1994 envisages to provide telephone connections on demand by 1.4.1997. Exchanges are being planned accordingly to meet the above objective. During 1994-95 annual plan, a target of providing 14 lakh new telephone connections has been fixed. Efforts are also being made to procure additional equipment on lease to reduce the backlog of waiting list.

### STATEMENT

#### *Telephone Connections*

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Waiting list as on 30.6.94
1.	Andhra Pradesh	160880
2.	Assam	12798
3.	Bihar	34901
4.	Gujarat (includes Dadar, Daman, Diu & Nagar Haveli (U.Ts)	211636
5.	Haryana	62811
6.	Himachal Pradesh	16801
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	19958
8.	Karnataka	176812
9.	Kerala (includes Lakshadweep (U.T.))	325434
10.	Madhya Pradesh	51933
11.	Maharashtra (Includes Goa State)	353248

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Waiting list as on 30.6.94
12.	North East (Includes Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland & Tripura)	6715
13.	Orissa	6636
14.	Punjab (Includes Chandigarh (U.T.))	204440
15.	Rajasthan	174383
16.	Tamil Nadu (Includes Pondicherry (U.T.))	319811
17.	Uttar Pradesh	131057
18.	West Bengal (Includes Sikkim State)	77584
19.	Delhi	260669

*[Translation]***Telephone Connection**

104. DR. SAKSHIJI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of such cases in Mathura district of Uttar Pradesh where telephone connections have been sanctioned and O.B. number issued but connections have not been given so far;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which these cases are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Sir, A total of 429 cases are pending in Mathura District

of U.P. for which O.B. numbers have been issued but connections have not been provided so far;

(b) and (c). The cases are pending, being technically non-feasible for want of external plant and will be cleared by September 1994.

*[English]***Committee for Telecom**

105. SHRI UDAYSINGRAO  
GAIKWAD:  
SHRI MANJAY LAL  
SULTAN:  
SHRI SALAHUDDIN  
OWAISI:  
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:  
SHRI RAM PRASAD  
SINGH:

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.)  
 BHUWAN CHANDRA  
 KHANDURI:  
 SHRI BOLLA BULLI  
 RAMAIAH:  
 SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:  
 SHRIMATI PRATIBHA  
 DEVISINGH PATIL:  
 SHRI P.C. THOMAS:  
 SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:  
 SHRI PANKAJ  
 CHOWDHARY:  
 SHRI SHIV SHARAN  
 VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee constituted to privatise the Telecom sector has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the broad recommendations made;

(c) whether the Government propose to implement these recommendations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes Sir. Joshi Committee, which was appointed to suggest guidelines for implementation of National Telecom Policy, has submitted its report.

(b) to (e). The report is under consideration of the Government. A final decision will be taken at the time of formulating the guidelines for implementation of the National Telecom. Policy.

### **Gas-Based Power Generation**

106. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:  
 SHRIMATI SHEELA  
 GAUTAM:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation has cut down gas-based power generation;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to restore full production in these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir. As against a target for generation of 3248 million units from its gas based power stations in the period 1.4.1994 to 31.7.1994, the National Thermal Power Corporation's gas based power stations had already generated 3259.3 million units by 17.7.1994 itself.

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

*[Translation]*

### **Huller Mills**

107. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made efforts for modernisation of huller mills in the country;

(b) if so, the number of such mills modernised during the last two years; and

(c) the subsidy provided during 1993-94 for the setting up of huller mills, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI):  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Information will be collected from the States and laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Amount of subsidy provided to various States during 1993-94 for modernisation of Huller Mills is detailed as under:—

Manipur	:	Rs. 12.10 lacs.
Uttar Pradesh	:	Rs. 45.00 lacs.
Tamil Nadu	:	Rs. 30.00 lacs.
Himachal Pradesh	:	Rs. 1.80 lacs.
Kerala	:	Rs. 5.00 lacs.
<b>Total</b>	:	<b>Rs. 93.90 lacs.</b>

### DTC Bus Fares

108. DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI:  
SHRI PARASRAM  
BHARDWAJ:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have increased D.T.C. and private bus fares in Delhi a few days ago:

(b) if so, the date and percentage of such increase; and

(c) the main reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):  
(a) and (b). The Government have increased the fares of DTC buses with effect from 21-6-1994. The increased fares have also been adopted by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi in respect of private buses plying in Delhi under STA permits. The percentage increase in different slabs is as under:—

Distance (slab)	Percentage increase
Upto 5 K.M.	Nil
Over 5 K.M. upto 6 K.M.	100%
Over 6 K.M. upto 8 K.M.	Nil
Over 8 K.M. upto 15 K.M.	50%
Over 15 K.M. upto 16 K.M.	100%
Over 16 K.M.	33%
G.L. Service	25%
Ltd. Service	33%

(c) The fares have been revised to meet the cost of operation which has gone up considerably due to increase in the cost of fuel, lubricants and other inputs.

[English]

### LPG Bottling Plant in Saurashtra

109. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a new LPG bottling plant in the Saurashtra region of Gujarat State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated cost of the project and the place where it is proposed to be set up;

(d) whether there is any collaboration with any foreign company for setting up of this project; and

(e) if so, the name of the foreign agency and the terms and conditions negotiated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. There is a proposal to set up a LPG bottling plant with a capacity of 44 TMTA at Tadadi near Bhavnagar in Saurashtra region with an estimated cost of Rupee 36 crores.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

### Lead Free Petrol

110. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:  
SHRI TARA SINGH:  
SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for providing lead free petrol in metropolitan cities of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount likely to be spent on this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). Government have formulated a plan of lead phasing in petrol for metropolitan cities. According to the plan, by December 1994, petrol supply to Metros (Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras) should have a maximum lead level of 0.15 gm/litre as against the current BIS specification of 0.56 gm/litre (Max). The supply of low lead (0.15 gm/1 maximum) M.S. to all four metropolitans have already commenced.

By December, 1997, Delhi and Bombay would be supplied with zero lead MS, whereas the rest of the country would have MS supplies of lead content not exceeding 0.15 gm/litre. However, it has been decided to introduce from April 1995, in a few selected retail outlets, supply of zero lead petrol in four

metropolitan cities in order to cater to the requirement of the new vehicles which would be fitted with catalytic convertors.

(c) The estimated cost for putting up of catalytic reformers in the existing refineries would be approximately Rs. 960 crores.

[Translation]

### Natural Gas

111. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS  
PATEL:  
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the annual production of natural gas in Gujarat, area-wise;

(b) the quantum of gas allocated for industries in the State every year;

(c) whether various industries in Gujarat are not supplied gas according to their requirement;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to meet the demand of those industries and to set up gas based industries in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF  
THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND  
NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR

SHARMA): (a) The production of gas in 1993-94 in Gujarat was as below:-

	(MMSCMD)	
North Gujarat	—	2.13
South Gujarat	—	3.80

(b) 21.21 MMSCMD has been allocated to projects in Gujarat. The allocations are not made yearly.

(c) and (d). It has not been feasible to consider requests for gas from new projects and for additional gas from existing projects as the gas projected to be available is fully allocated.

(e) The Government have taken up schemes for enhancing the production and availability of gas in the state both from onshore and offshore fields.

### National Seminar on Hydrology and Mining

112. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:  
Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a national seminar of experts in Hydrology and Mining was organised recently;

(b) if so, whether certain suggestions were made to solve the water problem in Delhi; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM  
SINGH YADAV): (a) Ministry of Mines has

not organised any national seminar of experts in Hydrology and Mining.

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

#### **Conversion of Telecom into Corporation**

113. SHRI MANJAY LAL:  
SHRI RAM PRASAD  
SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Doordarshan Vibhag Ko Nigam Mein Nahin Badla Jayega" appearing in the daily 'Jansatta' dated July 3, 1994;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The recommendations of the Athreya Committee on reorganisation of Telecom Department were considered by the Government and the same stand disposed in the light of the new Telecom Policy.

#### **Agreement with Bulgaria**

114. SHRI CHETAN P.S.  
CHAUHAN:  
SHRIMATI DIPIKA H.  
TOPIWALA:  
DR. RAMKRISHNA  
KUSMARIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreements have been signed between India and Bulgaria recently; and

(b) if so, the salient features of each of these agreements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir. Six Agreements were signed with Bulgaria on May 26, 1994 during President's visit to Bulgaria (26-29 May, 1994), namely, Agreement on Combating Organized Crime, International Terrorism, Illegal Trafficking in Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances; Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation; Agreement on Tourism Cooperation; Agreement on Quarantine and Plant Protection; Veterinary and Sanitary Agreement; and, a Protocol for Consultations and Cooperation between the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria.

(b) The salient features of the Agreements are as follows:-

(i) The Agreement for Cooperation in Combating Organized Crime, International Terrorism and Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances is to be implemented by the Ministry of Home Affairs of India and the Ministry of Interior of Bulgaria. It provides for exchange of information, regulations, fruits of research, equipment and experts for the purpose of combating international terrorism, narcotics, organized crime including economic offences, forgery, illegal arms deals etc.

(ii) The Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation is to be

implemented by the Ministries of Finance of both countries. This Agreement provides for protection of citizens from double taxation on incomes earned in their country from business, employment, athletic or artistic performances and prevention of tax evasion. This is a basic agreement facilitating greater interaction, particularly between the business and entrepreneurial communities of both countries.

- (iii) The Agreement on Tourism Cooperation is to be implemented by the Department of Tourism of both countries. It provides for joint tourism promotion and publicity, simplification of travel formalities, encouraging investment in tourism, exchange of information and personnel. This Agreement is to be monitored by a joint working group.
- (iv) The Agreement on Quarantine and Plant Protection is to be implemented by the Ministries of Agriculture of both countries. This Agreement provides for cooperation to prevent the penetration of diseases, pests and weeds on plants and plant products. It envisages joint action in issuing phytosanitary certificates, exchange of information, monitoring import, export and transit of live plants, seeds, plant products with a view to controlling infectious diseases.
- (v) The Veterinary and Sanitary Agreement is to be implemented by the Agricultural

Ministries of both countries. This Agreement provides for cooperation to preserve their territories from epizootics in case of exports, imports and transit of live animals, materials for animal reproduction, infectious diseases. It envisages exchange of information, regulations, experts as well as joint efforts at research, development and prevention.

- (vi) The Protocol for Consultations and Cooperation between the Ministry of External Affairs of India and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria provides for consultations at the level of Ministers, senior officials, delegations to the UN and other international fora, Embassies and Consulates in third countries, on bilateral, regional and global issues.

[English]

#### **National Marine Fisheries Development Board**

115. SHRI A. ASOKA RAJ: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a National Marine Fisheries Development Board for the overall development of the deep sea fishing sector; and

(b) if so, the time by which the Board is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN



GOGOI): (a) It is proposed to set up a National Marine Fisheries Development Board for the overall development of the fisheries sector.

(b) The Board is proposed to be set up in the 8th Five Year Plan period.

### **P.M.G. Zones**

116. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA:  
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to create new Post Master General Zones in the country;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted in this regard during the last three years;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The existing Postmaster General Zones to the country are considered sufficient to meet the need of Postal set up. Keeping in view the need for strict economy in the Government expenditure as also administrative exigencies, it is also not considered necessary to create any new Postmaster General Zone.

### **Fishing Problems in Palk Strait**

117. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:  
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:  
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian fishermen are free to fish in Palk Strait as per Kachchativu agreement;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Indian fishermen are prevented from fishing in Palk Strait;

(d) if so, whether the Government had taken up this matter with the Government of Sri Lanka; and

(e) if so, the latest information in this regard and the results achieved by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (e). Under the Maritime Boundary Agreements of 1974 and 1976 between India and Sri Lanka, the Indian fishermen are free to fish in the Palk Strait on the Indian side of the International Boundary Line (IBL) as delineated by these Agreements. The Agreements also provide for the traditional rights of Indian fishermen in respect of the island of Kachchativu which lies on the Sri Lankan side of the IBL. The issue of attacks on Indian fishermen in the Palk Strait has been taken up strongly by the Government with the Government of Sri Lanka. The two sides have agreed to

implement effectively the measures devised to prevent such incidents. All relevant aspects of this matter continue under discussion between the two Governments.

#### **Global Crude Prices**

118. SHRI SANAT KUMAR  
MANDAL:  
SHRI DHARMANNA  
MONDAYA SADUL:  
SHRI TEJ NARAYAN  
SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Spurt in global crude prices sets BOP alarm bells ringing" appeared in the 'Business Standard', New Delhi dated July 2, 1994;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether any contingency plan has been worked out to avoid any adverse effect on the balance of payments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (d). Imports of crude oil and petroleum products are on the basis of market related prices. The prices are liable to fluctuate from time to time due to various global factors. It is too early to assess the impact of such fluctuations on the oil import bill.

[Translation]

#### **LPG Agencies in Maharashtra**

119. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up LPG distributorship at those places where population of more than 20,000 exists in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). Subject to economic viability and product availability, locations having a population of 20,000 and above as per 1991 census are considered for setting up of LPG distributorships in a phased manner. Accordingly, proposed for setting up 76 LPG distributorships at different locations in Maharashtra have been included in the current LPG Marketing Plan 1992-94.

#### **Conversion of Telephone Exchanges in Maharashtra**

120. SHRI VILASRAO NAG-NATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of telephone exchanges in Maharashtra which have not been converted into electronic exchanges so far, District-wise; and

(b) the time by which these exchanges are likely to be converted into electronic exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Information is given in the enclosed *Statement-I*.

(b) All MAX-III, MAX-II (LF Type) and life expired electro mechanical exchanges are planned to be converted into Electronic exchanges by the end of VIII plan as per information given in *Statement-II* enclosed.

### STATEMENT-I

#### *Non-Electronic Telephone Exchanges of MTNL Bombay*

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
1.	Cooperage-2
2.	Cooperage-3
3.	Fountain-1
4.	Gamdavi-3
5.	Malabar Hill-1
6.	Malabar Hill-2
7.	Mazgaon-1
8.	Mazgaon-2
9.	Byculla-3
10.	Worli-1

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange
11.	Worli-2
12.	Prabhadevi-1
13.	Shivaji Park-1
14.	Shivaji Park-2
15.	Wadala-1
16.	Matunga-8
17.	Vile Parle-1
18.	Vile Parle-2
19.	Andheri-2
20.	Marol-1
21.	Marol-2
22.	Mankhurd-1
23.	Ghatkopar
24.	Mulund-1
25.	Thane-2
26.	Turbhe-1

*Maharashtra Telecom Circle*

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Sl. No.	Name	District
1.	Ahmednagar	Ahmednagar
2.	Ahmednagar-MIDC	-do-
3.	Alkuti	-do-
4.	Amrapur	-do-
5.	Bhalwani	-do-
6.	Bhanbora	-do-
7.	Chapadgaon	-do-
8.	Chinchodi Shiral	-do-
9.	Dahisaone	-do-
10.	Gabrai	-do-
11.	Goregaon	-do-
12.	Hangawadi	-do-
13.	Jalka	-do-
14.	Jamgaon	-do-
15.	Jawala	-do-
16.	Kanhaur Pathar	-do-
17.	Kasara Pimplgaon	-do-
18.	Kharvandi	-do-
19.	Kher	-do-
20.	Kolgaon	-do-

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Sl. No.	Name	District
21.	Kombhali	Ahmednagar
22.	Kopargaon	-do-
23.	Koradgaon	-do-
24.	Mahijalgaon	-do-
25.	Maka	-do-
26.	Mandavsaon	-do-
27.	Mangalapur	-do-
28.	Manikddaundi	-do-
29.	Miri	-do-
30.	Narayan Bavan	-do-
31.	Palabhi	-do-
32.	Lahoore	-do-
33.	Bangamner	-do-
34.	Shahatakai	-do-
35.	Shinde	-do-
36.	Bhriampur	-do-
37.	Takli Dhokeshwa	-do-
38.	Visapur	-do-
39.	Adbgaon	-do-
40.	Akola	Akola
41.	Alegaon	-do-

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Sl. No.	Name	District
42.	Andura	Akola
43.	Asegaon Bazar	-do-
44.	Danapur	-do-
45.	Dhamikhadi	-do-
46.	Biroli	-do-
47.	Hatrun	-do-
48.	Masalapen	-do-
49.	Medshi	-do-
50.	Nimba	-do-
51.	Rithad	Rithad
52.	Shelubazar	-do-
53.	Shendurian	-do-
54.	Wadebgaon	-do-
55.	Adgaon	Amravati
56.	Amravati	-do-
57.	Ajangaon (Bari)	-do-
58.	Asadpur	-do-
59.	Badnare	-do-
60.	Badgaon	-do-
61.	Kapostalni	-do-
62.	Rithpur	-do-

Sl. No.	Name	District
63.	Aurangabad	Aurangabad
64.	Amalner	-do-
65.	Dhondrai	-do-
66.	Parli Vaijanath	Aurangabad
67.	Takrawan	-do-
68.		-do-
69.	Bhandara	Bhandara
70.	Chandur-Biswa	Buldana
71.	Deulgaon-Mail	-do-
72.	Dhamngaon-Bhade	-do-
73.	Dongarkhandala	-do-
74.	Dudha	-do-
75.	Dusarbid	-do-
76.	Eklara	-do-
77.	Hiwara (BK)	-do-
78.	Kalwad	-do-
79.	Khamgaon	-do-
80.	Mera BK	-do-
81.	Narket	-do-
82.	Impalgaon-Kale	-do-
83.	Pct:hal	-do-

Sl. No.	Name	District
84.	Sharla	Buldana
85.	Sultanpur	-do-
86.	Tikdoi	-do-
87.	Utradeth	-do-
88.	Buldana	-do-
89.	Chandrapur	Chandrapur
90.	Chandrapur-MIDC	-do-
91.	Khambada	-do-
92.	Kolari	-do-
93.	Kotnari	-do-
94.	Kagri	-do-
95.	Pathari	-do-
96.	Pombhuruna	-do-
97.	Shamkarpur	-do-
98.	Bhadane	Dhule
99.	Bhatpura	-do-
100.	Boradi	-do-
101.	Chilane	-do-
102.	Dhule	-do-
103.	Gidhade	-do-
104.	Hisale	-do-



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Sl. No.	Name	District
105.	Khandawali	Dhule
106.	Khekda	-do-
107.	Kudhawan	-do-
108.	Lamkani	-do-
109.	Mahergaon	-do-
110.	Mod	-do-
111.	Nimbul	-do-
112.	Padelde	-do-
113.	Sule	-do-
114.	Torkheda	-do-
115.	Vadkalambi	-do-
116.	Wadi Bk	-do-
117.	Amadade	Jalgaon
118.	Amalner	-do-
119.	Anjale	-do-
120.	Bahadarpur	-do-
121.	Bhadli	-do-
122.	Bhugaval	-do-
123.	Chalibgaon	-do-
124.	Chandoan	-do-
125.	Gapukheda	-do-

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Sl. No.	Name	District
126.	Gondagaon	Jalgaon
127.	Gudhe	-do-
128.	Matall	-do-
129.	Idgaon	-do-
130.	Jalgaon	-do-
131.	Janve	-do-
132.	Karki	-do-
133.	Khatora	-do-
134.	Khadhane	-do-
135.	Kharchi	-do-
136.	Kinhi	-do-
137.	Lasur	-do-
138.	Lohara	-do-
139.	Mohiabare	-do-
140.	Moyakhed (D)	-do-
141.	Mudi	-do-
142.	Nanded	-do-
143.	Nimkhedi	-do-
144.	Pardnada	-do-
145.	Pimpal-Koma	-do-
146.	Salgaon	-do-

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Sl. No.	Name	District
147.	Salve	Jalgaon
148.	Sonwad	-do-
149.	Suhasgaon	-do-
150.	Janaswadi	-do-
151.	Umbarkheda	-do-
152.	Uttkheda	-do-
153.	Vardi	-do-
154.	Varkhedi	-do-
155.	Wakdi	-do-
156.	Wakdo	-do-
157.	Dahiwad	Jalna
158.	Bolapangri	-do-
159.	Jalna	-do-
160.	Paradh	-do-
161.	Patoda	-do-
162.	Raniunchedaon	-do-
163.	Satona	-do-
164.	Bhrishti	-do-
165.	Ichalkaranji	Kolapur
166.	Kolapur-I	-do-
167.	Lamanjam	-do-

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Sl. No.	Name	District
168.	Itwari	Nagpur
169.	Bethogra	Nanded
170.	Chikhali	-do-
171.	Kalamban	-do-
172.	Komari	-do-
173.	Kautha	-do-
174.	Nanded	-do-
175.	Niwgha	-do-
176.	Osmanagar	-do-
177.	Rajura	-do-
178.	Ratoli	-do-
179.	Sarsam	-do-
180.	Oonkuln	-do-
181.	Talni	-do-
182.	Umra	-do-
183.	Waghi	-do-
184.	Abhar	Nasik
185.	Ambad (Nasik)	-do-
186.	Boj	-do-
187.	Dedlali (Nasik)	-do-
188.	Degama	-do-

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Sl. No.	Name	District
189.	Kalwadi	Nasik
190.	Kandhana	-do-
191.	Karanjawan	-do-
192.	Khadak-Sukene	-do-
193.	Malebaon	-do-
194.	Maralboi	-do-
195.	Mashi	-do-
196.	Nasik-city	-do-
197.	Nasik-Road	-do-
198.	Nimgaon	Nasik
199.	Sawkarwadi	-do-
200.	Umrade	-do-
201.	Vadel	-do-
202.	Birgaon	-do-
203.	Usmanabad	Usmanabad
204.	Adgaon Bazar	Parbhani
205.	Boregaon	-do-
206.	Kanhergaon	-do-
207.	Mandapur	-do-
208.	Parbhani	-do-

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Sl. No.	Name	District
209.	Potra	Parbhani
210.	Rampuri	-do-
211.	Shelbaon	-do-
212.	Waranga	-do-
213.	Ane	Pune
214.	Baramati	-do-
215.	Belha	-do-
216.	Bopgaon	-do-
217.	Dauno	-do-
218.	Inamgaon	-do-
219.	Kadus	-do-
220.	Karde	-do-
221.	Khed Shivapur	-do-
222.	Khutbav	-do-
223.	Koregaon (Bhika)	-do-
224.	M. Padyl	-do-
225.	Mandki	-do-
226.	Nangaon	-do-
227.	Nira Narsinghpur	-do-
228.	Pait	-do-
229.	Pune City-1	-do-

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Sl. No.	Name	District
230.	Pune City-2	Pune
231.	Pune City-3	-do-
232.	Pune-M-Shine	-do-
233.	Pune-Pim-Chind-1	-do-
234.	Pune-Shivajinagar	-do-
235.	Pune-Urali-Kanchan	-do-
236.	Belgaon	-do-
237.	Waghapur	-do-
238.	Abloli	Ratnagiri
239.	Burandi	-do-
240.	Dabhil	-do-
241.	Lavel	-do-
242.	Palshet	-do-
243.	Posare	-do-
244.	Ankali	Bambli
245.	Billur	-do-
246.	Jarandi	-do-
247.	Nandyal	-do-
248.	Nabaj	-do-
249.	San-NRI-MIDC	-do-
250.	Sangli	-do-

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Sl. No.	Name	District
251.	Sankh	Sangli
252.	Vita	-do-
253.	Karad	Satara
254.	Satara	-do-
255.	Kudal	Sindhudurg
256.	Pandharpur	Solapur
257.	Solapur	-do-
258.	Bhiwandi	Thane
259.	Birwadi	-do-
260.	Dandi	-do-
261.	Dhakti Dhanu	-do-
262.	Dhur <sup>l</sup> dalwadi	-do-
263.	Dolkham	-do-
264.	Domvivi	Thane
265.	Edwan	-do-
266.	Kalyan	-do-
267.	Palghar	-do-
268.	Sarawali	-do-
269.	Sherva	-do-
270.	Ulhabnabar-1	-do-
271.	Antora	Wardha

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Sl. No.	Name	District
272.	Kandhali	Wardha
273.	Mangrul	-do-
274.	Pimpalguta	-do-
275.	Sahur	-do-
276.	Sarvadi	-do-
277.	Tahnebaon	-do-
278.	Wardha	-do-
279.	Anjankhed	Yeotmal
280.	Badegaon	-do-
281.	Brahmangaon	-do-
282.	Karanji	-do-
283.	Khairi	-do-
284.	Lohi	-do-
285.	Mohada	-do-
286.	Ramnagar	-do-
287.	Runzo	-do-
288.	Shembal Pimpri	-do-
289.	Vasantnagar	-do-
290.	Yeotmal	-do-

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**STATEMENT-II**

*MAX-I to be replaced by Electronic Exchanges by the end of the VIII Five Year Plan*

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**Pune**

1. Cantonement
2. Shivajinagar
3. City-I, PC Cross-bar

**Bombay**

1. Cooperage-2
  2. Cooperage-3
  3. Fountain-1
  4. Gamddvi-3
  5. Bycula-3
  6. Shivaji Park-1
  7. Shivaji Park-2
  8. Matunga-2
  9. Andheri-2
  10. Thane-2
  11. Turohe-1
- 

*List of MAX-II, exchanges proposed to be replaced by Electronic exchange by the end of the VII Five Year Plan*

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1. Khed Shivapur
  2. Bhandara
- 

3. Buldhana
  4. Yeotmal
  5. Bhusawal
  6. Akkalkot
  7. Parbhani
  8. Osmanabad
  9. Barsi
  10. Shirol
  11. Karad
  12. Phaltan
  13. Chiplun
  14. Ratnagiri
  15. Shirampur
  16. Kopergaon
  17. Satpur
- 

**C. MAX-III**

231 MAX-III exchanges to be replaced by electronic exchanges.

*[English]*

**Telephone in Post Offices of West Bengal**

121. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Post Offices in West Bengal with and without telephone facilities, separately; and

(b) the time by which all Post Offices are likely to be provided with such facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Number of Post Offices in the West Bengal Circle with telephone facilities is 1323.

Number of Post Offices in the West Bengal circle without telephone facilities is 7440.

(b) Government have adopted a policy to provide public telephone to each village. These public telephones are to be provided at suitable places e.g. (1) Post Offices (2) Panchayat Head Quarters, (3) Grocer's shops or any other place easily accessible to public. As Post Office is only one of the suggested locations, no such time has been fixed.

### **Deep Sea Shrimp Fishing**

122. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made of the existing deep-sea shrimp resources off the coast of Andhra Pradesh in 1993-94;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether scientific survey has shown overfishing in that area; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to conserve these marine resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Assessment of deep sea shrimp resources along the East Coast was made by the ESI, during 1980-88. However, no specific survey for Andhra Pradesh Coast alone has been undertaken.

(b) Potential annual yield of deep sea shrimp has been assessed at 2000 tons along the East Coast in the 100-300 metres depth range.

(c) Although data obtained from scientific survey do not indicate any definite signs of over fishing of deep sea fishing resources, catch per boat/catch per unit of effort has come down due to large scale increase in the number of different types of vessels.

(d) In order to conserve resources in the area no new deep sea fishing vessels are allowed to be introduced for shrimping in the upper East Coast.

[*Translation*]

### **Assistance to Food Processing Industries**

123. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:  
SHRI LALL BABU RAI:  
SHRI HARI KEWAL  
PRASAD:  
SHRI ARJUN SINGH  
YADAV:

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

(a) the details of Food Processing units functioning in the tribal areas of the country, State-wise;

(b) the subsidy provided to each of these units; and

(c) the details of assistance provided under various schemes to Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, during the last three years, year wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI):

(a) Since the food processing are both in the organised and unorganised sectors, details of all food processing units functioning all over the country including these in the tribal areas, state-wise, is not maintained centrally.

(b) and (c). Ministry is operating various Plan schemes for development of food processing industries in the country including those in the tribal areas. Assistance level under some schemes for the tribal areas are 25% more than in other areas. Year-wise details of assistance under the various schemes to UP and Bihar during the last 3 years are given below:—

State	Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
Uttar Pradesh	1991-92	12.39
	1992-93	66.30
	1993-94	20.48
Bihar	1991-92	9.65
	1992-93	Nil
	1993-94	33.628

[English]

### Machkund Hydro-Electric Project

124. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Machkund Hydro-electric project had suspended power generation in the month of May and June, 1994 due to drop in water level in the reservoir;

(b) if so, the details therefor;

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be started; and

(d) other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). Machkund Hydro-electric project suspended power generation from 8.6.1994 to 30.6.1994 due to drop in the water level in the Machkund reservoir. The power house was functioning in the month of May, 1994.

(c) Machkund Hydro-Electric Project started power generation from 1.7.1994 after improvement in the water level in the reservoir.

(d) The generation in the months of May & June, 1994 was 23 MU & 5 MU respectively against target of 40 MUs for each month. The generation in July, 1994 upto 15th July, 1994 was 21 MU against target of 24 MU.

[*Translation*]**Financial Position of SEBs**

125. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the financial position of State Electricity Boards of the country is not sound and these Boards are burdened with heavy financial debts; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). In accordance with Section 59 of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) are required to achieve a surplus of not less than 3% of the net fixed assets at the beginning of the year. Based on the annual accounts of the SEBs for the year 1992-93, out of the 17 Boards, only six SEBs, namely, Haryana, Punjab, West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya and Orissa have not been able to achieve the 3% Rate of Return. As per the available information, details of the Government loans and other loans of the SEBs, as on 31.3.1993, are as enclosed in the *Statement*.

**STATEMENT**

*The Government and other loans of the SEBs as on 31.3.1993*

(Rs. in Crores)

Name of the SEB	Govt. Loans	Other Loans	Total Loans
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
MPEB	2417.40	3309.90	5727.30
PSEB	3028.50	755.70	3784.20
MSEB	3959.20	3054.90	7014.10
APSEB	2165.03	1626.62	3791.65
GEB	2568.80	1670.80	4239.60
KEB	437.70	503.80	941.50
KSEB	536.30	615.30	1153.60
RSEB	1178.61	1320.25	2498.86

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
WBSEB	93.68	2001.22	2094.90
UPSEB	7618.52	4851.94	12470.46
OSEB	548.08	684.97	1233.05
HSEB	681.51	1252.95	1934.46
TNEB	920.06	2181.92	3101.98
BSEB (91-92)	1073.90	1951.28	3025.18
ASEB (Est.)	593.70	700.60	1294.30
<b>Total</b>	<b>27822.99</b>	<b>26482.15</b>	<b>54305.14</b>

**Note:** Information regarding HPSEB and Meghalaya SEB is not available.

### Minerals Excavated in Rajasthan

126. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:  
Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Minerals excavated in Rajasthan during the last three years;

(b) the details of these minerals exported from the State during the above period;

(c) the income earned by Rajasthan Government through these exports; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government for development/expansion

of mineral excavation industry in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Details of Mineral production for the year 1989-90, 1990-91 & 1991-92 are given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(b) and (c). No State wise break-up of minerals exported and the income therefrom is maintained.

(d) A liberalised National Mineral Policy was announced in March, 1993 and the same followed by amendments of the MM(R&D) Act, 1957 so as to make investment in mineral sector more attractive.

## STATEMENT

(value in Rs. thousand)

Mineral	Unit of Quantity	1989-90		1990-91		1991-92 (p)		No. of mines	Value	
		No. of mines	Quantity	No. of mines	Quantity	No. of mines	Quantity			
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>All Minerals</b>		884		534,32,21	827		572,16,15	750		626,64,10
Copper Ore	t	4	1,751,709	52,51,19	4	1,825,239	53,55,52	4	1,859,125	56,39,09
Gold*	kg.	-	381	10,07,55	-	202	5,26,10	-	NA	NA
Iron Ore	'OOO'	14	37	18,84	12	34	5,24,36	8	24	12,04
Lead conc.	t	4	34,125	23,43,19	5	32,005	23,71,73	5	39,855	27,02,93
Tungsten conc.	kg	2	21,333	39,47	2	20,881	38,63	2	7,755	14,35
Silver	kg	-	14,635	9,74,66	-	8,912	6,01,09	-	6,866	4,62,08
Zinc conc.	t	-	134,963	91,81,44	-	136,556	100,31,00	-	251,711	169,22,33

Phosphorite	t	7	384,947	38,95,33	7	372,112	39,16,61	7	263,394	25,27,64
Asbestos	t	63	39,625	34,12	61	36,181	35,95	54	37,494	35,64
Balliclay	t	55	191,180	1,60,64	47	2,08,986	1,79,66	48	218,785	1,53,16
Barytes	t	13	148,56	49,13	11	7,942	41,39	10	6,987	32,73
Calcite	t	12	55,715	1,00,31	15	65,416	1,34,22	11	86,303	1,57,92
Chalk	t	1	20	3	1	28	4	1	37	6
Corundum	kg	1	3,470	17	1	1,310	5	1	615	3
Dolomite	t	8	3,637	2,10	7	4,019	2,38	6	2,780	1,79
Emerald	kt	2	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-
Felspar	t	95	48,644	27,79	77	34,507	22,29	60	34,229	22,49
Fireclay	t	19	57,260	34,04	21	83,352	79,08	23	75,625	64,42
Fluorite (graded)	t	9	4,880	1,15,91	8	3,902	1,02,16	9	2,888	76,72
Garnet (abrasive)	t	8	259	61	6	341	1,05	6	126	55
Garnet (gem)	kg	-	2,482	60	-	1,639	90	-	1,013	50



	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Graphite (ROM)	t	-	-	-	1	174	52	-	-	-
Gypsum	t	31	1,600,239	11,87,51	31,	1,254,624	13,88,81	28	1,498,067	14,64,90
Jasper	t	24	6,239	10,28	24	5,018	8,43	24,	4,691	7,52
Keolin	t	41	191,502	64,12	41	217,960	68,81	36	193,615	67,21
Kaynite	t	1	205	41	1	172	34	1	79	16
Limestone	'000t	32	7,249	32,03,76	30	7,312	35,14,62	30	8,196	36,50,97
Magnesite	t	6	381	1,65	1	5	5	-	-	-
Mica crude	t	32	433	39,38	34	507	45,58	31	231	19,91
Mica waste & scrap	t	-	1,744	NA	-	1,738	NA	-	413	NA
Ochre	t	13	107,248	18,68	13	114,708	21,41	8	133,608	27,71
Pyrite	t	1	50	20	1	-	-	1	-	-
Pyrophyllite	t	9	12,375	13,10	9	11,189	12,37	9	9,734	9,88

Quartz	t	115	63,228	24,84	112	54,474	28,12	95	44,658	22,29
Quartzite	t	1	1,524	1,46	1	5,619	6,18	1	9,728	6,80
Silica sand	t	63	228,426	1,67,65	61	207,117	1,59,43	58	213,320	1,77,40
Steatite	t	192	386,932	9,54,99	175	382,495	11,23,26	167	367,573	10,04,96
Vermiculite	t	2	142	20	1	122	13			
Wollastonite	t	2	54,511	2,01,22	2	59,722	2,13,98	2	61,768	2,18,70
Laterite	t	2	4,054	48	2	9,743	1,99	2	5,486	1,36
Minor minerals				243,05,16			271,57,86			271,57,86

\* Recovered by HCL against shipment of anode slime abroad from Khetri Copper Complex for toll silme smelting.

Note: No. of mines excludes atomic minerals and minor minerals.

[English]

### Post Offices in Kerala

127. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open more new Post Offices in rural areas of Kerala;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The targets for the current Plan 1994-95 have not yet been finalised.

(c) Question does not arise in views of (a) above.

### Mangalore Port

128. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to upgrade the existing oil jetty at Mangalore port to handle LPG and other liquid cargo;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the project;

(c) whether Mangalore Oil Refinery has agreed to share the cost of the proposed project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 238.14 crores.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The project is expected to be completed within 30 months.

[Translation]

### Computers in Post Offices

129. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA:  
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:  
SHRI PANKAJ  
CHOWDHARY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken steps to computerise the sorting out of mail in some cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some more cities are proposed to be brought under computerisation during the current year;

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

(e) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. An Automatic Mail Processing System consisting of two Sorting Machines, a manual Coding Desk and ancillary machines has been installed at Bombay Airport Sorting Office and it is in operation since April 1993. The total cost of installation of the system at Bombay was about Rs. 22 crores, including Customs duty, building and other charges.

(c) to (e). Orders have been placed for an automatic mail processing system at Madras and it is expected to be installed at Madras Airport Sorting Office by the end of the year. It is proposed to instal similar systems at Delhi, Bangalore and a few other mail concentration centres is due course. The cost of the system to be installed at Madras Airport Sorting Office will be approximately Rs. 10 crores excluding Customs duty, building and other charges.

[English]

#### Telephone Connections in Karnataka

130. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in Karnataka, District-wise;

(b) whether the new telecom policy envisages immediate telephone connection to the applicants; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to clear the waiting list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The number of persons on waiting list as on 30.6.94 in Karnataka, District-wise is given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(b) and (c). National Telecom Policy 1994 envisages to provide telephone connections on demand by 1-4-97. Exchanges are being planned accordingly to meet the above objective. During 1994-95 a target of providing 79,000 new telephone connections has been fixed for Karnataka Telecom Circle. Efforts are also being made to procure additional equipment on lease to reduce the backlog of waiting list by end of the year.

#### STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Total Waiting List
1.	Bangalore	107008
2.	Dakshina Kannada	19700
3.	Mysore	9422
4.	Hubli	6696
5.	Belgaum	5132
6.	Bellary	1036
7.	Bedar	886
8.	Bijapur	1412
9.	Gulbarga	2030

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Total Waiting List
10.	Raichur	769
11.	Davangere	2905
12.	Hassam	2309
13.	Mandya	1136
14.	Kolar	2641
15.	Tumkur	3212
16.	Chickmagalur	1844
17.	Madikeri	2409
18.	Shimoga	3843
19.	North Canara	2423
Total		176813

### LPG Pipelines in Gujarat

131. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to lay LPG pipelines in Ahmedabad, Baroda, Surat, Rajkot and Gandhidham cities of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the consumers in these cities are likely to be provided LPG through pipelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

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

### Production from Bombay High

132. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation has invited offers from foreign companies to increase the production from Bombay High;

(b) if so, the details and terms and conditions thereof;

(c) the particulars of offers from foreign companies received by ONGC;

(d) whether these foreign companies are demanding a share in the entire crude output of Bombay High; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (e). ONGC had ascertained the interest of companies with adequate technological and financial capabilities for additional development of the Bombay High field. Five bids have been received by the last date for receipt of bids of 10th April, 1994.

The companies which have indicated interest are Amoco, Chevron, Occidental and Arco (all of the USA) and Total of France.

The bids are under evaluation by ONGC.

[Translation]

### **Manufacture of LPG Cylinders**

133. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of L.P.G. cylinders manufactured in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether the persons in the waiting list for L.P.G. connections are not getting L.P.G. in spite of availability of L.P.G. cylinders; and

(c) if so, the measures adopted by the Government to provide L.P.G. connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) During 1991-92 to 1993-94 Government Oil Companies procured 81.56 lakhs LPG cylinders from the cylinder manufacturing units.

(b) and (c). The LPG connections provided to waitlisted persons depend not only upon availability of cylinders but, *inter alia*, on product availability, slack available with existing distributors and planned enrolment of new customers. Efforts are constantly on to release LPG connections to as many applicants and as early as possible, by ensuring enhanced availability of LPG from indigenous sources and imports.

### **Bombay High Petroleum Products**

134. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total investment made in the Bombay High Petroleum Products Project at Bombay;

(b) the turnover of the project for 1991-92; 1992-93 and 1993-94 and the projected turnover for 1994-95;

(c) the reasons for low turnover during the previous year;

(d) whether the products of the project have good demand in the domestic and international market;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the measures taken or proposed to be taken to exploit the potential to the maximum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) The total investment made in Bombay offshore Project as on 31st January, 1994 was Rs. 20047 crores.

(b) The gross revenue from the Bombay offshore project during the year 1991-92, 1992-93, 1993-94 was Rs. 5933 crores, Rs. 6205 crores and Rs. 6741 crores (Prov.), respectively. The projected revenue for the year 1994-95 is Rs. 8306.73 crores.

(c) Does not arise, as revenue for the year 1993-94 was more than that for the year 1992-93.

(d) and (e). ONGC is producing crude oil and natural gas from Bombay offshore fields which have a ready demand.

(f) A number of schemes for increasing crude oil and natural gas production from Bombay High have been taken up. These include - (i) development of some new fields namely Neelam, South Heera; and (ii) additional development of some existing fields namely L-II and L-III. Similarly, additional development of Bassein free gas field has also been taken up.

[*Translation*]

### **Transport Facilities through Bangladesh**

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

(a) whether the Government are negotiating with Bangladesh in regard to transport facilities through that country to the North Eastern States;

(b) if so, the outcome of the negotiations held so far; and

(c) the time by which this is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) The Government of India have been interested in securing multi-modal transit facilities through the Bangladesh territory to the North Eastern States and have taken up the matter with the Government of Bangladesh on a number of occasions.

(b) and (c). The Government of Bangladesh have not yet reacted positively to our proposals.

[*English*]

### **Power Projects**

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

(a) the details of the power projects cleared during the last two years with salient features like cost, capacity, time profile, location, State-wise for thermal and Hydro projects, separately;

(b) the projected demand and production of power during the 8th Plan, State-wise and efforts being made to meet the same in general and for Goa State in particular;

(c) the steps taken for improvement of the working of State Electricity Boards and results achieved therefrom;

(d) the break-up of the foreign investment/assistance committed so far/ under consideration in power projects; and

(e) the details of the projects under active consideration for approval from various State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Details are given in the *Statement-I* attached.

(b) The State-wise anticipated power supply position in the terminal year of 8th Plan is given in the *Statement-II* attached.

Various efforts being made to improve the power supply position include expediting commissioning of new generating capacity, improving the performance of the existing power stations, reduction of transmission and distribution losses, implementation of better demand management and energy conservation measures, arranging transfer

of energy from surplus to deficit areas, and promotion of private sector investment in the power sector.

There is no power generating utility in Goa State. However, the power supply position in the State of Goa is as follows:—

	Demand	Availability	Surplus/ Deficit	%
Peak MW	185	236	+51	+27.3
Energy MU	932	1960	+1028	+110.3

(c) A number of measures have been initiated to improve the functioning of the State Electricity Boards. These, *inter-alia*, include signing and monitoring of Operational and Financial Action Plan (OFAP) by Power Finance Corporation (PFC), rationalisation of tariff, regular payment of rural electrification subsidy by the State Governments, improvement in Plant Load Factor and Plant availability, reduction in transmission and distribution losses, conversion of State Government loans into equity, etc.

(d) The break-up of the foreign investment/assistance committed so far/ under consideration in power projects is as follows:—

(in millions)

Sl. No.	Agency/Country	Loan/Grant (In D.C.)
1.	IDA	583.49
2.	IBRD	6205.32
3.	ADB	990.00

Sl. No.	Agency/Country	Loan/Grant (In D.C.)
4.	CANADA	194.07
5.	FRANCE	1903.43
6.	JAPAN (LOAN)	386990.00
7.	KUWAIT FUND	7.0
8.	SAUDI FUND	172.00
9.	SWEDEN	1480.00
10.	U.K.	222.99
11.	GERMAN	1871.31
12.	JAPAN (GRANT)	148.50

In addition, in response to Government of India's policy, interest has been expressed by the private entrepreneurs in putting up 75 power projects involving an approximate investment of Rs. 1,04,152 crores.

(e) Details are given in the *Statement-III* attached.



**STATEMENT-I***List of Scheme cleared by CEA during the past two years*

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Capacity (MW)	Cost (Rs. crs.)
<b>A. THERMAL</b>			
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>			
1.	Unchahar TPS St. III. (Distt. Raibareli)	2x210	1154.34
<b>Gujarat</b>			
2.	Gandhinagar TPS Extn. (Distt. Gandhinagar)	1x210	682.00
<b>Kerala</b>			
3.	Kasarkode DG Sets (Distt. Kasarkode)	3x20	178.00
<b>Bihar</b>			
4.	Muzaffarpur TPS Extn. St. II (Distt. Muzaffarpur)	2x250	1452.13
<b>Tripura</b>			
5.	Agartala DG Sets (Distt. West Tripura)	4x21	295.83
<b>Bihar</b>			
6.	Katihar TPS (Distt. Katihar)	2x250	1783.00
<b>West Bengal</b>			
7.	Kolaghat TPS	1x25	9686.00

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Capacity (MW)	Cost (Rs. crs.)
<b>A&amp;N Islands</b>			
8.	Diesel Power Station at Bamboo Flat-Port Blair-South Andaman	4x5	69.94
<b>B. PRIVATE</b>			
<b>Northern Region</b>			
<i>Himachal Pradesh</i>			
1.	Baspa HE Project Distt. Kinnaur (M/s Jaiprakash Ind.)	3x100	949.23
<i>Western Region</i>			
<b>Maharashtra</b>			
2.	Dabhol GICC TPS Distt. Ratnagiri (M/s Dabhol Power Co. & Enron Dev. Corp.)	2015	9051.27
<b>Gujarat</b>			
3.	Gandhar (Paguthan) OCGT Distt. Bharuch M/s. Gujarat Torrent Energy Corpn. Ltd.	655	2298.14
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>			
4.	Pench TPS Distt. Chindwara M/s. Century Power	2x210	1272.23
5.	Maheshwar Hydro Electric Project	10x40	1073.00

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Capacity (MW)	Cost (Rs. crs.)
<i>Southern Region</i>			
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>			
6.	Jegurupdu GTCC TPS Distt. East Godavari M/s GVK Industries	216	827.00
7.	Godavari GICC TPS Distt. East Godavari M/s Spectrum Power Generation Ltd.	208	748.43

**C. HYDEL**

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Cost. (Rs. Cr.)	Installed Capacity (MW)	Location (State)
1.	Chamera St. II	1025.18	3x100=300	H.P.
2.	Purlia PSS	1456.66	4x225=900	W.B.
3.	Tuirial	158.95	2x30=60	Mizoram
4.	Parnai	143.00	3x12.50=37.50	J&K
5.	Loktak D/S	349.00	3x30=90	Manipur
6.	Bargarh Canal	28.37	3x3=9	Orissa
7.	Sawalkot	1550.35	3x200=600	J&K
8.	Keogal	50.47	2x6=12	H.P.
9.	Malana	214.78	2x43=86	H.P.
10.	Teesta St. V	1445.96	3x170=510	Sikkim
11.	Marnikeda	106.94	2x20=40	H.P.

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Cost (Rs. Crore)	Installed Capacity (MW)	Location (State)
12.	Tuivat	659.27	3x70=210	Mizoram
13.	Maheshwar (Private Sector)	1073.00	10x40=400	....
14.	Omkreshwar	1216.95	8x65=520	M.P.

**STATEMENT-II**

*Anticipated Power Supply Position during the 8th Five Year Plan*

Region/State/UT	Energy Requirement (MU)	Energy Availability (MU)
Haryana	15183	11254
Himachal Pradesh	3254	2831
Jammu & Kashmir	5836	7317
Punjab	23851	21488
Rajasthan	22232	12463
Uttar Pradesh	43957	38712
Chandigarh	859	436
Delhi	14416	16275
Total (NR)	129587	114188
Gujarat	33645	27645
Madhya Pradesh	28104	26251
Maharashtra	58036	52613
Goa	932	1960

Region/State/UT	Energy Requirement (MU)	Energy Availability (MU)
D. & N. Haveli	313	54
Daman & Diu	130	50
Total (WR)	121159	112417
Andhra Pradesh	35062	24375
Karnataka	24188	20228
Kerala	11893	8322
Tamil Nadu	30528	27786
Pondicherry	1519	770
Total (SR)	103191	84173
Bihar	12190	10767
Orissa	14919	11856
West Bengal	17159	18605
DVC	11670	15446
Sikkim	72	390
Total (ER)	56011	59125
Arunachal Pradesh	199	340
Assam	4264	5619
Manipur	426	391
Meghalaya	454	659
Mizoram	193	198
Nagaland	200	372

Region/State/UT	Energy Requirement (MU)	Energy Availability (MU)
Tripura	432	492
Total (NER)	6169	8601
A & N Islands	140	105
Lakshadweep	17	18
All India	416274	378626

### STATEMENT-III

#### *Schemes under Examination in CEA a Private Sector*

Sl. No.	Name of the Project Capacity, Fuel Distt. & Name of the Promoter	Estimated Cost as per PR (Rs. Crs.)
<b>Northern Region</b>		
<b>Rajasthan</b>		
1.	Chittorgarh TPS - 1x500 MW - Coal - Distt. Chittorgarh - M/s Century Textiles & Industries Ltd.	1384.0
<b>Eastern Region</b>		
<b>Orissa</b>		
2.	Dubri TPS** - 2x250 MU - Coal - Distt. Cuttack - M/s Kalinga Power Corpn. Ltd. (With Equity Participation by M/s. North East Energy Services Inc. USA	1548.7

Sl. No.	Name of the Project Capacity, Fuel Distt. & Name of the Promoter	Estimated Cost as per PR (Rs. Crs.)
3.	<b>1B Valley TPS**</b> Unit 3&4 - 2x210 MW - Coal - Distt. Sambalpur (A Joint Venture Between AES Transpower-a sub- sidiary of AES Corpn. USA & OPGCL).	2077.1
<b>Bihar</b>		
4.	<b>Jojobera TPS</b> 5 NW - 3x67 - Coal - Distt. East Singbun - M/s Jamshedpur Power Co. Ltd. (Promoted by TISCO & TELCO).	1239.77
5.	<b>Chandil TPS</b> - 2 x 250 MW - Coal - Distt. Singbun M/s RPG Enterprises.	1379
<b>West Bengal</b>		
6.	<b>Gouripore TPS</b> - 2x67.5 MW - Coal - Distt. 24 Parganas North - M/s Gouripore Power Co. Ltd. (Promoted by WBSEB and Birta Technical Services.)	500.00
7.	<b>Balagarh TPS</b> Units 1 & 2 - 2x250 MW - Coal - Distt. Hooghly - M/s CESC Ltd.	1671.48

Sl. No.	Name of the Project Capacity, Fuel Distt. & Name of the Promoter	Estimated Cost as per PR (Rs. Crs.)
---------	--	--

**North-East Region****Arunachal Pradesh**

- |    |   |       |
|----|---|-------|
| 8. | Kharsang Gas Engine based TPS<br>- 2x4 MW<br>- Gas<br>- Distt. Changlang<br>- M/s Intercorp Industries Ltd. | 31.00 |
|----|---|-------|

**Western Region****Maharashtra**

- |     |   |        |
|-----|---|--------|
| 9.  | Khaperkheda TPS Unit 5 & 6<br>- 2x210 MW<br>- Coal<br>- Distt. Nagpur<br>- M/s Aranco Line Shipping Co. Ltd. Valetta, Malta | 1353   |
| 10. | Bhadravati TPS<br>- 2x500 MW<br>- Coal<br>- Distt. Chandrapur<br>- M/s Nipplon Group, India, CEG, UK and EDF. France.       | 5235.2 |

**Gujarat**

- |     |  |         |
|-----|--|---------|
| 11. | Mangrol (Lignite) TPS<br>- 1x250 MW<br>- Lignite<br>- Distt. Surat<br>- M/s Gujarat Power Corpn. Ltd.                        | 1082.81 |
| 12. | Hazira GICC TPS<br>- 500 MW<br>- Naphtha<br>- Distt. Surat<br>- M/s Essar Power Ltd.<br>(Promoted by M/s Essar Gujarat Ltd.) | 1650.00 |



Sl. No.	Name of the Project Capacity, Fuel Distt. & Name of the Promoter	Estimated Cost as per PR (Rs. Crs.)
13.	Power Plat (GICC for GIPCL) - 145 MW - Naphtha/Distillate/Gas - Distt. Baroda - M/s Gujarat Industries Power Co. Ltd.	415.25
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>		
14.	Korba (West) TPS Unit 5 & 6 - 2x210 MW - Coal - Distt. Bilaspur - M/s India Thermal Power Ltd. promoted by M/s Mukund Ltd.	1600.45
<b>Southern Region</b>		
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>		
15.	Cuddalore TPS - 2x535 MW - Coal - Distt. South Arcot - M/s Cuddalore Power Co. (Consortium of foreign and Indian Companies led by M/s International Contracting and Marketing Corpn. USA)	5575.00
16.	Neyveli (Zero Unit) TPS - 1 x 250 MW - Lignite - Distt. South Arcot - M/s ST-CMS Electric Co., Power Systems, USA and CMS Generation, USA.	

Sl. No.	Name of the Project Capacity, Fuel Distt. & Name of the Promoter	Estimated Cost as per PR (Rs. Crs.)
<b>Karnataka</b>		
17.	Mangalore TPS - 6x167 MW - Coal - Distt. Dalkshin Kannada - M/s Mangalore Power Co. (A subsidiary of Cogentrix. Inc. USA and General Electric Capital Corporation)	4776.84
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>		
18.	Visahakhapatnam TPS - 2x500 MW - Coal - Distt. Vishakhapatnam - Promoted by M/s Ashok Leyland Ltd., India and National plc of UK.	5817.00

Sl. No.	Name of the sch:me and District	Capacity (MW)	Estimated Cost Rs. Cr.
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**B. THERMAL****Rajasthan**

1.	Suratgarh TPS St. II - Distt. Sriganganagar	2x250	2129.20
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**Gujarat**

1.	Wanakbori TPS Extn. (U-7) - Distt. Kheda	1x210	657.83
2.	Lignite Based TPS at Akrimota - Distt. Kutch	2x120	1163.22

Sl. No.	Name of the scheme and District	Capacity (MW)	Estimated Cost Rs. Cr.
3.	Lignite based TPS at Ghogha - Distt. Bhavnagar	2x120	856.22
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>			
1.	Krishnapatnam TPS St. I - Distt. Nellore	2x250	4365.41
2.	Ramagundam TPS Extn. - Distt. Karimnagar	2x250	1673.73
3.	Simhadri TPS - Distt. Vishakhapatnam	2x500	3100.88
<b>Kerala</b>			
1.	Kozhikode DGPP at Eddakkara near Thalkalathur - Distt. Kozhikode	120	357.00
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>			
1.	Diesel Engine Power Plant at Samalpatti - Distt. Dharmapuri	100	302.93
<b>C. HYDEL</b>			
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>			
1.	Nagarjuna Sagar Tail Pond Dam HE. - Distt. Nalgonda & Gundoor	50	273.02
<b>Assam</b>			
1.	Kerbi Leagoi (Lower Borpani) (Karbi Analog)	100	284.30

Sl. No.	Name of the scheme and District	Capacity (MW)	Estimated Cost Rs. Cr.
<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>			
1.	Parbati St. II Distt. Kullu	800	1115.80
2.	Parbati St. III - Distt. Kullu	501	660.14
3.	Renuka Dam MPP - Distt. Sirmur	40	93.84
<b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>			
1.	Ans St. II - Distt. Dharmari	30	110.83
2.	Shitkari Kulan - Distt. Srinagar	84	383.43
<b>Karnataka</b>			
1.	Varahi Tail Race - Distt. Dakshna Kannada	15	65.42
<b>Kerala</b>			
1.	Adirappally - Distt. Thrisur	160	150.16
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>			
1.	Gandhi Sagar PH II - Distt. Mandsaur	160	228.60
<b>Maharashtra</b>			
1.	Chikhaldhara - Distt. Amravati	400	513.40

Sl. No.	Name of the scheme and District	Capacity (MW)	Estimated Cost Rs. Cr.
<b>Orissa</b>			
1.	Sindol	320	2246.14
2.	Hirakud-B and Chiplima-B - Distt. Sambalpur	408	1339.65
<b>Punjab</b>			
1.	Shahpurkandi - Distt. Gurdaspur	168	945.45
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>			
1.	Gori Ganga St. III A&B - Distt. Pithoragarh	140	396.27
2.	Bowala Nand Prayag - Distt. Chamoli	132	380.66
3.	Tapovan Vishungad - Distt. Chamoli	360	555.62
4.	Vishnu Prayag - Distt. Chamoli	400	868.00
<b>West Bengal</b>			
1.	Raman St. III - Distt. Darjeeling	60	169.07

**Electronic Exchanges in Gujarat**

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

137. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remove such difference; and

(a) whether the standard of telephone exchanges in Gujarat is lower than other States;

(d) the number of modem and electronic telephone exchanges in Gujarat in comparison to other States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

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

(d) The number of modern and electronic exchanges in Gujarat as on 31-3-94 is 1048 which works out to 83% of the total number of exchanges in the State as compared to the All-India percentage of 83.6%.

*[Translation]*

#### **Kerosene to Gujarat**

138. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has sent a proposal for allocation of required quantity of Kerosene for fishing industry;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to allocate required quantity of Kerosene to the State;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the monthly demand of kerosene for fishing industry in Gujarat, and the quantity supplied to Gujarat during 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Kerosene is a deficit product and more than 40% of our requirement is met by imports. It is not

possible to met the full demand of States due to restricted availability of Kerosene in the Country, foreign exchange constraints, and heavy subsidies involved.

Kerosene, however, is now being imported under the parallel marketing scheme for sale at market prices. Kerosene is available in open market in Gujarat.

(d) The monthly demand made by Gujarat Government for kerosene for the fishing industry is 1946 MTs. The total allocation of Kerosene to Gujarat for the year 1990-94 was 790313 MTs including 390 MTs for fishing industry.

*[English]*

#### **Oil Refining Capacity**

139. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed target regarding setting up of oil refineries during the Eighth plan period;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) the total oil refining capacity set up by the end of 1993-94 in the country;

(d) the percentage of this capacity used in refining of indigenous crude oil during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(e) whether some quantity of crude oil is also produced in the country which is not refined in the indigenous oil refineries; and

(f) if so, the quantity of crude oil sent to foreign countries during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 for refining?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). The project demand of Petroleum products from the year 2001-2002 is estimated to be approximately 102 MMTPA. Present refining capacity in the country is 53.4 MMTPA. Considering the proposed expansion of existing refineries and based on the LOI issued till now to various parties, the refining capacity is expected to increase to around 119 MMTPA for meeting the estimated demand of petroleum products by 2001-2002.

(c) The total refining capacity in the country by the end of 1993-94 is 53.40 MMTPA.

(d) the percentage of indigenous crude oil out of total crude refined during the last three years is as under:—

Years	Percentage
1991-92	54.7
1992-93	45.2
1993-94	43.7

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

### Service Tax

140. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd., has decided to pass the burden 'service tax' levied under the 'Budget on Telephone Companies/Corporations, to the consumers; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). The Service Tax is recovered from the subscribers of Telephone Connection as per Finance Act, 1994 and rules made there-under.

[Translation]

### Talks with United Arab Emirates

141. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any political level talks were held recently with United Arab Emirates;

(b) if so, whether the issue of extradition treaty was also discussed during the course of negotiations between the two countries;

(c) whether any agreement has been reached between the two countries in regard thereto; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). No recent talks at political level have been held with UAE. However, the issue of Extradition Treaty, which was first discussed at the meeting of the Indo-UAE Joint Commission in New Delhi in January 1994, was considered at technical level discussions in Abu Dhabi on February 7-8, 1994, with a view to concluding an Extradition Treaty.

(c) No agreement has yet been reached and both sides are now evaluating the results of negotiations held in February 1994.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

#### LPG Price by Private Sector

142. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of LPG through private parallel market system is cheaper than that supplied by the public sector; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). The products imported under the Parallel Market System can be sold at market determined prices. There is no price control by Government.

#### Silk Mines in Orissa

143. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the list of sick iron ore and manganese ore mines in Orissa;

(b) the reasons for the sickness of these mines; and

(c) the details of the steps taken for their revival?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) According to the information furnished by the Government of Orissa, 4 iron ore mines each in Mayurbhanj and Sundargarh Districts and 2 iron ore mines in Keonjhar District are reported to be closed. Likewise, 2 manganese ore mines are reported to be closed in Sundargarh District. List of these mines is shown in the enclosed *Statement*. Production in some other mines is also stated to have fallen during the year 1993 as compared to the production in the year 1992.

(b) The reason for closure and fall in production in the mines is reported to be mainly the decline in export and domestic demand.

(c) Some of the mines owners are reported to be making efforts to prepare calibrated iron ore which at present has a better market. Improvement market conditions will also help in the revival of the mines.



**STATEMENT**


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Sl. No.	Name of the lessee	Location of mine
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**Iron Ore Mines**

- |     |                           |  |
|-----|---------------------------|--|
| 1.  | Partha Das                | Maharajpur, Distt. Mayurbhanj            |
| 2.  | J.K. Chaubey              | Parunapani-Bhuyanbasa, Distt. Mayurbhanj |
| 3.  | J.K. Chaubey              | Budhrajpahar, Distt. Mayurbhanj          |
| 4.  | Late R.K. Padia           | Badamarinda, Distt. Mayurbhanj           |
| 5.  | Orissa Mining Corporation | Kasira, Distt. Sundargarh                |
| 6.  | Orissa Mining Corporation | Bhanjapali, Distt. Sundargarh            |
| 7.  | A.M.T.C.                  | Narayanposi, Distt. Sundargarh           |
| 8.  | S.D. Sharma               | Railela, Distt. Sundargarh               |
| 9.  | Mineral Trading Syndicate | Bhalubeda, Distt. Keonjhar               |
| 10. | M.R. Das                  | Bhalubeda, Distt. Keonjhar               |

**Manganese Ore Mines**

- |    |              |                              |
|----|--------------|------------------------------|
| 1. | U.C. Mishra  | Kusumdihi, Distt. Sundargarh |
| 2. | B.I. Company | Kusumdihi, Distt. Sundargarh |
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**Scholarship to Foreign Students for study in India**

144. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM:  
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
be pleased to state:

(a) the country-wise number of foreign students nominated and provided scholarships by the Government for study in India during a year; and

(b) the number of such students from Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and

other neighbouring countries during each of the last three years?

utilised by foreign students during 1993-94 is enclosed.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) *Statement-I*  
showing country-wise slots offered and

(b) A *Statement-II* showing  
scholarships utilised during the last three  
years by neighbouring countries is also  
enclosed.

### STATEMENT-I

*Countrywise slots offered and utilised by foreign students during 1993-1994*

Sl. No.	Country	Offered	Utilised
1.	Afghanistan	8	8
2.	Algeria	3	2
3.	Australia	7	2
4.	Azerbaijan	2	—
5.	Arab Republic of Egypt	12	6
6.	Bhutan	6	6
7.	Bangladesh	113	100
8.	Belgium	3	1
9.	Barbados	2	—
10.	Bulgaria	2	—
11.	Bahrain	4	—
12.	Czechoslovakia	5	1
13.	China	25	17
14.	Canada	2	1
15.	Cyprus	4	1

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Sl. No.	Country	Offered	Utilised
16.	Combdia	2	--
17.	Cameroon	1	--
18.	Dominica	1	--
19.	Ethiopia	11	3
20.	France	16	13
21.	Fiji	11	7
22.	Greece	2	--
23.	Ghana	8	4
24.	Germnay	1	1
25.	Gambia	8	7
26.	Guyana	5	2
27.	Hungary	3	2
28.	Iraq	13	10
29.	Iran	3	1
30.	Israel	1	--
31.	Italy	5	4
32.	Indonesia	15	15
33.	Japan	8	5
34.	Jordan	6	3
35.	Jamaica	2	--
36.	Kenya	20	13

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Sl. No.	Country	Offered	Utilised
37.	Kuwait	1	—
38.	Khazakhstan	5	1
39.	Khyrgistan	—	—
40.	Lesotho	1	—
41.	Laos	2	—
42.	Lebanon	1	—
43.	Maldives	7	—
44.	Myanmar	7	5
45.	Mauritius	51	38
46.	Malaysia	9	3
47.	Mexico	4	3
48.	Mongolia	10	10
49.	Malta	2	2
50.	Morocco	1	0
51.	Norway	4	1
52.	Nigeria	12	—
53.	Netherlands	3	—
54.	New Zealand	2	1
55.	Nepal	92	90
56.	Namibia	4	—
57.	North Korea	1	1

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Sl. No.	Country	Offered	Utilised
58.	Oman	1	—
59.	Poland	8	1
60.	Phillippines	5	4
61.	Portugal	2	1
62.	Pakistan	2	—
63.	Palestine	8	3
64.	Qatar	1	—
65.	Romania	3	1
66.	Russia	8	8
67.	Syria	8	6
68.	Somalia	5	5
69.	Sudan	6	5
70.	Sri Lanka	60	44
71.	South Korea	3	2
72.	Saudi Arabia	1	—
73.	Sweden	2	—
74.	Spain	5	3
75.	Senegal	1	—
76.	South Africa	15	4
77.	Seychelles	1	—
78.	SADR	2	—

Sl. No.	Country	Offered	Utilised
79.	South Pacific Island	2	—
80.	Suriname	2	—
81.	Turkey	4	1
82.	Thailand	15	16
83.	Tanzania	6	6
84.	Trinidad & Tobago	6	4
85.	Tadjikistan	2	—
86.	Tunisia	1	—
87.	Turkmenistan	2	—
88.	Uganda	12	9
89.	Uzbekistan	7	5
90.	United Kingdom	2	2
91.	UAE	1	—
92.	Vietnam	17	14
93.	Yemen	27	24
94.	Zambia	7	2
95.	Zimbabwe	15	—
96.	Zaire	3	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>837</b>	<b>563</b>

**STATEMENT-II***Scholarships utilised for the last three years by neighbouring countries*

Sl. No.	Country	1991-92 Utilised	1992-93 Utilised	1993-94 Utilised
1.	Afghanistan	10	14	8
2.	Bangladesh	78	112	100
3.	Bhutan	2	2	6
4.	China	17	15	17
5.	Maldives	8	1	-
6.	Mauritius	39	42	38
7.	Mynamar	4	3	5
8.	Nepal	85	83	90
9.	Sri Lankda	54	64	44
10.	Pakistan	1	-	-
Total		298	336	308

**Inland Water Transport in Kerala**

145. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount provided to Kerala by the Union Government for the development of Inland water transport system in Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) the details of progress achieved so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF  
THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE

TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):  
(a) and (b). A scheme to modernise 55 jetties for passenger ferries in the waterways to be implemented by the Govt. of Kerala was sanctioned by the Govt. of India as Centrally Sponsored Scheme at a cost of Rs. 136.38 lakhs in January, 93. A request from the State Govt. for release of funds during 1994-95 has not been received so far.

A provision of Rs. 62.00 crores for development of the West Coast Canal in Kerala exists in the 8th Five Year Plan. However, against the provision of

Rs. 3.00 crores, an amount of Rs. 65.00 lakhs was spent for this purpose during 1993-94. A provision of Rs. 1.00 crore has been made during 1994-95. Champakara and Udyogmandal Canals have already been dredged to the required depth, to facilitate smooth inland water transport movement.

### **Setting up of Food Processing Units**

146. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI  
PAWAR:  
SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI  
ASHRAF FATMI:  
SHRI LALL BABU RAI:

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

(a) whether any proposals are lying pending with the centre for setting up of new food processing units in the country as on 30.6.1994; and

(b) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b). Almost all Food Processing Industries have been de-licensed and, therefore, do not require Industrial Licence. However, those units engaged in the brewing and distillation of alcoholic beverages and manufacture of those items which are reserved for small scale sector are required to take licence. As per available information 28 applications for manufacture of beer and 5 applications for manufacture of potable alcohol/IMFL were pending with this Ministry as on 30.6.1994.

### **Kolar Gold Fields**

147. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news report appearing in the Economic Times dated June 8, 1994 under the caption "Foreign Majors in race for Gold Mining in Kolar";

(b) if so, the details of the proposals received from foreign companies;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken to allow participation by foreign firms in gold mining;

(e) the advantage of allowing foreign firms to enter Gold Mining in the country; and

(f) details of future plans for boosting Gold Mining operations in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Some foreign companies had shown interest in collaborating with Bharat Gold Mines Ltd. (BGML), Govt. of India Undertaking engaged in gold mining. The company has recently invited offers for collaboration in the field of exploration and exploitation of gold and treatment of mill tailings by 1.8.94.

(d) to (f). With opening up of gold for exploitation by private sector, participation by the private parties in gold



exploration has become possible and is expected to bring in additional resources and upto date technology in this sector.

[*Translation*]

**LPG Distributors in Rolling Marketing Scheme**

148. SHRI RAMASHRAY  
PRASAD SINGH:  
SHRI TEJ NARAYAN  
SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to appoint LPG distributors in the rolling marketing scheme;

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

(c) if not, the reaction therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). LPG Marketing Plan 1992-94 containing proposals to set up 623 LPG distributorships has already been approved by the Government and is under execution by the Industry.

**Shifting of Telephones in Panchayat Bhawan in M.P.**

149. SHRI SURAJ BHANU SOLANKI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the post offices in Madhya Pradesh where telephone connections have not been provided so

far and the number of such post offices from where the telephone connections have been withdrawn and installed in different Panchayat Bhawans;

(b) the number of the Panchayats in the State not provided with telephone facility so far; and

(c) the number of Panchayats provided with telephone facility and the amount spent for this purpose during 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(b) The number of Panchayat Village without telephone facility as on 30.6.1994 is 5216.

(c) The number of Panchayat Villages provided with telephone facility during the year 1993-94 is 6157 and the amount spent is about Rs. 77 Crores.

[*English*]

**Passport Office in Kerala**

150. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passports issued by Kozhikode, Cochin and Trivandrum Passport Offices during 1993-94;

(b) the number of applications pending at these offices as on 30th June, 1994; and

(c) the arrangements being made at these offices to expedite the clearance of passport applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). The information is given in the *Statement* attached.

(c) The steps taken to expedite the issue of passports at these offices include, *inter-alia*, augmentation of staff strength, computerisation of these offices, productivity linked incentive scheme, inspection of these offices and the implementation of inspection reports.

### STATEMENT

*The number of passports issued by Passport Office in Kerala during 1993-94 (1.4.93 to 31.3.94) and the number of applications pending as on 30.6.94*

Sl. No.	Office	Number of ppts issued	Total pendency as on 30.6.94	Pending over a month as on 30.6.94
1.	Cochin	129260	4530	2835
2.	Kozhikode	330722	5225	1782
3.	Trivandrum	179002	8490	980
		638984	18245	5597

[Translation]

#### Indian Bureau of Mines

151. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Regional Office of Indian Bureau of Mines is functioning in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether the Government proposes to open a Regional office in the State; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The proposal of Indian Bureau of Mines to open a Regional Office at Ahmedabad has not materialised so far due to financial constraints.

[English]

#### By Passes in Andhra Pradesh

152. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted proposals to seek financial assistance from the Union Government for the construction of by passes during 1993-94;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Union Government are likely to allot the required funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):

(a) and (b). The Central Government is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways in the country. Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to bypasses on National Highways in Andhra Pradesh. A proposal for construction of 17.88 kilometre long bypass around Eluru Town had been received during 1993-94 from Government of Andhra Pradesh as part of the improvement of National Highway from Vijayawada to Eluru. This project is proposed to be executed with the loan assistance from Asian Development Bank.

(c) As the project is at presanction stage, it is too early to indicate the time by which the required funds are likely to be allotted.

### **Private Participation Multi-crore Road Projects**

153. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:  
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently thrown open multi-crore worth road projects to the private sector on 'Build, Operate and Transfer' (BOT) basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a number of such projects have been identified;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the private companies including the multinational and NRIs who have shown interest in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):

(a) to (d). Yes, Sir. A Statement indicating the details of the projects identified and thrown open for Private Sector Participation is attached.

(e) The domestic/overseas Companies from U.K., Malaysia, Canada, Australia etc. have been evincing interest in taking up highway projects on Builds, Operate and Transfer basis.

**STATEMENT**

Name of Project	State	Approximate Length in Km.	Approximate Cost in Rs. million
<b>A. BYPASSES</b>			
1. Moradabad	Uttar Pradesh	20	600
2. Combatore	Tamil Nadu	27	400
3. Akola	Maharashtra	14	300
4. Amravati	Maharashtra	18	300
5. Hubli-Dharwad	Karnataka	30	400
6. Udaipur	Rajasthan	17	250
7. Nellore	Andhra Pradesh	18	250
8. Shillong	Meghalaya	27	650
<b>B. BRIDGE</b>			
1. Bridges on Kullu bypass	Himachal Pradesh		202
2. Bridges across Talpona & Galgibagh	Goa		200
3. Varapuzha bridge across Periyar	Kerala		260
4. Sheonath bridge on Durg bypass	Madhya Pradesh (Including Durg bypass)		240
5. Second Vivekananda bridge	West Bengal		2200

Name of Project	State	Approximate Length in Km.	Approximate Cost in Rs. million
6. Jiabhareli bridge	Assam		700
7. Nizamuddin bridge	Delhi		430
8. Sharavathi bridge	Karnataka		300
9. Second Narmada bridge at Zadeshwar	Gujarat		450
<b>C. EXPRESS WAYS</b>			
1. Delhi-Kamal-Ambala	Delhi and Haryana	200	10,000
2. Delhi-Ghaziabad-Kanpur	Delhi & U.P.	414	25,000
3. Kanpur-Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh	310	20,000
4. Bombay-Surat-Vadodara	Maharashtra & Gujarat	375	45,000
5. Bombay-Pune	Maharashtra	150	9,000
6. Faridabad-Noida-Ghaziabad	Haryana & U.P.	45	3,000
7. Bombay-Nasik	Maharashtra	145	8,700
8. Bangalore-Mysore	Karnataka	140	9,000
9. Ghaziabad-Meerut	Uttar Pradesh	49	3,000

**Telephone to Villages**

(c) if so, the details thereof, Statewise?

154. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in the country having telephone facility, Statewise;

(b) whether the Government propose to extend this facility to more villages during 1994-95; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The number of villages in the country, having telephone facility as on April, 01, 1994 is 1,42,552. Statewise details are given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The Target for the year 1994-95 is to extend this facility to 1,05,883 additional villages. Statewise details are given in the enclosed *Statement*.

**STATEMENT****VILLAGE PUBLIC TELEPHONES**

*Status as on April 01, 1994*

Sl. No.	Circle/State	Total No. of inhabited villages	VPTs as on 1.4.94	Target for 1994-95
1.	Andhra Pradesh	29341	19266	4250
2.	Assam	20459	4405	4000
3.	Bihar	79208	8202	18000
4.	Gujarat including Dadra Nagar, Daman & Diu.	18735	9226	4435
5.	Haryana	7190	4816	1130
6.	Himachal Pradesh	16997	2316	1000
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	6447	881	700
8.	Karnataka	27024	5108	7000

Sl. No.	Circle/State	Total No. of inhabited villages	VPTs as on 1.4.94	Target for 1994-95
9.	Kerala including Lakshadweep Island	1530	1512	18
10.	Madhya Pradesh	71386	18117	13000
11.	Maharashtra including Goa	36187	14309	6500
12.	North-East Including Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland & Tripura.	15192	1574	1000
13.	Orissa	51057	5258	10000
14.	Punjab	13252	7558	1550
15.	Rajasthan	37889	6141	5000
16.	Tamil Nadu including Pondicherry	15826	11777	2000
17.	Uttar Pradesh	112568	18564	16300
18.	West Bengal including Andaman Nicobar & Sikkim	43306	3528	10000
Total		603594	142552	105883

[Translation]

**Natpha-Jakhari Power Project**

155. DR. SAKSHIJI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction work of the first stage of Natpha-Jakhari Power Project is going on as per schedule;

(b) whether the construction cost of the project has escalated manifold from its original cost;

(c) if so, the extent thereof;

(d) whether the Government have enquired into the reasons for such escalation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The construction of civil works of Nathpa Jhakari hydro-electric power project commenced a few months ago. The contract for supply, erection and commissioning of the electro-mechanical equipment has been awarded recently. It is expected that duration of the construction will be about five years.

(b) and (c). The estimated cost of the project has undergone an upward revision from Rs. 1678.02 crores to Rs. 4337.95 crores at March, 1993 price level.

(d) and (e). The revised approved project cost is based on March 1993 price level whereas the earlier estimates were based on September, 1988 price level.

#### **Extradition Treaty with us**

156. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the progress made in regard to signing of extradition treaty with the US during the visit of Prime Minister to that country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): India and US held one round of discussions on a new bilateral Extradition Treaty in September, 1993. A large measure of agreement has been reached on the text.

The remaining outstanding issues are under examination and review by both Governments. Further negotiations with a view to finalizing the Agreement are expected.

The Joint Indo-US Statement issued during PM's visit to the USA in May, 1994, states that the two leaders noted that the United States and India have begun negotiations on a new Extradition Treaty which they hope to complete in the near future.

#### **Oil Exploration**

157. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:  
SHRIMATI SHEELA  
GAUTAM:  
SHRI RAMESHWAR  
PATIDAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had recently visited Singapore;

(b) if so, whether he had made any offer to the foreign investors in the field of oil exploration and development under the Government's liberal economic policy;

(c) whether any discussion has been held with the Government of Singapore in the field of oil exploration; and

(d) if so, the details of the proposals likely to be finalised and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (d). A delegation led by the Minister of State for Petroleum



and Natural Gas visited Singapore in the last week of March, 1994, to acquaint oil companies with the opportunities for investment in the oil and gas sector in India. Discussions were also held with the Economic Development Board of Singapore regarding prospects of prominent companies from Singapore participating in the petroleum sector in India.

### **Bokaro Steel Plant**

158. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the modernisation work of Bokaro Steel Plant has been given to a foreign firm at uncompetitive rates;

(b) if so, whether an Indian company had offered to carry out the modernisation at a much lower cost; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Bids were invited and received on a global basis from pre-qualified bidders including Indian parties. Orders have been placed for these global packages of Bokaro Steel Plant Modernisation on the lowest, technically acceptable, tenderers which include an Indian Company.

(c) Does not arise.

### **Misuse of STD/ISD Calls**

159. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some gangs engaged in providing STD and ISD telephone calls at cheap rates in various parts of the country, particularly in Delhi, are active causing losses of crores of rupees to the Government;

(b) whether such gangs have been nabbed in various parts of the country in which the employees of telephone department are also found to be involved;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the effective steps being taken by the Government to check such misuse of STD/ISD facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Cases of diversion of telephones for STD/ISD purposes have come to notice from places like Delhi, Jaipur, Madras, Agra, Bangalore, Bombay, Calcutta etc. Assistance of CBI/Police has been taken to investigate such cases and some private persons and departmental officials involved have been apprehended. Suitable action has already been initiated against the persons involved in such cases.

(d) Surprise visits have been strengthened at all sensitive points in the telecom network. Four special cells of CBI, each under the charge of a DSP, has been sanctioned recently. These Cells will function at the four metropolitan cities and co-ordinate with the departmental officers in effectively dealing with cases of diversion of telephones. The Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, is being

amended to provide for deterrent penalties for these who indulge in diversion or take advantage of diversion or abot in the diversion of telephones. Subscribers of Electronic exchanges have been advised to use STD Dynamic lock facility to prevent misuse.

[English]

### Requirement of Power in Gujarat

160. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether various parts of Gujarat are facing power shortage at present;

(b) the total requirement of power in Gujarat and the quantum of annual power generation in that State;

(c) the number of new power generation projects in the state under consideration of the Government and the number of projects, which have been cleared during 1993-94;

(d) the names of places in the State earmarked for hydro-electricity generation schemes and their estimated cost and profit and loss; and

(e) the names of the places where projects for generation of wind power will be set up alongwith quantum of electricity likely to be generated thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). The requirement of power, its availability and the extent of shortage in Gujarat during

April, 1994 to June, 1994 were as follows:—

(All figures in net MU) April, 91 - June, 91	
Requirement	8100
Availability	7801
Shortage	309
% shortage	3.8

(c) Proposals for setting up eight Power projects have been received in the Central Electricity Authority for accord of techno-economic clearance. Of these, the Gandhar Scheme (864.7 MW) has been cleared by Central Electricity Authority.

(d) Two hydro-electric projects viz. Sardar Sarover (6x200+5x50MW) at an estimated cost of Rs. 1950.94 crores and Kadana PSS Extension (2x60 MW) at an estimated cost of Rs. 120.51 crores are presently under construction.

(e) At Bamanbore and Dhank two wind power generation projects of capacity of 2 MW each are under erection.

### India-China Joint Working Group

161. SHRI V SREENIVASA PRASAD:  
SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:  
SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:  
SHRI ANNA JOSHI:  
SHRI TARA SINGH:  
SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL:

SHRI ATAL BIHARI  
VAJPAYEE:  
PROF. RASA SINGH  
RAWAT:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the meeting of India-China Joint Working Group on border issue was held at Beijing recently;

(b) if so, the broad details of the discussions held and the outcome thereof; and

(c) whether any agreement has been reached in regard to demarcation of Line of Actual Control and the troop reduction at the border;

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

(e) the follow up steps taken on the outcome?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (e). The 7th meeting of the India-China Joint Working Group (JWG) on the Boundary Question was held in Beijing on July 6-7, 1994.

2. During the meeting the two sides continued discussions aimed at arriving at a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the India-China boundary question. Both sides held discussions on the implementation of the *Agreement on the Maintenance of Peace and Tranquility along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China Border Areas*, which was signed during Prime Minister's visit to China on September 7, 1993. The *Agreement* provides for clarification of the Line of Actual Control (LAC), where

the two sides have different views as to its alignment and for the redeployment of military forces along the border. No separate agreement with China on demarcation of the LAC or troop reductions was reached during this session of the JWG.

3. During the discussions the two sides noted with satisfaction that the situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) was peaceful and that confidence building measures already in place were working well. The two sides exchanged views on further confidence building measures and agreed in principle that additional points for meetings between the border personnel of the two countries will be established. Specific details regarding these additional points will be worked out in the India-China Expert Group. The two sides also took note of the considerable progress made at the first two sessions of the Expert Group. They noted that the Expert Group had reached agreement on its work regulations. The leaders of the two delegations directed the Expert Group to continue to adopt a positive and constructive approach in its future work.

4. The two sides also took this opportunity to exchange views on all aspects of India-China relations. Both sides expressed happiness at the steady and perceptible improvement in bilateral ties and reiterated their commitment to maintain this positive trend in their relationship. Views were also exchanged on regional and global issues of mutual interest. There was convergence of positions on several international topics.

5. The next meeting of the Joint Working Group will be held in New Delhi at a mutually convenient date in 1995, preceded by a meeting of its Expert Group in early 1995.

[Translation]

### Telecom Facility in Villages

162. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:  
SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN  
SHARAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of villages having telecommunication facility in the country at present;

(b) the names of the States having more villages equipped with telecommunication facility than other States in the country; and

(c) the target fixed to increase the number of such villages during the year 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) As on April 1, 1994, the total number of such villages is 142552.

(b) Statewise details are given in *Statement*, which gives a comparative study of the telecommunication facility provided in the States.

(c) The target fixed for 1994-95 to increase the number of such villages is 1,05,883. Statewise details are given in the *Statement* attached.

### STATEMENT

*Village Public Telephones/Telecom facility Status as on April 1st, 1994*

Sl. No.	Circle/State	Total No. of inhabited villages	Villages Public Telephone as on 01.04.94	Target for 1994-95
1.	Andhra Pradesh	29341	19260	4250
2.	Assam	20459	4405	4000
3.	Bihar	79208	8202	18000
4.	Gujarat including Dadra Nagar, Daman & Diu	18735	9226	4435
5.	Haryana	7190	4816	1130
6.	Himachal Pradesh	16997	2316	1000
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	6447	881	700
8.	Karnataka	27024	5108	7000

Sl. No.	Circle/State	Total No. of inhabited villages	Villages Public Telephone as on 01.04.94	Target for 1994-95
9.	Kerala including Lakshadweep Island	1530	1512	18
10.	Madhya Pradesh	71386	18117	13000
11.	Maharashtra including Goa	36187	14309	6500
12.	North-East including Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland & Tripura	15192	1574	1000
13.	Orissa	51057	5258	10000
14.	Punjab	13252	7558	1550
15.	Rajasthan	37889	6141	5000
16.	Tamil Nadu	15826	11777	2000
17.	Uttar Pradesh	112568	18564	16300
18.	West Bengal including Andaman, Nicobar & Sikkim	43306	3528	10000
<b>Total</b>		<b>603594</b>	<b>142552</b>	<b>105883</b>

[English]

**Post Cards**

163. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Post Cards are being misused

in bulk quantity for sending replies to TV programmes like Quiz, creating scarcity of the Post Cards for general public; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken to stop such misuse of post cards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). It is a fact that postcards in large numbers are being used for sending replies to TV programmes etc.

The Department of Posts is, therefore, considering a proposal to introduce a separate category of postcard which will be used for prize-winning competitions organised through TV, Radio, Newspapers etc.

### **Indo-Iranian Pipeline Project**

164. SHRI A. ASOKARAJ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to implement Indo-Iranian pipeline project to supply natural gas to India; and

(b) The places in India which would receive supply of natural gas under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Expert Groups from India and Iran are jointly working out the modalities for the selection of an agency to carry out the pre-feasibility study of the Iran-India natural gas pipeline.

(b) The distribution of the gas can be considered only after the feasibility of the gas pipeline is established.

### **Power Policy**

165. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIS:  
SHRI BOLLA BULLI  
RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of POWER be please to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received a good response to the new power policy from both private and public sectors;

(b) the number of power projects to be undertaken during 1994-95 and the quantity of power generation likely to be achieved and the power production capacity to be added as a result thereof;

(c) whether these projects will be able to overcome the power shortage at present prevailing in many States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) 42 on going power projects in Central and State Sectors with a capacity of 4598.75 MW are programmed for commissioning during 1994-95.

(c) and (d). These projects will help in reducing the power shortage to some extent.

### **Modernisation of IISCO (Bumpur)**

166. SHRI SANAT KUMAR  
MANDAL:  
SHRI SUDHIR GIRI:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been delay in the modernisation of IISCO;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the escalation in the cost of modernisation as a result thereof;

(c) whether a Central Government undertaking has offered to modernise IISCO at a lower cost than that offered by private concerns; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). It has not been possible for Government to take an investment decision for modernisation of Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited (IISCO) due to constraint of resources in Government and Steel Authority of India Limited (of which IISCO is a subsidiary).

Government, therefore, decided to allow private sector participation in the equity and management of IISCO for the purpose of ensuring expeditious modernisation of its Bumpur Steel Works. Government proposed to introduce a Bill for empowering Government to allow SAIL to transfer its shareholdings in IISCO to private persons for this purpose. The Bill was under consideration of the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry which presented its report to Parliament in April, 1994 the Report are being followed up.

Meanwhile, IISCO has become a sick industrial company in terms of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, and the Board of Directors of the company have made a reference to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) as required under section 15 of the Act for determination of measures to be adopted with respect to the company.

(c) and (d). Government have not received any such proposal from any Central Government Undertaking. However, the Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Hindustan Steel works Construction Limited (HSCL) has, purely in his personal capacity, written to a Central Trade Union leader suggesting that it may be possible to increase IISCO's production of hot metal to 1.45 million tonnes per annum with an investment of Rs. 2130 crores. It has also been clarified that this is only a broad concept which is not based on any detailed feasibility study.

[Translation]

#### **Trans-Border Bus Service with Nepal**

167. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be please to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to start trans-border bus service between Nepal and India; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Termission to Import Petroleum Products and LPG**

168. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of indigenous and foreign multinational companies to which Government have given permission for import of petroleum products and LPG in private sector;

(b) the future plans for the sale of petroleum products and LPG by these companies and the quantum thereof, State-wise;

(c) the time by which their sale is likely to be commenced on the basis of permission accorded to them;

(d) whether the Government have made any arrangements to check the functioning and management of these companies; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (e). Under the Parallel Marketing System, the Government had allowed the private agencies to import and market Kerosene, LPG and LSHS by using/setting up their own import facilities and distribution network. They do not need any permission from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. However, they are required to obtain necessary approvals under the relevant Acts and Rules from the Central/State/Local authorities regarding safety, pollution control, etc. as applicable.

Govt. have decanalised the import of following items: 1. LPG 2. SKO 3. NAPHTHA 4. LUBRICANTS 5. LSHS/LSWR 6. HEXANE 7. BENZENE/TOLUENE 8. RPC/CPC 9. CBFS 10. PARAFFIN WAX.

Under the Parallel Marketing System, Kerosene, LPG, LSHS/LSWR have been imported by the Private Agencies. Likewise, other Petroleum products like CBFS, RPC/CPC, Hexane and Benzene/Toluene are also being imported. Government have also approved the formation of Joint Ventures by the Public Sector Companies with Foreign Companies as detailed below for manufacture and marketing of lubricants:-

1. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited with Shell.
2. IBP with Caltex.
3. Indian Oil Corporation Limited with Mobil.
4. Indian Oil Corporation Limited with Balmer Lawrie & Co. Limited and Nyco.
5. Balmer Lawrie & Co. Limited with Fuchs.

[English]

### **National Highways in Andhra Pradesh**

169. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of on-going road-widening scheme on the National Highways in Andhra Pradesh scheduled for completion in 1994-95;

(b) the present stages of the various such schemes, especially on N.H. No. 5;

(c) whether some such schemes have been delayed; and



(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Two schemes on National Highway 7 and one on National Highway 43 for widening are scheduled for completion during 1994-95. These are in advanced stage of progress.

(c) and (d). There has been some delay on two schemes on National Highway 7 due to slow progress by the contractors.

#### **Indo-Norwegian Agreement**

170. SHRI D. VANKATESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level technical delegation of oil experts from Norway have visited India to explore the possible avenues of Indo-Norwegian co-operation in the field of oil and gas sector;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been reached with Norway in this regard;

(c) if so, the details of the agreement; and

(d) to what extent Norway is going to help India in exploring the oil and gas in the country;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) No sir.

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

#### **Iron and Steel, Ranchi**

171. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state the progress achieved by the Research and Development Centre for Iron & Steel (RDCIS), Ranchi, during the last three years;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): Steel Authority of India Limited has taken up number of steps to improve its research and development programmes. Research and Development Centre selects and pursues such projects which would lead to maximum benefits in terms of improvement in productivity, quality and yield, reduction in rejection, reduction in input cost as well as reduction in specific consumption of energy and materials and development of new products. To meet such requirements, projects taken up by Research and Development Centre have been classified in the following categories:—

- Plant Performance Improvement (PPI) which accounts for the bulk of Research and Development efforts and are directed towards improvement in productivity, quality, yield and energy conservation and development of new products in steel plants of SAIL.
- Basic Research (BSR) and Major Technology Development (MTD) for developing new steel technologies.
- Investigation and Consultancy Assignment (ICA).

The salient features of the progress made by Research and Development Centre for Iron & Steel (RDCIS), Ranchi, during the last three years are given below:—

**1991-92**

- Upgradation of charging system of sinter mix, introduction of improved roll pass lubrication system in CRM, optimisation of tuyere parameters, development of indigenous cold rolling oil (06RO-m2) for TMC and application of low moisture castable for tundish lining resulting in improvement in productivity and yields.
- Reduction in energy consumption by introducing variable voltage frequency blowers, computer control system and double layer skid insulation system besides improved ladle preheating system.
- Development of market oriented products.
- Development of technology for thin strip casting.

**1992-93**

- Improved sinter making, decrease in rejections of blooms by installation of automatic cutting system. Implementation of condition based Monitoring System, improved screening of sinter

and coke, optimum slag regime, used of higher RAFT, optimising the concast bloom size and the roll pass design, use of LMC in soaking pit walls etc. have resulted in better quality, increase in productivity and improvement in yield.

- Decrease in specific fuel consumption by modification of insulation of skids in reheating furnaces, decrease in ladle heating time, resulted in reduction of specific energy consumption in Steel Plants.
- Development of new products suited for railways, GAIL, Sugar Industry etc. such as hot rolled plates, ERW pipes & corrosion resistant steel.
- Development of import substitution items like cold rolling oil for increasing rolling rate, ME10 grade plates used for making cartridge cases, infrared photocell looper controllers for skelp mill, non-contact type maintenance free sensor for wire rod mill and 92% SiO<sub>2</sub> based exothermic hot repair mass for coke ovens.

**1993-94**

- Development of SAILMA 450 Hl Grade Steel at Bhilai Steel Plant substituting imports earthmovers, impellers and excavators.
- Optimisation of Slab Length Cutting for Plate Mill of BSP to suit market requirement.

- System Development of Heat Treatment and Manufacturing Process of Locomotive Wheels at Durgapur Steel Plant.
- Development of Technology for Production of High Strength Crane Wheels at Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur.
- Development of Cold Rolled CORTEN steel through ASP-BSL route for meeting requirement of the Railways.

#### **World Bank Aid to Power Grid**

172. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of POWER be please to state:

(a) whether Power Grid has implemented its important projects through World Bank's assistance during 1993;

(b) if so, whether the unified load despatch and communication project for Southern Region are also included in the said scheme; and

(c) if so, the funds allocation for Southern Region Projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). Yes Sir.

(c) Estimated cost of the project is Rs. 621.57 crores.

#### **Dues Against PSUs of Defence**

173. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister

of COMMUNICATIONS be please to state:

(a) whether Department of Telecommunications (DOT) owes large sums to Public Sector Undertakings of the Ministry of Defence;

(b) the details of amount owed- PSU-wise and year wise;

(c) the reasons for non-clearance of the dues;

(d) whether DOT pays interest to Defence PSUs for the amount owed;

(e) if so, at what rate; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

#### **Pakistan's Involvement in Terrorism in Kashmir**

175. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:  
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:  
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be please to state:

(a) whether the Government have shown to US and other countries the

evidence of Pakistan's involvement in terrorism in Kashmir;

(b) whether the Government have also showed evidence of training of terrorist elements in Afghanistan for operation in Kashmir; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and their response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (c). Government have apprised the international community of Pakistan's support to subversion and terrorism directed against India, including training imparted to militants in camps located in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir as well as of training facilities arranged by Pakistan in locations within Afghanistan.

There is general appreciation in the international community of Pakistan's role in aiding, abetting and supporting terrorism in J&K.

### Visa to Pak Nationals

176. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be please to state:

(a) the number of applications received by the High Commission of India, Islamabad, and Consulate General of India, Karachi from Pakistani nationals for visas to visit India during 1991, 1992 and 1993, year-wise.

(b) the number of Pakistani nationals who where granted visas to visit India, year-wise;

(c) the number of Pakistani nationals who actually visited India, year wise; and

(d) the number of Indian nationals who visited Pakistan, according to our emigration records, year-wise, during these years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) The number of visa application received from Pakistan nationals to visit India, year-wise;

	1991	1992	1993
(i) High Commission of India, Islamabad	40480	34886	36200
(ii) Consulate General of India, Karachi	160933	152094	16831
(b) The number of Pakistani nationals granted visas to visit India;	194182	178431	45927
(c) The number of Pak nationals who visited India.	196878	166728	52898
(d) The number of Indian nationals who visited Pakistan:	72994	67752	65723

**Supply of Natural Gas to  
Maharashtra by Oman**

177. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government has urged the Union Government to supply natural gas proposed to be imported from Oman/Iran to Maharashtra;

(b) whether the State Government has offered free of cost the land required and other facilities needed for locating the shore terminals for the marine pipeline;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Government of Maharashtra have proposed the setting up of a new gas terminal at Usar.

(d) The landfall point of the submarine pipeline will be decided on techno-economic considerations.

[*Translation*]

**STD/PCO in Gujarat**

178. SHRI RATILAL VARMA:  
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for allotment of I.S.D./S.T.D./P.C.O. Booths, received in Gujarat during the 1992-93 and 1993-94, district-wise;

(b) the number of the applications disposed of out of them during the said period and number of the booths allotted so far;

(c) the time by which the remaining applications would be disposed of; and

(d) the total number of telephones given to the various panchayats so far in the State, District-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (d). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

**Privatisation of Port Activities**

179. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified the Port activities in the 11 major Ports in the country that are proposed to be privatised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The following activities have been broadly identified for obtaining private participation in 11 major Ports:

- (i) Setting up of Container Terminals.
- (ii) Setting up of Warehousing and Storage facilities.
- (iii) Operation and maintenance of various cargo handling terminals.
- (iv) Provision of pilotage and crange services.
- (v) Dredging.
- (vi) Maintenance of various port craft and other equipment.
- (vii) Leasing of Equipment.

[*Translation*]

#### **LPG Agencies in Gorakhpur, U.P.**

180. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:  
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG agencies in Gorakhpur Division of Eastern Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the present demand and supply position of the LPG in the Gorakhpur Division;

(c) whether the Government have received applications for opening of more LPG agencies in Maharajganj, Sidharthnagar, Deoria, Basti and Gorakhpur Districts;

(d) if so, whether the Government have taken any decision in this regard so far;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) As on 30.6.1994, there were 22 LPG distributorships functioning in Gorakhpur Division of Eastern Uttar Pradesh.

(b) The existing average demand of LPG in Gorakhpur Division is about 80,000 cylinders per month. This is being met in full by the Industry.

(c) to (f). Requests are received from time to time for opening of more LPG distributorships in different parts of the country including the Gorakhpur Division of Uttar Pradesh. These are sent to the Oil Industry for survey. Subject to economic viability and product availability, locations having a population of 20,000 and above are included in the marketing plan for opening of LPG distributorships in a phased manner. Accordingly, eight LPG distributorships have already been advertised in Gorakhpur Division for selection of distributors through the Oil Selection Board for Uttar Pradesh.

[*English*]

#### **STD/PCO Committees**

181. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA:  
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether STD/PCO Committees were established all over the country in January, 1994 for allotting STD/PCO Telephone connections to the unemployed youths;

(b) if so, the number of meetings held by these Committees from January 1994 to June 1994; and

(c) the number of STD/PCO sanctioned district-wise particularly in Andhra Pradesh during that period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) of the 320 Secondary Switching Areas in the country, non-official members for 121 SSA STD/PCO Allotment Committees have since been nominated.

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

[*Translation*]

### **Import of Natural Gas**

182. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to import natural gas;

(b) if so, the quantum of gas likely to be imported country-wise;

(c) whether a part of the imported gas would be provided to Bihar;

(d) if so, the quantum of gas likely to be provided to that State; and

(e) if not, the names of the States to whom this gas is proposed to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). The Oman Oil Company (OOC) has completed the pre-feasibility study for the transport of 56.6 MMSCMD of gas to India. The terms and conditions for importing gas from Oman are under discussion with the OOC. The pre-feasibility study for the import of gas from Iran is yet to be taken up.

(c) to (e). The State-wise distribution of the imported gas will depend on the techno-economic feasibility of transportation and utilisation of gas.

### **Schemes of Oil Sector for Madhya Pradesh**

183. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects/schemes pertaining to oil sector from Madhya Pradesh which are under consideration of the Government;

(b) the reasons for delay in according approval to these projects; and

(c) the time by which these projects/schemes are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). The Government has granted the first stage approval to BPCL for preparing a detailed feasibility report for setting up of a refinery at Bina

(M.P.) as a joint venture between BPCL & Oman Oil Company, OMAN.

(c) the total expenditure incurred thereon?

[English]

**Telephones to Panchayats in  
Andhra Pradesh**

184. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Gram Panchayats provided with telephone facility in Andhra Pradesh so far, district-wise;

(b) the number of Gram Panchayats out of them provided with the said facility during 1993-94; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). As on 30.6.1994, the number of Gram Panchayats provided with telephone facility in Andhra Pradesh is 13705 out of which 1440 Gram Panchayats were provided with the facility during 1993-94. District-wise details are given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(c) The total expenditure incurred so far is about 172 crores, out of which about 18 crores was incurred during the year 1993-94.

**STATEMENT**

*Districtwise details of Gram Panchayats in Andhra Pradesh provided with telephones*

Sl. No.	Name of the SSA	Total No. of Panchayats with Telecom. facility.	Total No. of Gram Panchayats provided with telephone facility during 93-94
1.	Adilabad	215	10
2.	Anantapur	723	63
3.	Chittoor	736	61
4.	Cuddapah	438	84
5.	East Godavari Dist.	848	17
6.	Guntur	908	48
7.	Karimnagar	633	55



Sl. No.	Name of the SSA	Total No. of Panchayats with Telecom. facility.	Total No. of Gram Panchayats provided with telephone facility during 93-94
8.	Khammam	509	41
9.	Krishna	873	68
10.	Kumool	738	13
11.	Mahabubnagar	749	169
12.	Madak	528	13
13.	Malgunda	763	137
14.	Nellore	652	125
15.	Nazibabad	360	11
16.	Prakasam	641	123
17.	Ranga Reddy	475	41
18.	Srikakulam	616	150
19.	Visakkapatnam	590	102
20.	Vizianagaram	446	73
21.	Warangal	467	36
22.	West Godavari Dist.	797	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>13750</b>	<b>1440</b>

### Telephone Exchanges in Karnataka

185. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be please to state:

(a) the number of the telephone exchange in Karnataka proposed to be converted into electronics exchanges during 1993-94;

(b) the number out of them already converted and the number of exchanges yet to be converted, district-wise; and

(c) the time by which the remaining exchanges are likely to be converted with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c). No specific targets were fixed for 1993-94 for conversion of exchanges into electronic. However 300 exchanges were converted into electronic during 1993-94, in Karnataka.

As on 01.04.1994, 243 non electrical exchanges existed in Karnataka, out of which 106 have been converted into electronic, so far during 1994-95. The remaining exchanges will be converted progressively and as per the Policy of the Department.

Districtwise information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### LPG Connections in Tamil Nadu

186. SHRI A. ASOKARAJ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the demand and supply of LPG in Tamil Nadu at present; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take to provide more LPG connections in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) During the period April-June, 1994, consumption/sale of LPG by the Government oil companies in Tamil Nadu has been 59468 MTs.

(b) Release of new connections is dependent *inter-alia* upon product availability, slack available with the existing distributors, viability of the distributors and total enrolment plans, etc. Efforts are however, constantly on to release LPG connections to as many applicants and as early as possible.

#### Premium for Power Companies

187. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assured power companies at 16% rate of return on the premium raised in equity issues;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the points raised by private sector and foreign companies in this matter; and

(c) the action taken by the Government on suggestions made by those companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). It is considered that Premium raised while issuing shares, and actually utilised for the construction of power projects should also be entitled to return as for equity. No formal Notification has, however, been issued in this regard.

[Translation]

### Wireless System in Gujarat

188. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that battery based wireless system being operated in the village panchayats stops functioning after a period of about one month;

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

(c) the names of the village panchayats in Gujarat where such telephone exchanges are functioning;

(d) the details of the technical faults in such telephone exchanges functioning in the State; and

(e) the remedial measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). Sir, Most of the Gram Panchayat telephones using battery based wireless systems are functioning satisfactorily. However, some of the older wireless systems have become defective within a short period of installation. As on 30.6.94, 429 Nos. out of 3577 Nos. of Wireless based Gram Panchayat telephones were faulty.

(c) Telephone exchanges are not being planned for village panchayats. However, Government have policy to provide public telephone in Panchayat Villages in Gujarat. As on 30.6.94, 3577 Panchayat Villages had been provided

with telephones in Gujarat. The information with regard to the names of the Panchayat villages is being collected and shall be placed on Table of the House.

(d) As on 30.6.94, 429 Gram Panchayat Telephones were faulty due to technical faults either in the base station unit or in the remote station unit.

(e) Technical Teams from the manufacturers are being deputed to rectify the defects. Some systems are being replaced.

### Multinationals in Food Processing Industries

189. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether for issuing licences to multinationals for setting up Food Processing Industries, certain conditions for export of their products were laid down; and

(b) if so, the names of companies that have breached these terms of agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) While granting approvals for foreign investment which has been allowed in various Food Processing sector under the new Industrial Policy of July '91, certain conditions such as foreign exchange neutrality, dividend balancing non-repatriation of dividend, and exports etc. are laid down on a case to case basis.

(b) There are certain alleged violation/breach of the condition of agreement by M/s. Pepsi Food Ltd., which is under investigation in the Office of the Director General of Foreign Trade.

[English]

### Telephone Revenue Arrears

190. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total telephone revenue arrears due (as on 30.6.1994) from the Central Govt. Group, Central Public Sector Undertakings, State Governments, State Public Sector Undertakings, Private Parties, etc.,

(b) the break-up of the arrears Ministry/Department-wise of the Central Government, Central Public Sector Undertakings-wise, State Government-wise and State Public Sector Undertakings-wise;

(c) the reasons for accumulating huge arrears in respect of Central and State Governments and their undertakings;

(d) the details of the measures taken to recover the arrears from the Government departments and the amount of arrears recovered during the last three years, year-wise;

(e) whether the Government envisage to impose any deterrent penalties on the Central and State Government departments and their undertakings to ensure prompt payment of telephone bills, and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (f). The information is grouped under Central Government, State Government, Defence & Private categories only. This has been called for and the same will be placed on the Table of the House.

### Investment in Telecom Sector

191. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had initiated discussions with representatives of organisations who had taken interest in investing in the telecom sector;

(b) if so, the details of the main points discussed and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the follow up action taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The view expressed by various organisations being taken as part of input for framing the guidelines for implementation of National Telecom Policy.

[Translation]

### Preservation of Tomato

192. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of FOOD

PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether tomatoes are available in plenty in Chatra and Palamau districts;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to encourage entrepreneurs in setting up tomato processing units in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Ministry had formulated several development schemes for providing assistance to various organisations such as, State Government undertakings, Joint sector undertakings, cooperative sector, voluntary agencies, private sector etc. for setting up/upgrading of fruit and vegetable processing industries, setting up of training-cum-fruit processing centres. No request has been received for assistance from these districts.

*[English]*

### **Islands Around Cochin**

193. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take up a project to connect the islands around Cochin in Kerala;

(b) if so, the estimated total cost of the project;

(c) whether any negotiations have been held with any foreign Countries/Agencies in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the participation of the Kerala Government and the Union Government in the implementation of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):

(a) No such proposal is at present under the consideration of Ministry of Surface Transport.

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

### **Exploration of Oil**

194. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been several rounds of offers to Indian and foreign companies to bid for all blocks, for exploration of petroleum off-shore and on-shore;

(b) if so, the dates of the offer and the list of distinct blocks offered so far with their areas and locations;

(c) the names of blocks for which contracts have been signed;

(d) the names of blocks for which negotiations with the short-listed bidders are in progress;

(e) the names of blocks for which the bidders are yet to be short-listed;

(f) the names of blocks for which no bid had been received and the reasons for lack of interest;

(g) whether the Government have formulated a standard agreement for such contracts; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f). The information regarding dates of offer, the basins from which blocks have been offered, details of blocks, their area, blocks for which contracts have been signed, blocks for which negotiations are in progress, blocks for which negotiations are yet to be held and blocks for which no bids have been

received are given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(g) Yes, Sir.

(h) The contracts would be production-sharing contracts with a contract period, in case of crude oil and associated gas of upto 25 years. Companies are exempted from payment of bonuses and statutory levies. The Government of India would have the first right of refusal in respect of the oil produced under these contracts, with companies being paid for their share of oil at international price. Provision for participation by ONGC/OIL in the venture at the exploration and/or the development stage has been made and ONGC/OIL could have a participating interest of 30% to 40% in the venture. Provisions have also been made for the development of commercially exploitable natural gas resources.

#### STATEMENT

Basin/ Block	Area Sq. Kms.	Whether Bid Received	Whether Negotia- tion in Progress	Whether Negotia- tion Yet To Start	Whether Contract Signed
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#### *Fourth Round*

*(Date of Offer: September, 1991)*

#### **Andamand Offshore**

AN-OS-90/1	7010	NO	NO	NO	NO
AN-OS-90/2	6240	NO	NO	NO	NO
AN-OS-90/3	7530	NO	NO	NO	NO
AN-OS-90/4	19300	NO	NO	NO	NO

Basin/ Block	Area Sq. Kms.	Whether Bid Received	Whether Negotia- tion in Progress	Whether Negotia- tion Yet To Start	Whether Contract Signed
AN-OS-90/5	13100	NO	NO	NO	NO
AN-OS-90/6	12300	NO	NO	NO	NO
AN-OS-90/7	18975	NO	NO	NO	NO
AN-OS-90/8	14600	NO	NO	NO	NO
AN-OS-90/9	11100	NO	NO	NO	NO
AN-OS-90/10	6460	NO	NO	NO	NO
AN-OS-90/11	5110	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Bengal Offshore</b>					
NEC-OS-90/1	16000	NO	NO	NO	NO
NEC-OS-90/2	7300	NO	NO	NO	NO
WB-OS-90/1	6440	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Bengal Onshore</b>					
WB-ON-90/1	10150	YES	BID REJECTED		NO
WB-ON-90/2	7520	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Bombay Offshore</b>					
BB-OS-90/1	9945	NO	NO	NO	NO
BB-OS-90/2	10040	NO	NO	NO	NO
BB-OS-90/3	13470	NO	NO	NO	NO
BB-OS-90/4	19270	YES OFFER WITHDRAWN BY BIDDER			
<b>Cachar Onshore</b>					
CR-ON-90/1	2570	YES	BID REJECTED		NO

Basin/ Block	Area Sq. Kms.	Whether Bid Received	Whether Negotia- tion in Progress	Whether Negotia- tion Yet To Start	Whether Contract Signed
<b>Cauvery Offshore</b>					
CY-OS-90/1	81	YES	YES	—	NO
<b>Deccan Syncline Onshore</b>					
DS-ON-90/1	92070	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Ganga Valley Onshore</b>					
GV-ON-90/1	17600	NO	NO	NO	NO
GV-ON-90/2	24440	NO	NO	NO	NO
GV-ON-90/3	30000	NO	NO	NO	NO
GV-ON-90/4	34000	NO	NO	NO	NO
GV-ON-90/5	24000	NO	NO	NO	NO
GV-ON-90/6	15960	NO	NO	NO	NO
GV-ON-90/7	14800	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Gondwana Onshore</b>					
GN-ON-90/1	18400	NO	NO	NO	NO
GN-ON-90/2	13400	NO	NO	NO	NO
GN-ON-90/3	29200	YES	—	—	YES
<b>Gujarat Kutch Onshore</b>					
GK-ON-90/1	36895	YES	BID REJECTED		NO
GK-ON-90/2	4920	YES	YES	-	NO
GK-ON-90/3	11820	YES	BID REJECTED		NO



Basin/ Block	Area Sq. Kms.	Whether Bid Received	Whether Negotia- tion in Progress	Whether Negotia- tion Yet To Start	Whether Contract Signed
<b>Kerala Konkan Offshore</b>					
KK-OS-90/1	19575	NO	NO	NO	NO
KK-OS-90/2	18250	NO	NO	NO	NO
KK-OS-90/3	20755	NO	NO	NO	NO
KK-OS-90/4	27955	NO	NO	NO	NO
KK-OS-90/5	29290	NO	NO	NO	NO
KK-OS-90/6	27700	NO	NO	NO	NO
KK-OS-90/7	24670	NO	NO	NO	NO
KK-OS-90/8	37010	NO	NO	NO	NO
KK-OS-90/9	45675	NO	NO	NO	NO
KK-OS-90/10	15580	NO	NO	NO	NO
KK-OS-90/11	41915	NO	NO	NO	NO
KK-OS-90/12	20755	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Krishna-Godarvari Offshore</b>					
KG-OS-90/1	4367	YES	—	—	NO
KG-OS-90/2	4875	NO	NO	NO	NO
KG-OS-90/3	4495	YES	BID REJECTED		NO
KG-OS-90/4	9425	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Mahanadi Offshore</b>					
MN-OS-90/1	9700	NO	NO	NO	NO

Basin/ Block	Area Sq. Kms.	Whether Bid Received	Whether Negotia- tion in Progress	Whether Negotia- tion Yet To Start	Whether Contract Signed
MN-OS-90/2	7600	NO	NO	NO	NO
MN-OS-90/3	5800	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Mahanadi Onshore</b>					
MN-ON-90/1	7550	NO	NO	NO	NO
MN-ON-90/2	3800	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Mizoram Onshore</b>					
MZ-ON-90/1	9260	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Palar Offshor</b>					
PR-OS-90/1	7800	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Palar Onshore</b>					
PR-ON-90/1	7225	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Punjab Onshore</b>					
PB-ON-90/1	6640	NO	NO	NO	NO
PB-ON-90/2	24600	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Rajasthan Onshore</b>					
RJ-ON-90/1	8230	YES	YES	-	NO
RJ-ON-90/2	13100	YES	BID REJECTED		NO
RJ-ON-90/3	23820	YES	BID REJECTED		NO
RJ-ON-90/4	16600	NO	NO	NO	NO
RJ-ON-90/5	16030	NO	NO	NO	NO

Basin/ Block	Area Sq. Kms.	Whether Bid Received	Whether Negotia- tion in Progress	Whether Negotia- tion Yet To Start	Whether Contract Signed
<b>Vindhyan Onshore</b>					
VN-ON-90/1	32800	NO	NO	NO	NO
VN-ON-90/2	37200	NO	NO	NO	NO
VN-ON-90/3	16000	NO	NO	NO	NO
VN-ON-90/4	22000	NO	NO	NO	NO
VN-ON-90/5	28000	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Total</b>		<b>13</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>

**FIFTH ROUND***(DATE OF OFFER: JANUARY, 1993)***Assam-Arakan**

AA-ON/3	3000	NO	NO	NO	NO
ASM-ON/92/1	3070	NO	NO	NO	NO
ARP-ON/92/2	1900	NO	NO	NO	NO
ARP-ON/92/3	350	NO	NO	NO	NO
CR-ON/90/1	2570	NO	NO	NO	NO

**Bengal**

WB-OS/90/1	6440	NO	NO	NO	NO
WB-ONOS/1	12800	YES	NEGOTIATIONS COMPLETED		NO

Basin/ Block	Area Sq. Kms.	Whether Bid Received	Whether Negotia- tion in Progress	Whether Negotia- tion Yet To Start	Whether Contract Signed
WB-ON/3	11000	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Bombay</b>					
BB-OS/90/1	9915	NO	NO	NO	NO
BB-OS/90/2	10040	NN	NO	NO	NO
BB-OS/90/3	13470	NO	NO	NO	NO
BB-OS/90/5	9095	YES NEGOTIATIONS COMPLETED			NO
BB-OS/6	7020	NO	NO	NO	NO
BB-OS/7	6000	NO	NO	NO	NO
BB-OS/8	8225	YES NEGOTIATIONS COMPLETED			NO
BB-OS/9	17820	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Cauvery</b>					
CY-OS/2	14996	YES NEGOTIATIONS COMPLETED			NO
CY-OS/5	13000	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Gujarat-Kutch</b>					
GK-ON/90/1	36895	NO	NO	NO	NO
GK-OS/5	5000	YES NEGOTIATIONS COMPLETED			NO
<b>Gujarat-Saurashtra</b>					
GS-ON/1	43000	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Kerala-Konkan</b>					
KK-OS-90/4	27955	NO	NO	NO	NO

Basin/ Block	Area Sq. Kms.	Whether Bid Received	Whether Negotia- tion in Progress	Whether Negotia- tion Yet To Start	Whether Contract Signed
KK-OS-90/6	27700	NO	NO	NO	NO
KK-OS-90/10	15580	NO	NO	NO	NO
KK-OS-90/11	41915	NO	NO	NO	NO
KK-OS-90/12	20755	NO	NO	NO	NO
KK-OS/13	22950	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Krishna-Godavari</b>					
KG-OS-90/2	4675	NO	NO	NO	NO
KG-OS-90/3	4495	YES	NEGOTIATIONS COMPLETED		NO
KG-OS-90/4	9425	NO	NO	NO	NO
KG-OS/5	5626	NO	NO	NO	NO
KG-OS/6	8775	YES	NEGOTIATIONS COMPLETED		NO
<b>Mahanadi</b>					
MN-ON-90/1	7550	NO	NO	NO	NO
MN-ON-90/2	3800	NO	NO	NO	NO
MN-OS-90/1	9700	NO	NO	NO	NO
MN-OS-90/2	7600	NO	NO	NO	NO
MN-OS-90/3	5800	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>North-East-Coast</b>					
NEC-OS-90/2	7300	NO	NO	NO	NO
NEC-OS-92/3	6100	NO	NO	NO	NO

Basin/ Block	Area Sq. Kms.	Whether Bid Received	Whether Negotia- tion in Progress	Whether Negotia- tion Yet To Start	Whether Contract Signed
<b>Palar</b>					
PR-OS/2	8100	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Rajasthan</b>					
RJ-ON/90/2	16100	NO	NO	NO	NO
RJ-ON/90/3	28820	YES	NEGOTIATIONS	COMPLETED	NO
RJ-ON/90/4	16800	YES	NEGOTIATIONS	COMPLETED	NO
RJ-ON/90/5	16030	YES	NEGOTIATIONS	COMPLETED	NO
RJ-ON/6	5390	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Total</b>			10		

**SIXTH ROUND***(DATE OF OFFER: AUGUST, 1993)***Assam-Arakan**

AA-ON/1	25700	NO	NO	NO	NO
AA-ON/2	13250	NO	NO	NO	NO
AA-ON/3	3000	NO	NO	NO	NO
AA-ON/4	6500	NO	NO	NO	NO
AA-ON/5	1700	NO	NO	NO	NO
AA-ON/6	2400	NO	NO	NO	NO
AA-ON/7	1800	NO	NO	NO	NO

Basin/ Block	Area Sq. Kms.	Whether Bid Received	Whether Negotia- tion in Progress	Whether Negotia- tion Yet To Start	Whether Contract Signed
ASM-ON-92/1	3070	YES	NO	YES	NO
ARP-ON-92/2	1900	YES	NO	YES	NO
ARP-ON-92/3	350	NO	NO	NO	NO
CR-ON-90/1	2570	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Bengal</b>					
WB-ON-90/1	10150	YES	YES	—	NO
WB-ON-90/2	7520	NO	NO	NO	NO
WB-ON/3	11000	NO	NO	NO	NO
WB-OS-90/1	6440	NO	NO	NO	NO
NEC-OS-90/2	7300	NO	NO	NO	NO
NEC-OS-92/3	6100-	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Bombay</b>					
BB-OS-90/1	9945	NO	NO	NO	NO
BB-OS-90/2	10040	YES	NO	YES	NO
BB-OS-90/3	13470	NO	NO	NO	NO
BB-OS-90/4	19270	NO	NO	NO	NO
BB-OS/6	7020	NO	NO	NO	NO
BB-OS/7	6000	YES	NO	YES	NO
BB-OS/9	17820	NO	NO	NO	N

Basin/ Block	Area Sq. Kms.	Whether Bid Received	Whether Negotia- tion in Progress	Whether Negotia- tion Yet To Start	Whether Contract Signed
<b>Cambay</b>					
CB-ON/2	1710	YES	YES	—	NO
CB-ON/3	510	NO	NO	NO	NO
CB-ON/4	400	NO	NO	NO	NO
CB-ON/5	730	NO	NO	NO	NO
CB-ON/6	145	NO	NO	NO	NO
CB-ON/7	525	YES	YES	—	NO
CB-OS/1	3290	YES	YES	—	NO
CB-OS/2	3590	YES	YES	—	NO
<b>Cauvery</b>					
CY-OS/5	13000	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Gujarat-Kutch</b>					
GK-ON-90/1	36895	NO	NO	NO	NO
GK-ON-90/3	11820	NO	NO	NO	NO
GK-OS/6	2275	YES	YES		NO
<b>Gujarat-Saurashtra</b>					
GS-ON/1	43000	YES	NO	YES	NO
<b>Krishna-Godavari</b>					
KG-ON/1	4180	NO	NO	NO	NO
KG-OS-90/2	4675	NO	NO	NO	NO



Basin/ Block	Area Sq. Kms.	Whether Bid Received	Whether Negotia- tion in Progress	Whether Negotia- tion Yet To Start	Whether Contract Signed
KG-OS-90/4	9425	NO	NO	NO	NO
KG-OS/5	5625	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Purnea</b>					
PA-ON/1	10500	NO	NO	NO	NO
PA-ON/2	7400	NO	NO	NO	NO
PA-ON/3	4550	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Rajasthan</b>					
RJ-ON-90/2	18100	NO	NO	NO	NO
RJ-ON/6	5390	YES	YES	NO	NO
TOTAL		12	7	5	

**SEVENTH ROUND***(DATE OF OFFER: JANUARY, 1994)***Andaman**

AN-OS-92/4	3100	NO	NO	NO	NO
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**Assam-Arakan**

AA-ON/1	25700	NO	NO	NO	NO
AA-ON/2	13250	NO	NO	NO	NO
AA-ON/3	3000	YES	NO	YES	NO
AA-ON/4	6500	NO	NO	NO	NO
AA-ON/5	1700	NO	NO	NO	NO

Basin/ Block	Area Sq. Kms.	Whether Bid Received	Whether Negotia- tion in Progress	Whether Negotia- tion Yet To Start	Whether Contract Signed
AA-ON/6	2400	NO	NO	NO	NO
AA-ON/7	1800	NO	NO	NO	NO
AAP-ON-94/1	870	NO	NO	NO	NO
ARP-ON-92/3	350	NO	NO	NO	NO
CR-ON-90/1	2570	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Bengal</b>					
NEC/OS/90/2	7330	NO	NO	NO	NO
NEC/OS/92/3	6100	NO	NO	NO	NO
WB/OS/90/1	6440	NO	NO	NO	NO
WB/ON/90/2	7520	NO	NO	NO	NO
WB/ON/3	11000	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Bombay</b>					
BB-OS/90/1	9945	NO	NO	NO	NO
BB-OS/90/3	13470	NO	NO	NO	NO
BB-OS/90/4	19270	NO	NO	NO	NO
BB-OS/6	7020	YES	NO	YES	NO
BB-OS/9	17820	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Cambay</b>					
CB-ON/1	7300	YES	NO	YES	NO
CB-ON/3	510	YES	NO	YES	NO

Basin/ Block	Area Sq. Kms.	Whether Bid Received	Whether Negotia- tion in Progress	Whether Negotia- tion Yet To Start	Whether Contract Signed
CB-ON/4	400	YES	NO	YES	NO
CB-ON/5	730	YES	NO	YES	NO
CB-ON/6	145	YES	NO	YES	NO
<b>Cauvery</b>					
CY-ON-OS/1	4725	YES	NO	YES	NO
CY-OS/3	7162	NO	NO	NO	NO
CY-OS/4	3402	NO	NO	NO	NO
CY-OS/5	13000	NO	NO	NO	NO
CY-OS/6	5300	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Gujarat-Kutch</b>					
GK-ON-90/1	36895	NO	NO	NO	NO
GK-ON-90/3	11820	NO	NO	NO	NO
GK-ON/4	1550	YES	NO	YES	NO
<b>Krishna-Godavari</b>					
KG-ON/1	4180	NO	NO	NO	NO
KG-OS/90/1	1675	NO	NO	NO	NO
KG-OS/90/4	9425	NO	NO	NO	NO
KG-OS/5	5625	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Punjab</b>					
PB-ON/4	19640	NO	NO	NO	NO

Basin/ Block	Area Sq. Kms.	Whether Bid Received	Whether Negotia- tion in Progress	Whether Negotia- tion Yet To Start	Whether Contract Signed
<b>Purnea</b>					
PA-ON/1	10800	NO	NO	NO	NO
PA-ON/2	7480	NO	NO	NO	NO
PA-ON/3	4550	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Rajasthan</b>					
RAJ-ON-94/1	3500	NO	NO	NO	NO
RAJ-ON/90/2	13100	NO	NO	NO	NO
<b>Saurashtra</b>					
SR-OS-94/1	9150	YES	NO	YES	NO
<b>TOTAL</b>		10		10	

#### Untreated Water for Ice Cream

195. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the mushroom growth of small ice-cream plants in Delhi;

(b) whether these small plants do not adhere to the purity standards laid down by the Government; and

(c) if so, the action the Government has taken or propose to take against such ice-cream manufactures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The manufacturing of ice cream is reserved in the small scale sector and no industrial licence is required for the manufacturing of ice cream in small scale.

(b) and (c). The quality and purity of ice cream is regulated and action is taken under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act.

#### Programmes Financed for Oil and Gas Exploration

196. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM

AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of programmes financed for oil and gas exploration during the Eighth Five Year Plan including public, private and foreign financial investment separately alongwith the projected production targets, year-wise;

(b) the details of international assistance so far committed for the oil and gas exploration programme; and

(c) the details of the programme for the international bid for all types of wells and the policy modifications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) The programmes to be financed for oil and gas exploration of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited and Oil India Limited during the 8th Five Year Plan are as follows:—

(Rs./crores)

	Survey	Drilling
ONGC Ltd.	732.31	11308.31
OIL	176.00	647.97

Private/foreign investment in exploration is not quantifiable since work programmes are committed without any minimum expenditure commitment.

The yearwise oil production during the Plan Period will be as follows:—

Year	MMT
1992-93	26.95
1993-94	27.17
1994-95	32.51
1995-96	38.37
1996-97	44.45

(b) The International Assistance committed to ONGC Ltd., for its various development schemes during the 8th Five Year Plan Period is given below:—

(Rs./crores)

Institutional Loan	3521.54
Supplier/buyers credit	2774.88
World Bank relending by Government of India	464.00
	6760.42

As regards OIL, for their oil and gas exploration development and production functions, the World Bank has committed a loan of US \$ 140 million in 1987.

(c) Two rounds of offers of discovered fields have been made so far. Blocks for exploration are also being offered on a continuous round-the-year basis. Recently, under the 7th Round of bidding for exploration of oil and gas, 12 bids have been received for 10 blocks by the last date of 30th June, 1994. Incentives offered for both the exploration blocks and discovered fields include a

concessional rate of corporate tax, payment of international price for the company's share of oil, exemption from customs duty and pricing of gas produced on internationally accepted principles.

### **Export from Visakhapatnam**

197. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the total export of steel from Visakhapatnam Steel Plant in 1993-94;

(b) whether the Government propose to convert this plant into an Export Oriented Unit; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Visakhapatnam Steel Plant exported 4.07 lakh tonnes of Steel valuing Rs. 343.29 crores during 1993-94. Besides, Visakhapatnam Steel Plant also exported 6.02 lakh tonnes of Pig Iron valuing Rs. 253.16 crores during 1993-94.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

### **LPG/Petrol/Kerosene outlets in Gujarat**

198. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals for opening LPG agencies, petrol pumps and

retail outlets of Kerosene in Gujarat, particularly in tribal areas, as on June 30, 1994;

(b) the number of proposals out of them related to tribal areas of Gujarat; and

(c) the steps taken for granting approval to these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). Proposals to set up 53 RO dealerships, 65 LPG distributorships and 12 SKO-LDO dealerships at different locations in Gujarat including tribal areas are part of the current Marketing Plans. Selection of dealers/distributors for the locations included in the approved Marketing Plans are in progress as per prescribed procedure through the Oil Selection Board (Gujarat).

[*English*]

### **Consumption of Lubricants**

199. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total consumption of lubricants in the country during 1992-93, 1993-94 and the estimated consumption during 1994-95;

(b) whether the Government propose to take steps to reduce the increasing consumption of lubricants; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) The total quantities of lubricants marketed by the Public Sector Oil Companies during 1992-93, 1993-94 and the estimated consumption during 1994-95 are given below:—

Year	Sales (In TMTs)
1992-93	752
1993-94	692 (Provisional)
1994-95	780 (Estimated Consumption)

(b) and (c). The Government have initiated various measures for conservation and reduction in consumption of lubricants. This includes the introduction of multigrade long drain lubricating oils by the Public Sector Oil Companies.

#### Shipping and Ports Sector

200. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have invited foreign countries to invest in the Shipping and Ports sector in 1994;

(b) if so, the details of countries that propose to invest in this sector;

(c) whether any agreements have been signed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Foreign investment by private participation has been invited by the Government. Proposals have been received from several foreign investors for investing in the Ports sector and not from the countries.

(c) and (d). Kandla Port has entered into an agreement for leasing berth No. 6 to M/s. Gee Pee Corporation Limited, Bangkok for handling of bulk and break bulk cargoes.

#### Southern Gas Grid

201. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN:  
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:  
SHRI P.C. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any financial decision has been taken to set up a Southern Gas Grid;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any negotiation with Oman Oil Company or any other country is underway;

(d) if so, the present terms and conditions of the agreements offered by Oman Oil Company;.

(e) whether the Chief Ministers of Southern States have represented this

proposal before the Union Government; and

(f) if so, the details of response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). Although the concept of Southern Gas Grid has been accepted in principle, no investment decision has been taken as yet.

(c) and (d). The principal terms of the Long Term Gas Supply Contract to be signed with Oman Oil Company are being discussed.

(e) and (f). The Chief Ministers of the Southern States have demanded the early projectisation of the gas grid. The State Governments of the Southern region have been asked to firm up the locations and the requirements of gas based projects.

[*Translation*]

### **LPG Distribution**

202. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from foreign companies for distribution of LPG in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the cities in which the foreign companies propose to start gas distribution system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). A few foreign companies have plans to market LPG by setting up joint ventures with Indian private and public sector companies. These foreign companies include Shell International, Caltex Petroleum Corporation, Mundogas etc. They are in the process of developing necessary infrastructure for importing and marketing LPG.

### **Power Shortage in Madhya Pradesh**

203. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the shortage of power being faced by Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat at present and the annual loss suffered by the States during the course of transmission of power;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to check the loss suffered due to transmission and to provide any financial assistance to the States for modernisation to transmission system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The shortage of power being faced by Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat at present are 9.6% and 3.6% respectively. The annual T&D loss suffered by Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat during 1992-93 were 22.52% and 22.20% respectively.

(b) Comprehensive guidelines have been issued by Central Electricity Authority to the Power utilities for reducing Transmission and Distribution losses. These include, conducting of Energy Audit



for identifying the system elements responsible for excessive losses, installing capacitors to improve the voltage profile, preparation of system improvement schemes for strengthening the improvement of the systems, installing tamper-proof meter boxes, intensifying surprise raids and launching prosecution against the persons found indulging in theft of energy. Theft of energy has been made a cognisable offence from August 1986 under the provision of Section-39 of the Indian Electricity Act, 1910. An incentive scheme was also introduced by the Government of India among the State Electricity Boards/Electricity Departments from the year 1987 for bringing about reduction in Transmission & Distribution losses. Power distribution falls within the preview of Electricity Boards/Electricity Departments constituted by the State Governments. The power utilities have to arrange financial resources on their own for modernisation of their power systems.

[English]

### Foreign Assistance for Shipping

204. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be please to state:

(a) whether the Government have received offer for foreign investment in the shipping sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) the details of foreign assistance sought for development and modernisation of ports in Maharashtra; and

(e) allocation and utilisation of central funds during the last three years for development of shipping and ports in Maharashtra?

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

(b) and (c). Government have approved the proposals of the following foreign companies:—

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Nature of foreign investment
1.	M/s. Geepee Shipping Company Limited, Bombay.	40% foreign equity participation to acquire the vessels.
2.	M/s. Sea. Span Shipping Company Bombay.	51% foreign equity participation to acquire the ships.
3.	M/s. Ready Foods Limited Bangalore.	50% NRI contribution to operate Shipping Services.

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Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Nature of foreign investment
4.	M/s. Shreyas Shipping Limited, Bombay.	72% share in the paid up capital as foreign equity participation for operating shipping service in the country.
5.	M/s. West Asia Maritime Limited, Madras.	Investment to the extent of US \$ 12 million as equity capital by promoters and associates.
6.	M/s. Sambawang Shipyard Limited, Madras.	50% of equity participation for providing turnkey instrumentation job.
7.	M/s. Ugland Maritime Services Limited, Bombay.	51% foreign equity participation for providing crew manning services, ship repair services, technical inspection and ship related technical services.
8.	M/s. Marine Management Services Pvt. Limited, Bombay.	Proposal to formulate a Joint Venture Company with B.T. Shipping Limited, Bermuda to acquire a ship. The company has proposed to invest 100% equity of the capital.
9.	M/s. Panalpina World Transport, Switzerland.	Collaboration in freight forwarding with equity participation to the extent of 99.9% by foreign collaborator/NRI.
10.	M/s. Concord Freight System Limited, Bahamus.	Foreign collaboration in sea and air transport systems with equity participation to the extent of 50%.
11.	M/s. Hecny South West Asia Limited, British, Vergin.	Foreign collaboration in clearing consolidating and forwarding agents for sea and air cargoes with equity participation to the extent of 40%

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The proposal of M/s. Hoko Express Limited, Hong Kong, regarding foreign collaboration in cargo handling for air and shipping cargo was not approved by the Government.

(d) Information is being collected from the State Government of

Maharashtra and will be laid on the Table of the House as and when received.

(e) Allocation and Utilisation of Central Fund during last three years for development of Ports in Maharashtra is as under:—

(Rs. in crores)

	Allocation			Utilisation		
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
Bombay Port	40.00	73.43	86.00	12.45	26.09	43.38
Jawaharlal Nehru Port.	65.40	57.30	63.00	42.80	26.92	15.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>105.40</b>	<b>130.73</b>	<b>149.00</b>	<b>55.25</b>	<b>53.01</b>	<b>58.63</b>

No funds have been allocated for shipping during the last three years.

[*Translation*]

#### **Waiting List for LPG Connections**

205. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM:  
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons in waiting list for LPG connections with each of the distributor in Delhi;

(b) the reasons for not providing gas connection to them; and

(c) the time by which the waiting lists are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c) A statement showing distributorwise waiting list for LPG connections in Delhi is given in the enclosed *Statement*. New LPG connections are released in a phased manner throughout the country including Delhi depending upon the availability of LPG, total new customer enrolment, waiting list, slack available with the distributors and their viability. Efforts are, however, constantly on to release LPG connections to as many applicants and as early as possible.

**STATEMENT***Distributorwise waiting list in Delhi as on 1.7.1994*

Sl. No.	Distributor Name	Location	Waiting List
1.	Shreshtha Gas Service	Delhi	1947
2.	Kansal Gas Service	Delhi	3033
3.	Vee Vee Enterprises	Delhi	16363
4.	M S Enterprises	Delhi	8817
5.	Arjun Enterprises	Delhi	5581
6.	Keerti Gas Service	Delhi	4649
7.	Jagan Enterprises	Delhi	7714
8.	Gauri Enterprises	Delhi	16547
9.	Amrit Enterprises	Delhi	3000
10.	Amar Gas Service	Delhi	5964
11.	Jagannath Enterprises	Delhi	2521
12.	Agro Industrial Commodities	Delhi	290
13.	Aar Kay Enterprises	Delhi	1271
14.	Amar Geet Gas Service	Delhi	1256
15.	Anantji Gas Service	Delhi	347
16.	Atul Enterprises	Delhi	1324
17.	D P Thakore & Company	Delhi	583
18.	Devi Anupama Gas Service	Delhi	1953

Sl. No.	Distributor Name	Location	Waiting List
19.	Cactus Lilly Enterprises	Delhi	43
20.	Jayant Gas Service	Delhi	2017
21.	Jagjyoti Enterprises	Delhi	901
22.	Mahanil Gas Service	Delhi	2534
23.	Manohar Gas service	Delhi	1039
24.	Shivanika Enterprises	Delhi	2970
25.	Popular Chemist	Delhi	1105
26.	Sunil Enterprises	Delhi	698
27.	South Delhi Gas Service-I	Delhi	663
28.	Bhakti Enterprises	Delhi	3091
29.	Vikram Enterprises	Delhi	1555
30.	Aftab Enterprises	Delhi	1394
31.	Necolian Enterprises	Delhi	2938
32.	Sondhi Gas Service	Delhi	7064
33.	Hitebh Enterprises	Delhi	758
34.	Usha Gas Service	Delhi	2406
35.	Dikshit Gas Seva	Delhi	4518
36.	Sona Enterprises	Delhi	2866
37.	Dalip Gas Service	Delhi	93
38.	Alka Flame	Delhi	1760

Sl. No.	Distributor Name	Location	Waiting List
39.	Bakbon Gas Service	Delhi	921
40.	Kanwal Gas Service	Delhi	763
41.	Kiran Gas Service	Delhi	4976
42.	Zaliadhar Gas Service	Delhi	6051
43.	Jagdamba Sai Gas Agencies	Delhi	3172
44.	Vear Jyoti Enterprises	Delhi	1141
45.	Anubha Gas Agency	Delhi	642
46.	Jattin Gas Service	Delhi	2845
47.	Kay Aar Enterprises	Delhi	1028
48.	Flame Centre	Delhi	1259
49.	Fayal Gas	Delhi	760
50.	Vidhya Sagar Gas Agencies	Delhi	1660
51.	Santosh Enterprises	Delhi	1834
52.	G.S. Enterprises	Delhi	8214
53.	O.P. Agency	Delhi	5449
54.	Saroj Enterprises	Delhi	1347
55.	K.S.B. Enterprises	Delhi	986
56.	A Reserve Petroleum Depot	Delhi	6658
57.	Ranvir Enterprises	Delhi	2509
58.	Patparganj Gas Service	Delhi	2574

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Sl. No.	Distributor Name	Location	Waiting List
59.	Shubh Gas Service	Delhi	1979
60.	Hari Singh Gas Service	Delhi	4420
61.	Poonam Gas Agency	Delhi	3841
62.	J J Gas Service	Delhi	3416
63.	Vishal Gas Service	Delhi	4693
64.	Perey Lal & Sons P. Ltd.	Delhi	227
65.	Rajdhani Gas Service	Delhi	3480
66.	Sanjiv Gas Service	Delhi	465
67.	Shaheed Subhash Gas Service	Delhi	3537
68.	Sagar Enterprises	Delhi	1721
69.	Joginder Enterprises	Delhi	4638
70.	Veena Gas Service	Delhi	1679
71.	Kataria Gas Service	Delhi	4281
72.	Paradise Enterprises	Delhi	3483
73.	Rajhans Gas Service	Delhi	834
74.	Jaspreet Gas Service	Delhi	2245
75.	Leela Gas Service	Delhi	2389
76.	S I Gas Agency	Delhi	682
77.	C Lal & Sons	Delhi	1309
78.	Dee Pee Enterprises	Delhi	2466

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Sl. No.	Distributor Name	Location	Waiting List
79.	B.N. Gupta & Co.	Delhi	5463
80.	Prem Gas Service	Delhi	2067
81.	Nath Traders	Delhi	404
82.	R K Agencies	Delhi	2075
83.	Sukh Dham Gas Service	Delhi	1101
84.	Unique Enterprises	Delhi	2579
85.	Shaurya Enterprises	Delhi	6160
86.	S.D.P. Enterprises	Delhi	1783
87.	Tanwar Gas Service	Delhi	1777
88.	Qutab Gas Service	Delhi	2105
89.	Blossoms Enterprises	Delhi	594
90.	P C Gas Service	Delhi	1693
91.	Banaras Gas Service	Delhi	1229
92.	Pra Jyoti Enterprises	Delhi	4605
93.	Tanushree Gas Service	Delhi	548
94.	Associated Trading Co.	Delhi	3574
95.	Deepti Enterprises	Delhi	1198
96.	Elite Agencies	Delhi	2015
97.	Kalkaji Gas Service	Delhi	1244
98.	Shahi Automobiles	Delhi	5725



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Sl. No.	Distributor Name	Location	Waiting List
99.	Nandi Gas Distributors	Delhi	12145
100.	Angad Enterprises	Delhi	3485
101.	Nipro Gas Agency	Delhi	1728
102.	Ess Bee Enterprises	Delhi	4418
103.	Rohini Enterprises	Delhi	1006
104.	Gandhi Nagar Gas Service	Delhi	7282
105.	Karol Bagh Gas Agency	Delhi	198
106.	KWIC Gas Service	Delhi	1545
107.	Raminder Gas Service	Delhi	4798
108.	Rakant Enterprises	Delhi	3742
109.	Vicky Agencies	Delhi	4153
110.	Vijay Rattan Enterprises	Delhi	5153
111.	Citizen Gas Enterprises	Delhi	1109
112.	Delhi State Civil Supplies	Delhi	1360
113.	Sharma Gas Company	Delhi	17327
114.	Shalimar Gas	Delhi	2871
115.	Japneet Enterprises	Delhi	1370
116.	Arya Gas Service	Delhi	1556
117.	Sabharwal Enterprises	Delhi	3241
118.	Khan Enterprises	Delhi	4033

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Sl. No.	Distributor Name	Location	Waiting List
119.	K-2 International	Delhi	4394
120.	Alik Gas Agency	Delhi	3163
121.	Supreme Enterprises	Delhi	11235
122.	Kichenaids	Delhi	2675
123.	Hem Gas Agency	Delhi	1902
124.	Sidhart Enterprises	Delhi	459
125.	Mars Enterprises	Delhi	933
126.	Vandana Enterprises	Delhi	2286
127.	Pearl Gas Service	Delhi	3662
128.	Prem Nath Motors Pvt. Ltd.	Delhi	1019
129.	Prabhat Gas Service	Delhi	1584
130.	Abhu Gas Service	Delhi	2701
131.	Chandra Gas Service	Delhi	10315
132.	Evergreen Gas Agency	Delhi	4327
133.	Sunder Shyam Enterprises	Delhi	3511
134.	Sahaj Enterprises	Delhi	2680
135.	Puneet Gas Service	Delhi	1913
136.	Rani Bagh Gas Service	Delhi	1502
137.	Kandhari Gas Service	Delhi	683
138.	Avtar Gas Service	Delhi	1032

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Sl. No.	Distributor Name	Location	Waiting List
139.	Priya Service	Delhi	1234
140.	Surjeet Fuel Depot.	Delhi	1698
141.	Airforce Gas Agency	Delhi	0
142.	Alok Gas Service	Delhi	5822
143.	Anand Gas Service	Delhi	4551
144.	Arora Gas Agency	Delhi	1936
145.	Ashoka Stores	Delhi	117
146.	Bharat Gas Service	Delhi	6300
147.	Chanakya & Siddhart Gas Co.	Delhi	869
148.	Dammo Enterprises	Delhi	3747
149.	Deepak Gas Service	Delhi	2188
150.	Durga Agencies	Delhi	3772
151.	Engineers Enterprises	Delhi	8139
152.	Ess Ess Enterprises	Delhi	191
153.	Friends Gas Service	Delhi	1708
154.	Gautam Enterprises	Delhi	8420
155.	Hitesh Gas Service	Delhi	3860
156.	Jwala Agencies	Delhi	533
157.	Kain Gas Agency	Delhi	11215
158.	Kaveri Enterprises	Delhi	1640

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Sl. No.	Distributor Name	Location	Waiting List
159.	Kayson Enterprises	Delhi	1117
160.	Khera Gas Service	Delhi	4168
161.	Kitchen Care	Delhi	5933
162.	M. D. Enterprises	Delhi	4082
163.	Manvir Gas Agency	Delhi	6240
164.	Mayapuri Gas Co.	Delhi	2234
165.	Milind Gas Service	Delhi	1626
166.	Modern Cookeries	Delhi	3027
167.	Nikhil Gas Service	Delhi	4938
168.	Pankaj Gas Service	Delhi	16283
169.	Pratap Jyoti	Delhi	5122
170.	Priyanika Gas Service	Delhi	1244
171.	Rahul Agencies	Delhi	1154
172.	Raja Gas Service	Delhi	4070
173.	Raman Gas Service	Delhi	430
174.	Ratawal Gas Service	Delhi	2301
175.	Robin Gas Service	Delhi	3125
176.	Rohit Gas Agency	Delhi	4086
177.	Ruchika Agencies	Delhi	2967
178.	Sachin Gas Service	Delhi	253
179.	Santoshi Gas Service	Delhi	6267

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Sl. No.	Distributor Name	Location	Waiting List
180.	Sarla Enterprises	Delhi	276
181.	Satish & Company	Delhi	1654
182.	Sharman Gas Company	Delhi	7823
183.	Shiv Shakti Gas Service	Delhi	419
184.	Shyamji Enterprises	Delhi	4620
185.	Sunny Gas Service	Delhi	4059
186.	Umika Agencies	Delhi	680
187.	United Agencies	Delhi	1504
188.	Varun Gas Service	Delhi	6600
189.	Veejay Gas Service	Delhi	2926
190.	Victory Enterprises	Delhi	1471
191.	Westend Gas Service	Delhi	2498
192.	Vijay Gas Agency	Delhi	3277
193.	Sobhagya Agency	Delhi	34
194.	South Delhi Agencies	Delhi	2636
195.	Anand Stores	Delhi	1817
196.	Fairdeals	Delhi	375
197.	Gujarat Agencies	Delhi	987
198.	Smart Dry Cleaners	Delhi	683
199.	Standard Stores	Delhi	2189

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Sl. No.	Distributor Name	Location	Waiting List
200.	Fairways	Delhi	2644
201.	Amit Gas Agency	Delhi	570
202.	Amarsons	Delhi	1441
203.	Gujarat Gas House	Delhi	1770
204.	Delhi Gas Co. (Terminated)	Delhi	1000
205.	Sawhney Gas agency	Delhi	5451
206.	Mini Gas Service (Terminated)	Delhi	0
207.	Raju Gas Service	Delhi	7435
208.	Kamal Gas Service	Delhi	1025
209.	Ganga Enterprises	Delhi	1023
210.	Kamakhya Enterprises	Delhi	410
211.	Ram Agencies	Delhi	1370
212.	Smruti Gas Service	Delhi	6448
213.	Shivtej Enterprises	Delhi	1451
214.	Pelican Gas Agency	Delhi	3068
215.	Bawana Gas Service	Delhi	2818
216.	Devi Dayal Enterprises	Delhi	2091
217.	Trehun Sons	Delhi	2358
218.	Caubers	Delhi	6116
219.	Navyug Agencies	Delhi	1308

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Sl. No.	Distributor Name	Location	Waiting List
220.	Noble Traders	Delhi	2016
221.	Reliance Traders	Delhi	1104
222.	Shakti Traders	Delhi	1001
223.	Paschim Gas Service	Delhi	1071
224.	Laxmi Enterprises	Delhi	1958
225.	West Delhi Gas	Delhi	4018
226.	Patel Nagar Gas (Terminated)	Delhi	1313
227.	Khullar Enterprises	Delhi	1531
228.	J.P. Gas Service	Delhi	985
229.	Prem Gas	Delhi	700
230.	Brij Gas	Delhi	870
231.	Vardhman Gas	Delhi	7002

**New LPG Distributorship in Delhi**

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

206. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM:  
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND  
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(a) whether the number of LPG dealers in the capital are insufficient in view of the requirement of LPG consumers;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to appoint new gas dealers in Delhi during 1994-95;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (d). As on 1.4.1994, there were 229 LPG distributorships functioning in Delhi. In addition, proposals for 27 more LPG distributorships have been included in the current LPG Marketing Plan for Delhi. Selection of distributors through the Oil Selection Board is in progress.

*[English]***Foreign guarantee policy for Private Power Projects**

207. PROF. UMMAREDDY  
VENKATESWARLU:  
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN  
SHARAN SINGH:  
SHRI LALIT ORAON:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have agreed to provide guarantee for loans to be taken by the Private Power Projects from the multi-national agencies that required such a guarantee under its statutes;

(b) if so, the details of the policy adopted in this regard;

(c) whether this guarantee has helped in persuading the foreign countries to invest in India; and

(d) how many countries have now agreed to invest in power projects in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No Sir.

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

(d) As on date proposals have been received for setting up of 35 power projects from foreign based private companies belonging to USA, UK, Germany, Australia, Japan, Malta and Israel.

**Auto Rickshaw Fares**

208. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:  
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether after the recent hike in auto fares, the metres have been corrected to reflect the revised rates;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any check has been done to detect defective metres;

(d) if so, the number of auto drivers found defaulting; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):

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

*[Translation]***Jyoti Basu Committee Report**

209. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:  
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jyoti Basu Committee constituted to look into the nation-wise strike by truckers in July, 1993 has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the findings and the recommendations of the report;

(c) whether the Government have considered this report;



(d) the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard and;

(e) the income earned by the States through toll tax at present?

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

(b) to (d). The Committee observed that the Octroi is protected by Entry-52 of the State List in the Constitution and there was no question of its abolition. However, there were delays at check-posts, which were often related to a possible complicity between a section of truck operators and a section of employees, resulting in tax evasion. Therefore, the Committee recommended that the States may within their own Constitutional rights and specific characteristics, choose to stream-line the system of levy, assessment and collection of octroi and entry tax with a view to reducing the delay and tax evasion. However, no action lies on the part of the Central Government on the recommendations of the Committee, since this is a State subject.

(e) This toll (octroi) is not levied by all States. As per information furnished to the Committee, the total earnings of some of the States are as follows:—

Haryana	Rs. 42 crores (approx)
Rajasthan	Rs. 129 crores (for the year 1992-93)
Orissa	Rs. 32.95 crores (for the year 1992-93)
Maharashtra	Rs. 1090 crores (for the year 1992-93)
Gujarat	Rs. 340 crores

### Road links to Tribal Areas in Madhya Pradesh

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

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for connecting the densely populated tribal areas to the main roads; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Ministry of Surface Transport is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways and all other roads including tribal roads are mainly the responsibility of concerned State Government and funds for the same are provided in State plan/Budget under Minimum Needs Programme.

[English]

### Quality of Lubricants

211. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the lubricants available in the capital are of spurious one;

(b) if so, the number of samples of lubricants lifted from the petrol pumps in Delhi in the last one year;

(c) the number of samples out of them found to be spurious and the action taken in the matter;

(d) whether the petrol pumps are also not providing quality oil to the consumers;

(e) if so, the number of cases of providing less quantity of oil to the consumers in Delhi detected in the last one year; and

(f) the corrective steps the government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### **Cochin Shipyard Limited**

212. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) has recently sought collaboration with foreign shipbuilding companies to enable it to undertake manufacture of fleet replenishment tankers for the Indian Navy and hovercraft for the Coast Guard;

(b) if so, the particulars of the foreign shipbuilding companies with which collaboration tie up has been sought;

(c) whether any agreements/Memoranda of Understanding has been signed in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof:

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

(b) M/s. Bremer Vulkan of Germany for fleet replenishment tanker for Navy and M/s. Griffon Hovercrafts of Southampton, UK for Hovercrafts for Coast Guard.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Cooperation Agreement signed with M/s. Bremer Vulkan of Germany is for providing design and necessary data to enable Cochin Shpyard Ltd. (CSL) to submit an offer for fleet tanker and subsequent construction of the vessel in CSL. The Memorandum of Understanding signed with M/s. Griffon Hovercrafts is for technology transfer and eventual manufacture of Hovercrafts in CSL.

### **Democratisation of UN Security Council**

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

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps for the complete democratisation of the UN Security Council by way of increasing the representation of developing countries and elimination of the provision of 'Veto Power'; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. India supported Resolution 48/26 entitled "Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council", which was adopted by the 48th Session of the UN General Assembly by consensus. The resolution established an Open-Ended Working Group in which India participates, to consider all aspects of the question of an increase in the membership of the Security Council and other matters related to its working. The Working Group will submit a report on the progress of its work to the General Assembly before the end of its 48th Session. The subject is on the provisional agenda of the 49th Session of the UN General Assembly this year.

[Translation]

#### **Fishing Trawlers**

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

(a) whether some foreign companies propose to use large fishing trawlers which have disastrous effects on marine life;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to impose a ban on the use of such trawlers; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **LPG Production and Distribution**

215. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for LPG production and to provide LPG connections to the consumers during Eighth Five Plan;

(b) the number of Consumer to whom LPG connections have been provided so far, State-wise;

(c) the number of applications registered in the waiting lists for LPG connections State-wise;

(d) whether the Government have any scheme to clear the waiting lists; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Revised LPG production estimates and enrolment plans for LPG connections during the 8th plan period are as follows:—

	LPG production estimated (TMTPA)	New enrolment plans for LPG connections (LAKH)
1992-93	2571	8.7 (actual)
1993-94	2699	13.6 (provisional)
1994-95	2516	20.0 (planned)
1995-96	2536	10.0 (planned)
1996-97	2832	40.0 (planned)

(b) and (c). A Statement is annexed.

(d) and (e). Efforts are constantly on to release LPG connections to as many applicants and as early as possible.

Plans have been drawn for higher availability of LPG by increasing the capacity of existing production sources, putting up new plants and augmenting the supply through higher imports.

#### STATEMENT

State	LPG Customers population with the public sector oil companies as on 1.4.1994	Waiting List for LPG connections with the public Sector Oil Companies as on 1.4.1994
Andhra Pradesh	16.46	7.55
Arunachal Pradesh	0.21	0.16
Assam	3.15	1.28
Bihar	6.45	2.95
Goa	1.31	0.60
Gujarat	17.93	8.50
Haryana	6.21	3.44
Himachal Pradesh	2.16	0.73

State	LPG Customers population with the public sector oil companies as on 1.4.1994	Waiting List for LPG connections with the public Sector Oil Companies as on 1.4.1994
Jammu & Kashmir	2.26	1.24
Karnataka	10.73	5.21
Kerala	7.23	4.79
Madhya Pradesh	11.00	4.42
Maharahstra	35.05	17.07
Manipur	0.44	0.13
Meghalaya	0.29	0.08
Mizoram	0.29	0.10
Nagaland	0.27	0.13
Orissa	2.76	1.24
Punjab	7.86	4.79
Rajasthan	7.51	7.61
Sikkim	0.10	0.10
Tamil Nadu	16.81	11.55
Tripura	0.33	0.28
Uttar Pradesh	23.56	13.39
West Bengal	10.63	8.70
<b>Union Territories</b>		
Andaman & Nocobar	0.07	0.08

State	LPG Customers population with the public sector oil companies as on 1.4.1994	Waiting List for LPG connections with the public Sector Oil Companies as on 1.4.1994
Chandigarh	1.43	0.75
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.04	0.02
Delhi	14.43	6.97
Daman & Diu	0.08	0.03
Lakshadweep	0.01	0.00
Pondicherry	0.33	0.29

**Gas based Power Plant in Uttar Pradesh**

216. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL:  
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the locations in Uttar Pradesh at which it is planned to set up gas based power plants; and

(b) the total quantum of power in Megawatts likely to be generated by these plants and the time by which these are likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). The U.P. State Electricity Board (UPSEB)/ National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) had planned to set up the following gas based power plants in the State of Uttar Pradesh:

**UPSEB:**

- |  |        |
|--|--------|
| 1. Jagdishpur Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Project, Distt. Sultanpur | 210 MW |
| 2. Avara Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Project, Distt. Bareilly.      | 600 MW |
| 3. Babrala Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Project, Distt. Badaun.      | 600 MW |

- |   |        |
|---|--------|
| 4. Shahjahanpur Combined<br>Cycle Gas Turbine Project,<br>Distt. Shahjahanpur | 600 MW |
|---|--------|

**NTPC:**

- |  |        |
|--|--------|
| 1. Farukhabad Combined<br>Cycle Gas Turbine Project,<br>Distt. Farukhabad. | 800 MW |
| 2. Dadri Combined Cycle<br>Gas Turbine Project-II,<br>Distt. Ghaziabad     | 408 MW |

These schemes are not being pursued as gas linkage for these does not exist.

**Purchase of Gas Stove**

217. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision to the effect that it is mandatory on the part of consumers to buy gas stove from LPG distributors while getting LPG connection;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received complaints that LPG distributors are not giving LPG connections in case the consumers do not purchase gas stove from them; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF  
THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND

NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) No, sir.

(b) to (d). Sometimes such complaints are received. The customers are at liberty to purchase hot-plate from any source provided it bears the ISI mark. The distributors have standing instructions not to insist on purchase of hot-plate from them and are required to display a notice in their showrooms that it is not obligatory for a customer to purchase hot-plate from the distributor releasing the connection. The Marketing Discipline Guidelines, *inter-alia*, provide for penal action against those distributors who indulge in such malpractices. Oil Companies take necessary action immediately on receipt of such complaints.

[English]

**Conditions of National Highways**

218. SHRI SHOBHANADRESSWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study has indicated that the condition of the National Highways

in the country has not been improving over the years; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to rectify this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). There has been no specific study. However, maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process and roads are kept in a traffic worthy condition within the available resources.

#### **Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust**

219. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government have finalised a project for the construction of a container terminal at Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the likely time of its completion; and

(d) the benefits to be accrued by the implementation of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The container terminal at Jawaharlal Nehru Port has already been constructed and commissioned long ago in 1989-90.

(b) There are 3 Container Berths equipped with 3 Rail Mounted Quay cranes alongwith allied equipments.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The terminal can handle 1,80,000 TEVs of containers per annum.

#### **Container Terminal at Cochin**

220. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new container terminal at Cochin Port is ready for commissioning;

(b) the total cost of this project; and

(c) whether this terminal will be operated by private firms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The trial of one out of the two gantry cranes to be installed at the container terminal has started.

(b) The estimated revised cost of the project is Rs. 70.38 crores.

(c) No, Sir.

#### **New Port at Kakinada**

221. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kakinada has emerged as a key commercial centre for import and export of various commodities;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to construct a new port here; and



(c) if so, the main projects that will be undertaken under this programme and the time by which these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) Deep water port is already under construction at Kakinada by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh with the assistance of Asian Development Bank.

(c) The main components of the projects are as follows:-

- (i) Construction of three berths.
- (ii) Construction of island break-water.
- (iii) Capital Dredging.
- (iv) Procurement of floating craft.
- (v) Procurement of cargo handling equipments.
- (vi) Provision of navigational aids and other auxiliary facilities like internal roads, administrative buildings, fire-fighting, water supply, electrification etc.

The project is expected to be completed by August, 1996.

#### **Deregulation of price of Natural Gas**

222. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to deregulate the price of natural gas in the hydrocarbons sector;

(b) if so, whether all the gas-based industries have been allowed to determine the gas price;

(c) if so, whether the gas deregulation will also be in line with the parallel marketing scheme for imported LPG and kerosene; and

(d) if so, to what extent decontrolling natural gas price is going to help the Government and the customers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (d). Gas prices have been fixed by the Government for the period upto 31.12.1995. Fuel oil related prices of gas are being allowed to private developers of oil/gas fields to attract more investment. This is envisaged to make available Natural Gas at competitive prices to consumers.

#### **Kerosene to Small Scale Industries**

223. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have stopped allocating Kerosene to small scale industries which they were getting through the Public Distribution System at subsidised prices; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND

NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). The Central Government makes only bulk allocation to the State Governments every month, who arrange and control its distribution through the Public Distribution System. Only Kerosene supplied for domestic consumption is sold at subsidised rates. Supplies to small scale industries as per allocations made by State Governments are made at the industrial rate. In view of the increasing availability of kerosene in the open market through parallel marketing, State Governments have been advised not to allot Kerosene to industries out of allocation made by Central Government and instead direct them to parallel marketing.

12.00 hrs.

RE: ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have received many notices of Adjournment Motion on killing of 70 persons by Bodo terrorists in Barpeta. There are Adjournment Motion notices given by Shri Vajpayeeji, Shri Mohan Singhji, Shri Chandra Jeet Yadavji, Shri Sharad Yadavji and there are other aspects also on which I have received Adjournment Motion notices. I will have to hear as to how they can be admitted.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, sir, with your kind permission I would like to make one more submission before I come to the notice of adjournment motion given to you. Our minds, like the cloudy sky outside, are also clouded with many questions which are striving for ventilation.

MR. SPEAKER: Would all the questions like to get ventilated on one and the same day?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: It is for you to decide how and when should they be given went to.

I had written a letter to you. Three Members of this House were assaulted in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar during the last few days. Ours is the largest democracy in the world, a multi party democracy. being a pluralistic nation, we enter into agreements and treaties with other states but what condition prevails on our home front? One can easily visualise the security conditions of a common man, the predicament of his life, when the Members of this Parliament are not safe. I am pointing towards the assulats made on the lives of Shri Advaniji, Shri George Fernandes and a Member of Janata Dal (Bommai), Shri Ram Prasad Kushwaha.

It is not a question of law and order alone and, thus, I do not want to project it as a matter of breach of privilege but should not there be a proper arrangement for allowing the Members of Parliament to carry on their work and political activities freely and uninterruptedly throughout the country? Should not they get an assurance to this effect in this House? The unfortunate part of it is that the assailants of both UP and Bihar have direct or indirect connection with the ruling party of these States. This is a matter of concern. I would like this House to discuss this matter and that is why I have given you this notice...  
(Interruptions)

Therefore, I had urged you to direct the hon. Home Minister to come before the House with all the facts related to these incidents. It is for you to decide

as to under which rules this matter should be discussed, but it is a very serious matter.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have also given a notice of another question *i.e.* the sugar scandal. The Parliamentary Committee is conducting an inquiry into the matter and the Government simultaneously, made an announcement regarding an Administrative preliminary Enquiry. What does it mean? The Parliamentary Committee is an all-party committee. Does not the Government have faith in that committee. That committee was going to record the depositions but in the meanwhile you declared a Government inquiry. We had demanded a judicial, non-partisan enquiry. What do you mean by this. There was such a great scandal and still a cover up operation is going on. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is also an important matter and I want that the 'adjournment motion' about which you made a mention of should be taken up today.

Whatever happened in Assam is a matter of concern for the whole nation and the House should take notice of it. The language of my adjournment motion does not speak of the massacre along but the Government of Assam has failed miserably in its duty and it is not I alone who says that. Shri Pilot would agree with me if he is present in the House. He had been there yesterday for an on-the-spot assessment. I congratulate him for his prompt action. His comment was that the Government did not do the relief work. People were killed in the relief camps. Mr. Speaker, Sir, people ran into the relief camps for the safety of their lives and they were killed there only. There was no police arrangement. The massacre lasted for 3 full hours.

MR. SPEAKER: Vajpayee Ji, this is not the time for regular discussion.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, by telling all this, I am making my case. You might say that this matter is related to the State Government but I say that the Central Government did not intervene into the Assam affair on time. That is why the situation is slipping out of hand and see the language of my adjournment action. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you, are aware that I lay a great emphasis on the proper language.

MR. SPEAKER: That is why I made a mention of that at the very outset.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: But you are reading out something else.

MR. SPEAKER: That I am telling on behalf of everybody.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Central Government has failed in its duty and for that we denounce it and want a leave to be granted for moving an adjournment motion on this question.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the leader of the Opposition, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee has raised three questions and I agree that these are very important questions. The situation in Assam is very serious today and I suppose that many people have given notices of adjournment motion on it. Leave may kindly be granted to move these motions. This matter has acquired serious dimension because the people who ran for their lives into the relief camps were massacred in the

camps themselves due to inactiveness of the State administration. The Government failed to provide security to the people who came into these relief camps from villages and other areas. There will be no other matching example of the inertness and callousness of the State administration of the Government of Assam in History. Therefore, it is a serious matter and demands that leave for moving the adjournment motion to be granted. The situation in the whole North-East has turned serious due to this inertness of the state administration of Assam.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the other issue is that of Sugar scandal. There was a loss of public money to the tune of Rs. 10,000 crores due to the procrastinated decision by the Central Government and its disorderly functioning. The poor people of the country are very perplexed due to it and have come to know how money and assets are being looted in India in the name of public works.

Due to this Government, the people are today faced with the question as to what type of relationship should prevail between the Ministers and the bureaucrats. The minister issues a statement that the decision was taken while he was on tour. Then the Secretary to Government, the officer makes a press statement. During all this the P.M.O. maintained silence. Thus it is a serious matter and as a result of all this the innocent people of India are being chummed under the pressure of inflation.

The assault on our colleagues calls for a comprehensive debate. Atalji was saying that he does not want to discuss this issue. There are not only these three instances of assault. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I may tell you that I do not want to point

out the names of the members of the Governments and parties that come to surface whose hands were there behind the Bhopal incident; there is an inquiry committee for that. But a Government existed in Bhopal and the former Prime Minister Shri V.P. Singh and I visited the place. Our vans were broken and acid was thrown on us. A tumour had emerged on my head that was removed with the help of an operation. The rostrum was burnt to ashes. I was a victim of brickbating at Gorakhpur which resulted in four wounds on my body. The house of Shri Paswan was torched at Betur.

I agree that violence in whatever form it may be is the manifestation of an attempt to veil the truth by stopping a debate in a democracy. All the parties should not only condemn this but also try to check it. We should not blame each other and should appreciate the fact that emotions of some people are easily aroused whereas for other it is a weakness. Emotions should not pave way to partisan attitude but should be dealt in a judicious manner.

I request you to kindly admit the adjournment motion on Assam. One hundred people are feared killed there.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, there are very many important issues undoubtedly and we had also given Adjournment Motion on this question of sugar, what you call, scandal. But, Sir, what has happened in Assam, yesterday, is extremely shocking and is of dangerous proportions; it is an explosive situation. Our Member, Mr. Barman, represents that area—Barpeta; he has been there. Mr. Pilot was there:

I am happy that he had rushed to Barpeta.

Sir, I demand that immediately a statement should be made and we can start discussion on that statement. This is not a matter which we should go into by formalities only because in that part of the country the situation is such that people who had taken shelter are being almost butchered and that too with impugny. Instead of getting relief they have got the bullets and they have been killed. I cannot recall any such situation in the past where in a relief camp people have been killed. People who had gone there for the protection of their lives had been killed. There is a Government there; there are paramilitary forces there; army has been brought in already, but in spite of that people have been massacred like this. This is a matter where we must express our greatest concern about it.

Sir, I request the Government to make a statement immediately. Let it be at 2 O'clock. And as soon as that statement is made, let us begin the discussion on it. We do not mind that. Sir, you can provide a time limit. Let this Parliament show its greatest concern about the situation that is prevailing there and see what should be done and what the Government proposes to do.

So far as other matter is concerned, I also strongly support this Adjournment Motion on this sugar question. We also wish to raise other important issues. But I earnestly request you to kindly allow a discussion on this. I believe the Government is prepared, from the nodding of their heads, to make a statement on this. They are prepared to make a statement on this. After that let us start the discussion on this issue.

Kindly treat this matter as of utmost urgency.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, all the three issues are very important but Shri Vajpayee ji has made them three-in-one. It would be better if we take up each issue separately. Whatever has happened at Barpata is a matter of great sorrow and anxiety for the nation. Nearly, 60-70 persons have been killed in a refugee camp. Recently, two days back 22 persons were killed in an incident. Even then the State Government did not take precautionary measures. The Chief Minister had been visiting the camp for three days but even then he could not protect them. Only after the meassacre, he asked for the assistance of Army and the Central Government. Earlier he was keeping quiet over this matter. There has been an unanimous demand that Chief Minister should take moral responsibility for it and resign. Secondly, the Government of India should also take the responsibility of this incident. I am saying this because these are very sensitive areas. If we do not take proper care and make effective security arrangement, such incidents can take dangerous turn and that can pose a challenge for our national unity in future. Therefore, I would like to say that this Adjournment motion should be taken up.

Secondly, our three senior Members have been assaulted. I do agree with Shri Sharad Yadav that such assaults have taken place earlier also. These things should be looked into and some decorum should be maintained so that democratic system could work smoothly. I condemn the attacks on Shri Advani, Shri George Fernandes and Shri Kushwaha ji. The

attack on Shri George Fernandes is of different nature. He was going to his constituency and Parliamentary session was about to commence. Other six Members of Parliament—Shri Abdul Ghafoor, Shri Syed Shahabuddin, Shri Nitish Kumar, Shri Manjay Lal and Shri Brishin Patel—were accompanying him. The State Government knew about it that...*(Interruptions)* It was announced there that Shri George Fernandes would not be allowed to enter his Constituency. I am saying it as an allegation. The car of Shri George ji was stoned. At that time D.S.P. and S.D.M. were present there and anti-social elements continued to attack his car. My allegation is that the State Chief Minister had gone there two days ago and he has not made any security arrangement for Shri George Fernandes. Under the conspiracy of the Bihar Government, he was attacked. *(Interruptions)* We have also met the President in this regard. I would like to say that this incident should be condemned. It is a matter of breach of privilege.

So far as sugar scandal is concerned, I demand that a judicial inquiry should be conducted into this whole affair. The assurance given by the Government to conduct an inquiry into it, would not create confidence among the people. Big scandals are taking place but there is no accountability, no culprit is arrested and no body is punished. Corruption is rampat. I, therefore, demand that the presenting inquiry should be stopped and a judicial inquiry should be conducted into this sugar scandal. All the facts should be brought before the country and the House and the culprits should be penalised.

*[English]*

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA**  
(Midnapore): Without going into the

contents of each of these issues, I would suggest that every one of them—these three or four issues which have been raised—must be discussed in the House. You have called a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee this afternoon. I would suggest that all these issues which have been raised—if any of them is permitted by you to be brought by way of adjournment, it is a different matter—but they must all be discussed in this House.

But I would say that on the opening day of Parliament when we are confronted with this horrifying massacre which has taken place in Barpeta, I think that should be given priority. In this case, they have an advantage because the Minister of Internal Security reached that spot. He had made a first-hand study, I am sure, of the situation. They can make a statement here, which they must make. On the basis of that statement, there should be a discussion. Otherwise, if this massacre is not taken up today, we do not know what is going to happen tomorrow or in the following days. The reaction in the country will be very bad. The reaction will be very bad. People will ask; What is the Parliament doing? A large-scale massacre takes place like this and we do not say anything about it. Therefore, I think, this should be given a priority.

The other issues of physical assaults on Members, the sugar scandal all these issues must be taken up one by one in this House. I would request you to please see to it that the business is arranged in such a way through the Business Advisory Committee that in a day or two, we can go through all these items and discussions can be held. *(Interruptions)*

**THE MINISTER OF WATER  
RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF**

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): We share the anxiety of the Members which they have expressed on these issues. Without going into the merits of the question, we will discuss the matter in the Business Advisory Committee and decide about that. But the Government is ready to make a statement on the Assam massacre. If you permit us, we can make it right now. I suppose the Minister of Internal Security is ready with the Statement. Or, it can be made at two of the Clock and it can be followed by a discussion, if you so permit it. I think it would be in the fitness of things that after the statement, a discussion of short duration follows. We can decide at what time it can be taken up for discussion. *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): But in view of seriousness of the issue, it should be taken up in Adjournment Motion... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir a discussion on Assam is very important and it is also equally important on as to how the discussion is taken up. The Government can make statement during Adjournment Motion also. Please take up the Adjournment Motion and we are pressing for it.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Let me decide the issues one after the other.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Various senior hon. Members have suggested that after the statement of the Government, a discussion can follow. I think that is a more sensible thing to do.

This particular matter calls for a dispassionate discussion. A dispassionate discussion can take place in the form of a discussion. You know, Sir, the implications of an Adjournment Motion. Then, they are sharply divided on party lines. In order to have a purposeful and a dispassionate discussion on this serious problem, we should have a discussion after the statement by the Minister.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh): I entirely agree with the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that there is a special meaning to an Adjournment Motion. Why I pleading for an Adjournment Motion on the question, situation in Assam, is because in an Adjournment Motion, there is an inherent aspect of censure of the Central Government.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Jaswant Singhji, I am not giving any decision on this point right now. I will give my decision on this later. But you shall have to convince me as to how it can be taken up as an Adjournment Motion. I am asking that question.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Indeed. Would you permit me only a minute to convince you?

SPEAKER: How is the Central Government more responsible than the State Government?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Indeed. Here is a situation in the State of Assam. I am not going into the aspect that the State of Assam is governed by the same party as is governing the Union Government at Delhi. That is not the point. But the point is that the situation in Assam has not deteriorate only yesterday. Progressively, over the past

so many months, the situation in Assam is deteriorating. The State Government does nothing; the Central Government does nothing until finally a situation culminates in the massacre.

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to know one thing. Can the Central Government interfere in these matters if the State Government is in existence there?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: The failure of the State Government cannot be an explanation for inaction by the Central Government... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Can they do it constitutionally?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: My point is this. The failure of the State Government cannot be cited as a reason for inactivity or inaction by the Central Government. There is a responsibility, a continuing responsibility that the Union Government has... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have understood please.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: We wish to highlight the failure of the Central Government... *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir it is my motion and I should be allowed to speak.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed you, then you may speak. Shri Chandra Jeet.

*[Translation]*

If I allow you, then you may speak. Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav has submitted it more precisely.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: This is not good.

There are so many points before me today and I do agree with the hon. Members that these are the point on which there should be a discussion in one form or the other on the floor of the House. As to how and when and in what form we can taken up these matters for discussion. We can certainly decide in the Business Advisory Committee in consultation with and with the advice given here by the hon. Members. I am not saying what I am going to do on the Barpeta issue. But before that I would like to say that there are other issues like floods and so on. I am going to take them up afterwards. Please do not feel agitated. Now as far as this Barpeta issue is concerned, I have received so many notices. It would be necessary to find out who can move this Motion and all those things. This is a very important matter. But whatever we do in the House has to be done in such a fashion that it does not create bad precedent for us in future. This is an important matter and I think, the Members have one and the same opinion on this matter. I am looking to this matter not only from the point of view of killings that have taken place over there but I attach a greater importance to what has happened over there. And because of that, I am inclined to give the consent to the notice given by the hon. Members to move this Adjournment Motion. I would like to hon. Minister to make a statement.

*(Interruptions)*



SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): That show how the State Government is functioning.

MR. SPEAKER: That would also be taken into consideration while making the statement and if the statement is made at the initial stage only, the discussion can be very very pointed. But please do not insist on a procedure which can derail our proceedings in the House. If follows the rules, that will help us. If we do not follow the rules that will not help us.

As far as other issues are concerned, I have received a letter from Shri Vajpayeeji. I have sent that latter to the Home Minister for information on what has happened to the hon. Members. After I receive the information, I will certainly consult the leaders of the parties and then discuss the matter with them and we will find out as to what is to be done, how it is to be discussed, what is to be done in this matter. We can have a detailed discussion on that matter. On other issues also, you please study the rules, you study the Constitution, you study the law and please advise me as to what you expect me to do. If it is within the rules, I am ready to do anything you want. If it is not within the rules, all of you sitting here should decide what to do, I will do that. I have no objection. But either it should be within the rules or all of you should decide what is to be done on the floor of the House.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): It is an Adjournment Motion or a Call Attention? I have given notice for a Call Attention.

MR. SPEAKER: This will be balloted and we will find out who can move the Motion.

SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS (Mysore): Due to unusual and

unprecedented rains, heavy floods have caused a lot of damage to the standing crops in Karnataka State, particularly in some of the districts like Mangalore, Mysore, Chikmagalore and Hassan. Standing crops worth about Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 crore in each of these districts have been damaged.

MR. SPEAKER: May I suggest to you that I will ask the hon. Minister to collect the information and make a statement? After the statement is made, I will give you and others also an opportunity to speak on that. We may discuss it in a proper manner.

SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Heavy damage and unprecedented havoc have occurred there resulting in deaths. There are damages to the houses. People there say that in the last 35 years they have not seen such a flood. The whole lot of standing crops have been damaged.

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you make that statement afterwards.

SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Thank you.

SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY (Coimbatore): (Original Speech in Tamil) I would like to bring to the notice of this august House the sorry plight and the sad story of Adivasi Harijan women and the injustice done to them and the violence let loose on them. This is not an isolated or an ordinary matter but this warrants the attention of the Government. I would like to draw your attention to what had happened in a small village Chinnampathi which comes under Mavittipatti Panchayat in Mudukkarai union near Coimbatore. The simple villagers who live in that hill side village live on the spoils of the woods nearby. There had been a gang rape of Harijan and tribal women at knife-point.. I

have visited the area and they narrated me the sad incident which has been reported in almost all the Newspapers published in Tamil Nadu. I request all the Members and leaders present in this House including the Leader of the Opposition to take up this matter to provide justice to those helpless women. I am not trying to gain political mileage out of this. Since it concerns the SCs and STs I would like to request the Union Home Minister to probe the matter and come out with a statement on this issue before this House. Those women should get justice and a judicial probe should be ordered. I request the Centre to initiate action and give adequate protection to Adivasi Harijan women who are treated in an indifferent fashion by the authorities over there.

SHRI P. G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam): The State Government is taking proper action. There is nothing to worry about it. The Hon. Member, instead of raising this here, ought to have brought this issue to the notice of the State Government, if there is any lapse.

MR. SPEAKER: I thank you very much. Half an hour is over. Now Papers to be Laid on the Table... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Tomorrow.

12.33 hrs.

[*English*]

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

##### Notifications under Merchant Shipping Act, 1958

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE

TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 458 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958:—

- (1) The Merchant Shipping (Registration of Indian Ships) Amendment Rules, 1994 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 160 in Gazette of India dated the 2nd April, 1994.
- (2) The Merchant Shipping (Registration of Indian Fishing Boats) Amendment Rules, 1994 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 218 in Gazette of India dated the 7th May, 1994.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6075/94]

##### Memorandum of Understanding between National Mineral Development Corporation and Ministry of Steel for the year 1994-95

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the National Mineral Development Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 1994-95.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6076/94]

##### Notification under Income Tax Act, 1961 and Customs Act, 1962

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V.

CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 296 of the Income Tax Act, 1961:—

- (i) The Income-tax (Second Amendment) Rules, 1994 published in Notification No. S.O. 370(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 1994.
- (ii) The Income-tax (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 1994 published in Notification No. S.O. 416(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th May, 1994.
- (iii) The Income-tax (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 1994 published in Notification No. S.O. 419(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st May, 1994.
- (iv) The Income-tax (Sixth Amendment) Rules, 1994 published in Notification No. S.O. 434(E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th June, 1994.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6077/94]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:—

- (i) S.O. 335(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th April, 1994 together with an explanatory

memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for purposes of assessment of imports.

- (ii) S.O. 336(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th April, 1994 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for purposes of assessment of exports.

- (iii) S.O. 394(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th May, 1994 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for purposes of assessment of imports.

- (iv) S.O. 395(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th April, 1994 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for purposes of assessment of exports.

- (v) G.S.R.482(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st June, 1994 together

with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 44/91-Cus., dated the 30th May, 1991.

Notification when imported into India from the whole of the basic and additional duties of Customs leviable thereon.

- (vi) G.S.R. 525(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd June, 1994 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to goods specified in the Table annexed with the Notification when imported into India for carrying out repairs, reconditioning or re-engineering, from the whole of the basic and additional duties of customs leviable thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6078/94]

**Statement showing action taken by the Government on various assurances promises and undertakings given by Ministers during Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Lok Sabha**

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 each of the following statements (Hindi and English versions) showing action taken by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given by the Ministers during the various sessions of Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Lok Sabha:—

- (vii) G.S.R. 526(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd June, 1994 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to goods specified in the Annexure of the

(1) Statement No. XXXV	– Eleventh Session, 1988	} Eighth Lok Sabha
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6079/94]		
(2) Statement No. XXXII	– Thirteenth Session, 1989	
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6080/94]		
(3) Statement No. XXVI	– Fourteenth Session, 1989	} Eighth Lok Sabha
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6081/94]		
(4) Statement No. XXVIII	– Second Session, 1990	} Ninth Lok Sabha
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6082/94]		
(5) Statement No. XXV	– Third Session, 1990	
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6083/94]		
(6) Statement No. XXI	– Sixth Session, 1990	
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6084/94]		

- (7) Statement No. XXI – Seventh Session, 1991  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6085/94]
- (8) Statement No. XXI – First Session, 1991  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6086/94]
- (9) Statement No. XVIII – Second Session, 1991  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6087/94]
- (10) Statement No. XVI – Third Session, 1992  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6088/94]
- (11) Statement No. XIV – Fourth Session, 1992  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6089/94]
- (12) Statement No. XI – Fifth Session, 1992  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6090/94]
- (13) Statement No. X – Sixth Session, 1993  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6091/94]
- (14) Statement No. VI – Seventh Session, 1993  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6092/94]
- (15) Statement No. IV – Eighth Session, 1993  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6093/94]
- (16) Statement No. III – Ninth Session, 1994  
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6094/94]

Tenth  
Lok  
Sabha

12.34 hrs.

#### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to set up a Tribal Unit in the All India Radio Station, Jeypore to broadcast programmes in Desiya language**

SHRI K. PRADHANI (Nowrangpur):  
Koraput District of Orissa and Bastar District of Madhya Pradesh are the largest tribal districts both in size and population and are situated adjacent to each other. People of this area are the most backward socially, educationally and economically.

There is an All India Radio Station at Jeypore where one short wave station has been sanctioned at a cost of about Rs. 7 crore during last year. The tribals of this area can understand and speak the "Desiya" local language.

In Baster District Agriculture Programme is being broadcast in Chatis Garhi language, but in Jeypore, it is done in Oriya which is not followed by most of the tribals. A request has been made to the Information and Broadcasting Ministry to start a 'Tribal Unit' here at Jeypore to broadcast not only Agriculture Programme in "DESIYA LANGUAGE" but also other educational programmes on

health, education, hygiene, etc. to promote their development in a multifarious manner. I urge upon the Central Government to expedite the work early in the matter.

**(ii) Need to construct a bye-pass of National Highway at Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Bareilly is one of the major industrial city in Uttar Pradesh. It is situated at National Highway No. 24 between Delhi and Lucknow. Taking into consideration upon different advantages, Bareilly was selected to develop as a counter Magnet city under National capital region and for that purpose a plan was formulated for a systematic development of Bareilly. But even after a lapse of such a long time, the said plan could not be implemented and that is why no development works are being carried out there in Bareilly. There is an urgent need to construct a bye-pass on the national highway and an over-bridge on Choupala railway crossing in Bareilly. Therefore, keeping in view the development and necessities of Bareilly I request the Central Government to make immediate arrangement of appropriate funds so that said works could be undertaken at priority basis. (Interruptions)

**(iii) Need to construct Railway Overbridge across Sarha Thala Railway line in Chhapra, Bihar**

SHRI LALL BABU RAI (Chhapra): Mr. Speaker, Sir, railway line at Sarha Thala in my constituency Chhapra is situated in the middle of the city and on both sides, it has a densely populated

bazar. There is heavy traffic in that bazar and the people face a lot of difficulties due to the railway crossing.

Therefore, I would request the hon. Railway Minister to take immediate action for the construction of a railway overbridge across Sarha Thala railway line.

**(iv) Need to allot more LPG Distributorships in Jalpaiguri, West Bengal**

[English]

SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaiguri): Sir, I like to draw the attention of the Government towards a long-standing demand of the people of Jalpaiguri. Jalpaiguri is a divisional town but there is only one IOC distributor running with nearly 15,000 consumers. About seven thousand applications are pending for LPG connections. The demand of the people there is increasing vertically in these days of fuel crisis.

I urge upon the Government to provide more LPG distributorship at Jalpaiguri.

[English]

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatsinghpur): Sir, I want to make a statement. You had been kind enough to ask the hon. Minister to prepare the facts about 'floods'. The country is in floods. Especially in my Constituency, lakhs of people are today sitting on the embankments and they would not be able to go back to their homes for four months.

MR. SPEAKER: You are going back to the same thing. You can raise this tomorrow also. Why do we not start the proceeding like this?

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY:  
Sir, you may allow a discussion under rule 193.

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you tomorrow and not today.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatsinghpur): Sir, I will say only one thing. When we discuss the issue of floods, the Water Resource Minister should be present.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Lokanathji, please do not do like this.

MR. LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Sir, the Minister must reply as to what preventive measures are being taken by the Government.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not correct. I said that it was important and it would be raised tomorrow also.

Now, Shri P.K. Bansal.

12.40 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377 -  
*Contd*

- (v) **Need to extend Central Government Health Scheme to Chandigarh Union Territory for the benefit of the retired as well as working Central Government Employees**

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Sir, there are about 20,000 Central Government employees in Chandigarh and a large number of those who are retired. Non-extension of Central

Government Health Scheme to the city has caused great inconvenience and difficulty to all these employees, particularly to the retired. It is a compelling necessity that a CGHS hospital and dispensaries are opened in Chandigarh immediately. To mitigate the difficulties of the eligible people. It will be in the fitness of things if they are granted temporary entitlement to be treated at the PGI. Any delay in the matter will only aggravate the problems of these senior citizens who have given the best of their lives serving the country.

I urge the Government to take immediate action in the matter.

- (vi) **Need to introduce a new train service between Bijnor (U.P.) and Delhi.**

[Translation]

SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI (Bijnor): Mr. Speaker, Sir, even after so many years of Independence, there is no rail facility from Bijnor to Delhi as a result of which people have to face a lot of difficulties. Only Mussoorie Express train passes through here which covers only two Assembly Constituency of the district and this train does not touch the rest of the five constituencies. The passengers who want to come to Delhi, have to go to Moradabad or Nazibabad and that is why they face difficulty in getting seats or reservation in the trains.

Therefore, I request the Railway Minister that Bombay Express, which runs from Dehradun to Bombay via Luksar, Saharanpur and Delhi, should be diverted from Luksar to Nazibabad, Nagina, Dhampur, Tyohara, Muradabad and Delhi or a new train should be introduced which should cover all these stations. All of these stations are

commercial centres of Bijnor district, therefore, it is necessary to introduce a new train service for Delhi which should cover all these stations.

12.41 hrs.

ANNOUNCEMENT RE: ADJOURNMENT MOTION ON ALARMING SITUATION IN ASSAM

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Well, after the lunch interval, I think, the names of the persons who have given their notices will be balotted. The name of the person who can move the notice will be pronounced. And he may move the notice. Then, we will take up the discussion at 4.30 p.m. But the procedure which is required to allow this motion to come before us will be completed after the interval.

12.42 hrs.

PRE-NATAL DIAGNOSTIC TECHNIQUES (REGULATION AND PREVENTION OF MISUSE) BILL

As Reported by Joint Committee -  
*Contd.*

[English]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): Sir, on behalf of Shri B. Shankaranand, I beg to move:\*

"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."

A Bill to prevent misuse of diagnostic techniques for determination of the sex of the foetus, leading to female foeticide, the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Bill was introduced in this House on 12th September, 1991.

Recently developed scientific techniques enable pre-natal determination of the sex of the foetus. These techniques, useful in determining genetic disorders and abnormalities of the foetus, are also misused.

From time to time, women's organisations, sociologists and prominent members of the public has been urging the Government to take steps to curb this abuse.

A conference of medical experts, administrators, voluntary organisations and legal experts in 1986, unanimously recommended that pre-natal technique tests should be regulated and misuse of test for prediction of sex of foetus should be banned.

Government of India constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of the then Health Secretary, Government

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\* Moved with the recommendation of the President.



[Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar]

of Maharashtra in 1987 to, *inter alia*, go into the details of a comprehensive legislation. On the draft Bill submitted by the Committee, the opinion of the State Government were sought. Most of the State Governments welcomed the proposal for enactment of a comprehensive legislation.

Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Bill was introduced in this House with a view to prohibit pre-natal diagnostic techniques for determination of sex of the foetus leading to female foeticide. Such abuse of techniques is discriminatory against the female sex and affects the dignity and status of women. A legislation is required to regulate the use of such techniques and to provide deterrent punishment to stop such inhuman act. The Bill was subsequently referred to a Joint Committee of Parliament. The Joint Committee elicited public opinion about the Bill and submitted its report to the Hon'ble Speaker of the Lok Sabha during the 1992 Winter Session of the Parliament.

12.45 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

The amended version of the Bill, as reported by the Joint Committee, is placed on the Table of the House.

I commend the Bill to the hon. Members for consideration and passage with a view to adequately regulating and preventing the misuse of the pre-natal diagnostic techniques and providing penalties to those who choose to operate contrary to the law of the land. I urge the hon. Member to support the Bill.

Sir, the Bill may now be taken up for consideration.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"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."

DR. R. MALLU (Nagar Kurnool): Respected Deputy-Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me a chance to speak on the Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Bill. Sir, this is a very important Bill and this issue has very much been agitating the women's organisations all over the country and for that matter, all over the world too. This Bill is going to prevent the misuse of pre-natal tests for the purpose of termination of female foetuses. It is a fact that in many of the metropolitan cities such as Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Hyderabad and in many other important cities also, these pre-natal tests are misused and if the foetus is a female, there are many instances where the parents are opting for the termination of the pregnancy. That is why, a number of voluntary organisations all over the country and women's organisations in particular, have demanded that a Bill to protect the female foetuses be passed. If we do not

take the necessary legislative measures to curb this sort of misuse of the pre-natal tests, I am afraid there will be an imbalance in male female ratio which create a lot of problems to our nation as a whole. That is why, I fully support this Bill.

As pointed out by the hon. Minister, a Joint Committee has already discussed the Bill in detail, point by point. When this Bill becomes an Act, it is going to be useful for prohibiting the misuse of pre-natal diagnostic techniques for sex-determination of the foetus leading to foeticide, *i.e.* killing the foetus, denying it a chance to be born. The Bill seeks to prohibit advertisement of pre-natal diagnostic techniques for sex-determination of the foetus; to regulate the use of pre-natal diagnostic techniques for the purpose of detection of specific genetic abnormalities or disorders and permitting the use of such techniques only under certain conditions by the registered institutions. The Bill also provides for punishment for the violation of the provisions of the proposed legislation. Under these circumstances, I strongly support the Bill and I request that all the hon. Members, irrespective of the party to which they belong, should support the Bill in the large national interest and in view of the representations given by voluntary and other women's organisations of this country.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Bill before us has a social dimension. It is a very important Bill, but I am afraid that the Bill may not make much impact on the social science. Sir, gender discrimination has been in-built in our society for centuries. Today it expresses itself in the form of female foeticide through these diagnostic techniques that

have been developed. But, that is not the only form of gender discrimination. There are reports of widespread female infanticide in our country. Little girls are deliberately killed after they are born. There are widespread situations of gender discrimination in child care. A female child does not get the same measure of nutrition, the same measure of care or the same measure of food as compared to the male child. Each one of us should look at our own social circumstances.

We know that for some reason or the other the Indian family prefers the son to the daughter. The Indian family cares more for the son than for the daughter, particularly in agricultural communities where perhaps a son is considered to be an asset in terms of field work. Such attitudes are very widespread. This gender discrimination against the female also expresses itself in the crime of dowry burning which is perhaps increasing in scale with every passing year. The point that I am trying to emphasise, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, is that female foeticide is not the only act of gender discrimination and, therefore, this problem must be viewed in its total social dimension.

My first point is that there has to be programme of social education. Without social education, without granting equality of opportunity to the women to develop in all aspects, we cannot possibly enforce any measure against female foeticide. After all, look at the mother! The mother is a woman. Look at the mother-in-law who takes her daughter-in-law to the doctor for test. She is also a woman. So, one woman and another woman conspire with the doctor to get a woman killed in foetus stage. Isn't it ignoble? So, unless social awakening takes place merely regulatory measures

[Shri Syed Shahabuddin]

will not do. That is the first point I want to make and the Bill does not make any provision for social education, for publicity or for awakening the public conscience. To that extent the Bill is incomplete, inadequate.

Sir, there is no doubt that there has been an increasing imbalance between the male and female ratio in our population. From census to census, the Census Superintendents and the census documents have taken note of this fact. Uniformly throughout the country the average number of women per thousand of population is less than the number of male per thousand of population. Naturally, in a logical sense they should be equal because after all vast numbers are involved. Statistically they should be equal but even if it is 950 or 954 per thousand of male population, obviously there is something wrong somewhere. But what is more frightening is that while this is the national average, disparities are much larger in certain parts of the country and again within the same State, perhaps in some regions than in the other region. Therefore, it has a demographic dimension. It has to be related to the rights and customs of particular groups and sub-groups and communities and sub-communities in our society and this measure of social education, that I talked about, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, has to be effectively directed at those communities and sub-communities in which the female-male ratio is lower than even the national average because that is where the disease lies, that is where the focus lies.

Sir, the Select Committee has made many improvements in the Bill. We support the Bill but still I find that the punitive measures are perhaps not as

effective as they should be. In my opinion, a member of the medical profession who uses the scientific techniques for killing should be de-frocked, de-robed.

He should be delicensed. He has no business to misuse his skill and exploit a scientific technique and a technology for a blatantly anti-social inhuman purpose. Medical science is to relieve pain, is to relieve distress, is to remedy sickness and not to kill people and not to take life. Therefore, I feel that perhaps the Government may consider advising that the Medical Councils must impose a penalty, the absolute penalty, the maximum penalty of delicensing a member of the medical profession, if he is found, by a competent body, a body of his peers or by a judicial authority or by the Board as envisaged in the Bill to have participated wilfully, deliberately in an act to killing. Nothing else will do. Therefore, I would suggest to the hon. Minister that while the entire House supports this Bill, the Bill has to have more teeth and I would suggest that there should be a provision in the Bill that a Report on the impact of the Bill must be presented to the House at least after three years of its promulgation so that the House has a chance to review whether the Bill has been effective in curtailing this social malady.

With these few words, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I support the Bill but while supporting the Bill I urge upon the Minister to improve the punitive measures that have been envisaged in this Bill.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA  
(Mandsaur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are discussing a very important Bill and

certainly there is the need to pass it unanimously.

In our society women are being increasingly subjected to atrocities on various issues from time to time. There is every possibility of rise in the atrocities against women. With the scientific advancement in prenatal sex diagnostic techniques it has become simple and easy to detect the sex of child at gestation stage. Now this technique is being misutilised by the medical professionals to detect the sex of the child in the womb so as to coerce the people to go in for medical terminal of pregnancy. Women are being subjected to this sort of atrocity and they are being forcibly taken to medical clinics for such prenatal diagnostics. Though provisions regarding prenatal foetus sex diagnosis have been incorporated in this Bill *i.e.* when and under what conditions this type of investigations can be undertaken, yet this Bill is not comprehensive despite being useful. There is the need to further add some provisions to the Bill. Though it has been provided in the bill as to who can avail such facility and in what circumstances, and penal provisions against misuse of this facility have also been incorporated in the Bill, yet provisions regarding specific punishments need to be incorporated.

Specific penal provisions need to be incorporated in the Bill to check such atrocities on women. If a clearcut case is established regarding wilful violation and misuse of the sex techniques and especially in the **13 hrs.** event of any sex diagnostics undertaken against the wishes of women, then the concerned medical personnel do not deserve to hold any medical post and their registration should be cancelled forthwith. All the institutions, whether doing Sonography, X-Ray or any

other laboratory tests to predict the sex of foetus, should be specifically entrusted with the responsibility for ensuring that they do not misuse their knowledge of equipments.

It is correct that such things are required in medical science so as to make the maximum use of the available knowhow, but at the same time, though for checking misuse of these, some deterrent provisions have been made in the Bill yet many a thing have not yet been covered in it. Glaring instances of misuse of these techniques have come to light and thousands of women have been victimised.

The Select Committee has at length discussed the Bill and after having heard many evidences they have suggested that a comprehensive Bill be brought in this regard. I would like to submit that subsequent to this Bill all the units watching the interests of women or dealing in the activities pertaining to women should become more alert. Some provisions in this Bill should also be made regarding the medical personnel dealing in Bioscopy, Sonography and Biopsy. Though some provisions have already been made yet I do not think these to be adequate. I feel that there is the need for detailed explanatory clauses. I am also in favour of making proper use of these scientific know how and against misuse of these techniques. These should be used in positive manner. Medical fraternity should use their talent to benefit the society and to throw open new vistas of welfare, and should not definitely get involved in committing atrocity against the wishes of women. Though efforts have been made to incorporate such provisions in this regard yet it lacks many a thing which essentially require clearcut clarifications. These should be definitely included in the Bill

[Dr. Laxminaryan Pandeya]

to enable us to put before the country a useful Bill. Then only a regulatory and deterrent Bill can be brought. All provisions should be made to check misuse of the scientific knowhow. It is possible only if clear cut provisions are made in this regard.

Before passage of Bill by the House I would like to have a categorical assurance from the hon. Minister to the effect that in future all the lacunae will be somehow removed. He may explain that now he is going to do so, so that for the welfare of the society the rights of women are safeguarded; social equality and protection is ensured and we may feel assured that checks are there to stop misuse the Bill in future. In view of the spirit of the Bill it should be definitely passed. However, I would like to urge the hon. Minister to give clarifications on the points raised by me to enable unanimous smooth passage of the Bill, which has been brought from the social point of view and for providing social protection to women.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are still some more hon. Members who want to participate in this debate. I think they can do so after the lunch.

The House stands adjourned to meet at 02.05 p.m.

13.05 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for  
Lunch till Five Minutes past Fourteen  
of the Clock*

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14.09 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after  
Lunch at Nine Minutes past Fourteen  
of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

PRE-NATAL DIAGNOSTIC  
TECHNIQUES (REGULATION AND  
PREVENTION OF MISUSE) BILL  
- *Contd.*

As Reported by Joint Committee -  
*Contd.*

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR  
(Nasik): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker  
Sir, for allowing me to speak on this Pre-  
Natal Diagnostic Techniques Bill, 1994.

At the outset I will like to congratulate the Government for bringing out this legislation and also my compliments to all the women welfare organisations for creating a pressure on the Government for bringing this legislation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in Maharashtra there is already a Bill to this effect and that is why the pre-natal diagnostic techniques were restricted in Maharashtra. But the people are used to go out of that State to get this sex determination test done in the nearby States and that is how the importance of this Bill is there so that it will be effective all over our country.

This Bill provides for the regulation of the use of pre-natal diagnostic techniques and to detect that genetic and the metabolic disorders, the chromosomal abnormalities and certain congenital

malformation or sex-linked disorder or haemoglobinopathies. This regulation is very important because we have to provide diagnostic techniques, which are through the amniocentesis, through the chorionic villi biopsy or the foetoscopy or the ultrasonography. But this was being misused. And that is why, to prevent the misuse of such techniques for sex determination, to avoid and to stop the female foeticide, this Bill has been brought in.

The main object of this Bill is to stop the female foeticide as well as to improve and to maintain the dignity and the status of our Indian women.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this Bill provides for the regulation and for the registration of all the genetic clinics, all the genetic laboratories as well as the Genetic Counselling Centres. There are certain conditions for a woman who can undergo this diagnostic technique and they are : she has to be above the age of 35 years; there has to be a history of spontaneous abortions or foetal loss twice or thrice; if there is any exposure to the drugs or radiation to the chemicals; and to prevent the mental retardation. Only then she can be allowed to undergo this pre-natal diagnostic technique in the Genetic Counselling Centre or the Laboratory.

There is a provision that there cannot be any compulsion by the husband on the wife to undergo this technique and that is very important. A written consent as well as the briefing of a patient by the doctor is the most important one and that provision has already been made.

I appreciate the provision made for a Central Supervisory Board, where the

hon. Minister, the Government Secretary, two Geneticists and a Gynaecologist and social workers will be there. The most important part of this Bill is the work of the Central Supervisory Board. Their function is to advise and to review the implementation, to create a public awareness about the female foeticide in the country as well as to maintain the code of conduct for all the clinics and the laboratories.

There is going to be an Appropriate Authority appointed by the Central Government in the Union Territories as well as by the State Government in their respective States, which will grant the registration or enquire about the matters of registration for the Counselling Centres, Clinics and Laboratories. They will maintain the standards of the Genetic Counselling Centres. Also if there are any complaint, they will investigate. And there is also an Advisory Committee to help this Appropriate Authority, where two Gynaecologists and three social workers will be there out of which one has to be from the women organisation. That is very important. This will definitely facilitate the work of the Appropriate Authority.

There is an provision in the Bill for offences and the penalties. Even if there is an advertisement or even if there is any lacuna in the Genetic Counselling Centre or the Laboratory, the person is subjected to the three years' imprisonment and Rs. 10,000 fine or it can be extended to five years' imprisonment and Rs. 50,000 fine.

If the guilty person is a doctor his name will be debarred from the medical register for two years. This is what the Bill has provided for. But even though we

[Dr. Vasant Niwruutti Pawar]

14.22 hrs.

ANNOUNCEMENT RE:  
ADJOURNMENT MOTION ON  
ALARMING SITUATION IN  
ASSAM – *Contd.*

are passing this legislation unless and until there is public awareness, nothing can be done. The society's preference is for a son, which has to be tackled properly. The society must be taught the importance, the dignity of a woman or of a girl child. Then only this Bill will be of some use. Otherwise, the people are going to find out a number of lacunae and they will use Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques for determination of the sex and it will continue for the female foeticide.

So, I request the hon. Minister for Health to devise a review and the monitoring system where every two years we review as to what is happening to this Bill and whether the records of the Genetic Counselling Centres, Genetic Laboratory or Genetic Clinic are being properly maintained and if there is any need for amendments, the hon. Minister should not hesitate to come forward to Parliament again. This is a very important Bill. We are all thinking in terms of maintaining the dignity and the status of women in our country and this Bill definitely curtail the female foeticide in our country. There are regular advertisements that within Rs. 100/- one can get amniocentesis. The amniotic Fluid is tested and the sex is being told and if it is a female sex, foeticide is being done. That will be prevented because of this Bill. So, I welcome this Bill and I support all the measures which have been suggested in this Bill.

Once again, I congratulate the Government for brining forward this Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: In the morning it has come to our notice that the names of the Members who gave notices of Adjournment Motion are being balloted. I shall just read the result and then we proceed to the same subject.

I have to inform the House that the hon. Speaker has received four notices of Adjournment Motion to discuss the alarming situation in Assam and the failure of the Central Government to intervene timely from the following Members:—

1. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee
2. Shri Chandrajeet Yadav
3. Shri Mohan Singh
4. Shri Sharad Yadav

Hon. Speaker has given his consent to Shri Chandrajeet Yadav who has secured first place in the ballot to seek leave of the House.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): I seek leave of the House for moving the Adjournment Motion to discuss the alarming situation in Assam and the failure of the Central Government to intervene timely.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is the leave opposed?

Nobody is opposing it. Then the leave is granted.

Under Rule 62, not less than 2-1/2 hours are allotted for its discussion. The motion will be taken up at 16.30 hours.

14.23 hrs.

PRE-NATAL DIAGNOSTIC  
TECHNIQUES (REGULATION AND  
PREVENTION OF MISUSE) BILL

**As reported by Joint Committee**

*Contd.*

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur): Sir, I rise to speak on Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Bill. The reason why I rise to speak is that I was one of the Member of the Joint Select Committee which deliberated on the Bill and I was one of the Members who gave a note of dissent regarding the recommendations of the Bill on some specific issues. It is not as if I want to oppose the Bill or prevent it from being passed. I think, something is better than nothing and this Bill has long been waited for and as such I am not opposing the Bill. But I want to point out some serious loopholes in the Bill which I believe may detract from its effectiveness.

Some people who have opposed the bringing of legislation in this respect have said that just as by passing the Anti-dowry Act it has not been possible for us to contain the evils of the dowry system, similarly it is no use bringing this legislation because the incidence of female foeticide, following foetal sexual diagnosis, is something which arises out

of our social prejudice and, therefore, it cannot be done away with simply by making a legislation. I do not agree with this. However, I do agree that the incidence of female foeticide which is the way in which these prenatal diagnostic tests are misused, is a symptom of the real disease. The disease is, infact, the social devaluation of women, and this social devaluation of women is being enhanced today, is being aggravated today because our Government has followed a model of development which is bound to enhance the marginalisation of weaker social groups, like Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, women and other weaker sections of society. So, it is this marginalisation of women and social devaluation of women which is the disease; the misuse of pre-natal diagnostic tests for female foeticide is merely the symptom.

In fact, we do find that in certain cases where there is a traditional society, when that traditional society breaks up and when this traditional society becomes a part of social change and so-called economic development, then new evils are introduced. We find that dowry system which had not existed before in that society because women were workers in that society, is now introduced. Dowry becomes a newly introduced evil in these societies and then female foeticide also comes in the wake of that. But while I admit all this, I would think that not having the legislation would mean that society sanctions such barbarism and, therefore, I think that it is important to have the legislation. The Central Committee which discussed this problem of sex determination also in 1989, recommended that there should be such legislation, and I agree with it.

**Banning of these tests is not possible because these tests are only**



[Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya]

incidentally to be used for sex determination. Their real use is something different. They are used for detecting genetic defects and abnormalities in foetuses and for other reasons and, therefore, it is not possible to have these tests banned altogether. Therefore, it is necessary not to ban these tests but to regulate and to prevent their misuse. Up to this point I agree with what is given in this Bill. I think that after the report of the Joint Select Committee, the Government has taken a very long time to table this Bill. But now that they are tabling this Bill, now that it is being discussed in the Parliament, I hope it will be taken up with some proposed amendments.

I do not want to go into the horrendous and sensational stories of the massacre of innocents even in the womb not because they possess any defect but simply because they are female. I do not want to more than merely mention that while 85 percent doctors in our country are opposed to this kind of pre-natal sex selection, yet there is a certain small, but very strong, lobby within the medical profession, a very strong vested interest, which not only encourages this practice but in defiance of the hippocratic oath even juggle with the test reports and persuade clients to abortion hiding the fact that the foetus is, in fact, not female but male. They also promote spurious methods said to result in the birth of male children. Moreover, many of the tests which are used for sex determination can only determination the sex of the foetus at stage when abortion is extremely hazardous for the mother.

So, all these things are happening; all these things are taking place and we find that these horrendous things are

being supported by all kinds of specious but sophisticated arguments. The one argument that is given is that this kind of sex selection is important for the sake of a balanced family. Now, I think that this notion of a balanced family, having the parents and one male child and one female child is a thoroughly unscientific and illogical proposition. I do not see why a family that has two male child is not considered to be unbalanced and why a family that has more than one female child is considered to be an unbalanced family. Moreover, even if there is a female foetus and if that female foetus is aborted, there is no guarantee that the next pregnancy will produce a male child inevitably.

As a matter of fact we find that this slogan of a balanced family, which is a thoroughly unscientific idea as I have said, is being used in such a manner that the balanced in the male-female ratio of our total population is being jeopardised. We find that in our population the ratio of female to males is continuously going down. Now it is 927 females to 1,000 males. I am not saying that this is because of these female foeticides alone. No, not because of that alone but because of the general neglect from which the female baby suffers in our society there is great mortality in female babies and so on. However, if this argument of a balanced family is projected and if every time a female foetus is detected it is aborted, then it is likely to increase this imbalanced in the male-female ratio in our population.

The other specious argument that is given again is a very modern argument. It is said that it is a democratic right of parents to choose parenthood. We talk of parenthood by choice these days. The argument relates to family planning and the foeticide of the female child is justified

on this ground that this is a part of family planning.

It is argued that since abortion as such is legalised why should that right be restricted in the case of a female foetus just because it is female. It is argued that if this Act is passed then one of the basic democratic rights of the parents – the right to choose their children will be impinged upon. Now, as matter of fact, in the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971, “injury to physical and mental health of the mother” is one of the grounds on which medical termination of pregnancy is allowed. And this clause “injury to the mental health of the mother” is explained and the explanation includes “failure of any device for the purpose of limiting the number of children”. In other words, here what is being said is that if there is a failure of family planning devices adopted by the parents, in that case also the mental anguish that is caused to the mother may be a ground for medical termination of pregnancy. Now it is said that when a mother conceives a girl child which she had not intended to, then that causes mental anguish and, therefore, female foeticide is justified on that ground. You will see that the argument for family planning and the argument for planned parenthood is speciously being used to promote female foeticide. I would say that this is an atrocious prevarification and it is a juggling with the real intention of the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act. Medically, medical termination of pregnancy cannot be considered as a substitute for regular family planning method. It is only to be used in very extreme cases. And when a mother uses certain family planning devices and in spite of that she becomes pregnant that may be called a failure of family planning devices. But if a mother conceives a female foetus, why should that be

considered a failure of the family planning method, that is what I am unable to understand. It is only when the mother bears a female foetus it is said that the family planning device has, failed. This is not so if, in case, the foetus is a male foetus. And therefore I think that the question of democratic right or of choice in parenthood does not arise here at all. It cannot be a democratic right to decide not to have a child simply because it is female. It is merely a submission to prejudice.

The third argument that is used is that the advance of research in medical sphere should not be curtailed. Again, Sir, I would like to point out that here no one is speaking of curtailing research, but only of regulating the purpose for which it is used. And research particularly in the medical field is not just for its own sake. It is meant for the benefit of mankind and if it goes in the opposite direction, if it takes away the right of the female child to live, then of course, giving an excuse in the name of advancing medical research is not enough.

Therefore, all these arguments are based in false logic. Appeals are made to the weakness and the prejudice of would-be parents, a certain prejudice which is ingrained in society. And, therefore, a Central Act in double necessary. Sir, I will now end by making certain points about the amendments which I have to offer to this Bill.

There are two ranges of tests by which the sex of the foetus may be identified. Of course, these are overlapping. There are one set to tests which are carried out primarily for the detection of genetic defects and abnormalities in foetus like amniocentesis, chorion Villi Biopsy, foetoscopy and others.

[Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya]

When these genetic tests are carried out, the sex of the child also may be detected incidentally.

There is a second range of tests which may be used for a whole range of other purposes not only on pregnant women but also on others. Of these ultra-sonography is the most well-known and the most widespread of these methods and this is sometimes used on pregnant women to determine the size or position of foetus in pregnant women and incidentally again, the sex of the child can also be detected.

In the course of our discussions in the Joint Committee, we found out that as yet the number of trained genetic specialists in our country is relatively small.

The Central Committee report mentions that some specialists have set-up well-equipped genetic clinics but I believe that these clinics can be counted on one's fingers only. There are very few trained geneticists in our country and, particularly courses in genetic sciences are not available in most of the medical colleges and institutes so far. Anyway, these tests are prescribed for pregnant women, only in a specific number of cases. All women do not have to go through these tests. It is only a limited number of women with certain specific problems who are prescribed these tests and, therefore, the proliferation of genetic units is neither possible in our country nor is it necessary because the genetic tests that are required can be held in the public sector medical colleges and hospitals and at the most, in some of the apex institutions where these small number of specialists have set up the equipment. Therefore, in my amendment

I have suggested that these genetic tests should be confined to the public sector, perhaps with some relaxation for a few apex institutions which are run by some of the acknowledged genetic specialists. If the private sector is allowed into this, in spite of the licensing system, this spilling over of genetic tests in the private sector is likely to create a proliferation of clinics where there would be sub-standard or spurious tests which are very likely to happen. As a matter of fact, the Central Committee in its report also said – although it did not rule out private practitioners from getting approval for genetic centres, laboratories and clinics – yet they had also in the report said that the Government should review this matter five years after the legislation is enacted, to see whether the licensed institutions in the private sector deserve to continue with activities or whether any change in policy is necessary in order to restrict the activities only to the Government.

They are saying that you should allow the private sector to set up clinics and then, after five years, if you find that the private sector clinics are not keeping up to the standard, in that case, bring it back to the Government sector. I am saying in my amendment that you should start from the other end; start with the Government sector, start with the public sector. Then, if you find that more clinics are needed, more specialists are needed, then, in the next four to five years, give such specialist training, open such courses in medical colleges and hospitals and after a number of qualified geneticists have appeared on the scene, then only you should open it up to the private sector. Why should it be opened up to the private sector when there are not sufficient number of geneticists available? As I said earlier, this is likely to create a proliferation of genetic units and

laboratories which, in spite of being spurious and substandard, would try to get the licence from the licensing authorities by hook or by crook. We know that private sector clinics are doing pathological tests. But how many of these pathological tests are authentic? We know that we have the Drug Controller's Office. And, yet, spurious and substandard drugs abound in our country. So, where the situation is like that, it seems to me safer to keep these tests confined to the public sector with some apex institutions also being allowed, at least initially.

I am now nearing to the end. This is the first amendment that I have suggested. The other amendment that I have suggested is that the equipments including the ultra-sonography equipment – which are used for various kinds of tests not only on pregnant women but also on others – are to be registered. It would, of course, be impossible and undesirable to keep it confined to the public sector alone. However, the function of the licensing authorities may be simplified by registering clinics which have such machine, that is, the ultra-sonography machine. Please register such clinics. That is what the licensing authority should do.

Now, I come to monitoring what is happening in these clinics. Monitoring should be done on the basis of the records of these tests conducted on pregnant women, which these clinics would be required to keep. So, these clinics will have ultra-sonography machines. All these clinics will be registered and they will have to keep a record of the tests conducted on them. Then only the licensing machinery, the monitoring machinery can be much simplified and I think it can work much more effectively. So, this is the other important amendment that I have

suggested. If these amendments are not accepted, I feel that there would be a kind of a compromise by the Government with the very strong lobby that exists within the medical profession, people who are trying to set up these clinics everywhere, in every alley and in every by-lane. They are setting up these clinics. There will be no way out. Just by licensing them, you cannot prevent them from doing whatever they want to do. Therefore, I request the Government earnestly not to make any compromise on this issue and not to give in to this very strong lobby of medical practitioners who are only thinking of the profits they can make out of this sex detection and female foeticide.

There is another amendment that I have suggested that in the Act, women also come to be penalised. The pregnant woman, the women who has gone through these tests and foeticide comes to be penalised. In fact, we find that in our country most often women have very little choice as far as their own procreative life is concerned.

More often, they have to yield to the pressure of their family, the pressure of society, the pressure of the people around them. Therefore, if women are penalised for undergoing this sex determination test or for foeticide, that would mean double punishment for them – pressure from their family on the one hand and then penalty from the Government on the other. The very fact that this Bill has to be brought to Parliament reveals the hideous face of the prejudice of society acted upon by the unbridled greed of some medical practitioners. A girl is condemned as useless and as a burden even before she is born and she is got rid of. I, therefore, wish the Bill success and because I wish the Bill success, I earnestly request the

[Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya]

Minister to accept the amendment that I have proposed.

SHRI D. VENKATESHWARA RAO (Bapatla): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Bill, that is, the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Technique (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Bill, 1991. The Government took a long time to introduce this Bill and to make it an enactment. This is basically to stop the female foeticide programme that is going on in the country. As the hon. Members have expressed, this is not only because of the imbalance that is going to take place between male and female ratio but this is also much concerned with the dignity and respect of the women as a whole. This pre-natal diagnostic techniques, the so-called ultra-sonography, the analysis of amniotic fluid, chorionic Villi, blood or any tissue of a pregnant woman is made mainly to direct some genetic or metabolic disorders or chromosomal abnormalities or congenital anomalies or haemoglobinopathies or sex-linked diseases. Such kind of diseases, such kind of abnormalities should be detected by this kind of technique. But it is being misused to detect the sex during the early pregnancy and, in turn, it is turning out to be used for female foeticide activity.

As the hon. Member was mentioning, there are arguments or there is a kind of residence to stop this kind of enactment from various quarters saying that it is like a kind of family planning programme or a democratic right for the individual to express his desire to have a small family or something like that. On the other hand, the arguments are very baseless and some of these doctors or medical professionals are also against this Bill for various reasons. Here when

certain procedural aspects are mentioned in the medical profession ethically for the purpose of detecting certain diseases, these kinds of procedures are misused for the female foeticide activity and in turn people are benefiting themselves with a lot of money, by misusing this procedure.

In this Bill so many things have been put like the registration of the genetic counselling and laboratories and establishment of Central Supervisory Board. For violating these conditions there are punishments like imprisonment and fine. Before introducing this kind of a Bill, one should take care to see that a wide publicity is given so that people around and those who are practising will come to know about this. They will take care of the whole situation and control themselves. As our colleagues were suggesting, while registering for this kind of facilities, the licencing process should be simplified. The other measure that should be taken is to give a wide publicity for this kind of a Bill.

With these points I support the Bill, from my side and from my party side, that has been introduced here.

DR. K.D. JESWANI (Kheda): I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to share my views on the Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Bill, 1991. Just like the Bill on Organs Transplantation, this is also a Bill which has been ill-fated. It has been hanging in both the Houses for the last three or four years. In the Lok Sabha itself it has been tossing from session to session.

The Bill was first introduced in the Lok Sabha on 12.9.1991. It was referred back to a Joint Committee of both the

Houses on 16.9.1991. The report was submitted on 16.12.1992. Since then the Bill was pending to appear in the Lok Sabha. Meanwhile we have lost a precious time of about sixteen months for this important Bill to be passed by the Lok Sabha.

However, better late than never, I certainly welcome the provisions of the Bill except for some of the reservations which I have of my own. I have something to say about the slack and sadist attitude of the Government to the scientific advancements taking place in the country. The Government is not able to perceive the right perspective of the marching age and the advancement of science. This has happened on more than one occasion when some of the scientific Bills on the medical subject are brought before the Parliament.

In our country the pre-natal diagnostic techniques have been in vogue for more than tow decades. By now there are a variety of modalities which are in vogue and they are meant for pre-natal diagnostic techniques. Most of these techniques are used for the sex determination and a few are only used for the intrauterine status of the foetus. All this has been going on before the eyes of the administration and the Government. In fact, when the MTP Act was introduced in 1971 and the embryonic death was legalised, the medical fraternity brought home the techniques of pre-natal intrauterine sex determination on the criminal demands of the society. Of course the MTP Act was introduced in the madness to curb the rising population, but it was an unfortunate after that the administration and the society did not realise the diversion of the method to the criminalisation in the form of female foeticide. In other parts of the world, in many of the advanced countries, this

type of population control method is never employed on the society. This went on for almost two decades by which time it has deeply eroded the actual structure and the fabric of the society. It has assumed a mammoth shape and even the illiterate masses are in possession of a through knowledge of the availability of these techniques, which is the most unfortunate part of the whole game.

Because of this provision there has been rise in the number of sex determination centres all over India. I would give you some of the alarming statistics which are really shocking. 75,000 female foetuses were destroyed in the country between 1978 and 1982. I am giving you some of the authentic figures. All of them were destroyed using the amniocentesis test. According to a study conducted in 1986, 84 percent of the gynaecologists interviewed were found using amniocentesis for sex determination in Bombay itself. They performed on an average 270 sex determination tests per month. 2400 sex determination tests were conducted in Baroda city itself in the year 1987. The population of the city is nearly around 14 to 15 lakhs. Sex determination clinics in Delhi performed an average of 11,100 tests in the year 1988 alone. According to newspaper reports, in 1988 the estimated toll of female foetuses in Gujarat, that is my State, is unfortunately 41,000. Between 250 and 350 sex determination tests are conducted daily in the State of Gujarat. This is the ill effect and a deep rooted effect which is inhumanly characterised by the society during the last two decades.

Several sociologists consider female foeticide to be a continuation of female infanticide. Scientific development have only transferred the elimination of the girl child from the born to unborn stage. The

[Shri K.D. Jeswani]

sex determination tests are a powerful example of what can happen when modern technology colludes with the forces of a traditional society.

14.59 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

For more than a decade, activists of women groups have been demanding a national legislation to ban the use of these pernicious tests for sex determination. Sex selective abortions are illegal because they violate articles 14 and 15 of the Indian Constitution which forbid discrimination against women. It is argued that easy recourse to sex determination tests will reinforce prejudice against female children and further lower the status of women. To begin with, the Constitution guarantee equal rights to men and women. Also it is the fundamental duty of men, under article 51 (a) of our Constitution, to renounce the practices derogatory to the dignity of women. This has been the status in the country so far. In spite of having a full knowledge of the whole gamut, the Government has not paid any serious attention to the problem for such a long period of time. Now if you enact any formula or rules and regulations, the people are going to find out sufficient loopholes which will break the actual fabric of the law because they have been practising it for such a long time of two decades.

15.00 hrs.

Without involving the society and without creating a substantial awareness, only the enactment of the law cannot suffice the requirement and it cannot control the whole affair. Even in the format of the present Bill, only one sentence in clause 16, sub-section (iii),

has been introduced for the public awareness against the female foeticide. There is no definite programme which has been chalked out for the public awareness. Actually, this is the main factor which is necessary to abandon all the misuses of these tests.

Rest of the whole Bill is occupied by the description of different punitive measures. This is not going to take you in the right direction. A definite programme for public awareness needs to be chalked out which should be taken down to the masses. The Government should formulate a definitive programme and launch a vigorous drive for the public awareness. Too many of punitive measures would scare the medical and para-medical personnel. And ultimately, they might, by and large, abandon to take the advantages and advances of the medical science. The medical personnel might go for a guarded practice as they did while the Organ Transplantation Bill was in vogue. It will again be futile for the further progress of the medical science in the country. The Government should take care of this aspect too.

There is still a lot of scope of escapism and avoidance of the law. For example, ultrasonography is a wider field which contributes a lot for the pre-natal diagnostic procedures. Since it is a non-invasive techniques, it is very frequently used for the diagnostic and prognostic purposes. Even otherwise, that is the reason why I would like the hon. Minister to add a small clause. Clauses 6 (a) and (b) are there. I would request the hon. Minister to add one more clause, that is, '6(c)':

"that no person shall conduct or cause to be conducted any sonography and report the findings which may hit at the male or female sex positively or negatively."

I am a medical man. I know where the loopholes are in the medical terminology when somebody can say that my report is scientific. This is because the sonography might report in his conclusion of the USG findings as the presence of a ascrotal shadow.

Now it is absolutely a normal finding in the hands of a sonologist which you cannot refute nor can you challenge it in the court of law. When we are going to enact this law, we have to take care of these minute scientific advancements and loopholes in the scientific terminology. It is taken as a routine finding by a sonologist. But ultimately, it will mean the sex of the foetus.

Under clause 23, you have imposed rigorous punishment for the women who are defaulters. Now this is quite unconvincing. As earlier mentioned by some of our hon. Members, I do agree that a majority of womenfolk – about 70 percent - are illiterates and it takes a long span of time by which the law of the land reaches their knowledge. I see a great danger in the provisions of the punitive measures meant for these women. I would request the hon. Minister to take into consideration this point also.

The Bill has a provision of various administrative formalities to govern the whole aspect of this issue. But these provisions should not be left alone on the papers and these should be properly administered.

The main aspect is that of the periodical review by the Central Supervisory Board as has been provided in clauses 7 to 16. I would say particularly the five provisions regarding the functions of the Board mentioned in clause 16 should be adhered to properly.

The appropriate authorities should work efficiently and honestly, which may

justify the cause of this Bill. Then and then alone, the legislation of the offences and the penalties provided in Section 22 will have some purpose. With these few cautions and suggestions, I would request the hon. Minister to include some of the points that I have mentioned in my narration.

Thank you Sir for giving me an opportunity.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore): Hon. Chairman Sir, I am very much grateful to you for calling me to participate in the debate. I support this Bill.

Though I am not a medical man, I had the opportunity to be nominated as a member of the joint Committee. Sir, our Committee discussed the Bill threadbare. This Bill was brought before the House on 12 September 1991 and it was referred to the joint Committee on 16 September 1991. The Report of the Committee was presented on 22 December 1992. The Joint Committee submitted its report nearly after one year, after very detailed deliberations. Sir, there was an expectation that this type of a Bill should have come before the House a decade back. But it could not be brought earlier. Now that the Bill is before the House, I request all the Members to support it because it has been brought before the house only after a detailed and thorough discussion on the pros and cons of the Bill out of 16 Members of the joint Committee, 13 are of the opinion that this Bill should be pressed for betting passed in this House.

Why I am requesting all the hon. Members to support this Bill is because of the findings of the joint Committee. The joint Committee did not leave any of the points and it did consider all aspects in great detail. Now three hon.



[Dr. Kartikeswar Patra]

Members of the joint Committee had given a note of dissent. I would like to make a request to them that they should consider the fact that all the issues had been discussed in 18 sittings of the joint Committee where all the pros and cons had been taken into account. That is why they should support the Bill. Vigorous efforts were made by the joint Committee through the press and other media to elicit public opinion on a large scale throughout the country and I would like to submit here that the Committee had received memoranda from 304 members. The Joint Committee had also visited some organisations to find out their views and also about their style of functioning. 25 non-official organisations also appeared before the Committee and gave evidence. On the basis of their evidence and suggestions, the Joint Committee took certain decisions. The committee finally brought 48 amendments to various clauses of the Bill. Here you can find the motto or aim of this Bill which has been clearly mentioned in the Bill. The aim of the Bill is prevention of misuse and regulation of pre-natal diagnostic techniques.

This diagnostic technique has been misused throughout the country because a female child is considered to be a burden on the society. That is the thinking of a large number of couples in our country and that is why we have a large number of female foeticide.

The main object of the Bill is to protect the misuse of pre-natal diagnostic techniques. Here you will see that the penalty clause has also been very clearly dispelled. The Committee has amended the sub-Clause to provide that even any agent on behalf of the Centre, Laboratory

or a clinic shall be bound by these provisions. The Committee is also of the opinion that even those who print such an advertisement material should also be punished. Accordingly, the Committee has provided a new sub-Clause 2 to this Clause and Committee feel that instead of person employed in a Counselling Centre, Laboratory or clinic only those persons who render professional or technical services should come within the purview of the penal provisions of this Bill. The Committee did not even leave the husband who are involved in foeticide. The Clause provides that the court shall presume unless the contrary is proved that the pregnant women has been compelled by her husband or the relative to undergo pre-natal diagnostic technique and such person shall be liable for abetment of offence under Section (3) of Section 23.

The Committee has also taken into consideration as to how the Advisory Committee will be formed, what will be the ratio of representation between States and the Centre and how many technical persons will be represented in that advisory committee. All that has been taken into consideration. In the original Bill wherever there were lacunae, those have been rectified. I think that the Bill in its present form is very useful for the people of our country. After considering the pros and cons of the Bill these amendments were made. These amendments have been properly considered by all the Members of the Joint Committee. Out of 16 Members of the Joint Committee, 13 Members have approved the amendments and the Report of the Joint Committee has been considered by hon. Health Minister. Since the longstanding expectation of the Members to bring this Bill before the House has been fulfilled, I request all the

Members to support this Bill and it should be passed by this august House.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI (Maharaj Ganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Pre-natal Diagnostic Technique (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Bill. If we look into the general outlook of our society, it depicts an ironical situation. There is no country in the world other than ours where women were given freedom, responsibility and rights for such a long time. However, it is unfortunate that after birth, female infants, young girls and women are exploited a lot, and their plight goes on from widowhood till death. They are deprived of their right to live as widows, rather they are burnt alive; and all this is being done even in this country itself. At the same time, the status of woman is glorified; she is symbolised as goddess. It is said that heaven is found in the lap of mother. There comes a time when we worship girls and ironically this is the same country where we are leading in female foeticide in this century.

The progress of any society is judged by the freedom given to women and the status they enjoy in the society. But not to talk of freedom to women. The reservation proposed to be provided to them in order to enable them to play a significant role in Panchayat and other institutions under 73rd Amendment has been restricted to only 33 percent. Our population is 50 percent against which we have been provided just 33 percent reservation. for which everybody was grateful to the Government. So far as initiatives taken with regard to the contribution of women is concerned in playing decisive role in the development of the nation, I would like to submit that

some women had accepted in a magazine published about two weeks ago in Selam district that they would rather like to kill their daughters. This is the pathetic situation in our barbarous society. There are so many reasons *i.e.* social, economic and religious. I do not intend to pass sarcastic remarks on any particular religion. I do believe that religion is nothing but worshipping, the mother land; it is the creation of traditions and cultural heritage, religion is nothing more than that. If it was not so, women would not have been insulted everywhere irrespective of any particular religion.

In comparison to the man-woman ratio of 1000 : 991 in 1901, the census of 1990 reveals that the difference in the ratio has increased to 1000: 910.

Female infanticides have been taking place. The more technical development took place, the more cruelty has been committed to the female infants. Earlier, the underlying factors of female infanticide in Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu etc. were social and economic. But today, the motives behind them are different. The more development and progress we are making in the field of science and technology, the more degraded our attitude is towards women.

We developed genetic technology with a motive to prevent genetic diseases and also to detect hereditary or metabolic deformities or characteristic dissimilarity or a few unborn and sex deformities. This technology was development to detect whether the mental and physical development of the unborn child is normal or not whether the unborn child is handicapped. However, instead of using it for creative purposes started misusing it to detect the sex of the child; thus leading to the widespread practice of

[Shrimati Girija Devi]

committing foeticide if the unborn child is female.

One of the hon. members from Gujarat was referring just now to the survey conducted in 1986. Female foeticides in lakhs take place in big cities of India like Bombay and Delhi. There are several other datas which cannot be collected and included in the statistics. I would like the discussion to be extended a little more. This infection has reached even the most backward areas thus leading to disproportion in the sex ratio. When enquired, it was revealed that people particularly those having adequate financial resources approached even distant medical centres to get treatment to this effect and get the female foetus removed through advanced genetic technology.

Sir, after a long time this Bill has been passed in Maharashtra, Haryana and Rajasthan. The Central Government also propose to pass it now in 1994 after a long wait since 1991. However, realising that it is better late than never I would like to express my gratitude for introducing the Bill. I also support it. We will have to make provisions against the social, economic and religious factors underlying the wide spread practice of female foeticide, we will have to propagate the matter. Keeping in view the importance given to it in the Bill, it is the joint responsibility of all of us to make all out efforts and provide our co-operation in the prevention of this evil. Unless we take the initiative to this effect the wide spread practice of female foeticide would not be checked and our hard labour during the last several years would go waste.

Many hon. Members are of the opinion that the clinics having

sophisticated genetic technology and conducting genetic tests should be banned. However, the clean and healthy atmosphere of our society demand that not only the present generations but also future generations should enjoy the benefits of the advancement made in the field of science and technology so that the coming generations are protected from physical and mental deformities. That is why the existence of clinics equipped with most sophisticated genetic technology is essential. However, it is only if the restrictions proposed in the Bill are enforced strictly, that the motive of the Bill would be realised.

Sir, it is said that MRTTP Bill is associated with this Bill due to which this Bill was passed in 1991. The introduction of MRTTP Bill has always been a matter of objection. If we do not propagate this Bill separately, we would never be able to achieve our motive.

It had been due to the excesses committed to women that they conceived on the other hand there had been women who gave birth to many children or disabled children due to inadequate gap between their deliveries. In both these cases either it was the unmarried girl or the mothers of many children who had to suffer physical torture. If MRTTP Act is included into the Bill, we would not be able to achieve our motive.

We do agree to whatever provisions have been made in this Bill. However, it appears to me that when this law is implemented people would find out other alternatives. Therefore we would have to be cautious and take stringent measures for the implementation of the Bill, only then we would achieve the targets.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me time to speak on this Bill.

The Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Bill, 1991, dates back to 1991 but we are discussing it in 1994. It took a long time to introduce this Bill and it has been returned by the Select Committee. I support this Bill in its entirety.

The first and the foremost point is, that the women have been at the top in our country. Goddess Saraswati symbolises education, Goddess Lakshmi symbolises wealth and goddess Durga and goddess Kali symbolise annihilators of enemies and fighting battles respectively. But in the feudal system, the place of women was relegated to a backward place and many restrictions were imposed on them and their rights were being infringed. This Bill makes one realize that the standard of maternity facilities has really gone down. Even today in 80 percent villages deliveries of children are not done by doctors or nurses. The midwives deliver the children in villages. If you compare the data of such delivery cases with those done in hospitals you will find that the number of mortality rate of mother and child is more in hospital than in villages. But even now, be it the State Government or the Central Government, nobody has given any attention to those women who do not have proper maternity facilities and nor has any arrangement been made for them. I am telling you about Bihar, women were imparted such training but in spite of giving such training, no financial arrangement was made for them and they are still working in villages. I would like to make a submission to the Central Government that these women are in no way less than doctors and trained nurses. They are efficiently doing their work and the number of mortality rate of mother-child is also less. The

newly born children are found perfectly normal. That is why, the Central Government should consider their plight and make a provision for them so that they could earn a decent livelihood. Our colleague has just mentioned that sophisticated techniques are being resorted to by people to ascertain the sex of the foetus. This is mainly being done by the middle class and the upper class. The people belonging to the lower class are unable to avail such facilities. Such facilities are only meant for those who have wealth and who are well-settled in life. Only those people resort to such killings. Such techniques are to be resorted to, to find out whether the unborn child is healthy or not or whether he has developed some disability or whether the foetus is developing well etc. but it is being resorted to, for exactly opposite reasons. These techniques are used to ascertain the sex of the foetus and if it is a female then it is killed. This Technique is being resorted to every now and then. The reasons behind it are not financial ones but because it is in vogue. The status of a female child is lower than that of a male child and it gets proved when the male child is kept and the female one is killed. The evil of dowry can also be a factor. The practice of dowry is more prevalent in the lower middle class and the upper class. Most of the people resort to these techniques to find out the sex of the unborn child and if it is a female child, they get it killed to save themselves from giving dowry. We must do something to do away with such evil practices in society. The dowry system is also responsible to a larger extent for the lower status of women. The attention of the Government will have to be drawn to this fact also that those anti-social works should not be undertaken which are against humanity. The Government must consider this aspect.

[Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh]

It is correct that you have made provision for punishment also but there may still be women who are ignorant of such provisions and who get pressurised by their husbands in doing so. They are not to be blamed for this. But we ask you that why is it so that they will be punished without any fault. The women who already have one or two female children fall low in the eyes of their husband. This practice of female infanticide is not prevalent in the lower class. We have seen that the lower class families do not kill their female children even if the number of their female children is more than two whereas the upper class families get the unborn female child killed. The society is riddled with such proclivities. If you do not properly implement this recently enacted law then its purpose will get defeated. On many an occasion laws have been enacted with a view to curb child labour, but you have not been able to do that. There is a provision for punishment in that but the law was not properly implemented. I wonder how will this law be implemented because the women are getting their foetuses aborted after getting ascertained the sex of the child. I want to know as to how this law can be implemented?

I would be honest in saying that the Members of all the parties have supported this law that shows that it is a good law but it should be implemented also. It has been done to cure diseases, it should not prove to be a malady itself. It should be resorted to, to detect certain deformities only and not for termination of pregnancy. Because as a result thereof, the women are dying or they are becoming weak and falling prey to diseases. The girls also get adversely affected by such tendencies in the society. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota):  
Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is the misfortune of my country that though Indian Saints had highlighted the importance of women but during the intervening period her status in society took a nose-dive. How had it happened? Why were they treated with disrespect in this period? Our Rishis had maintained that—

*"Yatra naryastu poojyante, ramante tatra devta."*

I am of the opinion that this decline in the status of women was probably due to their being treated as an object of sexual pleasure during the period when we were enslaved and perpetration of excesses on them during Moghul period.

After the Moghul period British dictators also viewed women in the same manner. I remember this period of history. We had a great strength of character in Shivaji, when Marathas brought a 16 year old girl alongwith the loot and offered Shivaji to make her his queen, Shivaji was overwhelmed by her innocent beauty and wished that her mother had the same kind of beauty because, as he said, that the girl was like his mother. He ordered the Marathas to safely drop the girl at her place.

Sir, a different kind of example is that of Allouddin Khilji who had come to conquer Chittore. When he heard about the beauty of Padmini he became obsessed with the idea of possessing her and forgot all about the battle. But when he could not get her, he longed to have at least a glance of her beauty. When he saw her reflection in the mirror he became more obsessed and started the battle. But Padmini alongwith other 14 thousand queens immolated herself. I would like to mention that there has never been a single incident in Indian culture of showing disrespect to women.

If at all anybody has insulted women, it was in Mughal period. The Woman has been insulted by today's modernism. This Bill has been introduced here late. The date furnished by Shri Jeswaniji are shocking. The date show the number of female children being killed. Shrimati Girija ji has also mentioned that the number of males is increasing as compared to females. It is a matter of concern that today there are 1000 men against every 910 women.

The hon. Minister has been postponing this Bill for a long time. But now I would like to thank him that ultimately he has introduced this Bill in the House.

This Bill is very good but even now there are many draw backs in it. It needs to be reviewed. For example, a provision has been made for imposing a fine of Rs. 10,000 against a doctor whereas the fees of the test is Rs. 10,000. However, there is also a provision for 3 years imprisonment in this regard. I request that in order to make this law more stringent. The amount of the fine should be raised and the period of the imprisonment should also increased to 5 years. Moreover the people should not be deprived of the other benefits of ultrasonography.

Advertisements have also been banned. Through this Bill Private clinics should also be banned. Certain essential tests should be allowed in the Government hospitals and medical colleges. Such tests should also be allowed in good private hospitals as Escort and others. Similarly the Committee appointed for this purpose has visited many States in India and submitted its recommendations. My submission is that all those recommendations should be implemented. Rajasthan is very advanced in this regard.

The Government proposes to provide 30 percent reservation of seats for women under electoral reforms, but this Bill has already been passed in Rajasthan two years back. Similarly the Government proposes to introduce one more Bill which envisages the disqualification of the membership of the Legislative Assembly and Parliament in case of those members having more than two children. But in Rajasthan such Bill has been passed one and a half years back in which it has been provided that a person having more than two children will not be able to contest the elections of municipalities and Gram Panchayats and similarly the membership of Member having more than two children during their Tenure as members will also be lost. Thus, Rajasthan is much advanced in this respect.

Lastly, I would like to mention only this much regarding this Bill that although the introduction of the Bill has been delayed yet it is better late than never and I hope it will do good for the country and ultimately will help in improving the alarming situation in respect of the ever falling number of women in the society. It requires to adopt more sensitive attitude to the women. With these words I conclude.

DR. GIRIJA VYAS (Udaipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, first of all I would like to congratulate the Ministry and Shri Dau Dayal Joshi as well. It is better late than never. We should have introduced this Bill much earlier. I was enroute to Parliament and as soon as the driver turned the radio on, the song 'madad mangti hai yah Radha ki beti, Yashoda ki beti aur jubeda ki beti' was being aired on it. It made me to think that these 'daughters' existed in the past and today those girls are seeking help who are often killed before taking birth.

[Dr. Girija Vyas]

I met two or three hon. Lady Members before coming here. They told me that situation has worsened to such an extent that a woman can get rid of her female child in the womb in any small clinic after paying a paltry amount of Rs. 50 only. I do not support fully what Shri Dau Dayal Joshi told just now. It is stated in 'Upanishads' that 'Yatra naryastu pujayante tatra ramante devata'. But I would like to remind you that this is a country where Sita was banished and stigmatized. It is a country where Ahilya was forced to be metamorphosed into a rock.

Our country is called the country of Panchalika and Draupadi was forced to denude. Our society is not changing according to times but the condition of women as well as children has been worsening with the passage of time. The region in Rajasthan from which I hail has been famous for many women of repute. If in the history of Mewar the names of women like Meera, Durgawati, Padmini and Karnavati who have shown their skills, are excluded then nothing is left in the history. There has been the region in Rajasthan where female children were killed under the cot soon after their birth. The female children were killed because the parents wanted to avoid the sufferings they had to go through during searching for a suitable bridegroom and managing huge dowry. I, therefore, understand their pain and I hail from the area where the Rūpmati incident took place some years ago. Taking this into consideration some women organisations raised their voices against it and I would like to thank the Government of Rajasthan which had taken initiatives in this regard and held it up till the Bill was passed by the Centre. I consider this Bill important because for the first time it has elucidated

certain definitions. I am thankful to those who have tried to distinguish between genetic council centre, genetic clinic and genetic laboratory. In chapter three, it has been stated clearly as to under what circumstances and regarding what diseases these tests can be carried out. The Sixth part of the fourth column of chapter three reads:

[English]

"any other abnormalities or diseases as may be specified by the Central Supervising Board."

[Translation]

Here I would like to submit that there will be sufficient scope for misusing the word 'any other'. I do not want that this be made more specific. Clause-Sixth says that no sex-determination will be allowed in a genetic council centre, genetic Laboratory or a genetic clinic. It has been given the legal force. Whenever the issue of formulating law regarding women is proposed, we are a bit scared. This country has formulated a number of laws. I would like to congratulate the hon. Prime Minister who has provided 33 percent reservation to the women in the political field. Prior to this law there had been many other laws for social, cultural, political and economic upliftment of women. But laws are not implemented properly. The women folk fear whether this law will be successfully implemented or not.

There are three factors required for the proper implementation of a law. First, the law should be stringent, secondly, the administration should be strict and thirdly the participation of people in implementing the law. It has specifically been mentioned in it that no kind of test for sex-

determination will be allowed. Besides, law enforcing provisions have also been made that anybody found guilty of violating the law will be prosecuted. In order to implement a stringent law a sensitive and strict administration is also essential. In this regard I would like to suggest that in consultation with the State Government the Central Government should set up a cell where the women can lodge their complaints. Since the time I have assumed the office of the chairperson of women congress I have found that....

**SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH**  
(Sheohar): From that very period atrocities on women have increased and its reason is best known to her alone.

**DR. GIRIJA VYAS** : I have endeavoured to make the society aware of those atrocities. I am happy that you have become sensitive to those atrocities and started raising voice against them. On this occasion I remember a complete:

"Abhi tewar Kahan badle hai inke

Abhi apna daur inkalab ka hai

Abhi tapish hai, abhi sahara hai

Abhi daur kahan gulab gulabi ka".

We are now in the course of revolution. I want to suggest this because after the cell is set up, women can appeal there as I am still not very sure about the setting up of such a cell. I, therefore, urge the Government to review it and try to make the law more stringent.

The sensitiveness in the administration is also a must. I would like to give an example from my region, Mewar. Under the law nobody could cut a tree but the felling of trees continued. On seeing this, a gentleman, named

Sajjan Singh practised something different. The junior ruler of Salumbar got the trees cut. He was summoned by the Maharaja in this connection. When he met the Maharaja he found that from toe to head the Maharaja was covered with bandages. When he asked the Maharaja, "what happened" he was told that there was nothing special but Maharaja was feeling hurt due to the felling of trees by him. I want that the administration should also develop such sensitiveness. Therefore, such a cell should be set up where they may be able to appeal.

The third thing is the participation of people in this drive. Unless awareness is created among women and women organisations come forward, nothing substantial will be achieved. I remember the saying of Tulsidas "dhol, ganwar, shudra, pashu aur nari". He further added "na mohe nari na rupah". I, totally opposed the view expressed in the first line of Tulsidas here. But I fully agree with the second line. It is really a fact that a woman is an enemy of woman. Even today you will find that the person who takes a woman to a clinic is none but a woman of close relation like her mother-in-law, sister-in-law or a sister. But I am sure that the time when women start realizing that the female foetus belongs to their own species then only this evil practice will come to a stop. I, therefore, appeal to all of you to help the Government in creating awareness among women. I would like to submit to the Government also that merely the formulation of a stringent law will not serve the purpose. The strict administration and the participation of Government and the people is also needed in this respect.

**SHRI HARCHAND SINGH (Ropar)**:  
The population has grown too much.



[*Translation*]

DR. GIRIJA VYAS: Have you ever thought about the population which has increased enormously? Just now Girija Devi Ji had stated that the male female ratio has come down to 1000 : 910 children. I point out one thing that in future 50 percent people will have to remain unmarried like me.

Sir, as far as the question of stern laws are concerned, I am thankful to the Ministry, since it has made an effort in this regard but by providing merely 5 to 50 thousand rupees, it will not serve the purpose. Such a person should be sent to jail in any case. The duration of imprisonment can be increased to several years in that case. Besides it, the registration of institutions will be cancelled. I think that both these things should be adopted simultaneously. As I have said "Nari Na Mohe Navi Ka Roopa", So when we are heading towards 21st century we must get rid of such psychology. I have said one more thing that the women belong to one caste but they are opposing the other caste but such a tendency will be an end to this gender. In that case the woman, who thinks in terms of killing her before her birth, should be punished. I have seen at various places, where sex tests were carried out before enacting this law, that it has taken two shapes. On one hand become a fashion and on the other hand it has become a custom. As fashion some educated women claim that they have carried out the sex test and they will not give birth to a female child and as a custom they go with their mother, mother-in-law and the sister-in-law for the sex test and get from the female foetus before it takes birth. If she is a partner in killing the female child then she should also be kept in jail. As I have said that before birth of child she prays

that if she gives birth, God knows in which form she will serve the humanity.

There is one more thing that women are guided by their husband or relatives and in that case the law will have to be stern enough. Last year's data show that 1100 women died during sex tests. You know that if any lady has to carry out abortion two or three times in a year, it would certainly deteriorate her health. Alongwith this abominable custom there are many other custom also which have attached to it. These will be automatically stopped after the passing of this Bill. Dowry is a major fashion these days. If a female child takes birth and she gets all the rights of an individual, she will herself fight against dowry but an awareness should be brought therefor. Such sort of awareness should brought that the female child who takes birth will neither give or take dowry in future. This bill should not remain on papers only. It should be passed in each State. I think that after implementation the Union Government will take action on it.

Sir, I am coming to the last point that the registered doctors do not have recognised sex centres and the Ministry has some doubts in this regard, therefore, something should be done in this direction. This Bill was the demand of the time but it has been brought very late even then I come to the point that this Bill will maintain the dignity of the women and it will generate the feeling of individuality among them and the female child which was killed earlier, will be given birth to knock the doors of the 21st century. With these words, I support the Bill.

**16.00 hrs.**

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN  
(Indore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to

support the Bill, brought here today. But during the discussion which is going on here, we should not treat women as different from ourselves and a commodity. Many examples have been cited here and sometimes it was treated as a Goddess and sometimes she was treated as a slave but that woman has been repeating from time immemorial that she should neither be treated as Goddess or a slave, but she should be considered as a human being. Both the man and the woman have some right and duties. She is not altogether a different thing but a part of this society. Today, when this Bill is going to take the shape of a law, I would like to submit that the process of social justice is taking place here and we are going to provide social justice. It was necessary for several years. Today, I think that while we are heading towards 21st Century, why such psychology has generated? Why the practice of foeticide is increasing? The incidents like Jalgaon case and the rape incident of Madhya Pradesh in which it was said that the compensation was given twice and happening and we opposed these but even then such things are going on. Such trend is developing among the people that they are saying that it should not be discussed now. The dignity of woman is being degraded in one way or the other in Jalgaon incident. My submission is that why such incidents are happening? Why the dignity of man is not being degraded. All this was happening in your city and you could not protect them. Somewhere you are responsible for it. Why not the man in that city are feeling ashamed off. Why such tendency towards women in the society is growing? Before bringing this Bill, a discussion was held here and a committee was formed I was a member of that committee and we had.

16.03 hrs.

[SHRIMATI SANTOSH CHOWDHARY *in the  
Chair*]

visited several places and held discussions with many people and many social institutions and thereafter submitted the report of this committee. It is also a fact that merely enacting the law will not bear any fruits. When the process of enacting the law goes on, it is the gift of the human brain that it starts finding out the loopholes of the law and renders the law totally ineffective.

Madam Chairman, while we were discussing about it in Bombay, a famous gynaecologist, who runs a major genetic centre informed us that the law should be enacted but banning the test will not serve any purpose. The tests are carried out for one reason or the other such as to check the abnormality in the child, the heridity diseases and the side effects of a medicine on the woman etc. but it is difficult to say that these tests will not be carried out to know the sex of the foetus. Medical science is so much advance today that in foreign countries researches are being done to determine the sex of the foetus through a blood test only. For this purpose there is no need to all to approach a genetic centre. It may take 10-20 years when such facility will reach in our country but it is possible. Therefore, it is necessary to curb such tendency the foeticide should be considered as murder. Just now an example has been cited that after each 1000 males, there are only 900 or 950 females. My submission is that we should take it as the killing of a person and we are closing the doors of the world for the child. This right has not been given to us by anyone but we are enjoying it, openly and in this way we are heading

[Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan]

towards satanism. We should consider it in this perspective. Therefore, from the point of social justice, this Bill is important and there is a need of social awareness. Therefore, this committee has envisaged a Central Supervisory Board, which will not only give timely advice but it will also prepare schemes to launch social awareness campaigns.

When this law was enacted in some other States also, and we observed the situation there, we came to know that this law was enacted in Maharashtra some 3-4 years back, the people as well as the social organisations are aware there, but even after 4-5 years not a single case has been proved and not a single person was punished under this law.

This is the position in regard to implementation of this law. That is why, I had said in the beginning that once a Bill becomes Law, the people start finding loopholes in it. The second hitch is that the Chairman or Chief of the Advisory Board of the State is a Government officer and he does not have time for calling the meeting of the Advisory Board. When the problems like foeticide comes before him, he does not have time to get them investigated properly. Even after enactment of a law, the system remains ineffective. Therefore, even if we make provision for rigorous punishment, none will be able to get punishment. It was also suggested that there is no necessity to constitute an Advisory Board and make a Government official its Chairman, I would say that if we would amend the provision that instead of a Government official, a member of any social institution or any social worker or a doctor becomes the Chairman of this Board then it can function with its full strength.

Today, when we have made this law, the provision regarding punishment contained therein are in the right direction. While talking to social institutions on the question of awarding punishment, it becomes clear that in case a person instigates a woman for committing a crime, the needle of suspicion, first of all points towards the husband. Therefore, before awarding punishment to anyone, we will have to think of her husband that if he has a hand in instigating his wife to go for abortion. It is only at the end that we should think of the woman because no woman would like to commit such a crime. If there is a tumour in our body, we have to undergo a lot of pain while taking it out. But it is a question of a living being. Therefore, no woman or mother would like to part with a living being from her body. It may never happen. In this connection, I talked to the women in many social institutions, where many men were also present. All were of a unanimous view that while making a provision in regard to award of punishment, no woman should be punished and it should be thought only at the end because there may be one or two percent women who can go to such an extent. However, I would say that as per our social misconception, it is generally seen that even in an educated family a pressure is put on the woman from the very day of conception that the male child should take birth in their house. Everybody would expect a grandson or son but I have never heard anyone to say that a female child should take birth. Though, many homes need a girl, yet nobody likes to happen this.

I mean to say that from the very first day, a severe mental pressure is put on the woman. It is my view that if a woman wants that she would not go for a second or third female child, such a woman should also not be given punishment.

It is seen that such cases are not reported in big genetic centres. There are several research centres where I got an opportunity to visit. I was told whenever a case is referred to their centre and a test is carried out to find out the abnormalities, they never tell about the sex of the foetus. It is even not mentioned in the case file. They showed us many case files also. I also got an opportunity to visit Bombay Hospital. There, we were also shown several case files. They also told me that though they can immediately detect the sex yet they do not record it in the case file. These type of cases are generally reported from the small genetic centres located in the lanes of a city. Recently, we talked about imposing restrictions on such advertisement because only the doctors having their clinics in the lanes of a city are responsible for this act. The proposal moved by Dauji in regard to imprisonment is a good step because a fine of Rs. 10,000 is just equal to nothing. If a culprit even after paying a fine of Rs. 10,000 is lawfully let off, this step is also good because again he become free to earn Rs. 50,000 by adopting the same method. Therefore, there must be a provision for imprisonment for a period of one or two months or otherwise. Simultaneously, it should also be provided therein to cancel the registration of such clinics.

To me, this Bill appears to be a good one because this Bill has been brought before the House for discussion after a number of days of submission of the Committee's Report. Now, it will become a law but it would effective only when it is understood in the right perspective. The scientific researches carried out in our country can on the one hand, be utilized properly and on the other hand, it can be used for making lethal weapons. Now the question is how can it be utilized? It all depends on the

wisdom and culture of a mankind. Today, the need is to think over it in the right perspective so that socially, we may get better result in future. If we could implement this law properly, it would be helpful in building a better society.

Madam Chairman, I know that it is not possible that if this law is enacted today, such type of centres will be closed tomorrow or the cases of foeticide will stop. But it would help in creating a mental awareness among people and the society will prepare itself to desist from such acts. Those people, who indulge in such acts will be overawed by the fear and they will be constrained to think over it once again. If the Bill leaves this much of impact in the minds of the people, I would think that we have moved a little forward toward our goal.

Madam Chairman, as has been said just how that there is a fear among the men about giving 33 percent reservation to the women. They think that if this proposal is implemented, there will be women at every level. However, it should not happen. I have myself observed that when we talk about giving 33 percent reservation to women in the House, we discuss this issue reluctantly and think that the women will dominate the men and they will be seen at every position. I am not talking of an individual. I am talking of the whole society. That is why, I have said that women too are a part of the society. Women should also get the rights which are being enjoyed by the men. In other words, the woman should be viewed equal to men.

I welcome this Bill from the core of my heart.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES  
(Muzaffarpur): Madam, Chairman, I do

[Shri George Fernanades]

not know how far this Bill will help in resolving this problem. However, I agree that ultimately it is a question of psyche. There has not been any dearth of laws in our country regarding protection of women but we have not been able to make a law which could change the psyche of a man. Some Members have apprehended that how far it would create a new awareness but there are other Member who are hopeful of good result. In continuation of this chain of opinion, I would also like to express my views.

Madam Chairman, though the process of changing the psyche of mankind have been going on for a long time yet instead of achieving success, we are retrogressing. The dowry deaths are not declining. Rather, their numbers are increasing. On the other hand, the cases of rape and atrocities on women are also on the rise. Even the birth of a girl child in a family has become a curse. We do not see any change in the psyche of mankind. There are many evidences of such acts. Though as per the official data, the rate of literacy among women is increasing every decade, yet the factual position remains unchanged. If there has been rise in the literacy rate of women, the rate of literacy among men has also increased proportionately. Now, the difference remains the same. Therefore, we should find out the reply of the basic question on which we are deliberating upon in this House. I agree that it is not only an outrage which a woman has to free but she is a victim of other oppressions also. In a way, it is an oppression on the whole society because when the mankind tries to do away with the law of nature the injustice is not only done to the women but the whole society. The nature has build the society. Neither any big political leader nor a great man

has a contribution in it. We have been seeing that the increase in population from village to district level, from district to state level, from state to national level and from nation to world level is almost in equal proportion. We have started different methods to do away with this law of nature but how will this Bill be able to counter this?

I have got a report of 1991 census with me. Commenting on sex-ratio, the report submitted by the Census Commissioner says:

[English]

"The reason for the general disparity in the sex ratio and the declining trend over the years need further examination, Studies made so far have offered several explanations for this phenomenon in the past. Some of them are preference for male children resulting in neglect of female babies."

[Translation]

The Government will come out with a legislation to check the cases of foeticide but the document to the Government of India says that in a quest for a male child, female child is treated so badly that she dies before attaining the age of even five years.

[English]

"The relative gap in the health conditions between males and females and certain types of moralities which are sex selective, the adverse sex ratio is also due to lower expectation of life at birth for females in the past compared to males. Part of which

is due to high maternal mortality. It is, however, difficult to pinpoint any particular reason for the declining sex ratio which requires a detailed analysis."

[Translation]

This report was submitted four years back but then no analysis has been done. Has any study been undertaken by the Government to find out the reasons or has any institution taken steps in the direction of finding any solution? One horrible thing which comes to my notice from the census report is that the process of decrease in the population of women started after independence. If the Government has gone into it then I would like to ask the Government to especially ascertain the circumstances due to which downward trend in the population of women in comparison to men started after independence. The data of nine decades *i.e.* from 1901 to 1991 are in this Census Report, 1991. According to them in June 1901, the states were not in its present form whereas the districts and villages were there. However, taking into account the present position of a state alongwith its districts and villages, the Census Commission has submitted the figures from 1901 census onwards. According to the figures, in 1901 the population of women was more in nine provinces. Similarly, the population of women in 1911 was more in 10 states; in 1921, 11 states and in 1931, 9 states. Further, in the pre-independence census in 1941, the population of women was more in 9 states. The country became independent in 1947. Again, a census was conducted. In 1951, the population of women was more in nine states. In 1961, the figures came down to 8 states; in 1971, 3 states and in 1981, 2 states. As per 1991

census, Kerala is the only state where the population of women exceeds men. There is 1040:1042 ratio between men and women. The chain of decrease started after independence. The figure indicate that no check is being exercised on this downward trend. Rather the situation has deteriorated. Therefore, in this regard, I would only like to say that the advice of inquiry given by the Census Commission to the Government should be accepted. The Government should do away this kind of oppression being meted out to women in this country and initiate special efforts from its side.

With these words, I support this Bill.

16.29 hrs.

ADJOURNMENT MOTION RE:  
ALARMING SITUATION IN  
ASSAM

[English]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV  
(Azamgarh): I beg to move:

"That the House do now adjourn."

[Translation]

Madam, Chairperson, through this Adjournment Motion I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the sad incident of Barapeta district of Assam, which took place two days earlier. It is a matter of great concern for the whole country. I would like to say that it is a serious matter and should be taken seriously by the House.

Madam, the border areas of our country are inhabited mostly by tribals or such people live, who lead a very hard life in hilly areas and forests. They had been deprived of all the facilities meant

[Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav]

for common citizen of the country for the centuries. In many areas, they have only grass and plant leaves to eat. They have no arrangement for education and health. They have been alienated from the national mainstream because of some special circumstances in the country. It was really unfortunate that less attention was paid towards them during the Britishers period. Only working for Missionaries and voluntary organisations paid attention towards them. I am very sorry to say that the tribals living in border areas of the country, who are called Scheduled Tribes are still leading a very hard life even after 46-47 years of our Independence. The nation has not paid the required attention towards them. That is why the people of the area took to arms to express their revolt. The Government did not pay any attention to them until they followed the path of violence.

Today, we are discussing the Bodoland problem. An accord was signed on this problem in the presence of Shri Rajesh Pilot and the Chief Minister of the State. The accord clearly mentions several points. In the morning Hon'ble Speaker asked Shri Jaswant Singh— How Government of India involved in this matter? I would like to say that its Preamble clearly says that:

[English]

“Both the Government of India and the Government of Assam have been making earnest efforts to bring about an amicable solution to the problems of the Bodos and other plain tribals living in the north bank of river, Brahmaputra, within Assam. Towards this end, the Government of India held a series

of meetings with the State Government as well as with leaders of All Bodo Students Union (ABSU) and Bodo People's Action Committee (BPAC). The State Government has also separately held discussions with the Bodo leaders. As a result it has been considered necessary to set up an administrative authority within the State of Assam under a scheme, the details of which are outlined in the succeeding paragraphs.”

[Translation]

Government of India is involved in it since very beginning. Shri Rajesh Pilot was directly involved in the settlement made with the Defence Council of Bodoland. Government of India had issued some guidelines for it. If you will study it, you will find that it says:

[English]

“The finances for the BAC will be earmarked under a separate sub-head within the State Budget in keeping with the guidelines it laid down by the Government of India from time to time.”

[Translation]

The Government of India was involved in this matter and was a party in it since the beginning. According to the Act that involvement is still there. Guidelines for them to be issued from time to time, financial resources are to be made available and their problems are to be solved through discussion with them. Four major incidents have taken place since last October in which hundreds

of people have been killed. Property worth crores was damaged. People of the area have a feeling of insecurity. Except the Bodos, all other people whether they are Muslims, Nepalis, Bangalis and people belonging to any other community, all have a feeling of insecurity. Now their own lives, property and future of their children is not safe there.

Madam, two major incidents took place during the last month in which 17 persons were killed. People, living in this camp told that 200 persons were killed before this very incident and large number of people are still missing. No one knows as to whether they are living or not. No one knows about the whereabouts of these persons? I do not know how these incidents become so grave? Earlier, the Chief Minister visited the site of incidents with his Cabinet colleagues and said that 200 persons were killed and hundred others are missing. The Chief Minister and the State machinery made arrangements for their own security but common man is insecure there. There is not a single incident in which refugee camps were given full protection by providing electricity for the whole night or by providing policemen with AK47 for protection of public. As per my information, 15 children, 20 women, some old persons and patients died in the accident. I know that Shri Rajesh Pilot, Shri P.M. Sayeed, Shri Bommai and three Ministers visited the place. People of the refugee camp and some policemen present there, told that they met the Chief Minister and several other Ministers to tell them that they had received information of attack and thus they need protection. But no action was taken, no additional police force was sent for. No help was sought from the BSF and army personnel living in the area. Then why the Chief Minister visited the place of

incident, with his Cabinet colleagues? I would like to say that Assam Government is mainly responsible for these killings. It cannot escape its responsibility.

[English]

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling): Initially, there was a major demand that a statement should be made by the hon. Minister. I think, it would be a good idea if the hon. Minister tells us what exactly has happened and the discussion could then be on the basis of authentic facts. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Yes, you are saying the correct thing. Adjournment Motion is being debated in the House.... (Interruptions).... The Minister cannot make a statement in the middle of the discussion.... (Interruptions)....

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): What is the line of your Adjournment Motion, you kindly tell us. Is the Adjournment Motion of the Bodo situation or against the Government of Assam or against the Central Government? If you kindly read out the wording of the Adjournment Motion, it will be to our benefit. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Please listen to my speech, You will come to know about the fact... (Interruptions)



[English]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Madam, the Adjournment Motion has been admitted by the Chair, it would be in the specific form and it would be proper for the House to know the wording of the Adjournment Motion because so far as we are concerned, so far as my Leader Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee is concerned, we have given an Adjournment Motion because we thought that the Government of India had a duty to intervene in the situation and it had failed to intervene. Therefore, we had moved an Adjournment Motion here.....  
(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: The Government of India has a duty. The Government of India has a continuous duty. ....(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: In all probability it should be read out. We must know what is that we are discussing.  
(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the accord, which was signed there, has completely proved to be a failure. Many things have been said about the accord. Many statements were made by the State Chief Minister and the Union Home Ministry that after persistent efforts and several talks, a solution has been found to the problem. But during last nine months four major incidents have taken place in which hundreds of people have lost their lives and thousands of people have become homeless. Disturbance, in the area has rather increased. Instead of taking all Bodo

leaders into confidence in finding a solution to the problem, they have been divided and the Central Government and the State Chief Minister are using them to realise own selfish motives. Efforts were made to make use of Bodo leaders for their own political gains. They are trying to get political mileage out of this problem. It is really sad to say that, to derive a political mileage out of the problems of this backward area, this problem has been made further complicated.

Sir, it was also provided in the act that Bodo predominated areas would be identified and forest land would also be taken into consideration. Forests and Environment department was asked to assist in identifying such areas. But what has happened? I would like to know from Shri Pilotji whether it is not a fact that this problem has been created because of the fact that 100 villages predominantly inhabited by Bodo people have not been included in recently constituted Bodo land. Is it not a fact that 10 kms. long strip along Bhutan border has not been included in Bodoland whereas Bodo people constitute majority in that area. In this way their integrity and patriotism is being suspected and they are made to feel that because they are living near Bhutan border, they are not included in the Bodo-land. It is also a reason of their resentment. Is there any provision in the Act for providing security to non-party people? Are these your security arrangements that hundreds of persons are being killed there and thousands of people are living in refugee camps. I accuse the State Chief Minister for this situation.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Chief Minister of Assam was my good friend there was a time when he was very famous as a youth leader but some times power and wealth intoxicate a person to the extent

that he forgets all principles. That brings about a complete change in his character and working style and some times he work in such a manner, to get cheap popularity, which shakes the very foundation and pose great threat to the national unity also. To get merely a cheap popularity, the Chief Minister has released those persons who were involved in murder cases. It was said that he was very generous and wanted to bring them to the mainstream. Not only this but I think they were rewarded by giving Maruti cars and wine contracts. It is a general feeling in that area that good citizens who were with the country during the time of crisis and who were working to restore peace there, have been sidelined. It is a very dangerous thing. Shri Chalihaji, you please tell us as to what is the situation there and whether normalcy has been restored or whether people are happy there? Is it not the fact that the prevailing situation has posed threat to our national security? One year back, Army officers had warned the Chief Minister that the things were not going smoothly and there were certain people who were acquiring arms and some of our intelligence persons were also involved in it and they should be asked to stop such things. I think I.B. and RAW are financing two different groups as they done in case of LTTE or Bhindrawala to create rift among the groups to weaken their morale. It is a national problem and it cannot be solved like this. Such problems can be solved with wisdom and by creating a congenial atmosphere. I think such abominable and vile strategies adopted for political gains ultimately prove to be disasterious. The same thing is happening in that area also. The identification work has not yet been completed. Why talks were not held with other groups active in that area. What steps have been taken to provide security to the minorities? It was your responsibility.

Being a Minister you have not done your duty. I have read in the Newspapers that it was admitted by Shri Rajesh Pilot that the steps which should have been taken, have not so far been taken by the Government of Assam. The Assam Government have failed in its constitutional obligations. I do not say that it should be dismissed but what I would like to say is that during the time of 5-6 months which you will gain, you should think about all aspects of the problem and the reasons for which this accord could not be implemented properly. You should find out its drawbacks so that recurrence of such incidents could be averted. Four big incidents have occurred there and a large number of killings have taken place in refugee camps during last two weeks. These incidents have occurred under the nose of Assam Government where the entire State Council of Minister was present. That is why I would like to say that the State Government and State Assembly should be suspended and the Government should hold talks with other parties also. All the parties in the State have demanded that, since the State Government failed in its duty, action should be taken against it.

I would like to demand that immediate security arrangement should be made for non-Bodo villages in that region. The police or the army should be deployed in every village. The need of the hour is that the Government should take full responsibility of protecting the lives and properties of non-Bodo people. I have not read any thing in the newspapers about compensation, therefore, I would like to say that at least Rs. two lakhs should be given immediately to the next of kin of each deceased person. And other needful steps should also be taken for them because like Kashmiri people, they have also become refugees. They do not have tents, food

[Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav]

and other means of livelihood. There is no arrangement of education for their children. Therefore, you should immediately provide security arrangement and other means of livelihood to them.

The Central Government should chalk out a time bound programme to identify the actual areas of Bodoland. What will be done to a non-bodo village which is surrounded by bodo villages? There are such villages which have been included for the purpose of contiguity which has also given rise to the resentment. You have to think about it also.

I would like to cite an example of the activeness of the Government. Our colleagues Shri Shahabuddinji went there on 9th July, 1994 on an invitation from the local people. He has witnessed the situation with his own eyes. He could not have a talk with the Chief Minister of the State. The Chief Minister asked him to talk to his Minister. He met the Minister and immediately after that he wrote a letter on 9th July in which he has stated that:

[*English*]

"There was failure of intelligence when the massacre took place earlier – he was referring to the earlier massacre and not this present massacre—but now there is not only an administrative failure but a collapse of the political will to protect the life and property of the non-Bodos."

[*Translation*]

Was it not enough for the Chief Minister to take notice of the seriousness

of the situation on the report given by a senior Member of Parliament? The hon. Member had also a talk with the Minister. Even after such a serious evaluation of the situation, the State Government remains inactive and no effective steps were taken on the report. It was also stated by the hon. Member that:

[*English*]

"As you know, not a single Bodo has been killed or even injured. The violence was wholly one-sided and unspeakably brutal. I am authoritatively informed that it was organized by the ABSU, a fraction of the Bodo Movement which is said to be financed by some Central agencies. Indeed, the BSF is also said to have received at one stage the support in money and material from the Central agencies."

16.54 hrs.

[*MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

I would like to know whether the State Chief Minister has contacted you after receiving the report that such serious allegations have been levelled and whether he has taken any steps to establish the truth? Had he contacted you, I am sure, you would have definitely contacted the hon. Member to know the reasons for making such serious allegations. I was told by Shri Shahabuddin that he had also endorsed a copy of the said letter to you. Was it not your duty to contact him on Telephone to ascertain the facts and to know about his authoritative sources for making such serious allegations. But you did not do

that. No action was taken by the Government. Therefore, I would like to say that the Central Government should take such things seriously. The Parliament is taking it seriously and discussing it under Adjournment motion. Such problems are above all interests. Many such problems have cropped up in different parts of the country and our enemies are looking for an opportunity to take advantage from such problems. All of you know why they are doing so? Therefore, I would like to say that it should be taken up seriously and an acceptable solution should be found to this problem.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through this House I would like to request you that a goodwill delegation of Parliament should be sent there so that our people living thousands of miles away from here may also realise that some one is there to share their sorrows and sufferings. Therefore, I request that this thing should be brought in the notice of the hon. Speaker that a Parliamentary delegation be sent there. That would convince the people and it would prove to be useful also. Therefore, the Government must do it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have friendly relations with Bhutan and we have common border with it. There is no doubt in the minds of the people. The basic thing is the confidence among the people and I think we must send our condolences to the bereaved families. The persons, who have been killed, were innocent, while they were asleeping they were attacked upon all of a sudden. The Central Government should give assurance that a complete security, be it by police or army, would be provided to the people. Therefore, I think that with a view that the problem may not further

aggravate, no fuel may be added to the fire and the innocent people may not become victims of violence, the hon. Home Minister should at least give a categorical assurance to the House.

With these words, I think the Adjournment motion moved by me, would be taken by the House seriously. With these words I conclude.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the House do now Adjourn".

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the Adjournment Motion.

However, I welcome this opportunity which is provided to discuss the happenings in the North-East and, more particularly, in Barpeta. What has happened must not only sadden everybody but should make us all hang our heads in shame that in a refugee camp, young and old people and women and children were slaughtered in a totally barbaric manner. Nevertheless, I do wish that prior to this discussion, we should have had an opportunity to hear the hon. Minister. That would have enabled us to discuss the happenings in Barpeta in their proper perspective. At the moment, we seem to be discussing the whole affair in the light of newspaper reports, and in a certain vacuum.

My friend, Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav has made grave allegations. He has demanded the suspension of the Assembly.

[Shri Inderjit]

17.00 hrs.

He has demanded the dismissal of the Government and has many more unfair and extreme suggestions. I am afraid, this is one of those typical cases where we speak from hind wisdom and swing from one extreme to the other extreme. What has happened is surely, as I said earlier, something most distressing. But, Sir, it should also give us an opportunity to direct our attention to what is happening in the North-East. It has been my privilege to visit the North-East fairly regularly and repeatedly since 1966. This year itself I have visited Guwahati thrice and also some of the North-Eastern States in the past few weeks. I have been conscious of what has been happening for a long time. In fact, what has happened in Barpeta is something which one could perhaps have anticipated. Alas, What is happening in the North-East is not getting the required attention of this House.

As I have said, the massacre of the refugee is something to be totally condemned. But the question is: What is happening in the North-East? We are talking in terms of Bodos and Non-Bodos. I would like the Minister to tell the House who are these Non-Bodos. Are these Non-Bodos not mainly migrants from across the border from Bangladesh? Are these Non-Bodos not the people who have been trying to encroach on the tribal lands? Are these so-called Non-Bodos not trying to repeat Tripura?

What happened to Tripura? I want this House to understand one basic point. I want this House to take notice of one basic fact in regard to the North-East. The North-East is very very sensitive

on one point. They do not want another Tripura to be repeated ever. They want their survival. They want their identify. They want their lands to be protected. This is something which we are not able to understand.

Only recently, the North-East Chief Minister met here. The Chief Minister of Mizoram and the Chief Minister of Nagaland, opposed the lifting of the inner line permit. Why? Because, the Chief Minister of Mizoram went on record to say: "You lift the inner permit and we shall be swamped as the tribals of Tripura were swamped." Is this what is going to happen? The basic psyche must be understood.

What has happened in Barpeta deserves to be condemned in the strongest language. But we must also direct our attention to the basic issues and not merely what has happened in this particular instance. I go along with my friend Shri Chandrajeet Yadav that every effort must be made to provide relief and succour and see what has happened. However I accuse my friend Shri Chandrajeet Yadav of speaking from hind sight. Is it or is it not a fact that the Chief Minister of Assam carried his own Cabinet to this particular place, Barpeta?

They stayed there night and day and what did they do? The whole exercise was to provide relief—and to provide adequate protection. What is being said is that only eight or ten twelve policemen were provided for protecting this particular refugee camp. I checked with some police persons. Normally, you never have more than ten or twelve people protecting a refugee camp. What has happened is unfortunate. Perhaps, one can say there has been some lapse. This might have been anticipated. But this is a kind of thing which has been happening

repeatedly and this House is not taking notice of it.

Earlier today, my attention was drawn to one other tragedy. I was reminded of what happened in Tripura in 1980—about the famous, rather infamous Mandal massacre.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh): It happened on 6th June, 1981.

SHRI INDER JIT: I stand corrected. It took place on 6th June, 1981. What has happened? There, the tribals reacted to the fact that they were being pushed back and further back into the hills. Their lands were being encroached upon and nothing was done about it. Ultimately, it led to a dispute. The whole thing conflagrated. What was the result? Several scores of tribal villages were torched. The tribals then came down and hit back and we had a massacre in which both sides lost lots and lots of people both old and young women and children.

Therefore, the question is: What do we do? Here it is very well for us to say 'sack the Government'. I do not think that that is the remedy. The Government was there at Barpeta. The Government sought to do whatever was possible in the circumstances. The Government has now asked for the aid of the military authorities.

They have done this. In so far as the Centre is concerned, the Centre too rushed the Minister for Internal Security Mr. Pilot accompanied by Shri P.M. Sayeed and Shri Gogoi. The Centre has not been lagging behind. The Centre has extended every possible help in the matter. And I think, this help should go a long way in tackling the problem that has come up. But my purpose in speaking

today is to beg of this House to look the more important, the more basic issue facing area.

The basic problem, the basic malady in the area is the malady of illegal, continuing infiltration from Bangladesh. This is not being tackled at all. We keep talking about ethnic disputes, we keep talking of tribals and non-tribals. But the basic problem is one of illegal immigration from Bangladesh. This morning, I took the liberty of ringing up some friends in Guwahati, people in higher authority, people whose honesty I would not question. They warned that similar problem were likely to come up in several other districts. The districts mentioned, apart from Barpeta, were Goalpara, Dhubri, Bongoigaon, Mangaldoi and Kokrajhar. Yes, we have already had the problem in some. But there will be more problems unless we face this basic issue.

I was in Nagaland recently. Whether it is Meghalaya, Nagaland or any of the North-Eastern States, the basic issue is that the people, the tribals have a certain sense of apprehension, a great fear that they would be swamped. As I said earlier, they do not want their States to become another Tripura. They say: "Tripura? Never, never, never!" This is something to be understood. Therefore, I would say that it is a good idea to send a goodwill delegation. In fact, more than a goodwill delegation, an all-party parliamentary delegation because this is a national issue.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: To do what?

SHRI INDER JIT: To look into what exactly has happened and to go into the deeper problems of the area.

[Shri Inder Jit]

My friend Shri Jaswant Singh and I spoke earlier of Mandai massacre on June 6, 1981. At that stage, the then Prime Minister sent a group of senior Congress people, headed by Shri Dinesh Singh. This particular group also included some independent individuals. They went along and studied the whole problem—the law and order problem, the political problem and the social problem—and they came up with certain recommendations.

What were the main recommendations? The basic recommendation was the problem of encroachment of tribal land by the non-tribals mainly from across the border must be tackled. This was the basic issue. Even where the Government intervened, what happened. In paper, the land was handed back to the tribals. But, in reality, they never get it back with the result that over the last four decades, their suspicions, their fears have been fed continuously. Something, therefore needs to be done in this particular direction.

During one of my recent visits, I was also told of the kind of problems that are coming up. My friend Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav talked about the failure of intelligence. Yes, there has perhaps been a failure of intelligence. But the problem is that we are not able to get the kind of intelligence which we want. The ISI, unfortunately, is infinitely more successful. A point to which my attention was drawn recently during one of my visits was the problem to which this House has never directed its attention. That is a problem which is sure to come up later as the problem of the Siliguri Corridor. Here, we see the ISI planning all kinds of things, all kinds of troubles, trying to promote a conflagration between one community

and another and between the tribals and the non-tribals in the hope of creating a major problem in the Siliguri Corridor. If they succeed in the Siliguri Corridor, as they have succeeded in some other places, we must understand and remember that this will mean that the entire North-East will be cut off. There will be no land link left with the North-East. We would have to fly across. There will be no trains and you will have to fly all your stuff from across this part of the country to the North-East. This could become a problem. And I feel this issue must be addressed as a national issue. Unfortunately, there is too much of politics in all this.

I say this as one who has been going to that area regularly and repeatedly as a journalist since 1966. There is too much of politics—vote-bank politics and nonvote-bank politics— and all kinds of things. Therefore, I would urge the Minister, and I would suggest to the Speaker through the Deputy Speaker that there is need to look into this deeper problem, the basic problem of continuing infiltration of Bangladeshis from across the border. We must seriously think in terms of identifying Indians and giving them identity cards. We must seriously do this. This is not being done. We are not even identifying the illegal migrants. I personally think that what is needed to be done is to apply the Foreigners Act very firmly, very sternly; identify those who are Indians and those who are non-Indians. If we can do that, we would have solved half the problem.

Likewise the other thing is, I would appeal to the Minister that what we need very urgently to do is to seal our borders with Bangladesh. We tried in the past to do this but Bangladesh protested. I do not think we should ever care for this kind of a protest. The problem of Punjab continued dangerously so long as we

were not able to seal the border. Once we effectively sealed the border, we were able to tackle the law and order problem and also the political problem on our side of the border. Therefore I would say that we need to seal our borders with Bangladesh ignoring whatever protests Bangladeshis might make. I just cannot understand Bangladesh protesting in the past against our sealing the border. Of course, we must seal our border. We must protect our border. We must protect our security.

In fact not long ago we had a very senior witness in the Standing Parliamentary Committee on the External Affairs. I asked him one question; What is your perception of the India's security concerns? His answer was very very interesting. I should not disclose the identity of this individual who is one of our top people. What was his concern? He said his concern mainly was of continuing illegal infiltration by foreigners from across all the borders. He said this was something which the Parliament of India needed to take a good close look at. Therefore we must seal the border. We must go in for foolproof identity cards irrespective of the cost. Above all, the problem of the tribals and the non-tribals must be considered. I would appeal to the Minister, and as a party colleague, urge him through you that we must ensure that there is no repetition of Tripura.

Earlier today a friend from the South asked: what is the problem? I said the problem was very simple. This friend comes from Pondicherry. So I asked him what is the population of your place? He said nine to ten lakhs. I asked; "Suppose some 15 lakh outsiders were to come in and settle down in Pondicherry, how would you like it?" He said he would never never accept it. This is the basic

psyche. We have a basic problem in Barpeta. It must be looked at. But more than that, the basic issue of the tribal and the non-tribal and their basic psyche has to be addressed. We are not addressing the psyche.

You go to Meghalaya. As I said, in Meghalaya many walls have it written at the moment: "we are Khasis by blood, Indians by accident". It reflects a fear. I talked to some of the students involved. These students made it clear to us that if the centre can protect their tribal identity and if it can protect their tribal interests, they would have no quarrel with India. They are Indians unlike many people in Nagaland whose view is some what different.

In Nagaland we have a problem. The NSCN is there. The Khaplang group and the Isac Sue and the Muivah group. All these groups are creating problems. But the people of Nagaland, too, speak with one voice. What do they want? They want their tribal identity protected. They want their tribal land protected. They want to survive. So long as we are not able to deal with the basic psyche, we will never be able to deal with the basic issue that confronts us. Our security in the northeast will continue to be threatened.

I will not take any more time of this House. I have made my points. My basic appeal, once again, is: please let us look at their psyche. This psyche must be tackled, if we the North-East to continue to be a part of our country, of our great land.

SHRI SRIKANT JENA (Cuttack):  
Please make one point clear. Are the people who got killed by the militants Indians or not?



SHRI INDER JIT: Sir, a question has been put to me. I will merely say that I would like to get the light on this particular matter from the Minister. But as I said the basic issue is not one of Bodos and non-Bodos.

SHRI SRIKANT JENA: Are the non-Bodos totally Bangladeshi people or Indian people?

SHRI INDER JIT: Most of them, according to my understanding, are migrants from across the border. *(Interruptions)* There is a problem. And the problem can be tackled by identifying Indians and identifying the foreigners. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KIRIP CHALIHA (Guwahati): Mr. Inder Jit, I will just appeal to you. We are discussing a very sensitive matter. People have been killed. You cannot just term some people as foreigners or non-foreigners. Please have respect for the people who have died. They were all Indian people. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let us know his views. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SWARUP UPADHYAY (Tejpur): Even after 30-40 years, they are foreigners. *(Interruptions)* What kind of justice is that? *(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): It is a very sensitive subject. *(Interruptions)* There was Nehru-Liaqat pact. After 1971, there was a pact between Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Shri Mujibur Rahman. *(Interruptions)* They are not foreigners. *(Interruptions)* They are very much Indians. *(Interruptions)* I request you that line should be expunged. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDER JIT: May I be permitted to clarify? I said in the beginning that what has happened must hang our heads in shame. *(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): Sir, I am from North-eastern area. Therefore, I shall make an appeal to this august House. While discussing the North-eastern issues, we should not create any problem. We should try to solve it. From that angle, all Members should speak. The main problem of Assam or North-eastern State is not infiltration. The main problem is that people go to Assam either in this season or in that season. They become experts. *(Interruptions)* They come and live. *(Interruptions)* We shall appeal to this House, irrespective of religion, this is an issue about which everybody is very much worried. Some people have died.

We want to solve it. Let us have a discussion with a dispassionate mind. Let us solve it. How it can be solved will come out during the discussion. Let us not pinpoint individuals or political parties. This will not be fair and thereby you will not solve the problem. You will create problem because the situation is still tense there. I have spoken to the Chief Minister only an hour before. The Army is patrolling the area. It is quite tense. There is tension. So, this House should give a message whereby it cools down. I will appeal to all parties. Let us discuss this issue. That will be the right approach.

SHRI INDER JIT: I have been misunderstood.... *(Interruptions)*

I am being misunderstood. I said at the very beginning that we need to hang our heads in shame... *(Interruptions)*

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Inder Jit is saying that he is being misunderstood. Let us know the correct position.

SHRI INDER JIT: I said at the very beginning that we need to hang our heads in shame for what has happened. It should never have happened. And it is not my intention to add fuel to the fire. No! On the other hand, I am saying that you cannot tackle the problem unless you go into the basic problem. I am in full agreement with what Mamta Banerjee has just now said. I have not gone into the details. I am merely saying that the issue of foreigners cannot be overlooked.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): You have misled the House!

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh): Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I rise to support the Adjournment Motion which has been moved by my hon. friend to discuss the alarming situation in Assam and the failure of the Central Government to intervene timely. It is necessary to read out the text of the motion so as to focus our concerns on what it is that we are seized off.

I must, at the very outset, say two things. Firstly, I would like to say that death is a great leveller and death is not identified through nationality. It is a very saddening event that takes place and without getting involved in the controversy—a needless controversy that attended upon the conclusions of my hon. friend Shri Inder Jit, the previous speaker from the Ruling Treasury Benches—I would like to say that I agree with the broad thrust of his assertion. I do not know if he speaks for his party or if he speaks for himself, but I find myself in the unusual position of being

largely in agreement with what the member from the Treasury Benches is saying.

Sir, what we are addressed with today is not to discuss a routine law and order default by the State Government. We are also simply engaged in discussing one of the characteristics, and also by now routine, failures of the Central Government. What we are discussing Sir, is a horrifying illustration of the consequences of an absence of policy combined with a broken and a mendacious government and administration. Sir, the hon. Member from Darjeeling, Shri Inder Jit referred to Mandai. In this assembly other than the hon. Member from Tripura itself, my good friend presently from Tripura and who was not from Tripura before, viz. hon. Sontosh Mohan Dev, there are only two other Members who have had an occasion to visit Mandai on Sixth of June 1981. I well recollect and I was privileged then to be granted this opportunity by Lalji Advani to accompany my leader Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee to Mandai in the month of June in 1981. I find it necessary to take the time of the House. I well remember, going with Atalji, we are not part of the official delegation. There was indeed a delegation that was sent by the former Prime Minister, the late hon. Shrimati Gandhi. She did direct the hon. Raja Saheb, Dinesh Singhji to lead a Congress Delegation to Tripura.

I remember, Sir, going in a car from Agartala to Mandai with Atalji. It was a mass grave of 232 bodies. It was about 3 o'clock in the afternoon by the time we reached Mandai. I was horrified to find that despite the deployment of army and other forces pie dogs were scratching at this grave. I remember a security official asking Atalji, "Aur Dekhana Hai Aapko?".

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And I well remember Atalji even then saying, "Bas, Bahut Ho Gaya" Sir, this "Bas, Bahut Ho Gaya" might well have been said in the context of this mass grave of Mandai but now in this month of near end of July, 1994, a decade-and-a-half later, these words "Bas, Bahut Ho Gaya" ring in my ears as a kind of warning to the entire nation of what is to come when it comes to the whole of North-East.

There was even then a discussion in the Parliament about Mandai, a discussion about what had taken place and a great many speeches were made and many Members poured their anguish in the House, expressed their concerns. What saddens me, Sir, that after Mandai and also after Nellie and quite rightly after all the killings of virtually the entire decade of the eighties Assam, it appears as if we are still at the same position; that we have learnt no lessons, or as if Mandai or Nellie, or Assam of 1983, 1982 and 1981 or even subsequently was not at all there. That is why I say, Sir, that this discussion is not a discussion about a simple or a routine failure of a State Government or the by now characteristic failures of the Central Government, about what they should do or what they have not done. We are addressing ourselves about the situation that seems to perpetuate itself certain specific reasons. I will not list all these reasons.

I am not gladdened but I would like to point out, Sir, that for the last three years I have been privileged to participate in discussions on the debates arising from the Address of the President to the Joint Session of Parliament. In each of those debates, with as much concern as I can command, I have cautioned this

Government, "Please, be mindful of what is happening in the North-East." I remember even this year itself, Sir, I had submitted to this Government that to my mind the situation in the North-east—I treat Assam and all that as part of the totally of the North-East—is more serious than is made to appear, or than is made across. In certain respect I do submit, Sir, that it is potentially more serious than even the situation in the valley of Kashmir. I have said this earlier and I do not say it because I wish to be an alarmist, I merely repeat what I have said. No doubt this specific and heinous crime has to be on account of our failure somewhere, it is no good saying that nobody has failed, that the State administration has conducted itself perfectly, the law and order agencies have done their job perfectly, the intelligence agencies have forewarned or have conducted themselves perfectly, the Central Government has discharged all its responsibilities perfectly and despite that this has taken place.

I do not think that this has been allowed or anyone has connived at it. Sir, if this has happened, then certainly, somebody is to answer. I submit to the Treasury Benches that who it is to answer will depend on the total deliberation of this House.

There are occasions in the life of a Government, and the life of even this Assembly, this Tenth Lok Sabha, when you have to address yourselves to the enormity of the question that is being posed. Most certainly, do by all means protect and defend your State Government. They are of a similar political persuasion. Do, by all means, with all the facts at your command and all the eloquence at your command, protect the Union Government or the Central Government from whatever defaults we wish to or actually point out. But do also

please, simultaneously, at the same time, for the sake of India, protect the entire North-East for our posterity, and for the generations to come. If you do this and if you are able to convincingly combine these three responsibilities, most certainly, I will be the first one to stand up and say I am not going to vote with Mr. Chandra Jeet Ydav's Motion of Adjournment. But you have to convince me about combining these three concerns first. Very briefly, I find it necessary to point out—because, I do not know whether my pleadings in earlier interventions had even reached the Prime Minister—some things, because my pleadings had gone unheard. Let me very briefly and only illustratively, not exhaustively, submit to you, Sir, what to my mind are the characteristics or the ailments of the North-East and let me also, Sir, for the sake of clarity of what I am saying when I talk of the North-East, let me also say of what am I talking. I am talking of the entire undivided State of Assam, of Tripura, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and I am also, Sir, talking of Sikkim. I am also, Sir, in a very real sense talking of areas of North-Bengal and I am also talking about, in the totality of my concern, of certain contiguous areas of, which are adjoined or which enable us to move into that funnel or corridors through areas of Bihar. I am also, Sir, referring to a sovereign independent nation which is land-locked by the North-East and I refer to Bhutan. This is what I mean when I talk of North-East. What are the characteristic? Firstly and very briefly—I will not elaborate—this geographical distance from Delhi has resulted in an emotional separation of the North-East from this Capital city. Unless you address yourselves to shortening this geographical distance—this is purely a technical problem this emotional distancing will not be ended unless you do not end this emotional distancing, I

would like to caution, in all humility, this Assembly that you will do what you do in the North-East at the peril of the entire North-East and at the cost of the unity of India.

Secondly, Sir,—this is not a hierarchical order of the characteristics in their order of importance—it is the characteristic that strikes me as what typifies the totality of the North-East. If I started by giving the illustration of what happened in Mandai, I have to point out that in the overall picture of North-East, what characterises the approach of successive Government is the absence of an overall policy for the North-East. This overall policy for the North-East has resulted in what I call a fracturing, a splintering effect in the North-East.

You admitted to give to every kind of political and social particularism, a different political identity. This process has now gone to its very ultimate. For every separate social identity, you wanted to give a political recognition, This political recognition has resulted in a splintering of the North-East. It is time for us to address ourselves to reversing of this process. How are we to reverse this process of the splintering of the North-East? It is not an occasion for me to go into any elaboration of how we are to do it. But if we do not do it, if we do not address ourselves, the surely, we are blind to the reality that stares us in the face.

I have regard for the undoubted commitment of the Members of the Treasury Benches both past and present for their integrity, for the great nationalism, for the welfare of the nation. I do not doubt it. I do not question your *bona fides*. Certainly, I am not entitled to question your *bona fides* when it comes

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to one or another Member of this House. But, certainly, I do question your judgment; certainly, I do question your ability to implement whatever you have yourselves said. The problem in the totally of the North-East, on account of agreements arrived at with the people is that those very agreements are not being honestly implemented; those very agreements are being upturned; those very agreements are being thwarted; those very agreements are being permitted to decay resulting in discontent, to a defiance of authority. The full circle completes in this fashion.

We charge you, the Treasury Benches, for this, because you have been more in the seat of authority, holding office and power; we charge you for not implementing those agreements. Certainly, in that sense, you carry greater responsibility. The next factor in the entire North-East is this without any doubt. If we do not recognise it, we do it at our own peril. The problem of unchecked illegal immigration and their many consequences for the country; social and economic consequences including political consequences of involuntary, demographic aggression upon one of land; this is what we are witness in the totally of the North-East. There again I am not going into the details of it. I will refer to this particular point a little later.

What is the next characteristic? Where is the next fault that I find with the Central Government—it is with this stop and go method of containing or checking insurgency. Insurgency is not controlled by a method of traffic light. You cannot control insurgency every now and then like a traffic police man when

it suits you turning amber light on and then turning it into red light. I will have an occasion to illustrate what this does and I would like to elaborate it further later.

I agree with my previous speaker, the hon. Member from Darjeeling. One of the factors which we are witnessing in the entire North-East is this factor of electoral interests taking priority over national interests, including unbelievable and exceptional corruption. For the first time, the Union Home Minister, in this very House, participating in a discussion—I think it was about Manipur—admitted that what we were witnessing in the North-East by way of corruption was unbelievable.

The kind of corruption that is now rampant, subsists not in just one State, in every single State of North East it is beyond description. These are not perhaps the exact words of the Union Home Minister. This is certainly what the Union Home Minister unequivocally conveyed here and I recollect very well that I stood up and congratulated the Home Minister. To my mind, this is the first time ever I have heard that a Union Minister has admitted to one of the single greatest failings of the North-East.

It saddens me. It does not delight me. I do not wish to score debating points. My good friend, the Union Minister of State for Home would perhaps not take it amiss. I would appeal to him not to take it amiss, when I point out to another cause that has caused this difficulty; which is a lack of coordination in the Union Home Minister itself, This lack of coordination in the Union Home Ministry results in an erosion of the authority of the Home Ministry. It results in the officials, of not just the Home Ministry but all the officials of the

administration of law and order from top to bottom, then being pulled in different directions. If the instrument of authority of the State of India is broken, is not working to one purpose, if the sword with which you wish to fight, if that sword itself be blunted, then how will the State or this nation fight?

The Union Home Minister is charged with a grave and serious responsibility, of all the responsibilities, not just of the North East but of the entire nation. If the Union Home Ministry blunts its own sword, then it does not require me to even point out the consequence.

This is not an observation about the Union Home Ministry, this is an observation about the Captain of this team. This is an observation about the Prime Minister. This is a responsibility of the Prime Minister. He has to address himself to this problem and I charge the Prime Minister with continuing and deliberate default in this regard.

I have said that I will not elaborate all these points, but there are one or two aspects that I do wish to elaborate and if I exceed my time, I seek your indulgence.

I will quote a small passage:

**"The phenomenon of influx of population from erstwhile Pakistan, now Bangladesh, has made the local population feel outnumbered. Economically the influx has cost a heavy burden on the economic infrastructure in the North East. This has also seriously impaired serious cohesion and often resulted in ethnic tension and group clashes."**

This is not a newspaper report. This is a quotation from the report of the Union Home Ministry of the year 1992-93. I am not the author of the Union Home Ministry's report. The Treasury Benches and the Union Home Ministry itself are the author and the Union Home Ministry itself cannot go back on what it has submitted as an annual report to Parliament itself.

Why I found it necessary to cite this report, is not again to score a debating point. There is no debating point to be scored in reminding everyone of what is already one year old. I am sure the hon. Minister of State for Union Home Ministry has had a hand in the drafting of this report. It is therefore, not necessary for me to remind him what he himself reported to Parliament, but it is necessary for me to remind this House that in our preoccupation with the politics of the immediate, let us not forget about the continuing realities of the North East.

I was talking about illegal immigration. I would like to point out just two or three aspects of it, I am not going to repeat the obvious.

I am informed that Pakistan Television and Pakistan Radio, or through whatever other means they have at their disposal, are painting the happenings in Barpeta as a Hindu-Muslim strife and as an attack by Hindu on Muslim.

Unchecked illegal immigration is not a Hindu-Muslim question. Against this Pakistan propaganda that is being propounded, we have to recognise that our international boundary or border, wherever not especially enabled through international agreements, is not a border for free immigration. Sir, our international boundary certainly with erstwhile East

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Pakistan—exactly what the Union Home Ministry is saying—now Bangladesh, has been under assault for decades. If now, Sir, this international boundary buckles under the sheer weight of this assault, then Barpeta is only one of the examples. Let us not be misled into thinking that Barpeta by itself or what has happened in Barpeta is an ailment in itself. Sir, it is not an ailment, it is but a symptom; it is but a manifestation of greater ill and that greater ill is continued neglect of a very serious national problem, which is of unchecked illegal immigration in this country and if we do not recognise that for what it is, it is not a Hindu-Muslim question, it is a question of the nationality of this country, which nationality is not to be bartered away simply by the fraudulent procurement of a ration card. Unless we recognise this reality, we will continue to perpetuate our difficulties.

Sir, now I come to 'stop go method' of playing with insurgents. Look at what the Government of Assam has done with ULFA. You as the Army to go and eradicate ULFA. The Army takes action. The Army is on the verge of succeeding totally. You say now come back. Three months later, when you find that all that has been achieved is now evaporating, you say, now you go again. This 'stop go method' firstly erodes the authority of the State; secondly it cripples those very agencies including the Armed Forces and your paramilitary and your other State police from acting with purpose, morale and determination; and thirdly, most importantly, every successive occasion on which you then repeat this action is going to be so much less effective. Assam is a classic example of what you have done by this 'stop go method' of checking insurgency. Also, you in the face of ULFA to counter ULFA, you

create this SULFA, not SELFA. I am eager to know this. Perhaps the Union Minister himself will inform me that to persuade ULFA, to give up being ULFA and become SULFA, money is handed out. You wish to give them money.

Sir, I have been informed, and this horrifies me, that in the context of Nagaland to persuade some of the Naga insurgents to give up, an inducement of Rs. 200,000 per head was offered. If you are an insurgent and if you lay down arms, you will get Rs. 200,000. One former Chief Minister of Nagaland persuades 400 of his known tribal men, 400 of his known followers to falsely declare themselves as insurgents, go and surrender falsely. He says, if there is nothing, at least you will get Rs. 2 lakh. How can you deal with this, my dear friend, Shri Sontosh? What games are we playing? And we come up here—I recollect very well—that in the Union Cabinet's Address to Parliament, put across to the country, through the mouth of the President, the line says, "the situation in the North-East is improving". Simultaneously, I point out that an intelligence report of the Army says, it is not improving; the report of the Governor of Manipur, the Lt. General Nayar says that it is not improving.

Firstly, I am told that you cannot quote this document. I pointed out that I really quoting what are the official documents, the Government itself is quoting the same. What kind of curtains, what kind of blinds are we wearing? Please for Heaven's sake, even now recognise the realities of the North East for what it is worth.

Sir, now, I come to the non-implementation of the Accords. Sir, it will take me only one minute. My party had done me a great honour by deputing me

in those momentous years of being part of these tripartite discussions when the Assam agitation was going on. And I looked with some sadness at the text of the Bodo Accord and Assam Agreements that electoral rolls used in 1967 shall be regularised and foreigners who came to Assam after 1966 shall be deleted from the electoral rolls in force. For this purpose, the Government of India will undertake suitable strengthening of the Government machinery. All persons earlier expelled from Assam who have since re-entered illegally after March 25, 1971 shall be expelled, foreigners who came after that shall continue to be detected, deleted and expelled in accordance with law. None of this has taken place. Not one of these have taken place and if it does not take place in this case, if you have difficulties in Mizoram, if you have difficulties in Tripura and for the first time Meghalaya talks about it, these are not matters to be taken lightly, At the root of all this, it is the agreements not being implemented, agreements being permitted to decay, that decay resulting in defiance arising again and defiance in turn creating insurgency.

Sir, you have been most considerate to me. I will conclude now. On behalf of my party, I am making four or five demands. We do not ordinarily do it. We are mindful of the rights of the State Governments. We are conscious of it because we are the victims of it and we have been repeatedly victims. Therefore, when BJP makes a demand that if any action is to be taken against the State Government, we do not make that demand lightly. Nevertheless, we feel that the situation prevailing in Assam today is such, indeed in other parts of the North East, but that is a different matter. But the situation prevailing in Assam today in such that the present Government of Assam has no longer any

moral authority to continue in office for even one additional day. The Union Government has a responsibility to the Constitution, to this Assembly and to the people of India. The only manner in which it can fulfil that responsibility is through the dismissal of that State Government and through the immediate imposition of President's Rule in that State.

Secondly, I make a demand, even at this belated stage—whether it is Assam Accord or any of the other Accords in the North East—you could say that in letter, I have done it; but ask yourself if in spirit you have implemented that Accord. Please implement it.

My third demand relates to continued illegal, unchecked immigration. Please recognise that problem. Take such steps as are necessary internationally. I was giving an example. In Bhutan, today, they are saying that the State of Cooch Behar is issuing citizenship certificates.

And if the District Magistrate or the Collector of Cooch Behar issues citizenship certificates, those people go with citizenship certificates to Bhutan and Bhutan says we are obliged; they are carrying Indian citizenship certificates and we must let them in. Sir, since when has the right for issue of citizenship certificate been passed on or devolved upon to District Collectories? If it is happening, please put a stop to it. We believe that unless a national register of citizens in Assam is not reconstituted—by all means you use 25th March, 1971 as the cut-off date—but have a national register of citizens and along with that national register of citizens, please implement what we, in the B.J.P., have been saying for a very long time—a multi-purpose



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identity card and you have that multi-purpose identity card not just in the North East but elsewhere also, but certainly in the North East at the very earliest.

Sir I have said enough. I would like to conclude with a word caution.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Before you conclude can I say something? I am extremely grateful for your very great speech. Your Party's stand in Assam, as far as I know on the basis of the memorandum given to the Election Commission of India, is that those who have come after 1971, except the Hindu should be deported. Is it your official stand or the stand of your Assam branch?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I think it is a very valid question. But I would not look at it as Hindu and Muslim.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Your memorandum is like that. I have got a copy of it.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I am sure you have it.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: I can send it to you. It is signed by your M.P. Shri Kabindra Purkayastha, sitting here. ....(Interruptions)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I treat your question with utmost seriousness. We have consistently made a distinction between the consequences of partition, the status of a refugee and an illegal migrant. I do not make a distinction on the basis of faith. But I do make a distinction on the basis of intent. I do recognise the reality of the consequence of partition. You cannot wish away

partition and the partition has resulted in a consequence and that result is the uplifting and uprooting, a movement of millions of human beings not just in the West but in the East also. And that there is a distinction between a refugee who comes and seeks refuge in your land as a refugee and an illegal immigrant. An illegal immigrant comes surreptitiously with a view to exploiting things. There is a distinction. The distinction is self-evident. I do not make this distinction on grounds of faith.

Sir, I will conclude. I am most grateful to you for having given me this opportunity. But I would like to say that unless you have a comprehensive policy for Assam and the North East, we will continue to repeat the mistakes that we are making. This is my caution and it is my hope, nevertheless, Sir, that at the end of this decade, like we had a discussion for Mandai in 1981, it is my hope that in 1996 or 1997 we do not have yet another discussion on yet another incident of this kind in Assam or the North East.

I support the Adjournment Motion moved by my friend.

17.59 hrs.

[SHRI P.C. CHACKO in the Chair]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Sir, this morning in reply to the first question, we are told of the Moscow Declaration on plural societies. I also recall, Mr. Chairman, that there is a U.N. Declaration on the rights of minorities which our Government have supported. There is also Gandhiji's words of wisdom that a society's State of civilization shall be judged by its treatment of minorities.

I am making these three observations because minorities create plurality and the minorities are not only religious, but they can be linguistic, they can be racial, they can be cultural, they can be ethnic and they can be regional.

**18.00 hrs.**

The minorities are not limited to only one dimension. The minorities can be at the village level, at the block level, at the district level, at the State level and they all have to be treated fairly in their own places.

Now, for the last decade or two we have gone on a senseless spree in creating mini State, micro State, minute homelands, even creating small zones.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to place it before you for your consideration that howsoever minutely you cut up any area inhabited by human being you cannot have an absolutely homogeneous pocket. There will always be minorities there. It will always be a plural society and therefore, I feel that this existence of minorities should not and cannot justify in all human conscience the practice which has acquired the name of ethnic cleansing.

I allege, Mr. Chairman, that what happened on a massive scale in Bosnia and Rwanda has been happening on a mini scale in these district of Assam, Kokrajhar and Bongaigaon and Barpeta. It is only a difference of dimension, a difference of quantity, but there is no qualitative difference at all. You are trying to throw out people who do not belong to you, who are different from you and it is absolutely wrong on the part of some of our colleagues here to say that those who are being ousted from Bodoland are

foreign immigrants. Yes, they are Bengali speaking; yes, they are of Bengali origin, but they came to that part of the country 100 year ago, 75 years ago, generations ago. They are not current immigrants whom you can take by the collar, knock and throw out of the border. They are Indian nationals by any legal standards, by any constitutional scale and they have their rights as much as you and I and the hon. Minister have. Therefore, I feel that, we should not lose track.

Sir, Mr. Inder Jit, my good friend, has tried to throw, if I may say so, a number of red herrings across our track. I think he has been most inhuman. It is tragic that we should hear in this House a justification of brutal massacres on a false ground that they are foreigners.

SHRI INDER JIT: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to make a clarification.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: I am not yielding to you.

SHRI INDER JIT: I have not justified.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: I am not yielding.

Sir, the Census of India says that between 1971 and 1991, the rate of growth of population of Assam is less than the rate of growth of India as a whole. Where is the theory of illegal immigration? Where is the case of massive infiltration? Yes, I do not rule out that in any porous border, given this inefficient Government, you will always have a few thousand people strolling across back and forth. But where are those lakhs? There are the Census figures. If we do not believe in our own Census figure I do not know what we believe in. We

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seem to believe only in our prejudices, in our own perceptions, in our false notions, in our own false ideologies.

Mr. Chairman, I am not justifying illegal immigration. If there is a single case of illegal infiltration, it is the duty of the Executive, the State Executive and the Central Executive to act in accordance with the law, even to prosecute anyone in accordance with the law on the ground of suspicion. If he is found to be a foreigner, you deal with him according to the law. But you cannot refuse protection, you cannot at massacres and you cannot allow the guilty to go unpunished. ....(Interruptions)

**SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA**  
(Madhuban): Please do not use phrases like "on the grounds of suspicion". This must not be part of the record.

**SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN**  
(Kishanganj): I am deliberately using that phrase but the executive must have a *prima facie* case. Naturally, on account of suspicion, it shall try to find out more. I am saying, do not ignore it. I agree with Mr. Jaswant Singh. Please do not ignore a single case. Please collect the information, make the enquiry and if you have a *prima facie* case, apply the law. I am sure that that satisfies you, Sir.

Sir, what I am trying to talk about is this. They are not foreigners; those who have been killed are Indian nationals. And they were not only Bengalis,—let me try to correct for the record—they were Santhals, they were Nepalese, they were Arains who were migrants from my State of Bihar who have been there for generations working and tolling for the

prosperity of Assam; and their villages have also been attacked. But, I would not like ourselves to be involved in this larger question and of larger dimension. Here is a human tragedy. And all that has been said here is merely an alibi, is merely a justification, is merely a plea to ignore the human dimension of this tragedy and confuse ourselves with all the legalities.

Sir, what has the State Government done? The State Government was cautioned. The State Government has not taken any action against a single individual involved in the last two massacres—October 1993, and June 1994. In October 1993, not a single person was arrested while hundreds were killed; in June 1994, six persons who were witnesses were arrested; they were not supposed to be culprits. They had only seen things happening and they were let off quietly.

Sir, in that part of the land, there is a BSF—not our Border Security Force, it is the Bodo Security Force. It goes around freely carrying its arms, terrorising the people and this Chief Minister or this Government Assam which applied all its strength against ULFA and has been able to contain it to a large extent not lifted a finger against the Bodo Security Force. This is my allegation. Sir, all that it has done is that it has tried to perpetuate the problems. There were difficulties about the delimitation of the Bodoland. There are unresolved issues. What should have been done is to reconcile those differences, is to sit down with all the people of the area, with all the political leaders of Assam and work out a reasonable human solution. After all there are non-Bodos in Bodoland and they will also always be there and there are Bodos outside the Bodoland and they will also always be there and both of them have

to live in peace, amity and goodwill with their own social environment. And, therefore, something has to be worked out. But it is not resolving the delimitation issue, the question of non-Bodo villages being included in the Bodoland. It is like taking one Sikh village 10 miles away from the Punjab border in Haryana and adding it to Punjab on the ground that it is peopled by Sikhs. Can that be justified? Why cannot live safely in Haryana and, therefore, why cannot Bodos live safely outside the Bodoland? Yes, the contiguous area peopled by the Bodos in which the Bodos have a concentration must be part of Bodoland. But this problem was not tackled for resolution at all. No steps were taken for the resettlement of the displaced persons, Mr. Chairman. People who were displaced last October are still living in camps, in unapproachable, inaccessible camps. Mr. Chairman, do you know that 150 persons have died in those camps because of lack of medicines, much more than the number of people who were killed by the Bodo Security Force and all Bodo Students Union in those disturbances? It is amazing. I drew the attention of the Assam Government to do something about those camps, to create conditions in which people can live and go back in peace to their homes; they can have a sense of security. I found a reign of terror, Mr. Chairman. People were not prepared to go back. There were no police outposts and even your Army presence, Mr. Rajesh Pilot, was only illusory. They were supposed to be patrolling in some accessible areas they were not penetrating those areas where people's lives were in danger.

At no point of time, in October or in June, was any area placed directly under army control. It was not done. That is the specific allegation I am making to you. The measures taken were ineffective.

Above all, I would like to draw your attention to the policy followed by the present leadership in Assam. The leadership was not to deal with Bodo problem or to deal with the problem of any community but to utilise the old imperial formula of divide and rule. So, the Bodo movement was divided. One was placed in power and the others were placed outside. The result was rivalry. In any such situation, it is always the radical extreme which gains ground and that is precisely what has happened. I am told that one section was supported by Mr. Saikia and the other section was supported by his opponents within his own party. One section was supported by one set of people in the Home Ministry here and the other group of people were supported by another set of people in the Home Ministry here. One set of people were supported by the Home Ministry and the other set of people were supported by Assam Government. In this trilateral or tri-dimensional division of the people of Bodoland, such a crisis has to occur. I am cautioning you that this is not the end of the matter, that no more massacres are going to take place and, therefore, we have to look of it in a very sensible manner.

If you go through the Act passed by the Assam Assembly, it must be clear that the responsibility for the protection of minorities of Bodoland is with the Assam Government. The Assam Government has failed in that statutory responsibility. It was said there that if there is a break down of law and order in the Bodoland area, then the Bodoland Council may be dissolved and the Governor of Assam after the first massacre came on the TV and radio and told the Bodo militants that "if you do not behave and if there is another massacre, we will dissolve the Council." Now we have the fourth massacre;

[Shri Syed Shahabuddin]

I would appeal to the Government that let us not look at the problem in a piecemeal manner. I agree with my friend Shri Inderjit who has said just now that you cannot have a design for the North-East like a quilt-patch each claiming a certain iota or a certain degree of sovereignty. Let us have an over-all design. I think that existed in the British time. It has broken down now. It can be re-established on the principle of mutual respect and decentralisation. There are identities which need to be recognised. But those identities are of such a dimension in quantitative terms that they can be fitted into a purely federal pattern of autonomy as a bloc, as a district, as an autonomous region, within a common state which should be viable. Your policy that has been followed over the last ten years, is a completely misdirected policy and that is making life unsafe for the minorities in every one of these areas. May be, economically, also more difficult for them. May be culturally impossible for them. May be, physically difficult for them to exist. Therefore, you should look at your entire scheme of things.

Shri Saikia was kind enough to send me a minister to have a two hour discussion with me. What I told him I sorted out forth a record, in a letter and sent it to him a copy of which I also sent to the Home Ministry. I do not know if anything has been done. I think we cannot wait any longer. Mr. Saikia has been playing a political game in Assam. He knows that his future depends on the support of minorities. His technique is to instill fear and terror in the minds of the minorities and then to say "I would protect you, come and take shelter under my umbrella." This will not do. True security to the minorities can only be

found in the social environment based on justice and fairplay and harmony.

It cannot be found under the umbrella of any individual or any party. Therefore, I suggest that Mr. Saikia is incapable of running Assam in its interests. I think his time has come. We gave him a long rope. He was the Chief Minister when the Nellie massacre took place. We forgot that 10,000 people were massacred in cold-blood. It was like drops of water on a duck's back !

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): It happened during the election time. Our party was in power afterwards.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: But your Government was in power. What I am saying is that in any case the present record of Shri Saikia is clear. We gave him a long rope. The Government should not stay for a day. All parties across-the-board in Assam have demanded his dismissal. I am sure, many Members of your own party think that the time has come for changing the leadership of Assam. Therefore, I suggest that the Government be dismissed and the Assam Assembly be kept in suspended animation. Secondly, this area of Bodoland must be brought directly under the control of the Central Government and should stay there with the presence of the Army, with the presence of the Central Reserve Forces until law and order is established. At the same time, you should talk with all segments of the Bodo opinion and work out a fair arrangement in which, as I said earlier, the Non-Bodo villages may be kept out. But all the Bodo areas can be integrated and can be rightly given to them.

After saying these words, I would like to make one more suggestion. Please do not treat the Bodos as foreigners. They are, perhaps among the oldest inhabitants of this sub-continent older than we are. They are Indians. There is no justification at all. I am pleading their case, for, you are taking away 10 kms. strip along the Bhutan border. It is theirs. Nobody else lives there. It may be sparsely populated. Please give it to them. But then do not force the Non-Bodo villages, which have no contiguous Bodo village in the main Bodoland, into the Bodoland area as a compensation. You cannot have security at the expense of the minorities living in the south. Therefore, my last word is that it is a very tragic situation. I knew it was coming. But I did not know that it would come so soon. I would not be surprised that if this Government does not take notice today, more massacres will take place in the near future. I hope that will not happen. I think the Government will wake up.

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN (Barpeta):  
Mr. Chairman, Sir, with a heavy heart and with much concern I am participating in the Adjournment Motion which I support. Gruesome murder has been committed on the night of 23rd. The refugees who were uprooted from their houses were murdered. Practically, bullets were showered on them killing and injuring many. There were no measures to protect the lives of these innocent people. This incident, this sort of violence, gruesome and horrifying violence has been taking place in that area since the night of 19th July. I was there on the morning of 20th July. People were coming in streams for shelter. On the 19th July, in the night, there were clashes between Bodos and Muslims. This continued up to 22nd. I can give a list of the names of the

villages which were affected big or small— numbering around 56 villages. The people affected, Bodos and religious minorities, number more than 50,000.

And this incident took place in a large area covered by the River Benky in the West and River Pohumara in the East covering a population of about five to seven lakh. This gruesome murder, gruesome happening was there and the Bodos were also affected. But the most affected section of the population was the Muslim minority. They came in streams, uprooted from the houses for shelter. I rushed there on 20 July. I tried to contact the Minister and other officials at Dispur. There were no Ministers. The Chief Minister was in Delhi. The Home Security was also there in Delhi and the Chief Secretary was also there in Delhi. And the only Minister I could contact was Shri Mukut Sharma. I informed him about the serious situation prevailing there. I tried to contact Rajyapal over telephone. I tried to contact the hon. Home Minister Shri S.B. Chavan over telephone. But he was ill. I was informed at that time that he was going to Bombay. I tried to contact the hon. Minister Shri Rajesh Pilot. He was busy in a meeting. I told his Private Secretary to kindly take note of what was happening in that area. I told him that the situation demands that more forces including military should be sent there. I was not given an assurance for taking any step from the side of the Centre. So, the situation drifted like anything. There was no force, no Army and people there were panic-stricken. They fled to other places for shelter. This happened on the 20th of this month. This violence also extended to other places. There was hardly any step taken to protect the lives and property of the people of that area. Practically, there was no administration to protect the lives of the people, to protect the property of the

[Shri Uddhab Barman]

people there—both Bodos and minorities. The Government has no moral right to continue in power in the State.

Now people are taking shelter in areas, about fifty kilometres away from the area from where they were evicted. Some of the people went to Koyakushi, 30 to 40 kilometres away from their places of residence. There was no administration. I contacted the police officials when their houses were being burnt and violence was taking place. The police officials said that storm was over and the situation was coming down. How did he assess the situation? What is his assessment of the situation? How do they assess the situation? This is the fate of the people there. So practically, there was no administration at that point of time and there was also no proper assessment of the situation. On the 22nd, some Ministers went there and in the evening the Chief Minister also went to Barpeta Road. I talked to the Minister. We suggested them that more deployment to forces should be there as people were very much panicky and without security. There is no resistance. So more deployment of forces including Army should be sent there. But the Ministers instead of collectively meeting the aggravating situation, were quarrelling among themselves. One of the Ministers—a State Minister created a scene paralysing the entire police administration. So the entire administration could not be geared up to protect the lives and properties of the people there.

This is the situation. People are saying that this particular Minister is creating a situation which is exploited by the Bodo Security Force. You know that on 13th of this month there was a bomb

blast killing more than six police officials. I am told, the police, to nab the extremists, tried to make use of some Muslim youth. I am told they were dressed in police uniform. They went to the villages in search of the Bodo extremists; but they harassed the Bodo people there. There was an allegation that some committed rape and looting were also committed on the Bodo people. This has entirely aggravated the situation. On 19th of this month when the police with some Muslim youth went to Dhekiajani there were clashes. The clashes continued—Bodo people attacking Muslims and Muslims attacking Bodos. This conflagration covering many areas there went on. So naturally a question comes as to who is responsible for the entire situation, who are the people responsible for that. I want that the Central Government and the State Government should identify the culprits and also identify which are the social factors responsible for this.

Some of my colleagues have already cited the incidents of Kokhrajhar and Bongaigaon. In May this year there were incidents in Kokhrajhar district. The Bodo Security Forces committed the mischief. In Bongaigaon district there were clashes and a large number of Muslim minority people were attacked. I also went to that area. Now the incident in Barpeta district has occurred. One after another these clashes are being organised. The people who suffer the most are from the poorer sections of the society. I know a lot of the area. Which are the forces which commit these violent activities on these poorer people? These forces should be identified and exemplary punishment should be meted out to them.

There is a lot of problem for Bodo people. They are poor and deprived. They organised a movement for a

separate State. Now they are given an autonomous council. Our party supported that autonomy should be given to the Bodo people. A good chunk of them should be involved in the democratic administration of the area and in solving their problems themselves. Our party has stood by this demand. We want even now that Bodo people should be given more autonomy.

But in passing the Bodo autonomous Council Bill in Assam Assembly the State Government created a lot of problem. It is a serious and sensitive problem. All parties should be taken into confidence. The Bill was hurriedly passed in the Assembly creating a lot of confusion among the Bodo and the non-Bodos. Even in Bodo land autonomous council area in certain areas there are more non-tribals than tribals. Our demand was that where there are 50 percent or more Bodo people, that should be included in the Bodo autonomous area, so that the Bodo people can better serve themselves. But that was not done. All political parties were not taken into confidence when the Bill was passed. We should create some confidence among the Bodo and the non-Bodo people. The non-Bodo people are also feeling that they are insecure in the Bodoland area. They are forming non-Bodo Protection Samitis, etc. and the ruling party is encouraging them.

At the present moment, there is a lot of confusion among different sections of the people. So, the situation has created a lot of problems. There is a lot of campaign against the Muslim minority. These people are mostly the victims of erosion of rivers Brahmaputra, Benki, Manas, etc. They went there for decades. They cultivated the land. Some of them have been settled by the Government itself. Someone may be there, but all Muslims are not foreigners Bangladeshi.

We do not agree to such argument. We do not agree that all Muslims are Bangladeshis. This has created an anti-Muslim feeling there. The campaign against the Bangladeshis is now amounting to a campaign against the Muslims living there. Some Bodos also indulge in such a campaign. This is creating the problem.

We are for detection of foreigners. We are for the 1971 as the cut-off year. All parties agreed to 1971 as the cut-off year. Since long back, we have been demanding that the border should be sealed. We do not understand what prevented the Central and the State Governments to seal the border and to settle the question of infiltration. Some people are coming from Bangladesh to India. Those people who have come after 1971 should be detected and sent back.

Who prevents the Government from doing this? But they are utilising the bogey of foreigners to disturb the unity of the people in the State. This is disintegrating the society in Assam. The integration and unity of the people in Assam is being eroded bit by bit.

We all know that Assam is a multilingual and multi-cultural State. There are Assamese people. There are Bengalis. Muslim are also there. There are tribals. Many of our friends in Delhi and Assam do not recognise the fact that Assam is a multilingual State. There is a lot of problem in Assam. The Assamese people are also having a lot of genuine problems. The minorities are also having some democratic aspirations. If we want to integrate the different section of Assam, we must recognise this fact that Assam is a multilingual and multi-cultural State. We must keep in mind the democratic aspirations of the minorities whether they are Muslims or Bengalis or tribals. If we



[Shri Uddhab Barman]

do not recognise this fact, we will not be able to tackle the problem of Assam. But the present Government in Assam is creating problems. One section of people is being set against the other. This is creating more problems. So, I wish that a democratic and scientific approach should be preferred to solve the problems of Assam.

In this context, I want that the Central and State Governments immediately arrange to send relief material to the inmates of the relief camps. They are without food, without security and without medical aid. And there should also be some discussion among the political parties and other people also, so that the Bodo Autonomous Council can function properly.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up.

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: I am concluding Sir. At the same time, I would like to reiterate that criminals who always are responsible for the situation now occurring in that area should be identified and exemplary punishment should be meted out to them. The Government must taken all out security measures.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI KIRIP CHALIHA (Guwahati): Mr. Chairman Sir, I do not support the Adjournment Motion moved by Shri Chandrajit Yadavji. But I definitely welcome the spirit in which the discussion is taking place in the sense that at a point of time when a terrible tragedy is engulfing Assam, Parliament, the highest body has decided to show its concern and more importantly an attitude of trying to understand what is happening in that

North Eastern part of India. I should say that it is indeed a very welcome departure.

Sir, there come moments in a man's life when truth stares at you bluntly and slaps you hard in your face and it is very difficult for you to adhere to proprieties and etiquettes. It is specially so if the truth concerns us all; specially when the truth concerns not only Assam. Because I do not believe that what is happening in Assam today—and I have been repeating it again and again—what is happening in the North East today concerns us all. If some of you have a false hope that what is happening in the far off Assam and North East will never happen here, then you are living in a fool's paradise. I have been telling time and again that the contradictions and the conflicts that are arising in Assam today will definitely be taking place in the rest of the country tomorrow. Unless you take strong steps to halt the process of disintegration, the whole process of conflict and confrontation, I am sorry to say that Assam will undoubtedly become the graveyard of Indian Democracy and Indian Democracy as a whole might not survive. It is with this spirit that we have to ponder over this question and look into the various aspects as to why the situation has aggravated so badly.

Sir, violent delights have violent ends. Under no circumstances can we afford to play politics with human blood. I totally disagree with what Shri Inderjit has said, in whatever spirit he might have said that. When human lives are lost, you cannot find any excuses. When you seek excuses, you accuse yourself.

People have died. And the death that has occurred in Barpeta is a massacre. These massacres are taking place repeatedly in the North East in

various forms. They are not limited to strifes between tribals and non-tribals. In Nagaland, there are conflicts between Nagas and Kukis. In Assam we have discussed the Barpeta problem. I have come from Assam only yesterday. We were discussing this issue. A number of refugees who are living in the camps are Rajvanshis and Rajvanshis are also original inhabitants of Assam. A number of them are Bengali Hindus. Bengali Hindus also got killed. I would only like to stress that a superficial approach and trivial solutions and above all experts who fly down to North East for one day and come back here, can never solve the problem of North East. They will complicate the problems still further and in that process destroy India as a whole.

Sir, what a tangled web we weave when first we practice to deceive! Should I say more on that? Today, at this point of time I cannot say like lady Macbeth that even when I wash, I see blood in my hands. Innocent children, women are being killed. I cannot say like lady Macbeth,

“Out, damned spot,

out, I say, one, two why.

Then it is time to do it.”

I cannot turn myself into lady Macbeth. Under no circumstances I can do that and that is why, Sir, I have been time and again appealing to you, please do not convert Assam into a killing field. Unfortunately, today Assam has become a killing field in spite of everything because ‘Brutus is an honourable man.’ It is very difficult at times when murders take place to justify action. Still I will try to be rational and not emotional at all because life comes and goes and things have to

go on for ever. I would definitely like to pinpoint some of the facts.

I am very grateful to the observations made by some of the senior leaders. I know Jaswant Singhji since my childhood. Atalji Vajpayee have been time and again visiting our place. I would like to say that media has to be little more responsive to the needs of North-Eastern State. Unless massacre takes place or big firing takes place, media is not concerned about what is happening in the North-East. Today there is no difficulty with regard to communication. We have only to be a little more responsive. Today media has to play a very big role and unless the media and the Parliament go deep into the problem, we cannot find any solution. As Jaswant Singhji said, it is true that massacre is just a symptom, is just an outward manifestation of the inner cancer and we have to find out where the inner cancer is. And, here we have the time to find out where the cancer is. In this country the biggest problem that we have is the problem of time. We hardly have time to discuss anything. We do not have time to discuss even our national security. We participate in discussion without knowing the reality. For example, take the Bahjani incident. It cannot be a communal question because I have been told that there are about 9000 Muslims in a particular village who have been protected by 10,000 Hindu Assamese. This is on record and Shri Rajesh Pilot has himself seen it.

Sir, we have talked about a number of problems and I am entirely in agreement with some of the basic questions which have been pointed out by Shri Chandrajit Yadav, Shahabuddinji and Jaswant Singhji. How long will fragmentation and structuring of Assam

[Shri Kirip Chaliha]

continue? By strengthening the cause of separatism in Assam, are you trying to hide out your own inefficiency in Uttar Pradesh or Madhya Pradesh? Are you trying to become champions of tribals in Assam just to get some votes in Bihar, U.P. and Madhya Pradesh? You have to be little more rationale about it. The other day in the Home Ministry one senior Member asked me that massacre has taken place in one tribal area and 23 women have been raped. So autonomy has to be given. I told him that in Uttar Pradesh or Madhya Pradesh for hundred of years now Jagirdars, Zamindars or Thakurs have kept the entire caste of the people as their personal property and exploited them. Are you giving them autonomy? There cannot be dichotomy in dealing with a situation. That is the first priority when you are dealing with a situation like this and I assert that the problem of North-East cannot be dealt with in isolation.

You will be having contradictions there. You already have Laloos today. You have the Mandal Commission division taking place here in North India. There are fantastic contradictions which will come if not today, tomorrow. You are already having it. These are very pertinent points. But there are one or two equally pertinent points which have not been pointed out by anyone. I would like to just ponder over it by hinting at the problem. Sir, you will be surprised if I say that insurgency, extremism and massacres are very profitable businesses in politics. Sir, excuse me for saying so. Suppose I say today that in my State I have a problem of extremists. Can I exploit that situation with an unlimited political authority that I have with me? Can I go on exploiting people? Can I go on taking recourse to corruption? Can I

go on misusing my political authority? Can I hide all my inefficiency by saying that my State is a trouble-torn State? Suppose I assume that there is a possibility of political interest or for my own personal benefit, insurgency and anti-national activities are allowed to go on unabated, what will you say? Is it not a very dangerous thing? Whenever there are massacres, you send relief materials. You are distributing these relief materials to more than one lakh people, Suppose I say that it gives us an opportunity to get 50 per cent commission for distribution of medicines, then what will you say? Suppose I say that politics of human blood must become the future profession in this country, then what will happen? Can you just dismiss this as an unfounded truth and wild imagination of a young idiotic Parliamentarian? When truth hurts you and inconvenience you, then truth hurts you more. I would appeal to you all and to this House once again to understand the psyche of the North-East as has been said by Mr. Inderjit. The psyche of the North-East has to be seen in its multidimensional aspect not in one aspect. I am an Assamese, I know that my State was in isolation. So I have every right to feel aggrieved. Does it mean that you will allow me to take up arms tomorrow in order to kill somebody? The Indian nationalism, the land of this country cannot be sacrificed because I have certain grievances. Because of these grievances if I take to arms, I cannot be pardoned. A line has to be demarcated whether there is a border or no border.

Unfortunately, Accords are made at the drop of a hat; Accords are made for exhibiting in Television, Accords which are never implemented and people get hurt. We have to understand the compulsions of situations. Sir, I am

saying these things precisely because these are distortions which are coming into our political system. These are the distortions which are taking place in Indian Parliamentary democracy. People are misusing the system to discredit the system and this might finish off the entire political edifice of the country. So, we have to be a little alert and cautious.

Sir, I was the President of the Youth Congress of Assam for six years. Those were the days when ULFA killings were taking place. The General Secretary of the Youth congress of Assam was killed because he held a Congress Meeting. I am not saying this because I was there. I believe in a particular ideology. We are nationalists. The Congress is the only nationalist party. I brought his widow along with all the MPs of Assam. I went to a particular Minister. I told him that her husband had sacrificed his life for the cause of nationalism. You at least sanction her a petrol pump of a gas agency so that her family can be rehabilitated. They had an independent business also. Their business was totally shattered because of this. Still nothing had been done. But the person who had killed him had been rewarded. The Home Ministry's policy was such that they had given Rs. 2 lakh, a Gypsy car, contracts, jobs and what not.

Some of these people had come and asked me to give them petrol pumps, I said, "my goodness, petrol pump also", I am helpless. I am a member of Parliament from Guwahati for the last three years. Can you believe that I could not give contracts or liquor shops, jobs and so on being given to some of them. A number of workers were working for me for the last six years for the cause of nationalism, but I could not do anything for them. Why? It is because the people

who had surrendered to ULFA rule the roost.

Everybody listened to them. The Government officials listened to them. that is the policy of the Indian Government. We condemn Bodo extremists who killed these people. We are saying that they should be brought to book. The guilty has to be punished. Suppose tomorrow they decide to join the mainstream. What do we do? How long will this process of appeasement, appeasing anti-national forces continue? If my son tells me today, "My dear dad, I should have killed you because you are a nationalist. If I had killed you, I would have got what I wanted; but I did not kill you. So, I am suffering." What answer do I have? But there is an answer from the top. It is being practised by top people.

So, Assam's problem is not a simple problem of tribals and non-tribals; it is not a problem of immigration only; there are other facets also. Who are these immigrants, the Bangladeshi Hindus? Who are immigrants from Bangladesh? You had partitioned this country. They did not have any place to live there. They came and settled down here. They are Bengalis. When they came here, they did not bring everything. They are people like simple shopkeepers: they are ordinary people. You condemn them to hell. That is the obligation you are doing to this country for the partition. Who are the immigrant Muslims? Infiltration is not welcome. Most of them were invited by the Government to do cultivation because they needed peasants. That side has to be looked into. Every problem has got different facets. You have to look into its totality; you cannot isolate it. It is not a question of making  $2 + 2 = 4$ . Had it been so, there would not have been any problem in Assam.

[Shri Kirip Chaliha]

Unfortunately, nothing has been done in this regard.

The other day, I asked the Home Secretary in a meeting of the Standing Committee certain questions. You will be shocked to know that the reply of the Home Secretary was that if I could answer all these questions, there would have been no insurgency in Assam. So, what do we do? It is not that these people do not know it. I know Shri Rajesh Pilot, who is sitting in front of me, since my young political life. You will be surprised to know that more than 60 per cent people who know politics in Assam do not consider him U. P. walla; they consider him Assamese. He knows each and everybody by name. But has he been able to do anything? What is the secret of not doing anything I do not know? There may be some secret. But I am just hinting at certain things. It is difficult to say certain things. What is really important is the role of the army. Once again, we have placed certain districts in Assam under the control of the army. But what can army do? When you send army there, the State Government issues an official press statement condemning the role of the army at times questioning the wisdom of the army. How do you blame the poor army? I do not find answers to these questions.

You are talking about extremism. At one point of time, three top ULFA leaders—Chairman, Vice-Chairman and the General Secretary except the Commander-in-Chief—were in police custody. One morning we heard that they had fled to Bangladesh and they were under pressure from ISI. I asked who sent them to Bangladesh, who allowed them to go from this country. I did not

get any answer. No constable was suspended for this decision; no Inspector was suspended for this decision. Now, if we allow the extremists to go to another country, who is to take this blame? Is it I or you or the Home Ministry or anybody else?

Someone earlier had said why has it failed? Something must have gone wrong somewhere. When everything was all right, still things failed. It means that accountability has to be there.

I have been repeatedly appealing, whenever I get a chance to speak I try to keep myself away from the controversy of Assam—that this question has to be taken very seriously.

What is the future of hundreds of thousands of nationalists like me in this country? The people and my children, who believe that this land, this country belongs to us, is our country and no amount of provocation can take us away from this country—what future we have for them? Have we been encouraging nationalism or have we been encouraging terrorism? Have we been encouraging idealism or have we been encouraging corruption and opportunism? Have we been encouraging straightforward commitment to the nation or have we been encouraging small time machiavillian machinations which are ruining this country?

These are the questions which I cite keeping in mind not only the specific incident of Barpeta massacre but these are the questions which concern us all. These are the questions which will come up today or tomorrow in the context of Barpeta, if not in the context of Barpeta, then in the context of Ayodhya, if not in context of Ayodhya then in the

context of some other place which will keep coming. We hope these questions get stopped and we find an answer and a political will of the Government is exhibited in full measure not only for show but in the real sense. Otherwise, it will be very difficult to control this situation and one day my children, like Lady Macbeth, might say, 'Is this a dagger which I see before me; the handle towards my hand, come let me clutch this and stab somebody.

SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA (Silchar): Mr. Chairman Sir, I rise to support the Adjournment Motion brought in connection with the Barpeta incident and the present situation in the State of Assam.

The Barpeta incident is not a solitary one. It is one of the incidents in chain of the incidents. While speaking regarding this incident, I must bring before the House the activities of the Government now ruling the State of Assam.

First thing is since the independence of the country may a time in the House, I have told, the sense of alienation among the people of the North East is growing. This is only because since the partition of the country, no Government--neither the Central Government nor the State Government--put any importance on the problem of the North Eastern States in any field; in the economic field, cultural field, social field or in any respects. So this is the main cause that the people of North East feel alienated from the mainstream of the country. This is most unfortunate and for that the party which is ruling is solely responsible. The Government at the Centre as well as the State Government are solely responsible for this.

Sir, in 1991, the Saikia Government came to power in Assam and I must say, what my friend Shri Krip Chaliha has elaborated is correct. I am very happy that he showed the courage to depict the real picture and activities of the Government of Assam. Whatever he was telling were the activities and actions of the State Government of Assam.

19.00 hrs.

And since this present Government came to power in 1991, in all the fields, in the State of Assam, the situation has been worsened. In no field, there is any sign of improvement.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Purkayastha, please sit down for a minute.

We took up this Adjournment Motion at 4.30 p.m. and the time permissible is two hours and thirty minutes. Now it is 7 p.m. If the House so desires, we will extent the time. There are 11 more Members who would like to participate in this discussion.

The hon. Members are aware that this is an Adjournment Motion and we have to wind up the discussion today itself. So, we extent the time by one hour, that is, upto 8 p.m. I request the hon. Members to be brief.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI BIBHU KUMARI DEVI (Tripura East): We can take it up tomorrow. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is not possible. So, I take it that the sense of the House is to extend the time up to 8 p.m. for the time being.

Shri Purkayastha, you can continue your speech.

SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA:

Sir, this Saikia Government is somehow trying to maintain its power, to retain its power. That is why. this Saikia Government has taken up the path of divide and rule. Sir, it is so unfortunate that all the tribal groups are somehow allured to approach the Government to get autonomy. Whoever approaches the Saikia Government, without any thinking, the Saikia Government says that they will get autonomy. This is not for the benefit of that particular group of tribal. This is only to maintain the position of the Saikia Government in the State and to create divide and rule policy among different groups to retain its power. This is the policy of Saikia in the State of Assam and that has created division in the State of Assam among different sections of people and among different communities.

Sir, this Bodo agreement was made and the people at that time thought that definitely through the Bodo agreement, some sort of peace might come. But you will find that after the agreement was signed, practically no peace has come, rather people have been divided further. This has become one of the causes for the latest incident.

Sir, the question of infiltration has come up. It is surprising to notice that while that Home Minister. Shri S.B. Chavan, speaking in a Press Meet in Guwahati, in the presence of the Chief Minister of Assam, declared that this infiltration had created a havoc in the North-Eastern States whereas the Chief Minister of Assam says that there is no infiltration. So, you will notice, where the Government stands. Practically, there is no correlation or coordination between the State Government and the Central Government. As a result of this, this infiltration is being denied by the State Government. And this is also another

cause for dissatisfaction and division among different communities and linguistic groups in the North-East.

Sir, the present incident has started on 13th, of this month when one Additional SP and six police persons were killed. This is the starting of the present situation. And after that, for two or three days, there were to some extent calm. But from 18th again, this group clash has started. And it is so unfortunate that it happens when the Saikia Government has moved its Cabinet and is sitting at Barpeta. Even then, they cannot control anything.

The tackling of the matter by the State Government or by the Ministry was very unfortunate. The Government should take initiative as to how the peace can be restored as to how the situation can be changed. However, the Government is thinking to divide the people.

Then, under the leadership of one Minister of State and with the help of a high police official, an attack was made in the Bodo villages and Bodo people were killed and women were raped. That incident created a resentment among the people of the area. That happened on the 22nd. This created a resentment among the Bodo people and that is why killings took place on the 23rd and for that the Government of Assam is solely responsible. After the incidents, the people had to abandon their own houses to take shelter in the camps. In the camps, there must be some sort of security. There was no security. So, this happened. And Hindu, Muslim, tribal and non-tribal questions have grown so much. There are many other things which are linked with this incident.

Recently, the Saikia Government took another step. The Saikia Government started to award pattas to people particularly

to the char inhabitants. Generally the people of the State of Assam were of the opinion that the awarding of pattas should be made just after taking a decision or making an investigation whether a man is a citizen of the country or of the State. But without doing this the Government of Assam started awarding pattas. This also created resentment among the tribal and non-tribal people of the State. This is not a solitary incident. This is due to the wrong policy and wrong action of the Government and the Government is solely responsible for all these things. At this stage, what I say is that the Government must take an attitude not of division and not of dividing the people but to see as to how the problem can be solved.

Lastly, though it is said that punishing the culprit is not the solution yet in my opinion, at this stage, culprits must be detected and punished so that such incidents do not occur in future.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI (Kodarma): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a tragic incident which has taken place in that part of the county which must be condemned by all in the strongest words and in the strongest language. But it is very much surprising that at least 60 or 70 persons have been killed in the refugee camps in Barpeta and at least 100 persons have been wounded and more people are reported to have been killed and dead.

19.10 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

But still, the persons from the Treasury Benches are also mixing up

different aspects of the issue like the illegal migrants from different borders, the issue of different tribals and non-tribals etc. Sir, this is very much surprising that this has not been taken up very seriously though it is a very much tragic incident and a very serious matter. It should have been taken up by the Treasury Benches with all seriousness.

My young friend from the Treasury Benches, Mr. Krip Chaliha has told a lot of things. he has touched all the aspects and he has rather exposed the State Government in all respects. Mr. Krip Chaliha has rightly said that the present government\*...

Similarly Mr. Chaliha has gone to the extent of charging\* and the State Government is adopting all sorts of methods, all sorts of tricks and all sorts of games in order to woo different sections of the people.

MR. SPEAKER: I will look into the record and that which cannot go on record will be removed from the record.

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI: Sir, I am saying whatever has been said.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us speak as responsible Members of the House.

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI: Sir, I am telling the same thing that has been said by the hon. Member.

The entire Government machinery has failed to protect the life and property of the people—whatever they may be, either Muslims or Hindus or tribals or non-tribals, whatever may be their colour. I do not dispute the fact that it is very

\* Expunged as ordered by the chair.



[Dr. Mumtaz Ansari]

much tragic incident where the Home Minister has also dashed and he has also assessed the alarming situation. Separate notes by both the Ministers of Home Ministry have also been submitted to the Prime Minister saying that these are the realities, these are the incidents which have taken place. Similarly the hon. Member from the Treasury Benches who is just inciting the feelings all over the country by such statements that North East region is burning is making such statements. These statements will just incite the feelings all over the country and in that case the whole of the country will be burning. So, let us refrain and let us just abstain from such type of statements. We must see it with all gravity and seriousness and in the right perspective as to how to stop the massacre and how to stop the mass killing and how to stop such type of tragic incidents which are taking place in that part of the country.

And, Sir, this is not the single incident which has taken place. In October, 1993 also some people were killed in Kokrajhar and Bongaigaon districts. Similarly in the month of May, 1994 at least 40-50 persons were killed by the 'Bodo Security Force'. I think a different nomenclature has been given to them. So, these incidents show the political willingness on the part of the State Government that the State Government is not willing to control all such types to incidents which are very much tragic in nature.

We see that the Chief Minister was also there at a distance of just 15 kilometres and the police guards were also posted in order to safeguard all these persons who are living in the refugee camps. They number at least 4

to 5 thousand. Some 50,000 persons have fled from different villages. Sir, there is the rule of jungle there. The people are seeking refuge. They are coming to shelter camps and refugee camps. They are coming under the umbrella of the State Government in order to get protection of life and property. It is surprising that the shooting spree is going on there also. In such circumstances, where will the people go?

It is just lame excuse and it is very inhuman approach that the people say that they are the illegal migrants coming from across the border or coming from Bangladesh. There may be different other issues also. I do not dispute that. There is the law of land and the law of land is there to discriminate these illegal migrants coming from different other borders and the real inhabitants, those real citizens of the country who are the real inhabitants of the State. These are all separate issues.

But when the human beings are being killed, these people are not sensitive enough and they are mixing up all the issues together. That is why, I say that this Saikia Government should not stay in power even for a single day more, because for a long time such type of inhuman and tragic incidents are taking place in that part of the State on one pretext or the other. The State Government is very much insensitive to all these issues. The State Government has altogether failed in its duty. The State Government of Assam headed by Mr. Saikia has no moral authority, no moral right to continue in power. It is the primary duty of the State Government to look after the law and order problem. It is the primary responsibility of the Central Government also to look after the life and property of the people living in that part of the country.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI: Sir, the State Government has failed, the entire machinery has failed and the Central Government has also failed. The Central Government is not foisting any responsibility on the State Government. The Central Government is aligning blatantly to carry on the Government there.

Sir, the people who killed the innocent people there are of such nature and they should rather be hanged because they are just killing the people. It is the primary duty and responsibility of the State Government to protect the life and property of the people. But they are making discrimination and they are trying to take political mileage.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, you have to conclude. Otherwise I am going to call other Members.

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI: Sir, I have just started.

MR. SPEAKER: You come to the main points; description is not necessary.

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI: There are many issues.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not mind if you touch the issues.

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI: Sir, I am concluding.

There are regional imbalances. The Central Government should try to remove all these regional imbalances. There are certain tribal issues also. The Central Government must try to solve all these

problems of tribals and non-tribals. There are certain issues relating to poverty and backwardness of the State in certain parts of the State. So, the Central Government must attend to all these issues. They are the responsibilities of the Central Government. The Central Government cannot escape from all these responsibilities. Why is the Central Government not invoking the provisions of Article 356 of the Constitution? This type of a State Government has no moral right to continue in power. So, Article 356 of the Constitution there at a very short notice.

So, this is my humble appeal that the Central Government must take action and the State Government must be dismissed summarily. The Central Government must also try to attend to all these bubbling issues so that such type of tragic incidents do not take place in the country again.

[Translation]

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR (Gopalganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Jaswant Singh ji delivered his speech. I have an infatuation for the voice and dictum of Vajpayee ji. I was sitting here to listen to him but he did not speak. After all this one thing flashed in my mind. Babari Masjid was demolished. Vajpayee ji had regretted the incident and said in the House that it should not have happened. The demolition of mosque did not hurt me as much as the scene of deployment of army there. After watching it on TV, I asked to myself what was happening here? What sort of Government is it? Same thing is being repeated today. You and these people will greatly benefit from this. We stand nowhere but what will you do? I can tell you the way out. This is second such incident 'Aaye Aapke Ghar Aur Wahan Hua Khatle Aam'. In

[Shri Abdul Ghafoor]

[*Translation*]

some paper, I read that Shri Saikia while in the Circuit House was gheraoed by people who enquired what the Government was upto? The bodyguards of Shri Saikia abandoned him. He had a very narrow escape. This is the prevailing law and order situation in the country. What is happening today? President's rule is imposed on a State on petty excuses and the case is filed before the Supreme Court. Two-three days back, I watched on TV some military personnel saying that all our Ministers are corrupt. They apprehend the people and beat them up. It is happening everywhere. Why do not you dare to do something in this regard?

While speaking Shri Jaswant Singh ji had made a theme of the things. Shri Pilot and Shri Chavan are at logger-heads. Why do not you say anything. Their Member said that a person like me can not contest election. (*Interruptions*)\*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not going on record.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I give them a warning. That... (*Interruptions*)\* .... May say it gently that they should be removed.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: This is also not going on record.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR: This way, the blot on them will also be washed off. We removed them and we removed ourselves, too. With these words, I warn them and sit down.

[*English*]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Sir, I oppose the text of the Adjournment Motion moved by Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav.

Sir, I am grateful to you because you have given me this opportunity to express my view. Since everything has been said by the other Members, I am not going to discuss this issue in detail. I wish to make only one observation. We condemn what has happened in Barpeta; we condemn the massacre. Earlier also we have seen the Nellie incident and the Mandhai incident. Even in Shillong also, the same thing is going on. In Bihar also, eleven persons died. This is a very serious matter. But the only problem is that wherever the Congress Government is in power, then all Opposition Party Members ask for the imposition of the President's Rule under Article 356 and they also ask for their resignation, but wherever they are in power, they would not criticise their Government. Whatever we have to do, we have to do it consciously.

In Assam, though everybody is criticising Shri Hiteswar Saikia, we have to admit the point that Shri Hiteswar Saikia is the man who has tried his best to restore normalcy. .... (*Interruptions*) You will say that nothing has been done because your Government is not there.

\* Not recorded.

If I say that so many things are happening in Rajasthan, then you will not admit it. I am not politicizing it.

What has happened in Barpeta is a very serious thing. My first demand is that the Home Ministry should investigate the matter through the CBI and find out who are the leaders who have a relationship with the underground world. They have relations with the insurgent leaders, the Mafia gangs and those who have the money power, especially the muscle power of the insurgent world. There are some political leaders who have got good relations with those people and that is why, sometimes, the political leaders due to their vested interests mislead the people and create these problems.

So, I request the hon. Minister to investigate into the matter and if you see anybody, however big a leader he may be, if he indulges in insurgency, he should be punished and he should not be rewarded and he should not be allowed to contest the election.

Of course, I was told that they are using modern equipments. In Barpeta also, they have used the rocket and other modern equipment. Assam Government did not have the modern equipment. Assam is a very poor State. Tripura is a very poor State.

I request the Government that when State Government has declared it a disturbed area, the Central Government should hand over this area to the army with full authority so that army should control the situation.

\* Shri Inderjit has said that it is because of infiltration. Of course, there is some infiltration problem. But you have

to consider the infiltration problem that existed up to 1971 and what it is now. According to our Constitution and agreement, we have to appreciate that Pandit Nehru and Shri Liaquat Ali Khan in Pakistan and Mrs. Indira Gandhi and Sheikh Abdul Rahman have made some pact and, according to that pact, those who have come from Bangladesh upto 25th March, 1971 were very much Indian. They are not foreigners. So, do not compare them with people who are staying there from 75 years or 100 years and 25 years. They are not foreigners. If there are some problems of infiltration, then Government can take over the issue with Bangladesh Government and with other Governments.

The House will be surprised to know that in the North Eastern region, specially the minorities are a problem. They do not have right to property. Even women and children are not spared. I have seen this in Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam. We have to look after the problems of different tribals and remove their problems.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota):  
In 1971, there were only 35,000 Bangladeshis here. Under Nehru-Liaquat agreement, there were only 35,000 Bangladeshis and today 3 lakhs of them have intruded into the North-Eastern region. What do you have to say about it?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE:  
Why are you crying? I do not know. Every Bangladeshi is not a bad character. You should know this. Those who migrated to India during 1971, came under the Indira Gandhi-Mujib-ur-Rehman pact and not because your party wished

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

that. You must understand that it is a sensitive subject, whether it is so or not. I do not know wherefrom he has procured these statistics.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You do not have to reply please.

[Translation]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I agree that the problem of infiltration is more serious in the North-Eastern States. But another factor that should not be ignored is that the people who have migrated under the Indira Gandhi-Mujibur-Rehman pact during 1971 war or at the time of Nehru-Liaquat Pact should be entitled to Property rights and right to live here. It should be examined as to how, why and when Bangladeshi people came over to India. I am not talking about the present. You should not make a discussion in this regard.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You do not get delayed. You proceed with your speech.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI (Jhansi): What have you to say about their number rising from a mere 35,000 to 3 lakh? Who is responsible for that?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: You are responsible and your politics is responsible for that. It is because of politicising every issue. You want the Government of Assam to resign for what has happened at Barpeta but two days

ago 11 people were burnt alive in Bihar. Why do not you seek the resignation of Bihar Government. You must be fair but when it affects your party, you will keep mum and raise a hue and cry in the matters in which our party is involved. This is not a party matter. I would like to speak the truth only. I would request to hand over the disturbed area to the army.

[English]

There is a feeling among the tribal people that more and more developmental works should be carried out in their areas. They have a feeling that they are isolated from the mainstream. People should not get this feeling. Secondly, the army people should get the full power and authority so that the lives of the minorities can be protected there. The Government should give compensation to the families of those who had died. The Government should rehabilitate the families of those who had died. I must say one thing to the Minister. In the case of the ULFA people, those who have surrendered, they are getting Rs. two lakhs. But in the case of these people who had died, who fought for the country, their families are not getting one rupee. Their families have not yet been rehabilitated. I think the Government should change the policy and Government should rehabilitate the families of those people who died for the sake of the country.

Sir, I do not want to elaborate much because there are so many speakers who want to speak, I think, our country is a vast country. Different types of people are staying in this country, Somebody may be a Hindu, a Muslim, a Bengali, a Bihari and a Maharashtraian. Somebody may belong to other community. But we have all to live

together. We are Indians. We have to be Indians. We have to strengthen our country. That is why I think this Adjournment Motion should be withdrawn. We have to strengthen the hands of the State Government. The Central Government should give all sorts of assistance to the State Government so that the State Government can curb the terrorist activities immediately. If it is not done, if the Government is going to indulge in this type of a thing, then, everywhere this type of people would come up and create havoc. You know about the politicians. They are playing vote politics. They are doing this for their own vested interests. This type of a thing is going on. Ultimately, the people are suffering most. That is why, the political leaders should not be spared in this type of an activity.

With these words, I conclude. I am grateful to you because you have given me this opportunity to speak. At the same time, I request the Minister to look into the matter seriously so that this type of an incident cannot occur.

[Translation]

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, whatever happened is very deplorable and these incidents should be condemned. And when Shri Rajesh Pilot went there, there was a report in the newspapers that it happened due to lack of communication as a result of that information could not be received on time which worsened the situation there. Now the question arises why all this is happening there when a Government very much exists there? On the other hand, it is being said that Bangladeshis have infiltrated. The question is who allowed them to infiltrate and how did they infiltrate to all. Then the subsequent

massacre is a clear indication to the fact that the Government has totally failed in this matter and the Congress is itself advocating the handing over of the area to the army. I would like to say that in such a situation where the Government has failed miserably, why President's rule is not being imposed there? How long can we remain silent spectators of the loss of human lives there?

I only want to say in this matter that enough is enough and the Government must take some steps. Such incidents are repeatedly taking place in Assam. I feel that such incidents are a stigma on humanity and these should be stopped by taking drastic steps.

SHRIMATI BIBHU KUMARI DEVI (Tripura East): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose this Adjournment Motion. But today we have to analyse the situation of the North-East from the national angle and from the point of view of security of the country. Therefore, this House has a collective responsibility towards the Indian people. Every time I read of these holocausts, I am reminded of the 6th June, 'Mandai Massacre' that we had suffered in my State in 1980. It was in 1980 and I remember it because Mrs. Gandhi was then alive and I remember having had a lot of discussion with her with regard to this problem, I have seen how both the communities had suffered then. When we discuss these things here in this House. It becomes an issue for every party. It becomes a personal issue for those who want to promote one community or the other. And as my friend Shri Krip Chalia has said, in politics, a new trend has come where political benefit is also derived by using these communal problems for personal benefits. I have spoken earlier in this House with regard to the problems of the tribals. Why has this problem come up? Why

[Shrimati Bibhu Kumari Devi]

has this problem become such a burning issue? My friend Shri Inderjit earlier has said that they do not want another Tripura to be repeated. Tripura was a tribal State, tribal majority State and today we have to literally to beg for our own seats, either it goes to insurgency as some political regional parties have started which is bad for the nation, which is bad for the State, which is bad for the country and which is bad for our national image seen fingers of little children being crushed, I have seen women whose hands have been hacked, I have seen young men who have become handless. At the same time, wherever the opportunity has arisen it has happened to the other side also, maybe in a lesser degree. Our Government must recognise this fact. This House must recognise the fact that whichever Government comes to power that for the sake of the vote banks, we cannot sacrifice national interest.

In Tripura, in 1949 when it merged with the Indian Union, there was a reservation made by the then Government, the erstwhile princely State for a 1960 square miles of tribal reserve and it was implemented in 1974 during the time of Mrs. Gandhi. She was first advised by the Government to remove this reservation and mind you, in all the manifestos of the State Government, the promises that were given to the tribal people were that this 1960 square miles of territory which was reserved and today which has become the scheduled reserve area would be theirs. In the meantime, we allowed infiltrators to enter there. They had already captured the administration, they were more educated, economically better off. Tribal lands were acquired for rehabilitation of the non-tribals. Therefore, bitterness started. At

the same time, you had a commitment, the Indian Constitution has a commitment to settle tribals, landless tribals and the Jhumias on their own land.

Their land was taken first to settle immigrants or people who had just come in; they were not even immigrants; they were also people who had walked into the State. I must stress again and again that it is not against certain groups or certain classes of people; but it is for the national interest. Today in Tripura we have no rehabilitation Department. Since 1961 there is no rehabilitation Department. You are spending only Rs. 80,000 on the refugees in Tripura, the erstwhile East Bengal refugees. I do not know what West Bengal is getting. In Dandakaranya for twelve thousand people you are spending crores and crores of rupees. Where does that money go? That means there is no coordination among the Home, the Law, the Agriculture and the RD Departments. As per the All India Land Reforms Act there was a certain ceiling on land. That ceiling limit is not applicable in places like Tripura where one family can take 50 acres of land because it take in the wife's name, wife's mother's name, etc. I was the Revenue Minister there and therefore I went in depth into this problem. You find that people just got their lands transferred, a system which does not exist in the State, the Bargadar system coming from West Bengal. We have all the non-tribal population forced on the State.

Recently I had brought about the Sixth TLR amendment. Our people do not even know why it was passed unanimously by both the parties. It was a welcome proposition. But, for four years it kept hanging over here. It has been sent back by the President or was recalled. I do not know why. It was for

helping those tribals whose lands have been alienated and to ensure that the transfer of land would not become easy. The present Government there has now made it easy. I did not allow any mortgage to any institution, any company. My friends over here can influence their Government in this regard. Why are these poor people being used?

The Bodo problem is a similar problem. They have become terrorists trying to protect their own lives. They have been called insurgents when they were trying to protect their lives. They are not educated. Their livelihood depends on land. They get their food from that while a non-tribal has some occupation; either he is a caste based man or he has got some education or he has got some training with regard to putting up a shop and getting some sort of employment. So we must be rational about it and look at it from that angle. I have also suggested to the Home Ministry time and again...

*[Translation]*

SHRI HARCHAND SINGH (Ropar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, lands have been taken away from princes; poor farmers have not been divested of their lands.

*[English]*

SHRIMATI BIBHU KUMARI DEVI: We have a long boundary. I met the State Home Minister. I have made enquiries and found out that more than 50 percent of our Border Security Forces have been moved to Kashmir. Our border outposts are very thinly manned. According to the Home Ministry budget this year no amount was spent or anything invested for the last five years on the Assam Rifles. One should have one's

own forces. We have got educated young boys; we do not have job opportunities there; we do not have industries there; we have a different style of life; not a single person has been recruited. I have suggested that instead of giving profits to the contractors and politicians and whoever they may be, why do not we raise about a hundred battalions?

The people, who know the topography of the area, who are the people of the region, if recruited naturally feel involved in the national activities of trying to protect the borders. That is one of my suggestions. That way, we can seal our border. We will be spending about Rs. 15 crore. But you will spend more than that by putting up barbed wire. You cannot put up barbed wire through jungles. We have about 10,000 Naga boys who are graduates just sitting idle. We must not forget the fact that in the whole world, the international politics has changed. The polity of small nation theory has come up. We have seen the Soviet Union breakup. People are conscious of their ethnic identity. A Bengali say, "Yes, Bengali is my language." A tribal says, "Khasi is my language. Why should I not be allowed to speak in that language? Why should I not be allowed to dress myself in that dress?" So, these are psychological motivations for any nation to come up. A Bengali today is proud of Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das. He is proud to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. He is proud of Rabindranath Tagore. He is proud of the whole galaxy of great people. That is one of the reasons that the Bengalis will think of the tow Bengals uniting one day. Of course, that is from West Bengal. I would not say that of East Bengal.\*

MR. SPEAKER: I do not think that is necessary. It will go off the record.

\* Not recorded.



SHRIMATI BIBHU KUMARI DEVI:

Another thing which, I think, we should all be sensitive to is that for the last 17 to 18 years, the tribals, who come from across Bangladesh, have been living in camps. They are given a teaspoon of oil and terrible rations. When the immigrants come or the infiltrators come, there is somebody to take care of them here. They are not put in a jail. Today, we are driving them back without giving any guarantee to their customary personal law, their religion of any thing. Therefore, they come back again. We are pushing the Chakmas back again. So, this creates a feeling of injustice from the Government side. I am sure, the House also appreciates this fact. These are some of the things which I have raised now. But I think, the time has come for us to set our house in order and seriously analyse the problems of this insurgency, the problem of terrorism. Why should it happen in a free India, in a country which has believed in Gandhian principles, a country which has secular principles? I definitely and most unhesitatingly condemn the heinous killings of Barpeta. I hope that some of my suggestions will be taken note of. There have been very many valuable suggestions coming from the opposition as well as from my own party.

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the outset, I also share the views given expression to by my hon. colleagues condemning what has happened in Assam. Whatever happened in Assam was not only a mere law and order problem. It was a challenge to the very ethos of our country, the spirit of co-existence and also the rule of law for which we have been proud about, in this country.

I may take this opportunity to pay a compliment to you, Sir, for admitting

this adjournment motion as it is very important on the part of the Government to be accountable to this highest forum of democracy in our country.

The Government of India is fully aware of the fact that such things are happening in Assam. First it was in 1993. Again Sir, within a period of one and a half months, three massacres have taken place. The first one was on May 27 when the Bodo extremists attacked villages in Kokrajhar killing 27 people and maiming several people. Twenty five thousand families were rendered homeless. I would like to ask the hon. Minister of State for Internal Security one thing. Having known the situation in Assam and the attacks of Bodo extremists in recent past, well in advance why did not the hon. Minister himself visit there?

It is a known fact that the State Government of Assam has miserably failed in protecting the lives and property of innocent people and the Administration has failed in discharging their duties. And it was not once! It happened several times. The Government should also have known the fact that in the Bodo Act passed by the Assam Government in 1963, there are two very important provisions. One provision is regarding minorities that in the Bodo autonomous land, the life and property of the minorities should be given protection and in the event of the failure of the concerned authority to protect the life and property of the minorities, the Government has the power to dissolve the Council. No protection was given to the citizens of the Bodoland area. I do not want to communalise the issue. Since there is a provision towards the protection of the minorities, is it not the duty of the Governor to dissolve that Council in the event of failure to give protection? And is it not

the duty of the Central Government to direct the State Government accordingly?

The second massacre has taken place on July 17 in Barpeta district to which many hon. Members have referred. Therefore, I avoid repetition and I do not want to go into the details. Even then, what actually happened? I do not want to hold Shri Saikia or anybody personally responsible. But as the Chief Minister and as the head of the Government, is it not his duty to keep the Central Government informed of the matter and ask for the help of the Army? Why did the State Government, or for that matter even the Central Government, wait till the Ministers from Delhi flew into Assam to see and arrange for the military support? Had there been military support earlier and had there been timely action, this unfortunate massacre would not have happened. Well, Mr. Inderjit would say that they are foreigners, I deny it. Even Shri Chaliha and other hon. Members in the treasury benches have denied it. For argument's sake, even if those people were foreigners, should they be killed like that? Is it not quite an uncivilised manner of doing things? Should such events occur in a country like India? Have they not damaged our prestige and tarnished our image in the comity of nations? Should we not behave in a responsible manner? It is not a matter whether the Muslims are killed or Hindus are killed or Bodos are killed. First of all, such things should not have happened. We must see to it that they shall never occur again. The third massacre happened yesterday at relief camp, killing 72 persons, quite horrible.

It is an undisputed fact that a cluster of villages where the minorities have been predominantly residing were burnt down. It is a fact and I am referring

to it only because it is a fact. I do not like to refer to such matters with any sort of communal overtones or feelings. But it is a fact that hapless minorities have been massacred. It is a fact that Hindus also helped Muslims. It has been pointed out by Shri Kirip Chaliha. Therefore, there is a lapse incident on the part of Assam administration.

I do not want to take much of the valuable time of the House. Many hon. Members have referred to the Bodo Issue, the problem of ethnic feelings and how all this has happened and so on and so forth. I do not want to go into all those details.

But what is the guarantee that the Minister will be able to assure the House that such things will not happen in future? He should also enlighten the House what steps he has taken in this regard. One thing is certain that the people of that State—I am mainly referring to the minority communities—have lost the confidence in the State Government not because it is a personal matter but because of the act of omission and commission on the part of the State Government.

Sir, with these few words I once again appeal to everybody in the country to be aware of this sort of act of terrorism which is being indulged in by certain people. The Government should be very careful in tackling these things and should take appropriate and urgent measures to give protection to every citizen, particularly the minorities in this country.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): Mr. Speaker, Sir, several hon. Members from different

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parties have participated in this debate. Being a North-Eastern Member myself I was just thinking what is our status in the national scenario. The discussion that has taken place so far has highlighted one thing, that the situation on North-East is very bad and the political parties and their leaders in North-East are totally corrupt and they are unable to run the State.

My good friend Jaswant Singhji has brought out an analogy that after Independence the North-Eastern States have been mostly ruled by the Congress and, therefore, Congress is basically responsible for the situation that is prevailing there now. It is a fact that in Assam we also had Janta Party rule and the rule of AGP, a regional party. Similarly in Mizoram we had the rule of Shri Laldenga, CPM and Congress ruled the Tripura and other regional parties ruled the State of Manipur. So, it is something unpalatable to identify the Congress as a villain in the North-East. I would say that is a total injustice to the party.

There is no denying the fact that after so many years Independence the situation in North-East is not the one which is desirable and it will be wrong to identify the Congress Party as the culprit for it. The people of North-Eastern States have time and again changed the Government. On the floor of this House I have even heard my friend Jaswant Singhji saying that during the Assam agitation he was made to liaison on behalf of his Party with the agitationists. In the last week he also said that as one of the Advisors he gave them the opportunity to come to power and rule the State. I am not against AGP or any other party. Being a North-Eastern Member I must say that we must

assimilate ourselves culturally, politically and also mentally with the national feeling.

Jaswant Singhji made five points in his speech and he referred to emotional separation and distance. Emotionally the people of North-East are separated from the rest of the country. I think in a very very emotional and harsh word Shahabuddinji has also referred to it. Maharani Bibhu Devi has mentioned that in tribal and non-tribal areas are lakhs and lakhs of unemployed people.

20.00 hrs.

There are elements from outside who tell them and give them an idea that if their problem is not solved, let them take to arms. That is the only solution. As one of my colleagues. Mr Kirip Chaliha himself being a Congress Member-maybe out of pain - has also said that taking arms into the hands has become one of the fashions in the North-Eastern States and it is more easier to earn than to ask for a job. How are the national parties and national leaders going to solve this problem? This is the issue of today.

During Nelli incident myself, Mr. Rajesh Pilot, along with some journalists and other, reached there within four or five hour. We had seen that people were killed and thrown out there. They were saying that as foreigners they were attacked. They were saying that you see the mango trees. The age of the mango trees is as old as theirs. The age of the mango trees is more than fifty years or fifty-five years. But because they are speaking Bengali or because they are Muslims or Hindu, they are considered as refugees or foreigners.

Now, the leader of the Bharatiya Janta Party, Mr. Vajpayee has also

encouraged me to speak here. But I quite humbly ask Mr. Vajpayee, one question. Mr. Jaswant Singh has reiterated it today also. The people who had come to Assam, after 1971, if they were Hindus, they must get the voting rights and they must stay there permanently. The Muslims must be thrown out. An analogy has been brought forward today by Mr. Jaswant Singh that they being the refugees should be given their rights. Does his stand not lead to irritation with the Muslims? You may also be thinking that I am telling something against the interests of the Hindus. As Mr. Shahabuddin has said that you must also see that if the Congress says that all the Muslims are foreigners, we are committing a mistake. Today, in Nagaland, in the voters' list, if your title is 'Roy', your name will be deleted. But there are so many 'Rois'. Who are Khasis you can ask the Chairman of the Panel who is here; that a retired Chief Secretary whose title is also 'Roy' his name had also been deleted. The enumerators thought that he was a Bengali. In Assam, there are 'Bhattacharyas' who are Assamese. Their names were being deleted. In North-Eastern States, the Bangali-Hindu and Muslims are being treated in a manner which is creating irritation among the tribals. The Prime Minister formed a nine-Member Committee, consisting of the following Ministers viz., Mr. S.B. Chavan, Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, Dr. Manmohan Singh, Mr. A.K. Anthony, myself, Mr. Margaret Alva and so on. We had toured that place. There is a talk that the Centre is neglecting them. The mandate was to look at the tribal problem *vis-a-vis* non-tribals. An hon. Member from Manipur was also there. I think he is present here. One of the former Chief Ministers came and told us that there are foreigners in Manipur and they must be evicted. We said, 'yes', but that will be done according to our policy from viz. 25th March, 1971.

They said, 'no'. They said that the students are saying that there are people who come from Orissa and Bihar and they stayed there as foreigners. This is an overall thinking of certain regional parties. Are we going to adjust to that situation? I do not think so. Today, there is an allegation against the Chief Minister of Assam. The Chief Minister of Assam must resign. Mr. Hiteshwar Saikhai has failed. The incident which had happened is one of the worst incidents that had ever happened. But does the Chief Minister leaving the State Capital and staying in a camp after the incidents which had happened after 19th not prove that there is a problem? There is failure of the administration. As Mr. Rajesh Pilot said, as the Congress Party, we never failed to admit that we have not been able to protect those who are in the camps. Definitely there are some failures. But under what circumstances? Do you mean to say that it is intentional? As Mr. Shahabuddin has said that the Chief Minister of Assam is playing one group with the other. If you say that the Assam Government should resign, first let the 10 MLAs of the BJP resign. You show us the way.

You show us the way. Resignation is not the solution. I was a Member of Parliament in 1980 when the Dinesh Committee Report was submitted here. Many MPs in this House said that the CPM Government should resign. Mrs. Indira Gandhi said, "Resignation is not the solution. That is the elected Government; it must be there. With their help, we must solve the problem." That should be the attitude of the debate. This debate is not to score any point against any individual.

If Mr. Saikhai is to be removed, it is the prerogative of the State Government and the State Congress to decide, not

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by telling that Saikia is guilty. You hold an enquiry. If it is proved that he is guilty, then you remove him. We will be too pleased. When Mizoram agreement was signed Mr. Lalthamhawla resigned. Then the election was held there. Mr. Laldanga was in power. Mr. Saikia was there Assam in 1983. After the Assam Accord, he resigned. I do not want to go into the details of these Accords. But we never, as the Congress Party, tried to stick to power for the sake of power. Naturally, any political party will try to rule the country. But the basic that problem is the forces which are operating there from outside the country, they are trying to put Nagas against Kookies. When I was there, Mr. Inderjit was in Nagaland. People came and told us that one group was fighting against another. When they were brought to the police station they said that they had received training in Bangladesh. I come from one part of Assam. It was told by my mother Mrs. Indira Gandhi that it was an island of peace. Just two days ago, the gun of one guard of the BJP MLA—BJP Members of Parliament will bear me out—was snatched, which never happened before. Ultimately, the people chased them along with the police and caught them. What do they say? I do not know whether Mr. Rajesh Pilot will agree with me.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have done a right thing by allowing this debate. Those people who were arrested said that 22 boys from Manipur went to Bangladesh and received training. They came back. They also divulged that Bengalis from Meghalaya and Manipur Muslims—as admitted by Mr. Syed Shahabuddin—had gone to Bangladesh. They were trying to create trouble all over the North-Eastern region.

Mr. Jaswant Singh has rightly said that the Kashmir Government is probably taking control over the situation there. They have done it better than in the past. In Punjab, we have proved it that we can do it. Now, this thing is being shifted to Assam. This is an issue in which all parties should join together and solve this problem.

Again I shall appeal to you, not as a Minister but as one belonging to the North-Eastern region, that it is high time that all political parties either under your leadership and guidance or with the help of the Prime Minister should sit and decide about it, not by identifying which political party is guilty and which political party is not guilty. I am not one of those who want that any national party, whether it is BJP or CPI or CPM or Congress, will try to see that Assam or the North-Eastern region should go in that way. Let us forget what regional parties said; let us come together and try to see that it should be decided once for all.

One of the bogies in Assam today is that is being wasted in all the States. If you go to any Ministry and ask for rice, they will say, "Why should we give rice? It will go to Bangladesh." If you go as an Assam MP or Tripura MP and ask for money for Tripura, they say, "Money is being wasted." That is not a fact. It may be a fact that some of us are corrupt. I may be corrupt. You need not be. If I am corrupt and you can prove it, then you can say that Mr. Sontosh Mohan Dev has no authority to stay with the Central Government. If any Minister is corrupt, you remove him. But for that, don't punish the people of North-Eastern region. If you say that we are all corrupt—as he has said—without proving it, then this will not help. If there is corruption, there is a system to identify it.

But the same corruption is starving Assam and other North-Eastern region out of funds. It is a volcanic situation. I do not want to dispute anybody. They have said their point of view. As a man from Assam, I am grateful to the present Prime Minister that he has formed a committee. I do not want to share all that we have said, but we are submitting our report to the Prime Minister.

A booklet was presented to us in Nagaland, demanding greater Nagaland to be formed. I have passed it on to the officer in charge in the Home Ministry that it should be enquired into. This is what is happening. All of us must come together.

Shri Rajesh Pilot has visited the spot very quickly. It was so quick that he forget to call me. I came to know about this when he reached there. But he has taken a prompt action. He has visited the site and he will tell about the incident. I do not want to go into all this. I only want to draw the attention of the House that, let us not try to say that Shri Saikia is bad or so and so is good. Removing Shri Saikia will not solve your problem. Another Saikia will come from the Congress or somebody else may come. That is not the solution.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack):  
The Congress is full of Saikias.  
(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: I would like to appeal to this august House as a man from North East, I am extremely grateful to the hon. Speaker that he has given the first day itself for discussion on this subject. Thereby you yourself have sent a message to the North-East that the Parliament of this country is not neglecting them. I am not flattering, Sir,

it is true. By taking this on the first day itself a message has gone to the distressed people of Barpeta that this august House has given importance to them.

All of us condemn these killings. Whoever is guilty must be punished. We are distancing the North-East as Shri Jaswant Singh has said. He has gone to the North-East and he knows about it. So I appeal to you that let us take a decision that we will come together to solve the problem of North-East, going above party level, not identifying who is at fault and who is not. All political parties have their share. If there is a fault it belong to the national and regional parties; if there is a credit it goes to the people of North East. But I can say from the North Eastern side that till now 80 to 90 percent people of the North East are nationalist. They do not believe in these regional activities.

We have met many professors, we have met many Government officers and they have given us very valuable suggestions. What Shri Jaswant Singh has said, was also discussed in Manipur. They said let there be a Monitoring Committee from the Centre in each State to see that every penny that comes is utilised properly. They are not saying that do it, they are saying monitor it, especially because in the North Eastern States we get 90 percent as grant and 10 percent as loan. We are being looked after.

With these words, I again appeal to everybody that do not treat us from North-East as if we are your bad children. I am sample from the North-East. We are here, we have certain black spots. We have certain things which you must correct and for that we need your blessings, we need your guidance. We do not want you to

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primand us. We do not want you to tell us to go to hell. Call us, we will sit with you and discuss with you. Let there be a debate other than this. Mr. Speaker is pressing me to finish, otherwise I would have spoken more.

I am grateful to you for giving me a chance, Sir.

**SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijaywada):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to participate in the discussion. It will take only three minutes.

Several hon. Members have made several points, with which I agree. Sir, the main intention with which I have taken this opportunity is to support the Adjournment Motion moved by Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav and to express serious concern on behalf of our Party to the victims and to condemn the heinous crimes committed by the militants belonging to Bodo Security Force. Here, the most important thing which makes us feel very bad is that presence of the hon. Chief Minister and nearly two-thirds of his Cabinet Members, who were at least 15 kilometres away from the scene, could not prevent this incident. And that too, for nearly two hours, this killing spree was going on, there was nobody to protect the unfortunate people, who were there in the camp. Sir, this is the most condemnable thing. Here, I would like to point out two things. Firstly, in this Bodo Accord, which was signed, I find in this civil and police services, nowhere it has been stated, whose responsibility is to protect the law and order. It is merely stated here, I quote:

**"The officers posted to the Bodo Autonomous Council areas will be**

**accountable to the BAC for their performance and the assessment of their work recorded by the BAC authorities.."** (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT:** Kindly see the next sentence, which says: "... and the assessment of their work recorded by the BAC authorities, will be incorporated to their ACRs by the State Government."

**SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE:** What I would like to notice of the hon. Minister of State is this. You clearly demarcate whose responsibility is to protect the law and order situation in the Bodo Autonomous Council area. Does it come under the State Government? If the Bodo Autonomous Council been entrusted with the development and giving protection to the people of that area, naturally it must be with the Bodo Autonomous Council. This is what I would like to bring to the notice of the Minister.

The second main point which I would bring to the notice of this House is—Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev has also mentioned about this—that a good number of youth is being influenced by ISI or some other organisations or some other agencies working from outside the country. They are unemployed and it is the poor condition, which is influencing them.

Though the Annual Plan for Assam has been fixed by the Planning Commission at Rs. 960 crore, nearly a sum of Rs. 700 crore has been deducted towards the amount due in the previous years, leaving only a sum of Rs. 200 to Rs. 300 crore to the Assam Government for developmental work of the whole State. Now, will it be sufficient? Now, one

more very alarming point is that though a sum of Rs. 25 crore has been earmarked for flood relief programme, a sum of Rs. 24.6 crore has been deducted for the earlier dues of the State Government. My submission to the Central Government is this. Kindly have a rethinking over this matter and postpone the collection of these dues and allow substantial amount with the Government of Assam and also the Autonomous Council to really develop the area. Just forming the Bodo Autonomous Council will not do any help to the Bodos or non Bodos in the Autonomous Council area. You must provide necessary funds for their real progress and development, which alone, at least to some extent, will not make these unemployed youth fall prey to the designs of this anti-national element. I only suggest that an All Party delegation may go to this place and enquire into these happenings and again report to your goodself.

Sir, I congratulate you for admitting this Adjournment Motion on the very first day of this Session.

SHRI BALIN KULI (Lakhimpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose this Adjournment Motion of the Opposition.

It is a very sad thing that had happened in Assam. We are ashamed for it and it is a shame for the democracy. The House is discussing this today and the hon. Members are also expressing their concern. We are also expressing the same concern about the matter. The hon. Members failed to mention one thing and that is the diagnostic reason for such happenings again and again. Shri Inderjit and Shrimati Bibhu Kumari Devi have analysed this problem. There are reasons why the tribals are dissatisfied and there is an uprising in the North-

Eastern Region. Those causes must be found out. There are many reasons why the Bodos are not satisfied with the Accord. The Accord is neither satisfying the Bodo nor the people of Assam. This has confused the people of the Assam. I want to say that this is the direct fall out of the Accord. The Central Government as well as the Opposition Parties are trying to pass the buck to the State Government. The State Government with the limited paramilitary forces are fighting against all odds of the extremists in Assam. There are extremists in ULFA, NSCN, there are Bodo extremists and there are other communal and regional forces. With the limited forces how can the State Government manage all these things. It is difficult to manage unless the Central Government sends the Paramilitary forces there.

Again, I want to cite an example. The Punjab is having 350 companies of paramilitary forces whereas in Assam there are only 50 companies. That is not sufficient. There are 21 roads to the Bhutan border from the Bodo land through which the Bodo extremists operate. The State Government has asked the Central Government to seal this route with Bhutan border years ago. But, it has not been done so far. So, the Assam Government or the paramilitary forces are not able to check the extremists.

Some hon. Members particularly Shri Jaswant Singh have expressed their feelings that the people of North-Eastern Region are corrupt. The meaning of the word 'Corruption' has a wide dimension. He has properly explained whether the people of North-Eastern Region are sexually corrupt or monetarily or socially corrupt. Though Shri Santosh Mohan Dev has replied to it properly, yet the North-Eastern Region is yet to find people



[Shri Balin Kuli]

like Tulmohan Ram and V. Ramaswamy, about whom the House had discussed. They are not from the North-Eastern Region. The people of the North-Eastern Region are learning corruption from the people of this part of the country. The IAS Officers; the IPS Officers, businessmen, administrators and Governors are all from this part of the country. The people of the North-Eastern Region are learning corruption, if any, from these people only. If you being out these people then only you can see whether the North-Eastern people or the tribal people are corrupt or honest.

The other thing Shri Chandra Jøet Yadav has also said that the Assam Government has given crores of rupees, cars, business and employment to the murderers.

It is also not fair to allege such things against the Assam Government.

The democratically elected Government of Assam cannot be dissolved or suspended for one incident or the other. If this Congress Government under the leadership of Shri Saikia is functioning, it is functioning under heavy odds. This Government is protecting the minorities. This Government is fighting against corruption, against extremist forces and for the national interest. It is Shri Saikia who is standing like a rock against all odds fighting for the cause of the nation.

He is not helped by the other national parties like the B.J.P. which is *dividing the people in Assam between Hindus and Muslims*. The other regional party like the A.G.P. is also there; it wants to separate Assam from India. The

Congress Party and the Government of Assam are fighting against all odds. If it is not supported by the national parties and by this House, then Shri Saikia alone cannot fight against all these things.

Sir, I appeal to the Members of the hon. House and all the political parties not to speak of dissolving the House or suspension of the Assembly and they should rather help the State Government and support the State Government to fight out all these external forces in keeping Assam with India.

With these words, I conclude.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I think we had this discussion for sufficiently long time. There are tow or three names with me and I would like to allow them to speak. But I request them to be very brief. Shri Shibu Soren to speak now.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIBHU SOREN (Dumka): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the incident that took place on 23rd in Barpeta in Assam is related to tribals. I am also a tribal and the people have elected us to solve such problems.

It is not true that the State Government had no information regarding such a serious incident, whatever takes place in the villages is known to somebody or the other. Therefore, there is the need to go into the root of the problem. Bodoland Autonomous Council was recently set up there to bring peace and for making development of the area and to avoid such serious incidents. The facts

relating to it have been suppressed and no actual picture is being presented. Problems and strategies are extensively discussed by the tribals in the villages.

In 1982, I visited Assam. I am a Santhal and many Santhals of Dumka, Ranchi and Orissa for the last 100 years have been living in Assam. There I had got a chance to interact with the local people for a week or 10 days. Educated youth of the area expressed their discontent and all of them stressed only one thing that the Government is deliberately not solving their problems. The Government is neither giving them their rights nor providing them with jobs. On being enquired from many qualified youth about their intentions, all of them expressed their disappointment by saying that now there seems to be no way out.

Jharkhandis in Bihar are also facing similar problems *i.e.* development of the area and returning of their lands as the tribals of Bihar have no other means of living. The tribals cannot enter into trade and business and also do not have ample employment opportunities. Though for name sake reservation is there in the State Government and in the Centre Government jobs yet no adequate follow up action is being taken. Earlier it was believed that with education, employment avenues will open up. However, now even after getting educated jobs are not in sight. Therefore, discontentment is prevailing. I think this is the reason why the youth of the area have taken such a wrong step. In the entire country justice has not been done with the tribals. Everywhere, whether it be Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Assam or Andhra Pradesh, tribals are being killed. Whatever may happen anywhere but we are only being killed. We condemn such incidents, but such killings are still continued. The Government must be in the knowledge

of entire details in this regard. Merely making speeches in the House will not serve any purpose. Tribals are totally dependent on forests. After forests were cut, the tribals started making use of such land for agriculture purposes, but the crooked elements got the lands registered in their names. Though many laws were enacted, yet not a single one proved effective. After every incident the Government officials visit the site and hold discussions, but nothing happens. A paltry sum of Rs. 1,000 or Rs. 2,000 are paid as compensation. It has been happening in the country till date. The tribals do not want any other thing, but to join the mainstream.

MR, SPEAKER: You are raising a question, which is time-consuming.

SHRI SHIBU SOREN: Sir, I am not taking much of your time. Nobody wants to discuss our problems. Even after getting educated the tribals are unemployed. The tribals of one village are being benefited, but of other villages are not being given any benefits. If you say that tribals and non-tribals have done anything wrong, you must prove it. Injustices being meted out to the tribals should come to an end. Every Government speaks about the problems of the tribals. I would like to know what are these? If problems are there, then these should be solved. Problems like Bodoland will surface all over the country which cannot be stopped. From where AK-47 rifles are coming to kill the people. Tribals are less educated and less intelligent. Simply supplying arms, food and other things to us anybody can tempt us to do any wrong. Tribals jumped into politics became MPs, MLAs and Minister, yet nobody listens to us. This is what we experience here that even tribal Ministers have no say in any

[Shri Shibu Soren]

matter. I am not saying it all for the sake of speaking. This relates to Bihar....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIBU SOREN: What would become of our country. For years we have been shouting. Incident like Assam might happen in Bihar also or in any other State. Such incidents should not recur. Such incidents are also happening in West Bengal.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You should conclude now. I am going to call the next Member to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIBU SOREN: Sir, I conclude.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, since time is less, I will raise some specific points only. Statistics regarding the persons killed in ghastly incidents are not available with us. The hon. Minister is requested to furnish these details. Consequent upon Bodoland agreement with the consent of the Hon. President on 14th May, 1993 in the Gazette of Assam an Act was notified. Section 51-52 of the Act is as follows:-

[English]

"All rights and interests of the non-tribals citizens on the date of

constitution of the Bodoland Autonomous Council within the Council area shall be protected in matters pertaining to land and their language."

[Translation]

Section 12 of the Act says that if the Council fails to discharge this duty then the Governor can dismiss the Council and assume all its powers. The hon. Minister should inform us what has the Governor done in this regard?

Thirdly, since the signing of the Bodo Accord, many statements have been given by the Ministry of Home Affairs of the Government of India and in the interview to PTI the hon. Minister of Home Affairs of the Government of India has categorically stated that:

[English]

"The Bodo Accord was arrived at without working out all these details. It is because of this that the demarcation of the boundary of the Bodo Autonomous Council is proving to be a very difficult task, Mr. Chavan told the Pressmen. Chavan said.."

MR. SPEAKER: We do not quote the newspapers.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Sir, I mean to say that the hon. Minister of Home Affairs of the Government of India has himself admitted that the Bodo Accord was signed in haste. The hon. Minister further states that split has taken place in the Bodo leadership as some new extremists have joined in and the

Chairman appointed by the Centre is not recognised by other extremist organisations. The hon. Minister is urged to throw light on the present status of the Bodo Accord. I would like to submit that on 17th June a Committee was set up by the Hon. Prime Minister which comprises members of the rank of Ministers and it will tour whole of the North-East and submit a report regarding the problems being faced by the people there. I would like to urge the hon. Minister to also lay on the Table of the House a copy of the report and then discussion should be held on it to ascertain the views of the House regarding the problems of North-East.

The fourth thing that I would like to mention is that the amount of Rs. three thousand crores given by the Central Government for checking terrorist activities there, is not an aid, it is rather a sort of loan against the State. In order to suppress agitations there Assam owes a debt of rupees 3000 crore to the Central Government at present. Therefore, no development work takes place there. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what are the Government doing to resolve the problems which impede the development work in Assam and the Government have resorted to take loan? There are certain issues on which I would not like to speak but I would like to put them in a question forms because the time is short and with these words I would like to conclude here.

**SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL** (Monghyr): Mr. Speaker, Sir, several persons including children, women and old men were massacred in the Assam-Barpeta incident that took place on the 23rd. It should be condemned strongly. I support the Adjournment Motion introduced here and whatever has been said in the august House, it seems that

nobody is prepared to take responsibility of this incident. Neither the State Government nor the Centre prepared to take the responsibility. No party is prepared to take responsibility. Then why such incidents are recurring unabated for years? Just now Shri Barmanji gave the details of the incident in a chronological order. On the 19th, the houses were gutted, looted and people were killed. The incident took place when the Chief Minister was also present there. Economic issues have also been raised here. As Shri Shibu Soren has stated here that the tribal people are exploited, tortured and under privileged. The Central Government and the State Government do not pay attention to their economic demands, therefore, they resort to extremism. We do condemn the incidents which recur there. We discuss them in the House but we do not come forward to find a solution. The persons who have been given this responsibility are not prepared to discharge their responsibility. This is the reason that such incidents are taking place continuously which is harmful for the country.

On behalf of my party, I would like to submit that dialogue should be started with the Bodo extremists tribals and minorities on economic problems and restoring law and order. Government should guarantee the safety of lives of all the people. If the security of lives of people is not guaranteed by Government, who-else will do that? There should be rule of law, extremist forces should be contained and if necessary army should be pressed into service then only the safety of the people can be ensured. The State Government and the Central Government were aware of the possibility of such happenings. But the Government could not take effective steps in time. Therefore, I am of the opinion that the State Government should be dismissed

[Shri Brahmanand Mandal]

and the Central Government also should take the responsibility and make a clean breast of it. The situation cannot improve unless the mistakes committed are conferred.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have to say only that it is a matter of great sorrow that such massacres take place in which hundreds of people are killed but no endeavour is made to solve the main problem although a discussion is held. I hope that the Central Government will pay attention to it in future. With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE (Berhampore): I am a new comer to this House. May I be allowed to speak something on the matter?

MR. SPEAKER: You will be allowed, But you please make a very brief statement.

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE: I rise to support the Adjournment Motion moved by our hon. friend Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav.

This is only because in Barpeta, human lives have been lost and valuable public property has been damaged and communal harmony is at stake. The situation stands so critical that it may give rise to communal tension and communal riots all over the territorial districts of the country. It is my unfortunate observation that the State Administration and the Assam Government have totally failed to control the situation. They could not realise the gravity of the situation beforehand and they could not control

the situation. I do not suggest that the State Government should be dismissed. But it may be noted that Assam Government should have no moral or social right to hold on to power.

With your kind permission, I beg to recall the saddest episode of Kokrajhar killings or Bongaigaon killings. I think Barpeta is a new addendum to the tragic history of mankind where man was killed by man. May I remind this House that it is the feeling of the local people, of the minorities specially that the minorities are in danger there. Their sentiment has been ignored. Their sentiment has been wounded brutally. The situation is so sensitive that it may lead to the growth of international misunderstanding between the two countries—Bangladesh and India. So, I beg to submit that the entire North-Eastern Zone has turned into an active volcano which may erupt at any moment. This is due to the mishandling of the situation by the Government of India during the last three or four decades. If the grave situation in Barpeta is not stopped now, then, it may act as a prelude to the volcanic eruption which is undesirable. So, I beg to support the Adjournment Motion. I offer my thanks and gratitude to you for allowing me to speak on the burning issue. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI LAETA UMBREY (Arunachal East): Sir, I rise to oppose the Adjournment Motion. At the same time, I also condemn the barbarous, indiscriminate killings of innocent people in Barpeta. In this incident, if any individual has been pained and sincerely concerned them, it must be Shri Hiteswar Saikia. But unfortunately there have been wild allegations against him. I would like to say that Shri Saikia was not on holiday. Hew was not doing merry making with his Cabinet colleagues in Barpeta that

night when the incident took place. He was very much concerned. He had taken all efforts to contain the situation. In spite of his efforts, it is unfortunate that it has been alleged that he has not taken any steps. It is not only that. When we see his life history, in his long innings in politics, he has made many sacrifices which, I think, any one of us might have never made. So, let us not allege that Shri Saikia has not done anything. Let us try to find out solutions. While trying to find out solutions, we must be very careful. I have heard my colleague Shri Inderjit. He said that this is because of the continuous infiltration. But I think I must put it in other words. It is because of the continuance of the encroachment and exploitation which has provoked all these unfortunate incidents. It is the exploitation and encroachment of the non-tribals on the tribal land which is leading to this situation. Whatever be the number of the tribal land people, they have their cultural, economic, social and above all political aspirations. You cannot deny them those things just because you are in majority. This is one thing. The other thing is, as Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev has rightly said, it is the ignorance of the people who are in authority.

And anybody who had been to North-East once in his life-time, becomes the authority, he becomes the expert on North-East. This is unfortunate. So, I must say that whenever there is a problem, it is not the North-Eastern problem alone but any problem of any region, I think, it is better to consult and discuss with the representatives of those areas. There are so many problems in the North-East. I have been here for the last five years and I have never found whether this Government or any other Government, ever consulting the representatives of that area. It is unfortunate, I think, it is the bureaucrats

who decide everything. Now, I must say that Shri Hiteswar Saikia has done his best. But perhaps, he must have taken certain wrong steps. He should try to correct himself and take the suggestion from his colleagues. There is nothing wrong in consulting the opposition in his own State.

However, last but not least, I would like to say that the problem in the North-East is aggravating because the tribal sentiments are not properly understood and they are not properly consulted. I hope, Shri Rajesh Pilot, the Minister of State for Internal Security, who is very popular and who is very familiar with the entire North-East area, will come up with new strategies, new policy for the North-Eastern region.

With these words, I oppose the Motion.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I share the anguish and the concern of the House with a very heavy heart. And I think, any Minister in this Ministry will always pray to God that he does not have to reply to such a debate. I was hearing everyone's view and I would share some of the information which I have received from the State Government so that records are set correct.

As desired by the hon. Prime Minister, I with my colleague Shri Sayeed and Shri Tarun Gogoi and some of the MPs, who were available, flew to Guwahati and then to Barpeta Road where this camp was there. The Chief Minister and his all colleagues were available. State Government officials were also available. So we were there and had a discussion with them. They told us that

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on 19th July, some of these Bodo security force people started creating some problem in some of the villages in the Barpeta district. And there was a counter by the police and between 19th night and the 20th night, they set fire to some 250 villages and nearly 16 people lost their lives between 19th July and 21st July. Police also countered them at some places and three miscreants were reported to have been killed by the police during the exchange. Police was active between 19th to 21st July. But what impression, I gathered after talking to police officials and the officials of the State administration was that the strength of the force was not adequate up to 21st. By the time they called some of the forces further to augment their efforts, from 21st to 23rd night, it was all quiet, there was no incident. And on 23rd night and 24th morning, that is, round about 1 o'clock in the morning, some people from Bhutan border came to the civilian camp at Bansbari which is roughly 30 to 35 kilometres from the Bhutan border. People by that time had started coming out from those affected areas and started setting on in these camps.

At that juncture these people started firing first at the police post which was guarding them and then on the innocent people who were camping there. This is where the tragedy took place. That night 35 inmates were killed and nearly 70 were injured on 24th early morning.

The crux of the total problem is, we at that moment did not have sufficient force and the arms which the Bodo Security Forces had were all LMGs, AK 47 with tracers and SLRs. At this juncture what I was briefed by the State administration was that at one stage the police countered them. It was nearly a

two hour firing with them and three of the Border Security Force personnel were killed. But by that time the damage had been done. The army was called on the 20th itself for a flag march in that area. But they were not deployed on the points. They thought that the flag march will be able to control and the police will take care of the situation.

They have told us that a total number of 54707 persons have taken shelter in 26 different camps and the situation is tense in Barpeta and the adjoining districts. We were talking to the hon. Chief Minister and his colleagues; I had a detailed discussion with the local leaders. When we went to the camp we talked to the inmates of the camp also. Some of the people in the camp, as the hon. Member said, did point out that they did inform the police, but the police force was not available. I must not hide this from the House. I said this there itself. That is why in my briefing with the Chief Minister I said that the people who were from the administration, who are responsible there, should have acted on the 19th and the 20th some degree and some more supplementary forces could have brought there knowing the apprehension. Then I asked the DC whether he had any apprehension that this incident could be more serious. He said yes and no—he could not answer me very correctly. I called my IB Officer. I asked him whether he had informed the State Administration about the likely apprehension of serious incidents with their movement.

Here what I would like to share with the House is that we had been asking all the State Governments to use the information available with the intelligence agencies, so that such situations could be avoided. That is why nearly a year back we have taken a decision. I wrote

to all the hon. Chief Ministers that every week our IB Officer would brief the DC and SP; once in 15 days the Commissioner, IG Police; and once in a month the Chief Secretary and the DG to brief about the whole State, so that everyone from the district level to the State level is aware of what is happening in their respective district and respective State. This coordination was not there; I must accept it. That is why the arrangement of supplementary force and other things could not be made which I pointed out to the hon. Chief Minister on the spot there itself. When we went there to the camp, relief had been provided whatever the State could do. But the main demand from everyone was that the Army must be moved in.

Before going there I had a word with the hon. Prime Minister and he said that he had already received that message from the State Government and the State Government must do the formalities of calling the Army for such operations. By the time I took off they had done it and when I reached there the Brigadier was available and he said that they are moving into all the places required by the State Government. Just now, one hour back, I have got the information that the full brigade was moved in by today afternoon. In addition whatever battalions were there—we were operating one or two battalions in those areas—they have taken over positions and 55 companies of paramilitary forces of CRP and BSF were there. They wanted an additional 15. But we have five companies near Guwahati and we have routed them to Barpeta and kept them at the disposal of the State Government.

At the moment the situation is under control. It is very unfortunate. You can well imagine that it is my third visit

to the same place, to the same area. Earlier I had gone there when the incidents in Kokhrajhar and Bongaigaon took place.

The Accord has been talked about very much by most of the Members. Let me share some of my views on this. Where were we in 1991 in Assam? What was the situation in Assam? I do not want to compare the figures that in so and so year, so many were killed in the Bodo agitation and now so many have been killed. It is not the right approach, I am not comparing them. But when we came into the Government in 1991, the situation was very tense in Assam.

**21.00 hrs.**

The Bodo activities were on the peak in 1989-90. I do not want to mention the figure. They are very scaring. In 1989-90 the whole area was disturbed. When we came in the Government subsequently, from 1985 onwards, late Shri Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister. I still remember that the talks were going on so that we could reach some decision and the peace could be restored.

After late Rajivji, Mr. V.P. Singh took over as the Prime Minister. That Government was continuing the talks on the same lines. When we came in power, what had been discussed between subsequent Government, we followed the same trend. We brought them down from asking for a Bodoland to Bodoland Autonomous Council. That was the crutch. We wanted them to come to a Council. We told them, "You want your development. You want your culture to be retained." So, Bodoland is not acceptable to the Government. We can give you autonomous Council so that you can achieve what you want to achieve



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through Bodoland Autonomous Council. On that platform, me and hon. Chief Minister, Shri Saikia, had a long discussion with them. Then, an accord was agreed and it was signed.

No accord is perfect. No accord could be said that this is the best solution for any problem. Accord is an approach to reach nearer the solution. You take any accord—Assam accord, Mizoram accord. About Kashmir, we had an accord with Shri Farooq Abdullah. We had tried to reach nearer the solution. Everyone has said that there was a political lining on this accord. As far as Congress Party is concerned, I still remember that in 1986, when late Rajivji was Prime Minister, we had a Government under Chief Minister, Shri Saikia. And Shri Saikia resigned. We fulfilled whatever the accord was desiring.

Similarly, in Mizoram, as Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev has said, we had an elected Government. We had sacrificed to bring normalcy in that area. You see the whole history of North-East. The efforts of every Government at the Centre have been to bring them into the mainstream. Today, the main job of the Government is how to bring every part of the North-East into the mainstream. We have problem in talks in every State whether it is Nagaland or Manipur or Tripura or Arunachal Pradesh—peculiar problems in peculiar States. The common approach that we have is that we have open-heart talks with anybody who has any communication gap. Wherever the Government could come out with that approach, we can bring them together into our mainstream. We have been taking that approach.

As far as insurgency is concerned, we have been going very strong against insurgency. We have tried to curb insurgency to a great degree. We had been achieving that in many ways in the State of Nagaland, Manipur and, to some extent, in Assam itself. So, accord was done with that spirit. What Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav has said is unfortunate. Shri Syed Shahabuddin also said that when they did an accord, they were not a team. All of them were together. We signed the accord.

They all went with a very good feeling. I still remember that in 1993-end, when I had gone for a public meeting, there were really 10 lakh people. All were walking on their foot to the public meeting. There was a sea of people. All were happy about this accord. The apprehension among the people is about Bodos and non-Bodos. Unfortunately, an election could not take place. Frankly speaking, it is an *ad hoc* body which is functioning. It is supposed to be an elected body. We have kept 'nominated from non-Bodos' so that they have a say in the functioning and in implementing the policies and they have a say in development. That is why that ratio has been kept.

As far as boundary is concerned, it is 50 per cent and above where the Bodo population is or in the form of contiguity if it is less than 50 per cent. In that spirit or with that yardstick, we have demarcated the boundary.

They met me nearly a month back. They - both groups - said that this was not proper for us. We have said, "All right, we will sit with you. Whatever are your problems, we are ready to solve them. But you must bring peace."

Bodo Security Force was not a part of the accord. Bodo Security Force never wanted an accord because they are living on extorting money. They are living in many ways. They are killing people and have their own line of living. So Bodo Security Force was never happy with the accord. But AAPSU and PPP were against the accord from the beginning. At that time, it was Bodoland Action Committee and now it is Bodoland People's Party. They were all agreeing that they would see that peace was maintained.

Sir, our efforts will continue to bring them around on a common platform because it is very important and development in that area can take place only when there is peace and normalcy.

Many hon. Members have asked as to what we are doing about the situation. Shri Inderjit has said that the situation in the North East is becoming more and more tense. Yes, to some extent it is correct. Even yesterday, we had received information that a while colonel was going in a jeep, an underground militant fired at him and he was killed. If you see the history of Nagaland and Manipur, we find that for the last so many years, we have been facing the insurgency problem in these States. One point is raised as to whether the ISI is involved in this sector. Yes, we do have some information that some of the groups are in touch with the ISI and they are making Bangladesh or Thailand as their rear base through Chitong Hill Tracts and are trying to fuel insurgency in our part of the country. We are aware of that and we are taking counter measures. We have succeeded in many ways whereby they are not able to achieve their designs.

As a special case in the North East, we have given them special

allocations for modernising their police forces, their weaponry, vehicles, communication systems and so on. Even in Assam, we have straightway given 500 AK-47s so that the weaponry of our police force is equally good and the insurgents do not have superior arms compared to ours. Modernisation of communication facilities and updating them is also resorted to. I am told that most of the States are modernising their police forces or are in the process of modernisation.

We have taken yet another decision. The North-East being a very sensitive area, whatever paramilitary forces we have got in that area, we have made a separate zone for the North-East and at Guwahati itself, there is a reserve available which can look after all the seven States. We have made it a permanent zone so that we do not have to transport the Force from Northern or Southern parts of the country to the North-East. We are keeping certain level of the Forces always available in the North-East. I may also mention here that the Army has done such a good job in those areas. They have become so very friendly with the people there and they have helped a lot in bringing the people to the mainstream in these States.

One more thing is mentioned here and I must share it with the House. There was not much of coordination earlier and I must accept that it was one of the faults in our system. This problem is there in all the seven States and what is happening in Nagaland was not known to Assam and what is happening in Assam was not known to Manipur. Nearly four months back, we have coordinated with all the seven States and we have started with a coordinating centre at Shillong so that the Chief Minister of Assam would know what is happening in Manipur and the

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Manipur Administration would know what is happening in Arunachal Pradesh. All the seven States must coordinate and correlate together and then only we can fight insurgency as a team. As it is a national problem, it has to be fought with that spirit. This is being worked out. This has been started just two or three months back only and it will take some more time before it becomes perfect. Once this coordination work is perfect, it will reduce half of our problem in the North East.

I have got to verify from the State Government. Many Members from different parties have raised a number of points. I have not replied to all the points raised by the Members but I assure you that I have noted down all the points.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal): But, those are very serious allegations against the State Government and those should be looked into.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: The Chief Minister has accepted in front of me that wherever lapses have taken place, he will take action against the people concerned. As far as other things mentioned by my colleague are concerned. I would certainly verify from the State Government and let the House know about it. I request the House to seriously consider this. North East is a very sensitive part of our country. The people there are very sensitive in nature. They are straight forward and very affectionate people. The main thrust of the Government is to bring them back to the mainstream, Even today I got a call that tomorrow they are sorting out the HPC problem. We have tried our best

to accommodate their views and bring normalcy and peace in that part of the area otherwise it will not be able to develop. Jaswant Singhji has said that geographically and sentimentally they feel that they are away from the rest of the country. We have taken decision to connect these areas with rail and even we have asked to connect at least the State Headquarters or Capitals of these States with airlines.

The Central Government has always treated North-East as a special sector. We have a separate formula to allocate funds for them so that we can understand their problems better. Our main thrust is to bring them to the mainstream. Our thrust is that our brothers and sisters living in the far flung areas do not feel far away from us. Every effort should be made to see that such incidents do not recur again. Our approach will be strong administratively as also politically. We will definitely see to it that they are brought to the mainstream.

KUMARI MAMATA BERNEJEE:  
What about compensation?

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You may give reply to her point only and other points may not be replied.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: The State Government has assured that due relief and compensation will be given to all the victims.

With these words I request Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav, knowing the sensitivity of the subject, to withdraw his motion. We are all one. There is no difference between the Opposition and the ruling party. We all share the same

concern. We have made efforts though they may not be visible to you. I assure you that they will soon be more visible to you and you will then realise that we are moving in the right direction. Wherever we have faltered we will certainly try to improve. We all have the same spirit, the spirit to improve the situation there. So, this should go as a message to the nation that we will fight such forces and we will bring our brothers and sisters living in that part of the area to the mainstream. We will not relax till that aim is achieved which was set forth by late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru when he spoke in Nagaland saying, "I do not need Congress here. I need my Nagaland people with India, Congress is the second part. Nagaland people with India is the first part." That should be the spirit.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: You have told a very right thing.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing this.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Sir, I request Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav to withdraw his motion.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Sir, I must start my reply by thanking you because but for your consent this debate would not have taken place. As Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev has said very rightly, this debate has served a great purpose by sending a message to our brothers and sisters living far away in that area that this highest forum in a Parliamentary democracy feels concerned if such incidents happen anywhere in any part of the country. Our main purpose was that we must immediately express our concern. We should take necessary steps to prevent such unfortunate things to happen again in future.

Sir, I think that this is one of the very few Adjournment Motions which was not debated on party lines. I find that most of the speakers expressed the same concern. They had not only pointed out the weaknesses, the lapses but they had also made many positive suggestions so that the things may improve, I am glad that the Minister of State for Home Affairs, Mr. Rajesh Pilot had accepted that there was lack of coordination; there were certain lapses; and there were certain information but the local administration could not promptly act upon them. Even the Reports which were submitted by Intelligence Agencies were also not seriously taken note of. I think that the Government should have come out with some more positive thinking about certain issues that were raised in this debate. We have said that still there is a confusion regarding the real area which forms the Bodo land. It has been found that round about 100 villages are there which are not Bodo majority villages but even then they form part of Bodo land. This is one of the serious concerns.

There is another genuine feeling among the Bodo people that the border areas of Bhutan had been taken away from them. There were some doubts. It happens to be an international border. Why have they taken out those areas? While the other States viz., Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab have also border areas, those areas belong to those particular States. I think that the Government should give a serious thought to it and rectify the mistake.

Another thing which the Home Minister himself had admitted is this. It is unfortunate that there are two groups in Bodo. But this is also a fact that because of political interests, a rivalry within that organisation has been exploited and has been used. I think that when

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it comes to the question of national interest, such petty politics or small party interests should not be taken into consideration.

Mr. Jaswant Singh had used a very appropriate phrase or expression that there is a kind of emotional distance between our people and the people living in that area, I think that not only economic measures but some other measures have to be taken. I am glad that the Prime Minister had set up a strong nine-Member Cabinet Committee to look into the problems of those areas and also to mobilise extra resources in order to help the people of North-Eastern areas. I am happy that the Prime Minister himself - while addressing his Party rally at Red Fort - had said that many people feel that now he has a majority and therefore he will give up the path of consensus but he said that he will not give this up.

But, I think, somewhere, there are certain weaknesses. When such issues come up, the Government not only should take into confidence the Ministers and form a Committee of team for sending them to the affected places - because administrative measures after all have to be taken by the Government - but on such issues, I think there is a need for wider consultation. I say that the Leaders of all the Parties in Parliament should be taken into confidence. It is not that we are going to make excellent suggestions and find a magic wand to solve all the problems.

But that sends a message itself. It also serves the purpose that it is being taken as a national issue and the people of other parties are involved. I think the weaknesses which the Government has

identified, I am sure immediate and prompt action will be taken to remove them.

Other issues have also been raised. I do not want to repeat them; but I think the Government must take them into consideration. So far as the Home Minister's appeal is concerned, I will only say that I am not asking for division nor will I request other Members of the House from this side to ask for division. But it will be difficult for me to withdraw the motion at this stage.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put Motion for Adjournment moved by Mr. Chandra Jeet Yadav to the vote of the House. The question is:

"That the House do now Adjourn"

*The motion was negatived.*

21.21 hrs.

[English]

#### STATEMENT BY MINISTER

#### **Wage Revision of Port and Dock Workers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): The wages of Class III & IV workers and employees of Major Port Trusts and Dock Labour Boards have been due for upward revision from 1.1.93. A Bipartite Wage Negotiation Committee under Chairman, Bombay Port Trust and consisting of representatives of labour has been negotiating the increase since some time. On 24.7.94, the negotiations

have concluded successfully with a Memorandum of Understanding (M.O.U.) being signed between the management of the Major Port Trusts & Dock Labour Boards and the 5 All India Federations of Port and Dock Workers. The M.O.U. provides for a just and fair increase in the wages for the workers at approximately 19% increase in the wage bill. The wage increase will be valid for the next 5 years.

This M.O.U. has been reached without any strike or industrial unrest, and without loss of a single manday which was not so in the last two wage revisions and is truly a landmark achievement. Ports is the first major industrial sector where a wage settlement has been reached in the current round of wage revision for workers.

The M.O.U. provides for a 7% per year increase in productivity parameters like gangshift output and ship berthday output, so as to decrease the turn round time of the vessels and therefore increase efficiency and reduce congestion. It also provides for increased datums and accelerating incentive schemes.

Unproductive practices are sought to be eliminated. With this and with rationalized manpower development, the unit cost of operation would be kept at present level.

The signing of the M.O.U. with such positive features has been possible due to the full hearted co-operation

received from all the All India Labour Federations working in the Ports and Docks, for which I extend my heartiest congratulations to the labour leaders and to the workers. I trust and hops that this will be a forerunner for other industrial sectors to have wage settlements in a climate of peace and with higher levels of productivity under the dynamic leadership of our Hon'ble Prime Minister.

**21.24 hrs.**

**BUSINESS ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE**

**Forty-First Report**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): I beg to present the Forty-First Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

MR. SPEAKER: I thank all the Members for their full cooperation. The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, 26 July, 1994, at 11 a.m.

**21.25 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, July 26, 1994/Sravana 4, 1916 (Saka)*